**Term 6 Week 4 Lesson 1 Year 8: Chapter 3**

**Do now:**

1. What did the colour red symbolise about Curley’s Wife?
2. What bird’s feathers were on her shoes?
3. Why is this bird like Curley’s Wife?
4. How does George react to her flirting?

Chapter 3 Summary

In this chapter Lennie gets a puppy from Slim and spends every free second he has in the barn with it. Slim and George talk about Lennie, and George confesses to him that he takes care of Lennie because he grew up with him and knew his Aunt Clara, so when she died, let Lennie come along with him. George also tells Slim about what happened in Weed. Slim agreed that Lennie isn't mean, he just isn't bright.

Candy joins them in the bunkhouse with his old dog. Carlson explains that the dog is suffering, and it's best to put it out of its misery. Candy doesn't want his dog to die, but he finally agrees to let Carlson take him. Candy lies rigidly in his bed until the men hear the sound of the gunshot signalling the dog was dead.

Lennie asks George to once again describe the little farm that he knows about that they someday hope to own, and George describes it. Candy sits up and asks how much a place like that would cost. George tells Candy that he could get it for six hundred dollars.

Candy then explains how he lost his hand on this ranch a long time ago, so they gave him two hundred and fifty dollars and how he saved up fifty more since then plus he has fifty more coming to him at the end of the month. He offers to help George and Lennie buy the place. Candy has no relatives and doesn't expect to live a great deal longer, so he would will his share of the property back to Lennie and George. George decides to take Candy up on the offer.

The three of them are excited but George makes Candy and Lennie promise not to tell anyone their plan, so that no one can ruin it.

As Lennie is still smiling at this dream possibly coming true, Curley comes in and asks Lennie what he is laughing at. Lennie doesn't know how to respond, so Curley punches him in the face. Again, Lennie is too stunned to react, so Curley continues to beat him. Lennie is a bloody mess by the time George tells Lennie to fight back. At that point Lennie simply grabs Curley's swinging fist to stop him punching him, but he is so strong he smashes every bone in his hand.

George gets Lennie to release Curley, and the men all agree that Curley needs to see a doctor, but first, Slim convinces Curley not to tell anyone what Lennie did but instead to say he got his hand caught in a machine. After the men leave, Lennie cries to George about how he didn't want to hurt Curley.

**Read through the extract from Chapter 3 then answer the questions**

Curley stepped over to Lennie like a terrier. "What the hell you laughin' at?"

Lennie looked blankly at him. "Huh?"

Then Curley's rage exploded. "Come on, ya big bastard. Get up on your feet. No big son-of-a-bitch is gonna laugh at me. I'll show ya who's yella."

Lennie looked **helplessly** at George, and then he got up and tried to retreat. Curley was balanced and poised. He **slashed** at Lennie with his left, and then **smashed** down his nose with a right. Lennie gave **a cry of terror**. Blood welled from his nose. "George," he cried. "Make 'um let me alone, George." He backed until he was against the wall, and Curley followed, slugging him in the face. Lennie's hands remained at his sides; he was too frightened to defend himself. George was on his feet yelling, "Get him, Lennie. Don't let him do it."

Lennie covered his face with his **huge paws** and **bleated with terror. He cried**, "Make 'um stop, George." Then Curley attacked his stomach and cut off his wind. Slim jumped up. "The dirty little rat," he cried, "I'll get 'um myself."

George put out his hand and grabbed Slim. "Wait a minute," he shouted. He cupped his hands around his mouth and yelled, "Get 'im, Lennie!”

Lennie took his hands away from his face and looked about for George, and Curley **slashed** at his eyes. The big face was covered with blood. George yelled again, "I said get him."

Curley's fist was swinging when Lennie reached for it. The next minute Curley was **flopping like a fish on a line**, and his closed fist was lost in Lennie's big hand. George ran down the room. "Leggo of him, Lennie. Let go."

But Lennie watched in terror the flopping little man whom he held. Blood ran down Lennie's face, one of his eyes was cut and closed. George slapped him in the face again and again, and still Lennie held on to the closed fist. Curley was white and shrunken by now, and his struggling had become weak. He stood crying, **his fist lost in Lennie's** **paw**.

**Curley’s actions are violent and aggressive-the verbs ‘slashed’ and ‘smashed’ show the reader how aggressive he is**

**Lennie is often compared to a bear or a horse. Here he is described as having huge paws- at first hiding behind them, then at the end using them to save himself.**

**Lennie is described as helpless and crying. The verb ‘bleated’ makes him sound like a hunted weak animal, not the powerful strong man he is.**

**The simile used here ‘flopping like a fish on a line’ shows how Lennie has Curley’s life in his hands…he could easily kill him or let him go.**

1. Name two similes used in the passage.
2. What is the effect of comparing Curley to a ‘fish on a line’?
3. What is the technique used in the quotation ‘bleated with terror’?
4. Name two aggressive verbs used to describe Curley’s actions…what are the effects of using those words?

**Analytical paragraph: How is language used in the passage to show fear or aggression?**

**Model answer**

Language is used to show how aggressive Curley is. He is described as stepping over to Lennie ‘like a terrier’. In other words, he is behaving like a dog wanting to fight. More specifically, the word ‘terrier’ makes him seem like he is small and makes a lot of noise, like a small yapping dog, but might not be as dangerous as he tries to sound.

**Your turn (at least two paragraphs)…**