**Term 6 Week 5 Lesson 1 Year 8: OMAM Chapter 4**

**Do now:**

1. What animal was Curley described as when he stepped over to Lennie?
2. What part of Curley did Lennie injure?
3. What did George do to make Lennie let go?
4. What do the men decide to say caused Curley’s injury?

**Chapter 4 summary**

It is Saturday night, and Crooks is alone in his room when Lennie appears in the door. At first Crooks sends Lennie away, but Lennie's smile finally warms Crooks, and he lets him stay and talk.

During their conversation, Lennie reveals the secret about the farm they are buying, which Crooks at first thinks Lennie is making up. Crooks then talks about his own loneliness, and how the other men are unkind to him because he’s black.

Candy appears and talks with Lennie about the rabbits. Crooks asks to join their venture and says that he would work very hard and for no pay, just food and somewhere to live.

Curley's wife appears in the doorway, claiming that she is looking for Curley and complaining that she just wants someone to talk to. She asks what happened to Curley’s hand. Candy tells her twice that Curley caught it in a machine, but she doesn't believe him.

Candy tells her to go away because she is not wanted in the barn, and mentions them getting their own place. Curley's wife laughs at the men and says it will never happen.

Before she leaves, she asks Lennie where he got the bruises on his face. Guiltily, Lennie says Curley got his hand caught in a machine. When she continues to talk to Lennie, Crooks tells her she has no right in his room and that he is going to tell the boss to keep her out. Curley's wife threatens Crooks with lynching (being murdered for being black). When Candy says that he and Lennie would tell on her for framing Crooks, she says no one will listen to him. They realize the men are returning; Curley's wife tells Lennie she is glad he busted up Curley a bit, and then she leaves.

George appears, and Candy admits that he told Crooks about the farm. It is clear that George is not happy, and so the defeated Crooks tells Candy to forget he asked to join them.

**Read the extract on the next page then answer the questions**

1. What is Crooks’ bed like?

2. What does this show he is treated like?

3. What is his room filled with?

4. What does the copy of the California civil code show?

**The extract is about Crooks’ room. He has his own room-not because the Boss is kind to him, but because he is black. The other men say he ‘stinks’ because he is black. Remember, 1930s America was a cruel, racist time.**

The California civil code was a book of the laws people had to follow. At this time there would be lots of laws about what black people could and couldn’t do, showing that Crooks wanted to know his rights.

Crooks room is filled with the things he uses for his job; all he has in life is his job, he is alone otherwise.

Crooks’ bed is a box of straw, like an animal would be given to sleep on. He lives like an animal with his medicine and the horse medicine in the same box, like they are all the same.

Crooks, the Negro stable buck, had his bunk in the harness room; a little shed that leaned off the wall of the barn. On one side of the little room there was a square four-paned window, and on the other, a narrow plank door leading into the barn. Crooks' bunk was a long box filled with straw, on which his blankets were flung. On the wall by the window there were pegs on which hung broken harness in process of being mended; strips of new leather; and under the window itself a little bench for leather-working tools, curved knives and needles and balls of linen thread, and a small hand riveter. On pegs were also pieces of harness, a split collar with the horsehair stuffing sticking out, a broken hame, and a trace chain with its leather covering split.

Crooks had his apple box over his bunk, and in it a range of medicine bottles, both for himself and for the horses. There were cans of saddle soap and a drippy can of tar with its paint brush sticking over the edge. And scattered about the floor were a number of personal possessions; for, being alone, Crooks could leave his things about, and being a stable buck and a cripple, he was more permanent than the other men, and he had accumulated more possessions than he could carry on his back.

Crooks possessed several pairs of shoes, a pair of rubber boots, a big alarm clock and a single-barrelled shotgun. And he had books, too; a tattered dictionary and a mauled copy of the California civil code for 19O5. There were battered magazines and a few dirty books on a special shelf over his bunk. A pair of large gold-rimmed spectacles hung from a nail on the wall above his bed.

**Analytical paragraph: How does Steinbeck show Crooks life in the extract?**

**Model paragraph**

Steinbeck shows Crooks’ life to be lonely in the extract. His room ‘leaned of the side of the barn’. In other words, he lives among the horses. More specifically, the word ‘barn’ shows that he is treated no better than an animal, and lives a lonely life.

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