ANALYSIS TIPS

- ➔ Make sure your analysis is <u>not</u> just summarizing/restating the evidence (even if you think you are not doing this, this is <u>very</u> common)

Imagine you are writing an essay arguing that Candy is inferior to others on the ranch...

What <u>NOT</u> to do in your analysis:

When Candy hopes Slim will help convince the men to keep his dog alive, Slim says, "'Carl's right, Candy. That dog ain't no good to himself. I wisht somebody'd shoot me if I got old an' a cripple.' Candy looked helplessly at him" (Steinbeck 45). In this quote, Candy is hoping that Slim will stick up for him and help him keep his dog alive, but Slim agrees with Carlson that they should shoot the dog. Slim tells Candy that he wishes someone would shoot him if he was old and a cripple, which upsets Candy. This leads to Candy allowing Carlson to shoot his dog.

- ➔ This is restating the quote -- there is no new, original thought here! I am just telling you the same thing the quote just told you. I am essentially providing the quote and then paraphrasing the quote, which is repetitive and flat.
- ➔ DON'T say 'in this quote,' as this is a wordy phrase and isn't needed. You will <u>always</u> discuss the quote after putting it in the paper, so this is a bad habit to get into.

What TO do in your analysis:

When Candy hopes Slim will help convince the men to keep his dog alive, Slim says, "'Carl's right, Candy. That dog ain't no good to himself. I wisht somebody'd shoot me if I got old an' a cripple.' Candy looked helplessly at him" (Steinbeck 45). By going against Candy's wishes and agreeing with Carlson, Slim causes Candy to feel distant from the other men, as though they are teaming up against him. By pointing out how 'that dog ain't no good to himself,' Slim causes Candy to feel guilty about keeping his beloved dog suffering, which heavily influences his decision to let Carlson shoot the dog. Worst of all, when Slim comments he 'wisht somebody'd shoot [him] if [he] got old an' a cripple,' Slim insults Candy, since Candy is both elderly and physically impaired. Slim indirectly implies here that keeping someone 'old an' a cripple,' like Candy, alive is not worthwhile.

- ➔ There is more analysis here than there is quote
- ➔ Does not say 'in this quote'
- ➔ Does not retell the info presented in the quote
- ➔ Focuses on each part of the quote in the analysis -- the quote does not include anything that will not be analyzed to make a deeper point in the next few sentences

- ➔ Looks more deeply into the quote to examine what is being implied or how certain characters might react/feel about what is happening
- ➔ Clearly backs up reasoning for why I believe this quote shows how Candy is inferior
- ➔ Keep in mind...I did not use any literary devices here! That is a <u>great</u> technique to use, but you do not need to throw in literary devices to have a <u>strong</u> analysis