George

Introduction: give a general response to the question set and outline what you will be covering in your essay.

George dreams about having a place of his own. He is an itinerant worker and, as such, is unable to settle or to have control over his own life.	"Guys like us, that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world. They got no fambly. They don't belong no place." "There wouldn't be no more runnin' round the country." "we'd have our own place where we belonged" "An' it'd be our own, an' nobody could can us"
George's dream is as much about the past as it is about the future. He seems to remember a time when life was better.	"I could build a smoke house like the one gran'pa had" "An' we'd keep a few pigeons to go flyin' around the win'mill like they done when I was a kid"
George's occasional frustration at Lennie also suggests he has a need to be free: though he clearly would never really carry out his threat to abandon Lennie.	"God a'mighty, if I was alone I could live so easy" "I never been mad, an' I ain't now"
George's dream is dependent on Lennie. He admits he first only started talking about the little place as way of amusing Lennie. He has a paternal role in this relationship – it is this paternal relationship – the fact that George is responsible for Lennie – that compels him to kill his friend. *Without Lennie the dream doesn't have substance.*	"I think I knowed from the very first. I think I know'd we'd never do her. He usta like to hear about it so much I got to thinking maybe we would." "Guys like us got no fambly. They make a little stake an' then they blow it in. They ain't got nobody in the worl' that gives a hoot in hell about 'em—"
George has a cautious – even pessimistic – attitude towards life. He understands that dreams don't come true. He recognises Curley's Wife – and Curley as a threat but fails to heed his own instincts.	"I never seen no piece of jail bait worse than her. You leave her be."
George has the same human frailties as the other men – his own weakness is one of the reasons why his dream won't come true.	"I'll work my month an' I'll take my fifty bucks an' I'll stay all night in some lousy cat house. Or I'll set in some pool room till ever'body goes home. An' then I'll come back an' work another month an' I'll have fifty bucks more."
George is not lonely as long as he has Lennie. *However – even with Lennie there is a sense that he longs for the company of others. He "opens up" to Slim in a way that is uncharacteristic.*	"Guys like us got no fambly. They make a little stake an' then they blow it in. They ain't got nobody in the worl' that gives a hoot in hell about 'em—" George carefully built his line of solitaire cards. "You wouldn't tell nobody?"
Without Lennie there is a sense that he will become lonely, bitter and mean.	"I seen the guys that go around on the ranches alone. That ain't no good. They don't have no fun. After a long time they get mean. They get wantin' to fight all the time."

	“Guys like us, that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world. They got no fambly. They don’t belong no place.” “There wouldn’t be no more runnin’ round the country.” “we’d have our own place where we belonged” “An’ it’d be our own, an’ nobody could can us”
	“I could build a smoke house like the one gran’pa had” “An’ we’d keep a few pigeons to go flyin’ around the win’mill like they done when I was a kid”
	“God a’mighty, if I was alone I could live so easy” “I never been mad, an’ I ain’t now”
	“I think I knowed from the very first. I think I know’d we’d never do her. He usta like to hear about it so much I got to thinking maybe we would.” “Guys like us got no fambly. They make a little stake an’ then they blow it in. They ain’t got nobody in the worl’ that gives a hoot in hell about ‘em—”
	“I never seen no piece of jail bait worse than her. You leave her be.”
	“I’ll work my month an’ I’ll take my fifty bucks an’ I’ll stay all night in some lousy cat house. Or I’ll set in some pool room till ever’body goes home. An’ then I’ll come back an’ work another month an’ I’ll have fifty bucks more.”
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	“I seen the guys that go around on the ranches alone. That ain’t no good. They don’t have no fun. After a long time they get mean. They get wantin’ to fight all the time.”