

Crooks

- Highlights the **segregation** people from others – lives away from other
- Fear of being **lynched** or accused of a crime
- Money wasn't the only way to **improve your social status** – Crooks reads books (American Dream)
- **Prejudiced** behaviour because someone was different
- **Not everybody was racist** – George, Lennie and some other people not featured in the book
- Black people were **treated worse** than others – no voice, no respect
- Skills were not as important as who you were

Curley

- Money can get you some power but it doesn't get you **respect**
- For some people, it was **survival of the fittest**. They fought to survive.
- Some people bullied those that were weaker to show how **superior** they were
- A lack of **trust and fear** surrounds people -each other, husbands and wives, employers and employees
- The **rich had dreams** as well as the poor – to be a famous boxer
- The fear of losing something causes people to fight

Lennie

- A lack of **support**, sympathy and understanding for those with a disability
- A person had dreams to **cope** with reality
- People **punish** first and question later – Weed / Curley's Wife
- People needed **physical or emotional comfort** to survive – the dead mouse / the puppy
- Worker just got on with the job and **didn't cause a scene**
- **Friendships** more important than families when surviving
- A person had to be physically and **mentally** strong to survive

Candy

- Society **doesn't care** for the old. Shows no respect or concern
- You **work until you die**, unless you have money
- A weak person survives by **cunning** rather than strength
- People were **desperate** for some **connection** to others – the dog
- People are **realistic** about the 'American Dream'. He always knew that it would never come true for him.
- People are **too dependent**. Candy could never survive on his own

Curley's Wife

- Life could be **lonely and isolated** as a woman
- Women had **dreams** that meant they would be **noticed** or **independent** – an actress
- Mother **crushed her dreams** – shows that it wasn't acceptable
- Women might live with a sense of **disappointment** – marriage / life
- Had **no real identity** (or name). They were seen as their husband's property
- Shows the **desperation** that people will go to be liked or to have some company
- Men could improve **social status**, but women could only do this through marriage

Slim

- Shows how people **successfully survived – skilled and popular**
- If you can work **hard**, then you can do well in society – compare to Crooks, Candy, Lennie
- Shows that **some people cared** and empathised with others – look at his reaction to Lennie
- **Survival of the fittest** – he is the strongest of the characters
- **Money** isn't needed to achieve things
- **Respected** through his attitude and behaviour, which makes the rich envious