



Of Mice and Men Character Tug of War

In the novella *Of Mice and Men*, many characters face a noticeable struggle between their strengths and weaknesses. For example, many characters have qualities that help them in some ways and hold them back in others.

Using the graphic organizer below, identify the strengths and weaknesses on each side of each character's "tug of war." List all of the strengths (or things that help) and weaknesses (or things that hurt) for each character that you have discovered in your reading. Remember that it is okay for a strength to also be listed as a weakness. Then, in the box to the right of each character's tug of war, explain any strengths that are also weaknesses.

Strengths/Things That Help		Weaknesses/Things That Hurt	Strengths That Are Also Weaknesses
<p>physical size and strength</p> <p>friendship with/care for George</p> <p>childlike hopefulness</p>	Lennie	<p>physical size and strength</p> <p>mental disability</p> <p>forgetfulness</p>	<p>Lennie's physical strength and size are a noticeable contradiction for Lennie because they help him, such as with his farm work, but also hurt him, such as through his accidental killing of the mice and puppy, his crushing of Curley's hand, and the tragic death of Curley's wife.</p>
	George		

Strengths/Things That Help

Candy



Weaknesses/Things That Hurt

Strengths That Are Also Weaknesses

Strengths/Things That Help

Curley



Weaknesses/Things That Hurt

Strengths That Are Also Weaknesses


Strengths/Things That Help

Curley's
wife



Weaknesses/Things That Hurt

Strengths That Are Also Weaknesses

Strengths/Things That Help	Weaknesses/Things That Hurt	Strengths That Are Also Weaknesses
	Crooks 	

RL.9-10.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

RL.9-10.3 Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

W.9-10.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.