Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck • Chapter 2 Reading Check

Directions: Complete the following activities.

**PART I. Reading Comprehension.**
Answer the following questions. Keep your answers short.

1. Briefly describe the old swamper.

2. What is George upset about? Check all that apply:
   - ☐ being late so they cannot go out and work
   - ☐ the bad bunks they got
   - ☐ a can of lice powder
   - ☐ the old swamper

3. What does the bos suspect George of doing? Check all that apply:
   - ☐ taking Lennie's pay
   - ☐ being Lennie's relative
   - ☐ being too smart
   - ☐ nothing

4. How does George explain why Lennie is quiet? Check all that apply:
   - ☐ Lennie cannot talk well
   - ☐ Lennie is retarded
   - ☐ Lennie was kicked in the head by a horse
   - ☐ he doesn't explain why Lennie is quiet

5. What kind of pet does the old swamper have?

6. Briefly describe Curley's first encounter with George and Lennie.

7. Who is Curley?

8. What does the old swamper say about Curley's wife? Check all that apply:
   - ☐ she's a looker
   - ☐ she's got the eye
   - ☐ she's a tart
   - ☐ she's very young

9. What does George warn Lennie about Curley? Check all that apply:
   - ☐ that Curley is going to try to fight him
   - ☐ that he shouldn't talk to Curley
   - ☐ that he needs to keep away from Curley
   - ☐ that he should try to be friends with him


11. Compare George and Lennie's reactions to Curley's wife.

12. Who is Slim?

13. What is Lennie excited about at the end of the chapter?
PART II. Working With the Text.
Go back through the chapter, and look for quotes that meet the following criteria. Write down the quote, copied word for word from the book, and include the page number. Then write a sentence describing why the quote fits the criteria. I did the first one for you.

1. Find a quote that describes a place or setting:

   "In the middle of the room stood a big square table littered with playing cards, and around it were grouped boxes for the players to sit on" (17).

   This quote describes the bunkhouse where all the workers live. I think this quote is good at describing the setting because the reader can picture all the guys at the end of the day sitting down at this table and playing cards, and that the place is kind of messy because they leave the cards laying around after they’re done.

2. Find a quote that captures the way a character sounds when he or she speaks:

3. Find a quote that shows how a character feels about something:

4. Find a quote that you like, because you like the way the author wrote it: