**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**OM&M Visual Essay**

Develop. Plan. Create. Express. You will be creating a visual essay. Your essay is an analytical visual based on the prompt you have chosen. Channel your creative side and think outside of the box. Draw on what you know about the setting, mood, characters, and symbols in the story. You can use whatever medium of expression you feel comfortable with (iMovie, drawing, sculpture, music, or anything else you can dream up).

Step I: Using one of the following prompts, plan an essay (yes, an essay) in your journal (you should be good at this)

Step 2: Now, take your essay plan and morph it into a visual essay plan (this should be in your journal too).

Step 3: Hunt, gather, and bring in any supplies you need to create your visual essay. I provide: scissors, glue, magazines, colored pencils, and paper. You can bring: paints, clay, fabric, or whatever else you need to create this project. You can leave your supplies in my room.

Step 4: Take 2 class periods to plan and execute your masterpiece!

**Prompts**

**Option 1:** Social Darwinism: a sociological theory that sociocultural advance is the product of intergroup conflict and competition and the socially elite classes (as those possess wealth and power) possess biological superiority in the struggle for existence.

Survival in nature is about the hierarchy of prey and predator. Consider the characters and their roles in OM&M, and analyze how they illustrate the theory of Social Darwinism.

**Option 2:** The time of the Great Depression was harsh, but it also prompted people to dream big. Consider the text and how hope impacted the characters. Was the dream eventually worth it?

**Option 3:** Many of the characters in OM&M are revealed to the reader at the close of the story. Selecting one character, analyze how his/her changing character impacted the story.

**Option 4:** George and Lennie’s story begins and ends in the same Eden-like setting. Analyze Steinbeck’s cyclical uses of symbolism regarding this setting.

**Option 5:** What is Steinbeck saying about the impact of loneliness and the role of companionship? Using specific characters analyze how Steinbeck makes hi point about loneliness and companionship.

**Option 6:** Much of life is about the struggle to survive. Man is imbued with a sense of instinct and judgment, but one often wins out. Using specific characters analyze the impact of judgment versus instinct in OM&M.

**OM&M Visual Essay Scoring**

Thesis is clear and presents an original, thought-provoking, and insightful idea. Thesis addresses all aspects of the prompt (x3).

1 2 3 4 5

There are 3 or more pieces of evidence with a clear thread tying back to the purpose. Evidence is thorough, original, and detailed. Evidence is taken from the text and its connection is clear and coherent (x2)

1 2 3 4 5

Conclusion effectively closes out the “essay” and ties back to the original purpose.

1 2 3 4 5

Project has well-placed, meaningful, and relevant quotes. Text is rich and ties back to thesis/purpose.

1 2 3 4 5

Project is visually appealing, creative, and neat. Project demonstrates and understanding of the aesthetic nature of literature.

1 2 3 4 5