

St. Paul's Episcopal School
2019 English Summer Reading Instructions
Rising Juniors

St. Paul's Episcopal School views summer assignments as a valuable pursuit for the college preparatory student. Summer assignments provide the student with the opportunity for reading enrichment, independent study, time-management, and continuity of content review. An additional advantage is that the students begin the school year with a common body of knowledge.

Summer reading books for all grades are available at the Campus Store.

Junior English (All classes except AP)

**Steinbeck, John. Of Mice and Men
(ISBN 9780140177398)**

Of Mice and Men is a short novel by Nobel Prize winning author John Steinbeck. Set in the rural Salinas Valley of California during the early 1930s, the novel traces the friendship and struggles of two itinerant farm hands. Major concerns of this novel include friendship, dreams, loneliness, and disillusionment.

Instructions: Answer the following discussion questions; be prepared to discuss them and take a test during the first week of classes.

(These questions come from the publisher.)

1. Why does George "take so much trouble for another guy?"
2. Why does George shoot Lennie?
3. Why is the dream recited repeatedly?
4. What does Slim mean when he says, "A guy got to sometimes?"
5. Why does the book begin and end at the pond?
6. Why does Candy feel he should have shot his dog himself?
7. Is Curley's wife to blame for Lennie's death?
8. Why doesn't Slim share in the other men's dreams?
9. Why does Carlson get the last word?
10. What is the meaning of the book's title?
11. Did migrant workers have any options for a better life?
12. Did George do the right thing by shooting Lennie?