

Homework - Of Mice and Men

3/6/15

Part (a)

In the passage Steinbeck presents Slim to readers as a wise, high-ranked, role model. The quotation "His authority was so great that his word was taken on any subject, be it politics or love." This implies that Slim is so popular around the ranch, that when he speaks everyone is in awe. Steinbeck shows Slim as high ranked and a role model. "A tall man stood in the doorway." Suggests his elevated status.

Another example of how Steinbeck portrays Slim is how he is referred as the "prince of the ranch" inferring that he is on a level field in authority with the likes of Curley, not so much his father "The Boss." This could be due to him being a master craftsman.

Steinbeck deliberately uses Slim as the adverse of Curley. This is shown in many ways through the text such as, "His ear heard more than what was said to him, and his slow speech had overtones not of thought, but of understanding beyond thought." This shows that Slim is being empathetic. Steinbeck gives you a little foreshadowing hint that at the end of the novel, Slim will be empathetic towards George's misery. To add to the earlier quotation "A tall man stood in the doorway" it also shows to the readers that Slim is naturally tall but differentiates from Curley as he wears high heeled boots to boost his height.

WNV - Excellent understanding of Slim's status with well-chosen supporting quotations.

EBI - Focus upon the connotations of specific words. What does "prince" suggest?