1. What do Slim and Whit discover in a pulp magazine? How is this important for the group of men?
2. Steinbeck uses several images of silence. The following passage is just one small example:

“His voice trailed off. It was silent outside. Carlson’s footsteps died away. The silence came into the room. And the silence lasted.”

Why does the image of silence play an important role at this point in the novel? Who is literally being silenced? Who is metaphorically being silenced, and what role does each man play in the silence?

1. What does talking about the dream do for Lennie and George? Why is Candy interested in the story about George and Lennie’s dream?
2. How are the theme of survival and the power struggle between the weak and the strong highlighted in this Chapter?
3. After George, Lennie, and Candy make a pact not to tell anyone about their dream, Candy makes the following statement: “I oughtta of shot that dog myself, George. I shouldn’t oughtta of let no stranger shoot my dog.” Explain the parallelism between the relationship Candy had with his dog and the one George has with Lennie. How might this statement be an example of foreshadowing?
4. Throughout the fight, there are many animal references to either Lennie or Curley. Find several examples in the text, and then explain how the animal references connect to what the reader already knows about the characters. How do the descriptions of Curley change throughout the fight?
5. Why will Curley keep quiet about what Lennie did to him and not try to get George and Lennie fired?