

Name _____

Article 1

About the Rabbits

Lennie spoke craftily, "Tell me—like you done before."

"Tell you what?"

"About the rabbits."

- 5 George snapped, "You ain't gonna put nothing over on me."

Lennie pleaded, "Come on, George. Tell me. Please George. Like you done before."

- 10 "You get a kick outta that, don't you? Awright, I'll tell you, and then we'll eat our supper"

- George's voice became deeper. He repeated his words rhythmically as though he had said them many times before. "Guys like us, that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world. They got no family. They don't belong no place. They come to a ranch an' work up a stake¹ and then they go into town and blow their stake, and the first thing you know they're on some other ranch. They ain't got nothing to look ahead to."

- 25 Lennie was delighted. "That's it—that's it. Now tell how it is with us."

- George went on. "With us it ain't like that. We got a future. We got somebody to talk to that cares about us. If them other guys gets in jail they can rot for all anybody cares. But not us."

- 30 Lennie broke in. "*But not us! An' why? Because . . . because I got you to look after me, and you got me to look after*

- 35 *you, and that's why.*" He laughed delightedly. "Go on now, George!"

"You got it by heart. You can do it yourself."

- "No, you. I forget some a' the things. Tell
40 about how it's gonna be."

"O.K. Someday—we're gonna have a little house and a couple of acres an' a cow and some pigs and—"

- "An' live off the fatta the lan'," Lennie
45 shouted. "An' have rabbits. Go on, George! Tell about what we're gonna have in the garden and about the rabbits in the cages and about the rain in the winter and the stove, and how thick the cream is on the milk like you can hardly cut it. Tell about that, George."

"Why'n't you do it yourself? You know all of it."

- "No . . . you tell it. It ain't the same if I tell
55 it. Go on . . . George. How I get to tend the rabbits."

- "Well," said George, "we'll have a big vegetable patch and a rabbit hutch and chickens. And when it rains in the winter, we'll build up a fire in the stove and set around it an' listen to the rain comin' down on the roof—Nuts!" He took out his pocket knife. "I ain't got time for no more." He drove his knife through the top of one of the bean cans, sawed out the top and passed the can to Lennie.

¹ money used to purchase a piece of land

Question 1

Briefly summarize the main events and ideas from “About Rabbits.”

Question 1

Writing a Summary Rubric

	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Main Idea	Correctly identifies the main idea in a clear and accurate manner.	Correctly identifies most of main idea in a complete sentence.	Identifies an important idea but not the main idea in a complete sentence.	Identifies a detail but not the main idea.
Supporting Details	Clearly states 2 or more important details using own words or statements.	States at least 2 important details with some paraphrasing of information.	States at least 1 important detail. Demonstrates little if any paraphrasing.	Includes unnecessary details. Does not demonstrate any paraphrasing.
Conclusion	Writes a clear and specific concluding statement.	Writes an adequate concluding statement.	Writes a weak concluding statement.	Does not include a concluding statement.
Mechanics and Grammar	Contains few, if any spelling or grammatical errors.	Contains several errors in punctuation, spelling or grammar that do not interfere with meaning.	Contains many errors in punctuation, spelling and/or grammar that interferes with meaning.	Contains many errors in punctuation, spelling and/or grammar that make the piece illegible.

Total (16 points max): _____