Interesting things are lurking underneath the depths of the sentences in your summer reading. Now, it is time to find them! While it is true that reading is for enjoyment, there are many benefits to paying a little closer attention to the literary devices, writing techniques, and other elements of storytelling. Noticing these moments as they happen can help us become more critical readers \textbf{AND} more complex writers. Assignment: As you read \textit{Of Mice and Men}, \textbf{choose at least 15 different} terms from the word bank below, find them in your novel, and then explain your findings. You will have 20 entries total.

\textbf{Required novels:} \textit{Of Mice and Men} – John Steinbeck and \textit{The Tipping Point} by Malcolm Gladwell - (A Socratic Seminar assignment will be given the first week back at school for this novel.)

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\textbf{Literary Tools Word Bank} & & & & & \\
\hline
Theme & Symbolism & Situational Irony & Direct Characterization & Internal Conflict & Allusion \\
Tone & Contrast & Dramatic Irony & Indirect Characterization & External Conflict & Metaphor \\
Mood & Setting & Verbal Irony & Personification & Simile & Imagery \\
Repetition & Foreshadowing & Exposition & Rising/Falling Action & Climax & Resolution \\
Dialect & Diction & Syntax & & & \\
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\textbf{Tips for success:}

1. If you do not know what one of these terms mean, then look it up.
2. Do your best on this, and write complete sentences in your explanation. This activity is a first impression of you as a reader and a writer.

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\textbf{Term} & \textbf{Direct Quote} (Textual Evidence) & \textbf{Page Number} & \textbf{Explanation/Significance} (Why you think this quote is significant to the story and its characters, conflicts, and underlying meaning or themes) \\
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Part 1 - Consider the novel and your reading of it. Then write a few reflections on the text (a paragraph or two). These could include a) questions you might want to ask about the text, author, time period, etc., b) your thoughts about real-world connections or connections to another text, film, etc., c) your thoughts about character motivations or actions d) your thoughts about the author’s writing style.

Part 2 - What do you believe is the most important idea or theme of this work? What underlying meaning makes this book timeless and essential to the literary canon? Be sure to support your response with multiple examples from the text.