Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Four – Crooks’ room

1. What is liniment? Why does Crooks put this on his back?

2. Initially, Crooks is very unfriendly to Lennie, but then he invites him to sit. Why does he change his mind?

3. Crooks reveals something about his childhood involving his father. “My ol’ man didn’t like that. I never knew till long later why he didn’t like that. But I know now.” (Page 69) What was Crooks referring to? What did he realize about his father’s statement? How did this situation steal part of Crooks’ innocence?

4. Loneliness does terrible things to people. Crooks is also very lonely, but how is his loneliness different from the others?

5. Lennie become upset with Crooks because he creates a scenario involving George getting hurt or abandoning him. Why does he do this to him? DO NOT state the obvious. (please don’t say “to be mean” or “to scare him”)

6. “A guy needs somebody—to be near him.” He whined, “A guy goes nuts if he ain’t got nobody. Don’t make no difference who the guy is, long’s he’s with you. I tell ya,” he cried, “I tell ya a guy gets too lonely an’ he gets sick.” What is Crooks referring to in this quote?

7. Why does Crooks think that their dream is just foolish? What changes his mind?

8. When Curley’s wife sees Lennie, Candy, and Crooks talking together, how does she

characterize them? What do they all have in common?

9. What does Curley’s wife reveal about her character she threatens Crooks? What is she implying by this threat?

10. How does Chapter Four end? Why do you suppose it ends this way?

11. What happened to Crooks’ family? Refer back to the first pages of the chapter. Dig deep! It is IMPLIED not stated!!!!