American Literature Name:

*The Grapes of Wrath* – Movie Questions

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| 1. What is the family searching for?
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| 1. Why do you suppose the preacher lost the "spirit"?
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| 1. What factors cause Muley to be "touched"?
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| 1. How does technology hurt the tenant farmers?
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| 1. Why is land so important to these people?
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| 1. What are your feelings as the Caterpillar so easily demolishes the house? Do you suppose that your parents would have the same feelings watching as they watched everything they work for, their hopes and dreams demolished?
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| 1. What can the tenant farmers do about this type of treatment?
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| 1. How many start for California?
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| 1. Grandpa dies of a stroke, but what really killed him? (not the sleeping medicine)
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| 1. Who does the Preacher say is better off, the dead or the living?
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| 1. Why did Mr. Joad insist on paying for the loaf of bread, even after the cook says to GIVE it to him? Does this trait still exist today?
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| 1. What does the gas station attendants say that shows they don't know what it's like to be homeless, jobless, and hopeless? How does this promote prejudice?
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| 1. Who will Uncle John still see in the tent? Why?
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| 1. What had the boys really eaten for dinner and breakfast?
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| 1. Why do you suppose the locals want to burn down the transient camp?
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| 1. Why were the men striking? How was business leeching off the poor?
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| 1. What is the importance of family to the Joads?
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| 1. How is the government camp different from the transient camp?
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| 1. What is a "Red"? Why are they afraid of them?
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| 1. Why is there prejudice against the "Oakies"?
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| 1. How does Tommy's "I will be there" speech symbolize the American spirit?
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| 1. To depict misery and hopelessness, the picture is done in shadows. How does the last scene, the sky, characterize the American spirit?
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| 1. At the end of the film, how much of the Joad family is still intact?
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The Guiding Question in this unit is, “What Does it Mean to be An American?” How does this film depict American values? How does it explore the spirit of an American? Do these values and characteristics still exist today? Give me an example.