**Literary Terms**

Complete the following chart. Remember to include the page number of your example from *Of Mice and Men*.

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| **Literary Term** | **Definition** | **General Example** | **Example from *Of Mice and Men*** |
| Personification | Giving human traits (qualities, feelings, action, or characteristics) to non-living objects (things, colors, qualities, or ideas). | The wind danced into the room. |  |
| Juxtaposition | The act or an instance of placing two or more things side by side. | Judy went to the mall with her friends who loved to frequent the clothing shops. Judy much preferred the bookstores. |  |
| Symbolism | Something that represents something else by association, resemblance, or convention, especially a material object used to represent something else. | The American flag. |  |
| Foreshadowing | When the author provides hints of what may happen later in the story. | In a play, the main character in the first act might show the audience he has a pistol by placing it in his pocket. Later, in the third act, he is attacked and is able to defend himself with the pistol. |  |
| Simile | comparison of generally unlike objects using “like” or “as.” | His fingers were like tree branches. |  |
| Metaphor | A direct comparison of generally unlike objects NOT using “like” or as.” | His fingers are the tree branches that scraped the side of the house. |  |
| Conflict | A problem or unresolved issue in a story. | Judy wants to finish her homework, but her friend wants her to go to the mall. Judy is confused about what to do. |  |
| Climax | A turning point in the story. | Judy goes to the mall, without doing her homework, and runs into her English teacher who asks about her work. |  |
| Resolution | The solution to conflicts presented in a story. | Judy, being smart and time efficient, is able to do both her homework and go to the mall. |  |
| Alliteration | A string of words beginning with the same consonant. | Susie sold seashells by the seashore. |  |
| Imagery | The use of vivid or figurative language to represent objects, actions, or ideas. | Judy, dressed in blue jeans, a blue tee-shirt with the logo “Love rules,” and orange Converse high top tennis shoes with mismatched red and blue shoelaces, entered the mall. She felt as if she was the Queen of the Mall. |  |
| Style | A manner of expression: how a character or writer says what he/she says. | Judy, when confronted by mall police for suspected theft, said, “You don’t know me. I ain’t no thief!” |  |
| Tone | The writer's attitude toward the material and/or readers. Tone may be playful, formal, intimate, angry, serious, ironic, outraged, baffled, tender, serene, depressed, etc. | Judy, nervous and sweating bullets, felt the world closing in on her as the cop questioned her. |  |
| Motif | A repeating theme or event. | Judy tells the story (to anyone who will listen) about her encounter with the mall police almost daily. |  |
| Mood | The atmosphere that pervades a literary work with the intention of evoking a certain emotion or feeling from the readers. | Judy felt nervous as the mall police continued to question her. Around her, everything suddenly became fuzzy and dream-like. She felt helpless, alone, and experienced a disturbing sense of floating. |  |
| Theme | The moral or message of a story. | Judy now realizes that false accusations occur, and she decides to forgive the mall police. |  |
| Protagonist | A main character or “hero” of a story. | Judy realized after her “false arrest” that not everyone is bad; she remained an honest and law-abiding person. |  |
| Antagonist | Usually the character who opposes the protagonist. | The mall police officer who questioned Judy was unfair and assumptive. |  |
| Magic Realism | A narrative technique that blurs the distinction between fantasy and reality. | After being freed, Judy saw herself rising into the air and landing upon a cloud of relief. |  |