Good stuff to remember:

* It’s the kindest thing to do to kill Lennie
* Killing Lennie shows their friendship is unbreakable/true
* The writer is anti-racist, shown by how he puts Crooks in a good light
* He shows Curley’s Wife to be a victim of her husband – her need for attention isn’t her fault
* The whole story is a metaphor for the suffering of large parts of America during The Great Depression and The Dust Bowl
* The frequent deaths (mice, puppy, Curley’s Wife, death of the dream) shows that life is delicate and fragile and can easily be ruined
* George never really believes in the dream – he pretends to so that Lennie stays positive
* He has a slight amount of hope when Candy decides to join them
* The dream gives Candy temporary hope from his desperate and lonely life
* When Curley’s Wife dies the dream dies – that’s why Candy breaks down and cries at the end
* Light and dark are frequently used as contrasts in the novel – darkness is associated with death, sadness and warnings, whereas light is associated with hope and The American Dream