



A SUMMER CAPSTONE

The Capstone Companion

Following the Thread · Of Mice and Men



This is where you collect your work by hand — one place for everything you make this summer.

HOW TO USE THIS

Print these pages.

Read each week in the Capstone packet (or in In the Margin), then write your work in the box for that week.

Keep this Companion with your Relation Study, and bring both to share at the end.



WEEK ONE · OF MICE AND MEN

Choose Your Thread

Your Character & Your Relation Study



WEEK ONE OF SIX

This week, you make two choices.

THIS WEEK

- ☐ Choose your character (fill in the box below)
- ☐ Choose your Relation Study, and gather your first materials

1 · STEP ONE · YOUR CHARACTER

My character is...

I chose them because...

The first quote that caught my ear (with page)...

2 · STEP TWO · YOUR RELATION STUDY

The Relation Study I chose is...

To begin, this week I will gather...



WEEK TWO · OF MICE AND MEN

A Letter from Your Character

Stepping Into the Voice



WEEK TWO OF SIX

*Step inside your character's voice.***THIS WEEK**

- ☐ Read Chapter 3
- ☐ Write a letter in your character's voice (200–300 words)
- ☐ Relation Study — add one small piece (about 40 minutes)

3 · STEP THREE · THE LETTER*200 to 300 words, in your character's voice.**Dear _____,***RELATION STUDY — THIS WEEK I ADDED**



WEEK THREE · OF MICE AND MEN

Freedom and the Choices We Make

What We Can and Cannot Choose



WEEK THREE OF SIX

Look at what your character can and cannot choose.

THIS WEEK

- ☐ Read Chapters 4 and 5
- ☐ Write one paragraph on freedom and choice (with a quote)
- ☐ Relation Study — add one small piece (about 40 minutes)

4 · STEP FOUR · FREEDOM AND CHOICE

Where my character has a real choice...
Where they have almost none...
What they choose — and what it costs...
A quote that anchors this (with page)...

RELATION STUDY — THIS WEEK I ADDED



WEEK FOUR · OF MICE AND MEN

Rewrite the Scene

Writing Inside the Book



Write inside the book itself.

THIS WEEK

- ☐ Read Chapter 6
- ☐ Rewrite one short moment from inside your character's head
- ☐ Relation Study — add one small piece (about 40 minutes)

5 · STEP FIVE · THE SCENE

The moment I'm rewriting (Chapter 6)...

RELATION STUDY — THIS WEEK I ADDED



WEEK FIVE · OF MICE AND MEN

A Haiku for Your Character

Distilling a Person



WEEK FIVE OF SIX

Follow the form — and meet two philosophers.

THIS WEEK

- ☐ Write one haiku about your character (strict 5-7-5)
- ☐ Meet Camus and Sartre in the Existentialist Lens reading
- ☐ Relation Study — your last 40-minute session

6 · STEP SIX · THE HAIKU

Strict 5-7-5. Try a few, then choose the truest.

Draft one...

Draft two...

Draft three...

The one I'll keep...

RELATION STUDY · FINAL SESSION — THIS WEEK I ADDED



WEEK SIX · OF MICE AND MEN

The Relation Study Comes Home

Gathering the Summer's Work



The thread comes home.

THIS WEEK — ARRIVAL

- ☐ Finish your Relation Study
- ☐ Write a short reflection (4-6 sentences)
- ☐ Gather everything into your Capstone and turn it in

7 · STEP SEVEN · A REFLECTION

*After making my Relation Study, I saw differently that...
Beside the character I followed all summer, this work...*

THE GATHERING

Check off each piece as you place it in your finished Capstone.

- ☐ Your character notes (Week One)
- ☐ The letter (Week Two)
- ☐ The freedom paragraph (Week Three)
- ☐ The scene rewrite (Week Four)
- ☐ The haiku (Week Five)
- ☐ The Relation Study & this reflection (Week Six)



*What you have made is small, and it is yours, and it is real.
That is the whole point.*