Working Theme Statements for *Of Mice and Men*

Topic/Subject/Concept	Working Theme Statement
Friendship / Companionship	Brian: Sometimes friendship requires the ultimate sacrifice of killing your friend to prevent a worse outcome for him/her.
	Brian: Friendship means being together, but at some point having personal space is needed.
Ambition / Dreams / Goals	Brian: Dreams keep you going and morale high.
	Ashley/Kyra: One person's dream might be another's nightmare
	If your dreams don't come true, you might give up, and that can lead to loneliness and depression
Loneliness /Alienation	Ashley: Loneliness can cause depression and can make you take drastic actions (Curley's wife talked to Lennie even though he was potentially dangerous)
	Ariel: Loneliness can only go so long before we need human contact/ comfort (Crooks).
Discrimination / Prejudice	Ariel/Bibi: Discrimination leads to loneliness or hating humankind
	Discrimination can limit your abilities to be happy or to go certain places.
Guilt	Kyra: Guilting others can be turned into personal pleasure--
	Kewon: Guilt is used as a weapon to make people take responsibility for how they treat others.

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Creating Theme Statements

We have identified five themes: Friendship, Loneliness, Survival, Hopes/Dreams, and Discrimination.

Working in small groups, each of you will need to come up with your personal statement on what this theme is. An example will be projected on the board. **Please write your personal statement in your annotation journal.**

After you have each come up with a theme statement, you will share it with your group, and then your group will choose the top 2 statements.

We will share our theme statements with the whole class to come up with a class document of our theme statements. I will create and photocopy our master document.

Remember, only write a statement for the theme that your group is working on

My theme statement:

1) Friendship:

2) Loneliness:

3) Survival:

4) Hopes/Dreams:

5) Discrimination: