

Part 1:

Answer the following questions based on the excerpt from *The Grapes of Wrath*.

- 1. The excerpt begins by narrating the plight of the farmer and ends by narrating the plight of the starving poor people. Which struggle, the farmer's or the people's, is more compelling to you? Explain why.**

The struggle of the people appears more compelling. The plight of the farmers conveys how they are losing their plots of land and crops, while the other expresses how people are out there starving and struggling to pay necessary expenses. While both instances are both negative, the struggle of the people conveys it even more; further, the people have nothing while the farmers still have something.

- 2. What is the tone of this excerpt? How does Steinbeck use rhetorical strategies to convey this tone?**

Steinbeck structures this text in a way that conveys a sorrowful/ominous sort of tone. As well, through vivid imagery, he is able to strike the image of what is happening within the reader, making this text very effective in conveying the struggles of the people and the farmers.

- 3. Find an example of repetition and explain how it impacts this excerpt.**

Repetition is found within the statement "*Burn coffee for fuel in the ships. Burn corn to keep warm, it makes a hot fire.*" This repetition of the word "burn" helps to collectively contribute to the sorrowful feeling being conveyed to the audience, showing the struggles of the people and how things were being made worse by burning what was still left.

- 4. What is "the crime... that goes beyond denunciation"?**

The crime here is the selfish and greedy actions being committed during this time of great trouble and disparity.

- 5. Explain the implications of Steinbeck's powerful final metaphor, "In the souls of the people the grapes of wrath are filling and growing heavy, growing heavy for the vintage."**

This final metaphor used by Steinbeck is explaining how the poor will eventually reach their wit's end, and begin to rise up against the rich and wealthy after being constantly stepped over by them.

6. Copy and paste one image from the Yale University website that you think could accompany this excerpt and explain your choice.



"This family without food and work about to be returned to Oklahoma by the Relief Administration. They have lost a baby as a result of exposure during the winter. Had to sell their tent and car to buy food. Neideffer Camp, Holtville, Imperial Valley, California"

This image would work well accompanying this excerpt as it shows a pure example of the struggles faced by many during the Great Depression. The family in the image is without a home, without a job, and without food. You would probably imagine how much they have to fight for, especially the parents; making sure that they are able to still take care of their children and be able to still raise them. And as well, they would most likely be angered by the greed and selfishness actions of others, further making the situation even worse.

Part 2:

Complete the five-step OPTIC analysis chart based on your chosen image.

Image Detail	Analysis Steps	Analysis for Selected Image
O = Overview	<p>What is happening in this image?</p> <p>Summarize the "action" of the visual without analyzing its meaning yet.</p>	<p>A family is standing in front of their makeshift tent, doing their best to survive through the difficult circumstances they currently find themselves in.</p>
P = Parts	<p>Break the image down into sections.</p> <p>Describe the placement of objects on the image.</p> <p>Name everything you see.</p>	<p>This image can be mainly broken down into two sections, with one being the family in front of the tent, and the other being the surrounding area around them.</p> <p>The family is found standing in front of their makeshift tent, which they are currently living out of.</p> <p>There are two parents, and two children, and they appear to not have many belongings with them, and the tent itself is smaller in size. The father is next to the children holding on to them, with the mother off to the right.</p> <p>Surrounding them and the tent is a deserted area with not much around for miles.</p>
T = Title	<p>What does the title, caption, or context tell you about the image?</p> <p>How much does it add to what you understand or do not understand about the image?</p> <p>Are there any words that are part of the image itself?</p> <p>If there is no title, make one up. Explain your choice.</p>	<p>The title/caption of the image explains how the family is without a home, job, or food. As well, they have lost one of their children, and have to sell their car and other belongings to be able to afford food.</p> <p>This description adds a lot more meaning to the photo, as from the onset it may look like a family camping, but the extra details changes that perception entirely. It shows a family struggling to survive and doing all they can to make it through the difficult circumstances they are being forced to endure.</p>
I = Interrelationships	<p>Analyze the relationships in the image.</p> <p>How do objects or people or relate to each other? What clues to the message or argument are these</p>	<p>The main relationship within this photo is that all of the people in it are family. They depend on one another to survive and make it through, especially the children on their parents. The most important "relationship" in this image is the family with their tent, showing how difficult things are for them.</p>

Image Detail	Analysis Steps	Analysis for Selected Image
(continued from above)	<p>relationships giving you (notice expressions, clothing, etc.)?</p> <p>What seems to be the most important "relationship" in the image?</p> <p>Is the object oversized or undersized?</p> <p>Are objects strategically placed in the image?</p>	<p>I feel that the strategic placing of the family in front of the tent, with the deserted area in the background, helps to much more effectively convey the struggles they are facing, and how they are doing all they can to make it through.</p>
C = Conclusion	<p>Draw the conclusion regarding the meaning or message of the image by taking all of your observations into account.</p>	<p>The Great Depression wasn't easy for a lot of people and their families. They faced many hardships and problems, and depended on one another to get through the obstacles and changes they faced.</p>

Part 3:

Synthesize the passage and the image. What new understanding do you gain about life at this time or life in general? In a complete paragraph of 7–10 sentences, explain how these two sources bring you to this conclusion.

The Great Depression was a hard time for many. Those who were lower class struggled to make ends meet and live life as they had once before. Despite that, those who were wealthy and had more money did not face these problems as severely. While some continued living life as they had always, there were others who were losing their homes; facing life-threatening problems. The passage and image helps to bring context to what life was really like. You always hear about the Great Depression and what happened, but do not always firsthand see it and its effects. Especially nowadays it teaches a great life lesson, to be grateful for what you have and for the opportunities and freedoms that currently exist.