



CHAPTER 1

1. **jungle-up** - an area off the road where homeless people would camp; to “jungle-up” means to set up camp
2. **“watchin’ that blackboard”** - employment agencies would post any jobs available on a blackboard
3. **“leave me have it”** - let me have it
4. **“bucking”** - the process of harvesting
5. **“bustin’ a gut”** - working really hard
6. **“puttin’ nothing over”** - tricking
7. **“in hot water”** - in trouble
8. **“poundin’ their tail”** - working really hard
9. **“blowin’ our jack”** - wasting our money
10. **“live off the fatta the lan”** - live off the profits provided by selling crops
11. **cream is so thick “you can hardly cut it”** - milk that is left sitting will separate, making a thick cream on top

CHAPTER 2

1. **“sore as hell”** - really angry
2. **“pants rabbits”** - slang for crabs, a species of invertebrates that infest the pelvic region
3. **“I ain’t got the poop no more”** - “I don’t have the energy anymore”
4. **“gave us a bum steer”** - led in the wrong direction
5. **“strong as a bull”** - extremely strong
6. **“What you sellin’?”** - “What antics are you trying to pull?”
7. **“flapper”** - mouth
8. **“old man”** - father
9. **“got on his shoulder”** - something bothering him; angry about something
10. **“picking scraps”** - starting fights
11. **“game guy”** - competitive person
12. **“licks him”** - fights him and wins
13. **“She got the eye”** - “She’s a flirt.”
14. **“pants is full of ants”** - jumpy and nervous

15. **“tart”** - a promiscuous woman
16. **“get the can”** - get fired
17. **jail bait** - a derogatory term for a young girl who is perceived as trying to sleep with an older man
18. **rattrap** - a trap for rats; in this case, Curley’s wife is a trap for men
19. **“eatin’ raw eggs”** - some people believed that eating raw eggs could increase a man’s strength
20. **“bits”** - slang for “cents”
21. **“hit a pocket”** - get lucky
22. **“slang”** - gave birth to

CHAPTER 3

1. **Cuckoo** - a derogatory name for someone, like calling someone “crazy”
2. **“clean forgot”** - outright forgot
3. **“rabbits an’ tells the law”** - runs away quickly and tells the police
4. **“scrammed outta there”** - ran away as quickly as possible
5. **“whing-ding”** - a great writer; the best
6. **“turning his hand”** - doing any work
7. **Looloo** - a good-looking girl
8. **goo-goos** - used to mean someone who is love-struck; a romantic
9. **“see the fuss if it comes off”** - see the fight if it happens
10. **“flat bust”** - completely poor
11. **“swing her”** - make it happen
12. **“swamp out”** - clean and take care of
13. **“sling”** - throw
14. **“lay offa me”** - leave me alone
15. **“yella as a frog belly”** - a coward
16. **“like a fish on a line”** - squirming like a fish that has been caught

CHAPTER 4

1. **“crazy as a wedge”** - mentally unstable
2. **“took a powder”** - left in a hurry
3. **booby hatch** - insane asylum
4. **“take you out in a box”** - remove your dead body in a coffin
5. **Twicet** - a Southern term for “twice”
6. **“bindle bums”** - lazy migrants

7. **Floozy** - another word for “prostitute”
8. **“two-bit”** - two cents; cheap
9. **“two shots of corn”** - two shots of corn whiskey
10. **“roll your hoop”** - a game played by children in which they roll a large hoop, trying to keep it from falling
11. **Trap** - mouth
12. **“strung up on a tree”** - hung from a tree
13. **“got it doped”** - got it worked out; figured out

CHAPTER 5

1. **“sonny boy”** - slang term for “young man”
2. **“tenement” (tournament)** - game
3. **“pitchers” (pictures)** - movies
4. **“ringer”** - an expert

CHAPTER 6

1. **“sonofabitching”** - similar to “damn”
2. **“stew the b’Jesus outta”** - bother
3. **“greased jack-pin”** - a jackhammer
4. **“blow it in”** - waste it
5. **“hoot in hell”** - darn
6. **“eatin”** - bothering