The idea of the American Dream is the streets are paved with gold.

America has always been perceived as a place where that it is something unrealistic and intangible.

During the 1920s and 1930s, through a combination of hard work, courage and determination, prosperity can be achieved.

Some say the American Dream is impossible because the Depression was a cause of major hardship.

The word ‘dream’ suggests many trade union figures who were championing the rights of workers.

The American Dream does not take into account the Robert Burns poem ‘To a Mouse’ about how things don’t always go according to plan.

The area George and Lennie fled was commonly referred to as the Dust Bowl because a series of dust storms in the 1930s caused major damage to agricultural land in some states.

The novel is set in the Salinas valley not everyone can gain prosperity through only hard work and determination.

Steinbeck was heavily influenced by that family and wealth have a potential bearing on success.

The title of the novel is drawn from where John Steinbeck was born, and a place of major immigration.
**Match the contextual information**

| Answers |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| The idea of the American Dream is | through a combination of hard work, courage and determination, prosperity can be achieved. |
| America has always been perceived as a place where | the streets are paved with gold. |
| During the 1920s and 1930s, | the Depression was a cause of major hardship. |
| Some say the American Dream is impossible because | not everyone can gain prosperity through only hard work and determination. |
| The word ‘dream’ suggests | that it is something unrealistic and intangible. |
| The American Dream does not take into account | that family and wealth have a potential bearing on success. |
| The area George and Lennie fled was commonly referred to as the Dust Bowl | because a series of dust storms in the 1930s caused major damage to agricultural land in some states. |
| The novel is set in the Salinas valley | where John Steinbeck was born, and a place of major immigration. |
| Steinbeck was heavily influenced by | many trade union figures who were championing the rights of workers. |
| The title of the novel is drawn from | the Robert Burns poem ‘To a Mouse’ about how things don’t always go according to plan. |
Match the contextual information

Now read the following quotations from Section 1 of the novel. They are taken from an extract where George is reciting the 'dream' he shares with Lennie.

Using some of the keywords from the matching activity, annotate the quotations to show how Steinbeck gave a true impression of the experiences of men such as George and Lennie. An example is provided.

Courage
Determination
Prosperity
Hardship
Unrealistic
Intangible
Family
Wealth

Example:
“Guys like us, that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world1. They got no family2. They don’t belong no place1.”

Courage1
Family2

1. “We got a future.”
2. “We got somebody to talk to that gives a damn about us.”
3. “We don’t have to sit in no bar-room blowin’ in our jack jus’ because we got we got no place else to go.”
4. “Some day – we’re gonna get the jack together and we’re gonna have a little house and a couple of acres an’ a cow and some pigs and…”
5. “Nuts! I ain’t got time for no more.”

Now answer this exam-style question, using quotations and facts about life at the time.

In Section 1, how does Steinbeck show the reality and dreams of men working on ranches at the time?
(Foundation tier only)

In your answer you should write about:
- Details of what the men were doing
- How the men describe their dreams and the reality
- The methods Steinbeck uses to present the reality in contrast to the dreams