“Tularecito”
By: John Steinbeck

Vocabulary:
Choose 4 words from the word bank to: define, draw a picture to show the word’s definition, and use the word in a sentence.

Word Bank:
obscurity   penance   shriven   incoherencies
maliciously  ferocious  patriarchate  eradicated
dexterous   effigies   troglodytic  desecrator
diabolical   spinsters  enviable  erudite

Word:  
Definition: 

Sentence:  

Word:  
Definition: 

Sentence:  

Word:  
Definition: 

Sentence:  

Word:  
Definition: 

Sentence:  

Characters:
Please give a brief description of each character.

Tularecito: _______________________________________________________
Pancho: _________________________________________________________
Franklin Gomez: __________________________________________________
Miss Martin: ______________________________________________________
Miss Morgan: _____________________________________________________

Questions:
Please answer the following questions in well-constructed sentences.

1.) How did Tularecito end up on Mr. Gomez’s farm?
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________

2.) Miss Martin wants Gomez to whip Tularecito after the event at school. Do you agree with her? (circle one)

Yes    No

Explain why you agree, or disagree, with Miss Martin.
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________

3.) Did the beating teach Tularecito a lesson like Miss Martin hoped? (circle one)

Yes    No

Why did, or did not, these beatings work?
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
4.) After the beatings Gomez says, “No, Miss Martin, he should be allowed to go free. He is not dangerous… If he had been dangerous, he could easily have killed me when I whipped him.” Miss Martin believes, “He ought to be locked up. This creature is dangerous…” Who do you believe is correct, and why?

5.) What does the town’s view of Miss Morgan tell us about women’s roles in society during this time period?

6.) Miss Morgan writes a letter one night stating:
   “After the bare requisites to living and reproducing, man wants most to leave some record of himself, a proof, perhaps, that he has really existed. He leaves his proof on wood, on stone, or on the lives of other people. This deep desire exists in everyone, from the boy who writes dirty words in a public toilet to the Buddha who etches his image in the race mind. Life is so unreal. I think that we seriously doubt that we exist and go about trying to prove that we do.”

   How does this relate to Tularecito (how does Tularecito try to leave a record of himself)?

   How does this relate to Miss Morgan?
7.) Why doesn’t Pancho want Tularecito to go digging for gnomes?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

8.) Were Pancho and Miss Martin trying to trick Tularecito? Explain.

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

9.) Do you think the judge’s punishment for Tularecito was fair? (circle one)

Yes                           No

Why or why not?

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________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

10.) What do you think the author’s purpose in writing this piece was?

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