You are a friend of Tom Joad. He is currently on Route 66 heading for California. You know what lies ahead for him and his family. Send him a text message before he gets to the desert and loses cell-phone reception. What would you say that would save him and his family? You can only use 144 characters, so make them count.

Discussion: Exchange your text message with a partner. How would you respond to this message from a friend if you were Tom Joad.

Why would he respond that way? Remember, he has to stay in character. Be prepared to support your idea.