

Chapter 1

The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse

READING WITH INSIGHT

Q. 1 You will probably agree that this story does not have a breathless adventure and exciting action. Then what in your opinion makes it interesting?

Answer:

Even though the storyline is not that adventurous, the way in which the entire scene is portrayed by the writer is very exciting. This has been written from the viewpoint of a nine-year-old boy. The boy who belongs to a poor family which is known for its honesty cannot fathom that his brother could steal a horse to ride. This in itself is exciting for the boy. Every thought that passes through the mind of the boy after looking at the horse has been romanticized by the author. Riding the stolen horse and hiding it safely are great feats of adventure for the two boys. One might point out that the story isn't filled with breathless adventure, but we think that following the course of action taken by the boys till the return it to its rightful owner is really adventurous. Almost the entire story has been written in a way that the entire scene can be imagined. The pictorial representation heightens the appeal of the story to the readers.

Q. 2 Did the boys return the horse because they were conscience-stricken or because they were afraid?

Answer:

In the entire story the boys have been portrayed fearless. It was their craze for horses which made them steal one. However, after keeping the horse for a few months, the farmer John Byro visited their house and saw the horse. He, however, did not say anything to the boys rather praised their family for its honesty. This was a point where the boys realized that in

order to keep their family tradition of honesty alive they would have to return the horse to its rightful owner.

Q. 3 “One day back there in the good old days when I was nine and the world was full of every imaginable kind of magnificence, and life was still a delightful and mysterious dream...” The story begins in a mood of nostalgia. Can you narrate some incident from your childhood that might make an interesting story?

Answer:

When I was nine-year-old I had learned to drive a bicycle and my father had bought me a brand new bicycle which had the gear system. Most of my friends were so amazed by the bike that they wanted to ride it. We decided that all of us would take our bikes to a cemented road and drive it there. While looking out for the best place to ride our bicycles, we travelled from our houses to the Bypass, 5 km away, where we drove the cycles. However, since none of our parents knew about our adventure it was the scariest thing to do as anyone could have met with an accident.

Q. 4 The story revolves around characters who belong to a tribe in Armenia. Mourad and Aram are members of the Garoghlanian family. Now locate Armenia and Assyria on the atlas and prepare a write-up on the Garoghlanian tribes. You may write about people, their names, traits, geographical and economic features as suggested in the story.

Answer:

The Garoghlanian family was an Armenian tribe. Eleven centuries ago it was the wealthiest tribe in that part of the world. The members of the tribe were famous for their honesty. They ended up settling in areas such as Fresno and California. The Garoghlanian tribe is a group that operates in this modern predicament while keeping in mind the values of the past of their native Armenia. They were proud of their family. Honesty came next and then they believed in right and wrong.