

# Explorers 5

## Teacher's notes for the Comprehension Test: *Black Beauty*

- Do this test after you have read the whole book with the class.
- Ask the children to fill in their name and the date at the top of the page.
- Tell the children that this is part of the *Black Beauty* story.
- Ask them to read the text silently.
- If there are any words they have forgotten, tell them not to worry. Tell them to read everything they can.
- When they have finished reading the text, ask them to read each question one at a time.
- Do not give any help.
- Then ask them to read the three possible answers that are given.
- Ask them to underline which answer they think is correct.
- Do not allow the children to talk or to copy each other's work.
- Collect the test papers, mark the scores and fill in the results on the class record sheet.

# Explorers 5

## Comprehension Test: *Black Beauty*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

One day, Ginger and Black Beauty were standing under the chestnut tree. Ginger told Beauty her story.

‘Two men took me away from my mother. They had a bridle and a whip. One of them was my master, Samson. He held my mane and the other man pushed the bit into my mouth very roughly. I was shocked – it hurt so badly. Then Samson started to pull me along by the bridle. The other man whipped me.

‘I hated Samson. One day, he made me trot round the field until I was so tired that I nearly fell. The next day, he put a bridle on me and threw a saddle on to my back.

‘Samson told people he was an excellent rider. That day, I made a plan to teach him a lesson. He got on my back and pulled hard on the reins. I reared up on my back legs and Samson started to whip me. I kicked and bucked and reared. I tried everything to throw this terrible man off my back. He held my mane and dug his sharp metal spurs into my sides. The spurs cut me badly.

‘But at last, I threw him off my back! I galloped to the other end of the field and stood still. Samson got up and limped through the gate.

‘I stood there for a long time. It was a hot day. Flies buzzed around me. I was hungry and very thirsty. Then, as the sun went down, Samson’s father came into the field and walked up to me. He patted me and fed me some oats. Then he led me to the stables. He gently took off my saddle and bridle and filled my bucket with cold water.

‘As he washed the blood from my sides, Samson came into my stable. The old man shook his head at him and said, “Look at poor Ginger! If you treat a horse badly, it will treat you badly too!”

‘I didn’t see Samson again. A groom looked after me, and the old man came to see me every day. When my sides got better, the old man sold me to a smart man from London. I hoped he was a kind man.’

## Choose and underline the correct answer.

1. Who was Samson?  
a) Black Beauty's master    b) Ginger's master    c) Ginger's mother
2. What hurt badly?  
a) Ginger's neck    b) Ginger's mane    c) Ginger's mouth
3. Why did Ginger hate Samson?  
a) He was gentle.    b) He was rough and unkind.  
c) He was an excellent rider.
4. Why did Ginger rear up on her back legs?  
a) to throw Samson off    b) to teach Samson how to ride    c) to pull the reins
5. What did the spurs do?  
a) cut the sharp metal    b) cut Ginger's mouth badly    c) cut Ginger's sides badly
6. Did Ginger throw Samson off quickly and easily?  
a) We don't know.    b) Yes    c) No
7. Why did Samson limp through the gate?  
a) He hurt his leg.    b) He was angry.    c) He was in a hurry.
8. What did Ginger want when she stood in the field that afternoon?  
a) She wanted to sleep.    b) food and water    c) her master
9. What did Samson's father want his son to do?  
a) treat horses well    b) treat horses badly    c) wash the blood from Ginger's sides
10. Who did Ginger hope was a kind man?  
a) the old man    b) the man from London    c) the groom

## Teacher's notes for the Word Recognition Test: *Black Beauty*

- Do this test after you have read the whole book with the class.
- Ask the children to fill in their name and the date at the top of the page.
- Tell the children that the words all come from the *Black Beauty* book.
- Tell the children to listen to each sentence that you read. Read the first sentence to the class and stress the word in bold print. Say the word in bold print again, on its own, when you have finished the sentence.
- Ask the children to choose which word they think it is from the three possible words they are given for that sentence.
- Ask them to underline the word of their choice. (If they make a mistake and want to change their mind, tell them to cross out the wrong answer and underline the correct answer.)
- Repeat this procedure with each sentence.
- Make sure the children know which number sentence you are reading each time.
- Do not give any help.
- Do not allow the children to talk or to copy each other's work.
- Collect the test papers, mark the scores and fill in the results on the class record sheet.

### Test sentences and words

- |     |                                                            |                    |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.  | We had a wonderful <b>groom</b> who loved horses.          | <b>groom</b>       |
| 2.  | She likes to wear the most <b>fashionable</b> dresses.     | <b>fashionable</b> |
| 3.  | When I heard her <b>whisper</b> , I was annoyed.           | <b>whisper</b>     |
| 4.  | I hated that road because it was very <b>dangerous</b> .   | <b>dangerous</b>   |
| 5.  | The vet gave the animal some <b>medicine</b> .             | <b>medicine</b>    |
| 6.  | I have never heard so much <b>nonsense</b> in all my life. | <b>nonsense</b>    |
| 7.  | They didn't want to <b>harm</b> the poor child.            | <b>harm</b>        |
| 8.  | The young man was <b>polite</b> but he didn't say much.    | <b>polite</b>      |
| 9.  | He was <b>exhausted</b> after the long journey.            | <b>exhausted</b>   |
| 10. | It was a <b>couple</b> of hours later when he arrived.     | <b>couple</b>      |

## Word Recognition Test: *Black Beauty*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Underline the correct word.

1. a) room                      b) grew                      c) groom
2. a) fashion                      b) fashionable                      c) washable
3. a) whisper                      b) whisker                      c) whistle
4. a) danger                      b) dangerous                      c) anger
5. a) medicine                      b) poison                      c) raisins
6. a) sense                      b) since                      c) nonsense
7. a) arm                      b) harm                      c) hard
8. a) light                      b) bright                      c) polite
9. a) exhausted                      b) exhausting                      c) extra
10. a) double                      b) comfortable                      c) couple