

## Comprehension

### CHAPTER 1

#### 1 Answer the following questions.

1. Why did the master call the young horse Darkie?
2. What did Darkie look like?
3. Who wanted to buy Darkie?
4. What is a 'bit'?
5. What did the blacksmith do to Darkie?
6. Why didn't Darkie like the harness?
7. Why does Darkie's mother tell him to work hard?

#### 2 Match 1-5 with a-e to make sentences. Write a-e in the boxes.

- |                             |                          |  |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Darkie only              | <input type="checkbox"/> | a. got used to the harness.              |
| 2. Duchess advised          | <input type="checkbox"/> | b. to break Darkie in for the squire.    |
| 3. Darkie's master promised | <input type="checkbox"/> | c. Darkie to work hard and have manners. |
| 4. The young colts liked    | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. drank milk when he was very little.   |
| 5. Darkie slowly            | <input type="checkbox"/> | e. to kick and bite for fun.             |

## Vocabulary

#### 3 Complete the sentences using the words in the box.

back   manners   saddle   coat   oats   shade   gallop

1. Horses like to eat grass and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The sun is very hot today; let's sit in the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. My schoolbag is very heavy; my \_\_\_\_\_ hurts.
4. Nobody likes rude people who have no \_\_\_\_\_.
5. A polar bear has a white \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Horses go very fast when they \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Jane's bike is white with a blue \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 4 Choose a, b or c to complete the sentences below.

1. You look so \_\_\_\_\_ in your new clothes!
 

a. kind	b. handsome	c. gentle
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2. This chair is too \_\_\_\_\_; I can't sit on it.
 

a. heavy	b. difficult	c. uncomfortable
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3. You must never be \_\_\_\_\_ to animals.
 

a. cruel	b. foolish	c. necessary
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4. Andrew has beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ white teeth.
 

a. shiny	b. fluffy	c. dull
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5. I am \_\_\_\_\_ to say that I have never lost a game of tennis.
 

a. easy	b. good	c. proud
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6. My mother bought me a new pair of black \_\_\_\_\_ shoes.
 

a. metal	b. leather	c. iron
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## Follow-up activities

#### 5 Discuss.

1. Darkie's mother gives him lots of advice. What advice do your mother and father give you?
2. For fun, Darkie runs around the field with the other young horses. What do you do for fun with your friends?
3. If you could have any animal in the world, which animal would you choose and why?
4. Darkie's master says that a young horse needs to learn how to do many things. What, in your opinion, does a young person need to learn?
5. Have you ever visited a zoo? If yes, what did or didn't you like about it? Why?

**6** Imagine you are Squire Gordon. Write a letter to a friend of yours about the first time you saw Darkie. Describe him to your friend and say why you liked him and why you want to buy him. (60-80 words)