

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2026-2027 Notes

Class : XI

Subject : English

Chapter- The Summer of a

Beautiful White Horse

Answer the following questions

Q1. Aram justified that his stealing the horse wasn't actually stealing. Do you agree?

Ans: At first Aram believed that the horse was stolen. But then he justified the act of keeping the horse, saying that it wasn't stealing until they offered to sell the horse, which they would never do. Accordingly, the justification is not appropriate. They kept the horse without the consent of its owner for a long time. The owner's work suffered, as his carriage was without a horse, and the loss troubled him. Hence, I don't agree with Aram.

Q2. Aram didn't want to return the horse. Why?

Ans: Like his cousin Mourad, Aram was also fond of horse-riding. When Mourad stole a beautiful white horse, Aram didn't consider it as stealing. Rather, he himself wanted to learn horse-riding like Mourad. He also had a great passion for it. So, Aram wanted Mourad to keep the horse until he could become a perfect horse rider.

Q3. "Mourad was considered the natural descendant of this man". Whose natural descendant was he considered?

Ans: According to the narrator, every family has a crazy streak in it and in their family, uncle Khosrove was the true inheritor of that streak. He was a man of ill-temper and was so impatient that he stopped anyone from talking by roaring, "It is no harm; pay no attention to it." Mourad resembled his uncle in many ways, so he is also considered to be the descendant of that crazy streak in the family.

Q4. "A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart." Who said these words? Why?

Ans: John Byro, the farmer, said it to the boys when he saw the horse with them. He became very surprised to see the white horse which was similar to the missing one. But in his heart he could not doubt the integrity and honesty of the boys due to his faith on their tribe which had been famous for its honesty for the last eleven centuries.

Q5. Did the boys return the horse because they were conscience-stricken or because they were afraid?

Ans: The story does not give any indication that the boys (Mourad and Aram) were afraid of anyone or anything. If they had been afraid, they would not have carried on with horse-riding every day for some weeks. They had an intense desire for horse-riding. To fulfil their intense urge, they had kept the horse for some time but they always had the intention of returning the horse to its owner. During their conversation with John Byro, the boys got conscience-stricken as their family and tribe were well-known for their trustworthiness and honesty. So, they decided to return the horse to its owner.

Q6. What human values did the two young boys reflect in their character? Explain.

Ans: The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse' is a story about two boys who belong to the Garoghlanian family which had been famous for its integrity and honesty for centuries. Both the boys, Aram and Mourad, reflected these qualities in their characters very well. They never let their family down under any condition. Undoubtedly, for some time, they got diverted from their values when Mourad stole the beautiful white horse. Both Aram and Mourad were crazy for riding a horse. But it wasn't stealing to them.

But soon, as per their character, they become conscience-stricken. They now realised that this step could put a question mark on their tribe's dignity and reputation. They finally decided to return the horse to its rightful owner. Hence, this incident shows that the two young characters reflect those human values which are quite necessary in today's world.

Q7. How does the story 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse' convey the message of honesty and integrity and how do the characters maintain it irrespective of their desire to keep the horse with themselves?

Ans: Undoubtedly, the story 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse' conveys the message of honesty and integrity. The two cousins, Aram and Mourad, belonged to the Garoghlanian family. Their tribe was known for faithfulness.

Both of them had a deep passion for horse-riding. One day, Mourad stole a beautiful white horse just to ride it for a few days. Later, Aram justified the act of keeping the horse by saying that they didn't wish to sell it off, they were just using it for few days and would certainly return the horse to its owners. The owner of the horse, John Byro, came across them one day when they had the horse with them. Perhaps this was a test of their honesty and truthfulness. In the end they became conscience-stricken and decided to return the horse to its rightful owner.