



The Red Pony

Photocopiable

While reading

Story 1 (Part 1)

- 1 **Finish the sentences with the right names.**
Jody Billy Buck Carl Tiflin Ruth Tiflin
Doubletree Mutt Buzzards Gabilan
 - a didn't like trick horses because they are like actors.
 - b were useful because they cleaned up the dead bodies.
 - c sat on the porch fixing a pair of old socks.
 - d was admired by his friends because he was a horseman.
 - e had a big thick tail.
 - f had ears that went back toward his tail when he was angry or afraid.
 - g explained that horses worry about their feet.
- 2 **Answer the questions.**
 - a Where did Carl and Billy Buck take the cows?
.....
 - b What happened to Jody's mouth when he was thinking about something?
.....
 - c What could Jody smell when his father and Billy got home?
.....
 - d Why couldn't Jody ride Gabilan at first?
.....
 - e Where did Jody take Gabilan every morning after he had brushed him?
.....
 - f What was Jody going to do by Thanksgiving?
.....

Story 2 (Part 2)

- 3 **Put the underlined letters in the right order to make a word.**
 - a Billy said that it was not klyiel to rain.
 - b Carl wasn't eatntip with sick animals or people.
 - c When Gabilan egudhoc, his whole body shook.
 - d Billy mixed the nioglib water with hay and medicine.
 - e The wind eurdhs through the barn and the door blew open.

- f Ruth gturhob a hot meal to the barn for her son.
 - g Black blood uredop from the buzzard's mouth.
- 4 **Finish the sentences.**
 - a One day, the sun was strong and Jody went to school and left
 - b Billy Buck wasn't normally wrong, but that day he was wrong about
 - c Jody couldn't find any blankets so he
 - d When the lump under Gabilan's chin got bigger, Billy
 - e After supper Carl built a fire and told stories but Jody
 - f Jody was angry so he found a stone and threw it
 - g Jody looked at the dry, dead hair on Gabilan's coat and he knew
 - h The pony was lying on the ground and there was a circle

Story 2

- 5 **Underline the wrong word and put the right one.**
 - a Jody took his slingshot because he wanted to kill a mouse.
 - b Jody's mother said that there was only a horse in the mountains.
 - c Gitano's face was white and he had a short mustache.
 - d Carl said that Gitano could stay on the ranch one month.
 - e Carl said he was going to shoot old Easter because he was very young.
 - f Gitano's father had given him a beautiful silver gun.
 - g Jess Taylor said he saw a man on a horse with something black in his hand.
- 6 **Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?**
 - a Doubletree Mutt got his nose trapped in the rat-trap.
 - b Jody killed the bird with a gun.
 - c Billy Buck thought there were towns in the great mountains.
 - d When Gitano arrived, Jody ran to get his mother.



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- e Gitano's old house was blown away by the wind.
- f Gitano had gone into the great mountains when he was young.
- g Jody didn't want to tell anybody about Gitano's silver knife.

- dig your eyes open
- lead in welcome
- pull permission
- wave a cart
- keep a hat

Story 3

7 Find the right words in Story 3.

- a Part of the body in the middle of the legs. (p. 38)
- b An adjective which means with knowledge and experience of life. (p. 39)
- c A piece of paper money. (p. 42)
- d Something you use to tie things with. (p. 44)
- e A thing that is used to move water from one place to another. (p. 47)
- f When someone speaks very quietly. (p. 49)
- g Let something fall to the floor. (p. 52)

8 Finish the sentences with the right word.

- fence yard meanness hay package
sunrise chest dust
- a The toad's head was moving under the of the road.
 - b Carl and Billy stood against the in the field.
 - c Carl pinned the inside Jody's pocket.
 - d Nellie continued to eat the in front of her.
 - e When Jody went to the brush line, the left him.
 - f Jody walked out of the barn and across the black
 - g Billy's face, arms and were red with blood.
 - h Jody ran out of the barn into the

Story 4 (Part 1)

9 Put words on the left with words on the right.

- | | |
|----------|---------------|
| clear up | a wagon train |
| take off | a hole |
| give | the dry hay |

10 Circle the wrong word in the sentences.

- a The cows weren't very interested interesting in the hay.
- b The mice ran excitedly excited under the hay again.
- c Jody arrived to at the house before his father did.
- d There wasn't any further far left to go and Grandfather had to stop.
- e Grandfather's cart came into see sight and stopped.
- f If Grandfather made make a step, he would not go back and change it.
- g The small clouds still hung low in the sky yet.
- h Grandfather used a more deeper voice for his stories.

Story 4 (Part 2)

11 Circle the right words.

- a When Carl spoke cruelly, his wife's eyes were *sad / angry / confused*.
- b Grandfather thought that the wagon train was a job for *boys / Indians / men*.
- c Jody was worried because nobody could tell the *future / story / time*.
- d Grandfather arrived at the table for breakfast *at the same time as / before / after* Carl.
- e After breakfast, Carl went to *work / town / the bathroom*.
- f Grandfather thought the most important thing was *the adventures / the Indians / westering*.
- g Jody offered to get his Grandfather some *beer / cake / coffee*.

12 Put the underlined letters in the right place to make a word.

- a The men could put the plates on the outside of the ehswel
- b Jody hxgdanece a secret look with Grandfather.
- c Jody was ekhnas by his thoughts about the future.
- d Grandfather cleans his shoes and dehurbs his clothes.



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1 Write the names next to the person or animal who/which says or thinks this.

Jody Gitano Nellie Billy Buck Carl Ruth
Grandfather Gabilan Doubletree Mutt
Jess Taylor

- a "I feel very proud of Jody. He's looking after the pony colt so well."
- b "I know a lot about horses. They love conversation and worry about their feet."
- c "I don't like it when Jody throws stones at me."
- d "I don't like standing in this field in the rain."
- e "I have some cousins in Monterey, but I want to stay here where I was born."
- f "I don't have enough money to feed another man. He must go."
- g "I want to believe Billy, but he made a promise before and didn't keep it."
- h "I can hear the scream of another horse. I must fight."
- i "I can see an old man on Carl's old gray horse and he isn't using a saddle."
- j "I don't want to tell my stories unless people want to hear them."

2 What's first? Number the sentences 1–10.

- a Jody took Nellie up to another ranch to meet a stallion.
- b Jody killed a buzzard with a piece of quartz.
- c Carl arrived home with a letter from Grandfather.
- d Carl and Billy went to town and came back with a surprise for Jody.
- e Grandfather was unhappy because he heard Carl say things about his stories.
- f An old dark man told Carl he wanted to stay on the ranch.
- g The colt was born but Billy had to kill Nellie.
- h Jody taught Gabilan to wear a saddle on his back.
- i Jody walked up the hill to meet his grandfather.
- j Jody decided that he wasn't going to tell anybody about Gitano's knife.

3 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a Everybody at the ranch obeyed Mr Tiflin when he gave orders.

- b Jody's friends didn't like him when they saw he had a pony.
- c Billy felt bad after Gabilan had been outside in the rain.
- d Jody asked his father, mother and Billy about the great mountains.
- e Gitano had traveled into the great mountains many times.
- f After Jody had taken Nellie to the other ranch, he saw a change in her immediately.
- g The colt's head was the wrong way and caused Nellie a lot of pain.
- h Carl was angry because Jody knew he had a letter.
- i When Grandfather was leading the wagon train, he was never hungry.
- j Grandfather asked Jody for a coffee because he was very thirsty.

4 Finish the sentences with the right words.

feed bucket pour underwear fought guided
died shadow boiled barn

- a The horses on the ranch were kept in the
- b One of Jody's jobs was to the chickens.
- c When Jody was at school, the rain began to down.
- d Billy Jody's fingers to the lump under Gabilan's chin.
- e Wars had been in the Gabilan mountains.
- f Jody found an extra pair of cotton in Gitano's sack.
- g Jody hunted animals and put them in his lunch
- h The pigs on the ranch were in a big iron pot.
- i The sun was behind Grandfather and Jody saw his long first.
- j Grandfather believed that westering had out.

5 Match a word on the left with words on the right.

- | | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| trap | cold and strict |
| stern | part of an animal's foot |
| doom | a kind of bird |
| hawk | for catching animals |
| claw | a terrible future |