

THE SUMMER OF THE BEAUTIFUL WHITE HORSE

SUMMARY

Introduction to Mourad and Aram: Aram, the narrator, recalls his nine-year-old self and his cousin Mourad, who was considered crazy by everyone except Aram. Mourad wakes Aram early in the morning, sitting on a beautiful white horse.

Initial Shock: Aram is astonished to see the horse, as their family is poor and cannot afford one. The Garoghlanian family is known for their honesty, making it hard for Aram to believe that Mourad could have stolen it.

Riding the Horse: Despite his shock, Aram joins Mourad for a ride. They enjoy the early morning air and the thrill of riding the horse. Mourad demonstrates a unique understanding and control over the horse.

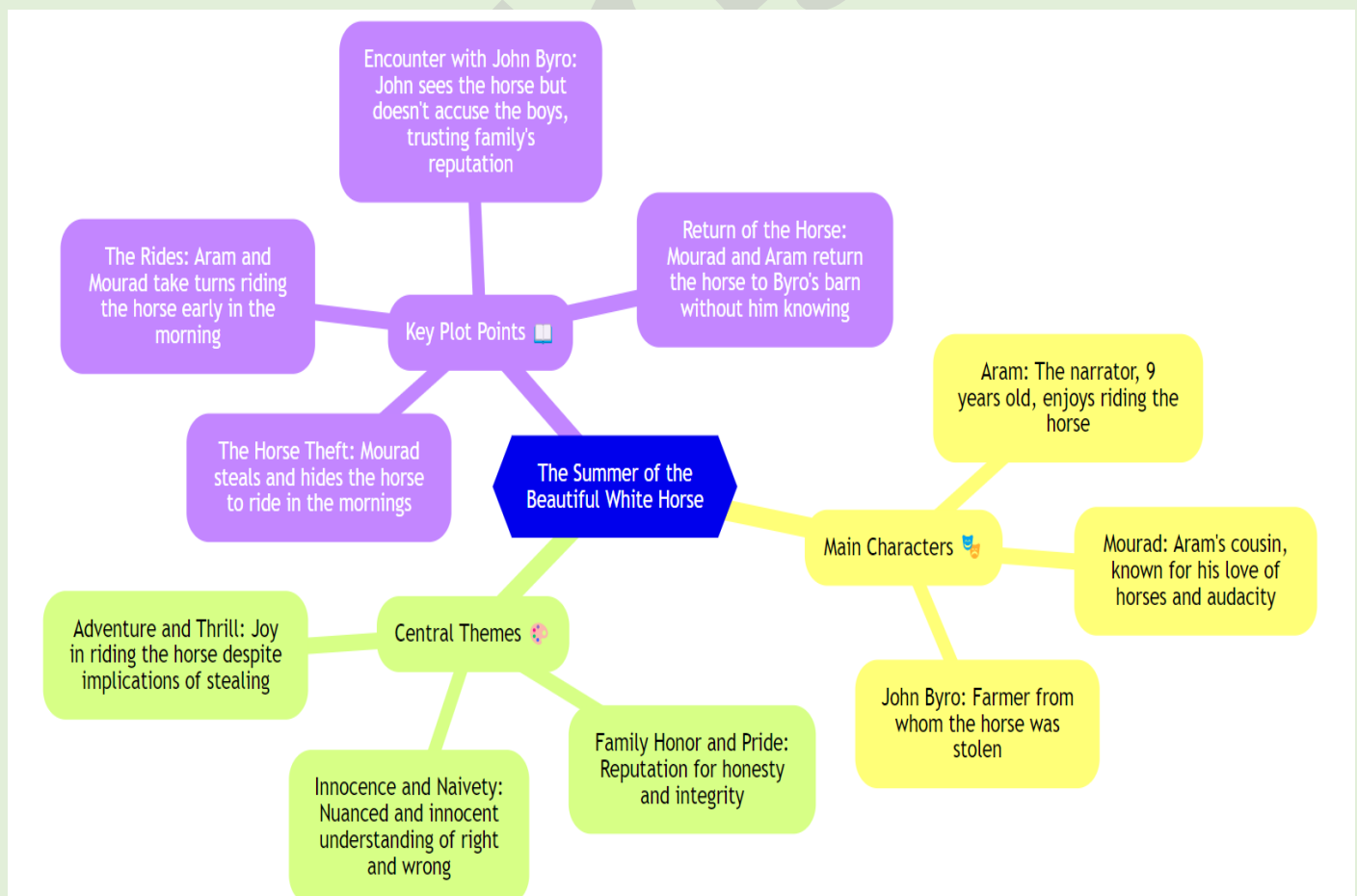
Family Background: The story elaborates on the Garoghlanian family, emphasizing their poverty and strong sense of honesty and pride. Mourad is depicted as inheriting the family's "crazy streak."

Encounter with John Byro: They encounter John Byro, the horse's rightful owner, who recognizes his horse but does not accuse them, trusting the family's reputation for honesty.

Mourad's Promise and Decision: Mourad eventually decides to return the horse, acknowledging that they cannot keep it. They return the horse early the next morning to John Byro's barn.

John Byro's Reaction: Byro visits Aram's house later, amazed at the improved condition of his horse, still not explicitly accusing anyone, but hinting at the boys' involvement.

MIND MAP



CHARACTER ANALYSIS

Aram:

- Aram's nine-year-old perspective brings an innocent curiosity to the story. His initial disbelief and eventual excitement to ride the horse demonstrate his naivety and longing for adventure. This excitement is tempered by his upbringing, which instills a strong sense of right and wrong.
- Despite the thrill of the adventure, Aram is deeply reflective about the moral implications of riding a stolen horse. His internal conflict highlights his honesty and the influence of his family's values. Aram's character growth is evident as he grapples with these complex emotions.

Mourad:

- Mourad embodies the spirit of adventure and rebellion. His daring act of "borrowing" the horse showcases his free-spirited nature and willingness to bend rules for the joy of riding. Mourad's character contrasts sharply with the family's otherwise strict adherence to honesty.
- Mourad's bond with the horse highlights his unique ability to connect with animals. This mystical understanding allows him to tame and ride the horse, symbolizing a deeper connection with nature. His actions, though seemingly reckless, reveal a compassionate side.
- **Responsible and Ethical:** Despite his initial mischief, Mourad's decision to return the horse reflects a deep-seated sense of responsibility. He balances his desire for adventure with an understanding of ethical boundaries, ensuring the horse's well-being and respecting the rightful owner. Mourad's actions ultimately align with the family's values.

ANALYSIS

1. Themes:

- The story vividly explores the tension between the Garoghlanian family's reputation for honesty and the boys' temptation to enjoy the horse. Aram and Mourad's internal and external conflicts highlight the struggle to maintain integrity in the face of alluring temptations. The narrative underscores the idea that true honesty withstands even the most enticing temptations.
- The Garoghlanian family's background, rich in tradition and values, plays a crucial role in the story. Their cultural heritage shapes their actions and decisions, reinforcing the importance of maintaining cultural identity amidst changing circumstances. The story emphasizes that cultural heritage is a guiding force that influences moral choices.
- The boys' adventure reflects the innocence and boundless dreams characteristic of childhood. Their actions, driven by curiosity and the desire for freedom, highlight the purity of youthful intentions. The narrative captures the essence of childhood, where the lines between right and wrong are often blurred by the pursuit of joy and discovery.

Cultural Hegemony:

- The family's long-standing reputation for honesty acts as a form of cultural hegemony, subtly imposing moral standards on the younger generation. This cultural expectation influences the boys' behavior, demonstrating how societal values are internalized. The story portrays cultural hegemony as a powerful force shaping individual actions and ethical decisions.

- Despite their poverty, the Garoghlanian family's moral values resist the hegemony of dishonesty. The boys' ultimate decision to return the horse illustrates a triumph of cultural values over personal desires. This resistance underscores the strength of ingrained cultural norms and the importance of upholding ethical standards, even in challenging situations.

Narrative Style:

- Aram's first-person narration provides an intimate and personal view of the events, enhancing the emotional depth of the story. His youthful voice captures the innocence and excitement of the adventure, making the narrative more relatable. This perspective allows readers to connect with Aram's internal struggles and moral dilemmas.
- William Saroyan's vivid descriptions bring the setting and characters to life, immersing the reader in the boys' adventure. The detailed portrayal of the horse, the early morning ride, and the familial interactions enrich the narrative. Saroyan's use of descriptive language enhances the sensory experience, making the story more engaging and impactful.

Symbolism:

- **The White Horse:** The beautiful white horse symbolizes freedom, adventure, and the allure of dreams. It represents the boys' desires and the conflict between their aspirations and their moral values. The horse's eventual return signifies the triumph of integrity and the importance of making ethical choices. The symbolism of the horse adds depth to the narrative, highlighting key themes.
- **Mourad's Singing:** Mourad's singing during the ride symbolizes joy, the unbridled spirit of youth, and a carefree attitude towards life. It reflects his exuberance and contrasts with the story's underlying moral tensions. His singing represents the fleeting moments of pure happiness in childhood, emphasizing the theme of innocence.

Moral Dilemmas:

- The story presents moral dilemmas faced by the characters, particularly the struggle between enjoying the horse and adhering to their family's values. Aram's internal conflict and Mourad's ultimate decision to return the horse highlight the complexities of human nature and the challenges of making ethical decisions. These dilemmas underscore the story's message about the importance of honesty and integrity.

KEY WORDS/PHRASES

"My cousin Mourad" - Mourad is a central character in the story.

"Crazy streak in the family" - Highlights the family's eccentric nature.

"Stealing a horse" - The act that drives the plot.

"Our conscience" - Reflects the moral dilemma faced by the characters.

"To be alive, to have a horse" - Symbolizes the joy and freedom felt by Mourad.

"John Byro's vineyard" - The location where important events occur.

"Mourad's passion for horses" - Central to understanding his character.

"A beautiful white horse" - The object of the story's central conflict.

"Honesty of the Garoghlanians" - The tribe's defining characteristic.

"Promise to return the horse" - The resolution of the story's conflict.

"Secret joyrides" - The clandestine rides that Mourad and Aram take.

"Value of trust and integrity" - Themes emphasized in the story.

"Freedom and adventure" - The emotions experienced by the boys.

"Balancing morality and desire" - The internal struggle of the characters.

"Returning the horse" - The act that concludes the story.

"Family reputation" - The importance of maintaining the Garoghlanian name.

RECALL-BASED QUESTIONS

1. What is the title of the story?
2. Who is the author of the story?
3. Who is the narrator of the story?
4. At what age does Aram recall the events of the story?
5. Who wakes Aram early in the morning?
6. What is Mourad sitting on when he wakes Aram?
7. What is the family's reputation known for?
8. What is the name of the family's tribe?
9. How is Mourad regarded by the people who know him?
10. Where does the Garoghlanian family live?
11. What is Mourad's father's name?
12. Who was considered the natural descendant of the family's "crazy streak" before Mourad?
13. What does Mourad invite Aram to do?
14. Where does Mourad hide the horse initially?
15. Who is John Byro?
16. How does John Byro recognize his horse?
17. How long does Mourad keep the horse before deciding to return it?
18. Where do Aram and Mourad take the horse for their morning rides?
19. What is the name Mourad gives the horse when talking to John Byro?
20. How does John Byro react when he sees the horse?
21. What does John Byro say about the horse's condition after it was returned?
22. How does Uncle Khosrove react to John Byro's complaints about the stolen horse?
23. What does Mourad say about his understanding with horses?
24. How long does Mourad promise to keep the horse before returning it?
25. What does Aram hope to achieve before the horse is returned?

26. How does the story highlight the theme of honesty?
27. What is Aram's reaction when he first sees the horse?
28. What advice does Mourad give Aram when he tries to ride the horse alone?
29. What do Aram and Mourad do when they encounter John Byro on the road?
30. How does the story end?

ANSWER KEY

1. *The title of the story is "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse."*
2. *The author of the story is William Saroyan.*
3. *The narrator of the story is Aram.*
4. *Aram recalls the events of the story when he was nine years old.*
5. *Mourad wakes Aram early in the morning.*
6. *Mourad is sitting on a beautiful white horse when he wakes Aram.*
7. *The family's reputation is known for their honesty.*
8. *The name of the family's tribe is Garoghlanian.*
9. *Mourad is regarded as crazy by the people who know him.*
10. *The Garoghlanian family lives at the edge of town on Walnut Avenue.*
11. *Mourad's father's name is Zorab.*
12. *Before Mourad, the natural descendant of the family's "crazy streak" was Uncle Khosrove.*
13. *Mourad invites Aram to ride the horse.*
14. *Mourad initially hides the horse in the barn of a deserted vineyard.*
15. *John Byro is a farmer whose horse was stolen.*
16. *John Byro recognizes his horse by looking into its mouth and identifying its teeth.*
17. *Mourad keeps the horse for about a month before deciding to return it.*
18. *Aram and Mourad take the horse to the country roads and fields for their morning rides.*
19. *Mourad gives the horse the name "My Heart" when talking to John Byro.*
20. *John Byro is suspicious but does not accuse the boys, trusting their family's honesty.*
21. *John Byro says the horse is stronger and better-tempered after it was returned.*
22. *Uncle Khosrove reacts by saying, "It's no harm. What is the loss of a horse?"*
23. *Mourad says he has an understanding with horses that allows him to make them do anything he wants.*
24. *Mourad promises to keep the horse for six months at the latest before returning it.*
25. *Aram hopes to learn to ride the horse before it is returned.*

26. *The story highlights the theme of honesty through the Garoghlanian family's reputation and the boys' ultimate decision to return the horse.*

27. *Aram is astonished and thrilled when he first sees the horse.*

28. *Mourad advises Aram to kick into the horse's muscles to make it move.*

29. *When they encounter John Byro on the road, Mourad talks to him and answers his questions.*

30. *The story ends with John Byro showing his gratitude for the horse's return and commenting on its improved condition, while Uncle Khosrove dismisses the incident.*

COMPETENCY-BASED QUESTIONS

1. Analyze the character development of Aram throughout the story. How does his perception of right and wrong evolve?
2. Discuss the significance of the Garoghlanian family's reputation for honesty in shaping the actions and decisions of Aram and Mourad.
3. Examine the role of cultural heritage in the story. How does it influence the characters' behavior and values?
4. What does the white horse symbolize in the story, and how does it contribute to the overall theme?
5. Analyze the ethical dilemmas faced by Aram and Mourad. How do they navigate these challenges, and what do their decisions reveal about their characters?
6. Discuss the theme of childhood innocence in the story. How do the boys' actions reflect their youthful perspectives?
7. Analyze the use of humor in the story. How does Saroyan incorporate humor to convey deeper themes and character traits?
8. Analyze the significance of the setting in the story. How does the rural backdrop contribute to the narrative?
9. What is the significance of the horse's improved condition upon its return?
10. How does the interaction with John Byro serve as a turning point in the story?

ANSWER KEY

1. Analyze the character development of Aram throughout the story. How does his perception of right and wrong evolve?

Aram's character development in "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse" is marked by his evolving perception of right and wrong. Initially, Aram is thrilled by the sight of the beautiful white horse and is eager to join Mourad in riding it, despite knowing that stealing is wrong. His excitement and desire for adventure overshadow his moral compass. As the story progresses, Aram begins to grapple with the ethical implications of their actions, especially considering the Garoghlanian family's strong reputation for honesty. This internal conflict becomes more pronounced when they encounter John Byro, the horse's rightful owner. Aram's growing discomfort and realization of the wrongness of their actions reflect his maturing sense of morality. By the end of the story, Aram's decision to return the horse underscores his development from a carefree, impulsive boy to a more conscientious individual who values integrity.

2. Discuss the significance of the Garoghlanian family's reputation for honesty in shaping the actions and decisions of Aram and Mourad.

The Garoghlanian family's reputation for honesty plays a crucial role in shaping Aram and Mourad's actions and decisions. This reputation is a source of pride and identity for the family, influencing the boys' behavior and choices throughout the story. Mourad's initial act of taking the horse reflects a momentary lapse driven by his passion for horses, yet he never fully abandons the family's values. Aram, on the other hand, is initially swept up in the excitement but soon feels the weight of their family's legacy. The encounter with John Byro, who trusts the boys because of their family name, serves as a turning point. It reinforces the importance of living up to the family's reputation. Ultimately, the decision to return the horse is driven by their desire to uphold the integrity and honesty associated with the Garoghlanian name, demonstrating how deeply these values are ingrained in their identity.

3. Examine the role of cultural heritage in the story. How does it influence the characters' behavior and values?

Cultural heritage plays a significant role in "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse," profoundly influencing the characters' behavior and values. The Garoghlanian family's Armenian heritage, marked by a strong emphasis on honesty, integrity, and community, shapes the actions and decisions of Aram and Mourad. These cultural values are passed down through generations, creating a moral framework within which the boys navigate their lives. Mourad's love for horses and desire for adventure is tempered by the cultural expectation of honesty, while Aram's internal conflict reflects the struggle between youthful impulses and deeply ingrained cultural values. The story illustrates how cultural heritage acts as a guiding force, instilling a sense of identity and responsibility in the characters. The decision to return the horse, despite their initial actions, underscores the influence of their heritage in maintaining family honor and upholding the moral standards that define their community.

4. What does the white horse symbolize in the story, and how does it contribute to the overall theme?

The white horse in "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse" symbolizes freedom, adventure, and the innocence of childhood. For Mourad and Aram, the horse represents an escape from the constraints of their everyday lives and a chance to experience the thrill and beauty of the world. The horse's allure captivates them, leading to actions that conflict with their family's values of honesty. However, the horse also serves as a catalyst for their moral growth. The journey with the horse, from its initial taking to its eventual return, mirrors the boys' internal journey towards understanding right and wrong. The horse's symbolism enhances the overall theme of the story, which revolves around the tension between youthful desires and moral responsibilities. It highlights the challenges of growing up, where the allure of freedom must be balanced with the adherence to ethical principles and cultural values.

5. Analyze the ethical dilemmas faced by Aram and Mourad. How do they navigate these challenges, and what do their decisions reveal about their characters?

Aram and Mourad face significant ethical dilemmas in "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse." Mourad's decision to take the horse, despite knowing it's wrong, stems from his passion and desire for adventure. Aram, initially complicit due to his excitement, quickly becomes troubled by the moral implications. Their dilemma intensifies with John Byro's confrontation, as he recognizes the horse but trusts the boys based on their family's reputation. Navigating this ethical challenge involves balancing their desires with their ingrained sense of honesty. Mourad's eventual agreement to return the horse, spurred by Aram's growing unease and Byro's trust, demonstrates their underlying integrity. These decisions reveal that, despite moments of moral ambiguity, both boys ultimately respect and uphold the values of their family. Their journey highlights the internal struggle between impulse and ethics, showcasing their character development towards greater moral awareness.

6. Discuss the theme of childhood innocence in the story. How do the boys' actions reflect their youthful perspectives?

The theme of childhood innocence is central to "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse." Mourad and Aram's actions, driven by a sense of adventure and wonder, reflect their youthful perspectives. Mourad's impulsive decision to take the horse and Aram's eager participation highlight their innocence and lack of full understanding of the consequences. Their excitement and joy in riding the horse showcase their childlike wonder and desire for freedom. However, this innocence is juxtaposed with the ethical dilemmas they face, emphasizing their gradual confrontation with moral complexities. Their initial disregard for the wrongness of their actions stems from a pure, albeit naive, place. The story captures the essence of childhood, where the allure of adventure often overshadows a full grasp of right and wrong. Ultimately, their decision to return the horse signifies a maturing awareness, blending their innocence with growing moral consciousness.

7. Analyze the use of humor in the story. How does Saroyan incorporate humor to convey deeper themes and character traits?

William Saroyan skillfully incorporates humor in "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse" to convey deeper themes and character traits. The humor often arises from the boys' innocent yet audacious actions and their interactions with other characters. Mourad's confidence and nonchalant attitude about taking the horse, along with Aram's incredulous reactions, create a light-hearted tone that underscores their youthful innocence. This humor is not merely for amusement; it highlights the boys' naivety and the ethical dilemmas they navigate. The humorous depiction of their attempts to conceal the horse and their imaginative explanations adds depth to their characters, showing their resourcefulness and the tension between their adventurous spirits and moral upbringing. Through humor, Saroyan effectively explores themes of innocence, morality, and cultural values, making the story's lessons more relatable and engaging while maintaining a whimsical, endearing quality.

8. Analyze the significance of the setting in the story. How does the rural backdrop contribute to the narrative?

The rural backdrop in "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse" significantly contributes to the narrative, enhancing the themes and character development. The expansive countryside setting provides a sense of freedom and adventure, mirroring Mourad and Aram's escapades with the white horse. The open fields and quiet, pastoral life emphasize the boys' desire for exploration and their connection to nature. This setting contrasts with the strict moral code of their Garoghlanian tribe, highlighting the tension between their adventurous impulses and the cultural expectations of honesty. The rural environment also fosters a close-knit community where reputation and familial honor are paramount, intensifying the stakes of the boys' actions. The setting thus not only shapes the plot but also underscores the themes of freedom, innocence, and the struggle between personal desires and cultural values, enriching the story's emotional and moral dimensions.

9. What is the significance of the horse's improved condition upon its return?

The improved condition of the horse upon its return is significant as it reflects the care and affection Mourad and Aram have shown towards it. This detail underscores their inherent goodness and respect for the horse, despite the initial act of taking it without permission. The horse's better condition highlights that their intentions were not malicious; instead, they were driven by a genuine love for the animal. This improvement also symbolizes the boys' journey towards maturity and ethical understanding. It suggests that their experience, though misguided, has been one of growth and learning. By returning the horse in a better state, they demonstrate responsibility and respect for John Byro, affirming their alignment with the Garoghlanian values of honesty and integrity. This act of returning the horse in improved condition signifies their reconciliation with their moral compass and cultural heritage.

10. How does the interaction with John Byro serve as a turning point in the story?

The interaction with John Byro serves as a crucial turning point in "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse." When Byro encounters Mourad and Aram with the horse, he recognizes it as his own but refrains from accusing them directly, trusting in their family's reputation for honesty. This moment forces the boys to confront the consequences of their actions and the trust placed in them. Byro's implicit faith in their integrity triggers a profound realization in Mourad and Aram about the importance of upholding their family's values. This encounter compels them to reassess their behavior and ultimately leads to the decision to return the horse. The interaction underscores the themes of trust, integrity, and moral responsibility, marking the boys' transition from childhood innocence to a more mature understanding of right and wrong. It solidifies their commitment to their cultural heritage and the ethical standards it upholds.

COMPETENCY BASED QUESTIONS

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS BASED ON AN EXTRACT

A. *Aram, a nine-year-old boy, describes his cousin Mourad, who belongs to the Garoghlanian family. The family is known for its honesty and integrity. Mourad, however, seems to have a streak of wildness in him. One day, Mourad comes to Aram's house at four in the morning, riding a beautiful white horse. Aram is amazed and puzzled because they are poor and could not afford to buy a horse. Mourad invites Aram to ride with him, and they have a thrilling adventure.*

i Which of the following statements is NOT true about Mourad?

- a) He belongs to the Garoghlanian family, known for their honesty.
- b) He appears at Aram's house riding a beautiful white horse.
- c) He invites Aram to join him on a ride.
- d) He bought the horse from a wealthy merchant.

ii The word 'thrilling' in the context of the adventure means:

- a) Boring
- b) Exciting
- c) Dangerous
- d) Predictable

iii The phrase 'a streak of wildness' shows that Mourad:

- a) Is very disciplined.
- b) Has an unpredictable and adventurous nature.
- c) Is afraid of adventures.
- d) Is always calm and composed.

iv Pick the option that best describes Aram's feelings when Mourad invites him to ride the horse.

- 1. Anxious
- 2. Curious

3. Excited
4. Fearful
5. Confused
6. Joyful

- a) 1, 3 & 5
- b) 2, 4 & 6
- c) 3, 5 & 6
- d) 1, 2 & 4

B. My cousin Mourad was considered the natural descendant of this man, although Mourad's father was Zorab, who was practical and nothing else. That's how it was in our tribe. A man could be the father of his son's flesh, but that did not mean that he was also the father of his spirit. The distribution of the various kinds of spirit of our tribe had been from the beginning capricious and vagrant.

i Which of the following statements best describes the relationship between Mourad and his father, Zorab?

- a) Mourad inherited both the practical nature and the spirit of adventure from his father.
- b) Mourad was considered different in spirit from his practical father, Zorab.
- c) Mourad and Zorab shared the same capricious and vagrant spirit.
- d) Mourad did not have any traits from his father, Zorab.

ii The word 'capricious' in the context of the distribution of spirit in the tribe means:

- a) Predictable and steady
- b) Careful and deliberate
- c) Unpredictable and whimsical
- d) Logical and consistent

iii The phrase 'the father of his son's flesh' implies that:

- a) A man is responsible for his son's physical attributes only.
- b) A man is responsible for both physical and spiritual attributes of his son.
- c) A man cannot influence his son in any way.
- d) A man is more influential in spirit than in physical attributes.

iv Pick the option that best describes the distribution of spirit in the tribe according to the extract.

1. Logical
2. Random
3. Predictable
4. Erratic

5. Consistent

- a) 1 & 3
- b) 2 & 4
- c) 3 & 5
- d) 1 & 2

v The statement "A man could be the father of his son's flesh, but that did not mean that he was also the father of his spirit" suggests:

- a) Physical traits are always inherited, but spiritual traits are not.
- b) Both physical and spiritual traits are inherited from the father.
- c) Spiritual traits are inherited independently of physical traits.
- d) Neither physical nor spiritual traits are inherited from the father.

STANDALONE MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. Aram felt that Mourad had a "streak of wildness" because:

- a) Mourad was known for his calm and composed nature.
- b) Mourad was unpredictable and liked adventures.
- c) Mourad never did anything unexpected.
- d) Mourad was always quiet and disciplined.

2. The Garoghlanian family is known for their:

- a) Wealth
- b) Honesty and integrity
- c) Love for horses
- d) Wild behavior

3. Aram's initial reaction to seeing Mourad with the horse was:

- a) Anger
- b) Indifference
- c) Amazement
- d) Fear

ANSWER KEY

i Which of the following statements is NOT true about Mourad?

- **d) He bought the horse from a wealthy merchant.**

ii The word 'thrilling' in the context of the adventure means:

- **b) Exciting**

iii The phrase 'a streak of wildness' shows that Mourad:

- ***b) Has an unpredictable and adventurous nature.***

iv Pick the option that best describes Aram's feelings when Mourad invites him to ride the horse.

1. *Anxious*
 2. *Curious*
 3. *Excited*
 4. *Fearful*
 5. *Confused*
 6. *Joyful*
- ***c) 3, 5 & 6***

B i

- ***b) Mourad was considered different in spirit from his practical father, Zorab.***

ii

- ***c) Unpredictable and whimsical***

iii

- ***a) A man is responsible for his son's physical attributes only.***

iv

- ***b) 2 & 4***

v

- ***c) Spiritual traits are inherited independently of physical traits.***

Standalone Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Aram felt that Mourad had a "streak of wildness" because:

- ***b) Mourad was unpredictable and liked adventures.***

2. The Garoghlanian family is known for their:

- ***b) Honesty and integrity***

3. Aram's initial reaction to seeing Mourad with the horse was:

- ***c) Amazement***

ANSWER IN 30-40 WORDS

i What impact does William Saroyan's narrative style have on the reader in "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse"?

• **Value Points:**

- *Engages readers with a blend of humor and seriousness.*
- *Creates a vivid portrayal of characters and settings.*
- *Evokes empathy and understanding of the characters' moral dilemmas.*
- *Maintains a light-hearted tone while addressing serious themes.*

ii Explain the significance of the white horse in the story "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse."

• **Value Points:**

- *Symbolizes freedom and adventure.*
- *Represents the boys' longing for excitement beyond their impoverished reality.*
- *Acts as a catalyst for exploring themes of honesty and familial loyalty.*
- *Highlights the contrast between the Garoghlanian family's reputation and the boys' actions.*

iii 'In moments of desperation, you might find the most unexpected solutions.' Do you think it is justified to take actions that go against one's values when in a desperate situation? Justify your answer with reference to the story.

• **Value Points:**

- *Present the moral dilemma faced by Mourad.*
- *Discuss how desperation led to the decision to take the horse.*
- *Analyze the consequences and eventual resolution of their actions.*
- *Weigh the justification of the boys' actions against the family's values.*

iv The boys felt a mix of excitement and fear when riding the stolen horse. Discuss the emotions Aram experienced during the ride with Mourad.

• **Value Points:**

- *Describe Aram's initial amazement and excitement.*
- *Highlight his sense of adventure and joy.*
- *Mention his underlying fear of getting caught.*
- *Reflect on his internal conflict regarding the morality of their actions.*

ANSWER IN 120-150 WORDS

i Imagine Aram reflects on the incident with the horse years later. As Aram, write a diary entry about how the experience shaped his understanding of honesty and family values.

- **Value Points:**

- *Begin with a brief recollection of the incident.*
- *Describe how the incident initially seemed like an innocent adventure.*
- *Reflect on the lessons learned about honesty and integrity.*
- *Mention the influence of the family's reputation on his later actions.*
- *Conclude with a reflection on how the experience strengthened his values.*

ii After reading the story, you notice Saroyan's use of humor and irony to address serious themes like honesty and poverty. Evaluate how effectively Saroyan uses these literary devices to enhance the reader's understanding of the story's moral lessons.

- **Value Points:**

- *Identify specific instances of humor and irony in the story.*
- *Explain how humor makes the narrative engaging and relatable.*
- *Discuss how irony highlights the contrast between the boys' actions and the family's values.*
- *Analyze how these devices deepen the reader's understanding of the themes.*
- *Conclude with an evaluation of the overall effectiveness in conveying the moral lessons.*