The Chronicles of Narnia
The Horse and His Boy
Book 3
By C. S. Lewis
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Teacher’s Guide

Please note: The first number in parenthesis following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word while the following number indicates the page on which the word was found. (Word grade placement is per EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989.)

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And the answers to the comprehension questions are not always written in complete sentences. The answers have sometimes been made in shortened phrases which make the answers easier to find as well as limiting the space needed to give the answers.
Chapter 1  How Shasta Set Out on His Travels  Pp. 3-18

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

mending (5, 3) repair, to put into good shape
distracted (6, 4) to draw attention to a different object, diverted
idle (5, 4) not occupied or employed, inactive
folly (6, 5) foolish act or idea, foolishness
indigence (13, 5) impoverished, needy
strong dappled horse (_, 5) marked with different-colored spots
silken turban (6, 5) headdress worn especially by Muslims
shirt of chain mail (_, 5) flexible armor of interlocking metal rings
hung a curving scimitar (_, 5) a curved sword used chiefly by Persians
beard was dyed crimson (7, 5) a deep purplish red color
a Tarkaan, or a great lord (_, 5) a great ruler, lord
demanded hospitality for the night (8, 5) generous or cordial treatment or reception
by the wheedling tone (_, 7) enticing by flattery
what price could induce your servant (10, 7) persuade
offspring more precious (_, 7) progeny, young
more precious than carbuncles (_, 7) painful pus-filled inflammation of the skin
deceive the judicious (11, 7) prudent, sage, sane, sensible, wise
baring his own back for the scourge (11, 7) lash or whip
with falsehoods (7, 7) lies
this boy is manifestly no son (11, 7) obviously
white like the accursed but beautiful (_, 7) damnable, cursed
barbarians who inhabit (8, 7) people believed to be inferior to another’s culture
my formidable guest (9, 8) exciting fear, dread, or awe
began his august (_, 8) began his majestic
beneficent (_, 8) kind
reign (7, 8) rule
has perished in sight of land (5, 8) died
with your loquacity (13, 9) excessive talking
Comprehension Questions

1. At the time this story took place, who was ruling Narnia? High King Peter and his brother and his two sisters.

2. With whom did our main character, Shasta, live? His father.

3. While his father fished in the mornings and sold the fish in the afternoons, what were Shasta’s jobs? He mended and washed the nets. He cooked supper and cleaned the cottage.

4. How did Shasta’s father treat Shasta? If the fishing was good Shasta’s father was somewhat nice to him, but if fishing wasn’t good his father would find fault with him and beat him.

5. Where did Shasta and his father live, and where was this place in relation to Narnia? They lived in Calormen, south of Narnia. There are other lands between Calormen and Narnia.

6. What was constantly on Shasta’s mind? He thought about the North because no one ever went that way.

7. When Shasta asked his father what the land was like to the North, what did his father say if he was in a good mood? He told his son to not allow his mind to be distracted by “idle” questions.

8. What did Shasta think about his father’s answer? He thought his father was keeping a delightful secret from him. This could have been one of the reasons he thought about the North so often.

9. When a stranger appeared at Shasta’s cottage, why did his father kneel before him and make Shasta kneel too? He knew by the gold on the man’s arm that he was a great lord. The man rode a horse with silver on its bridle. He wore a helmet, he carried a scimitar and a shield. He also had a lance.
10. **What did the stranger demand?** He wanted the fisherman to provide him with the best meal he could and a place to sleep.

11. **When Shasta’s father told Shasta to leave the cottage while he entertained the great lord, where did Shasta go?** He sat next to the cottage and listened to the conversation between his father and the great lord.

12. **What did the Tarkaan want?** He wanted to buy Shasta from Shasta’s father.

13. **How did the Tarkaan know that Shasta was not the fisherman’s son?** The people who lived in Calormen were dark skinned. The people who lived to the North were light skinned like Shasta.

14. **How did Shasta become the fisherman’s son?** The fisherman awoke in the night and heard a noise that sounded like oars on the water. The little boat he heard held a dead man and an infant. The fisherman kept the child and used him to work. The fisherman did not love the boy or care about him.

15. **How did Shasta feel about the fisherman selling him to the Tarkaan?** He was excited and relieved that he was not the fisherman’s son. He thought that if the Tarkaan bought him, his life might become much better and the Tarkaan might treat him as his own son with great kindness.

16. **As Shasta walked toward the horse, what did he begin to do?** He began talking out loud wishing he knew whether the Tarkaan was kind or cruel.

17. **What happened when Shasta looked at the horse and said, “I wish you could talk, old fellow?”** Shasta was astonished when the Horse replied, “But I can.”

18. **Where was the Horse from, and why was he able to talk?** He was from the North, the land called Narnia where animals can talk.

19. **How did the Horse end up in Calormen?** When he was a foal, he ranged too far south into Archenland, and there he was kidnapped. He became a slave to humans. He pretended to be as “dumb and witless” as southern horses.

20. **What did the Horse say that made Shasta decide to run away?** The Horse told Shasta the Tarkaan was bad. He said Shasta would be better off dead than a slave in his household.

21. **When Shasta and the Horse decided to run away together, what did Shasta say to the Horse when asked if he knew how to ride?** Shasta told the Horse that he knew how. The Horse didn’t believe him. He told Shasta that he would teach him.

22. **Why did the Horse think the Tarkaan would look for him in the South?** The Tarkaan thought he was a dumb horse who would return to his stable in the South.
23. **What unusual question did Shasta ask the Horse after he found the Horse’s saddle and bridle?** He asked the Horse to tell him how to put them on.

24. **What did the Horse tell the boy not to do?** He said to tie the reins to the saddle-bow and not to touch them. He told the boy not to grab his mane and to hold on with his knees.

25. **What did the Horse tell Shasta to do with the spurs?** He said to “take them off and put them in the saddle-bag.” They could sell them when they got to Tashbaan.

26. **What did the Horse and the Boy do to outsmart the Tarkaan?** They headed South, leaving footprints and then doubled-back through a gravelly bank.

27. **What was the name of the Horse, and what did Shasta ask if he could call him?** Breehy-hinny-brinny-hoohy-hah Shasta asked if he could shorten the name to Bree. The Horse said that if that was the best he could do then he could.
Chapter 2  A Wayside Adventure  Pp. 19-35

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

behind them lay a little copse (_, 20) thicket, a group of trees and/or bushes
foraging of swift rivers (6, 24) place where a stream may be crossed by wading
an appalling noise (10, 26) horrible noise

Comprehension Questions

1. What is the name of the literary device in the phrase “the heat shivered on the ground?” It is an example of personification. Shivered is a word associated with people; heat doesn’t shiver.

2. What did Bree answer when Shasta asked Bree if it was stealing to use the money in the saddle bag? He told Shasta that as prisoners and captives in enemy country, money was booty that could be used to buy food.

3. What did Bree do that Shasta said was funny to see? Bree rolled in the grass. When Shasta laughed and said he looked funny doing that, Bree wondered if talking horses in Narnia would think it looked funny too.

4. What did Bree teach Shasta to do? Bree taught him to trot, canter, and jump. Shasta also learned how to stay seated when Bree moved unexpectedly to the left or right.

5. Why did Bree stop suddenly after they had continued on their journey? Bree thought there was a horse of quality close by. Its rider was an excellent horseman, a Tarkaan. He didn’t think the horse was a war horse, but thought it was a “fine brood mare.”

6. How did Bree plan to get away from the horse and rider who were shadowing them? He saw a cloud that would pass in front of the moon. This would make it so dark that no one would be able to see them slip away to the shore.

7. What frightened Bree and Shasta to the point that they ran back toward the other horse and her rider? They heard a long snarling roar. Bree told Shasta the sound had come from a lion. In fact when Bree stopped running he was trembling all over. Then another lion roared. It forced them to gallop close to the horse and rider.

8. What did Shasta think they should do: stay close to the horse and rider or the lions? He thought he would rather be killed by lions, than be caught by the other rider and be hanged for horse-stealing.
9. What forced the horses and riders together? The lions were roaring on either side of them. They were forced to ride together as though they were racing each other.

10. What did Shasta notice about the other rider? The other rider was small and slender. He didn’t have a beard.

11. Where were the horses and their riders when they saw the lion stop and roar? They were swimming across an inlet of the sea.

12. Who said, “I am so tired?” The other horse. The rider said to stop talking.

13. What did Shasta and Bree discover about the other horse and rider? The horse and rider were also escaping to Narnia. The rider was a Tarkheena and the horse was Narnian.

14. How did the girl, Aravis, feel about teaming up with Shasta and Bree? Aravis didn’t want to travel with them. She didn’t trust Shasta, he could be a spy.

15. How did Shasta and Bree feel about Aravis and Hwin? Shasta felt very awkward. He wouldn’t eat the food that Aravis brought, and he was sulky. Bree on the other hand thoroughly enjoyed learning about Hwin. They remembered the same places in Narnia, and they were distantly related.
Student’s Guide
Chapter 1  How Shasta Set Out on His Travels  Pp. 3-18

Vocabulary

mending (3)
distracted (4)
idle (4)
folly (5)
indigence (5)
strong dappled horse (5)
silken turban (5)
shirt of chain mail (5)
hung a curving scimitar (5)
beard was dyed crimson (5)
a Tarkaan, or a great lord (5)
demanded hospitality for the night (5)
by the wheedling tone (7)
what price could induce your servant (7)
offspring more precious (7)
more precious than carbuncles (7)
deceive the judicious (7)
baring his own back for the scourge (7)
with falsehoods (7)
this boy is manifestly no son (7)
white like the accursed but beautiful (7)
barbarians who inhabit (7)
my formidable guest (8)
began his august (8)
beneficent (8)
reign (8)
has perished in sight of land (8)
with your loquacity (9)
fifteen crescents for him (9)
I wouldn’t heed her (12)
paid for my folly (12)
no more of this southern jargon (14)
my stable and paddock (14)
the girth a bit tighter (16)

Comprehension Questions

1. At the time this story took place, who was ruling Narnia?
2. With whom did our main character, Shasta, live?
3. While his father fished in the mornings and sold the fish in the afternoons, what were Shasta’s jobs?
4. How did Shasta’s father treat Shasta?
5. Where did Shasta and his father live, and where was this place in relation to Narnia?
6. What was constantly on Shasta’s mind?
7. When Shasta asked his father what the land was like to the North, what did his father say if he was in a good mood?
8. What did Shasta think about his father’s answer?
9. When a stranger appeared at Shasta’s cottage, why did his father kneel before him and make Shasta kneel too?
10. What did the stranger demand?

11. When Shasta’s father told Shasta to leave the cottage while he entertained the great lord, where did Shasta go?

12. What did the Tarkaan want?

13. How did the Tarkaan know that Shasta was not the fisherman’s son?

14. How did Shasta become the fisherman’s son?

15. How did Shasta feel about the fisherman selling him to the Tarkaan?

16. As Shasta walked toward the horse, what did he begin to do?

17. What happened when Shasta looked at the horse and said, “I wish you could talk, old fellow?”

18. Where was the Horse from, and why was he able to talk?

19. How did the Horse end up in Calormen?

20. What did the Horse say that made Shasta decide to run away?

21. When Shasta and the Horse decided to run away together, what did Shasta say to the Horse when asked if he knew how to ride?

22. Why did the Horse think the Tarkaan would look for him in the South?
23. What unusual question did Shasta ask the Horse after he found the Horse’s saddle and bridle?

24. What did the Horse tell the boy not to do?

25. What did the Horse tell Shasta to do with the spurs?

26. What did the Horse and the Boy do to outsmart the Tarkaan?

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Chapter 2     A Wayside Adventure     Pp. 19-35

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Comprehension Questions

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2. What did Bree answer when Shasta asked Bree if it was stealing to use the money in the saddle bag?

3. What did Bree do that Shasta said was funny to see?

4. What did Bree teach Shasta to do?

5. Why did Bree stop suddenly after they had continued on their journey?

6. How did Bree plan to get away from the horse and rider who were shadowing them?

7. What frightened Bree and Shasta to the point that they ran back toward the other horse and her rider?

8. What did Shasta think they should do: stay close to the horse and rider or the lions?
9. What forced the horses and riders together?

10. What did Shasta notice about the other rider?

11. Where were the horses and their riders when they saw the lion stop and roar?

12. Who said, “I am so tired?”

13. What did Shasta and Bree discover about the other horse and rider?

14. How did the girl, Aravis, feel about teaming up with Shasta and Bree?

15. How did Shasta and Bree feel about Aravis and Hwin?
Student’s Workbook
Chapter 1  How Shasta Set Out on His Travels  Pp. 3-18

Vocabulary

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fifteen crescents for him (9) ________________________________
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Comprehension Questions

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2. With whom did our main character, Shasta, live? ________________________________

3. While his father fished in the mornings and sold the fish in the afternoons, what were Shasta’s jobs? ________________________________

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5. Where did Shasta and his father live, and where was this place in relation to Narnia? ________________________________

6. What was constantly on Shasta’s mind? ________________________________

7. When Shasta asked his father what the land was like to the North, what did his father say if he was in a good mood? ________________________________

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9. When a stranger appeared at Shasta’s cottage, why did his father kneel before him and make Shasta kneel too? ________________________________
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11. When Shasta’s father told Shasta to leave the cottage while he entertained the
great lord, where did Shasta go? ________________________________

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13. How did the Tarkaan know that Shasta was not the fisherman’s son? 
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14. How did Shasta become the fisherman’s son? 
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18. Where was the Horse from, and why was he able to talk? 
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19. How did the Horse end up in Calormen? 
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21. When Shasta and the Horse decided to run away together, what did Shasta say to the Horse when asked if he knew how to ride? __________________________

22. Why did the Horse think the Tarkaan would look for him in the South? __________________________

23. What unusual question did Shasta ask the Horse after he found the Horse’s saddle and bridle? __________________________

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Chapter 2  A Wayside Adventure  Pp. 19-35

Vocabulary

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Comprehension Questions

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2. What did Bree answer when Shasta asked Bree if it was stealing to use the money in the saddle bag?

3. What did Bree do that Shasta said was funny to see?

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5. Why did Bree stop suddenly after they had continued on their journey?

6. How did Bree plan to get away from the horse and rider who were shadowing them?
7. What frightened Bree and Shasta to the point that they ran back toward the other horse and her rider?

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has perished in sight of land (5, 8) died

with your loquacity (13, 9) excessive talking
fifteen crescents for him (9, 9) pieces of money
I wouldn’t heed her (6, 12) pay attention
paid for my folly (6, 12) foolishness
no more of this southern jargon (10, 14) confused unintelligible language
my stable and paddock (6, 14) a enclosed area for pasturing or exercising animals
the girth a bit tighter (10, 16) a band used to fasten a saddle to a horse’s back

Comprehension Questions

1. At the time this story took place, who was ruling Narnia?  High King Peter

2. With whom did our main character, Shasta, live? his father

3. While his father fished in the mornings and sold the fish in the afternoons, what were Shasta’s jobs? He mended and washed the nets. He cooked and cleaned.

4. How did Shasta’s father treat Shasta? If the fishing was good Shasta’s father was somewhat nice to him, but if fishing wasn’t good his father would beat him.

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12. What did the Tarkaan want? He wanted to buy Shasta from Shasta’s father.

13. How did the Tarkaan know that Shasta was not the fisherman’s son? Shasta was light skinned and not like the people who lived in Calormen.

14. How did Shasta become the fisherman’s son? The fisherman found the child in a little boat with a dead man. He kept the child to use him as a servant or slave.

15. How did Shasta feel about the fisherman selling him to the Tarkaan? He was excited. He thought that his life might be better if the Tarkaan bought him.

16. As Shasta walked toward the horse, what did he begin to do? talk out loud

17. What happened when Shasta looked at the horse and said, “I wish you could talk, old fellow?” Shasta was astonished when the Horse replied, “But I can.”

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Chapter 2  A Wayside Adventure    Pp. 19-35

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11. Where were the horses and their riders when they saw the lion stop and roar? They were swimming across an inlet of the sea.

12. Who said, “I am so tired?” **the other horse** The rider said to stop talking.

13. What did Shasta and Bree discover about the **other horse and rider**? They were also escaping to Narnia. The rider was a Tarkheena, and the horse was Narnian.

14. How did the girl, Aravis, feel about teaming up with Shasta and Bree? **Aravis** didn’t want to travel with them. She didn’t trust Shasta, he could be a spy.

15. How did Shasta and Bree feel about Aravis and Hwin? **Shasta** felt very awkward. He wouldn’t eat the food that Aravis brought, and he was sulky. Bree on the other hand thoroughly enjoyed learning about Hwin. They remembered the same places in Narnia, and they were distantly related.
Key Questions
The Chronicles of Narnia
The Horse and His Boy
Book 3

Answer these questions in complete sentences.

Name __________________________

1. How did Shasta’s father treat Shasta? Ch. 1 __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

2. Why did Shasta shorten the Horse’s name, and what did Shasta call him? Ch. 1 __
   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

3. What did Bree do that Shasta said was funny to see? Ch. 2 _________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

4. Chapter 3 How did Aravis learn that Hwin could speak? Ch. 3 _______________
   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

5. Who did the King think Shasta was? Ch. 4 __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

6. Who or what did Shasta feel that touched his leg? Ch. 6 _________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

7. Why did Lasaraleen think that Aravis should marry Ahoshta? Ch. 7 __________
   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________
The Chronicles of Narnia
The Horse and His Boy
Book 3

Answer these questions in complete sentences.

Name _____________________________

1. How did Shasta’s father treat Shasta? Ch. 1
   If the fishing was good he might be nice to him, if the fishing was bad his father found fault with him and beat him.

2. Why did Shasta shorten the Horse’s name, and what did Shasta call him? Ch. 1
   Shasta couldn’t say his name and asked if he could shorten it to Bree.

3. Chapter 2 What did Bree do that Shasta said was funny to see? Ch. 2
   Bree rolled in the grass. Bree wondered if talking horses in Narnia would laugh about rolling in the grass.

4. How did Aravis learn that Hwin could speak? Ch. 3
   As Aravis was about to stab herself over having to marry Ahoshta, Hwin spoke of her home in Narnia.

5. Who did the King think Shasta was? Ch. 4
   He thought Shasta was the son of the King of Archenland.

6. Who or what did Shasta feel that touched his leg? Ch. 6
   Shasta saw a very big and solemn cat.

7. Why did Lasaraleen think that Aravis should marry Ahoshta? Ch. 7
   Ahoshta was rich and powerful.
Vocabulary Worksheet

Name

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the included word list.

1. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________

2. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________

3. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________

4. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________

5. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________

6. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________

7. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________

8. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________

9. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________

10. ____________ Meaning: __________________________________________
Comprehension Worksheet

Name ____________________________

Answer five comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. __________________________________________

2. __________________________________________

3. __________________________________________

4. __________________________________________

5. __________________________________________
Vocabulary and Comprehension Worksheet

Name ____________________

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the word list.

1. ____________________ Meaning: ____________________

2. ____________________ Meaning: ____________________

3. ____________________ Meaning: ____________________

Answer three comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. ____________________

2. ____________________

3. ____________________