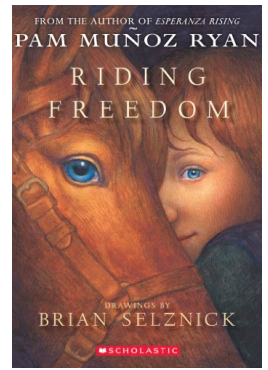


Riding Freedom: Comprehension Questions

After reading a chapter in *Riding Freedom*, answer the comprehension questions below.



These are the 4th grade expectations in your responses:

- Write in complete sentences by putting part of the question into the start of your answer (this is done for you at the start)
- Best guess spelling is okay, but you should spell characters name's correctly and other repetitive vocabulary from the book
- Ending punctuation
- Capitalization when starting a sentence and for proper nouns

Prologue - In the Beginning

1. What was Charlotte holding onto when neighbors found her the morning after the accident?

She was holding onto _____

CHAPTER 1

2. What does Charlotte and her best friend at the orphanage, Hayward, dream of in the future?

They dream that _____

CHAPTER 2

3. Charlotte experienced one hardship after another in this chapter. Describe two of the hardships from this chapter.

The first hardship Charlotte experienced was

The second hardship Charlotte experienced was

CHAPTER 3

4. Make a prediction before reading the next chapter. Do you think Charlotte/Charley will successfully escape or do you think she will get caught? Why or why not?

I think Charlotte/Charley _____

CHAPTER 4

5. Where does Charlotte/Charley hide after she gets off the stage?

She hides _____

CHAPTER 5

6. Ebenezer turns out to be looking out for (caring for) Charley just like Vern did at the orphanage. Write down one example from the book of a time when Ebenezer helped Charley.

One example of a time when Ebenezer helped Charley was
when _____

CHAPTER 6

7. Describe the prank Charley pulls on Mr. Millshark.

The prank Charley pulls on Mr. Millshark was _____

**4th grader, now, you're ready to put part of the question into the start of your answer like I did for you in the previous questions. I'll underline part of the question that will help you do this work.*

CHAPTER 7

8. Where does Charley move to in this chapter? Why?

CHAPTER 8

9. What happens to Charley that almost prevents him from being able to be a Stage Coach driver?

CHAPTER 9

10. After becoming a famous Stage Coach driver, Charley earns more money. What does Charley do with his money? Who does he get reconnected with in this chapter?

CHAPTER 10

11. What does Charley do in this chapter that was illegal for women to do at that time?

Epilogue In the End

12. Did you like the ending of the book? Why or why not?

From the Author

We'll read this part together in class at the beginning of the school year, but if you want to read it on your own before we read it together you can.

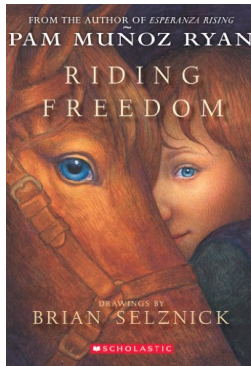
Message Sent to Families

Dear Third Grade Families,

My name is Paige Sandoz, and I'm going to be your child's 4th grade humanities teacher next year. As you may have already heard, I had the privilege of meeting with your wonderful children at our Move-up Meeting. Although these meetings are always a bit strange since we're not quite ready to say goodbye to our current teachers and students, it does help everyone feel a little less anxious for the school year to come. Your children were curious, respectful, and excited during our time together, and I'm looking forward to teaching this bunch!

Below is what you should know about summer humanities homework to support your rising 4th grader:

- Your 4th grader should read *Riding Freedom* by Pam Muñoz Ryan before the first day of school. This book is connected to the 4th-grade Social Studies topic of California History which they will be studying for all but one S.S. unit next year. This book is historical fiction, though it's closely tied to the life of a real person, Charley Parkhurst, the book's protagonist. He was a famous stagecoach driver in Sacramento during the Gold Rush and this book inspired by his life was written at a level that's good for most end-of-year 3rd graders.



- Your child was given a copy of this book. Please have them bring it back to school when they return in the fall. If you notice this book is above your child's reading level, please read it with them or allow them to listen to the story on audiobook.
- They were also given a packet of comprehension questions for them to answer as they read the book to help them check their understanding and prepare for discussions and projects we'll have related to the book when we return to school in August. There is one question per chapter, so I recommended that they respond to a question after the finish reading a chapter instead of doing them all at the end of the book. They should bring this packet completed on Friday, 8/23, or have their typed responses emailed to me before school starts that morning.
- Optional - I like to host a virtual Book Club via Google Meets once per month to help kids stay on track, review comprehension questions, and give them a place to discuss the story. This is optional and students can come to as many as they want. Here is the info about that:

6/25 @ 4:00 pp. 1 - 44

7/16 @ 4:00 pp. 45 - 92

8/13 @ 4:00 pp. 92 - END

[Link to Google Meet here.](#)

One last item...I believe that a strong teacher-student-parent relationship is at the core of successful teaching and learning. If possible, I'd love to start building this relationship before the school year begins by scheduling home or park visits. Home/park visits are when teachers spend time with their students and families in a setting unrelated to school, at their home or at a park (or other location). This is not mandatory, so please do not feel obligated to sign-up, especially if you have a jam-packed summer. We can find a time in the fall for a home visit to happen, too, but since I'll be around for a good portion of the summer I wanted to offer visits. Also, full disclosure, my very cute and sometimes destructive toddler may be in tow for these visits but I'll let you know beforehand.

Since I don't have the ability to connect with all of you on ParentSquare yet, I'll likely be sending out an email with a way for you to sign up for one of these visits very soon so be on the lookout for that!

If you have any questions or concerns please email me (psandoz@sfschool.org).

Looking forward to partnering with you!

Best,
Paige