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Reading with Insight

1. You will probably agree that this story does not have breathless adventure and exciting action. Then what in your opinion makes it interesting?

Answer:

Even though the storyline is not that adventurous, the way in which the entire scene is described by the author makes it very interesting. However, the element that makes it all the more engaging is the smooth flow of emotional narration. This has been addressed from the perspective of a nine-year-old boy. The boy, who is from a poor family, and is known for his morality, cannot fathom that his brother could steal a horse to ride. This in itself is interesting for the boy. Every idea that passes through the mind of the boy after looking at the horse has been romanticized by the writer. Riding the stolen horse and hiding it carefully are great feats of adventure for the two boys. But their family is recognized for their morality, and the same streak is also present in them. After a while, they overcome their desire and return the horse to its rightful owner.

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

Answer.

In the entire story, the boys are characterised as fearless. It was their rage towards the horse that made them steal one horse. When they had the horse for several months, the farmer John Byro visited their house and saw the horse. John Byro recognized his horse but refused to believe that Mourad and Aram had stolen it. He, however, did not say anything to the boys, rather honouring their family for its honesty. This was the circumstance when the conscience-stricken boys decided to return the horse.

3. “One day back there in the good old days when I was nine and the world was full of every imaginable kind of magnificence, and life was still a delightful and mysterious dream...” The story begins in a mood of 2019-20 nostalgia. Can you narrate some incident from your childhood that might make an interesting story?

Answer. Students have to answer this on their own

4. The story revolves around characters who belong to a tribe in Armenia. Mourad and Aram are members of the Garoghlanian family. Now locate Armenia and Assyria on the atlas and prepare a write-up on the Garoghlanian tribes. You may write about people, their names, traits, geographical and economic features as suggested in the story.

Answer.

The Garoghlanian family was an Armenian tribe. Eleven centuries ago, it was the wealthiest tribe in that part of the world. The members of the tribe were recognized for their morality. They ended up settling in regions such as Fresno and California. The Garoghlanian tribe is a group that works in modern conditions while carrying in their mind the values of the past of their native Armenia. They were proud of their family. Honesty was vital, and they had a fair sense of right and wrong.