English Comprehension: Easy Practice Paper 3 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	A	Line 1 begins, "The first place that I can well remember was a large pleasant meadow with a pond of clear water in it." The shed, the ploughed field and the fir trees are all mentioned, but none of them is the first thing he names.
2	C	The adjectives are "large", "pleasant" and "clear", so there are three. "Meadow", "pond" and "water" are nouns, not adjectives.
3	D	To plough a field is to cut and turn its soil into long furrows so that seed can be sown. The horse can see this field over the hedge on one side of his meadow.
4	E	Line 8 says, "While I was young I lived upon my mother's milk, as I could not eat grass." The bread and the carrots come later in the passage, and are treats from the master rather than his food as a foal.
5	D	Line 15 says, "There were six young colts in the meadow besides me." The word "besides" means that the six do not include the narrator himself.
6	B	The rest of the sentence explains it: "for they would frequently bite and kick as well as gallop". Galloping together was the fun; the biting and the kicking are what made the play rough.
7	C	"Frequently" tells us how often the colts would bite and kick, so it describes the verbs. A word that describes a verb in this way is an adverb, and adverbs very often end in □ly.
8	D	The sentence begins, "One day, when there was a good deal of kicking, my mother whinnied to me to come to her." She calls him over because of the kicking, and then gives him her advice about manners.
9	A	She takes care to say first that they are "very good colts", so she is not calling them wicked. Being cart-horse colts, they have simply never been brought up to behave as a well-bred horse is expected to.

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10	C	Line 27 says, "your grandfather won the cup two years at the Newmarket races". The sweet temper belonged to the grandmother, and it is the narrator's mother who takes the master to town in the gig.
11	D	She lists his family and then says, "I hope you will grow up gentle and good." The point of the list is that good behaviour is expected of him; she says nothing about fame excusing him from work.
12	B	"Gentle" describes what the young horse should grow up to be, so it is describing him. A word that describes a noun or a pronoun in this way is an adjective.
13	B	Her three instructions are to "do your work with a good will", to "lift your feet up well when you trot" and to "never bite or kick even in play". She never tells him to avoid the other colts or to think himself better than them.
14	B	Her real name was Duchess, but the master used a pet name instead, and he says it while patting and stroking her. A nickname of that kind is a sign of affection.
15	C	Comparing how he speaks to the horses with how he speaks to his own children shows that the same kindness is given to both. It also prepares us for his anger when he finds Dick tormenting the colts.
16	D	Line 41 says, "I was a dull black, so he called me Darkie." The name comes from his coat and nothing else.
17	A	He "sometimes came into our field to pluck blackberries from the hedge". It is only afterwards, when he has eaten all he wants, that he begins throwing stones at the colts. Old Daniel is the man who looks after the horses.
18	D	The words "what he called" show that the narrator does not agree. Being pelted with stones and sticks was Dick's idea of fun, and the passage adds that sometimes a stone would hit and hurt them.

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19	A	"In a snap" means in a moment, as quickly as fingers can be snapped. The master is over the hedge and has hold of Dick's arm before the boy has any idea that he is being watched.
20	D	The passage describes the meadow where the narrator was born, the colts he grew up with, the advice his mother gave him and the kind master who owned them all. "A Young Horse and His First Home" covers all of that; the other titles pick on small details, or on things the passage does not say.

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