

# 11. Black Beauty

SDG 15

Life on Land

SDG 3

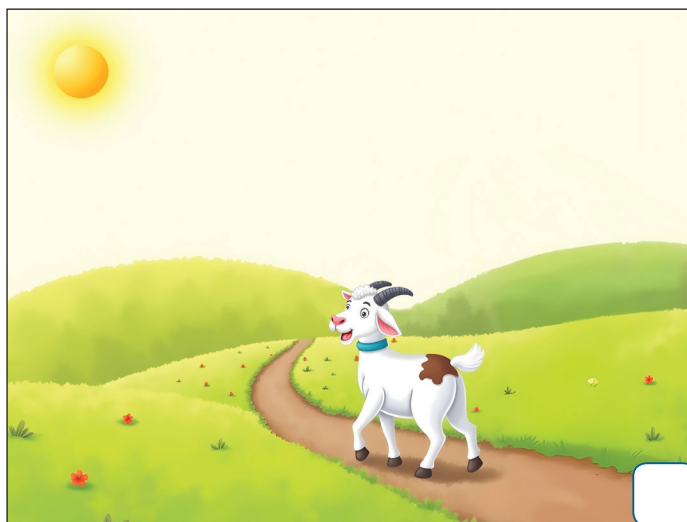
Good Health and Well-being



## Listen\* and Do

Listening and Comprehension Skills **NCF** **CG 1**

Listen carefully and number the pictures in the correct order.



## Word Wizard

Vocabulary Building **NCF** **CG 4**

Say these words.

stiffness

stroked

shouted

painful

\*Listening text for the teacher on page 141

*This story is told by a horse named Black Beauty. It is taken from a famous children's book called Black Beauty written by Anna Sewell.*

After working for many kind people, I was sold to a corn dealer<sup>1</sup> in the town. I thought I would get proper care and food and that the work would be fair. But

I soon found that things were not as I had hoped.

The corn dealer's foreman<sup>2</sup> was always in a hurry. He shouted at the workers and cared more about finishing the job quickly than about the horses. My driver, Jakes, was a gentle man who wanted to treat me kindly. He often told the

foreman that the loads were too heavy for me, but the foreman never listened. He always overruled<sup>3</sup> Jakes and made me pull more weight than I could handle.

I had to wear a tight check-rein<sup>4</sup> that kept my head up all the time. It made it hard to pull the cart and difficult to breathe properly. My neck felt stiff and painful every day and my back legs often shook after long hours of work.

One day, the cart was loaded with more sacks than usual. The road ahead was steep and rough. I gave all my strength to move forward, but the cart was too heavy. Jakes shouted, "Come

1. **dealer**: someone who buys and sells things
2. **foreman**: a person who manages workers
3. **overruled**: said no to someone else's decision
4. **check-rein**: a strap used to keep a horse's head held up



on!” and used the whip to make me move. I tried again and again, but I could not pull the load.



The pain in my body was terrible and my heart was just as heavy. Each time I failed, the whip came down harder. I **struggled**<sup>5</sup> to take just a few steps. I was doing my best, but it was not enough.

Then, something happened. A kind lady came running from the roadside. She said gently, “Oh! Please do not whip your horse. The road is very steep. I can see he is doing his best.”

Jakes said, “If doing his best won’t get the load up, he has to do more.”

“But isn’t it a heavy load?” the lady asked.

“Yes, it is,” said Jakes, “but that’s not my fault. I must get on with it.”

The lady looked at my face and said, “Please stop. I think I can help. He cannot use his full strength with that check-rein. If you take it off, I’m sure he will do better.”

Jakes gave a short laugh. “Well, anything to please a lady,” he said and he removed the rein.

I slowly lowered my head and stretched my neck. Oh, what a relief it was! I moved my head up and down, shaking off the stiffness. The kind lady stroked my neck and said, “Poor fellow. That’s what you needed.”

She told Jakes, “Now speak kindly to him and lead him on. He will do his best.”

Jakes held the reins again and said, “Come on, Blackie.” I leaned forward, pushed with all my strength and slowly the cart began to move. Step by step, I pulled it up the hill.

<sup>5</sup> **struggled**: tried very hard when it was difficult

The lady walked beside me and gently stroked my neck. “You see,” she said, “he only needed a little kindness.”

Jakes nodded. “I can’t deny that having his head free has helped him. But if I don’t use the check-rein, I’ll be laughed at by the other carters.”

The lady said wisely, “It is better to lead kindly than to follow something wrong. Horses may be silent, but they feel pain just like we do.”

She gave me one last kind pat and stepped away. I never saw her again, but I will never forget her kindness.



## Lessons for Life

Values and Life Skills  

Treat animals with kindness. They cannot speak, but they feel pain and love like we do.



## What did you learn?

Knowledge Check  

### A. Tick (✓) the correct option.

1. Black Beauty was sold to a:

a. gardener     b. corn dealer     c. shopkeeper

2. The check-rein made it hard for Black Beauty to:

a. sleep

b. breathe properly

c. eat

3. The kind lady told Jakes to:

a. whip the horse     b. give water     c. remove the rein

4. Black Beauty moved the cart after:

a. resting     b. eating     c. the rein was removed

5. The story teaches us to be:

a. fast     b. kind     c. strong



## B. Fill in the blanks.

1. The road was very \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Jakes was a \_\_\_\_\_ man.
3. The lady stroked my \_\_\_\_\_ gently.
4. The cart was filled with sacks of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The horse gave all his \_\_\_\_\_ to move.

## C. Write T for true and F for the false statement.

1. The foreman was always kind to the horses.
2. Jakes wanted to treat Black Beauty well.
3. The check-rein helped the horse pull better.
4. The lady told Jakes to whip the horse.
5. The horse could move better after the rein was removed.

## D. Answer the following questions.

1. Who is telling the story? What is the name of the book it is taken from?
2. Why was it hard for Black Beauty to pull the cart properly?
3. How did the foreman treat the horses?
4. What kind of person was Jakes? Give one example from the story.
5. What problem did the check-rein cause for Black Beauty?
6. What did the kind lady suggest to help Black Beauty?

## E. Critical Thinking

1. How would you feel if someone helped you kindly during a hard task?
2. Why do you think the lady said, "Horses may be silent, but they feel pain just like we do"?



## Vocabulary

Word Enrichment  

### What are Synonyms?

Synonyms are words that have the same or nearly the same meaning. They help make our writing skills more interesting and avoid repeating the same word.



### Examples:

- The child was **happy**.  
Synonyms for happy: joyful, cheerful, glad



### Examples of Common Synonyms

Word	Synonyms
brave	bold, fearless, courageous
begin	start, launch, open
tired	sleepy, exhausted, weary
speak	talk, say, express
fast	quick, speedy, rapid

### What are Antonyms?

Antonyms are words that have opposite meanings. We use them to show contrast between two ideas or actions.

### Example:

- The water is **hot**.  
Antonym of hot: cold



### Why are they important?

- They help you build a **stronger vocabulary**.
- They improve your **reading and writing skills**.
- You can express yourself more clearly and exactly.

### Examples of Common Antonyms

Word	Antonyms
early	late
tall	short
strong	weak
win	lose
tidy	messy



**F. Complete the sentence by writing the antonym of the underlined word.**

1. I woke up early in the morning, but my brother was always \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Her dress was clean, but her shoes were \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The giraffe is tall, but the rabbit is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I drank a glass of hot milk, but my sister wanted it \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Meena keeps her desk tidy, but her friend's desk is always \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Rahul is very strong, but his younger brother is still \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Our teacher is kind, but sometimes she sounds a little \_\_\_\_\_ when angry.
8. Neha was happy about her results, but Tina looked very \_\_\_\_\_.
9. We decided to begin the game at 5 PM and \_\_\_\_\_ it before 6 PM.
10. My bottle was full of juice, but now it is completely \_\_\_\_\_.



**G. In each group, three words are synonyms. One word is NOT. Circle the word that does not belong.**

1. happy      joyful      sad      cheerful
2. fast      rapid      quick      slow
3. open      begin      late      start
4. bold      fearless      shy      brave
5. messy      tidy      neat      clean



**Grammar Time**

Grammatical Structures 

An adverb is a word that describes or adds meaning to a verb, an adjective or another adverb. It tells us how, when, where or how often something happens.

**Examples:**

- The horse ran **quickly**. (How?)
- She arrived **late**. (When?)
- The boy looked **up**. (Where?)
- He **always** listens. (How often?)



## Types of Adverbs

Type	What it tells	Examples
1. Adverbs of Manner	How something happens	slowly, quickly, gently, happily
2. Adverbs of Time	When something happens	now, then, today, soon, yesterday
3. Adverbs of Place	Where something happens	here, there, everywhere, inside
4. Adverbs of Frequency	How often something happens	always, never, often, sometimes
5. Adverbs of Degree	How much / to what extent	very, quite, almost, too

## Formation of Adverbs

Many adverbs are formed by adding **-ly** to adjectives.

Adjective	Adverb
quick	quickly
gentle	gently
happy	happily
loud	loudly
soft	softly

## H. Write one example of each adverb type in your own sentence.

Adverb Type	Sentence
1. manner	_____
2. time	_____
3. place	_____
4. frequency	_____
5. degree	_____



**I. Circle the adverb in each sentence and write its type.**

1. The teacher smiled kindly at the students.
2. They arrived early for the football match.
3. We searched everywhere for the missing pen.
4. I rarely eat chocolate.
5. The baby was almost asleep.



**Speak and Share**

Speaking and Collaborative Skills **NCF** **CG 1**

Look at the pictures of some common tools and objects used in farming or stables. Take turns asking and answering questions.



**Examples:**

**You:** What is a saddle used for?

**Your Partner:** A saddle is used to sit safely on a horse while riding.



**Express Yourself**

Creative Expression **NCF** **CG 3**

**J. Your class is starting a "Care for Creatures" club to teach students how to look after animals. Write a notice inviting students to join.**

**NOTICE**

Name of the Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Activities: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_





## K. Make a poster on the topic: "Be Kind to Animals."

Your poster must include:

- A short title
- 2–3 sentences or slogans
- One drawing or symbol (can be drawn separately)
- Any two do's and don'ts (like: "Do give water, Don't use whips")

A large, empty rectangular area with a dotted green border, intended for students to draw their poster.