



Rodeo

Finn

Book by Clare O'Beara

**Free Student Novel
Companion by Carolyn
Wilhelm**

Suggested text for this educational printable:



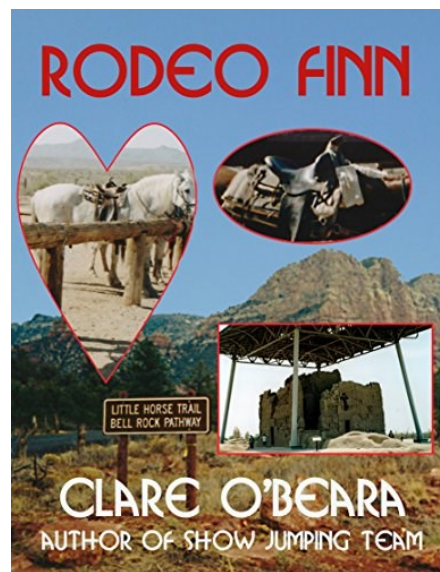
Rodeo Finn by Clare O'Beara

Finn Dwyer, aged fifteen, is growing up on a dairy farm in Ireland, her thoughts of horses and friendships. When she is challenged in the worst way, she doesn't know how to go forward in life.

Summer on her uncle's ranch in Arizona with her cousin Sean and a beautiful black mare Juana gives Finn the chance to let go of her unhappiness. Not only does she explore the Sonora Desert, she learns trail riding, cattle roping and rodeo skills.

When her strength and decisiveness are called upon however, will Finn prove herself?

Another atmospheric story of young adults, horses and challenges from the author of Amazon No.1 Bestseller *SHOW JUMPING TEAM*.



Find the eBook and paperback at this link:

<https://www.amazon.com/Rodeo-Finn-Clare-OBeara-ebook/dp/B00OU100W8>

Read an interview with Clare O'Beara at this link:

<https://www.thewiseowlfactory.com/clare-obeara-author-interview-in-dublin-ireland/>

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Note to teachers: Most of the answers are found in the book, *Rodeo Finn*. Some answers will be found in reference or nonfiction horse books.

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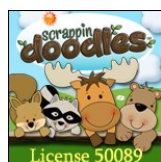


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Clare O’Beara says, “Interestingly the word *donn* in Irish, means brown and is pronounced dun.”

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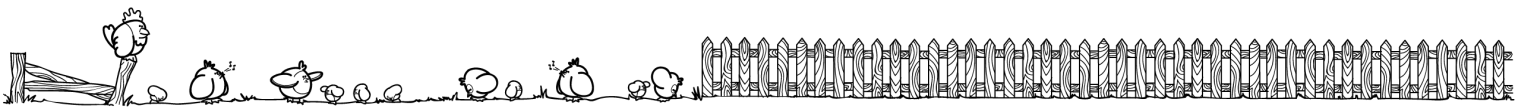
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(answers will vary)

Page 20 Answers for Page 12

Page 21 Answers for Page 13



Discussion Questions for *Rodeo Finn* by Clare O'Beara

1. At the beginning of the story, why couldn't Finn concentrate on the riding lesson?
2. Mary and Finn were planning to have a business someday. What kind of business? When would they start it? Why did they want a business?
3. Finn was quiet when her parents were discussing her possible summer travel to Arizona. Why didn't she speak up?
4. Mary did not lease a pony for the summer. What happened?
5. Why was Finn first shocked, and then angry?
6. Why was Finn refusing to visit her cousin and uncle in Arizona?
7. How did Finn's mother convince her to travel?
8. What did Finn notice about Jack's house?
9. What kind of ponies and horses were on the ranch?
10. How did Luisa help the Dwyers? How many children of her own did she have?
11. Why was riding a horse in Arizona different from the way Finn had been learning to ride in Ireland?
12. Compare how Finn helped Sean with the cattle to her usual work with dairy cows.
13. How did Maria's visits help Finn?
14. What were the things to see and do at the first rodeo Finn attended?
15. What was Rodriguez's farm like? What horses did he show Finn and Sean? What was his job?
16. Finn had not heard of genetic testing of horses before. Why was it done?
17. How did the cousins prepare for their rodeo events?
18. In what rodeo events did Sean and Finn participate?
19. How did Finn and Juana work together to help Sean?
20. Why is an injury to a horse's leg so serious?
21. Would the vet be able to help Juana?
22. What rodeo events would you like to try?



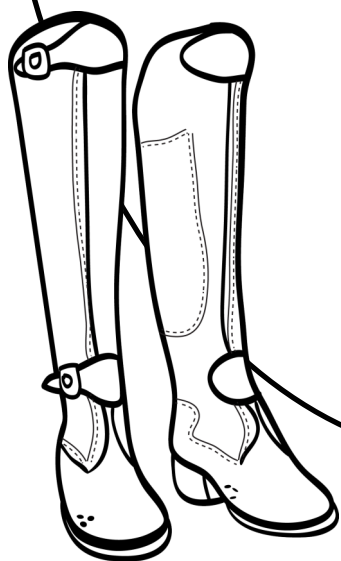
Name _____

Date _____

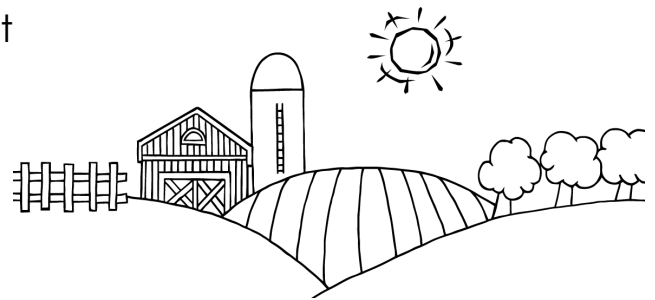
Different and Same -- Venn Diagram

English
Riding

Western
Riding

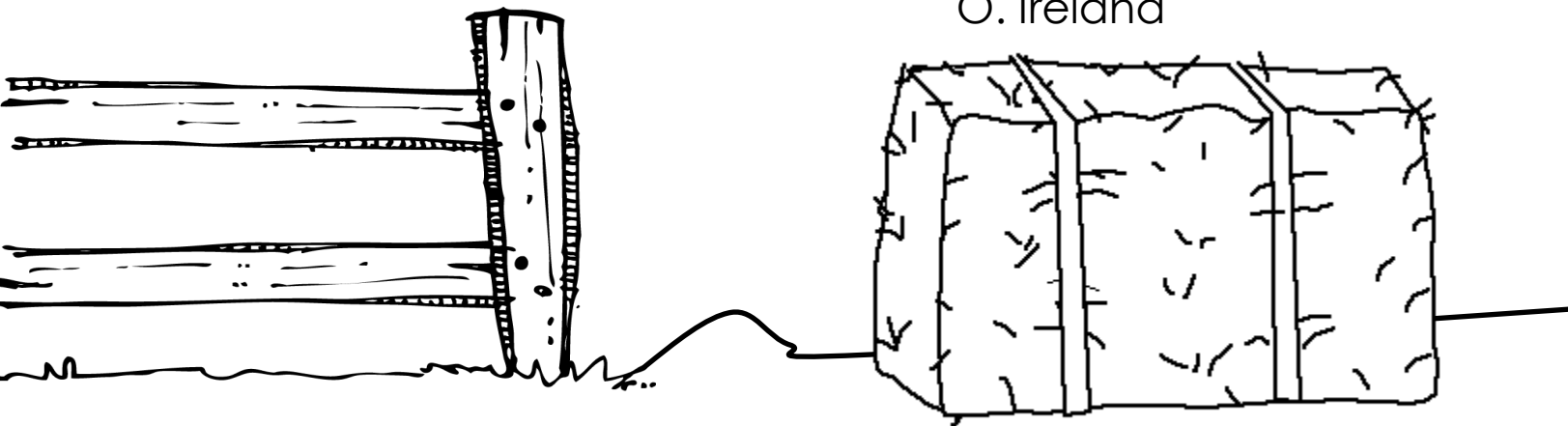


Match-up Time



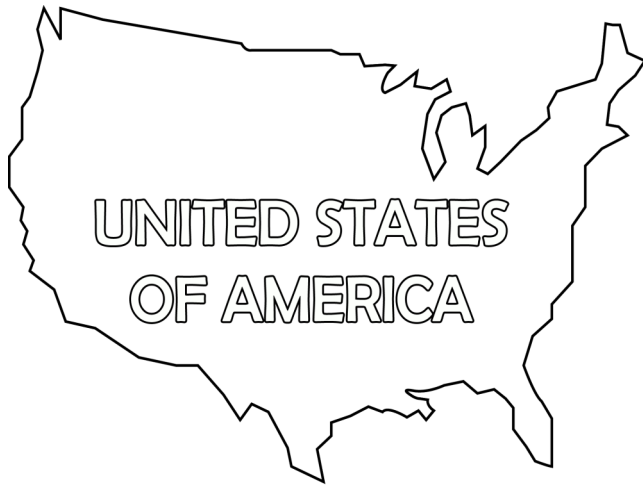
1. _____ Luisa's son
2. _____ Where the Dwyers live
3. _____ Dark haired girl saving money for a horse
4. _____ Where Finn would spend the summer
5. _____ Finn's summer Pony
6. _____ Instructor for horse riding
7. _____ Age 7
8. _____ Cousin in America
9. _____ Inherited a house and 150 acres as eldest son
10. _____ Sean's Pony
11. _____ Finn's friend
12. _____ Thinks angels are other people
13. _____ Finn's brother who will help extra on the farm to make up for her absence
14. _____ Cook and housekeeper
15. _____ Mountain near Jack's land

- A. Mr. Green
- B. Phoenix, Arizona
- C. Johnnie
- D. Mary
- E. Mrs. Dwyer
- F. Rory
- G. Pablo
- H. Juana
- I. Rodriguez
- J. Fionnuala
- K. Sean
- L. Luisa
- M. Mike Dwyer
- N. Bear Rock
- O. Ireland



Farming Near and Far

Fill out this page with information from the book *Rodeo Finn*.



Size of farm or ranch:

How many acres to support a cow: _____

Type of land:

Type of growth:

How many workers:

Type of house:

Size of farm or ranch:

How many acres to support a cow: _____


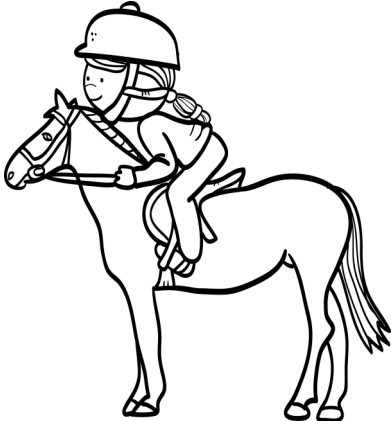
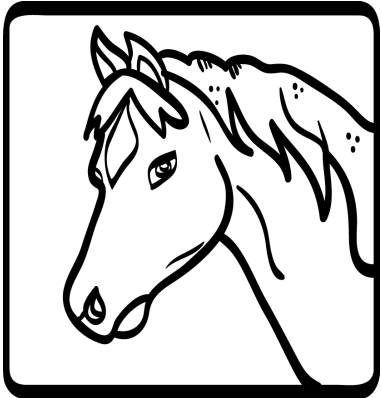
Type of land:

Type of growth:

How many workers:

Type of house:

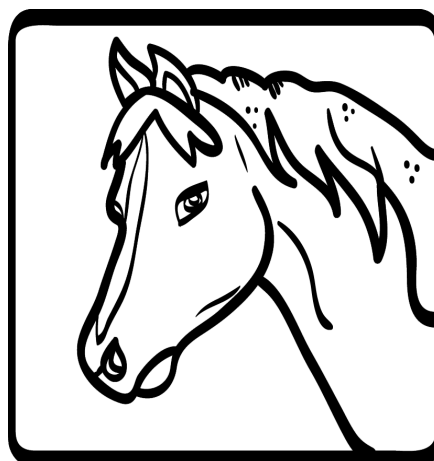
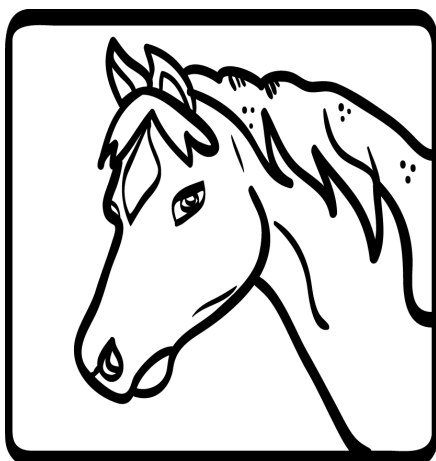
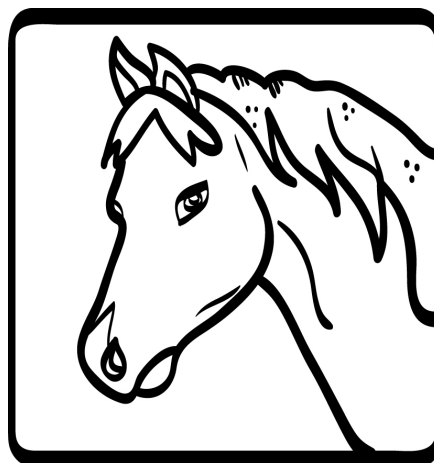
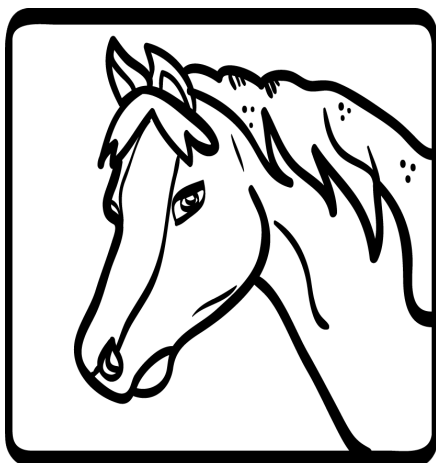
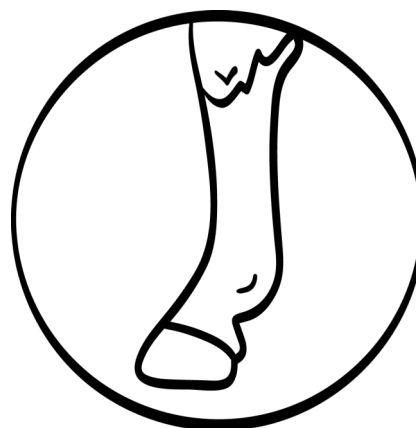
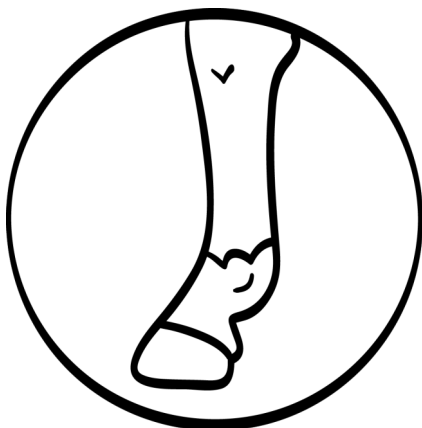
charting characters

		
<p>Sean</p>	<p>Finn</p>	<p>Juana</p>
<p>collected rocks</p>	<p>forgot to save spending money for the trip</p>	<p>Jack Dwyer wanted to sell her</p>
<p>knew about the plants and animals around the ranch</p>	<p>brave</p>	<p>friends with Coyote</p>
<p>did not think Finn could be a western rider</p>	<p>expressed her doubts out loud and often</p>	<p>short stride</p>
<p>helped do dishes</p>	<p>was more used to English riding</p>	<p>had spent years on Jack's ranch</p>
<p>wanted to own Juana</p>	<p>often forgot her manners</p>	<p>name sounds like "Wanna"</p>
<p>helped Finn with western riding</p>	<p>did not talk while her parents discussed her possible trip</p>	<p>clever at switching leg and doubling back</p>
<p>Finn's brother</p>	<p>loved practice sessions</p>	<p>descendant of one of Conquistadores' mounts</p>

Name _____ Date _____

Horse Markings

Color and write the name of each type of marking:
blaze, snip, sock, star, stripe, stocking.

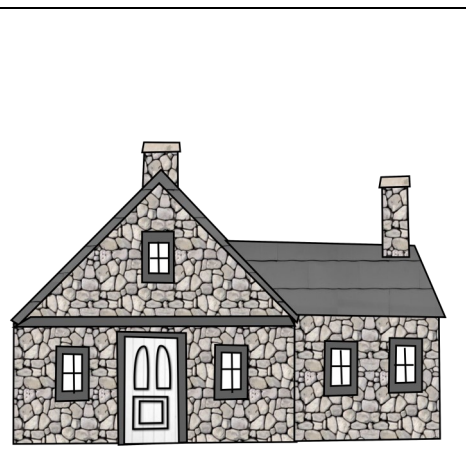
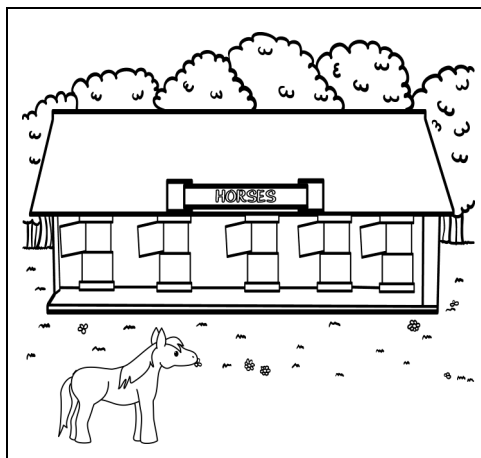


Name _____

Date _____

SETTING SCENES

Fill out the columns with information about each setting.



Rodeo

**Uncle Jack's
house**

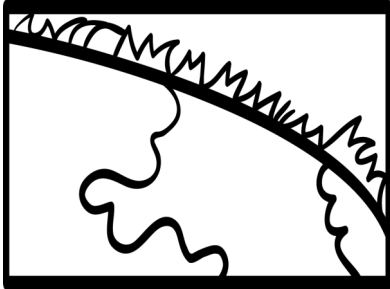
Finn's house

Name _____

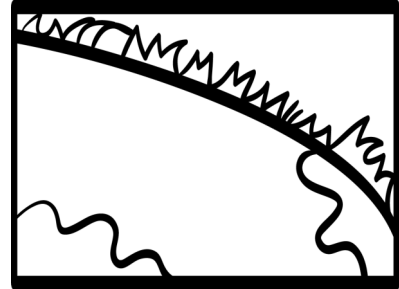
Date _____

PONY AND HORSE COLORS

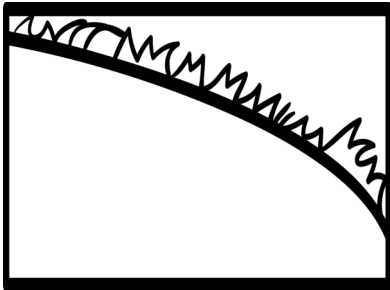
Coloring Page



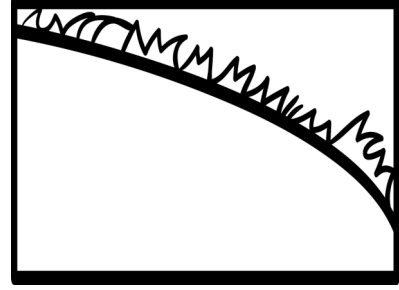
Piebald Pony



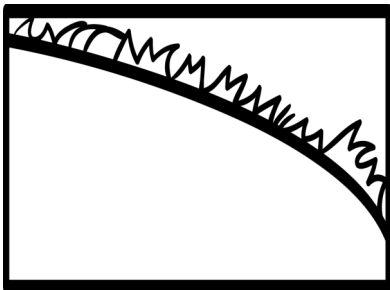
Skewbald Pony



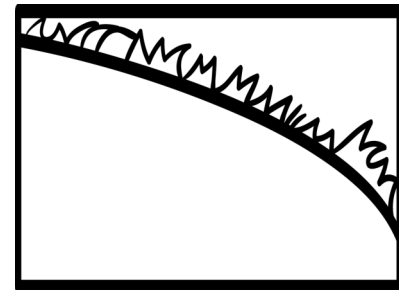
Bay Pony



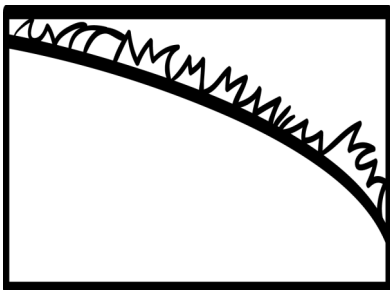
Black Pony



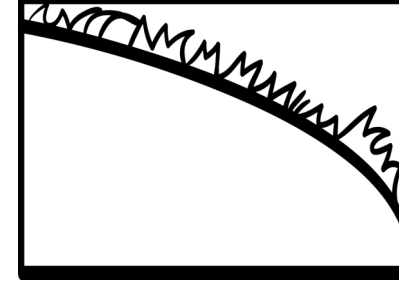
Chestnut Pony



Dun Pony

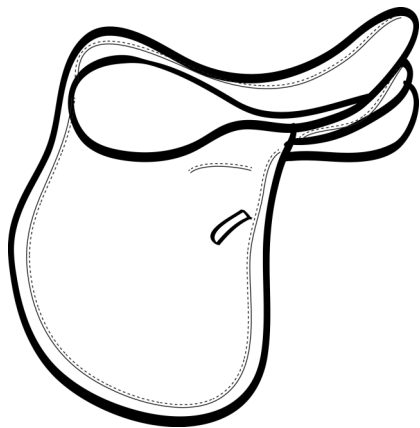


Grey Pony

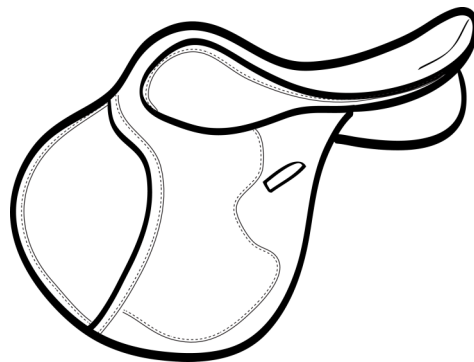


Palomino Pony

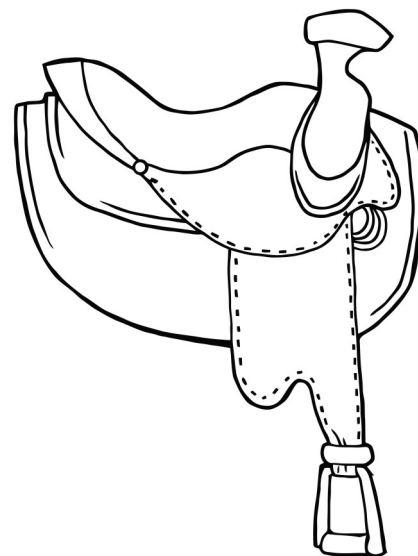
Describe each saddle.



**Polo
Saddle**



**Jumping
Saddle**



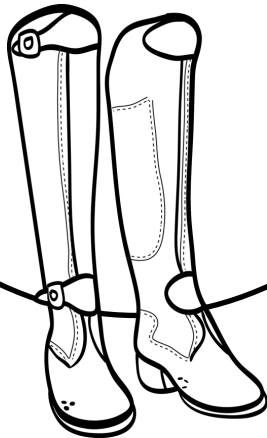
**Western
Saddle**

Different and Same KEY Venn Diagram

English Riding

no spurs
browbands
nosebands
smaller saddle
formal
elegant
double set of
reins with
buckles in
the middle
riding hats
requires balance
and
coordination

events:
dressage
jumper
hunter



Western Riding

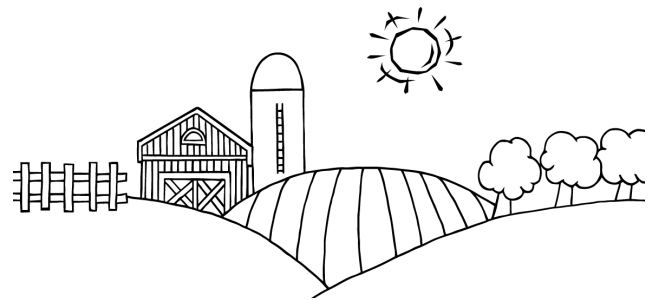
tack
room
saddles
bridles
feeds
tools
oilcans

cowboy boots
spurs
larger and
heavier saddle
with only
one girth
high pommels
uses one hand
to hold the
reins
wide flaps
over
stirrup
leathers

events:
roping
barrel racing
western
pleasure
riding

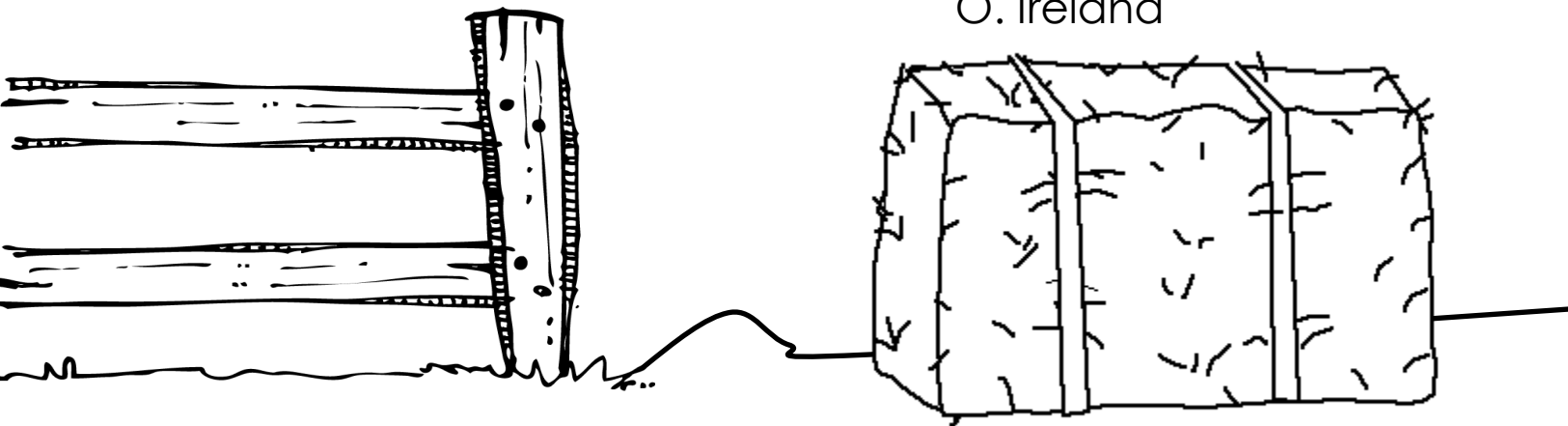


Match-up Time Key



1. **I** Luisa's son
2. **O** Where the Dwyers live
3. **J** Dark haired girl saving money for a horse
4. **B** Where Finn would spend the summer
5. **H** Finn's summer Pony
6. **A** Instructor for horse riding
7. **C** Age 7
8. **K** Cousin in America
9. **M** Inherited a house and 150 acres as eldest son
10. **G** Sean's Pony
11. **D** Finn's friend
12. **E** Thinks angels are other people
13. **F** Finn's brother who will help extra on the farm to make up for her absence
14. **L** Cook and housekeeper
15. **N** Mountain near Jack's land

- A. Mr. Green
- B. Phoenix, Arizona
- C. Johnnie
- D. Mary
- E. Mrs. Dwyer
- F. Rory
- G. Pablo
- H. Juana
- I. Rodriguez
- J. Fionnuala
- K. Sean
- L. Luisa
- M. Mike Dwyer
- N. Bear Rock
- O. Ireland



Farming Near and Far Key

Fill out this page with information from the book *Rodeo Finn*.



Size of farm or ranch:

large (enough to rotate the cattle)

How many acres to support a steer: **10**

Type of land:
scrubland

Type of growth:
Mesquite bushes, cactus

How many workers:
many (and cabins for them)

Type of house:
wooden

Size of farm or ranch:

150 acres owned, 40 rented

How many acres to support a cow: **4 cows to an acre**

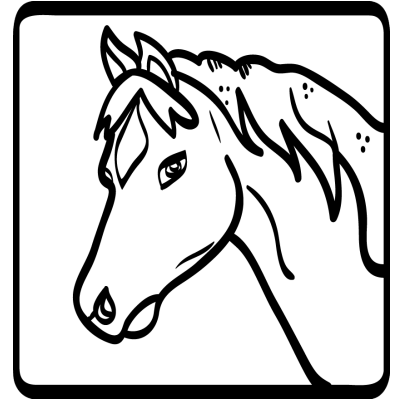
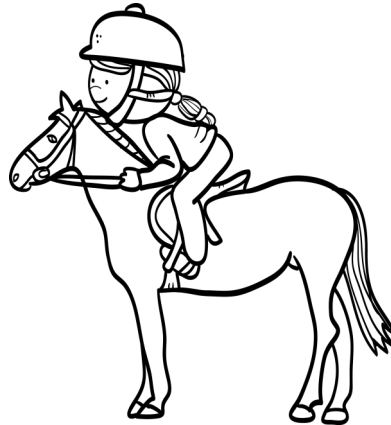
Type of land:
limestone pasture land

Type of growth:
lush grass

How many workers:
just the family of 5

Type of house:
Two-story house handed down for generations

Characters Answer Key



Sean

Finn

Juana

collected rocks

forgot to save
spending money for
the trip

Jack Dwyer wanted
to sell her

knew about the
plants and animals
around the ranch

brave

friends with Coyote

did not think Finn
could be a western
rider

expressed her doubts
out loud and often

short stride

helped do dishes

was more used to
English riding

had spent years on
Jack's ranch

wanted to own Juana

often forgot her
manners

name sounds like
"Wanna"

helped Finn with
western riding

did not talk while her
parents discussed her
possible trip

clever at switching
leg and doubling
back

Finn's brother

loved practice
sessions

descendant of one of
Conquistadores'
mounts

Horse Markings KEY

Color and write the name of each type of marking:
blaze, snip, sock, star, stripe, stocking.



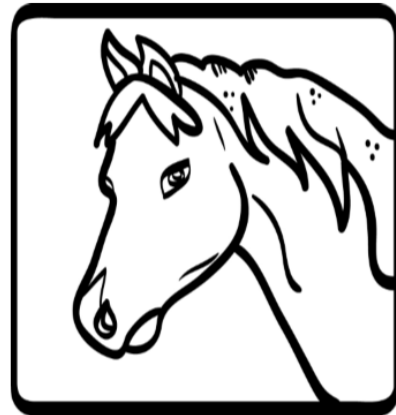
Sock



Stocking



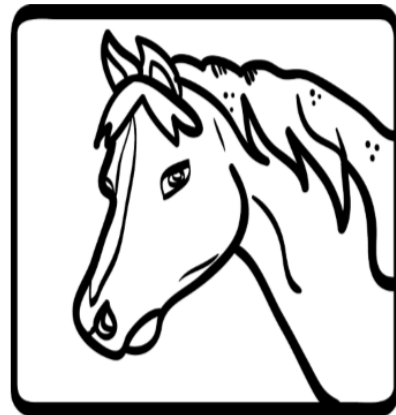
Blaze



Snip



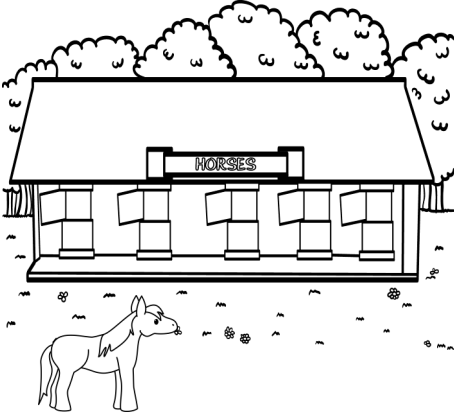


Star



Stripe

SETTING SCENES KEY

Possible student answers

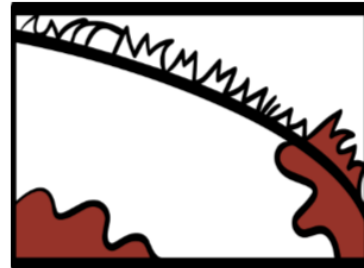
		
<p>Rodeo</p>	<p>Uncle Jack's house</p>	<p>Finn's house</p>
<p>cross-tying</p>	<p>wooden</p>	<p>hens</p>
<p>judges</p>	<p>newer than Finn's</p>	<p>two-stories</p>
<p>small monetary prizes</p>	<p>kitchen faces north</p>	<p>rented 40 acres</p>
<p>blue meant first place</p>	<p>closets</p>	<p>very old</p>
<p>events</p>	<p>large kitchen</p>	<p>goats</p>
<p>some professional rodeo riders</p>	<p>no irrigation needed for cattle</p>	<p>has 150 acres</p>
<p>ice packs for horses</p>	<p>porch in front</p>	<p>wardrobes</p>
<p>Brahma bulls</p>	<p>steers</p>	<p>no maid</p>

PONY AND HORSE COLORS KEY

Coloring Page



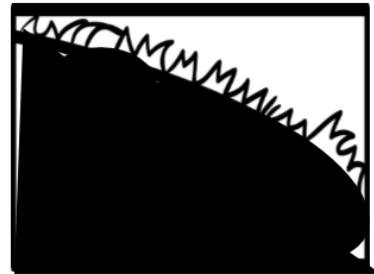
Piebald Pony



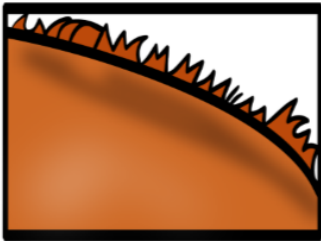
Skewbald Pony



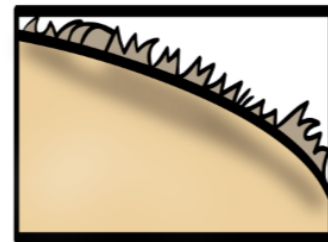
Bay Pony



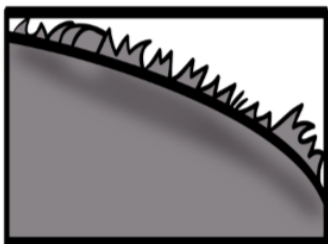
Black Pony



Chestnut Pony



Dun Pony

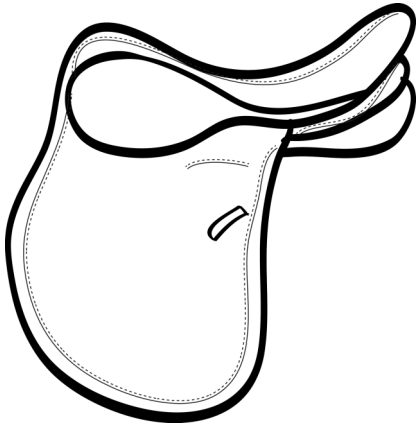


Grey Pony

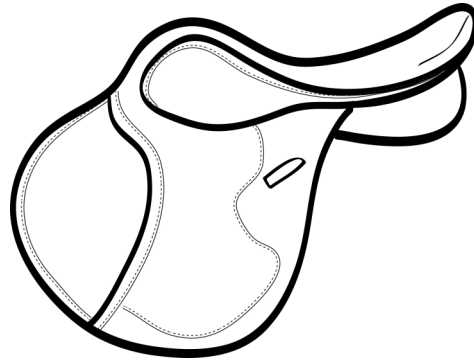


Palomino Pony

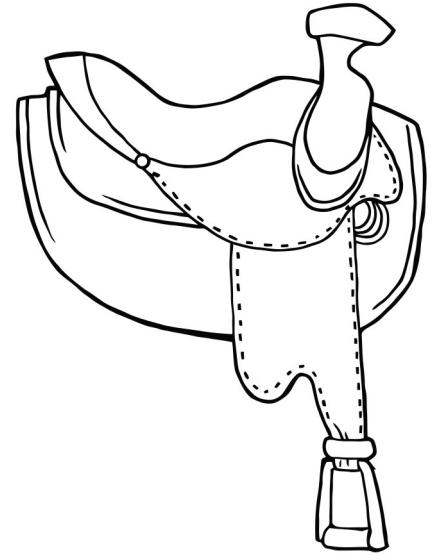
Describe each saddle.



Polo
Saddle



Jumping
or English
or Dressage
Saddle



Western
Saddle

flat, thin

padded under
saddle so horse
doesn't need a
blanket

heavy

long saddle flaps

lightweight,
hornless,
steel cantle and
pommel

have a horn

double steel
reinforcement to
avoid injuring
horse withers

full side flaps
usually set
forward

often front cinch
only