



**The Canadian Morgan Horse Association Inc.**  
**L'Association des Chevaux Morgan Canadiens Inc.**

**The Canadian Morgan Horse Association Youth**

**Horsemastership Program**

*Let's Begin (10 & under)*



This Book Belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_.

Youth Club: \_\_\_\_\_.

CMHA # \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Canadian Morgan Horse Association Youth Horsemastership Levels**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the CMHAY is to instill in young people, pride in, enjoyment of, and knowledge about the Morgan Horse with the ultimate objective of educating future owners and breeders dedicated to preserving, improving, promoting and cherishing the Morgan breed. These objectives, incorporating the ideals and skills of horsemastership and management, sportsmanship, responsibility in citizenship, discipline and competence in leadership, will be pursued through active youth programs.

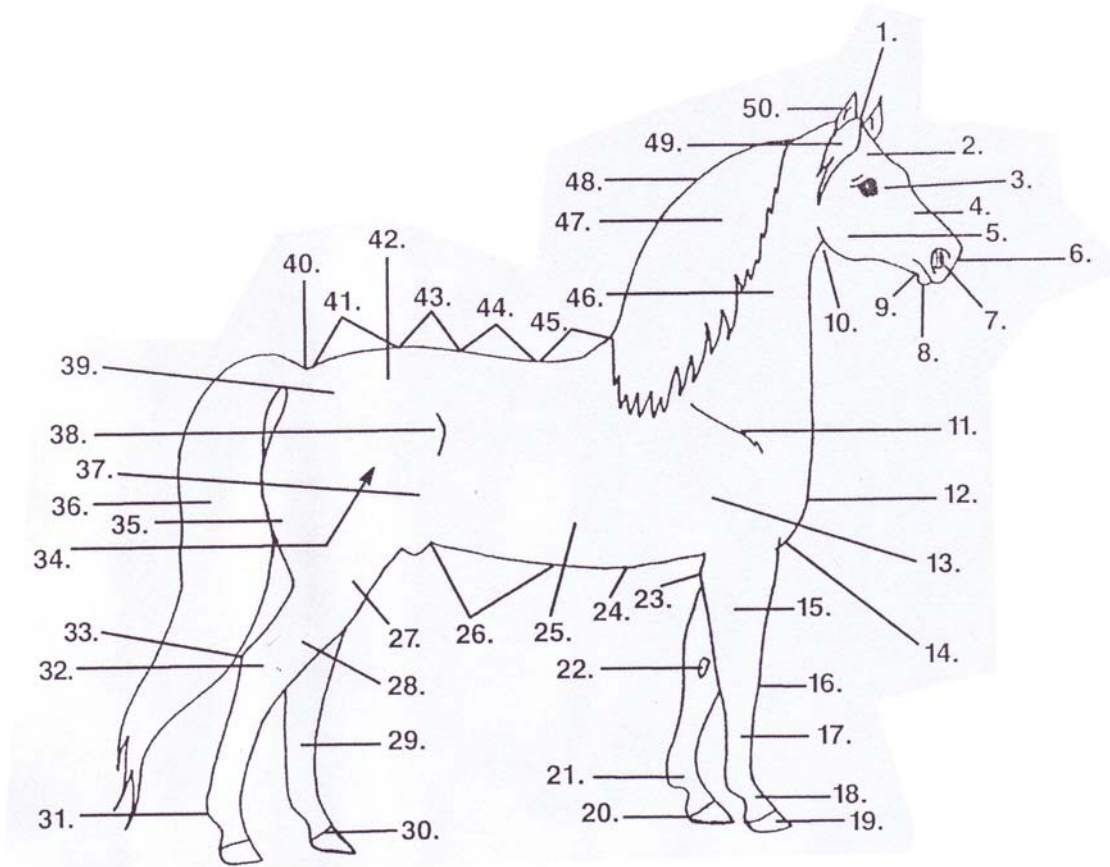
### **Rules**

1. The program is open to CMHAY members, 21 and under, who are interested in learning more about the Morgan and safe horsemanship.
2. The six levels are:
  1. Let's Begin (10 & under)
  2. Up & Coming
  3. Stepping Higher
  4. Almost There
  5. The Sky is the Limit
  6. On Your Way
3. Members may work in the levels in their youth clubs or as individual members. All work must be completed with a Morgan Horse. All lessons in the level do not need to be completed at the same time, but members must complete one level before progressing to the next.
4. The CMHAY will award pins to members who pass each level. If all levels are completed a certificate will be awarded to the individual. The individual's names will also be mentioned in the Canadian Morgan Magazine.
5. Tests for the levels are to be administered by local club leaders or qualified person(s) designated by the club. Tests for the top three levels must be administered by official horsemastership examiners. Official examiners must be appointed by the local club and approved of by the CMHA board and CMHA Youth Committee.

### **Instruction**

Every youth member should have their own copy of the Horsemastership level booklet, which may be obtained through the CMHA Office, Box 286, Port Perry, ON, L9L 1A3. Individuals are responsible for keeping their own records but leaders should also keep a record of each member's progress. When all the lessons for a level have been passed, the youth leader or examiner should send in the achievement report form to the CMHA office. Upon approval, pins will be sent to the leader for presentation. It is suggested that the pins be awarded to the member(s) at an appropriate ceremony.

**Lesson 1: Parts of the Horse**



Put the correct number in front of the correct part (not all numbers will be used):

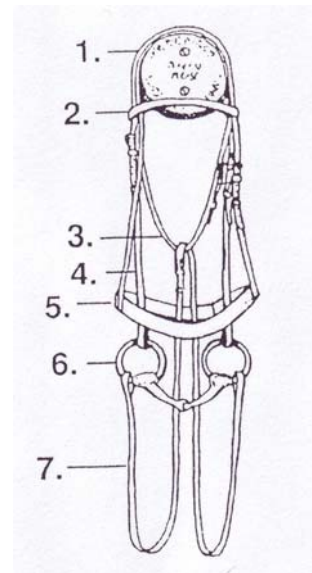
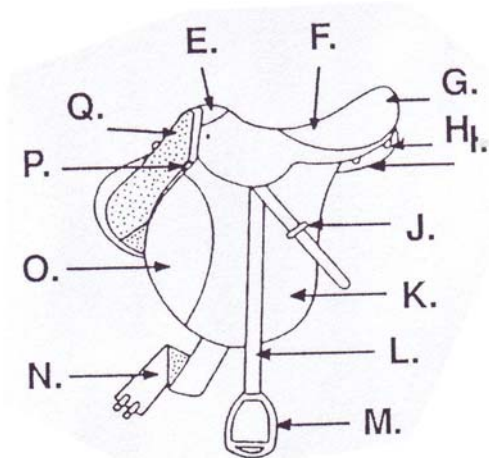
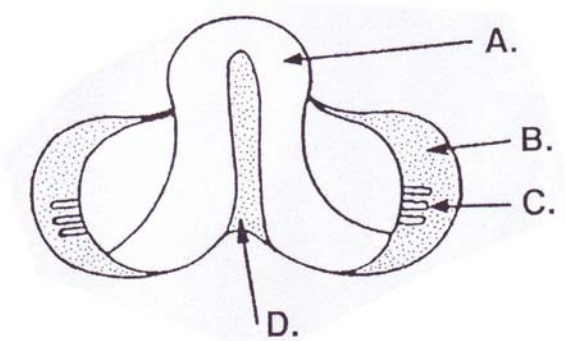
- |              |              |                 |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| ___ Back     | ___ Chestnut | ___ Forelock    |
| ___ Fetlock  | ___ Chest    | ___ Lip         |
| ___ Hoof     | ___ Forehead | ___ Nostril     |
| ___ Coronet  | ___ Flank    | ___ Eye         |
| ___ Crest    | ___ Forearm  | ___ Barrel      |
| ___ Muzzle   | ___ Hock     | ___ Mane        |
| ___ Jaw      | ___ Knee     | ___ Throatlatch |
| ___ Shoulder | ___ Ear      | ___ Face        |
| ___ Poll     | ___ Cannon   | ___ Buttock     |
| ___ Whithers | ___ Neck     |                 |
| ___ Tail     | ___ Heel     |                 |

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_ .

**To pass this lesson, you must point out these parts on a live horse.**

Let's Begin

**Lesson 2: Parts of English Tack**



Put the correct number in front of the correct part: (Some parts will have multiple letters)

Snaffle Bridle

- \_\_\_ Browband
- \_\_\_ Cheek Piece
- \_\_\_ Cavesson
- \_\_\_ Rein
- \_\_\_ Crown Piece
- \_\_\_ Throatlatch
- \_\_\_ Snaffle Bit

English Saddle

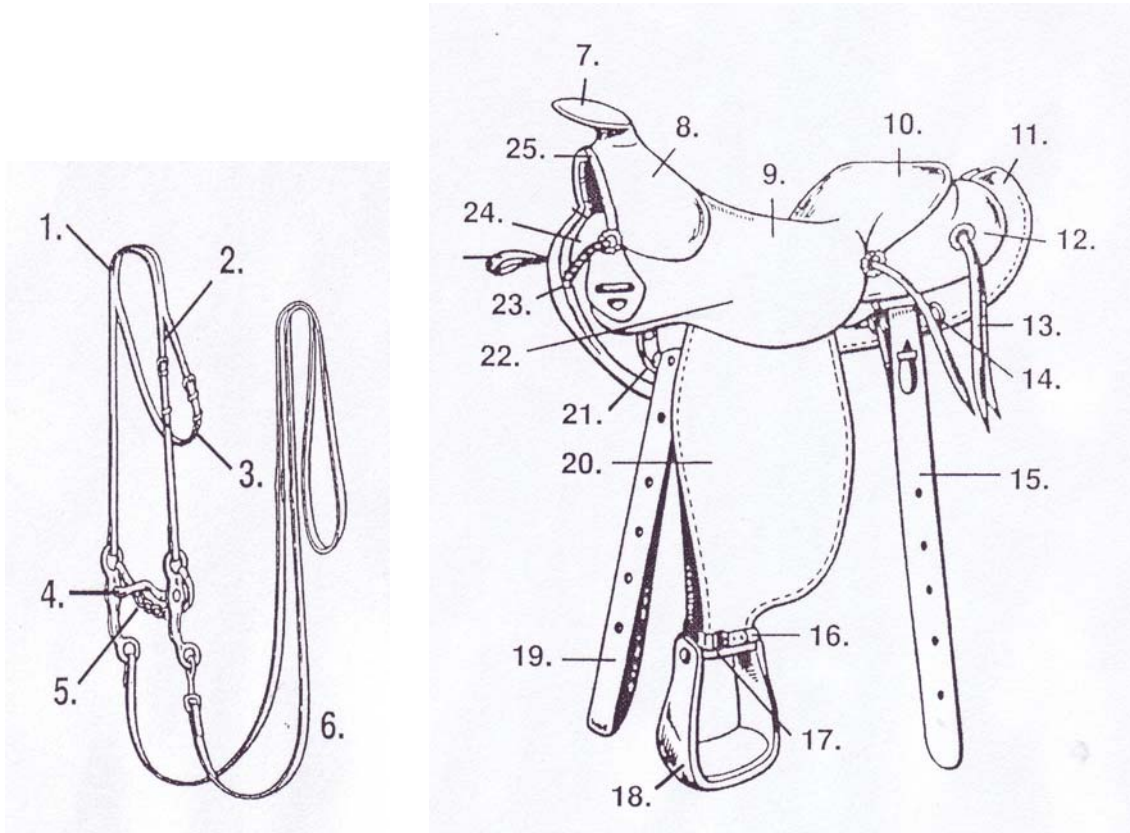
- \_\_\_ Panel
- \_\_\_ Billets
- \_\_\_ Head/Pommel
- \_\_\_ Cantle
- \_\_\_ Iron
- \_\_\_ Knee Roll/Flap Inlay
- \_\_\_ Skirt
- \_\_\_ Flap
- \_\_\_ Gullet
- \_\_\_ Seat
- \_\_\_ Girth
- \_\_\_ Stirrup Leather
- \_\_\_ Martingale Dees
- \_\_\_ Leather Keeper

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_ .

**To pass this lesson, you must point out these parts on a real saddle and bridle.**

Let's Begin

**Lesson 3: Parts of Western Tack**



Put the correct number in front of the correct part: (Some parts will have multiple numbers)

Western Curb Bridle

- \_\_\_ Crown Piece
- \_\_\_ Cheek Piece
- \_\_\_ Curb Chain
- \_\_\_ Throatlatch
- \_\_\_ Curb Bit
- \_\_\_ Rein

Western Saddle

- |                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| ___ Horn                   | ___ Cantle       |
| ___ Seat                   | ___ Pommel       |
| ___ Fender                 | ___ Stirrup      |
| ___ Back Jockey            | ___ Skirt        |
| ___ Lace string            | ___ Front Jockey |
| ___ Front Girth            | ___ Fork         |
| ___ Flank Girth Gillet     | ___ Dee Ring     |
| ___ Stirrup Leather        |                  |
| ___ Stirrup Leather Keeper |                  |

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_ .

**To pass this lesson, you must point out these parts on a real saddle and bridle.  
Let's Begin**

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## Lesson 4: Horse Terms

Define the following:

1. Mare: \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Gelding: \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Stallion: \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Filly: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Colt: \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Foal: \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Sire: \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Dam: \_\_\_\_\_.

Fill in the blank:

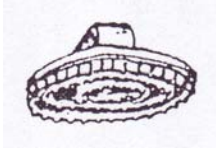
1. A Foal of either sex separated from it's dam, but not yet past December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year born: \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A foal still nursing: \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The build of a horse: \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The height of a horse is measured in \_\_\_\_\_ which is equal to 4 inches.
5. A horse that is 15.3 is actually \_\_\_\_\_ inches.
6. Morgan coat colours are usually: \_\_\_\_\_.
7. This piece of tack is put on the horse when catching, leading or handling him:  
\_\_\_\_\_.
8. Cleaning the horse is called: \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The piece of equipment that you put on a horse such as the saddle and the bridle are called: \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Name the gait that is a two beat diagonal gait: \_\_\_\_\_.

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Let's Begin

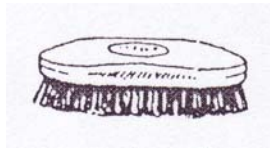
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## Lesson 5: Basic Grooming

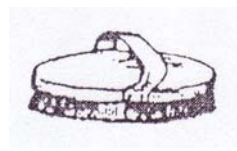
Identify the following pieces of grooming equipment:



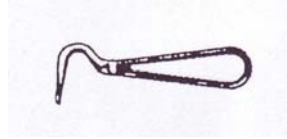
1. \_\_\_\_\_.



2. \_\_\_\_\_.



3. \_\_\_\_\_.



4. \_\_\_\_\_.



5. \_\_\_\_\_.



6. \_\_\_\_\_.



7. \_\_\_\_\_.



8. \_\_\_\_\_.



9. \_\_\_\_\_.

Basic Steps for Grooming:

1. Always begin grooming by picking out the \_\_\_\_\_ with a \_\_\_\_\_. Work downwards from the heel towards the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Take the curry comb or dandy brush and begin at the \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ side. Remove all caked dirt or sweat marks.
3. The softer \_\_\_\_\_ brush should be used next. Push the mane across to the other side and brush the crest. Return the mane and brush it carefully. Start at the poll and go over the entire body. Every few strokes clean the brush with the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Next comes the tail. Brush a \_\_\_\_\_ amount at a time.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ should be used to clean the eyes, muzzle and nostrils. The under side of the tail should also be sponged.

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_ .

**To pass this lesson you must demonstrate grooming a live horse.**

Let's Begin

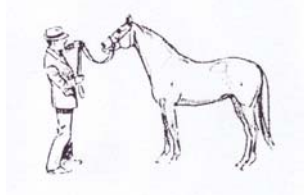
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## Lesson 6: Haltering, Leading and Posing

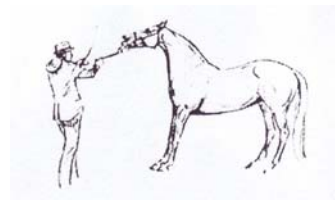
1. To put a halter on the horse, first slip the \_\_\_\_\_ of the halter over the muzzle. Next place the \_\_\_\_\_ over the ears.
2. The halter should fit comfortably over the nose and poll. You should not be able to put more than \_\_\_\_\_ fingers sideways between the nose and the noseband.
3. The noseband should be located about \_\_\_\_\_ fingers width below the facial ridge.
4. You should always lead from the \_\_\_\_\_ side. Your \_\_\_\_\_ hand is placed on the lead rope a short distance from the halter.
5. What should you do with the remaining portion of the lead rope?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
6. When setting up a horse, position his \_\_\_\_\_ legs first. Do this by backing up the horse one or two steps.
7. Keeping the hind legs in the same position, bring the front legs slightly forward by a signal from the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. For the line up In-hand: Which of the following positions is correct? \_\_\_\_\_.
9. What is wrong with the other diagrams?



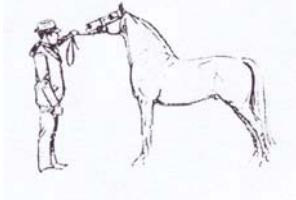
1. \_\_\_\_\_.



2. \_\_\_\_\_.



3. \_\_\_\_\_.



4. \_\_\_\_\_.

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_ .

**To pass this lesson you must demonstrate how to approach the horse, and put on a halter, how to lead and how to pose.**

Let's Begin

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**Lesson 7: How to Measure a Horse**

1. The height of the horse is measured in \_\_\_\_\_.

2. One hand is equal to \_\_\_\_\_.

3. A horse is measured from the ground to the top of the \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Why should you encourage a horse to drop his head when you measure the height?  
\_\_\_\_\_.

5. Change the following inches to hands:

8 inches = \_\_\_\_\_ hands

48 inches = \_\_\_\_\_ hands

56 inches = \_\_\_\_\_ hands

6. Change the following hands to inches:

14.1 hands = \_\_\_\_\_ inches

15 hands = \_\_\_\_\_ inches

15.2 hands = \_\_\_\_\_ inches

7. Draw a picture of a measuring stick that is used to measure the height of the horse.

8. What is considered the maximum height of a pony before it is called a horse?  
\_\_\_\_\_.

9. Demonstrate how to measure a horse.

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_ .

**To pass this lesson you must demonstrate how to measure a live horse.**

Let's Begin

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### Lesson 8: Stable Management & Daily Care

Everyday you should do the following:

1. Check horse to see that he has not been \_\_\_\_\_ during the night.
2. Check water to see \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Clean \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Feed at least \_\_\_\_\_ times daily.
5. G \_ \_ \_ \_ daily.
6. What should you do to the stall? \_\_\_\_\_.

Good Stable Management:

1. It is important for your horse to have regular check-ups with his doctor. His doctor is called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. It is also important to have your horse's feet cared for by his \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Your horse should eat a balanced diet of both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A horse's stall needs to be bedded with some type of material that will allow him to lie down, to keep him warm and to absorb moisture. Name at least 2 types of bedding:
  1. \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Demonstrate the correct way to clean a stall.

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_ .

**To pass this lesson you must demonstrate how to clean out a real horse's stall.**

Let's Begin

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## Lesson 9: Safety Rules

Answer the following questions with a “T” for true or an “F” for false.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Always speak to your horse before approaching or touching him.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Always approach your horse directly from the rear.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. When riding, wear boots with heels to prevent your feet from slipping through the stirrups.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. When leading your horse, walk directly in front of him so that he will follow you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. When leading your horse, take hold of his halter by the noseband.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. If the horse you are leading rears up, immediately let go of the lead with both hands.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Extra lead shank should be wrapped around your waist to prevent it from dragging on the ground.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Horses may be tied by either the lead shank or the reins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. If you can't reach the stirrup to mount, stand on a nearby fence.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Always check the girth shortly after starting the ride to make sure it is still tight.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. If your horse is frightened and starts to run, turn him in a tight circle until he stops.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. A blue ribbon tied to a tail indicates a kicker.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Always use a quick knot when tying a horse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. It is okay to let your horse eat grass when he has a bridle on.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. When loading your horse in a trailer, fasten the butt chain BEFORE tying the lead rope at the horse's head.

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Let's Begin

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## Lesson 10: Morgan Horse History Quiz

Fill in the blank with the correct answer.

1. The first Morgan Horse later became known as Justin Morgan, but he was named \_\_\_\_\_ by his owner.
2. Justin Morgan was what colour? \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Justin Morgan, the man, was a \_\_\_\_\_ and a signing master in New England.
4. The nickname given to the horse Justin Morgan because he worked so hard was \_\_\_\_\_.
5. No one really knows for sure, but many believe that Justin Morgan's sire was a thoroughbred and his dam was a (n) \_\_\_\_\_.
6. After pulling logs and ploughing fields all day, Justin Morgan and the other horses were matched in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ races.
7. Name 3 of Justin Morgan's famous sons: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. One of Justin Morgan's grandsons became one of the most popular horses of his day. He was jet black and sired over 1200 foals. Name him: \_\_\_\_\_.
9. This great-grandson of Justin Morgan became the world's fastest trotting stallion in 1867. Name him: \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The United States Government established a Morgan breeding farm in this state: \_\_\_\_\_.

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Let's Begin

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Summary	Date	Approved by (Initials)
Lesson 1: Parts of the Horse	_____.	
Lesson 2: Parts of English Tack	_____.	
Lesson 3: Parts of Western Tack	_____.	
Lesson 4: Horse Terms	_____.	
Lesson 5: Basic Grooming	_____.	
Lesson 6: Haltering, Leading and Posing	_____.	
Lesson 7: How to Measure a Horse	_____.	
Lesson 8: Stable Management & Daily Care	_____.	
Lesson 9: Safety Rules	_____.	
Lesson 10: Morgan Horse History Quiz	_____.	

Let's Begin

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## **The Morgan Horse**

### **First & Oldest American Breed**

Justin Morgan was a living legend. He was born in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1789. No one really knows for sure, but many think that his dam was an Arabian mare and that his sire was a Thoroughbred stallion. Justin Morgan was a small bay colt that didn't look like either of his parents. The name that he was given by his owner was Figure but as was the custom of the day, he soon became known by his owner's name, Justin Morgan.

The man Justin Morgan was a quiet-spoken school teacher and signing master. He and Figure left Massachusetts late in 1789 to try for a better fortune in Vermont. When Figure was old enough, he was put to work with other horses in the fields. Most of the horses that he worked with were much larger than he was. Figure always pulled with all his strength and soon earned the nickname `Little Giant`. One day Figure was hitched to a giant log that a draft horse could not budge. It took all his might but Figure was able to pull the log out of the woods. News of his feat spread far and wide.

After pulling logs and ploughing fields all day, Figure and the other horses were matched in trotting and running races. Again, Figure would not play second fiddle to the others. Though many were taller, Figure raced with all his heart and almost always finished first. The story about Figure out-running the best quarter-mile race in Vermont spread quickly through New England.

As more people heard about Figure's strength and speed they began to breed their mares to this outstanding stallion. Figure's sons and daughters all looked like their father and all had his same great disposition. They all loved people and tried their best to please. Three of his most famous sons were Bulrush, Woodbury and Sherman. They soon established their own long list of accomplishments and started siring foals of their own.

Justin Morgan's sons, daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were soon found in every state in New England. Whether they were working on the farm or proudly pulling carriages in the city parks, they became the most talked about horses of the day. When trotting races became popular in the 1800's the Morgan was there to claim his fame. One of the most famous Morgan trotters was Black Hawk, son of Sherman Morgan born in 1833. Black Hawk was jet black and noted for his sure beauty and speed at the trot. He was one of the most popular horses of his time and sired over 1200 foals.

One of Black Hawk's sons, Ethan Allen-50, became a national hero and the idol of millions. He was a beautiful bay with perfect action. He became the world's fastest trotting stallion in 1867 when he won a match race with the famous trotter Dexter.

In the mid 1800's gold was discovered in California. Many New England families packed their belongings and headed for California on their Morgan Horses. The trip was long and exhausting but as was his nature, the Morgan pushed on.

Let's Begin

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Then came the civil War (1861-1865) and Morgans were found bravely carrying their owners into battle. In fact, the famed Vermont Cavalry were all mounted on Morgan Horses. General Philip Sheridan, the most outstanding Cavalry officer from the north rode Rienzi, his favourite Morgan charger to many courageous victories.

In the Indian war, circa 1860s-1890s, Morgans again proved their strength and intelligence. Another fearless officer, Captain Michael Keog, rode his famous Morgan, Camanche to many outstanding victories. Comanche is recognized by historians as the symbol of the Battle of Little Big Horn and has reported to have been the only survivor.

In 1907, the United States government established a Morgan Breeding Farm in Middlebury, Vermont to produce superior Morgan stallions to be used by the United States Cavalry. The foundation sire of the farm was General Gates. Morgans did so well in endurance tests that the war department publically commended General Gates. This is an honour that has never before or since been given to any other stallion.

Present day Morgans have few wildernesses to conquer and few wars to win, but they are still accomplishing great deeds. Many are top show horses, trail horses or cutting horses. But even more are quietly and without fanfare teaching countless children to know and love a good horse. For there is no better teacher of gentleness, responsibility and good judgement than a good Morgan Horse.



Let's Begin

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**Bibliography:**

Special thanks to the American Morgan Horse Association Inc. Youth Horsemastership Program for use of the preceding information.