

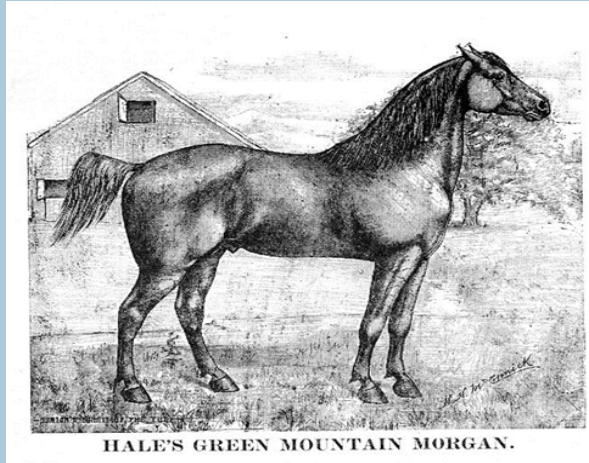


English II: Reading: Module 3: Practice 1: Section 2

Annotate and Analyze a Paired Passage Annotation

Instructions: Use the following texts to help you complete the lesson.

The Runaway by Robert Frost



Source: Halesgreenmountainmorgan1888, Dunton's Spirit of the Turf Magazine, Wikimedia

Once when the snow of the year was beginning to fall,
We stopped by a mountain pasture to say 'Whose colt?'
A little Morgan had one forefoot on the wall,
The other curled at his breast. He dipped his head
5 And snorted at us. And then he had to bolt.

We heard the miniature thunder where he fled,
And we saw him, or thought we saw him, dim and grey,
Like a shadow against the curtain of falling flakes.
"I think the little fellow's afraid of the snow."
10 He isn't winter-broken. It isn't play

With the little fellow at all. He's running away.
I doubt if even his mother could tell him, 'Sakes,
It's only weather'. He'd think she didn't know!
Where is his mother? He can't be out alone.
15 And now he comes again with a clatter of stone

And mounts the wall again with whited eyes
And all his tail that isn't hair up straight.
He shudders his coat as if to throw off flies.
"Whoever it is that leaves him out so late,
20 When other creatures have gone to stall and bin,
Ought to be told to come and take him in."



5 I could not believe such wickedness, and ran along the shore from rock to rock, crying on them piteously even after they were out of reach of my voice, I still cried and waved to them; and when they were quite gone, I thought my heart would have burst. All the time of my troubles I wept only twice. Once, when I could not reach the yard, and now, the second time, when these fishers turned a deaf ear to my cries. But this time I wept and roared like a wicked child, tearing up the turf with my nails, and grinding my face in the earth. If a wish would kill men, those two fishers would never have seen morning, and I should likely have died upon my island.

6 [David gets very sick from eating shellfish after this disappointment, but by evening he has recovered both physically and emotionally, and he feels somewhat more optimistic about his situation.]

7 The next day (which was the fourth of this horrible life of mine) I found my bodily strength run very low. But the sun shone, the air was sweet, and what I managed to eat of the shellfish agreed well with me and revived my courage.

8 I was scarce back on my rock (where I went always the first thing after I had eaten) before I observed a boat coming down the Sound, and with her head, as I thought, in my direction.

9 I began at once to hope and fear exceedingly; for I thought these men might have thought better of their cruelty and be coming back to my assistance. But another disappointment, such as yesterday's, was more than I could bear. I turned my back, accordingly, upon the sea, and did not look again till I had counted many hundreds. The boat was still heading for the island. The next time I counted the full thousand, as slowly as I could, my heart beating so as to hurt me. And then it was out of all question. She was coming straight to Earraid!

10 I could no longer hold myself back, but ran to the seaside and out, from one rock to another, as far as I could go. It is a marvel I was not drowned; for when I was brought to a stand at last, my legs shook under me, and my mouth was so dry, I must wet it with the sea-water before I was able to shout.

11 All this time the boat was coming on; and now I was able to perceive it was the same boat and the same two men as yesterday. This I knew by their hair, which the one had of a bright yellow and the other black. But now there was a third man along with them, who looked to be of a better class.

12 As soon as they were come within easy speech, they let down their sail and lay quiet. In spite of my **supplications**, they drew no nearer in. . . .



Source: Hendrik Willem Mesdag - Vissersschepen in de branding, H. W. Mesdag.

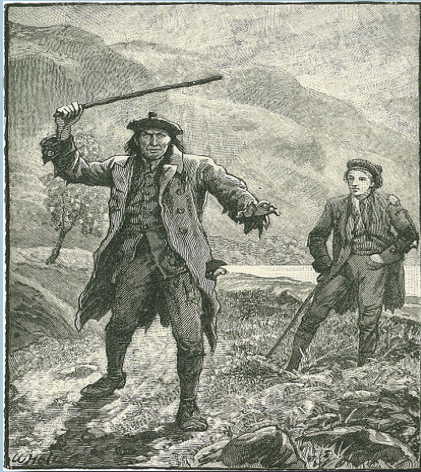


13 [The third man tries to talk with David from the boat but is talking mostly in Gaelic rather than English; therefore, David cannot understand him. Finally David hears the English word “whatever,” so he says the word back to make the third man understand that he speaks English.]

14 “Whatever,” said I, to show him I had caught a word.

15 “Yes, yes—yes, yes,” says he, and then he looked at the other men, as much as to say, “I told you I spoke English,” and began again as hard as ever in the Gaelic.

16 This time I picked out another word, “tide.” Then I had a flash of hope. I remembered he was always waving his hand towards the mainland of the Ross.



Source: Kidnapped p144 (WBHole), William Brassey Hole, Wikimedia

17 “Do you mean when the tide is out—?” I cried, and could not finish.

18 “Yes, yes,” said he. “Tide.”

19 At that I turned tail upon their boat, . . . leaped back the way I had come, from one stone to another, and set off running across the isle as I had never run before. In about half an hour I came out upon the shores of the creek; and, sure enough, it was shrunk into a little trickle of water, through which I dashed, not above my knees, and landed with a shout on the main island.

20 [David is now safely off the island where he thought he was stranded. As he reflects on what happened, he thinks how a “sea-bred boy,” someone who had grown up near the sea, would not have let himself be fooled into thinking he was stranded. Anyone who knew about sea islands would know that many of them are connected to the mainland at low tide and would have taken the trouble to see if this was one of them. David realizes that he was very aware of the tide because he waited for low tide to gather shellfish to eat. If he had only “sat down to think” instead of “raging against [his] fate,” he is sure that he would have “soon guessed the secret, and got free.” He regrets having been so impatient with the fishers for not understanding him, thinking that it is remarkable (and lucky) that they were willing to come back and help him escape from his “pitiful illusion.” If they had not “taken the trouble” to help him he thinks he might have died on the island “in pure folly,” never realizing that safety was within easy reach.]