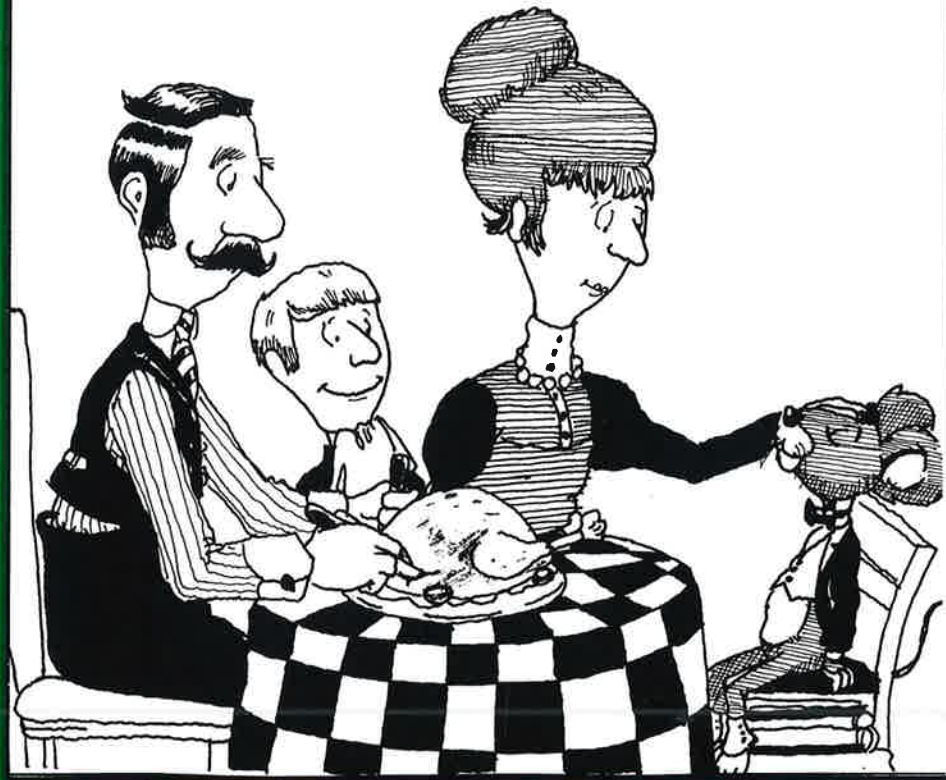


Novel·Ties

Stuart Little

E.B.White



A Study Guide

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CHAPTERS I, II

Vocabulary: Draw a line from each word on the left to its definition on the right. Then use the numbered words to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. shinnying | a. baby |
| 2. infant | b. cause of trouble, difficulty, or bother |
| 3. unsuitable | c. unfit; not appropriate |
| 4. perspiration | d. dare to proceed |
| 5. inconvenience | e. come out of |
| 6. emerge | f. climbing by holding tight and drawing oneself up |
| 7. belittling | g. sweat |
| 8. venture | h. making seem little or less important |

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- If you _____ out on thin ice, you risk falling through.
- The sun will soon _____ from behind that cloud.
- The boy went _____ up the tree.
- The runner's forehead was damp with _____.
- They made _____ comments about your success because they were jealous.
- My daughter has outgrown her _____ clothes.
- A box of candy is a(n) _____ gift for someone who is on a diet.
- I hope that dropping this package off for me isn't too much of a(n) _____ for you.

Questions:

- What is so unusual about Mrs. Little's second son?
- What adjustments does the family have to make to accommodate Stuart's small size?
- How does Stuart retrieve his mother's ring from the drain? What does this suggest about him?

CHAPTERS III - V

Vocabulary: Use the context to determine the meaning of the underlined word in each of the following sentences. Then find the exact meaning in a dictionary.

1. I do sit-ups to tighten my abdominal muscles.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

2. We plan to construct a raft of logs fastened with rope.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

3. The children watched the circus acrobats swing on the trapeze.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

4. After stocking up on food, she put it away in the pantry.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

5. He gave a vigorous pull on the line to bring up the huge fish.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

6. She restored an old, discarded desk she found in the junkyard.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

7. In an exasperated tone of voice, the teacher told the student for the tenth time to stop talking out of turn.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

CHAPTERS VI, VII

Vocabulary: Synonyms are words with similar meanings. Draw a line from each word in column A to its synonym in column B. Then use the words in column A to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
1. gait	a. alarm
2. sauntered	b. threatening
3. diminutive	c. tiny
4. detestable	d. observed
5. consternation	e. footstep
6. ominous	f. strolled
7. perceived	g. hateful

-
- To our _____ the child darted out in front of the speeding car.
 - I soon _____ that I could not make him change his mind.
 - He walked with a springy _____.
 - The sky looked very _____ just before the storm broke.
 - Murder is a(n) _____ crime, usually punished by lengthy imprisonment.
 - People _____ through the park on summer evenings.
 - A baby has _____ hands and feet.

Questions:

- Why doesn't Stuart pay any fare on buses?
- When Stuart offers the conductor a tiny dime, the conductor says that Stuart is no bigger than a dime himself. How does Stuart react to this? What does this reveal about Stuart?
- What deal does the owner of the Wasp strike up with Stuart?
- Why does the sailboat race attract such a big crowd at the pond?
- In what way does the policeman's falling into the pond create a problem for Stuart?

CHAPTERS VIII - X

Vocabulary: Use a word from the Word Box to replace each underlined word or phrase in the following sentences. Write the word you choose on the line below the sentence.

WORD BOX		
buoys	decent	obliged
penetrate	perish	scow

- Flowers die when frost comes.

- The garbage was carried away on a large boat with a flat bottom.

- The captain steered his ship away when he saw the floating objects to warn against hidden rocks or shallows.

- The sound of the baby's cry was loud enough to pierce through the thin wall.

- We are put under a debt of thanks to you for your help.

- She gets fairly good grades in school.

Questions:

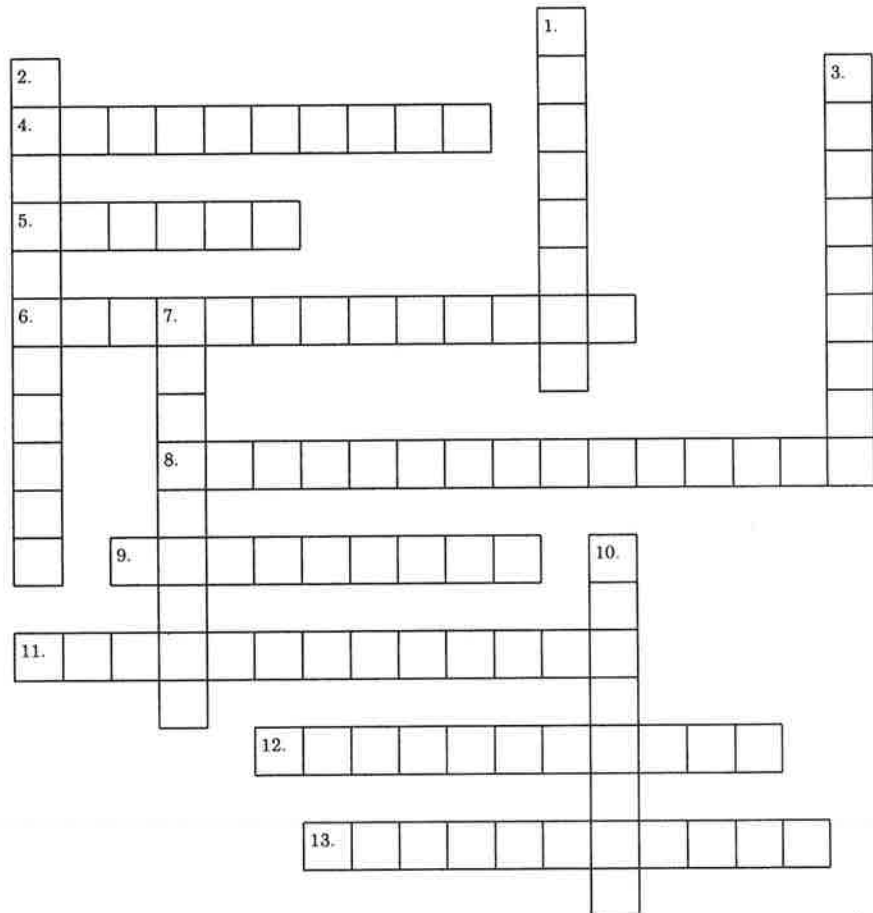
- How does Stuart come down with bronchitis?
- What are Stuart's feelings for Margalo? How does he show his feelings?
- What does Stuart call the "finest thing I have ever done"? In what way is this statement accurate?
- How does Stuart get trapped on a garbage scow?
- How does Margalo save Stuart's life?
- What reason does Snowbell give the Angora for not eating Stuart or Margalo? What other reason might he have?
- Why does Margalo leave?

CHAPTERS XI, XII

Vocabulary: Use the words in the Word Box and the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.

WORD BOX

abomination
accessories
exertion
expectancy
inquiries
irritably
jauntily
objectionable
pariah
punctured
reminiscently
temperament
underprivileged

**Across**

4. anticipation
5. any person or animal generally despised
6. as if recalling past events
8. having fewer advantages than others
9. impatiently
11. unpleasant
12. something that causes strong disgust
13. extra clothing or equipment to help in a secondary way

Down

1. with style or verve
2. person's nature
3. made a hole in with something pointed
7. questions
10. strenuous action; effort

CHAPTERS XIII - XV

Vocabulary: Antonyms are words with opposite meanings. Draw a line from each word in column A to its antonym in column B. Then use the words in column A to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
1. ruinous	a. public
2. prominent	b. important
3. confidential	c. helpful
4. bluntly	d. barren
5. petty	e. rude
6. tranquil	f. unknown
7. courteous	g. stormy
8. rank	h. tactfully

-
1. Try not to get upset over _____ disturbances.
 2. You run the risk of insulting someone if you answer a question _____.
 3. People enjoy shopping at a store if the clerks are _____.
 4. Our mayor is a(n) _____ citizen in this city.
 5. Viewing the _____ mountain stream never fails to relax me.
 6. The heavy frost in late spring was _____ to the crops.
 7. The neglected garden was _____ with weeds.
 8. To make sure the doctor's files were kept _____, they were stored in locked cabinets.

Questions:

1. Why does the storekeeper think that Stuart should meet Harriet Ames?
2. Why does Stuart write to Harriet instead of talking to her in person? Why does he call his letter "offensive"?

CLOZE ACTIVITY

The following passage has been taken from Chapter XIV of the novel. Read it through completely and then fill in each blank with a word that makes sense. Afterwards you may compare your language with that of the author.

The next day dawned cloudy. Stuart had to go up to the _____¹ to have the oil changed in his _____,² so he hid the canoe under some _____,³ tied it firmly to a stone, and _____⁴ off on his errand, still thinking about _____⁵ and wishing it were a nicer day. _____⁶ sky looked rainy.

Stuart returned from the _____⁷ with a headache, but he hoped that _____⁸ would be better before five o'clock. He _____⁹ rather nervous, as he had never taken _____¹⁰ girl canoeing before. He spent the afternoon _____¹¹ around camp, trying on different shirts to _____¹² which looked best on him and combing _____¹³ whiskers. He would no sooner get a _____¹⁴ shirt on than he would discover that _____¹⁵ was wet under the arms, from nervous _____,¹⁶ and he would have to change it _____¹⁷ a dry one. He put on a _____¹⁸ shirt at two o'clock, another at three _____,¹⁹ and another at quarter past four. This _____²⁰ up most of the afternoon. As five _____²¹ drew near, Stuart grew more and more _____.²² He kept looking at his watch, glancing _____²³ the path, combing his hair, talking to _____,²⁴ and fidgeting. The day had turned chilly _____²⁵ Stuart was almost sure that there was _____²⁶ to be rain. He couldn't imagine what _____²⁷ would do if it should rain just _____²⁸ Harriet Ames showed up to go canoeing.

At _____²⁹ five o'clock arrived. Stuart heard someone coming _____³⁰ the path. It was Harriet. She had _____³¹ his invitation. Stuart threw himself down against _____³² stump and tried to strike an easy _____,³³ as though he were accustomed to taking _____³⁴ out. He waited till Harriet was within a few feet of him, then got up.