### WEEK 1

#### Characters:

**Horses:**
1. Black Beauty/Black Auster/Jack/Darkie—Black Beauty is a noble horse brought up to do his best in all situations. We will call him Black Beauty or just Beauty throughout these lesson plans.
2. Duchess/Pet—Beauty’s mother, who encourages Beauty to be good from a young age.
3. Rob Roy—A fellow black horse from Beauty’s original farm.
4. Ginger—An aggressive horse due to improper, neglectful, and even cruel care during her early life.
6. Sir Oliver—A horse whose tail had been removed, following fashion.
7. Peggy—A cab horse who cannot run so fast due to her short legs.
8. Captain—A former army horse who had witnessed horrors while being used for battle.

**People:**
1. Farmer Grey—Beauty’s first owner.
2. John Manly—A coachman who treats his horses with care and respect.
5. Earl of W—An unnamed Lord who uses Beauty as a carriage horse.
6. Reuben Smith—A father of six who is destroyed by alcoholism.
7. Mr. Barry—A man who tries to treat horses well, but lacks knowledge on horse care.
8. Filcher—Barry’s horse groom who steals food from the stable.
10. Jakes—An owner who uses Beauty as a workhorse, forcing him to carry heavy loads.
11. Nicholas Skinner—A ruthless cab horse driver who mistreats his horses and wears them out with heavy loads and lack of rest.
12. Farmer Throughgood—A kind owner who makes Beauty young again.

#### Memory Gem:

“By giving way to such passion you injure your own character.”

#### Readings and Assignments:

**BB**

- **Read Chapter 1 - Chapter 11.** Read each chapter, then answer its study questions. Do the written assignment on Thursday. **Written Assignment:** Anna Sewell used personification—a literary device that gives human characteristics to things that are not human—as a way of telling her story from the horse’s point of view. Choose an animal and tell your own short, autobiographical story from the animal’s point of view using personification. (minimum, 1 paragraph)

**MON to WED**

- **Read Chapter 1 - Chapter 11.** Black Beauty begins his life happily. He enjoys gentle hands, good food, and plenty of pasture. He witnesses his first tragic scene at a young age, and the Squire loses his son. Black Beauty is broken in gently by knowledgeable hands. He is sold to someone he expects to take as much care with Black Beauty as he did himself. Black Beauty is surprised at some of the stories he hears from Ginger and some of the other horses.

**Vocabulary:**

See equipment for horses diagram at the end of the course plan, before the assignment answer key.

**Study Questions for Chapter 1**
1. The **protagonist** is the main character with whom we should identify in the story. Who is the protagonist in this story?
2. Who is telling the story?
3. How can he tell the story?
4. What was Black Beauty’s early home like?
5. How did the people treat Black Beauty here?
6. What happened when a boy was cruel to the horses?

**Study Questions for Chapter 2:**
1. What tragedy happened during the hunt?
2. What happened to Rob Roy?

**Study Questions for Chapter 3:**
1. What does it mean to break in a horse?
2. How was Black Beauty broken in?

**Study Questions for Chapter 4:**
1. Who bought Black Beauty?
2. What other horses lived with Black Beauty?
3. What was life like there?

**Study Questions for Chapter 5 & 6:**
1. Compare/Contrast Black Beauty’s life now with his life when he was young.

**Study Questions for Chapter 7:**
1. Why was Ginger so mean?

**Study Questions for Chapter 8:**
1. What did cruelty to Ginger do for her?
2. What did kindness to Ginger do for her?
3. What were the Birtwick Horseballs?

**Study Questions for Chapter 9:**
1. What do you think about what Merrylegs did to the boys?

**Study Questions for Chapter 10:**
1. What happened to Sir Oliver’s tail?
2. What did the horses think about ear and tail docking?
3. How do you feel about it?
4. How did the horses feel about blinkers?

**Study Questions for Chapter 11:**
1. What did the pony’s driver think about the pony turning when they were going straight?
2. What did he do about it?
3. What did Squire Gordon think about the pony turning when they were going straight?
4. What did Squire Gordon chastise Captain Langley about?

**THUR** Complete the written assignment (see above) in a minimum of 1 paragraph, due Monday.