

# America the Beautiful

Literature Review Questions

Mary Evelyn McCurdy



America the Beautiful  
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by Mary Evelyn McCurdy

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You may make copies of this file for each of your children  
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## Questions on *The Sign of the Beaver*

1. Why did Matt have to stay alone in the cabin for the summer?

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2. Why did Attean's grandfather start sending him to Matt's cabin every day?

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3. What did Matt learn from Attean?

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4. What were the differences in Matt and Attean's perspectives on owning land?

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5. Why was Matt's family delayed in coming to join him at the cabin?

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## Questions on *Amos Fortune: Free Man*

1. How did Amos Fortune learn to read?

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2. Who did Amos look for among the slaves he saw?

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3. How did Amos learn the tanning trade?

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4. What did Amos do for Lila, Lydia, and Violet?

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5. Why do you think Amos was able to fulfill his dream of having a family and a farm, and gain the respect of others?

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## Questions on *Brady*

1. Why did Brady's father not trust him with secrets?

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2. What significant topic did Brady's mother and father disagree about?

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3. What discovery did Brady make in his father's Sermon House?

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4. What did a group of church members do after Brady's father preached against slavery?

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5. Why do you think Brady decided to take the risk of transporting Moss to the next Underground Railroad station?

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## Questions on *Bound for Oregon*

1. What was Mary Ellen's father's trade in Arkansas?

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2. To whom was Mary Ellen especially sad to say goodbye when her family left for Oregon?

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3. What happened to the Todds' cow Daisy as they crossed a river?

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4. What did Mary Ellen's parents name their baby son who was born along the way?

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5. What attitude did the Todd family have when they reached their destination in Oregon?

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## Questions on *Across Five Aprils*

1. Who was Shadrach Yale?

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2. What did Jethro's brothers John and Bill disagree about?

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3. Why did Jethro have to take on so much responsibility on his family's farm?

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4. Why did Jethro write to Abraham Lincoln?

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5. Describe two of the ways you think Jethro changed and matured because of what he experienced during the years of the war.

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## Questions on *Little Town On the Prairie*

1. What was Laura's first job in town?

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2. The Ingalls family wanted Mary to be able to go where?

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3. What were some of Eliza Jane Wilder's mistakes in teaching the school in De Smet?

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4. Where did Ma write down a short poem about being careful how you speak?

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5. What happened as a result of Laura's performance at the school exhibition?

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## Questions on *All-of-a-Kind Family*

1. What arrangement did Sarah and the Library Lady make for paying for the lost book?

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2. How did the girls get twelve books to keep?

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3. Why did the All-of-a-Kind family observe the Sabbath and the holidays of Yom Kippur, Purim, Passover, and Succos?

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4. Why was Henny the only daughter who could fully observe the Passover?

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5. After the birth of her first son, Mama said that they were still an all-of-a-kind family. In what ways did she say they were still all-of-a-kind?

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## Questions on *Blue Willow*

1. How did Janey come to have a blue willow plate?

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2. Why did Janey's family move from place to place?

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3. How did the class at Camp Miller School get books to read?

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4. How did Bounce Reyburn cheat the Larkin family and Mr. Anderson?

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5. What do you think the blue willow plate represented to Janey?

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## Questions on *Homer Price*

1. What business did Homer Price's family run?

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2. How did Homer and his friends Freddy and Louis help the "super hero" Super-Duper?

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3. Homer's Uncle Ulysses had a weakness for what?

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4. What did Mr. Michael Murphy charge the town of Centerburg thirty dollars to do?

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5. What did Uncle Ulysses suggest that Miss Enders put on her property instead of what she was originally planning?

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## Questions on *Katy*

1. What big decision did the Porter family face throughout the book?

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2. What was Katy worried about concerning homeschooling?

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3. What was Katy's dad's occupation?

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4. How did Katy and her siblings get locked out of their house?

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5. How did Katy feel after her friend Chinway told her she was lucky to be homeschooled?

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