Lesson 1

THE NEW PONY

Let's visit Apple Tree Farm. There are Mrs Boot and Mr Boot, the farmers. They have got two children called Tom and Sam and a dog called Poppy. Once Mr Boot, Tom and Sam went for a walk. Suddenly they saw a new **pony**¹.

'She belongs to Mr Stone, who has just bought Old Gate Farm,' said Dad.

The pony looked sad. Her coat was $rough^2$ and $dirty^3$. She looked hungry.

'She is not very friendly,' said Tom.

'Mr Stone says she is bad-tempered,' said Mr Boot.

Sam decided to *feed*⁴ the pony. Every day he brought her apples and carrots. But she always stayed on the other side of the *gate*⁵. One day Sam went to visit the pony with Tom. But they couldn't see the pony anywhere.

'Where is she?' asked Sam.

Tom and Sam opened the gate. Poppy ran into the field. Tom and Sam were a bit scared.

'We must find the pony,' said Sam.

'There she is,' said Tom.

The pony caught her *head collar*⁶ in the *fence*⁷. She was eating the grass on the other side when the children saw her.

Tom and Sam ran home to Mr Boot.

'Please, come and help us, Dad,' said Tom. She will hurt' herself.'

Mr Boot came up to the pony and helped her.

'She is not hurt,' said Dad.

'It's all right, she just wants to be friends,' said Tom.

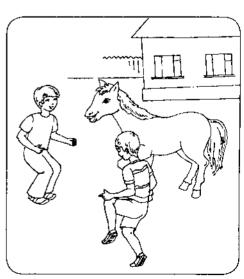
Suddenly they saw an angry⁹ man.

'Leave my pony alone,' said Mr Stone. 'And get out of my field.'

He waved his stick.

'Oh, you mustn't hit the pony,' he cried.

'Come on, Tom,' said Mr Boot. 'Let's go home.'



Next day there was a nice surprise for Tom and Sam. The pony appeared at Apple Tree Farm.

'We've bought her for you,' said Mrs Boot.

Their children were very glad to have a new friend.

- а ропу поні (маленьке лоша) 1
- 2 rough [rʌf] — скуйовджений, нечесаний
- dirty ['da:tɪ] брудний 3
- to feed (fed, fed) годувати, давати їсти . 4
- 5 а gate — ворота
- 6 a head collar - ошийник
- 7 а fence — огорожа
- to hurt [ha:t] (hurt, hurt) поранити, ушкодити 8
- angrv злий 9

Remember!

- to look sad мати засмучений вигляд
- to look hungry мати голодний вигляд
- to be bad-tempered бути неслухняним
- to be a bit scared бути трохи наляканим
- to leave (left, left) sb alone залишити (когось) у спокої
- to wave one's stick махати палицею

Checking Comprehension Exercises

Choose the correct variant. Ex. 1.

- 1. Mrs Boot and Mr Boot, the farmers, have got...
 - a) two daughters b) two sons
- c) a son and a daughter
- One day Mr Boot and his sons saw... 2.
 - a) a cow
- b) a dog

c) a pony

- 3. The pony belonged to...
 - a) Mr Smith
- b) Mr Stone
- c) Mrs Johnson

- The pony looked... 4.
 - a) sad and hungry b) happy
- c) clean and tidy

- The pony is... 5.
 - a) good-tempered b) bad-tempered
- c) indifferent
- 6. Every day Sam brought her...
 - a) cabbage
- b) onions
- c) apples and carrots
- 7. Children couldn't see the pony anywhere because she...
 - a) ran into the wood

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