



ANNIE OAKLEY

Annie Oakley was born in Ohio on August 13, 1860. Her parents were poor Quakers who lived on a small farm. Annie learned to trap animals and do chores. In 1866, her father died. When she was eight, her mom sent her to work for a neighbor. She learned to embroider and sew from the neighbor's wife.

After two years, she ran away. Annie came back to the farm. Her family could not pay the bills and did not have money to pay for the farm. Annie went to work, hunting animals to sell to restaurants and hotels. She was very good at trapping animals, and she could shoot well. Soon she earned enough money to buy the family farm.

People heard stories about Annie and her gun. The manager of one of the hotels was in charge of a shooting contest. He asked Annie to enter the contest. She and her brother saved \$50.00 to enter the contest. Annie won the contest by one shot. She beat a famous shooter named Frank Butler. He could not believe how well she could shoot a gun. He asked her to marry him, and she did.

Annie and Frank spent 15 years acting in Wild West shows. Annie Oakley was a great actress. She was the star of the show. Frank was her manager. She could shoot a hole in a card from ninety feet away. She could shoot an apple off her dog's head. She could even shoot a cigarette out of Frank's mouth! Annie could shoot faster than any man for miles around.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What was Annie's childhood like?
 - a. interesting and full of adventures
 - b. easy and fun
 - c. very difficult and full of hard work
 - d. gentle and proper
2. From the passage, it is safe to guess that ...
 - a. Annie had a good education.
 - b. Annie trusted herself with a gun.
 - c. Annie loved to clean house.
 - d. Annie was lazy.
3. Annie showed us that ...
 - a. riding horses was a good skill to have.
 - b. if you want something bad enough, you will work hard to get it.
 - c. acting was the best choice of careers.
 - d. none of the above.
4. We know that Annie cared about her family because ...
 - a. she taught her sisters to embroider.
 - b. she read to her family.
 - c. she made enough money to buy the farm for her family.
 - d. she trapped with her brother.