

## Horse Ag Mag - Vocabulary

**Directions:** Read each item. Choose the word that would best complete the sentence.

1

The study of horses is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- A Biology
- B Hippology
- C Etymology
- D Equinology

2

A filly is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A A young female horse.
- B A male horse used for breeding.
- C A horse between 1 and 2 years old.
- D A baby horse.

3

Equipment, such as saddles and brushes, used to ride and care for horses, is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- A Mare
- B Mount
- C Tack
- D Hand

4

There are over 300 \_\_\_\_\_(s) of horses that are categorized into four groups.

- A Mount
- B Equine
- C Herd
- D Breed

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**Directions:** Read each item. Choose the word that would best complete the sentence.

5

If you are trying to measure the height of a horse, you need to use \_\_\_\_\_, not inches.

- A Feet
- B Yards
- C Hands
- D Meters

6

Equine is the scientific name for all hoofed mammals including \_\_\_\_\_.

- A Horses
- B Mules
- C Donkeys
- D All of the Above

7

A mustang is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A A young male horse
- B A male horse used for breeding
- C A male horse that is not used for breeding
- D A wild horse of the Western Plains.

8

A baby horse is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

- A Colt
- B Foal
- C Mare
- D Filly

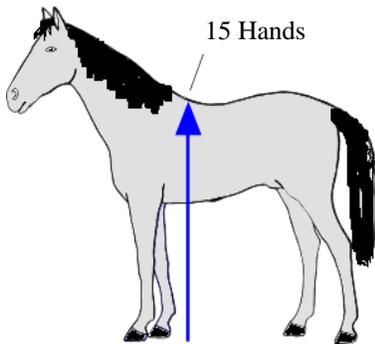
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Horse Ag Mag - Math - Measurements

**Directions:** Carefully look at each horse and read the measurement from its withers (shoulder blades) to the ground. Each measurement will ask you to either determine how many “hands” tall the horse is or to convert hands into feet and inches.

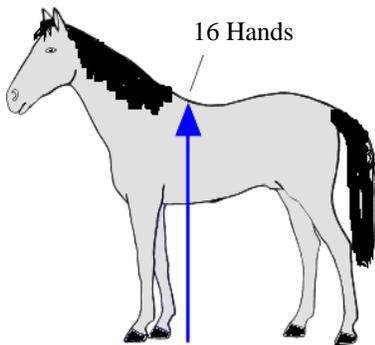
**Important things to know:** In the horse world a “hand” is equal to 4 inches. There are 12 inches in a foot.

**Example:**



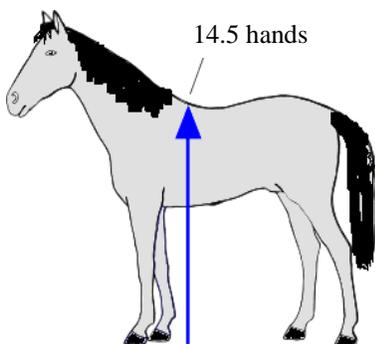
This horse is 15 hands tall, convert this measurement into feet and inches. Answer: 5 feet tall

Solution:  $15 \text{ hands} \times 4 \text{ inches} = 60 \text{ inches}$   
 $60 \text{ inches} \div 12 \text{ inches} = 5 \text{ feet tall at the withers}$



1. This horse is 16 hands tall, convert this measurement into feet and inches. Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Show Your Work Here:

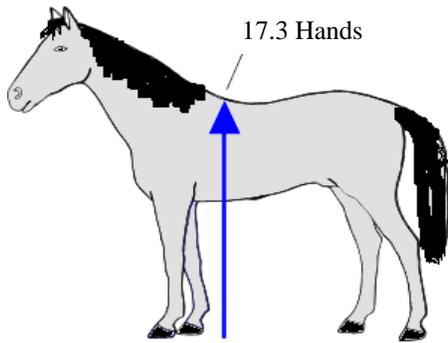


2. This horse is 14.5 hands tall, convert this measurement into feet and inches. Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Show Your Work Here:

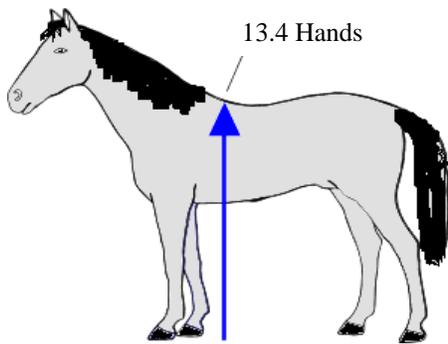
3. Thoroughbred horses have long legs and are tall. From the pictures and measurement above, which horse do you feel could be classified as a Thoroughbred due to its height? \_\_\_\_\_

## Horse Ag Mag - Math - Measurements



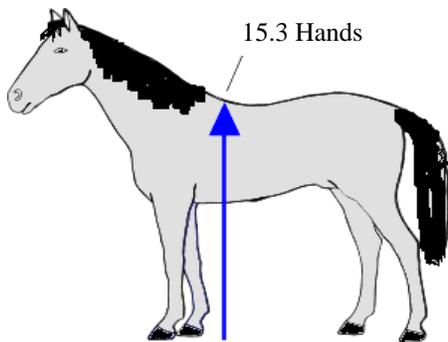
4. This horse is 17.3 hands tall, convert this measurement into feet and inches. Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Show Your Work Here:



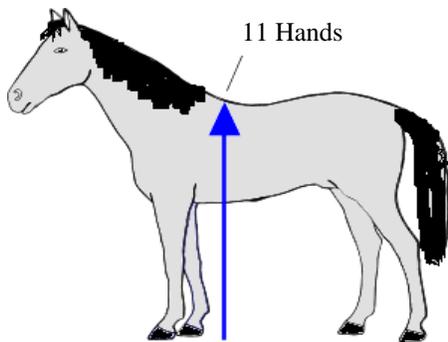
5. This horse is 13.4 hands tall, convert this measurement into feet and inches. Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Show Your Work Here:



6. This horse is 15.3 hands tall, convert this measurement into feet and inches. Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Show Your Work Here:



7. This horse is 11 hands tall, convert this measurement into feet and inches. Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Show Your Work Here:

8. If a horse is 5 feet 2 inches from the ground to the withers, how many hands tall is the horse? \_\_\_\_\_

(Hint just reverse the math equation but don't forget to put it into inches before you divide.)

## Horse Ag Mag - Reading Passage

### *The Pony Express*

<sup>1</sup> In the 1860s there were no such things as cell phones and computers for email. Imagine living on the west coast of the United States and trying to get important information to the east coast. Communication in the time of the 1860s was virtually impossible. It took a post card more than a month to travel across the states. Most mail was delivered with the help of covered wagons pulled by horses or mules. Weather conditions and threats of attack only made delivering the mail more difficult and slower.

<sup>2</sup> The idea of an express mail system was developed by William Russell, Alexander Majors, and William Waddell. The three men were promised a million dollar grant from the United States government to start the mail system that would help the government communicate faster.

<sup>3</sup> The Pony Express was set up to be a horse relay. The goal of the Pony Express was to keep the mail moving day and night. It allowed mail to travel from the East to California in just eight days compared to the months it had taken before.

<sup>4</sup> The relay system worked by having each rider and horse gallop at high rates of speed for distances of ten to fifteen miles. It was believed that most horses traveled at about 10 mph. At each stop a rider would receive a fresh horse and continue on. There was said to be about 165 relay stations and each rider was to stop at six to eight stations before they turned the mail over to a new rider.

<sup>5</sup> The men and horses worked as a team to ensure that the mail was delivered quickly and safely. The fastest delivery was said to contain President Lincoln's inaugural speech, and it took 7 days and 17 hours.

## Horse Ag Mag - Reading Passage

**Directions:** Read each questions and choose the best answer.

1

Why was the Pony Express created?

- A To allow people to be able to send mail.
- B To make it safer to send mail.
- C To create a faster way to deliver mail.
- D To create more jobs for people in California.

2

The fastest delivery recorded by the Pony Express was delivering what piece of information?

- A A telegram containing important Civil War information.
- B An important weather forecast.
- C A check for William Russell.
- D President Lincoln's inaugural speech.

3

How many relay stations were set up for the Pony Express riders?

- A 155
- B 160
- C 165
- D 175

4

Which of the following men was **NOT** involved in the creation of the Pony Express?

- A William Russell
- B Abraham Lincoln
- C Alexander Majors
- D William Waddell

## Horse Ag Mag - Reading Passage

**Directions:** Read each question and choose the best answer.

5

What does “virtually” mean as it is used in paragraph 1?

- A Not able to happen.
- B Almost but not quite.
- C Can not happen without help.
- D Completed.

6

**True or False** The Pony Express was set up to be a relay system that kept the riders going day and night.

- A True
- B False

7

What word could replace “developed” in paragraph 2?

- A Defeated
- B Disregarded
- C Established
- D Separated

8

This writing is best described as which of the following writing styles?

- A Nonfiction
- B Fiction
- C Humor
- D Biography

### Extended Response

Horses have been useful animals for thousands of years. Explain how humans have used horses in the past and how they use them presently. Be sure to include information from your own experiences with horses along with information from the Horse Ag Mag.