

Written Comprehension

King of the Cowboys
By Ty Murray, 2003

General comprehension

1. Who is the narrator ?
2. Right or Wrong, justify by quoting the text
 - a. The narrator is being interviewed for the first time.
 - b. The scene takes place in a concert arena.
 - c. The narrator is surprised to be asked why he is a cowboy.
 - d. He quickly answers the question though.
 - e. He says it is quite easy to become a champion when you like riding.
3. Find two sentences which show that the journalist doesn't understand what a cowboy is.

Detailed comprehension

1. Explain in your own words

- a. « the concept of the cowboy way is so foreign to some people that I have a hard time boiling it down to a simple sound bite. »
- b. « As far as I was concerned, asking a cowboy why he's a cowboy is like asking a Frenchman why he's French »

2. From the definition the narrator gives of a cowboy, can you imagine what he means ?

"A cowboy is a cowboy no matter how he makes his living," I said. "Not all of us wear chaps and hats. You'll find plenty cowboys wearing Brooks Brothers' suits on Wall Street, or playing in the NFL. Those real estate developers who borrow millions to build big office towers, a lot of them are cowboys. The cowboy way is about how you approach things, whether you're talking about a businessman, an artist, or a housewife. Being a cowboy is in your DNA. You either have it or you don't."