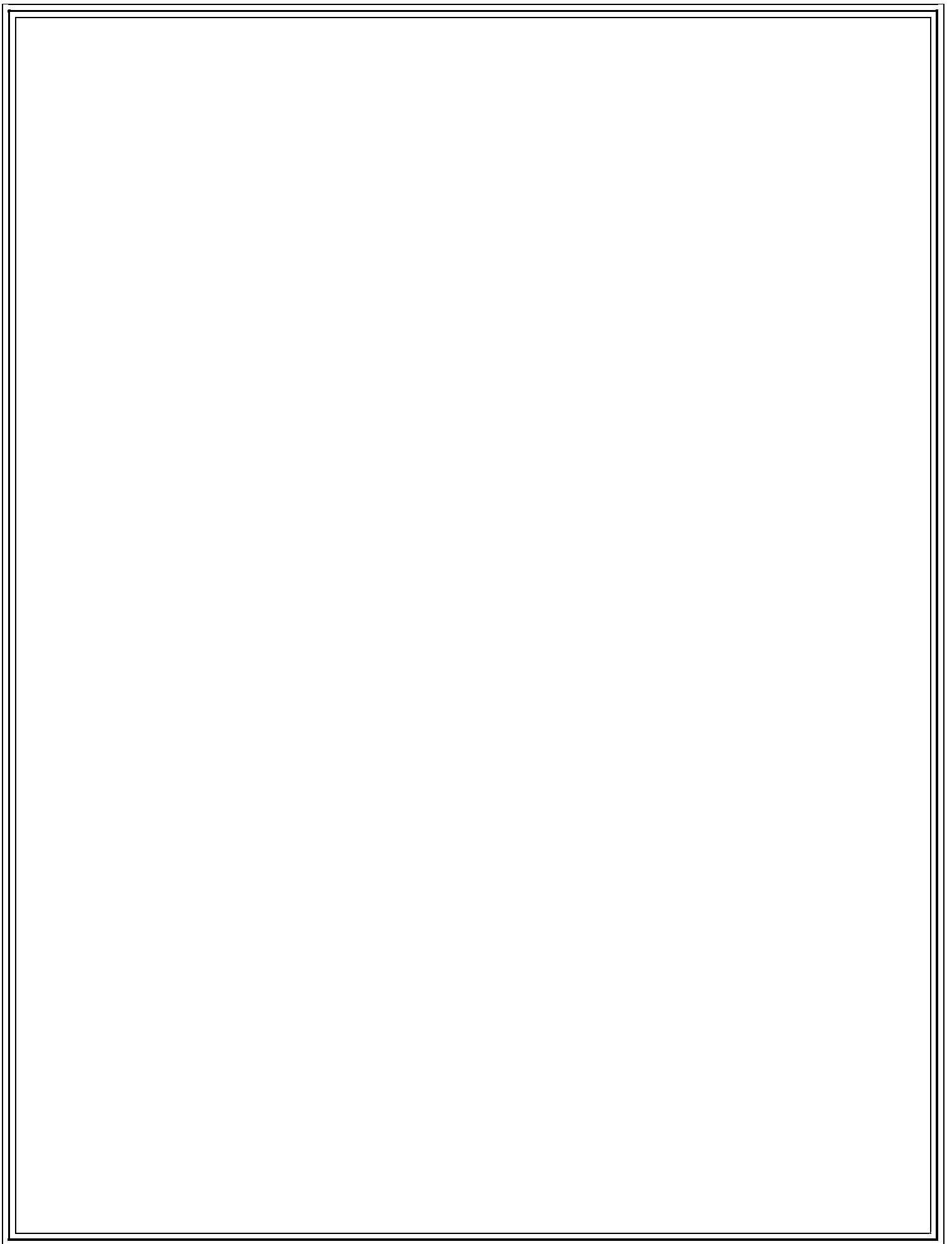


Knights' Castle



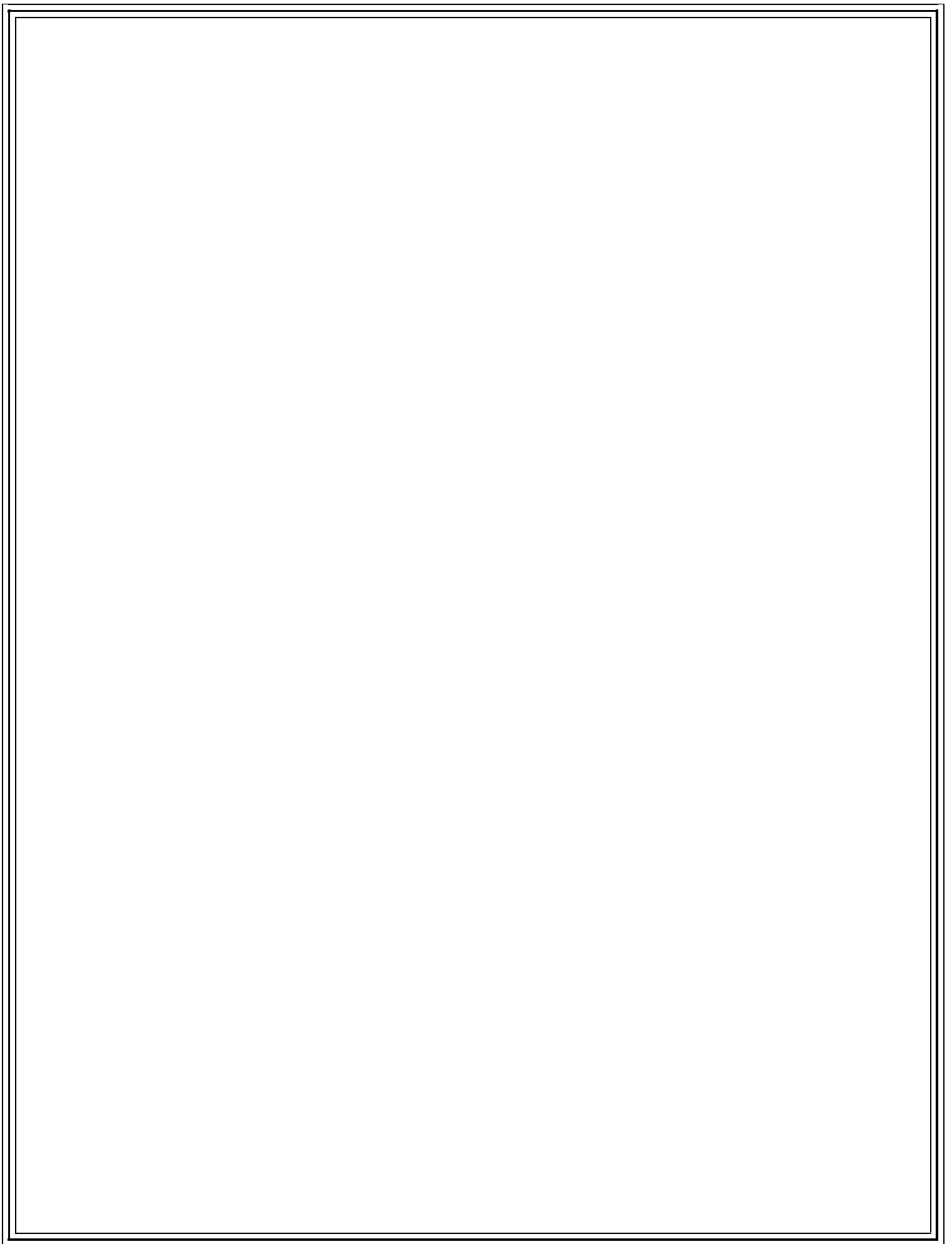
Written by Edward Eager

A Reading Guide by Lisa Kelly



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Lesson Notes

1. “Connection” questions and prompts were written to bridge the gap between chapter readings. They were designed to bring forth what students already know about a topic so that the new information can be connected to it.
2. Have students define the words listed under “Words to Know” either independently or together orally with the teacher. Teachers and students should locate any listed places, read and discuss any notes included at the beginning of each lesson and discuss the pronunciation of any words, as needed.
3. Students should read each chapter (or reading section) together with the teacher or independently.
4. After reading, students should narrate. There are multiple narration suggestions for each chapter.
5. Any lessons in literary terms can be included or omitted as it best fits the needs of your students.

Note: Consider reading a short retelling of *Ivanhoe*. This is not necessary to understand or follow *Knight's Castle*, but it may prove helpful.

Marianna Mayer adapted the story into a picture book with lovely paintings, although it is out of print. It is a longer picture book, which would probably have to be read in more than one session and before beginning this book [This particular version is also available to borrow from Internet Archive.]

There is also a printable PDF of a retelling of *Ivanhoe* included in the appendix. This too may take some additional lesson time to read beforehand.

Literary Elements, Literary Techniques and Reading Strategies

- characters
- fiction and nonfiction
- foreshadowing
- predicting
- imagery

Exam Prompts

- Illustrate any scene. Give your picture a title or caption and share it, telling about the scene depicted. Why did you choose to illustrate this scene?

There are additional exam prompts included in the actual guide. Only one is shown for the sample.

Chapter 1

- * Read ½ of Chapter 1 from *Knight's Castle*.
- * Note: This book contains only 8 chapters, but they are slightly long chapters. All of the readings have been broken into two or three readings per chapter.

Before the Reading

- Connection: Tell what you think this book might be about based on the cover page and the title.
- Words to Know: yeomanly, subterfuge, murrain and countenance
- Locate: Baltimore

Literary Elements

Fiction is writing which describes imaginary events and people.

Non-fiction is writing which is based on facts and real events.

How can we tell the difference between literary works which are imaginative and which are based on reality and fact?

Fiction works tell an imaginative story, sometimes with imaginative characters and places. These works need to be read from beginning to end and are meant to entertain and stir our own imaginations. Often the work includes a problem which the characters must resolve as the story unfolds. A nonfiction work is based on facts and reality. While it is better to read these works in order, you can sometimes read them out of order. These works may contain realistic photos and often are meant to teach.

Offer your children examples by showing them an example of a topic in a nonfiction book and an example of this same topic in a fiction book. Some examples might include: *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* paired with a non-fiction book on mice; *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* with a non-fiction book on caterpillars, *Owl Moon* paired with a non-fiction book about owls, etc.

What kind of story is *Knight's Castle* meant to be? How do we know this?

Narration Break

Pause the reading just before “She told them their father had something wrong inside...”

After the Reading

Narration Suggestions

- Tell about Roger, Ann and the disturbing news they received.
- Draw or paint a picture which illustrates any scene from this reading section. Be sure to give it a title or caption and to share it with someone, telling about the scene you’ve depicted.
- “...but she was a girl and didn’t count, or at least that’s what Roger thought, or at least he thought that in the beginning” (1). Should Roger think that Ann doesn’t count because she’s a girl?

Connecting to Other Literary Works

How are the beginnings of *Knight’s Castle* and *The Railway Children* similar? Tell about this.

Note: Ask your students how they might feel if they received disturbing news about one of their parents. How might they feel having to leave their home over this? What good things might come from moving to a new home? Why are boys and girls thought of so differently?

Chapter 1

- * Complete Chapter 1 from *Knight's Castle*.

Before the Reading

- Connection: Tell where Ann, Roger and their family are going and why they are going there.
- Words to Know: sundry, barbarous, psammeads, striplings, stalwart and varlet

After the Reading

Narration Suggestions

- This chapter was given the title “The Blow”. Why do you think that it was given this title? Think of a new title for this chapter and then share it, telling why it fits.
- Draw or paint a picture of any scene from this chapter. Be sure to give it a title or caption and to share it with someone, telling all about the scene you’ve depicted.
- Write a list with your teacher of 2-3 finer points or details that you took note of while listening to this reading section that others might have missed. Tell about one of these points and what it might tell us about either the characters or the story.