

# The Long White Cloud: Stories from New Zealand

Retold by Christine Lindop

1 Which story do these sentences come from? *After the Earthquake, Gathering of the Whakapapa, A Kind of Longing, The Silk.*

- a They sat drinking their coffee, watching and listening, getting the idea of each other. ....
- b He began to write the village genealogy again. ....
- c He was a colonial farmer for life. ....
- d Someone of her age did not question these things or ask for explanations. ....
- e It was early morning and still dark when Waituhi appeared before us. ....
- f He took his gloves and put his crash helmet on. ....
- g Why did his parents want to stop him finding things out? ....
- h 'I have to join a tree to a tree, not to the middle of a waterfall.' ....
- i More cars passed, but he didn't even try asking for a ride any more. ....
- j The big magnolia tree grew at the back of the house. ....

20 marks

2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- a \_\_\_ A fire destroyed everything in nani Tama's old house.
- b \_\_\_ Mr Blackie refused to sleep while Mrs Blackie was making the silk pyjamas.
- c \_\_\_ The earthquake woke Walter.
- d \_\_\_ The district nurse offered Mrs Blackie something to help her sleep.
- e \_\_\_ Auntie Hiraina did not go with nani Tama to Murupara.
- f \_\_\_ The silk was the wedding present Mr Blackie gave to his wife.
- g \_\_\_ Mr Blakiston usually spent Sundays resting in the house.
- h \_\_\_ Roy wanted the farmer to keep the big fish for him.
- i \_\_\_ Walter saw a dark brown horse tied to the Duncasters' verandah.
- j \_\_\_ An accident in the army killed Kay's brother.

20 marks

3 Who said this? Who did they say it to? *Mr Blakiston, Auntie Hiraima, Mr Blackie, Miss Duncaster, nani Tama, Walter, Kay, Mrs Blackie, Mrs Blakiston, Roy.*

- a 'It wouldn't hurt to say thank you.' ..... to .....
- b 'But you have a visitor already.' .....to .....
- c 'And who's going to give you your injections?' .....to .....
- d 'Of course you saw the damn horse?' .....to .....
- e 'My friend got killed.' .....to .....

4 Fill in the gaps using: *at, off, them, while, down, so, when, up, like, to.*

.....Mrs Blakiston and Walter watched, Miss Duncaster jumped .....to reach the branches. She pulled them .....and broke .....the flowers, careful not to damage ..... Her face was pink as she gave the flowers .....Walter. 'He's surprised that I can jump .....high,' she said, laughing .....the boy's face. 'I jump .....that .....I'm really happy,' said Walter.

20 marks

5 Match the beginning of the sentence with the correct ending.

- 1 \_\_\_ Our hearts were full,
  - 2 \_\_\_ Mr Blakiston had lived in new Zealand for nearly twenty years,
  - 3 \_\_\_ As Mrs Blackie arranged the pyjamas on the table,
  - 4 \_\_\_ Roy pulled himself along the ditch
  - 5 \_\_\_ Miss Duncaster bent down
- a she was filled with a warm feeling.
  - b and hit Walter on the arm.
  - c until he found Kay.
  - d because our grandfather had saved our past for us.
  - e but he still thought of England as home.

20 marks

Total marks

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## Setting

Choose the best answer.

- \_\_\_\_\_ had had his farm in New Zealand for nearly twenty years.  
a  Mr Lakin b  Joe Sleaver c  Mr Blakiston d  Walter
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of the village joined the past to the present.  
a  first canoes b  old men c  gathering d  genealogy
- The man on the silk was waving, or perhaps calling Mrs Blackie \_\_\_\_\_.  
a  to touch the bridge b  to join him c  to smile d  to fetch the magnifying glass
- When Roy was riding his bike, he didn't need to think about being \_\_\_\_\_.  
a  happy b  friendly c  alone d  pleased
- The village went quiet and listened as Nani Tama \_\_\_\_\_.  
a  walked to the door by himself b  went to stay with his daughter c  wrote down the names d  sang the names of the ancestors
- Mr Blakiston's farm was four miles from the \_\_\_\_\_.  
a  town b  valley c  coast d  mountain
- At the bottom of the narrow \_\_\_\_\_, Roy knew the river ran close to the road.  
a  bank b  ditch c  valley d  town
- Mr and Mrs Blackie kept the silk \_\_\_\_\_ for fifty years.  
a  in a wooden box b  in bed c  on the ship d  on the pillows
- Mrs Duncaster \_\_\_\_\_ when her daughter was born.  
a  came from England b  broke off the magnolia flowers c  hated earthquakes d  planted the magnolia tree
- Roy and Kay both knew something: a \_\_\_\_\_ that you couldn't believe.  
a  hope b  death c  memory d  voice

**20 marks**

## Characters

Choose the best answer.

- Nani Tama was old but his \_\_\_\_\_ was like a sharp knife.  
a  chanting b  voice c  memory d  pen

- \_\_\_\_\_ rode a 750cc Suzuki and knew about fly fishing.  
a  Roy b  Kay c  The farmer d  Ross
- Walter wore \_\_\_\_\_ because it was very hot.  
a  a sunhat b  gloves c  a skirt d  a pipe
- \_\_\_\_\_ brought the silk home from China.  
a  The nurse b  Mr Blackie c  The doctor d  Mrs Blackie
- \_\_\_\_\_ died of shock after the earthquake.  
a  Mr Blakiston b  Mrs Blakiston c  Miss Duncaster d  Mrs Duncaster
- \_\_\_\_\_ wasn't unfriendly, he just didn't care about Roy.  
a  Kay's father b  Ross c  The farmer d  The driver of the truck
- Mrs Blackie managed \_\_\_\_\_ carefully to buy Mr Blackie his favourite foods.  
a  the silk b  the pattern pieces c  their money d  their tea
- Summer or winter, \_\_\_\_\_ wore a flat grey hat and long gloves.  
a  Mrs Blakiston b  Mr Blakiston c  Miss Duncaster d  Mrs Duncaster
- Auntie Hiraina was Nani Tama's \_\_\_\_\_.  
a  wife b  aunt c  sister d  daughter
- \_\_\_\_\_ was a farmer.  
a  Mr Lakin b  Mr Blakiston c  Miss Duncaster d  Walter

**20 marks**

## Dialogue

Who said this?

- 'Can you take a week off work?'  
a  Dad b  Nani Tama c  Auntie Hiraina d  Timi
- 'I'd like to see an earthquake.'  
a  Mr Blakiston b  Mrs Blakiston c  Miss Duncaster d  Walter
- 'I used to have one of those things.'  
a  Roy b  the farmer c  Kay d  the passenger in the car
- 'There was no horse.'  
a  Mr Blakiston b  Mrs Blakiston c  Miss Duncaster d  Walter
- 'Poor old thing.'  
a  the doctor b  the nurse c  Mr Blackie d  Mrs Blackie
- 'I need some books to write in.'

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- a  Nani Tama b  Dad c  Auntie Hiraina  
d  Timi
- 27 'I've been thinking about your pyjamas.'  
a  the doctor b  the nurse c  Mr Blackie  
d  Mrs Blackie
- 28 'She loved her mother very much.'  
a  Mr Blakiston b  Mrs Blakiston c   
Miss Duncaster d  Walter
- 29 'It was your idea to buy single beds.'  
a  the doctor b  the nurse c  Mr Blackie  
d  Mrs Blackie
- 30 'Which way you going, mister?'  
a  Kay b  the farmer c  Roy d  the  
passenger in the car

20 marks

## Vocabulary

Choose the best answer.

- 31 a person in your family who lived a long time ago  
a  glue b  pillow c  ancestor d   
memory
- 32 to make a very loud, deep sound  
a  roar b  sigh c  nod d  chant
- 33 a thick rubber ring that fits round the edge of a wheel  
a  vase b  silk c  helmet d  tyre
- 34 a round stick of wax which gives light when it burns  
a  canoe b  candle c  china d  crest
- 35 a small sharp piece of steel used for sewing, with a hole for thread at one end  
a  injection b  pin c  plot d  needle
- 36 a strong feeling of surprise when something unpleasant happens  
a  shock b  speed c  memory d   
longing
- 37 to come from somewhere suddenly  
a  chant b  burst c  conk out d  roar
- 38 a hard block of clay used for building  
a  ditch b  bank c  crest d  brick
- 39 a soft thing you put your head on when you are in bed  
a  feather b  pillow c  silk d  thread
- 40 the record of a family's history  
a  gathering b  glue c  genealogy  
d  gig

20 marks

## Plot

Choose the best answer.

- 41 When Mr Blackie \_\_\_\_\_, both he and Mrs Blackie knew that it was for the last time.  
a  became ill again b  looked at the silk c   
 lay back on his pillows d  went to bed
- 42 Roy left his bike with the farmer because \_\_\_\_\_.  
a  the bike began to go slower b  the back  
tyre was in pieces c  he was alone d  he  
felt lucky
- 43 Miss Duncaster was \_\_\_\_\_ when Walter asked about the horse.  
a  happy b  sad c  angry d  surprised
- 44 \_\_\_\_\_ was very sick but he went to Murupapa to finish the whakapapa.  
a  Dad b  Hiraina c  Timi d  Nani  
Tama
- 45 Mrs Blackie wanted to use the \_\_\_\_\_ for Mr Blackie's laying-out pyjamas.  
a  scissors b  buttons c  needle d  silk
- 46 A notice warned of \_\_\_\_\_ and Kay cut the speed of the bike.  
a  ditches b  banks c  bends in the road  
d  narrow roads
- 47 Mrs Duncaster \_\_\_\_\_ after the earthquake.  
a  ran downstairs b  died of shock c   
got out of bed d  began to cry
- 48 The genealogy of the village was destroyed \_\_\_\_\_.  
a  in a fire b  by a sharp knife c  at the  
kitchen table d  at Auntie Hiraina's place
- 49 Mr Blackie \_\_\_\_\_ while Mrs Blackie was working with the silk.  
a  made the tea b  was interested in food c   
 picked up the scissors d  refused to sleep
- 50 Mrs Blakiston went to town to get the post and the \_\_\_\_\_ and to shop at the store.  
a  vase b  newspaper c  gig d  gloves

20 marks

Total marks