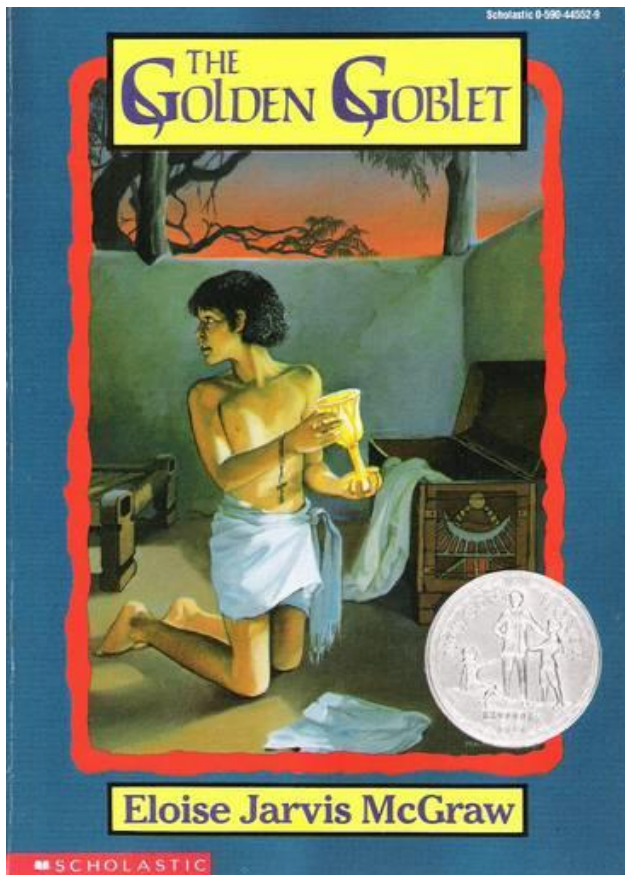


The Artios Home Companion Series

Literature and Composition

The Golden Goblet

by Eloise Jarvis McGraw
Literature for Units 6 - 10



Unit Focus

Through reading and discussing *The Golden Goblet*, we will learn about life during Ancient Egypt. We will be exploring opinion writing while writing and producing a news editorial.

Introduction

More than anything else, Ranofer wants to follow in his father's footsteps by becoming a goldsmith, but his abusive half-brother Gebu forces him to work in a stonecutter's workshop. He resolves to find a way to make a life for himself on the streets, but everything changes when he finds a golden goblet in his brother's room.

Be Sure to Notice...

This piece of literature is classified as historical fiction, just as *Hittite Warrior* was. Historical fiction is a type of literature that is written to portray a certain period of time in history. Details about that time period, along with details about real events or people from that time period, may be included. Some events and characters in the story may be fictional, which means the author has created them; however these must be authentic, as if they really could have occurred.

The Golden Goblet was awarded The Newbery Honor in 1971.

For this unit you will need a video camera or a computer with video capabilities to complete the unit as written. You may substitute this portion of the unit with a live performance if desired.

Context Resources

The days of the Ancient Egyptians were rich with culture, ritual, and beliefs. Don't forget to explore the **Resources** available within the corresponding section of www.ArtiosHCS.com to further your knowledge and understanding of this time in history. Selecting **Literature Projects** from the list provided within the **Resources** section will also help you to delve deeper into themes and events of the book.

Unit 6 - Assignments

Literature

- Begin by completing an author profile for Eloise Jarvis McGraw. You will find an **Author Profile Page** within the **Resources** section of www.ArtiosHCS.com. You can find information about the author through various Internet sources, as well as on the book itself; make sure you get a parent's permission before accessing the Internet.
- Read Chapters 1 - 3 of *The Golden Goblet*.
- As you read these chapters, focus your family discussions on the following questions: What does loneliness feel like for you? What does it feel like for Ranofer and the other characters in the book? How can we care for people around us who might be lonely?

Composition

- In this unit, we will be learning about opinion, or persuasive, writing. In this type of writing, a writer shares his or her opinions on a certain topic, and attempts to persuade, or convince, a reader that the writer's ideas are correct. An opinion piece not only gives a writer's opinion, but it also provides supporting evidence and sometimes a reaction to events that have taken place. We will be writing a reaction news editorial, which is a kind of persuasive writing that is usually presented in newspapers, magazines, television, or an online forum where people share their reactions or opinions to something they have seen or read. You might ask your parents to watch and read some editorials that they enjoy with you!
- In the **Resources** section, you will find a "Golden Goblet Reader's Response Journal." You should print and assemble this document, design a decorative cover, and answer the questions for each section as you are reading each week. These journal questions will help prepare you for our final writing project.

Unit 7 - Assignments

Literature

- Read Chapters 4 - 6 of *The Golden Goblet*

Composition

- Continue answering the questions in your "Golden Goblet Reader's Response Journal."
- The theme of a story is the message that an author is attempting to show in his or her writing. It's the big idea, or deeper meaning, that he wants us to hear within his words. A theme is usually "universal," which means that it can be understood by all humans, regardless of what their life has been like. For example, if you think about the story of "The

Three Little Pigs,” you’ll probably remember that the story was about three pigs who all built their homes out of different materials. In the end, it was the house made of bricks that stood firm against the wolf. However, the theme, or the deeper meaning behind the story, might be perseverance. The third pig persevered with hard work that resulted in a positive outcome for the pigs.

- At the end of your “Reader’s Response Journal”, you will see a section for “Themes.” Begin writing down a list of possible themes on this page, and spend some time writing some examples of where you see these themes within *The Golden Goblet*. You should continue to add to this list as you read in the coming weeks.

Unit 8 - Assignments

Literature

- Read Chapters 7 - 9 of *The Golden Goblet*.
- As you read, discuss with your family what life was like for children during the time of Ancient Egypt. How would you have responded to the issues you saw around you?

Composition

- Continue answering the questions in your “Golden Goblet Reader’s Response Journal.” You will also want to spend time in the “Themes” section of your journal--think carefully about how Eloise Jarvis McGraw is showing these themes in her story, and make notes about where you see these elements. This is also a great week to try out the **Literature Projects** listed in the **Resources** section at www.ArtiosHCS.com.

Unit 9 - Assignments

Literature

- Read Chapters 10 - 12 of *The Golden Goblet*.
- As you read discuss with your family how Ranofer, Hequet, Gebu, and the other characters treat each other. What character traits do you see each of these characters displaying? How can you show true friendship to those around you?

Composition*

- Continue answering the questions in your *Golden Goblet Reader’s Response Journal*.
- This week you will begin writing your Golden Goblet Opinion Paper. You will use the paragraph-writing skills you learned in the last writing unit to write a 5-paragraph reaction to the theme of *The Golden Goblet*. The instructions are below; however, you will also find a printable version of the instructions in the **Resources** at www.ArtiosHCS.com. It is strongly suggested that you break your writing up into smaller pieces, writing just one paragraph or so each day, instead of trying to write the whole thing in one sitting.
 - **Start** your writing with a title centered at the top of your page. “Golden Goblet Reaction Paper” is fine, or you can come up with your own. Underneath that, center “By (Your Name).”
 - **Paragraph 1:** Begin your first paragraph indented. Start your writing by introducing the piece of literature and the author. Something like, “The Golden Goblet by Eloise Jarvis McGraw is a book about...” and finish with your own ideas. This should be a

brief overview (remember that each paragraph is going to be 5-7 sentences), and tell what the book is mostly about.

- **Paragraph 2:** Indent your second paragraph. This paragraph should state your chosen theme in the first sentence and then explain how it is shown in the book. A beginning sentence might begin something like this: “This story is meant to teach us about...” Remember, while the book is certainly meant to teach us about Ancient Egypt, you're choosing something deeper, like friendship, bravery, honesty, responsibility, etc.
- **Paragraph 3:** Indent. Give a strong, specific example of your theme from the book and discuss your thoughts and reflections. This is where you should use those notes that you made in your “Themes” page.
- **Paragraph 4:** Indent. Give another strong, specific example of your theme from the book and discuss your thoughts and reflections about this example.
- **Paragraph 5:** Indent. Write about your personal “take-aways” from your chosen theme. What did it teach you? Have you grown, changed your views, reaffirmed a belief? You might begin with a sentence like, “When I think about *The Golden Goblet*, it makes me want to...” and finish with your own ideas. Think about what the book was trying to teach you. Does it make you want to be a better friend? Help people around you who might be hurting? Always try to do the right thing? Use your own ideas and explain them.

*Younger students, you will find an adapted **Reaction Paper** document within the **Resources** at www.ArtiosHCS.com. It is perfectly okay for you to dictate some or all of your thoughts to a parent or older sibling.

Unit 10 - Assignments

Literature

- Finish reading *The Golden Goblet*.
- Complete the final questions in your “Golden Goblet Reader's Response Journal.” Be on the lookout for some extra details to help in editing your reaction paper this week.

Composition

- Use the editing checklist provided in the **Resources** section at www.ArtiosHCS.com to edit your reaction paper. Share your writing with parents, teachers, and your peers, and get their feedback on how you might improve your writing.
- Now that you have written your reaction editorial, it's time to make your writing come to life! Create a video recording of yourself reading your editorial, in the style of a news program. You might even insert images into your video recording to make your presentation more modern. Share your editorial with friends and family.