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READING FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Lesson 13

Pambungad

*Magandang araw sa iyo, munting mambabasa! Handa ka na bang galugarin ang ating kwento ngayong araw? Sabay-sabay nating basahin ang librong **"The Little Prince"** isinulat ni **Antoine de Saint-Exupéry**. Huwag mag-alala; gagabayan kita, kaibigan!*

Reading for High School

Book Title: The Little Prince (CHAPTER 13)

Author: Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Source:

THE LITTLE PRINCE: CHAPTER 13

Welcome Learner! This is AHA! Learning Center.

*You are going to learn chapter 13 of our story **"The Little Prince"**.*

The theme of Chapter XIII is the power of money and ownership which adults use to mask their underlying fear that nothing is secure and that life is ephemeral and elusive. The businessman represents the adult who believes owning things will make him secure. Today's objective is to look at the theme of this chapter.

LEVEL 1 VOCAB HUNT

TEACHER: Before we start our journey to learn what chapter 4 is all about, let's try to hunt some vocabulary words that can help us understand the story much better, and this means that we have to find out the meaning of the following words below.

1. *balderdash*
2. *loafing*
3. *idle*
4. *pluck*
5. *Extraordinary*

Do you find it hard? Go ahead and ask help from your friends!

LEVEL 2: LET'S READ!

TEACHER: *I know it seems so long, but I know that you can do it!*

The fourth planet belonged to a businessman. This man was so much occupied that he did not even raise his head at the little prince's arrival. "Good morning," the little prince said to him. "Your cigarette has gone out." "Three and two make five. Five and seven make twelve. Twelve and three make fifteen. Good morning. Fifteen and seven make twenty-two. Twenty-two and six make twenty-eight. I haven't time to light it again. Twenty-six and five make thirty-one. Phew! Then that makes five-hundred-and-one-million, six-hundred-twenty-two-thousand, seven-hundred-thirty-one." "Five hundred million what?" asked the little prince. "Eh? Are you still there? Five-hundred-and-one million-- I can't stop... I have so much to do! I am concerned with matters of consequence. I don't amuse myself with **balderdash**. Two and five make seven..." "Five-hundred-and-one million what?" repeated the little prince, who never in his life had let go of a question once he had asked it. The businessman raised his head. "During the fifty-four years that I have inhabited this planet, I have been disturbed only three times. The first time was twenty-two years ago, when some giddy goose fell from goodness knows where. He made the most frightful noise that resounded all over the place, and I made four mistakes in my addition. The second time, eleven years ago, I was disturbed by an attack of rheumatism. I don't get enough exercise. I have no time for **loafing**. The third time-- well, this is it! I was saying, then, five -hundred-and-one millions--" "Millions of what?" The businessman suddenly realized that there was no hope of being left in peace until he answered this question. "Millions of those little objects," he said, "which one sometimes sees in the sky." "Flies?" "Oh, no. Little glittering objects." "Bees?" "Oh, no. Little golden objects that set lazy men to idle dreaming. As for me, I am concerned with matters of consequence. There is no time for **idle** dreaming in my life." "Ah! You mean the stars?" "Yes, that's it. The stars." "And what do you do with five-hundred millions of stars?" "Five-hundred-and-one million, six-hundred-twenty-two thousand, seven-hundred-thirty-one. I am concerned with matters of consequence: I am accurate." "And what do you do with these stars?" "What do I do with them?" "Yes." "Nothing. I own them." "You own the stars?" "Yes." "But I have already seen a king who--" "Kings do not own, they reign over. It is a very different matter." "And what good does it do you to own the stars?" "It does me the good of making me rich." "And what good does it do you to be rich?" "It makes it possible for me to buy more stars, if any are ever discovered." "This man," the little prince said to himself, "reasons a little like my poor tippler..." Nevertheless, he still had some more questions. "How is it possible for one to

own the stars?" "To whom do they belong?" the businessman retorted, peevishly. "I don't know. To nobody." "Then they belong to me, because I was the first person to think of it." "Is that all that is necessary?" "Certainly. When you find a diamond that belongs to nobody, it is yours. When you discover an island that belongs to nobody, it is yours. When you get an idea before any one else, you take out a patent on it: it is yours. So with me: I own the stars, because nobody else before me ever thought of owning them." "Yes, that is true," said the little prince. "And what do you do with them?" "I administer them," replied the businessman. "I count them and recount them. It is difficult. But I am a man who is naturally interested in matters of consequence." The little prince was still not satisfied. "If I owned a silk scarf," he said, "I could put it around my neck and take it away with me. If I owned a flower, I could pluck that flower and take it away with me. But you cannot **pluck** the stars from heaven..." "No. But I can put them in the bank." "Whatever does that mean?" "That means that I write the number of my stars on a little paper. And then I put this paper in a drawer and lock it with a key." "And that is all?" "That is enough," said the businessman. "It is entertaining," thought the little prince. "It is rather poetic. But it is of no great consequence." On matters of consequence, the little prince had ideas which were very different from those of the grown-ups. "I myself own a flower," he continued his conversation with the businessman, "which I water every day. I own three volcanoes, which I clean out every week (for I also clean out the one that is extinct; one never knows). It is of some use to my volcanoes, and it is of some use to my flower, that I own them. But you are of no use to the stars..." The businessman opened his mouth, but he found nothing to say in answer. And the little prince went away. "The grown-ups are certainly altogether **extraordinary**," he said simply, talking to himself as he continued on his journey

TEACHER: *Oh no! Before skipping, you might want to consider reading Level 2. You'll understand the story much better if you don't skip the level.*

LEVEL 3: LET'S REVIEW

TEACHER: *This might help you understand the story!*

- The fourth planet is inhabited by a business man who is counting the stars.
- He has only been interrupted three times in his life, he says.
- The businessman believes he owns the stars.
- He writes down the numbers of stars and locks the paper in a drawer.
- The little prince sees no value in owning stars and so he moves on.

LEVEL 4: LET'S TRY

TEACHER: *You have gone so far as a learner! Let's do the level 4 to see your ability to understand and remember. If you have your notebook and pen write the letter of the correct answer.*

91. What is the businessman doing when the prince first comes across him?

- (a) Counting the stars.
- (b) Dreaming.
- (c) Watching television.
- (d) Reading the newspaper.

92. What does the little prince point out to the businessman when he first meets him?

- (a) "You are very good at counting. Bravo!"
- (b) "Your cigarette has gone out."
- (c) "You've dropped a couple of coins on your foot."
- (d) "You are a silly man."

93. What does the businessman think he owns?

- (a) A collection of gold coins.
- (b) The entire planet.
- (c) The stars.
- (d) The six planets nearest him.

94. The little prince is not impressed with what the businessman owns. What reason does he give for his disdain?

- (a) That the businessman is of no use to the things he owns.
- (b) That the businessman is very bad at counting.
- (c) That the businessman loses everything all the time.
- (d) That the businessman is always falling asleep.

95. What does the little prince tell the businessman that he owns?

- (a) A knowledge of the stars.
- (b) A thousand planets.
- (c) A flower and three volcanoes.
- (d) Time.

96. How many times in the 54 years the businessman has inhabited his planet has he been disturbed?

- (a)** Constantly. That's why he can never finish counting.
- (b)** Three. The little prince is the third disturbance.
- (c)** He can't remember. He pays no attention to such things.
- (d)** Never.

*******LEVEL 5: LET'S WRITE**

TEACHER: *Getting tired? You are still awesome! you are done with level 4, let's try level five and have some fun.*

TEACHER: *Last wave na to! Wag kang susuko.*

- The businessman uses the phrase "matters of consequence." What does he mean by this? The little prince had "ideas which were very different from the grown-ups." What does the little prince believe are "matters of consequence"? How do the little prince and the businessman differ?

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU ARE DONE WITH CHAPTER 13. SEE YOU TOMORROW FOR OUR CHAPTER 14!

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