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READING FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Lesson 4

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 4)

Author: Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Source: BookRags Inc.

THE LITTLE PRINCE: CHAPTER FOUR

Welcome Learner! This is AHA! Learning Center. You are going to learn chapter 4 of our story **"The Little Prince"**.

Humor can be used in writing for many purposes. It entertains the reader, advances plot and character and it can be used as a critique of society. Saint Exupery is offering a strong critique of adult society in this book and he uses humor as a way of showing how absurd and funny much adult behavior is. The objective of this lesson is to learn how humor is used to critique adult society in The Little Prince as shown by Chapter IV.

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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. scarcely

2. *geraniums*
3. *shrug*
4. *forbearance*
5. *fumble*

Are you finding it hard? Go ahead and ask help from your friends!

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LEVEL 2: LET'S READ!

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

I had thus learned a second fact of great importance: this was that the planet the little prince came from was **scarcely** any larger than a house! But that did not really surprise me much. I knew very well that in addition to the great planets-- such as the Earth, Jupiter, Mars, Venus-- to which we have given names, there are also hundreds of others, some of which are so small that one has a hard time seeing them through the telescope. When an astronomer discovers one of these he does not give it a name, but only a number. He might call it, for example, "Asteroid 325."

I have serious reason to believe that the planet from which the little prince came is the asteroid known as B-612. This asteroid has only once been seen through the telescope. That was by a Turkish astronomer, in 1909. On making his discovery, the astronomer had presented it to the International Astronomical Congress, in a great demonstration. But he was in Turkish costume, and so nobody would believe what he said. Grown-ups are like that...

Fortunately, however, for the reputation of Asteroid B-612, a Turkish dictator made a law that his subjects, under pain of death, should change to European costume. So in 1920 the astronomer gave his demonstration all over again, dressed with impressive style and elegance. And this time everybody accepted his report. If I have told you these details about the asteroid, and made a note of its number for you, it is on account of the grown-ups and their ways. When you tell them that you have made a new friend, they never ask you any questions about essential matters. They never say to you, "What does his voice sound like? What games does he love best? Does he collect butterflies?" Instead, they demand: "How old is he? How many brothers has he? How much does he weigh? How much money does his father make?" Only from these figures do they think they have learned anything about him. If you were to say to the grown-ups: "I saw a beautiful house made of rosy brick, with **geraniums** in the windows and doves on the roof," they would not be able to get any idea of that house at all. You would have to say to them: "I saw a house that cost \$20,000." Then they would exclaim: "Oh, what a pretty house that is!" Just so, you might say to them: "The proof that the little prince existed is that he was charming, that he laughed, and that he was looking for a sheep. If anybody wants a sheep, that is a proof that he exists." And what good would it do to tell them that? They would **shrug** their shoulders, and treat you like a child. But if you said to them: "The planet he came

from is Asteroid B-612," then they would be convinced, and leave you in peace from their questions. They are like that. One must not hold it against them. Children should always show great **forbearance** toward grown-up people.

But certainly, for us who understand life, figures are a matter of indifference. I should have liked to begin this story in the fashion of the fairy-tales. I should have like to say: "Once upon a time there was a little prince who lived on a planet that was scarcely any bigger than himself, and who had need of a sheep..." To those who understand life, that would have given a much greater air of truth to my story. For I do not want anyone to read my book carelessly. I have suffered too much grief in setting down these memories. Six years have already passed since my friend went away from me, with his sheep. If I try to describe him here, it is to make sure that I shall not forget him. To forget a friend is sad. Not every one has had a friend. And if I forget him, I may become like the grown-ups who are no longer interested in anything but figures... It is for that purpose, again, that I have bought a box of paints and some pencils. It is hard to take up drawing again at my age, when I have never made any pictures except those of the boa constrictor from the outside and the boa constrictor from the inside, since I was six. I shall certainly try to make my portraits as true to life as possible. But I am not at all sure of success. One drawing goes along all right, and another has no resemblance to its subject. I make some errors, too, in the little prince's height: in one place he is too tall and in another too short. And I feel some doubts about the color of his costume. So I **fumble** along as best I can, now good, now bad, and I hope generally fair-to-middling.

In certain more important details I shall make mistakes, also. But that is something that will not be my fault. My friend never explained anything to me. He thought, perhaps, that I was like himself. But I, alas, do not know how to see sheep through the walls of boxes. Perhaps I am a little like the grown-ups. I have had to grow

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.*

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LEVEL 3: LET'S REVIEW

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

- The pilot learns that the little prince's planet is hardly bigger than a house.
- The pilot believes the asteroid B-612, discovered by a Turkish astronomer in 1906, is the prince's planet.
- The pilot is inspired to be an artist again, but struggles with feeling too old to and too grown up to do so.

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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.*

37. How big is the little prince's planet, as described in Chapter IV?

- (a) Very hot from all the lava flowing over it.
- (b) Scarcely any larger than a house.
- (c) Newly formed from a black hole.
- (d) Wide and flat, like a giant frisbee.

38. What name does a human scholar give little prince's planet?

- (a) Turkey.
- (b) Little Kingdom of Rose.
- (c) The Star that is Beyond.
- (d) Astroid B-612.

39. Who is the scholar that discovers the little prince's planet?

- (a) The International Astronomical Observer.
- (b) A flock of geese living in an observatory.
- (c) A Turkish astronomer who sees it only once through his telescope.
- (d) The pilot's father, who is an astronaut.

40. What does the discoverer of the little prince's planet do in order to be taken seriously?

- (a) He demands that he be heard.
- (b) He writes a scientific treatise and gets it published.
- (c) He wears European clothing.
- (d) He speaks slowly and clearly.

41. According to the pilot in Chapter IV, what are grownups mostly interested in?

- (a) They are no longer interested in anything.
- (b) Butterflies and feelings.
- (c) Things that can be counted, like money and years of age.
- (d) Controlling everyone all the time.

42. The pilot reveals that after he becomes friends with the little prince he starts doing something again. What is it?

- (a) Biting his nails.
- (b) Worrying about everything.
- (c) Procrastinating.
- (d) Drawing.

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LEVEL 5: LET'S WRITE

TEACHER: *Getting tired? You are still awesome! you are done with level 4, let's try level 5 and have some fun.*

TEACHER: *Last wave na to! Wag kang susuko.* Write a paragraph making the case for one side of the statement:

- Do you relate to the type of humor that is presented in Chapter IV? Or is it dated? What did you find funny in the book so far?

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU ARE DONE WITH CHAPTER 4. SEE YOU TOMORROW FOR OUR CHAPTER 5!

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