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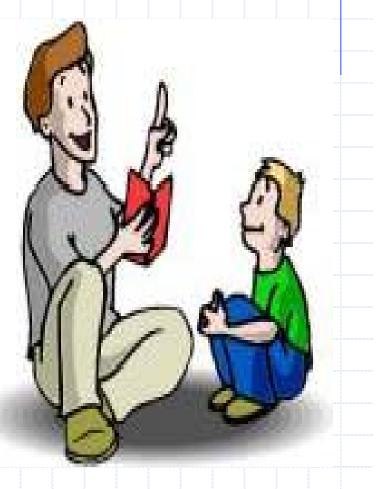
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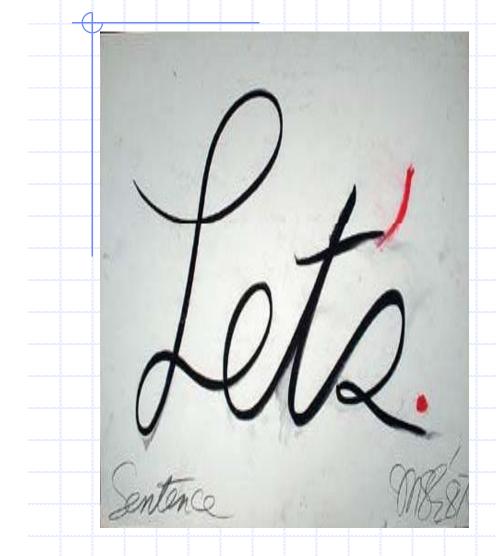
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Oral Reproduction of Stories 2 🗇

الله مولفان: مهدي نوروزي ، پرويز بيرجندي

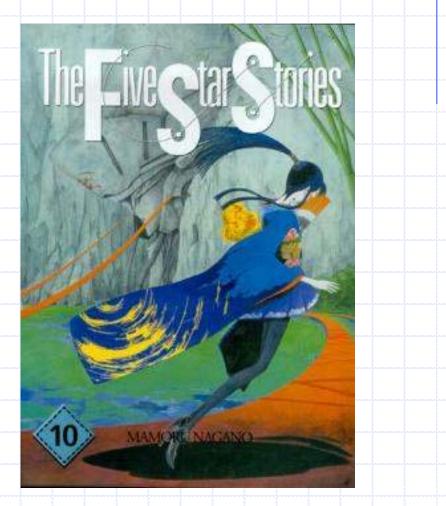
ا تهيه کننده اسلايد: محمود عليمحمدي

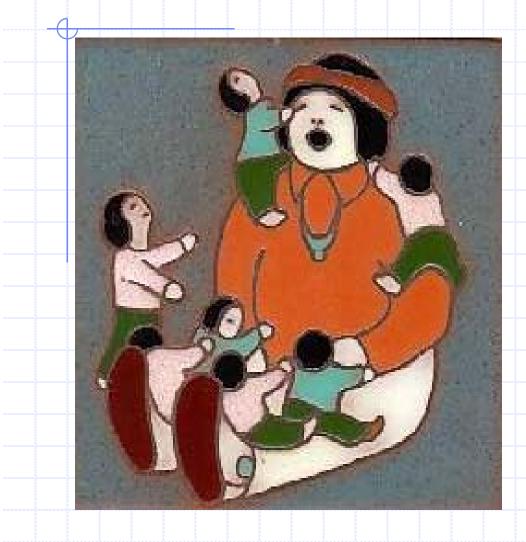




Introduction This course intends to prepare you for more successful communication under less controlled circumstances.

 Telling humorous, exciting stories or even anecdotes about experiences you have had or read about can contribute a lot to a conversation.

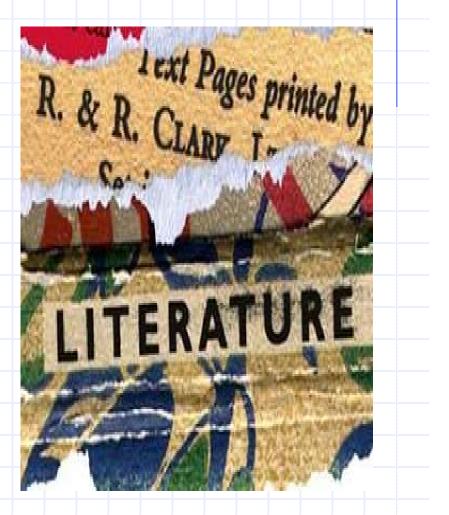


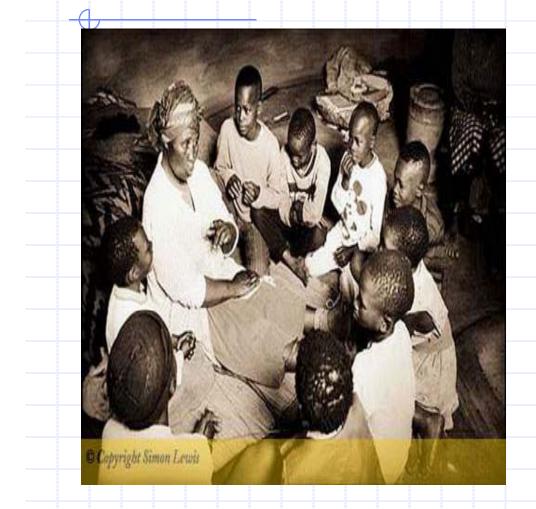


 Such stories would be the best if they could entertain you and illustrate a point at the same time.
 Telling stories is an art, and an old one.

Everyone enjoys
 listening to good
 stories.

The short stories selected for this course will somehow acquaint you with the literature in English and aspects of the countries' culture.

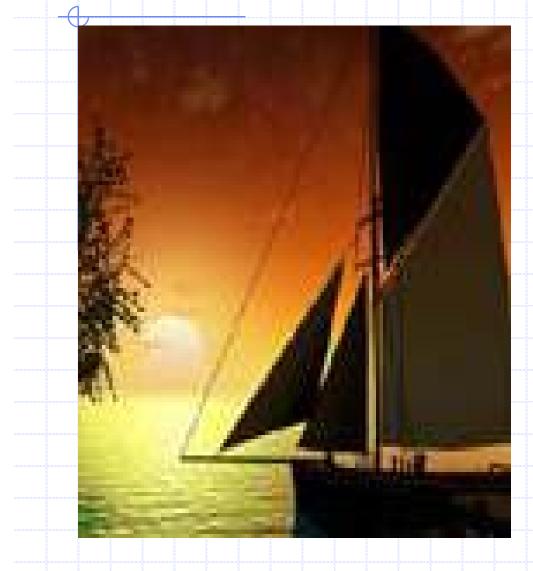




♦ You should analyze the short stories, to look at characters, plots, and theme. Simply telling the facts would not prepare you for a better appreciation of literature.

- This course includes 15 short stories(Units 26-40).
 The selection procedure has been based on several different factors; to name a few, they are:
- 1. Level of difficulty
- a) syntactic
- b) lexical
- c) idiomatic expressions

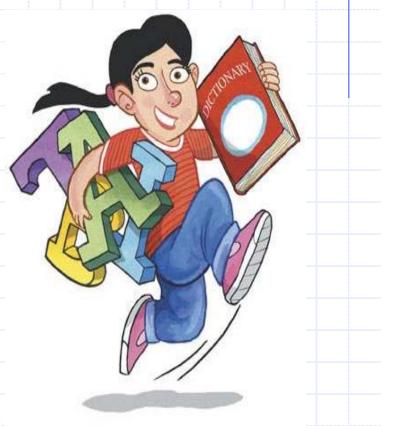


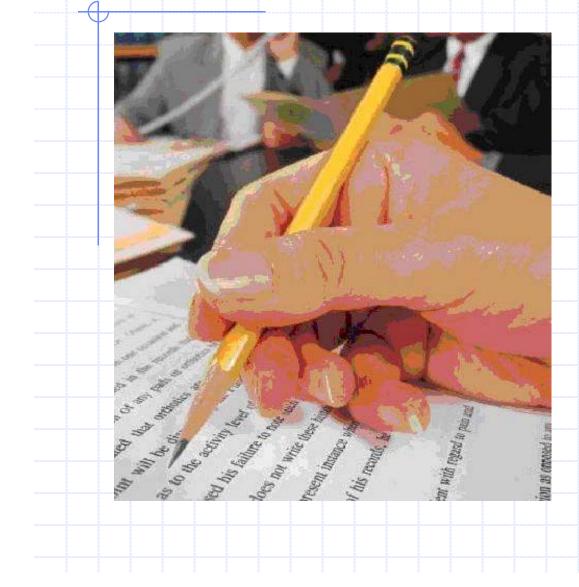


2. Length of the short story
3. Cultural load of the story
4. Moral aspect of the story

Guides for story telling A story should be assigned for the next session.

You are recommended to refer to the word list.





You should prepare an outline of the story.

 You should avoid giving details of
 happenings which do
 not help to make the
 point or to set the
 mood of the story.

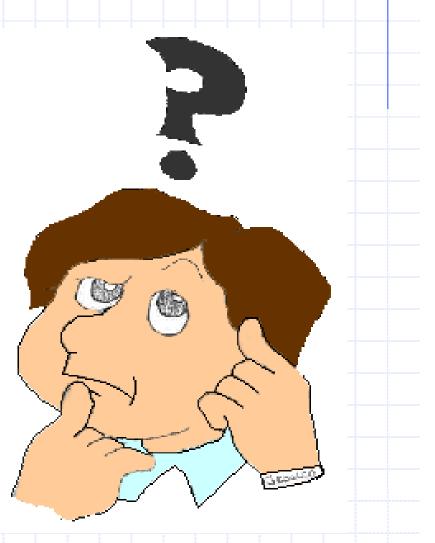
 If possible, you should use dialog
 (conversation) to increase interest.

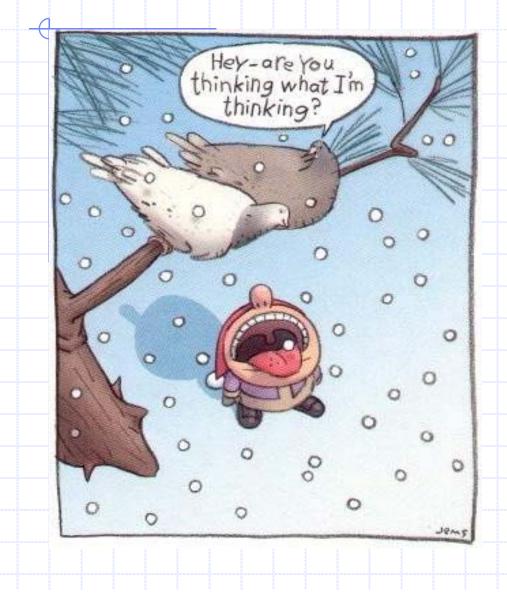


 In case the story allows it, you, as the storyteller, should build suspense. This is a good way to have the interest of the listener.

 The questions given at the end of each story can contribute to a more successful comprehension of the story.

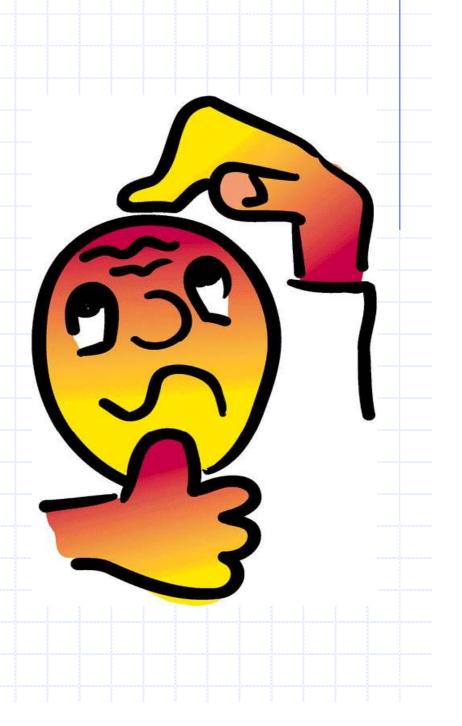






- Problems and Solutions
 You may resist to participate in class discussions.
- You may think that you can fulfill your role as a student by attending fairly regularly.

You may think that you can learn to talk simply by letting other students' ideas seep into your mind.

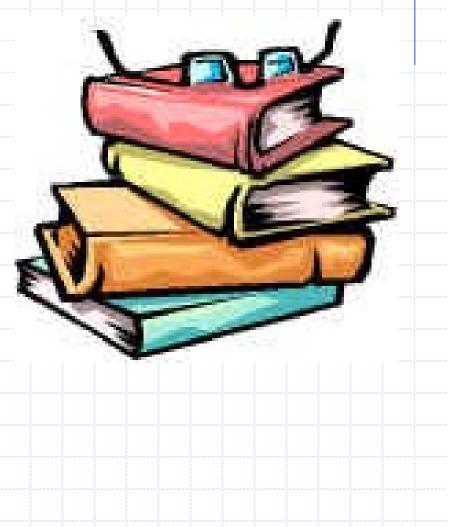






IT COULD BE THAT THE PURPOSE OF YOUR LIFE IS ONLY TO SERVE AS A WARNING TO OTHERS. Probably you are afraid of making a mistake in English or are reluctant to express an opinion before your classmates.
 We believe that much of this reluctance is due to our own culture.

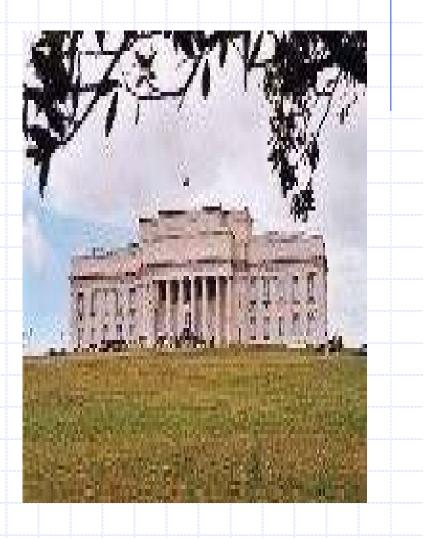
 The story telling class can provide you with valuable opportunities to practice your English and analyze short stories as well.



Unit 26 The House on the Border Aziz Nesin

A man rents a house located in a nice

place.



However, the next-door neighbor, the grocer and other neighbors warn him the following day that he should not have rented that house since it is robbed frequently.

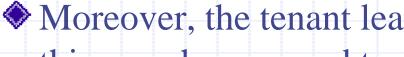
The man's wife believes that these people are trying to scare tenants away and move in themselves to rent the house for themselves or their relatives.

♦ At night, a thief breaks into the house.

The tenant ties him up and reports to the police.

 Then the couple find that their house is right on the border between areas under the jurisdiction of two precincts.

Sut the cops of each precinct claim that the house is under the jurisdiction of the other.



• Moreover, the tenant learns later that there are six thieves who are used to robbing this house...

and the couple have no choice but to get along
 with them and accept the situation as it is.

- 1. How did the next door neighbor greet the new tenant?
- 2. Did the neighbor mean to be unfriendly?
- 3. Was the new tenant scared by what people told him?

- 4. Did he really believe what people told him?
- 5. What was the tenant's reaction when he first saw the nocturnal visitor?
- 6. Why was the thief so indifferent when they started tying him up.

7. What did the tenant learn at the police station?

8. Why were the tenant and his wife worried?

9. Does this event have any traces of reality?

10. Were the police really irresponsible?



Unit 27 All the Years of Her Life Morely Callaghan Ever since Alfred Higgins left school he had been getting into trouble wherever he worked.

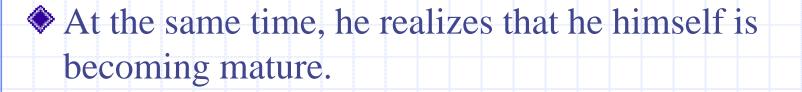
The last place he worked in was a drugstore owned by Sam Carr, a little gray-haired man.

One evening, Sam catches Alfred stealing a compact, a lipstick and two tubes of toothpaste from the drugstore.

Then he calls up his mother who, with a quite composure, and a gentle and pleading smile convinces Sam to forgive her son and let him go home with her.



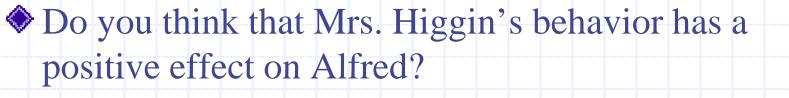
♦ Alfred is impressed by his mother's support and feels a pride in her strength.



Discuss Mrs. Higgin's reasons for a change in her behavior?

• Why is her behavior in the store surprising?

How do you interpret her behavior?



How can you relate the title to what happens in the story?

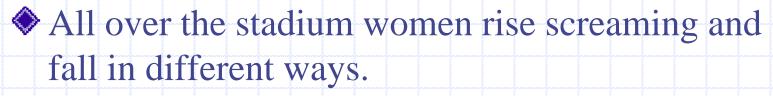
Do you blame anyone for Alfred's thieving?

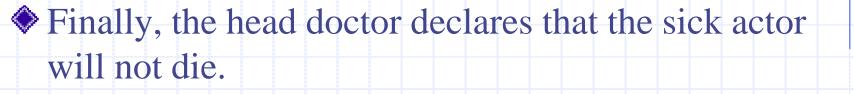


Unit 28 A Death in the Stadium **Robert** Nathan People attend the public death of Principus, the great actor and lover, at the stadium. He has decided to die in public before the eyes of his fans.

The deathbed is in the center of the field, surrounded by doctors, nurses, reporters and newspaper photographers.







The fan break into jeers and catcalls.

The desire of so many people for his death descends upon him in an overwhelming compulsion, falls upon him in an irresistible wave.

With a sigh, Principus lies down and dies.

What does the author mean by the 'public death' of the actor?

What is so strange about this occasion?

What was the actor's intention of dying in public?

How does the writer depict the scene in the stadium?

What was the Englishman's impression of the whole occasion?

One of the spectators says, "this is the largest death." In what way is he right? Another spectattor says, " it is a triumph." A triumph over what?

What happened when the doctor declared that the man would live?

Some shouted, "we want to see him die."

Doesn't this expression seem strange?

Is it really part of haman nature?

Unit 29 The Doll's House Katherine Mansfield ♦ After retuning to town, Mrs. Hay sends a very big and beautiful doll's house to Brunells' children: Isabel, Kezia and Lottie.



Isabel tells the girls at school, two at a time, to come to their house to see it.

 Although Lil and else Kelveys are not invited, they go to Brunells and Kezia shows the doll's house to them.

Meanwhile aunt Berly comes to the courtyard and forces the Kelveys to leave the place right away.

What do you think the little lamp mean to Kezia who notices it first?

Why did the doll's house make the Burnell sisters feel so important?

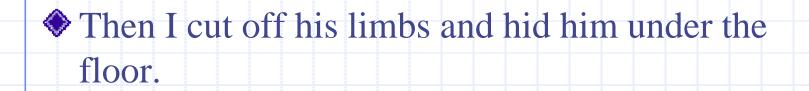
Why are the children cruel to the Kelveys?
How has Kezia been affected by the doll's house?
What truth is the author trying to illustrate in this story?

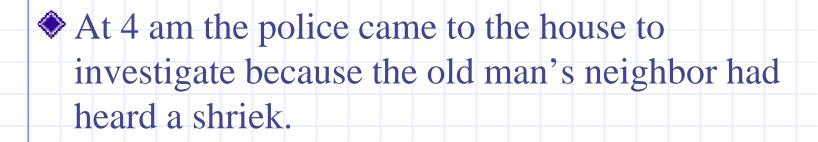
Contrast the emotional atmosphere or mood at the opening of the story with that of the end. When does this mood first change?



Unit 30 The Tell-Tale Heart Edgar Allan Poe I loved the old man but hated his vulture eye.

 I went to his bedroom to kill him several times at midnight, and finally managed to suffocate him with the bed cover on the ninth night.







The policemen entered the old man's room.

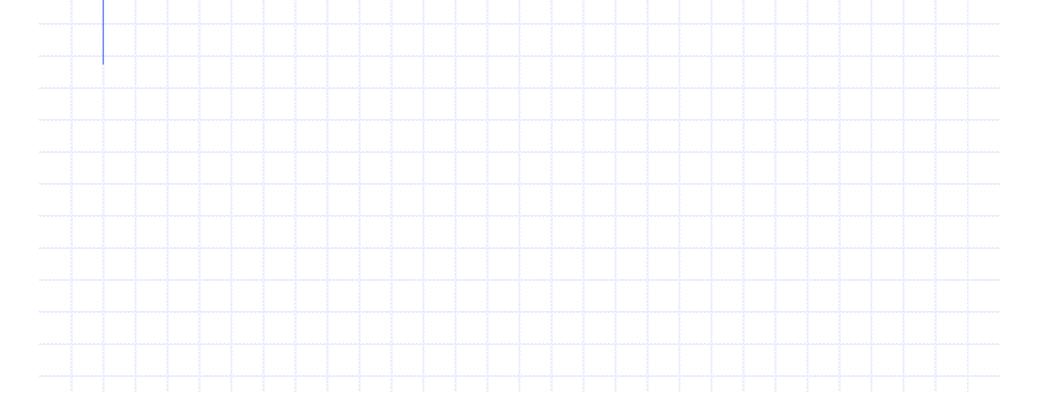
Gradually I began hearing the heartbeat of the man who was under the floor.

I was so nervous that I admitted the crime I had committed.

♦ A. For Discussion

Although the narrator of the story admitted that he was nervous, he insisted that he was not insane.
 Do you believe him?

2. What was the narrator's feelings toward the old man on the night of the murder?



3. Poe further emphasized the mood of horror in the last scene by making you believe that the narrator could hear the beating heart.

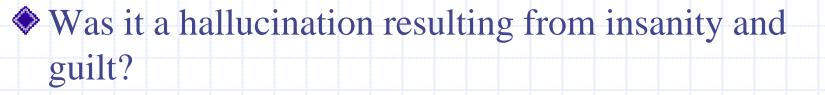
How did Poe do this?

4. Think back to your answer to question 1.

Did you become more convinced of the narrator's sanity or insanity as the story developed? Why?

5. What was the "tell-tale" heart? Was it the narrator's own heart beating?

Was it his pulse throbbing in his temples? Was it his watch ticking?



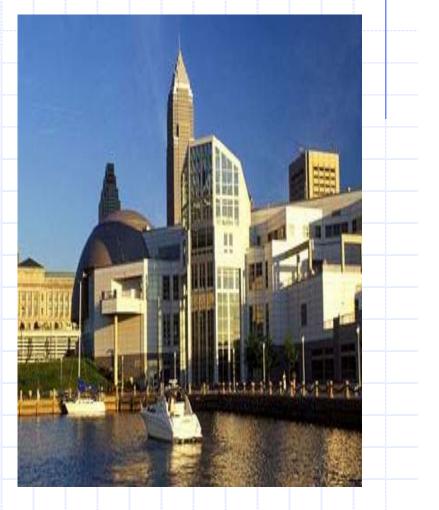
• Give reasons to support your answer .

6. One of the ways in which Poe created the mood of horror was by using graphic details- details which made the horrible seem real.

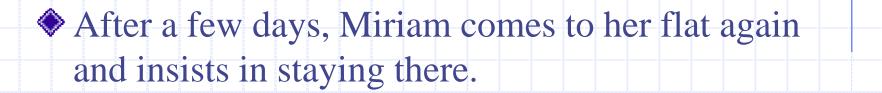
What was horrifying about foe's descriptions of the evil eye, the midnight ritual, and the concealment of the body?

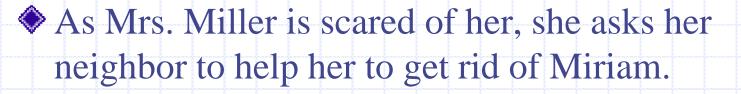
Unit 31 Miriam Truman Capote

Mrs. Miller is a lonely widow who lives in an apartment. One evening, she meets Miriam, the little girl, in front of a cinema for the first time.

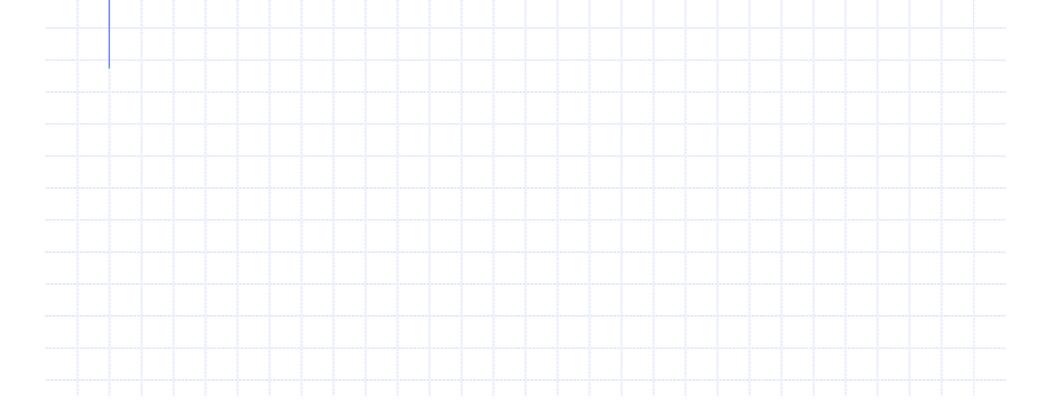


Later that evening, the girl pays her a surprise visit and has dinner at her apartment.





When her neighbor goes to her flat, he finds nobody there.



Mrs. Miler returns to her apartment and goes to be bed to rest.

Once she goes to sleep, she hears Miriam's voice again saying hello to her.

♦ A. For Discussion

1. Discuss psychological condition of Mrs. Miller.

2. Who is Miriam?

How does Mrs. Miller meet her?

What is unusual about the girl's appearance?

3. What do Mrs. Miller and Miriam have in common?

What impression do you get of Miriam from her conversation with Mrs. Miller?

- 4. What is behind Mrs. Miller's 'unaccountable purchases'?
- 5. Whom does Mrs. Miller meet on Third Avenue? What happens during this brief meeting?

- 6. What happens during Miriam's third visit to Mrs. Miller?
- 7. What change, if any, takes place in your opinion of Mrs. Miller during the scene in which she tries to explain to her neighbors about Miriam?

8. Is Miriam a real person, or a creation of Mrs. Miller's imagination?

9. What explanation can you offer for the sudden disappearance and reappearance of Miriam?

10. What is the effect of the weather upon the development of the story?



Unit 32 The Interlopers H. H. Munro (Saki)

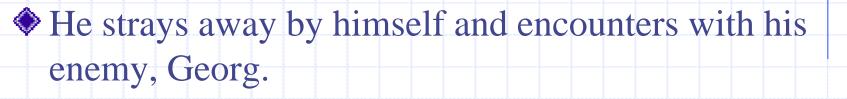
Ulrich von Gradwitz

 owns some forestlands
 on the eastern hills of the
 Carpathians mount.

His family and Georg Znaeym, the neighboring petty landowner family, have had quarrel with each other for three generations for a narrow strip of worthless woodland.

Ulrich has guarded this piece of land more than any other parts of his land.

At a winter night, Ulrich brings together his foresters for the thieves from across the land boundary.



Each has a rifle in his hand and detests the other.

Then the wind breaks a beech three which falls on them.

They are both seriously injured.

 While they are waiting for their men to come and help them, they decide to forgive and forget the quarrel and become intimate friends.



♦ Instead the wolves enter the scene to kill them.

- A. For Discussion
- 1. How does the author keep your curiosity alive all through the story?
- 2. What did the writer tell us about the appearance, beliefs and feelings of the characters in this story?

- 3. Were you concerned about what would happen to the two men?
- 4. While suffering from the pain, Ulrich decides to change his mind about his enemy.
- How would you justify this sudden change?

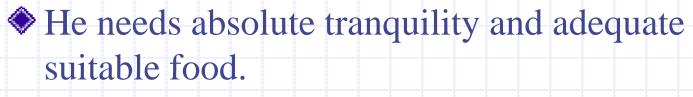
5. What did you expect to happen at the end?6. Which is the major conflict in the story, the conflict between the two characters or the conflict of man against nature?



Unit 33 Forbidden Fries Giovanni Guareschi Papa is sick and exhausted. He asks the family members to help him reorganize the house.



 For six days of the week everybody is allowed to behave as he wishes, but Monday belongs to daddy:



Despite his efforts, the plan fails.

 Albertino, the Pasionaria (the kids) and the wife (Margherita) do not come about his instructions.

After the seventh Monday, he arrives at the conclusion that it is better for them to live as before.

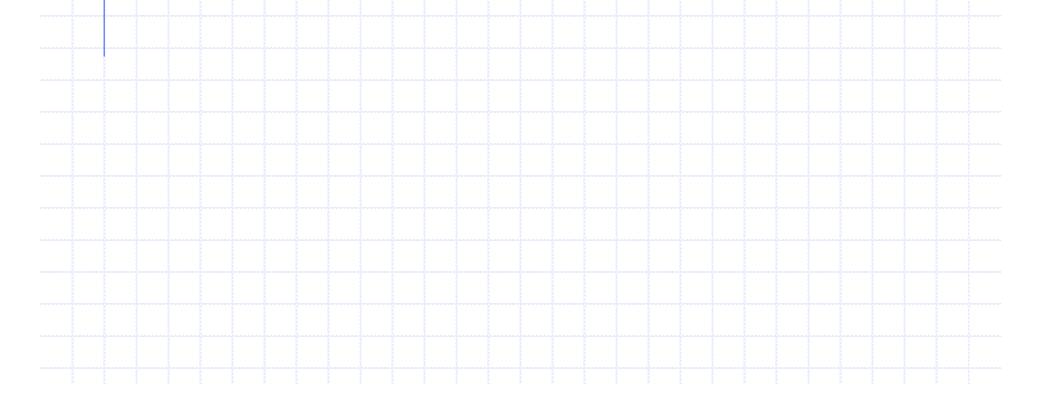
A. For Discussion

- 1. What is your reaction to the father's run-down condition?
- 2. What effect is created by including such things as DDT, pomades, and naphtha in the list of remedies the father tried?

 The father says he needs two things on Monday: absolute tranquility and adequate food.

How do the Pasionaria's and Margherita's responses to his request suggest that he is not likely to get what he wants?

4. How does the father fail in trying to get the kind of food he wants from a restaurant?



5. Would you describe the-Pasionaria as being sympathetic with or indifferent to what her father wants? Point out instances in the story that illustrate her attitude.

6. To whom does the Pasionaria's repeated remark that nothing ever gets fried in the house on Mondays seem to be directed-her mother, her father, or both of them?



it?

7. The conflict described in the story is one that could have led to bitter family strife. Why didn't

8. Would you describe the tone of the story as (a) sarcastic, (b) bitter, (c) vindictive, (d) ironic, (e) indignant? Explain.



Unit 34 The Balek Scales Heinrich Boll

 The baleks own the woods and the flax sheds in the (story narrator's grandfather's) village.

 Grandpa once notices that the Baleks' scale is 55 grams short in a pound.

On the new year's day, while the Baleks are at church, Wilhem Vohla, the poucher, breaks into the room, steals the scale and the leather-bound book.

When the villagers go to the grandpa's room to calculate how much the Baleks have cheated them,

 ...the gendarmes arrive, shoot and stab the people and take the scale and the book with them.





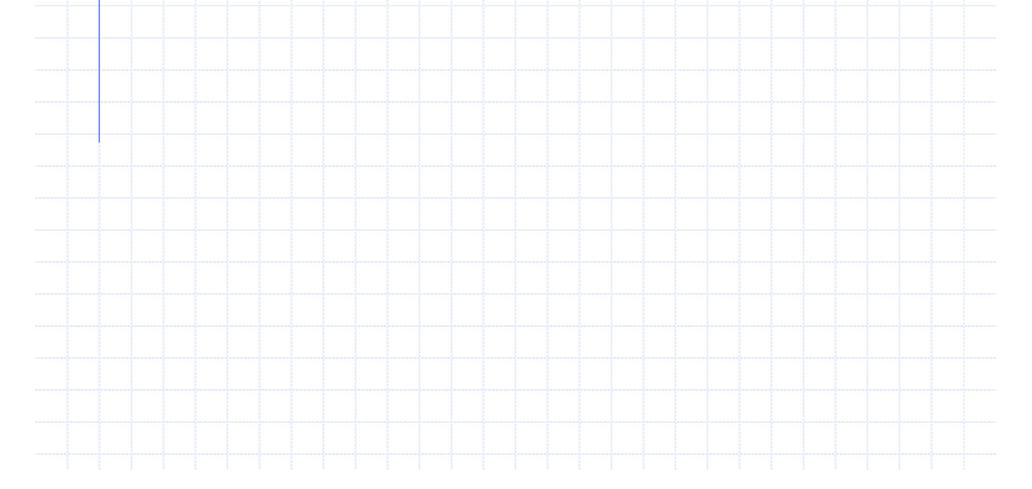
A. For Discussion

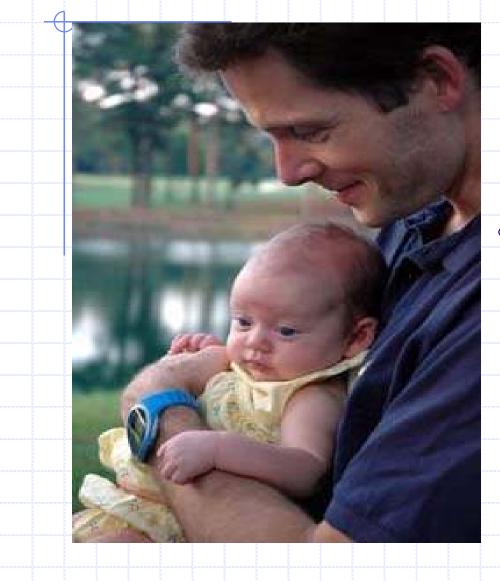
1. Discuss the "happy village life" the people led in this village.

2. Why is it important for the reader to read about the details of the people's life in this story?

- 3. Why is the ancient nature of the scales emphasized?
- 4. How does the writer imply that the injustice is not limited to one village or one family?

5. What significance does the hymn have?

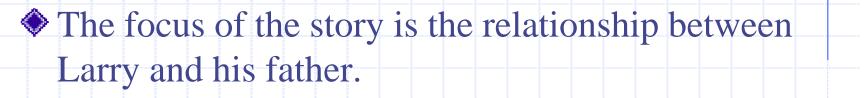




Unit 35 My Odipus Complex Frank O'Connor In "my Oedipus complex", we get a chance to explore the world of a little boy.

In this story, Larry, a five-year-old boy obsessed with his mother, suddenly sees a drastic change in his life when his father returns home from war.

 With abundant humor and considerable pragmatism, O'Connor depicts in this story the 'Oedipus stage' of a boy's life (alluding continuously and wittily to Freudian psychoanalysis.).



The conflict arises when his father comes back from the war.

Larry views his father as a stranger who suddenly steals his mother.

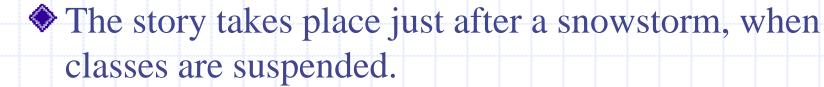
- A. For Discussion
- 1. How was Larry's life affected by the war?
- 2. Is the little boy's relationship with his mother natural?
- 3. What kind of man was the Father?

- 4. Discuss Larry's change of opinion toward the baby.
- 5. How did Larry's father come to realize his feeling toward Sonny.

6. Is the story a realistic view of family relationships?

Unit 36 The Guest Albert Camus "The guest" is a tale of Daru, a French Algerian schoolmaster, who is assigned against his will to deliver an Arab prisoner to the nearest city on the eve of the Algerian uprising.



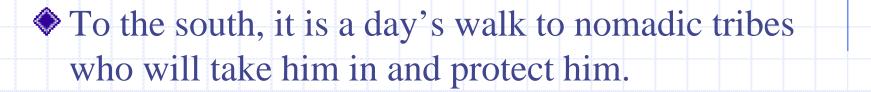




They walk for two hours to a fork in the path.

 Daru gives the package of food and some money to the Arab and offers him two choices.

To the east, it is a two hours' walk to the police station in Tinguit.



Then Daru returns to school, and the Arab chooses the road of the prison.

A. For Discussion

 In what respect is the title ironical? Why does "The Guest" make a better title than "The Prisoner?"

2. Daru has an isolated job among strangers in a hostile desert land.

Doesn't Camus consider Daru's situation as an image of the human condition?

3. How does the sense that all men are essentially in the same condition affect Daru's feelings and actions?

4. Compare the attitudes of Daru and Balducci toward the prisoner and the situation.

- 5. How does Daru reflect France's plight in French-Algerian crisis?
- 6. What conflicts involving justice and morality are tearing at Daru?
 - Why did Daru give the prisoner his freedom?

7. Comment on the Arab's reason for taking the road to prison?



Unit 37 Quality John Galsworthy ♦ The narrator's interactions with a shoemaker, obviously strikes some kind of chord in him. ◆ This is due to the simple logic of the moral.

 It is better to spend considerable time on an item of merchandise, perfecting it, than it is to work quickly and get cheap results.

 When the narrator enters Gessler's shop for the final time, he discovers just how much dedication Gessler imparts towards perfecting his art.



The former is informed by the new shop owner that Gessler passed away from starvation.

Perhaps Gessler is a bit of a perfectionist.
Good quality is akin to perfection and as we have

seen quality is of the utmost importance to

Gessler.

- ♦ A. For Discussion
- 1. Discuss the situation in the story?
- 2. How is Gessler's shoe shop different from modern shoe shops?
- 3. How would you define Gessler's character?

4. Quote sentences that reveal Gessler's feeling about his work?

5. What is your feeling about people like Gessler?

Unit 38

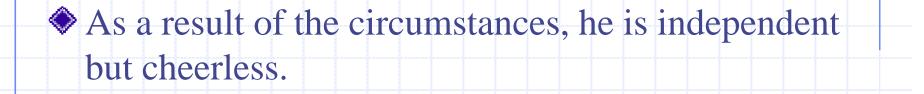
 A Mother in Mannville
 Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings

 The narrator (a woman)

 goes to an orphanage in the
 Carolina mountains to do
 some troublesome writing.



There, she meets Jerry, a twelve-year old boy who cuts her wood and does small helpful favors and stays to talk to her.



When he encounters the writer staying in the cabin belonging to the orphanage, he gradually senses what love of mother is...

and tells her that his mum usually comes to the orphanage from Mannville whenever she can and gives him gifts.



Sut when the writer plans to leave the place, Jerry is disappointed.

She is also surprised to hear from Miss Clark that Jerry has no mother.

A. For Discussion

1. In the first part of the story, Jerry is presented as a boy of great honesty.

What does he do to give you this impression?

2. At the close of the story, we discover that Jerry has lied about having a mother and receiving presents from her.

Does this show another side of his character, or a change in character?

What are some of the mistaken judgments a careless reader might make concerning: (a) the woman writer; (b) Jerry; (c) or Miss Clark?

4. At the very beginning and again, toward the end, gloves are given a prominent place in this story.
What do you think they might symbolize?

5. What insight into the needs of all human beings does this story offer?

6. Can you point to a sentence in the story that contains the main idea of this story.



Unit 39 How Much Land Does a Man Need? Leo Tolstoy Pahom buys some land from a lady, a small landowner.

One day a peasant, passing through the village,
 tells him that there is a place where each peasant
 has twenty-five acres of communal land given him
 for his use.

He takes his family there and obtains five shares of communal land, sets up the buildings he needs and buys cattle.

Sut his dream is to buy freehold land. One day a dealer says that he is just returning from the land of the Bashkirs.

He goes there alone and the Bakshirs receive him very well and the chief tells him that they sell their lands by the day.

As much as he can go round on his feet in a day is his, and the price is one thousand rubles a day.

Pahom accepts the deal.

Next morning the Bakshirs take him to a plain and tell him that he can now go round on his feet and mark the land and return to the stating point before the sunset.

Pahom succeeds in doing so but at the cost of his life.

Six feet from his head to his heels is all he gets.

♦ A. For Discussion

1. Why is the contrast made between city life and peasant life important in this story?

2. Some parts of the story seem repetitious? What do you think the writer tries to achieve in this way?

- 3. Part I starts in a realistic mode. Does it also end in the same style?
- 4. What light does the ending of part I throw on the story?
- 5. Discuss the irony of the ending of the story.

Unit 40 The Kite Somerset Maugham

Samuel Sunbury, a clerk at a lawyer's office, and his wife, Beatrice, a strong and active woman, and their son, Herbert live in London.



Herbert likes to fly kites. When he is 22, he marries betty Breven.

They take two rooms in Daney street and begin their new life.

Mrs. Sunbury, however, hates Betty.
 On the other hand, Herbert is fond of flying kite whereas Betty detests it.

 Being both obstinate, they keep quarreling until they are forced to stop leaving together.
 Following Betty's complaint, the magistrate sends

Herbert to jail because he refuses to pay the

arrears.

♦ A. For Discussion

- 1. How would you characterize Mrs. Sunbury?
- 2. How was Herbert treated at home before his marriage?
- 3. What kind of a person was Herbert before his marriage?

4. Comment on Mrs. Sunbury's statements about Herbert's marriage.

5. What is your opinion about Herbert's passion for kite flying as a young boy?

6. What was Mrs. Sunbury's reaction when she heard that Betty was coming to tea?

7. What was her reaction toward Betty on seeing her for the first time?

8. How does Mrs. Sunbury plot to detract his son from his wife?

9. Comment on Betty's character.

10. What is your comment on Herbert behavior in general?

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