

13/4/23

CHAPTER - 1
THE LAST LESSON

- ALPHONSE DAUDET

★ QUESTIONS - ANSWERS

Q1.) Why did Franz not want to go to school that day?

Ans. Franz did not want to go to school that day as he had not prepared his lessons on participles. His French teacher M. Hamel would scold him for this.

Q2.) What was the bulletin board used that caused a change in the school?

Ans. The news had been put up on the bulletin board stating that only German should be taught in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine from the next day.

Q3.) 'What a thunderclap these words were to me!' What were those words and was their effect on Franz?

Ans. M. Hamel told his students that it was their last French lesson. This announcement seemed to be a thunderclap to Franz as he was surprised and shocked on hearing this.

Q4.) What had the narrator counted on to enter the school unnoticed?

Ans. The sounds that were heard daily like opening and closing of the desks, repetition of the lessons and rapping of the ruler, were so loud that the narrator thought ^{that} he could enter the classroom without being noticed.

Q5.) Who occupied the backbenches in the classroom on the day of the last lesson?

Ans. The elderly villagers occupied the backbenches in the classroom on the day of the last lesson. They did this to show their affection for the French language and pay respect to the teacher.

Q6.) What words did M. Hamel write on the blackboard before dismissing the last class and what did they mean?

Ans. ~~Set~~ Before dismissing the last class, M. Hamel turned to the blackboard and wrote "Vive La France!" as large as he could. These words mean "Long Live France!" and spoke of M. Hamel's great love for his country and his deep sense of patriotism.

• LONG QUESTIONS ANSWERS

Q1.) 'Our native language is part of our culture and we are proud of it' How does the presence of village elders in the classroom in M. Hamel's last lesson show their love for French?

Ans. M. Hamel, in his last lesson says that the French language was the most beautiful language of the world. It was the clearest and the most logical of all languages. He regrets that the people of Alsace had not paid much attention to the learning of this great language. He ask the people to ^{safeguard} ~~safeguard~~ it among themselves as it is the key to their unity and freedom. The elderly villagers occupied the backbenches in the classroom on the day of last lesson. They did this to show their affection for the French language and pay respect to the teacher!

Q2.) ~~Franz~~ ^{fr} thinks ~~if~~ ^{if} will

P.T.O.

Q2) Franz thinks, "Will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons?"
What could this mean?

Ans. In the chapter, France ~~loses~~ ^{loses} two districts to Germany. The Germans pass the order that from now on, only ~~German~~ ^{German} will be taught in the schools of those districts. As Franz ^{is} attending his last class in French, he suddenly hears the pigeons on the roof ~~chooing~~ ^{cooing} in a low-tone. He wonders whether the ~~germans~~ ^{Germans} will make the pigeons to sing in German too. This remark is a ~~Franz~~ French boy's typical reaction to the learning German. This also shows the extent to which the ~~germans~~ ^{Germans} would go in their attempts at forcing their language and culture and the territories they had occupied in war.

• WRITING

Q1) Write a paragraph of about 100 words arguing for or against having to study three languages at school.

Ans.

FOR THE MOTION

Good morning respected Principal ma'am, ~~my~~ ^{worthy} teachers and all my dear friends! I am Divyanshu Tiwari of class XII-AL, present in front of you and I'm going to talk in the favour of having to study three languages at school.

In India, we ~~start~~ ^{start} studying two languages simultaneously, namely Hindi and English since we go to school. We study English in all the classes while in case of Hindi, we get a choice to study it or not after X standard. Addition of a third language in the curriculum can be beneficial for students in so many ways. They will be able to 'communicate' in multiple languages and break language barriers. They can explore the art and music of different languages which will ultimately enhance their creativity. Being a trilingual also boosts memory power. But all these benefits can be acquired

by students only when schools teach every language in a proper manner. The point here is to teach students how to communicate in different languages and the exam-oriented approach of our schools will never be able to do so. Students learn English for one-fifth of their lives but most of them can't speak English after passing out from the school. So, the way of teaching should be changed in a way such that the students can get the most of it and it can help them in practical life. Also, it shouldn't feel like a burden to students since they have to study other subjects too. In a nutshell, teaching three languages ~~in~~ in school can create more creative and innovative minds and schools should initiate it, provided that reforms are made in the current language teaching techniques.

Thank You