

## The Little Prince - Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

### Lesson 2

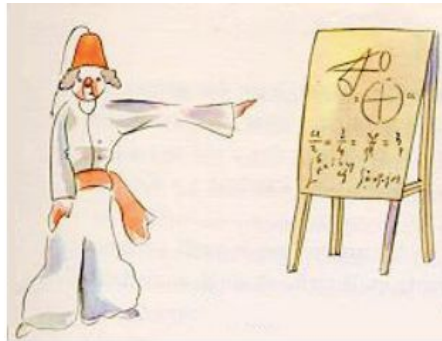
Read the extract below:

*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 B612.*

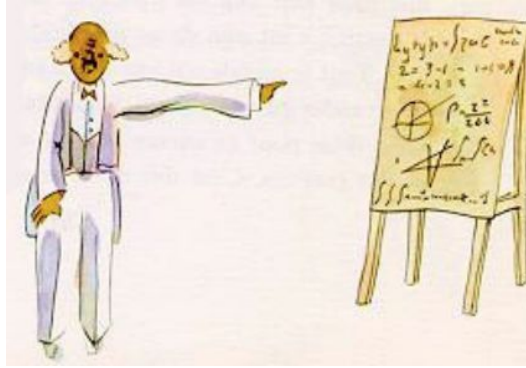
*This asteroid has only once been seen through the telescope. That was by a Turkish astronomer, in 1909.*



*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.*

## **Comprehension**

**Use the extract above to help you to answer the following questions:**

1. What is the second fact of great importance?
2. What piece of equipment do you use to see planets from Earth?
3. Which asteroid does the narrator think the little prince comes from?
4. Where was the astronomer from?
5. In what year did he make his discovery?
6. Why did no one believe the astronomer?
7. In what year did the astronomer make his second presentation?
8. Why was he believed this time?
9. Was the Congress right to not believe the astronomer the first time?
10. How would you feel if you were the astronomer? Why?

## **Vocabulary**

1. Reverie
2. Reflective
3. Queer
4. Asteroid
5. Indifference
6. Wise
7. Sprout
8. Discipline
9. Impressive
10. Unfortunate
11. Abrupt
12. Meditation
13. Resentful
14. Ashamed
15. Rage
16. Choked
17. Emerge
18. Coquettish
19. Painstaking
20. Moving

## HOMEWORK

Using the **work we did today as inspiration**, write a **diary entry** imagining you are **the astronomer** and you have **not been believed** because of the way you dressed.

**OR**

Write a **short story** using **at least 5 new words** (above) that we learned from these chapters.