



MOMENTS

STD-IX

SUBJECT- LITERATURE

CHAPTER - 5

TOPIC- THE HAPPY PRINCE

PERIOD-3

CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW

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THE HAPPY PRINCE

OSCAR WILDE



EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- Understanding the concept
- Being acquainted with prose and author's biography
- Understanding the idea
- Appreciate the language of the prose
- Developing LSRW Skills

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES/ EXTENDED OBJECTIVES

- Understanding the concept
- Being acquainted with prose and author's biography
- Understanding the idea
- Appreciate the language of the prose
- Developing LSRW Skills



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Oscar Wilde, in full Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde, (born October 16, 1854, Dublin, Ireland—died November 30, 1900, Paris, France), Irish wit, poet, and dramatist whose reputation rests on his only novel, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1891), and on his comic masterpieces *Lady Windermere's Fan* (1892) and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895). He was a spokesman for the late 19th-century Aesthetic movement in England, which advocated art for art's sake.



THEME

Of Oscar Wilde's various short works for children, 'The Happy Prince' (1888) occupies a special place as his signature tale, and is perhaps Wilde's definitive statement about the relationship between inner and outer beauty. 'The Happy Prince' is a sad tale that clearly owes much to earlier fairy stories, especially the tales of Hans Christian Andersen. However, it is also a typically Wildean story.



THE MATCHGIRL EPISODE

- The Happy Prince told the swallow that there was a little matchgirl in the square below.
- All her matches had fallen in the gutter.
- Her father would beat her if she didn't bring home some money. She was crying.
- He asked the swallow to pluck out the sapphire from his other eye and give that to her.
- The swallow flew with the sapphire. He put the sapphire into the little girl's hand.



THE SWALLOW DECIDES TO LIVE WITH THE HAPPY PRINCE

- The swallow flew back to the Happy Prince.
- He told the Prince that he would stay with him as he had gone blind.
- The Happy Prince asked him to fly over the city and tell him what he saw.
- He also told the swallow that the most marvellous thing was human suffering. And human misery was the greatest mystery.



THE PRINCE LOSES HIS GOLD

- The swallow flew over the city.
- He saw hungry children. He also saw many poor people.
- The Happy Prince asked him to take leaf after leaf of the fine gold over his body and give to them.
- The poor now laughed and the children played.



WINTER SETS IN

- Then there came the snow and then frost. Everything looked white.
- The poor little swallow grew colder and colder.
- But he didn't leave the Happy Prince.
- However, he could no longer keep himself alive.
- He at last knew that he was going to die.



HOMEWORK

1. Write the character sketch of the prince and the swallow.

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