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Table des matières

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A N G L A I S

1957-58 FASCICULE 6

LIBRAIRIE VUIBERT

CORRIGÉ D'ANGLAIS

SESSION DE SEPTEMBRE-OCTOBRE 1957

FRANCE MÉTROPOLITAINE

SÉRIES CLASSIQUES A ET B (1^{re} langue)

Version

AN UNHAPPY SCHOOLBOY

Philip had few friends. His habit of reading isolated him : it became such a need that after being in company for some time he grew tired and restless; he was vain of the wider knowledge he had acquired from so many books, his mind was alert, and he had not the skill to hide his contempt for his companions' stupidity. They complained that he was conceited; and, since he excelled only in matters which to them were unimportant, they asked satirically what he had to be conceited about. He was developing a sense of humour, and found that he had a gift for saying bitter things; he said them because they amused him, hardly realising how much they hurt, and was much offended when he found that his victims regarded him with active dislike.

SOMERSET MAUGHAM.

Questions

I.—Translate into English : *Un garçon ne devrait pas fuir ses camarades même s'il aime la lecture plus que tout. Philip aurait dû cacher son mépris pour les autres élèves et se montrer moins orgueilleux de ses connaissances. Aussi jamais Philip n'avait eu d'amis.*

II.—Why was Philip disliked by the other boys?

III.—Describe your best friend. Why do you like him? What are his qualities and faults? Can you tell some anecdote about him?

Traduction

UN ÉCOLIER MALHEUREUX

Philip avait peu d'amis. Il lisait, ce qui l'isolait; la lecture devint un tel besoin qu'après être resté en société quelque temps il sentait croître fatigue et énervement; il tirait orgueil des connaissances plus étendues qu'il avait acquises dans tant de livres; son esprit était vif, et il n'avait pas l'habileté de cacher son mépris pour la sottise de ses camarades. Ils se plaignaient de sa suffisance; et puisqu'il l'emportait uniquement dans des disciplines qui, à leurs yeux, apparaissaient sans importance, ils demandaient ironiquement de quoi il tirait vanité. Il manifestait une tendance à faire de l'esprit et il constata qu'il était doué pour dire des choses mordantes; il les disait parce qu'elles l'amusaient, comprenant à peine combien elles blessaient, et il s'irritait fort lorsqu'il voyait que ses victimes le considéraient avec une vive antipathie.

SOMERSET MAUGHAM.

Réponses

I.—A boy should not shun his companions even if he likes reading above all. Philip should have hidden his contempt for the other pupils and have appeared less vain of his knowledge. So never had Philip had any friends.

II.—Philip was disliked by the other boys because he was so different from them; as true English boys, his school-fellows were very probably fond of sports in which they excelled whereas he only cared for reading and intellectual topics, which seemed rather queer to them. As he did not feel in harmony with them, he kept away from their company, which is unusual with boys of that age who enjoy sharing in their friends secrets. Thus they did not get along very well together, and the more so as he was not long in realizing how common their minds were since they did not devote

