

A Simple Support to First Bell

English

Std. 10

02-12-2020 Class No. 37

The Danger of a Single Story

Summary of the first two paragraphs:

This is a speech by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is a Nigerian novelist. She started reading at the age of four. She read only British and American children's books. She began to write at the age of seven. She wrote exactly the kinds of stories she read. Her Characters were white and blue eyed. They played in the snow, they ate apples and they talked lot about weather. Adichie thought that the characters in books should be foreign. She read the books of China Achebe (Nigerian writer) and Camara Laye (writer from Guinea). Then she could realize that people like her also there in literature as characters. From then she started writing about the things she could recognize. The American and British books stirred her imagination. Adichie is from a middle class family. Her father was a professor and her mother was an administrator. When she was 8 , she got a new house boy. His name was Fide. Her mother told her that Fide's family was very poor. One Saturday, Adichie went Fide's home. Fide's mother showed her a beautiful basket made from died raffia. She told Adichie that it was made by Fide's brother. Adichie was surprised. She never thought that any one of his family could make something. She heard the single story of poverty about Fide's family.

VICTERS CLASS
LINK

മലയാള
പരിഭാഷ

(നെറ്റ് ഓൺ ചെയ്ത ശേഷം മുകളിലെ ലിങ്കുകളിൽ ക്ലിക്ക് ചെയ്യുക)

New words :

Impressionable : Easily influenced എളുപ്പത്തിൽ സ്വാധീനിക്കപ്പെടുന്ന

Vulnerable : Physically or emotionally exposed to attack

Kinky hair : Curly and round hair ചുരുണ്ട മുടി

Stir : to move something round. ഇളക്കുക

Conventional : Something that is widely accepted. യാഥാസ്ഥിതിക

Raffia : പനയോല നാര്.

Activity -1 :

Answer the following questions

1. What was Adichie convinced about the nature of books ?
2. How did Adichie feel when she read books authored by Achebe and Laye?
3. How did American and British books help her in her writing ?
4. What was the role of African writers ?
5. What do you know about Adichie's parents ?
6. Adichie speaks about a boy . Who ? What is his name ?
7. What was the story she heard about Fide ?
8. How did Adichie's mother help Fide's family ?
9. Adichie had a single story of Fide. When did it change ?

Activity -2 :

Here are the main points we discussed today. Some of them are blank. Complete it suitably.

1. Adichie was convinced that books by their very nature had to have in them.
2. When Adichie read books of Chinua Achebe and Camara Laye she realised that characters like her could also exist in literature.
3. and books stirred her imagination.
4. She belonged to a family
5. Her father was a Her mother was an
6. was their house boy.
7. Fide was very poor.

Activity -3 :

Discuss how the reading of different types of books influenced Adichie. Write a paragraph.

Activity -4 :

Adichie had only heard a single story of Fide. But she experienced a different story when she visited his house. Adichie writes her feelings about Fide in her diary.

Prepare the likely diary entry.

Answer Key :

Activity 1

1. She was convinced that books by their very nature had to have foreigners in them which she could not personally identify.
2. She realised that characters like her- skin colour of chocolate, kinky hair who could not form pony tails could also exist in literature. It is then that she started writing about things she recognised.
3. American and British books stirred her imagination.
4. They saved her from having a single story of what books are. She was able to write books about what she could identify personally. Instead of having a single story of books adichie was able to get different stories of books. Books can be written about different people, places culture, religion, art, races and events.
5. Her father was a professor and her mother was an administrator.
6. Fide . He is a house boy.
7. Fide's family was very poor.
8. Adichie's mother sent yams and rice and our old clothes to his family
9. One day when they went to his village, Fide's mother showed them a beautifully patterned basket of dyed raffia that his brother had made.

Activity 2

1. Adichie was convinced that books by their very nature had to have foreigners in them.
2. When Adichie read books of Chinua Achebe and Camara Laye she realised that characters like her skin colour of chocolate, kinky hair who could not form pony tails.. could also exist in literature.
3. American and British. books stirred her imagination.
4. She belonged to a Conventional middle class family
5. Her father was a professor Her mother was an administrator
6. Fide was their house boy.
7. Fide was very poor.

Activity 3

The books we read influence us a lot. Adichie has also the same experience. In her childhood, she read only American and British books. Then her writing reflected the peculiarities of the characters in the books she read. Later, she began to read the books of Nigerian writers. This also began to influence her writings and vision. She understood that the characters like her also there in literature.

Activity 4

My Diary .

08-08-08

9. p.m

How shameful my notion about Fide's family was ! . I had only a single story of poverty about him. I never thought that any one of his family could make something. How beautiful the basket made from dried raffia was. I really realized that they had another story other than the story of poverty. My mother had told me the single story of poverty. It was really an example of the danger of single story.