

ENGLISH CUP

This year I looked for the inspiration in the book **THE LITTLE PRINCE** by a famous French writer **ANTOINE DE SAINT-EXUPÉRY**.

As you certainly know, the hero of this novella is a tiny boy who comes from a mysterious planet where a rose is his only companion.

Task 1 – Poem

If you read the book you know that the little prince makes an impression of a lonely, slightly nostalgic, boy who doesn't understand the grown ups (adults) that much and is a bit lost in their world. **HERE IS THE TASK:** I'd like you to **write a poem to the little prince** in order to 1) **make him happy** or 2) explain **the laws of this world** to him or 3) think of **your own topic** what the poem to the prince will be about. Choose one of the three given options. There is no word limit.



Task 2 – Description

Let's send the prince to another planet. **HERE IS THE TASK:** **Describe an imaginary planet** that can become the future home of the Little Prince and think of **a companion** that'll live with the boy there. Write down the description in approximately **200 words**. Don't forget to make the paragraphs!



WINNERS AND THEIR WORKS

Poem – Older students

Barbora Žáčková (SXA) – 1st place

BEFORE I FORGET

Little boy, with a scarf, with so much to show.
Little prince, with a mind, that I used to know.
With a mind of a child – so innocent, pure,
a little naive – yet so mature.

Show me that mind,
teach me to know
to see with my heart,
how to know where to go.

To know where to go
where I feel at peace

teach me,
please,
before I'm too old.

Little prince of the past,
of the innocent youth,
where do I find
what I'm starting to lose.
I don't want to grow,
grow wise and grow older,
let go of the child
that's now starting to moulder

- "Grow up. And listen. And study." they told her

So show me the stars
before it's too late
before I grow old
before I forget.

Matyáš Měšťánek (3.A) – 2nd place

How the World Has Changed

The Earth rotations switched, dear young prince.
Why has it changed and was not the same ever since.
Both planet and people got into a fast motion,
now you can never have enough caution.

People forgot about kindness and they tend to be greedy,
even though they have everything they always needed.

People got used to putting on a fake face,
no one knows that money is not important, nor is race.

We should seek life purpose in the real sources,
not in bad habits or military forces.

Nations should be concerned about love and not wars.

My realization is that in the end everyone is like a leaf in autumn – it always falls.

I am jealous of your youth.

I realized this is not how I imagined the world and the truth.

Every child used to think the world is harmless and pure.

Unfortunately, against once being adult there is no cure.

Žaneta Holá (SXA) – 3rd place

The Ruthless Game

The life of adults,
the world of men,
it's just a clockwork
never taking break

You don't get it,
as I heard you say
You have to learn now
before it's too late

It's hard to keep going
every single day
when there is this game
you just have to play

It's like a match of chess
but when you learn the rules
they change them
just to make you lose

You will hit the ground,
hard, I would dare to say
it will become worse
every single day

No one is asking
whether you're alright
and when you need it,
no one is in sight

As soon as you get there,
there is no way back,

no one would listen,
even if you begged

And you'll want to return
to your childhood days
when you only worried
that you couldn't play

You'll want to find someone
to guide all your moves
to be your company
for better, for worse

You need to take care
'cause you're responsible
for what you've tamed
for now and forever

They'll be the only one
to never stab your back,
the only person
to never leave you sad

The others though,
they'll do their best
to get you sunk,
to never let you rest

They'll hunt you,
get on your mind,
drive you crazy,
they won't be kind

You have to hide,
find a safe space
'cause in this world,
grace has no place

And this world,
it doesn't ask
And without hesitation,
it eats you alive

Poem – Younger students

Adéla Pechová (KAA) – 1st place

HARIBO WORLD

I want you to be happy,

I know, you may feel bad.

But is it really necessary, to be so sad?

Just imagine the world's wonders,

rain on the skin, the storm that thunders.

Flowers growing from the ground

colourful birds flying all around.

Animals gentle and always fluffy,

they'll play with you and won't be puffy.

True love gives you endless pleasure,

friendship is a joy that we don't measure.

Dive under the surface in blue deep oceans

and rinse away your bad emotions.

The world is like a HARIBO,

Kids and grown-ups love it so!

Barbora Lukášová (KAB) – 2nd place

End

Little boy, only if you knew,

That some things don't do what they should do. Some make you happy, angry or even sad, But loneliness never lets you forget.

Forget who you were, even who you want to be, Being lonely never lets you be happy.

Maybe for a little time, but not forever. You know, forever lasts only one thing, Or so they say.

Love. I don't really know what it is.

But I hope you will someday.

When you recognize it,

It's the only thing that matters from the moment. Gravitation stops working,
You're floating off the planet.
Into the deep unknown space,
Only with love to hold your hand.
To tell you you're safe.
And you trust it with every inch of your heart. It's nice, for some time, then it's not.

Love. It's beautiful, but you have to be smart. Or it will fool you. It ends.

It always ends.

By what you do, what you say, by mistakes. Or by death, that's the better option.

You live until you die.

There's no other way.

So let me correct what they say.

There's only one thing that lasts forever. End.

Kateřina Martínková (KIB) – 3rd place

Stars and roses

Would you see the star if it lights a bit brighter?

Not just fade away like last few bars

Would you catch the sparkle when the dying fire lost most of it's light?

Giant cypress in your way like in Gogh's Mystery night.

And what about your loving rose?

How would you survive with no one that close?

I'll tell you secret, you might be shocked

in adults world are these things locked.

Locked in troubles, cares and fears

Only sometimes melt in tears

There're no roses, sparkles, stars

Those images wiped daily wars.

And Beethoven's symphonies?

When ears are blessed and heart wants cry

They consider them their enemies

Heart - cold stone, eyes - desert dry

You don't wanna know this world, you don't wanna grow up son

Crucifix is their happiness pleasure there is non.

With love and friendship everyone is done

Don't go there, don't grow up son

They're cutting roses for fun

Cause the real world stuffed with rules and laws

Killed the passion inside people, love-our national loss

Where did it all go? You might ask

But you'll find out your self soon though

Explaining is a hard task

I'll say only one thing my prince

When we dig out our buried culture, start listen to our death music and give new colors to faded art

We'll be happy and young again

Even though it's hard

Description – Older students

Anna Perdoková (SPA) – 1st place

I'm waiting for you

Far out in a desolate corner of the universe floats a miniscule gray orb. If it felt like it, it could be any colour it can think of, but in this particular moment, it sticks to gray. The little asteroid doesn't orbit any sun or a planet. In fact it seems woefully abandoned and lonely. Currently it is just exhausted. Thick darkness has replaced any specks of light that could have made it through the atmosphere and the gray landscapes are like blankets, warm and fluffy. If one were to stand in them, their feet would sink a bit with the soft material. The planet yawns. It falls asleep and dreams about a meadow full of flowers and fluttering butterflies. When they land to rest, the little pacing tickles. The scenery changes when a small pond appears.

Fireflies of all colors silently glide in between the reeds. A frog jumps into the water and the ripple causes a giant paper boat to wobble unsteadily for a while. The vessel seems strong enough to carry a passenger or two. The planet grows sad as it remembers it doesn't know a soul to sail on it. Suddenly the dream dissolves. Although no star lies near, there is no place on the asteroid without light. The planet feels rested and it is curious about the changes that occurred throughout its beauty sleep. Under the blue sky flowers cover all surfaces and the boat floats peacefully in the middle of the small turquoise pond. A cluster of lily pads hovers on the waterside and the frog contentedly sits in them, basking in the light.

The planet longs for someone to admire its beauty. It hopes someone would happily discover all the nooks and crannies of its hard work. It seems abandoned and lonely but it can only wait.

Damien Špulák (SPB) – 2nd place

As the little prince flies closer to the unknown planet, he sees that it resembles the Earth in many regards. Infinite planes of blue water, cut by few continents, dancing with many colors, ranging from green of forests, to yellow of empty deserts. On the top of the massive body, a little white polar cap shined, like a tiny cap. The atmosphere was blue, filled with hoards of clouds, shaped like sheeps.

His rocket landed on sunny meadow. Tall leaves of grass stretch above the prince, but it was wonderful. Blooms of many colors, some even bigger than palm of prince's hand, were colored in wide range of playful shades. Little insects buzzed and flew around, jumping from one flower to another.

Everything felt almost like Earth, yet, it was a bit different. Everything looked like something at home. However, there was something different, something uncanny. The prince liked it.

He registered a noise behind him. Turning around quickly, he saw a dog, sitting behind him. That was weird, it wasn't something similar to hound, no, it was pure dog, like on Earth. Little brown creature barked and lead the prince somewhere. He hesitated, but in the end, he obeyed and went with the dog.

"I'm going to call you Antoine," he decided. The dog barked, he liked the name.

Antoine showed him the wonders of this world, they became best friends and the prince understood. You don't need anything vastly different from the Earth, it is beautiful like it is.

Ondřej Klekner (SXB) – 3rd place

The next planet that the Little Prince has arrived to was a rather small one, but due to the trees standing tall, it looked much bigger. As he touched the ground, he felt his feet getting wet – and as he soon realized, the whole planet was humid.

The Little Prince was amazed that the trees there are way bigger than his rose. A lot of vines were dangling from the branches, making it hard for the light to shine through. A plethora of flowers were sprouting from the ground, fighting against each other to have enough space. One could see the whole color spectrum packed close together.

Near the overcrowded floral spot was a tiny lake, on which lily pads were floating freely. Few birds were sitting on a branch reaching over the lake, so he decided to ask them for directions, to which the birds left no response.

The Little Prince started venturing through the chaotic wildlife, and soon, he met an older man with a straw hat and a gardening suit. The man seemed to have a meaningful purpose, that is, to take care of his plants. All of his seemingly never-ending questions were answered. As Little Prince soon realized, the plants there don't need a glass dome.

He felt understood. He felt like home.

Description – Younger students

Amálie Pavlisová (KAA) – 1st place

Slowly, he opened his eyes. To his surprise, he could see and breathe just fine. Upon further inspection, there was a bubble surrounding his head, gently waving in the current.

He stood upon fields of white sand stretching out as far as the eye could see. Hundreds of coral reefs covered the ground, housing all kinds of colourful fish that were currently swimming beside him. It felt astounding. He turned around and laid his gaze on the most wonderful mansion he has ever seen. Its walls were made of white marble, pearls embedded into every surface. It almost reached the surface, its high rooftops consisting of lapis lazuli, the loveliest kind of blue he has ever seen. It stood before him, grand and sparkling with the power of a thousand mirrors.

As soon as he set foot on the ground of the palace, he was cheerfully welcomed by a small octopus. It led him to a gorgeous room, one that had ornaments of gold coating the hall to the very top, where a glass roof let the sun shine through, and throwing rainbow stripes of light around. In the middle, there stood a throne resembling a shipwreck, the queen octopus sitting on top. She welcomed him to stay as their guest as long as he'd like, and that the little octopus will keep him company, as he is very happy they finally have visitors.

The Little Prince, charmed by the beauty of this land, could imagine himself staying here. And so, he stayed.

Štěpán Smatana (1.A) – 2nd place

Tremmer. Small planet covered with shallow oceans, towering mountains and barren deserts revolving around two distant stars. Planet made for adventures.

Not only that it has captivating landscape, but it is also inhabited by fascinating creatures, ranging from simple bacteria to intelligent creatures of monstrous sizes. The endless landscapes are covered with glooming vegetation, consisting of exotic fruits, colorful flowers and gargantuan trees.

The incredible trees of Tremmer are homes of Nazerians, creatures that may seem wild & dangerous at first, but are actually one of the more friendlier life forms on Tremmer. Driven by the need to move through the jungle quickly, the evolution has given them strong legs for climbing and sharp claws for grasping. Compared to other Tremmerian species, Nazerians are also quite intelligent creatures, considering the size of their heads. Their wide, red cheeks are just the cherries on top.

One of the Nazerians, "Naajik" as nicknamed by the Little Prince, is his best friend. Unlike others, Naajik is more gifted by the nature. Being able to understand the basics of human language, he's been able to become his best friend & companion on his journeys. Not only that he's a friendly chap, but he also has the abilities to survive in the inhospitable conditions of Tremmer. Just the best fellow anybody could've hoped for on Tremmer.

Simona Nosková (KIB) – 3rd place

Traveller

One beautiful summer night, when a warm breeze dancing between palm trees was lightly touching my skin and the sound of the waves crashing into the reef was evoking long forgotten memories, I met a boy with blonde hair shining like the sun's rays. He was standing all alone on the vast beach, ankles deep in cold ocean water surrounding the small island we were on. He wasn't shaking, he wasn't scared. He didn't cry, he didn't look around. He stared at me

I walked up to him and asked in a sweet voice: „Do you need help?” He looked at me with such a sad face, yet his eyes sparkled with child's innocence and endless curiosity. „Can you draw me a planet?” he asked quietly, showing me an empty notebook with a simple pen. His words almost weren't heard through the ocean's noises. There was nobody else on that island. I could have just turned around and returned into my house, leaving everything behind.

Perhaps it was all just a dream. But that day it was just the two of us under the dark night sky sprinkled with countless bright stars and I simply couldn't refuse that strange request of that child, even though my mind screamed at me not to. So I grabbed the pen and I drew.

I drew for a long time and as I did so, the unclear lines began to take shape. It was a small planet traveling through the never ending universe, around the burning stars and pitch black black holes. It didn't have a fixed place in the world just like the boy and my thoughts, traveling forever into the new unknowns. There were rocks and small mountains that seemed too big for such a tiny world but I drew them anyway. It reminded me of his unshakeable will to live. There was also a deep blueish lake on the surface of which distant lights were reflected. From it a single stream running in curves through the entire world emerged until it connected into the lake again. That was because every journey starts and ends somewhere else, yet it never leaves the pond we call a universe.

Then I added fertile land and curled plants, because every planet is just a cold stone, until it becomes a home and I didn't want him to feel lost. The plants had different shapes and sizes, but they all had navy blue leaves resembling the dark depths of oceans. All emitting spots of greenish light, perhaps caused by some bioluminescent bacteria, and all stretching towards the sky to catch a glimpse of light from the distant stars. I never drew a planet before so I felt a little nervous as I handed him the notebook.

He looked at it carefully, but his expression didn't change. I felt my heart sinking. It failed to make him happy. Then he looked me in the eyes with excitement. „Can you also draw me a friend?“ he whispered again. I smiled and took back the paper and the pen.

I gave him a cat with long legs and slim body, with pure black eyes and huge ears like the egyptian ones used to have. Its fur glowed with inner light as if the rays of stars stayed trapped inside. As it bounced around almost like it was flying, it brightened the small planet up with soft white light. From time to time, it disappeared somewhere, perhaps to swallow the wandering lights, but it always returned to him, telling countless stories of things it saw in that vast unexplored place.

This time when he looked at my drawings he smiled warmly. Without sparing me another glance or single word, he started running across the beach away from me. Only the wind brought his voice filled with laughter to me, saying simple thank you. For a long time I stayed here, gazing in the direction he disappeared to, until I turned around and returned home. It was such a strange encounter that I wasn't sure if it was real. And maybe I would have forgotten completely, if he had not been waving at me from a distance from time to time with a beautiful cat sitting by his side.