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| **Lesson Title:** Using the Prose Text | | **Theme:** Reading | |
| **Practice Activity:** PHL-09-118 | | **Class:** JSS 3 | |
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| **Learning Outcomes**  By the end of the lesson, you will be able to:  1. Relate events in the prose text to your own experience.  2. Argue about a character in the book – namely, those that you like and those that you dislike – and why. | | | |

**Overview**

**Prose** is different from poetry. Prose does not have the same rhythm or structure. It is English in its ordinary form.

As you read, try to imagine yourself in the position of the **protagonist**. The protagonist is the main character. We can become very attached to the protagonist. We share the joys and sorrows of that character. We feel good when the character is happy and feel bad when the character is sad. We get angry at other characters that try to hurt the protagonist. When we **relate to** a character, we connect the events of the story to our own experiences.

In this story, we shall identify the characters that we like and those that we dislike. The main character is Fatu. She is the **protagonist**. You should think about Fatu′s experiences and imagine how your life would be in Fatu’s situation.

Fatu′s aunt is the **antagonist**. She is the one who is against Fatu. She is a very harsh woman, who punishes Fatu for every little mistake and gives her so much work that Fatu has no time to study at home. Another character in the story is Fatu′s uncle Jimma. He sees how badly his wife treats Fatu, but he does not stop her.

**Practice**

**Activity 1**

Read the following passage and answer the multiple-choice comprehension questions.

Fatu Overcomes

Fatu′s parents were so poor that when her father’s cousin came and told the parents that he would take Fatu to Kono, they readily agreed. Fatu′s uncle, Uncle Jimma, had a wicked and lazy wife who always complained about too much work in the house. Uncle Jimma took Fatu with him so that she would help his wife with the work.

Uncle Jimma′s wife mistreated Fatu and gave her so much work that she went to bed very late and woke up very early. Fatu was always late for school. Even though she went through all these problems, Fatu sacrificed her sleep to study.

Instead of playing in school, she studied. When the BECE results were released, Fatu got an aggregate score of 12. We clapped when the principal announced her result to the school.

**Comprehension questions**

1. What is the best way to describe Fatu’s aunt?
   1. Tired and not interested in Fatu
   2. Lazy and demanding
   3. Kind and helpful
2. Why did Uncle Jimma take Fatu home with him?
   1. To help his wife with house work
   2. To help give her a better education
   3. Because he was trying to help out his cousin
3. What did Fatu sacrifice to study for the BECE?
   1. Eating and sleeping
   2. Playing and sleeping
   3. Playing and eating
4. How did Fatu’s aunt mistreat Fatu?
   1. She beat her
   2. She would not let her go to school
   3. She gave her so much work that she had no time for anything else
5. Who was happy for Fatu when she got a good score?
   1. Her parents and uncle
   2. Her aunt and uncle
   3. Her classmates at school

**Activity 2**

Have you ever had an experience where you had to overcome someone or something standing in your way? What did you do? Write a short paragraph of 5-7 sentences about your experience.

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**Activity 1**

1. b 2. a 3. b 4. c 5. c

**Activity 2**

Example answer:

When I was younger, I really wanted to take dance classes. However, dance classes were very expensive and my mother said that we could not afford them. I did not let that stop me. I decided to get a job on the weekends, working at my uncle’s shop. I gave half the money to my mother, and she agreed to let me keep the other half for my classes. I loved my dance classes, and I appreciated them more because I paid for them myself.