

TUTORIAL – 10: E COMICS

ADVENTURES OF ASTERIX & TINTIN

Dear Parents / Students,

Warm Greetings!

Though E comics do not actually fall into the category of an Educational tutorial, yet it does provide for light reading to students as comics besides being of recreational value improves their speed of reading, level of comprehension and their language.

More importantly, it sows the seeds of the habit of reading in students wherefrom they can graduate to reading Novels, both fictional and non-fictional, which reap inherent benefits in the long run.

One such attempt is therefore being made in this tutorial to introduce them to the two most popular comic series of the 20th century, which are " **The Adventures of Asterix** " and " **The Adventures of Tintin** ", which are both fictional (not factual) stories. A word about these two comic series are stated in the succeeding paragraph.

THE ADVENTURES OF ASTERIX:

This is a French series of comics created by two Frenchmen, Rene Goscinny and Albert Uderzo, which was later translated in English.

It's a fictional story about the Gaulish warriors who had adventures and fights with the Roman Empire during the era of Julius Caesar in 50 BCE, where they resist the occupation of their village by the mighty Roman Army.

They are able to do so by means of a magic liquid brewed by their religious leader, Getafix which temporarily give the warriors superhuman strength.

The comics come in 38 Volumes and each fictional (non factual) story is independent of the other story and therefore can be read in any order.

The list of main characters who appear in these series are listed as an Appendix for easy identification of the characters and the role they play. However, all characters do not appear in each comic book. You may refer the net for further details.

A few of these comics are presented below with links and those interested may also refer to the other E comics on the net.

ASTERIX AND CLEOPATRA:

<https://bit.ly/3ibEfKQ>

ASTERIX IN BRITAIN:

<https://bit.ly/3dFe7oq>

ASTERIX AND THE NORMANS:

<https://bit.ly/38aqlyH>

ASTERIX AND THE CHIEFTAIN'S SHIELD:

<https://bit.ly/3dGLvev>

ASTERIX AND THE CAULDRON:

<https://bit.ly/3gc3on7>

ASTERIX IN SPAIN:

<https://bit.ly/3dCtyO9>

ASTERIX AND THE ROMAN AGENT:

<https://bit.ly/3i9ppEC>

THE ADVENTURES OF TINTIN:

These comics were created by a Belgian author whose pen name is Herge.

The fictional stories are of a young Belgian reporter whose adventures are narrated in a very interesting manner in these E comic series.

While shopping at an outdoor market, young reporter Tintin accompanied by his faithful dog, Snowy, buys a model of an old ship called Unicorn. Later, two shady characters try to buy the ship model from Tintin but Tintin refuses. Tintin discovers that the ship model contains a clue of a hidden treasure, but before he can locate it he is kidnapped and handed over to a drunken Captain Haddock who sails to Morocco in his old cargo ship.

The two shady characters have bribed the ship crew to revolt against Captain Haddock. But the drunken Captain Haddock, Tintin and Snowy somehow escape and arrive at Morocco. Later, Tintin along with Captain Haddock travels half the world, outwitting and outrunning his enemies in a breathless chase to find the final resting place of the Unicorn. From the high seas to the sands of North African deserts, every twist and turn sweeps Tintin and his friends to high levels of thrill and danger proving that when you dare to risk everything, there's no limit to what you can do.

The comics come in 24 volumes and each fictional (non-factual) story is independent of the other story and therefore can be read in any order.

The list of main characters who appear in these series are listed as an Appendix for easy identification of the characters and the role they play. However, all characters do not appear in each comic book. You may refer to the net for further details.

A few of these comics are presented below with links and those interested may also refer to the other Tintin comics on the net.

TINTIN AND THE CIGARS OF THE PHAROAH:

<https://bit.ly/2Ac07or>

TINTIN AND THE BROKEN EAR:

<https://bit.ly/389Xb8i>

TINTIN AND ALPH-ART:

<https://bit.ly/2Bhwr9T>

LIST OF MAIN CHARACTERS IN THE ADVENTURES OF ASTERIX

ASTERIX

He is the main character. He is intelligent brave and a shrewd warrior who eagerly volunteers for all dangerous missions. He is unusually small in size. He belongs to the Gaulish village.

The Series portrays him as a fearless warrior living in the times of Julius Ceasor. During the Gaullic wars he and his men defended his village from the mighty Romans Army. His strength lies in having fallen into Getafix's magic.

OBELIX

He is the closest friend of Asterix and works as a sculptor and delivery man. He is tall and fat and does not like to be called fat. The notable things in him is that he possesses tremendous strength and is fond of eating food. His favourite food being wild boars. His strength results from having fallen into Getafix's magic.

DOGMATIX

Dogmatix is the pet dog of Obelix. He is tiny but has a nasty temper. He loves nature and hates to see trees suffer. Obelix loves his dog and gets very angry if any one hurts him.

GETAFIX

Getafix is a high ranking religious head of the village with legal authority. He is tall with a long white beard and hooked nose. He wears a white robe and red cloak and is always in possession of a small golden sickle. Although known for his strength enhancing magic he also has many other magical and medicinal talents at his disposal, including magic to make hair grow quickly, counteract against poison which could kill a person or

make him lose his memory. His magic is the source of strength to all the warriors of Gaulish village. He however does not fight in wars.

VITALSTATISTIX

He is the chief of the Gaulish village. He is middle aged with a big stomach, red hair pig tail and a huge moustache. He is generally reasonable, well informed, fearless, even tempered and unambitious. His major failing is that he loves food and drinks which has led to his health problems.

As the Gaulish chief he prefers to travel with a shield which are carried by two shield bearers.

Before becoming the chief of the village Gaulish he fought in a battle where Julius Caesar defeated the Gauls in the war. He has only one fear that the Sky may fall on his head tomorrow.

CACOFONIX

He is a poet in the Gaulish village. He loves singing and playing with musical instruments. He is usually a supporting character. He considers himself to be a genius and a super singer and gets angry when someone criticises his singing.

GERIATIX

Geriatix is the oldest inhabitant of the Gaulish village. He is 93 years of age but claims to be only 83 years when drunk.

As an elder Geriatix demands respect and does not like anyone calling him old. He is against foreigners who are not from his village.

MRS. GERIATIX

She enjoys her husband's devotion and his status as village elder. Her youthful appearance suggests that she is less than half her husband's age and is also little taller than her husband. Although, as ambitious and gossip prone as the other wives, she is also witty. She rules her home and usually tell her husband what to do.

UNHYGIENIX

He is the village fisherman, like his father was before him. In spite of having a fishing boat his fish does not come from the sea nearby to the village. Instead, he gets it from far away. He does not notice the dirty smell of the fish while the other villagers do and this causes fights between him and the villagers as he sells stale fish. He often fights with Fulliautomatix, the village blacksmith, about the stale smell of the fish he sells

MRS BACTERIA

She is the wife of Unhygienix and is one of the inner circle of wives of the village. She helps her husband run the shop selling fish. They have two sons.

FULLIAUTOMATIX

He is the village blacksmith. His father was the blacksmith before him. He is tall, very strong and well built. He is one of the strongest characters, perhaps second only to Obelix and a bit of a bully. He often interacts with Unhygienic, the fisherman with whom he has a friendly rivalry. He has two sons and a daughter.

MRS FULLIAUTOMATIX

She is the wife of Fulliautomatix and is one of the shortest women in the village. She takes no nonsense and dominates over her much larger husband and also gets into fights with the wife of village chief Vitalstatistix. She is also known to have beaten up Cacofonix on many occasions.

PIRATES

In the course of their travels Asterix and Obelix regularly come across pirates in the seas and beat them up. They also sink their ships causing severe financial difficulties to the pirates. Such is the fear that the pirates have for the Gauls.

JULIUS CAESAR

Julius Caesar is the Roman dictator and the conqueror of Gauls. Many of the stories involve his plans to finally conquer this last Gaulish village holding out against his empire. At other times the village has come to his aid but more often it is a major embarrassment to him as the Romans used to laugh at Julius Caesar due to his failed plans to conquer this last Gaulish village which was holding out against his mighty Army. Despite this Julius Caesar is shown to be man of honour.

CLEOPATRA

Cleopatra is the Queen of Egypt. She was very beautiful and Julius Caesar was attracted towards her. After having conquered Egypt Julius Caesar declared Cleopatra and her brother the joint rulers of Egypt but maintained a private relations with Cleopatra. She travelled to Rome where she stayed at Caesars palace.

LIST OF MAIN CHARACTERS IN THE ADVENTURES OF TINTIN

TINTIN

Tintin is the main character in this comic series. He is a Reporter and an adventurer who travels around the world with his dog Snowy. He appears as a young man of 19 years of age and has a round face and has a peculiar hair style.

Tintin is intelligent and can defend himself. He is honest, decent, compassionate and kind. Through his investigative reporting, quick thinking and all-around good nature Tintin is always able to solve the mysterious and complete his adventures successfully.

CAPTAIN HADDOCK

He is one of Tintin's best friend who is sea sailing, pipe smoking, Merchant Navy Captain.

SNOWY

Showy is Tintin's pet dog and accompanies Tintin's wherever he goes. He is able to understand human language and communicates in speech bubbles. As a dog, he also sniffs, tracks, chases and bites.

THOMSON AND THOMPSON

They are two incompetent detectives who are comical in nature. Both of them have a flat drooping moustache.

Often when one of them says something, the other repeats the same thing. They usually wear hats and carry walking sticks except when abroad when they wear the costumes of that country so that they look like the local population.

PROFESSOR CALCULUS

He is Tintin's friend and an absent minded professor. He is a scientist who invents many things in this comic series such as a submarine, moon rocket and an ultrasound weapon.

Though he is deaf, he pretends not to be so and often repeats back what he thinks he has heard, usually in the most unlikely words possible.

BIANCA CASTAFLORE

She is an opera singer and is portrayed as a whimsical, comical, absent minded and talkative person. She is unaware that her voice is shrill and loud. She is also wealthy, generous and has an iron will.

RASTAPOPIULOS

He does not have an eye and wears an eye patch. He is a criminal mastermind with multiple identities and activities.

CHANG CHONG - CHEN

Chang Chong-chen is a Chinese. Although Chang knows Tintin for a short time they form a deep bond which drives them to tears when they separate or reunite.

GENERAL ALLAZAR

He is a military officer of the San Theodoran Army. He is involved in a never ending struggle for power with his arch rival General Tapioca, both men claiming leadership of the country and renaming the capital after themselves, whenever they arrive in power.

DR JW MULLER

He is a psychiatrist whose position and credentials serve more as a cover for his more criminal activities including that of a criminal, secret agent and mercenary for hire.

PIOTR SKUT

Piotr Skut is an eye patch-wearing pilot who is friendly with Captain Haddock and Tintin after they saved his life in the Red Sea.

GENERAL TAPIOCA

He is a military officer and is the arch-enemy of Tintin's friend General Allazar, the Presidents of the latin American Republic of San Theodorus.

JOLYON WAGG

He is a simple, outgoing and over bearing man who enters the story by barging in uninvited to the mansion of Captain Haddock.

COLONEL SPONSZ

He is the chief of police of Szohod and the head of the Bordurian Secret Police of ZEP. He wears speaks in one eye.

COLONEL JORGEN

Colonel Boris Jorgen was an aristocrat and Colonel in the Syladavian Army as well as the sworn enemy of Tintin. He is one of the villians. His appearance and attitude were like that of Adolf Hitler.

FRANK WOLFF

He was a mathematical scholar. He was a rocket engineer who assisted Tintin's friend, Professor Calculus both before and during the mission to the Moon.

RED RACKHAM

He was an infamous pirate Captain who stole a radio set used for communication.

ALLEN THOMPSON

He was in the Merchant Navy. He treated Thomson and Thompson, kindly initially but was cruel and mean to Tintin. Later he was also cruel to Thomson and Thompson.

OLIVERIA DA FIGUEIRA

He was a friendly salesman from Lisbon, Spain who could sell even the most small items from umbrellas to roller skates.

BUNJI KURAKI

He is an undercover police agent from Yokohama, Japan who is part of the operations to stop International drug ring.