

Class - VIIIMs JaswinderSubject - English LiteratureChapter - 19 ArithmeticGood morning students,

Today we are going to take up the story Arithmetic as a part of your English Lit. assignment. This story has been taken from your English Literature book titled 'New Trends in English Reader'. In this story you will learn about a smart and naughty girl whose name is Matilda. She felt very bad when she was ignored in her house.

Students, now pay attention as I am going to explain you the summary of the story 'Arithmetic'. Students, Arithmetic is an extract from a funny children's book 'Matilda' written by a well-known writer Roald Dahl. The book 'Matilda' is about a very clever or smart little girl called Matilda. She could speak perfectly at the age of one and a half. But Matilda has a problem. Her parents were horrible. Her father was a car dealer. Both the parents were not interested in their daughter. So in this extract we will be reading about behaviour of Matilda's parents towards her. Matilda is having a hard time because

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She wishes her parents were not so awful. Matilda was helpless to improve her parents attitude. She always thinks to teach her parents a lesson by playing different pranks. The only thing she could do that was her brain-power. As Matilda was just five years old she had to do whatever she was asked. She was always forced to have her dinner out of TV-dinner-trays. She plays magic pranks with her parents by disguising a neighbour's parrot as a ghost. Whenever Matilda played these types of magic pranks. It was just like a magic medicines for several days. These types of tricks cooled both the parents down for over a week.

One evening Matilda's father who was a car dealer returned from his work. Matilda and her brother were sitting on the sofa and waiting for the dinner. Matilda's father Mr Wormwood wore a dark yellow check suit. He was very happy as he had a very successful day. He called his son happily and told him that he had sold five cars in a day and on a

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good profit. He was telling all these to his son ignoring his daughter Matilda. Then he took out a piece of paper from his pocket and told his son to write some numbers and after writing the numbers he told his son the profit he got from car number one, then car number two and so on. The ten years old boy wrote all the numbers on a bit of paper. The father confirmed that whether the boy had written all the figures on the paper. Then father said "now work out the profit I made on each of the five cars and add up to the total. Then you'll be able to tell me how much money your brilliant father made today." The boy said that it was not an easy sum. The boy also praised his father for his good business. Then the father told the son that it took him just ten minutes to do this total in his head. The father was praising himself for his intelligence. He was feeling proud and said that he had a computer in his head. Matilda was sitting quietly and listening all the conversation between her father and her brother.

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Matilda who was sitting there quietly and listening their conversation. She said quietly "Father you made exactly four thousand three hundred, three pounds and fifty pence altogether." But father did not want to listen her. He scolded her not to interfere into the matter. After a few minutes Matilda again went to her father and repeated the same figures and said to father that she was sure about the figure. Now father was becoming red with anger. When father checked the total repeated by Matilda and the total he had done on a paper. It was absolutely right. There was silence for some time then father outraged and told Matilda that she had cheated from his father.

Matilda told her father that she was sitting the opposite side of her father so how could she cheat. But father was outraged and said no one in the world could give the right answer in that way and especially a girl. In the meantime her mother came into the room and asked the father the reason of his anger. Then he told her that her daughter was a cheater and a liar too. They did not care for Matilda's emotions at all. The father took his plate of dinner and ordered to switch on the television and not to utter a single word.

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Alright students, you have been given a brief outline of the story. Now you all are required to read the provided content and story given in the book carefully and do exercises - 4 A, B in your English Literature notebooks as a part of your home assignment.

Students, answers to the home assignment will be provided you in the answer key on Thursday. Thank you.

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