



JECRC Foundation



**JAIPUR ENGINEERING COLLEGE
AND RESEARCH CENTRE**

JAIPUR ENGINEERING COLLEGE AND RESEARCH CENTRE

Year & Sem. – B. Tech I year, Sem.-I

Subject – Communication skills

Unit – 4

Presented by – Saroj Parihar

Designation - Assistant Prof.

Department - E & H

MISSION OF INSTITUTE

- ❖ **Focus on evaluation of learning outcomes and motivate students to inculcate research aptitude by project based learning.**
- ❖ **Identify, based on informed perception of Indian, regional and global needs, the areas of focus and provide platform to gain knowledge and solutions.**
- ❖ **Offer opportunities for interaction between academia and industry.**
- ❖ **Develop human potential to its fullest extent so that intellectually capable and imaginatively gifted leaders may emerge.**

Course Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of the course, the students will be:

CO-1.Able to express themselves better and use English for communicating in an effective manner both professionally and in real life situations .

CO-2-Able to write formal letters ,reports and proposals ,as well as speak fluently through correct usage of the various parts of speech.

CO-3.Able to get an exposure to the culture ,values, ethics and social norms reflected in the prose and poetry of authors from around the world and respond accordingly coupled with their imagination.

INTRODUCTION TO SYLLABUS

SHORT STORIES

THE LUNCHEON

HOW MUCH LAND DOES A MAN NEED?

THE NIGHT TRAIN AT DEOLI



The Luncheon

By
William
Somerset
Maugham

fppt.com

About the author

- William Somerset Maugham (1874—1965), a writer of short stories, novels and plays, was born in Paris on 25 January 1874.
- Parents died before he was 10, and he went back to England and was educated at King's School.
- Some of his famous work include
 - *Human Bondage* (1915)
 - *The Moon and Sixpence* (1919)
 - *Cakes and Ale* (1930)
 - *The Razor's Edge* (1944)
 - *The Circle* (1921)
 - *Our Betters* (1923)



Summary

Summary of 'The Luncheon' the writer of 'The Luncheon' William Somerset Maugham, in this short story, relates about a lady who is an admirer of his stories. She wins the author's favor and expresses her wish to meet him at a high class restaurant. William exposes the false motives of modest eating habits, of the middle classes with a touch of humor.

Twenty years ago the author was living in Paris, when he had met a lady, who is an admirer of his stories. She had met him at a play and relates to him the incident during the interval which had occurred at that time. She had read a book written by him, and had written a letter to him about her views.

Another letter was posted, stating about her visit to Paris and her desire to have a little luncheon at the Foyots, a restaurant where French senators eat. William was not a rich man and had never even thought of visiting that restaurant, nor did he possess the art of refusing her request.

William's heart sank, his mouth watered, and yet he had to quell his emotions. Adding to worsen the situation, she ordered for ice-cream and then coffee, all the same announcing that 'she never ate anything for luncheon - just a bite' Thoughts kept reeling through William's mind about how he was going to pay the exorbitant bill or how could he feign an act of his pocket having been picked.

To his utter dismay, the head waiter walked up to the table with a large basket full of huge Peaches. She picked up one protesting that her meal was just a snack, and that she could certainly enjoy the Peach.

The bill was finally paid, and William found himself with just a few Francs for the tips, and not a penny left in his pocket for the whole month. William believes, that he had had his revenge for then, when the Twenty years had passed by, he met her weighing One Hundred and Thirty -Six Kilograms.

The Theme

The primary theme of the story 'Luncheon' by Maugham is appearance vs. reality. The speaker, in 'Luncheon', wishes from the start that his date would be a gorgeous woman. He imagines a portrayal of a graceful lady in his mind. But, when he goes to possess lunch together with her, she appears as a surprising blast, a complete opposite to his imagination. Not only her appearance but also her dialogues express that she is a particularly fat, food-loving and ravenous woman who doesn't even think a touch about the prices the speaker would need to buy the lunch. She features an excellent appetite and gobbles tons of cash also. the foremost interesting part is that the verbal irony hidden within the lines she utters to the speaker like she doesn't eat an excessive amount of etc. The irony concealed in her speeches helps to develop the most theme. These ironies make 'Luncheon' a comic book story within the true sense.

Conclusion

The story is full of irony. Firstly the irony lies in the title itself, the title says "THE LUNCHEON", which literally means a light snack but as we can see in the story a light snack turns to be an abundant and expensive meal.

The main focus of the story is in the appearance vs reality. The speaker, in "luncheon", wishes from the beginning that his date would be a beautiful woman. He imagines a portrayal of a graceful lady in his mind. But, when he goes to have a lunch with her, she appears as a surprising blast, a total opposite to his imagination.

References

- Adler, R. B. & Rodman, G. 2006. *Understanding Human Communication*. 9th Ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- De Vito, J. A. 2014. *Human Communication. The Basic Course*. 12th Ed. Essex: Pearson
- Pearson et al., 2013. *Human Communication*. 6th Ed. Singapore: McGraw Hill



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*Thank
you!*

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