

1.

TEACHER:

– I have very important news for you. We are going on an excursion next week –the teacher tells her pupils.

The children get a bit excited. All of them have questions to ask.

CHILDREN:

– And, where are we going?

– Are we going by bus?

– Do we need a rucksack? Do we have to take a sandwich with us?

The children get near their teacher, who is answering all the questions and then, all together, they start planning the trip.

TEACHER:

– We are going to visit “Las Eretas “. It is an Iron Age archaeological site in Berbinzana. The archaeologists have found the ruins of a village, the houses where people lived and the things they used – the teacher tells them.

(CHANGE PLATE)

2

Asier goes home very worried and with a lot of questions in his head. When he arrives, he explains to his father what the teacher has said and all the plans they have.

ASIER:

– Dad, have you lived in the Iron Age?

PADRE:

– No, I haven't. And neither have my parents nor my grandparents. That was long time ago!

ASIER:

– The teacher has told us that we are going to see a village. Are we going to see the people who lived there? How will the houses be? Will there be any children? Which kind of games will they play?

With a lot of unanswered questions and the imagination working at high speed, Asier goes to bed and...

(CHANGE PLATE)

3

... he starts dreaming.

In his dream, Asier is in an unknown place. There is a rampart and a very strange landscape.

He feels lonely, he starts to worry and he doesn't know what to do.

ASIER:

– What do I do? Where am I? Help!! Is anybody there?

He sits near the river very distressed.

He is so worried that he doesn't notice that somebody is coming.

(CHANGE PLATE)

4

Suddenly he sees a boy, but... what happens to him? Why is he wearing those clothes?

The other boy, very surprised too, comes closer.

They look at each other with curiosity. They realise that they look alike but their clothes are very different.

BOY:

– Who are you? What are you doing in here? The boy asks.

ASIER:

– My name is Asier and I don't know where I am. I'm lost.

BOY:

– My name is Abulo and I live in this village.

Abulo notices that Asier is very sad and asks him:

ABULO:

– Do you want to come to my house? You will meet my family and, maybe, they will be able to help you.

ASIER:

– Yes, please.... – Asier answers calmer.

Abulo fills his pitcher with water and they go together to the village.

(CHANGE PLATE)

5

On the way home Abulo says:

ABULO:

– I go to the river to get some water everyday.

ASIER:

– And why do you do that? Isn't there running water in your house?

Abulo, why are you wearing those clothes?

ABULO:

– Look, Asier, my house is over there!

Asier looks astonished; the house doesn't look at all like his house.

(CHANGE PLATE)

6

As they come in, Abulo says:

ABULO:

– She is my grandmother, she is grinding wheat.

ASIER:

– To do what?

ABULO:

– To bake some bread, of course.

ASIER:

– And why don't you buy it?

ABULO:

– Buy? What's that?

When Asier explains what's buy, Abulo answers:

ABULO:

–Ah! We swap things. My grandmother gives flour and she gets milk, meat, cheese,...

(Made a pause)

– She is Calpurnia, my sister –Abulo says-, she is making pottery.

ASIER: (*Read with an impatient voice and with joy*)

– I make pottery at school too and I like it very much!! Happy to see something that he recognises.

(CHANGE PLATE)

7

After looking at her for a while, they get into a room. There is a fire in the centre of the room and a woman is getting it going by adding more wood.

(Speaking quickly and in a rush way)

ABULO:

– Mum, mum! Listen to what has happened. I've met a boy near the river, his name is Asier!

MOTHER:

– Keep calm, Abulo –the mother tells him- I am waiting for the water to prepare dinner, you can tell me later what has happened.

Asier doesn't blink looking at everything, while Abulo tells her mother what has happened.

MOTHER:

– After dinner, when we are together, we'll think how we can help Asier – says his mum. Now, you have to help your father on the fields.

ABULO:

– Mum, on the way to the fields, can I show our village to my friend?

(CHANGE PLATE)

8

Abulo and Asier leave the house.

ASIER:

– Why do you have such a big wall behind the houses for?

Abulo, explains quite serious:

ABULO:

– It is the rampart. My grandfather tells that when he was a child he lived in another village where there wasn't a rampart. They were attacked, their houses were burnt down and they had to escape. So, when they moved here, the first thing they did was to build the rampart.

They had to carry the stones from a far away place!

ASIER:

– And the houses? How do you build them?

ABULO:

– We build them all together, attached to the rampart and in a terraced way, to protect us. They used to be made of mud and straw, but nowadays they are made of stone and sun-dried bricks, because they are stronger.

(CHANGE PLATE)

9

And so, buried themselves in the questions of Asier and the answers of Abulo, they leave the village.

ABULO:

– Look, my father is over there.

Asier, lost in his thoughts, asks Abulo:

ASIER:

– Do children have always to work?

ABULO:

– But.. of course, don't you work?

ASIER:

– Well, kind of. I go to school and do my homework. Don't you go to school?

ABULO:

– What's that?

ASIER:

– A place where boys and girls go to learn.

ABULO:

– I already learn from my grown-ups!

And talking to each other, they meet Abulo's father.

(Say it with joy)

ABULO:

– Dad, I have some help today.

After telling him who Asier is, they get ready to work. Asier takes a sickle to cut the corn as he sees Abulo's father how he does it.

FATHER:

– No, don't, children aren't allowed to do it –tells him the father- Our sickle is made of iron and you can cut yourself. You pick up the ears that I am cutting.

Abulo and Asier start picking them up and place them on a blanket.

(CHANGE PLATE)

10

ASIER:

– Do you like living here –asks Asier.

FATHER:

– Of course! We have good fields, there is water in the area and good meadows for the animals, answers the father.

ASIER:

– I would like to live here too, there is no school. Listen Abulo, don't you ever play here?

ABULO:

– Of course we do, my friends and I play by the river, out ...

But Asier thinks by himself: "I haven't seen any toys anywhere, I don't know whether I would like to live in here "

(Make a pause)

ABULO:

– Look Asier, over there is my uncle looking after the flock of goats and sheep, points Abulo.

(Make a pause)

(READ WHILE YOU CHANGE THE PLATE)

With the sunset, they start gathering everything up to go back home.

11

The father carries everything while the children play around. Asier gets on a pile of stones.

FATHER:

– No, don't stand over there, says the father.

ASIER:

– Why not? They only are some stones!

The father leaves the load on the ground and he explains seriously:

FATHER:

– This place a necropolis, a cemetery, our loved ones are buried here.

ASIER:

– We do bury our loved ones in the cemetery, too –mentions Asier.

(CHANGE PLATE)

12

When they arrive home, the rest of the family is waiting for them to have dinner. Asier and Abulo are starving.

ABULO:

– Mum, what's for dinner?

MOTHER:

– The trouts we fished yesterday.

They all sit around the hearth with their plate of fish and a big piece of bread. They start talking about what has happened during the day, but Abulo is anxious.

ABULO:

– Wait a moment! First of all we have to decide how we are going to help Asier.

FATHER:

– Tomorrow, at dawn, grandfather and Abulo will walk with you to your village –says Abulo's father- grandfather knows all the paths quite well and you won't have any problems.

When time to go to sleep comes, Asier thinks about his family and gets sad. He comes next to Abulo and says in a quiet voice:

ASIER:

– Can I lay down next to you?

(CHANGE PLATE)

13

(Read the text in a quiet voice and with solemnity)

Night falls into the village. Everybody gets ready to go to sleep. Everyone gets a blanket. Old people lie down on one side of the room and children go to the other side. They talk quietly.

(Make a pause)

Silence comes to the village.

They all sleep peacefully. They know the guards are awoken and watching at the towers.

(CHANGE PLATE)

14

Abulo and Asier, holding hands, sleep next to each other.

(Made a pause)

Suddenly, there's a strong noise; it is the sound of a horn.

Everybody wakes up startled.

TODOS:

– What's the matter? What's going on?

The children are surprised and sleepy, they want to go on sleeping.

ASIER:

– What happens? I'm sleepy, I don't want to go anywhere -whines Asier.

But grows up, they do know what it means.

MUM:

– Abulo, hold Asier's hand and don't let him go. Be always next to us. Quick!

To the square! – orders the mother.

(CHANGE PLATE)

15

Everybody is arriving to the center of the village.

Watchers explain that faraway, they can see a crowd of attackers coming.

Grandfather and some other elderly men, the wisest men, prepare the strategy of defense.

GRANDFATHER:

(Read firmly)

– Watchers, light a fire in each tower to warn our neighbours. We have to defend the village, so the attackers can't get into.

The strongest men must defend the gate of the rampart.

OLD MAN:

– The rest of the people, men and women, take your weapons and go to the high part of the rampart. Someone has to take the children and hide them in the larder of the houses.

They are getting organised, and they wait anxiously and scared for the attackers. Abulo is helping the others, Asier doesn't know what to do.

(Make a pause)

Suddenly, ... he hears some close noises. He gets very nervous. After a little while, he hears them again.

(CHANGE PLATE)

16

FAHTER:

– Asier, I've already called you twice, it is time to get up! You must get ready. Don't you remember you go on a school trip today?

Asier opens his eyes, he doesn't know where he is, he looks around.

He feels relieved when he recognises his room and his things.

ASIER:

– Thank goodness it was only a dream –says Asier.

Later, while they are having breakfast, Asier tells his father about what he has dreamt.

(Made a pause)

Asier breaths with relief, but at the same time he is excited thinking about his visit to "Las Eretas".