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LESSON PLAN FOR TEACHERS & LIBRARIANS

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About L. Ron Hubbard

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About The Iron Duke

The Iron Duke:

(ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE JULY 1940 ISSUE OF FIVE-NOVELS MONTHLY) Blacky Lee is a man wanted by nearly every government in Europe, who happens to be the spitting image of a leader in the Balkan kingdom of Aldoria. With nowhere else to hide, the enterprising Lee flees to Aldoria and attempts to make the most of his mistaken identity in a startling tale of intrigue, humor and romance.



The Iron Duke Activity Guide Contents

STUDENT LESSON PLAN

• Quiz	2
Characters	6
Summary & Story-Based Questions	7
Story-Based Discussion	8
• Find the Meaning	9
Complete the Sentences	10

LESSON PLAN GRADING ANSWERS

• Quiz	12
Characters	13
Story-Based Questions	14
Story-Based Discussion	15
• Find the Meaning	15
Complete the Sentences	
Publisher Information	17

• Quiz

For this section circle the correct answers to fill in the blanks.

1. MAIN IDEA

What is the main idea of the story?

- It never pays to be the sidekick of a dishonest man.
- Impersonating people can be very dangerous.
- Women who are royalty can never really fall in love with anyone.
- Even a man who has made his living dishonestly can find honor within himself and become a leader.

2. SEQUENCE

What belongs in the middle?

a) Blacky Lee accuses the real Philip of being the impostor.

b) _

- c) Blacky Lee and Stub Doyle end up in jail.
- Blacky makes a deal with Countess Zita to marry him.
- Grauch shoots Blacky while Blacky tries to use Philip as a shield.
- Stub Doyle pretends to be Pierre Cartier.
- Blacky meets Countess Zita in the garden.

3. CAUSE AND EFFECT

Blacky Lee looks like the Archduke of Aldoria, so _____

- the lieutenant on the train apologizes for interrupting him.
- Countess Zita thinks that if she marries him, she'll be rich.
- Stub Doyle likes to be seen with him.
- he has to sign autographs for everyone.



• Quiz

4. CAUSE AND EFFECT

Blacky Lee sees the grenade fly into the carriage, so _____

- he throws it at Stub to get it away from himself.
- he puts his hands over his eyes and prepares to die.
- he catches it and throws it back where it came from.
- he jumps out of the carriage and runs as fast as he can.

5. CONTEXT CLUES

Mercenaries are _____

- men and women of royal blood.
- compassionate men who try to help people.
- professional soldiers who work strictly for money.
- homeless men who have been forced to serve a monarch.

6. CONTEXT CLUES

The Sons of Freedom were a group of _____ who were trying to take over the country.

- royal discontents
- black slaves
- army men
- Communists

7. PREDICTION OR INFERENCE

Why do you think Stub Doyle stayed with Blacky Lee even though he was always nervous about where Blacky's actions would lead them?

- He admired him for his skills and his easy attitude about life.
- He secretly hoped to steal whatever Blacky was able to get from their dealings.
- He was probably really Blacky's brother and felt he had to stay with him.
- He didn't have anywhere else to go.

• Quiz

8. PREDICTION OR INFERENCE

What do you think happens after the book ends now that Blacky is The Iron Duke?

- Blacky and Countess Zita get married and rule Aldoria with honor.
- He turns back to his criminal dealings because he really enjoyed being on the run.
- He becomes a drunk just as Philip had been.
- He gets lazy and lets the Sons of Freedom take over after all.

9. FACTS AND DETAILS

After Blacky meets the woman in the garden, _____

- he goes for a long walk around town.
- he follows her to find out who she is.
- he finds Stub and they go to a nearby restaurant for dinner.
- he is abducted by the Sons of Freedom and makes a deal with them.

10. FACTS AND DETAILS

When Blacky (as archduke) is brought to Vorin, Grauch is shocked to see him because _

- Blacky was with Countess Zita and they have never liked each other.
- he thought the archduke was dead and that he could take over the country himself.
- he just put out the lights in the room of the archduke a few hours ago.
- he has not seen him for a really long time.

11. FACTS AND DETAILS

Grauch realizes that _____ has been sending Blacky food, wine and books in prison.

- Philip, Archduke of Aldoria,
- Stub Doyle's mother
- Countess Zita
- one of Blacky's fans



12. FACTS AND DETAILS

Grauch wants Blacky to impersonate the archduke so that _____

- Blacky will become even more popular than he already is.
- he can appear sober and make a strong public appeal against an election to his people.
- he does not have to go through the effort to get Philip sobered up in time.
- the real archduke won't be assassinated.

13. FACTS AND DETAILS

The women of Aldoria had been demanding the right to vote, which is also called _____

- women's voting.
- mental warfare.
- whining.
- suffrage.

14. FACTS AND DETAILS

Instead of Blacky Lee arriving to get Countess Zita, Stub arrives with a _____

- new diamond tiara.
- gift of a new hat.
- letter from Blacky.
- train ticket for her to meet Blacky.

15. FACTS AND DETAILS

At the end of the book, Blacky is shocked to hear the mobs shouting at him, _____

- "Blacky Lee for President!"
- "Long live The Iron Duke!"
- "Congratulations on your wedding-to-be!"
- "Get out of town!"

Characters

CHARACTERS

Write about the following characters, and be sure to explain their relationships to the other characters.

BLACKY LEE

Stub Doyle

Countess Zita

Summary/SBQ

SUMMARY

Write a summary of the book on a separate piece of paper. You may prepare for an oral summary if you prefer.

SBQ (STORY-BASED QUESTIONS)

Answer the following questions in short sentences.

- 1. How does Blacky Lee meet the Countess Zita for the first time?
- 2. Where does Blacky find himself when he wakes up from the chloroform used to abduct him?
- 3. While trying to prove he is the real archduke, what question is Philip unable to answer?
- 4. When the old man throws a bottle of cheap wine into the royal carriage as an insult, what does Blacky do?
- 5. What is the reason Blacky gives Countess Zita for announcing there would be an election?
- 6. What deal does Blacky make with Countess Zita?
- 7. What is Blacky's plan to win the election for the crown?
- 8. What was the letter to Countess Zita from Blacky Lee about?

Story-Based Discussion

SBD (STORY-BASED DISCUSSION)

While you are reading the book, find the answers to the following questions. You don't have to write down the answers.

- 1. Who are the Sons of Freedom?
- 2. What identity does Blacky Lee come up with for Stub Doyle?
- 3. How does Blacky handle the heckler when he is going from town to town making speeches for the crown?

SAW (STORY-APPLIED WRITING)

Pick one topic below and write a complete response.

- 1. Write the next chapter of the book, explaining what happens now that Blacky Lee is The Iron Duke and the new leader of Aldoria.
- 2. Compare and contrast Blacky Lee with a character you have read about in another book.
- 3. Choose a few scenes from the book and rewrite them from Stub Doyle's perspective.

Find the Meaning

For the following section circle the correct answers.

1. belied means

- lied better
- melted
- swore an oath
- contradicted

2. unkempt means

- unmowed
- messy and neglected
- small and heavy
- unsavory

3. appease means

- soothe
- move
- create
- award
- 4. personable means
 - girlish
 - nervous
 - easily upset
 - sociable

5. gruesome means

- frightful and shocking
- growing and expanding
- near and far
- fast and furious

6. melancholy means

- pretty; unblemished
- fruit salad
- a beautiful song
- sadness; depression

7. quell means

- demand
- ask questions
- move quickly
- put an end to

8. redoubtable means

- related to
- commanding respect
- unconvincing
- easily doubted
- 9. vagaries means
 - odd feelings
 - loud, annoying noises
 - unpredictable occurrences
 - learned behaviors

10. *onerous* means

- with honor
- having only one
- smelly
- burdensome

Complete the Sentences

COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

1. His mother was unable to shake her _____ after the death of his father.

- melancholy
- quell
- belied
- vagaries

2. The major is such a _____ man I don't see how anyone can disobey him.

- unkempt
- onerous
- redoubtable
- appease

3. They were unable to ______ the uprising and the government fell to the resistance.

- belied
- personable
- vagaries
- quell

4. The old woman was so _____ that we knew she must be homeless.

- redoubtable
- unkempt
- onerous
- appease

5. That is one of the most _____ murders that has ever been in the papers!

- vagaries
- quell
- gruesome
- personable

Complete the Sentences

6. We were unable to ______ the child who had gotten separated from his mother.

- melancholy
- gruesome
- personable
- appease

7. I don't understand why you don't like him. He's such a _____ young man.

- onerous
- belied
- vagaries
- personable

8. It is the _____ of life that keep it interesting.

- redoubtable
- quell
- vagaries
- appease

9. His sad eyes _____ his big smile.

- unkempt
- onerous
- gruesome
- belied

10. It was such an _____ request that I almost refused him the favor.

- melancholy
- onerous
- appease
- quell

Quiz: Answers



1. MAIN IDEA

• Even a man who has made his living dishonestly can find honor within himself and become a leader.

2. SEQUENCE

• Grauch shoots Blacky while Blacky tries to use Philip as a shield.

3. CAUSE AND EFFECT

• the lieutenant on the train apologizes for interrupting him.

4. CAUSE AND EFFECT

• he catches it and throws it back where it came from.

5. CONTEXT CLUES

• professional soldiers who work strictly for money.

6. CONTEXT CLUES

Communists

7. PREDICTION OR INFERENCE

• He admired him for his skills and his easy attitude about life.

8. PREDICTION OR INFERENCE

• Blacky and Countess Zita get married and rule Aldoria with honor.

9. FACTS AND DETAILS

• he is abducted by the Sons of Freedom and makes a deal with them.

10. FACTS AND DETAILS

• he just put out the lights in the room of the archduke a few hours ago.

11. FACTS AND DETAILS

• Countess Zita

12. FACTS AND DETAILS

• he can appear sober and make a strong public appeal against an election to his people.

13. FACTS AND DETAILS

• suffrage.

14. FACTS AND DETAILS

letter from Blacky.

15. FACTS AND DETAILS

"Long live The Iron Duke!"

Characters: Answers

BLACKY LEE

Blacky Lee is an American arms merchant who is wanted by several governments for his dishonest dealings. He keeps his sidekick, Stub Doyle, in a constant state of agitation due to his nonchalant attitude about their infamy. Blacky happens to closely resemble Philip, the Archduke of Aldoria, and has made plans to use this by learning about the archduke and practicing his signature. He gets his chance when the Countess Zita and the man who heads the Sons of Freedom mistake him for Philip. The first he falls in love with and the other abducts him and makes a deal with him to allow an election to take place. He eventually finds himself face to face with the actual archduke and gets arrested, but since the real archduke is a drunk, he's needed to impersonate Philip at an official event. While performing this task, he discovers that he has honor and compassion and has become an honest person. He ends up becoming The Iron Duke and ruling Aldoria himself.

STUB DOYLE

Stub Doyle is Blacky Lee's sidekick. He admires Blacky for his looks and easy attitude, but he is constantly in a state of fear at how Blacky seems to care so little about the outcome of their dishonest schemes. While Blacky is impersonating the archduke, Stub Doyle's job is to act as a French psychiatrist who has brought about the "miraculous" recovery and change in the "archduke" and his habitual drinking. Despite his constant agitation, he is loyal and stays with Blacky through everything.

Countess Zita

Countess Zita is a beautiful, strong-minded, outspoken woman of royalty. She finds Blacky in a garden and mistakes him for the archduke. She takes it upon herself to bring him home for his own safety. When Blacky is imprisoned, she sends him food, wine and books to read. After Blacky (impersonating the archduke) announces, against the wishes of the monarchy, that there will be an election, she is very upset as she is sure they will lose the election to the Sons of Freedom. She unhappily agrees to Blacky's proposal to marry him if he manages to win the election for the crown.

Story-Based Questions: Answers

SBQ (STORY-BASED QUESTIONS)

Answer the following questions in short sentences.

- How does Blacky Lee meet the Countess Zita for the first time?
 She finds him in the garden of the Crown Hotel and mistakes him for Philip, Archduke of Aldoria.
- 2. Where does Blacky find himself when he wakes up from the chloroform used to abduct him?

He is in an old Roman bathhouse with a group of the Sons of Freedom.

- 3. While trying to prove he is the real archduke, what question is Philip unable to answer? He is unable to remember his grandmother's full name.
- 4. When the old man throws a bottle of cheap wine into the royal carriage as an insult, what does Blacky do?

He pours the wine into his helmet and shares it with the old man.

- 5. What is the reason Blacky gives Countess Zita for announcing there would be an election? He said he announced it because she wasn't there.
- 6. What deal does Blacky make with Countess Zita? He wants her to marry him in exchange for him winning the election for the crown.
- 7. What is Blacky's plan to win the election for the crown? He wants to give women the right to vote so they will all vote for Philip.
- 8. What was the letter to Countess Zita from Blacky Lee about? He told her she did not have to keep the bargain they'd made to get married.

• SBD/Find the Meaning: Answers

SBD (STORY-BASED DISCUSSION)

While you are reading the book, find the answers to the following questions. You don't have to write down the answers.

1. Who are the Sons of Freedom?

They are a Communist group who are trying to overthrow the monarchy in Aldoria and turn it Communistic.

- What identity does Blacky Lee come up with for Stub Doyle? He tells him to be Pierre Cartier, a French psychiatrist who is responsible for the change in the "archduke."
- 3. How does Blacky handle the heckler when he is going from town to town making speeches for the crown?

He faces him physically and wins the fistfight, making the crowds love him.

FIND THE MEANING

- 1. belied means contradicted
- 2. unkempt means messy and neglected
- 3. appease means soothe
- 4. personable means sociable
- 5. gruesome means frightful and shocking
- 6. melancholy means sadness; depression
- 7. quell means put an end to
- 8. redoubtable means commanding respect
- 9. vagaries means unpredictable occurrences
- 10. onerous means burdensome

Complete the Sentences: Answers

COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

- 1. His mother was unable to shake her *melancholy* after the death of his father.
- 2. The major is such a *redoubtable* man I don't see how anyone can disobey him.
- 3. They were unable to *quell* the uprising and the government fell to the resistance.
- 4. The old woman was so *unkempt* that we knew she must be homeless.
- 5. That is one of the most gruesome murders that has ever been in the papers!
- 6. We were unable to appease the child who had gotten separated from his mother.
- 7. I don't understand why you don't like him. He's such a *personable* young man.
- 8. It is the *vagaries* of life that keep it interesting.
- 9. His sad eyes *belied* his big smile.
- 10. It was such an *onerous* request that I almost refused him the favor.

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