

Teaching Aims:

- ‡ **Key words, expressions and key structures, e.g. inversion**
- ‡ **Learn about the Monster
Richard Wagner**
- ‡ **Learn to practice writing about a person in the author's way.**

Teaching Process

- ‡ **Review of the Vocabulary**
- ‡ **Pre-reading Questions**
- ‡ **Structural Analysis**
- ‡ **Understanding the Text**
- ‡ **Language Focus**
- ‡ **The Exercises**

Review of the Vocabulary

- conceit
- exhaust
- harangue
- callous
- unscrupulous
- infidelity
- arrogance
- stupendous
- conceive
- compromise
- excessive pride in oneself
- to tire out
- a long, loud, and usu. angry speech
- cruelly insensitive or unsympathetic
- without moral principles
- unfaithfulness to one's spouse
- haughtiness
- surprisingly impressive or large
- to form or devise sth. in the mind
- to settle by concessions

Pre-reading Questions

- 1. What is a monster? Have you ever seen one?
- 2. What kind of man is comparable to a monster?
- 3. How should we look at those monsters?



Structural Analysis

- ‡ **3 parts:**
- ‡ **What is the main idea for each part?**
- ‡ **Part I: para. 1—9**
- ‡ **Part II: para. 10**
- ‡ **Part III: para. 11—13**



Main ideas for Para.1—9

- para. 1: • → He is an ugly little man, but had delusions of grandeur.
- para. 2: • → He is a person with unusually excessive self-pride.
- para. 3: • → He had an extremely strong desire of being right.
- para. 4: • → He is a versatile man and interested in a wide range of things.
- para. 5: • → He had a mood as changeable as a six-year-old child.

Main ideas for Para.1—9

- para. 6: ♪ → He almost had no sense of responsibility.
- para. 7: ♪ → He lived on others' money, but spent extravagantly.
- para. 8: ♪ → He was a play boy in love. He divorced his first wife and stole away others' wives.
- para. 9: ♪ → He was good at making enemies.


Who is the Monster?


para. 10: **Richard Wagner.**
→ “...it doesn’t matter in
the least.”


Why???



Main ideas for Para.11—13

para. 11:  → Because he was right all the time, the joke was on us.

para. 12:  → Considering what he wrote in his lifetime, we should be tolerant of all his peculiarities.

para. 13:  → He might be faithless to his friends and to his wives, but he was faithful to Music, and he never compromise with what he believed and what he dreamed.

Conclusion:

→ Richard Wagner, as “one of the world’s greatest dramatists...a great thinker...one of the most stupendous musical geniuses”, has every reason to be a monster.



Language Focus of para. 1-3

♫ 1. the Man's physical appearance:



2. Paraphrase the sentence

- ♫ To hear him talk, he was Shakespeare, and Beethoven, and Plato, **rolled into one.**
- ♫ → He was often heard to boast of being **a genius with a combined quality of Shakespeare, the greatest dramatist, Beethoven, the greatest composer, and Plato, the greatest philosopher.**

3. roll into one

- 过去杰出的人物有许多是出类拔萃的多面手，像达·芬奇就集画家与发明家于一身。
- Many of the outstanding figures of the past were exceptionally versatile. Leonardo da Vinci, for instance, rolled a painter and an inventor into one.

4. (have) a mania (for doing sth.)

§ e.g. She has a mania for driving fast cars.

5. for the sake of

§ **1) for the good or advantage of**

§ e.g. If you won't do it for your own sake, then do it for mine.

§ **2) for the purpose of**

§ e.g. I'll give up smoking for the sake of health.

§ → For the sake of your family, you should think before you leap and not take so many risks.

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