BVP LKR

CLASS-12, SUB—ENGLISH

DATE-08/04/2021,Tea.---L.P.Singh

FLAMINGO

"The Last Lesson"

Summary:-

'The Last Lesson is the story of a devoted but strict teacher named M.Hamel who was forced to leave France (Alsace) that had passed into the Prussian hands as a result of the Franco-Prussian war.

The other important character in the story is Franz who was sensitive and innocent. He was a keen observer who liked to be quick to observe the changes in his surroundings. Even if he was a sharp learner but he did not pay attention to his studies. And for this he used to blame himself for ignoring his lessons.

One day M.Hamel asked the students to recite participles and he would listen to it the next day. Franz did not prepare his lesson on participles. He was neither excited nor showed any interest in his teaching. All these were due to Franz's carelessness. On the appointed day he did not want to be scolded by M.Hamel for the aforesaid lesson. And while roaming carelessly on the way to

the school, his eyes fell on a small gathering near the bulletin-board. He quickly arrived there and found that German language was going to be imposed on them from the next day and French would not be taught in the school. He was a French boy and so he loved his mother language. Somehow or the other Franz arrived at the school but got amazed to find complete silence. He entered the class quietly and for the first time M.Hamel politely told him to take his seat. Franz found M.Hamel in his Sunday suit and the villagers sitting at the back benches. When M.Hamel announced that it was their last lesson on French by him,he was shocked. These words were like a thunderclap to Franz.He, then realized and felt sorry for neglecting his mother language.

M.Hamel was feeling heart-broken on the last day in the school where he taught French for more than forty years. His dedication enforced Franz and the villagers to realise the importance of their mother language. This is the reason, despite the emotional turbulance Franz remarked, "He had the courage to hear every lesson to the very last.