

Lesson 3

Rizal's Life: Family, Childhood, and Early Education

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Analyze Rizal's family, childhood, and early education
- Evaluate the people and events and their influence on Rizal's early life.



Pre-test

A. Answer the following questions.

1. What is secularization?

2. Who were the three priests that were executed because of the Cavite mutiny?

3. When is the date of birth of Jose Rizal?

4. Where is the place of birth of Jose Rizal?

5. Who are the parents of Jose Rizal?

Pre-activity

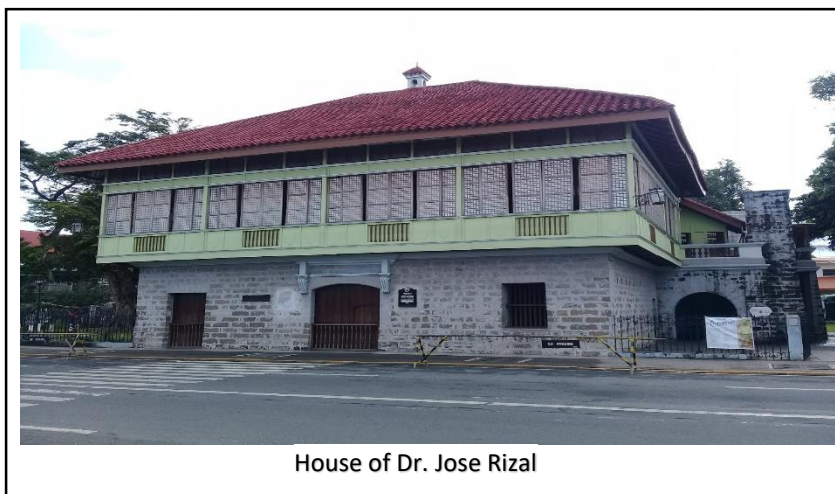
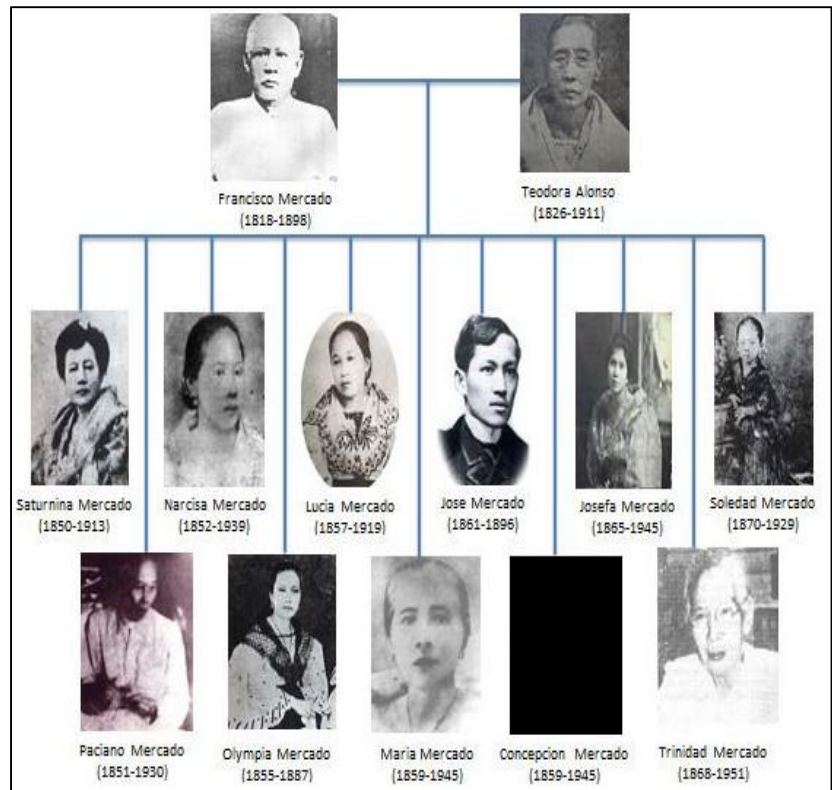
How do you remember your childhood days? Write a short essay about your memorable experiences during your early childhood?



Who Is Jose Rizal?

Jose Rizal, just like Filipino boys, had many beautiful memories of childhood. Rizal was raised to be a good catholic. At age of 3, he would take part in the family prayers. For Rizal, education was very important particularly during the Spanish period where our country experienced brutality from the Spaniards. Through education, it could cure the problems of Colonial Philippines. But who is Jose Rizal?

Jose Protacio Realonda Alonso Mercado Rizal was born on **June 19, 1861** in **Calamba, Laguna**. Jose Rizal is the **seventh child** of Francisco Mercado Rizal and Teodora Alonso y Quintos. He had nine sisters and one brother. He was baptized at the Catholic of Calamba by the parish priest Fr. Rufino Collantes with Fr. Pedro Casañas as the sponsor. His family were tenants of a hacienda owned by the Dominicans.



House of Dr. Jose Rizal

At age of (5), he was able to read the Spanish family bible *"Historia sagrada"*. At 8 years old, he wrote the *"Sa Aking mga Kabata"* (To my Fellow Children). His devotion to Jesus and many was expressed in his cravings of the images of the Sacred Heart and Blessed Mother sculpted in *"Batikulong"* (Philippine hardwood).

SA AKING MGA KABATÀ

Kapagka ang baya'y sadyang umiibig
sa kanyang salitang kaloób ng langit,
sanlang kalayaan nasá ring masapit
katulad ng ibong na sa himpapawíd.

Pagka't ang salita'y isang kahatulan
sa bayan, sa nayo't mga kaharian,
at ang isang tao'y katulad, kabagay
ng alin mang likhá noong kalayaan.

Ang hindi magmahál sa kanyang salitá
mahigít sa hayop at malansang isdá,
kayá ang marapat pagyamaning kusá
na tulad sa ináng tunay na nagpalá.

Ang wikang tagálog tulad din sa latín,
sa inglés, kastilá, at salitang angel,
sa pagka ang Poong maalam tumingín
ang siyang nag-gawad, nagbigay sa atin.

Ang salitá nati'y huad din sa ibá
na may *alfabeto* at sariling *letra*,
na kayá nawala'y dinatnán ng sigwá
ang lunday sa lawá noong dákong una. (1)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND



JOSE RIZAL'S EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY. *"In order to heeded and to maintain authority, the teacher needs prestige, reputation, moral strength, and some freedom of action. The best teacher must be a kind who teaches by example what she teaches to the student."*

Dona Teodora, his mother, was the first teacher of Jose Rizal that taught him the alphabet. It was she who molded the spirit and thoughts of the great hero.

On June 10, 1872-, Rizal accompanied by Paciano went to Manila to enroll in Ateneo de Manila. He was refused by Father Magin Ferrando, the college registrar of the school for two reasons: (1) *he was late for registration* (2) *he was sickly and undersized for his age*. But with the help of Manuel Xerez Burgos, nephew of Father Burgos, Rizal was reluctantly admitted at the Ateneo.

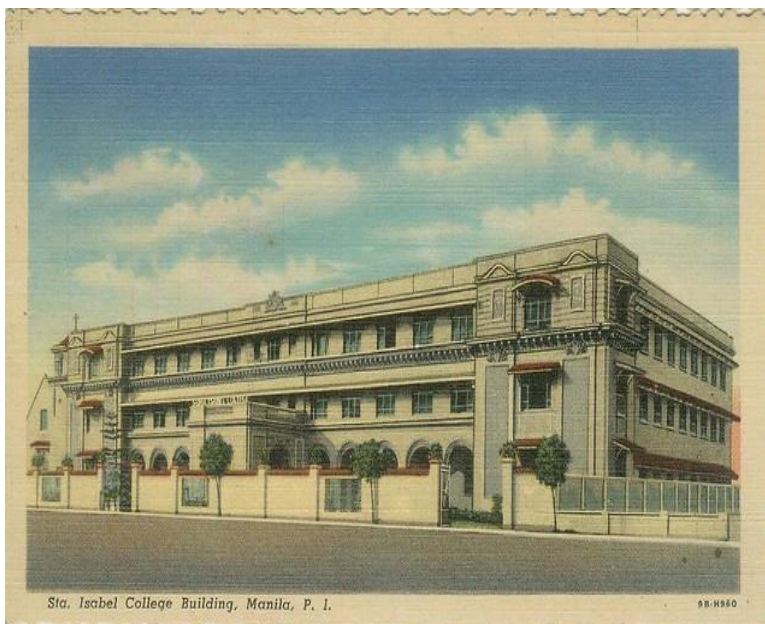


Did you know?

Do you that the family name Mercado was changed to Rizal. Jose was the first of his family to adopt the surname "Rizal". He registered under this name at Ateneo because their family name "Mercado" had come under the suspicion of the Spanish authorities



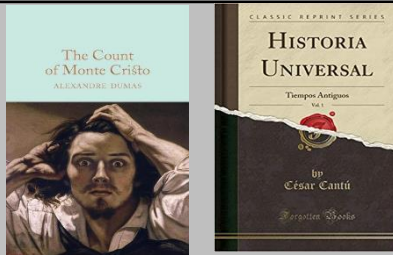
To improve his Spanish, Rizal took private lessons in Santa Isabel College during the noon recesses. He paid three pesos for those extra Spanish lessons.



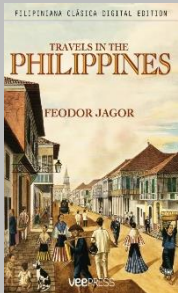
After two years in Ateneo, Rizal received excellent grades in all subjects and a gold medal. During his third year, Rizal grades remained excellent in all subjects, but he won only one medal—in Latin. He himself was not impressed by his scholastic work. In his fourth year in Ateneo, Rizal topped all his classmates in all subjects and won five medals at the end of the school term. On March 23, 1877- Commencement Day, Rizal, who was 16 years old, received from his Alma Mater, Ateneo Municipal, the **degree of Bachelor of Arts, with highest honors.**



Rizal was fascinated by this book and greatly influenced him.



- **The Count of Monte Cristo** by Alexander Dumas - the first favorite novel of Rizal which made a deep impression on him
- **Universal History** by Cesar Cantu - Rizal persuaded his father to buy him this set of historical work that was a great aid in his studies



Travels in the Philippines by Dr. Feodor Jagor - a German scientist-traveler who visited the Philippines in 1859-1860.

Rizal was impressed in this book because of

- (1) Jagor's keen observations of the defects of Spanish colonization, and
- (2) his prophecy that someday Spain would lose the Philippines and that America would come to succeed her as colonizer

On April 1877, after graduating in Ateneo, he continued his study at University of Santo Tomas. He decided to shift to medicine after a year in cosmology, metaphysics, Theodicy, and Philosophy and letters.

There are two reasons why he transferred to medicine: (1) He wanted to cure his mother's failing eyesight and, (2) Through the advice of Father Pablo Ramon, Father Rector of Ateneo recommended Rizal to take medicine.



Main Building at the University of Sto. Tomas

During Rizal's first school term in the University of Santo Tomas (1877-1878), Rizal also studied in Ateneo. He took the vocational course leading to the title of perito agrimensor (expert surveyor). On November 25, 1881, the title was issued to Rizal for passing the final examination in the surveying course. During his last year in the University, Rizal obtained a grade of very good in all of his subjects and passed the medicine course. After which Rizal decided to study in Spain.

Compañerismo (Comradeship) is a secret society of Filipino students in University of Santo Tomas in 1880 that was founded by Rizal and his close companions.

UNHAPPY DAYS AT THE UST

Rizal found the atmosphere at the University of Santo Tomas suffocating to his sensitive spirit. He was unhappy at this Dominican institution of higher learning because (1) the Dominican professors were hostile to him; (2) the Filipino students were racially discriminated

against by the Spaniards, and (3) the method of instruction was obsolete and repressive.

Poems written by Jose Rizal

On 1874, Rizal wrote a poem entitled "*Mi Primera Inspiracion*" (My First Inspiration). This poem was dedicated to his mother.

He also wrote "*Alianza Intima Entre la Religion y la Buena Educacion*" (Intimate Alliance Between Religion and Good Education) wherein Rizal showed the importance of religion in education.

Among other poems he wrote were the following:

- **Al Niño Jesus (To the Child Jesus)**- this poem was written in 1875 when Rizal was 14 years old; it was a brief ode
- **A La Virgen Maria (To the Virgin Mary)**- another religious poem which doesn't have exact date when it was written
- **Un Recuerdo a Mi Pueblo (In Memory of My Town)**- a tender poem in honor of Calamba, the hero's natal town
- **A La Juventud Filipina (To the Filipino Youth)**- Rizal, who was then 18 years old. This winning poem of Rizal is a classic in Philippine literature for two reasons:
 - (1) *it was the great poem in Spanish written by a Filipino, whose merit was recognized by Spanish literary authorities*
 - (2) *it expressed for the first time the nationalistic concept that the Filipinos, and not the foreigners, were the "fair hope of the Fatherland"*

"Mi Primera Inspiracion"

Why falls so rich a spray
of fragrance from the bowers
of the balmy flowers
upon this festive day?

Why from woods and vales
do we hear sweet measures ringing
that seem to be the singing
of a choir of nightingales?

Why in the grass below
do birds start at the wind's noises,
unleashing their honeyed voices
as they hop from bough to bough?

Why should the spring that glows
its crystalline murmur be tuning
to the zephyr's mellow crooning
as among the flowers it flows?

Why seems to me more endearing,
more fair than on other days,
the dawn's enchanting face
among red clouds appearing?

The reason, dear mother, is
they feast your day of bloom:
the rose with its perfume,
the bird with its harmonies.

And the spring that rings with laughter
upon this joyful day
with its murmur seems to say:
"Live happily ever after!"

And from that spring in the grove
now turn to hear the first note
that from my lute I emote
to the impulse of my love!

Matalik na pagtutulungan ng Relihiyon at Edukasyon

(Alianza Intima Entre La Religion y La Buen Educacion- The Intimate Alliance Between Religion and Education)

Katulad ng dapong sanay na umakyat
nang paliku-liko sa punong mataaas,
yamang sila kapwa'y magandang pamalas
niyong kabukiran at lupaing patag
saka lumalaking laging magkayakap;
kung ang puno'y nama'y kulangin ng habag,
at ang dapong iyo'y mawalan ng liyag,
ay makikita ng dahoy n'alalagas;

ang Edukasyon ma'y katulong na tapat
niyong Relihiyong kanyang kaakibat:
nang dahil sa kanya, Edukasyo'y bansag
at ay! niyong taong magtakwil na bulag
sa "relihiyong" banal na may aral-pantas
sa linis ng daloy, lumalay't sukat.

Saka kung ang puno ng ubas na mahal,
ay nagpapatuloy sa paglaking tunay,
gayundin ang kumpol ng bungang pang-alay
na lubhang matamis na matuturingan,
at sampu ng tinik niyang matuturan
ginagawaran din ang pagkaing bagay:
gayon din ang agos na lubhang malinaw,
na may makalangit na handog sa buhay
niyong Edukasyong ganap at matibay,

na akay ng kanyang maningning na ilaw;
nang dahil sa kanya'y mabango ang singaw,
at ang mga banga'y masarap sa namnam.

Kung walang "relihiyon", edukasyong iya'y
Parang isang bangkang hangin ang kalaban,
Na walang pang-ugit na sa digma'y taglay
Sa gayong kaugong na simbuyo't tampo
Ng galit na hanging boreas ang ngalang
Siyang bumabakang buong kabangisan
Hanggang mailubog ng kapalaluan
Sa pusod ng galit ng sangkaragatan.

Kung hamog ng langit ang sa kapataga'y
Nagbibigay-buhay,
Tagsibol na dahil sa kanya'y mainam,
Ang mga bulaklak ay naglilitawan,
At pinaririlag ang gilid ng daan;
Iyang edukasyon ay gayon din naman,
Na pinalulusog sa mabuting aral
Ng isang "Relihiyon" na sumusubaybay,
Na ang tinutungo'y madlang kabutihan
Sa kanyang paglakad na lubhang marangal;
At dahil sa buti'y bulaklak ang bigay
na may halimuyak ng bango saan man

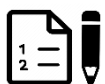
<https://www.coursehero.com/file/p3fh2iu/Matalik-na-pagtutulungan-ng-Relihiyon-at-Edukasyon-Alianza-Intima-Entre-La/>



WATCH to know more about the young Jose Rizal:

1. Jose Rizal (1998) Movie starring Cesar Montano and Directed by Marilou Diaz-Abaya
2. Ang Buhay ng Isang Bayani (ADMU)

ASSESSMENT



TEST YOUR UNDERSTANDING

I. Answer the following questions.

1. What were the two reasons for refusal of the college registrar to admit Rizal to Ateneo?

2. What were the two reasons why Rizal studied medicine?

3. What are the English translation of the following Rizal's work:

a. Mi Primera Inspiracion -

b. Un Recuerdo a Mi Pueblo -

c. Alianza Intima Entre la Religion y la Buena Educacion -

d. A La Juventud Filipina -

e. A La Virgen Maria -

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Post-test

Answer the following questions.

1. What is the significance of knowing the educational background of Rizal?

2. Write a short biographical essay that compares your student's education during your primary and secondary schooling with Rizal's own.
