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**Note to Instructors:**

The PDF version of this lesson has audio files (mp3s) embedded in the document. There is a speaker icon to click in order to listen to the file. Before the first audio file plays, you may have to approve the playing of the file via a pop-up window that appears at the top of the pdf when you click the audio file for the first time.

This lesson provides listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities for the Georgian short story „ვანო და ნიკო და სიცილი“ (“vano da nik’o da sitsili,” “Vano and Nik’o and the Laughter”) by Erlom Akhvlediani.

Level: Upper-beginning to lower-intermediate Georgian-language students

Each activity may be presented to students on paper (with the instructor controlling the playing of the sound files where appropriate) or on individual computers (with the students accessing the sound files for themselves). Either way, it is better if each activity is presented separately (but in order). For each activity, it is recommended that the students work in pairs or groups. Where this is not possible, the instructor should work with an individual student and check the student’s answers following each activity.

The instructions for each activity are given in English, although they could be given in Georgian. Encourage the students to use Georgian in their communications with their partner and with you during these activities.

Note that transcriptions and glosses are given in this instructor version so that this document is accessible to instructors of other languages who might want to use this lesson as a framework for a lesson in their languages. In the student version of these exercises, no transcriptions or glosses should be provided.

## Pre-listening

Match each word to a corresponding picture. Check your answers with your partner.

სიცილი  
(laughter)

ღრუბელი  
(cloud)

ვარსკვლავი  
(star)

ტირილი  
(crying)

ჩრდილი  
(shadow)



Can you think of a story that might include these words? Discuss your ideas with your partner in Georgian.

### Part One [should be presented as a separate activity]

Listen to Part One ◀ of the story. When you hear „რა აცინებს ნიკოს?“ (“ra atsinebs nik’os?”; ‘what is causing Nik’o to laugh?’), knock on the table.

Listen to this passage again and answer the questions below.

1. ვინ იცინოდა? (vin itsinoda/Who was laughing?) \_\_\_\_\_

2. ვინ არ იცინოდა? (vin ar itsinoda/Who was not laughing?) \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think this character is laughing in the story? Discuss your ideas with your partner in Georgian.

**Part Two** [should be presented as a separate activity]

Read the sentences below out loud with your partner. Next, listen to Part Two ◀ of the story and order the sentences correctly. Check your answers with your partner.

\_\_\_\_\_ ვანომ ცარიელი ოთახი გარეთ გაიტანა.

(vanom tsarieli otaxi garet gait'ana/Vano brought the empty room outside.)

\_\_\_\_\_ ვანოს გაუხარდა, რომ ნიკოს საწოლი აცინებდა და საწოლი გარეთ გაიტანა.

(vanos gaukharda, rom nik'os sats'oli atsinebda da sats'oli garet gait'ana/It made Vano happy that the bed was causing Nik'o to laugh and he brought the bed outside.)

\_\_\_\_\_ ვანოს გაუხარდა, რომ ნიკოს მაგიდა აცინებდა და მაგიდა გარეთ გაიტანა.

(vanos gaukharda, rom nik'os magida atsinebda da magida garet gait'ana/ It made Vano happy that the table was causing Nik'o to laugh and he brought the table outside.)

\_\_\_\_\_ გაბრაზდა ვანო.

(gabrazda vano/ Vano became angry.)

\_\_\_\_\_ ვანოს გაუხარდა, რომ ნიკოს კარადა აცინებდა და კარადა გარეთ გაიტანა.

(vanos gaukharda, rom nik'os k'arada atsinebda da k'arada garet gait'ana/It made Vano happy that the wardrobe was causing Nik'o to laugh and he brought the wardrobe outside.)

**Part Three** [should be presented as a separate activity]

Listen to Part Three ◀ of the story and fill in the blanks for the sentences below.

ნიკო, ეს არის მზე, ეს — \_\_\_\_\_.

(nik'o, es aris mze, es — [chrdilebia] /Nik'o, this is the sun, these — [are shadows].)

ნიკო უნდოდა გაეცინა.

(nik'o undoda gaetsina. / Nik'o wanted to laugh.)

ნიკო, ეს არის საღამო, ეს — \_\_\_\_\_.

(nik'o, es aris saghamo, es — [ghrublebia]/Nik'o, this is evening, these — [are clouds].)

ნიკო უნდოდა გაეცინა.

(nik'o undoda gaetsina. /Nik'o wanted to laugh.)

ნიკო! ეს არის ცა, ეს — \_\_\_\_\_.

(nik'o! es aris tsa, es — [varsk'vlavebia]/Nik'o! This is the sky, these— [are stars].)

ნიკო უნდოდა გაეცინა.

(nik'o undoda gaetsina. /Nik'o wanted to laugh.)

ნიკო! ეს არის დარდი, ეს — \_\_\_\_\_.

(nik'o! es aris dardi, es — [tsremlebia]/Nik'o! This is sorrow, these— [are tears].)

ნიკო უნდოდა გაეცინა.

(nik'o undoda gaetsina. /Nik'o wanted to laugh.)

ეს არის სიცოცხლე, ხოლო ეს — \_\_\_\_\_, ნიკო.

(es aris sitsotskhle, kholo es — [bedniereba], nik'o/ This is life, and this — [happiness], Nik'o.)

Now take turns reading these sentences aloud with your partner and check your answers together.

**Part IV** [should be presented as a separate activity]

What happens next? Does Nik'o laugh? Tell your partner your thoughts on this in Georgian.

Listen to Part Four ◀ of the story. Were you right?

**Part V** [should be presented as a separate activity]

Why do you think Nik'o was laughing? Write a brief explanation (3-5 sentences) in Georgian.  
(Note: this could be done in class or as a homework assignment.)

**Possible additional/alternate exercises**

Alternate male and female speaker recordings for listening exercises.

Include an activity with Class IV verbs.

Include a class discussion of thoughts on Part V.

Have the students act out the story.

Have the students draw scenes from the story.

Have the students write a short story of their own using keywords from the story.

Note: After working through these exercises, students can be given a copy of the entire story along with a vocabulary list.