

IT'S NOT A PAPER BIRD

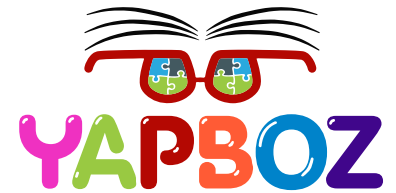
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She was born in Mersin in 1978. She completed his primary, secondary and high school education in Mersin and Adana. She graduated from Marmara University, Department of Classroom Teaching in 2000. She completed his master's degree in Social Studies Education at the same university in 2003. She is currently a student at Istanbul University, Department of Child Development. She started working under the Ministry of National Education in 2001. She currently works as a classroom teacher in Mersin.

She took part in studies as a volunteer instructor in the fields of creative drama, intelligence games, art with children, model airplane instructor and origami. She also continues to work as a volunteer in various non-governmental organizations. She has been a teacher network change ambassador since 2022.

One day, the teacher opened the video of Mausoleum and War of Independence Museum in the classroom and asked her students to watch it. One of the students:

“I wish we could go there by flying like birds, it would be great.” said. In the meantime, a few students had already stood up and started flying by pretending to be birds.



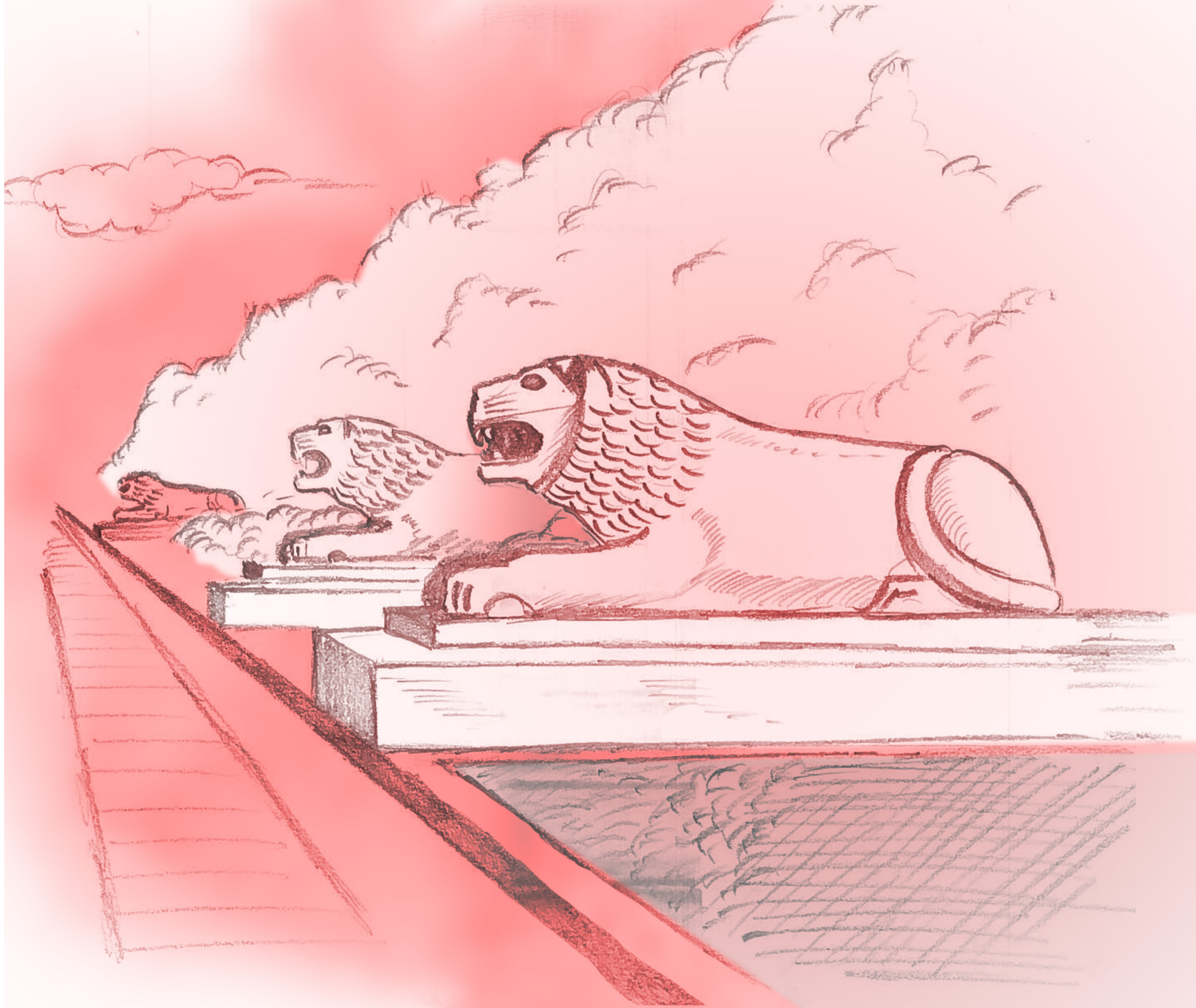


While the teacher was walking among the students “Hey kids, come on, let’s make a paper bird all together; let’s fly it, let’s fly with it” said. While answering the questions asked by students with excitement, she also started to hand out obsolete and torn book pages to the students.



At that moment, the teacher, who saw the Lions Road of the museum in the video, said to the students that the Lions Road is in the east✱and that reminds us of the sunrise. All of the students ran to the east of the classroom and came back to the screen.

The ✱ text marks in the story are placed for use in the project.



When they came to the Lions Road, the students stood and took a breath as if they were at the top of the stairs and started counting the steps* of the stairs and found 26. The students, with curious looks, listened to their teacher said that “The Great Attack started on August 26.” The teacher also added that it was the greatest heroic epic in world history.





This time only one student divided the page given by the teacher into 26 pieces. Other students continued walking on the Lions Road. The teacher said “Stop” to her students. They all stopped at once and looked at their teacher with a startle.

The teacher asked: “I wonder how many lions are there on this road?”*

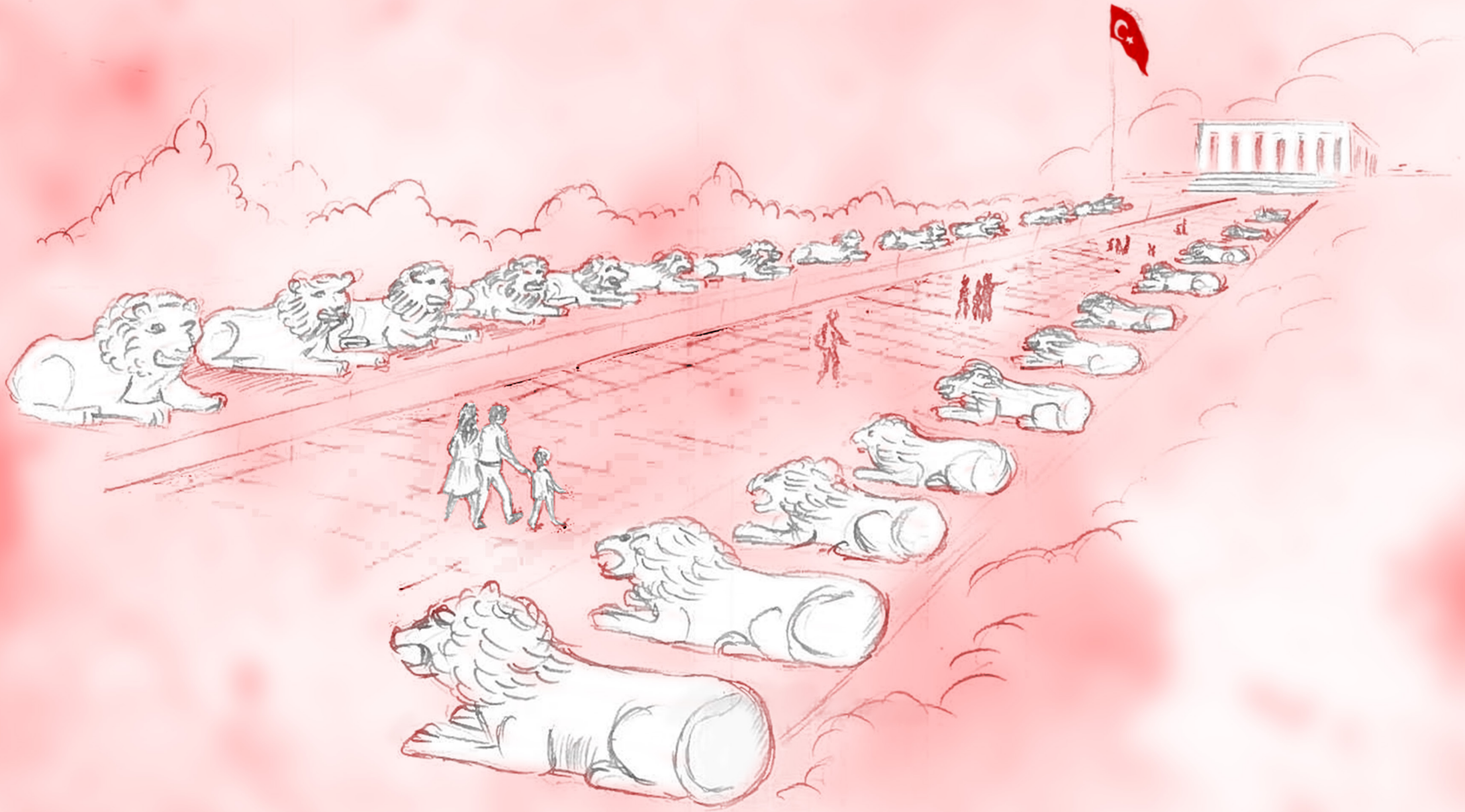




All the students walked around the classroom pretending to be lions, when the video came to the end of the Lions Road they saw that there were 24 lions, *12 on the right and 12 on the left. Once again, they looked at their teacher with excitement and waited for the connection with curiosity.

The teacher said: “24 Lions represent the Oghuz tribe.”

She adds: “You will learn detailed information when you grow up a little more.”



This time, the teacher told the students to make 24 cones and continued to work with them, saying that we would make the bird's tail from cones.

Witnessing the excitement of the students while studying, the teacher also shed tears of happiness without letting her students know it.

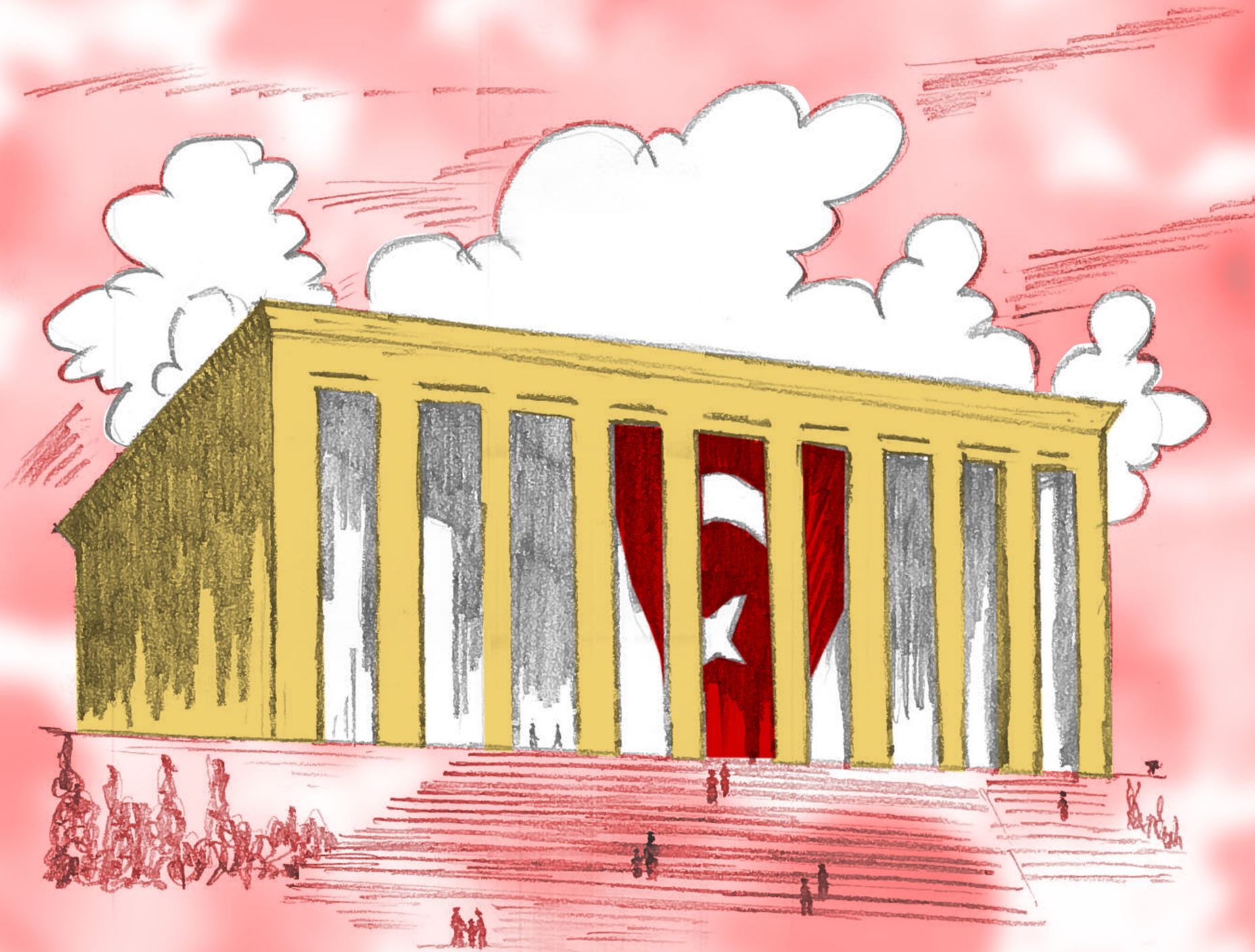




As they continued their journey, they realized that they had arrived at the ceremonial ground. Students who learned that the height of the mausoleum here was* 19.44 m were again curious about the connection. The teacher: “The groundbreaking ceremony of Anıtkabir construction was held in 1944.” said. Now it was time for the 42-step stairs leading from the ceremonial ground to the mausoleum. In the classroom, students counted the steps of the stairs* in the video and posed for each other by doing stairs climbing movements.

Before they wondered, the teacher: “Atatürk declared the Republic at the age of 42,” says.



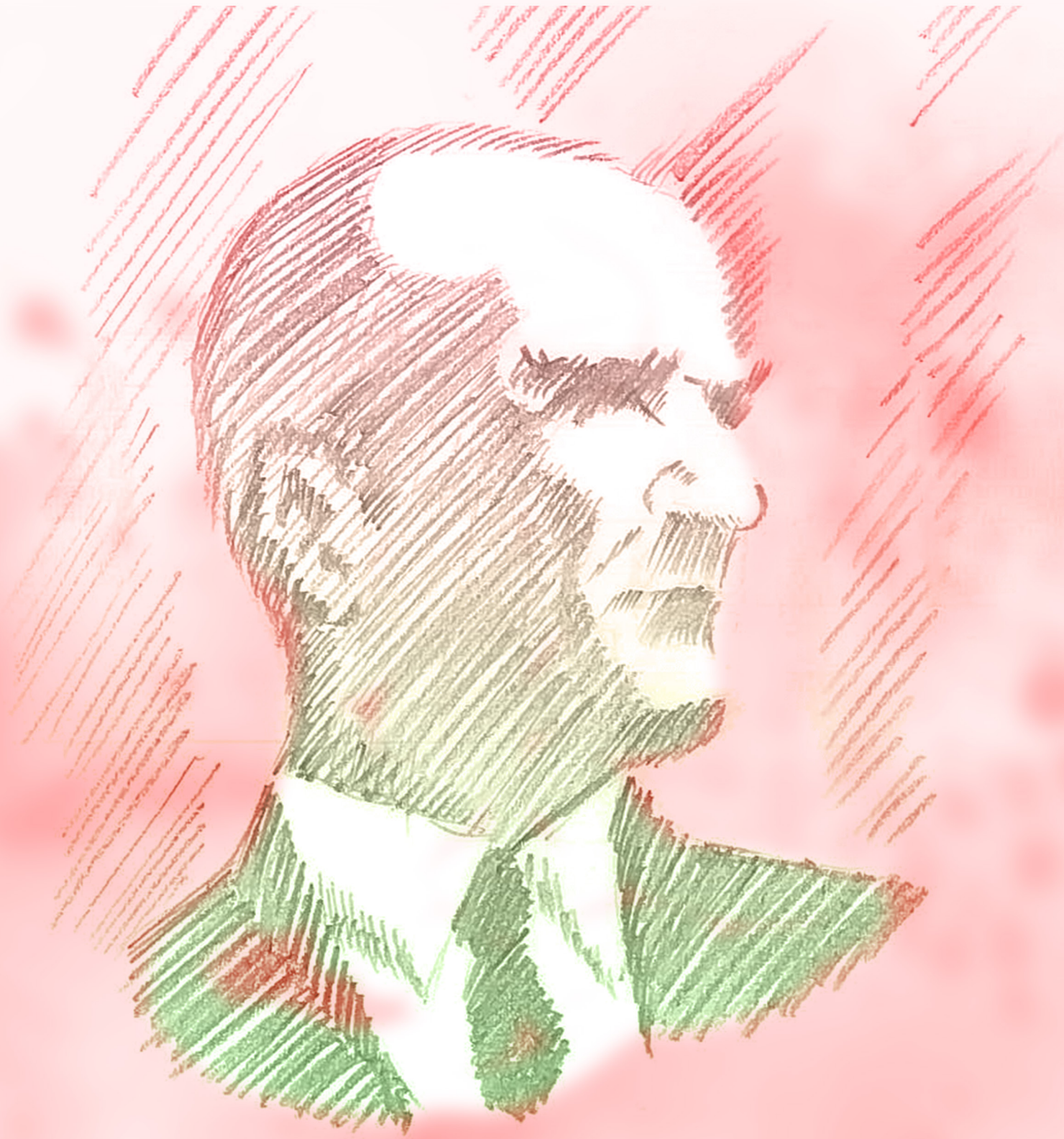


A student said, “Although he was young, he was very smart,” and showed his astonishment with his head movement.

The teacher asked “Was he just young and smart?”

The whole class started to tell about Atatürk’s personality traits all together.





When the video showed the place where Atatürk was located, the teacher said; * The height of the place is 9,05m.

When they separated the numbers with 9.05, the students realized that a connection was made with the time of death, this time without the teacher telling them, and students trailed into silence.



The teacher stirred up the atmosphere by explaining that now was the time to work, not to be silent, and to continue tearing the papers to create the bird.

The teacher asked them to tear the 14 papers they had obtained by adding the numbers 9.05 from the papers she handed out, and they put the torn papers next to the others. Thus, the students completed the parts of the bird's body with the papers they had torn. However, there was neither a bird nor the Lions Road. Only the teacher had a bag full of torn papers in front of her.



The teacher agreed with her students to complete the model bird on the day of the Visual Arts class, and when that day came, they finished their bird.

Now the students were excitedly waiting for that day to take the bird they made to Anıtkabir.

Note: The teacher could not answer a question asked by one of the students in class that day due to the intensity of her emotions, and now she wanted to share it with her readers here.



My dear student; If you remember, you asked why our bird's head is bowed forward. Because we are a bird traveling on the Lions Road. Since the floor coverings of the Lions Road are 5 cm apart, we walk with our heads bowed forward and our bodies in a respectful position to avoid tripping. Thus, we go to our Ancestor's grave with our heads bowed.





Have you forgotten, our bird is also with us...

...It is now on that path with us...

Ours is not just a paper bird anymore...

You are also the students who fly to Anıtkabir like
birds and flap your wings over it.

With endless love and respect to our ancestor...



