



ДОНСКОЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ ТЕХНИЧЕСКИЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ
УПРАВЛЕНИЕ ДИСТАНЦИОННОГО ОБУЧЕНИЯ И ПОВЫШЕНИЯ
КВАЛИФИКАЦИИ

Кафедра «Научно-технический перевод
и профессиональная коммуникация»

Учебное пособие
«Устные темы по практическому курсу английского языка»
по дисциплине

«Практический курс первого иностранного языка»

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Ростов-на-Дону, 2018



Аннотация

Учебное пособие предназначено для студентов 1,2 курсов дневной формы обучения направления «Перевод и переводоведение».

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A CAREER OF INTERPRETER

Task 1. Read and translate the text about interpreters and translators. What's the difference between them?

Interpreters and Translators

Significant Points:

- 15 percent of these workers are self-employed.
- Work is often sporadic, and many interpreters and translators work part time.

Interpreters and translators enable the cross-cultural communication necessary in today's society by converting one language into another. However, these language specialists do more than simply translate words—they relay concepts and ideas between languages. They must thoroughly understand the subject matter in which they work so that they are able to convert information from one language, known as the source language, into another, the target language. In addition, they must remain sensitive to the cultures associated with their languages of expertise.

Interpreters and translators are often discussed together because they share some common traits. For example, both need a special ability, known as language combination. This enables them to be fluent in at least two languages—a native, or active, language and a secondary, or passive, language; a small number of interpreters and translators are fluent in two or more passive languages. Their active language is the one that they know best and into which they interpret or translate, and their passive language is one of which they have nearly perfect knowledge.

Although some people do both, interpretation and translation are different professions. Each requires a distinct set of skills and aptitudes, and most people are better suited for one or the other. While interpreters often work into and from both languages, translators generally work only into their active language.

Interpreters convert one spoken language into another—or, in the case of sign-language interpreters, between spoken communication and sign language. This requires interpreters to pay attention carefully, understand what is communicated in both languages, and express thoughts and ideas clearly. Strong research and analytical skills, mental dexterity, and an exceptional memory also are important.

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The first part of an interpreter's work begins before arriving at the jobsite. The interpreter must become familiar with the subject matter that the speakers will discuss, a task that may involve research to create a list of common words and phrases associated with the topic. Next, the interpreter usually travels to the location where his or her services are needed. Physical presence may not be required for some work, such as telephone interpretation. But it is usually important that the interpreter see the communicators in order to hear and observe the person speaking and to relay the message to the other party.

There are two types of interpretation: simultaneous and consecutive. Simultaneous interpretation requires interpreters to listen and speak (or sign) at the same time. In simultaneous interpretation, the interpreter begins to convey a sentence being spoken while the speaker is still talking. Ideally, simultaneous interpreters should be so familiar with a subject that they are able to anticipate the end of the speaker's sentence. Because they need a high degree of concentration, simultaneous interpreters work in pairs, with each interpreting for 20- to 30-minute segments. This type of interpretation is required at international conferences and is sometimes used in the courts.

In contrast to simultaneous interpretation's immediacy, consecutive interpretation begins only after the speaker has verbalized a group of words or sentences. Consecutive interpreters often take notes while listening to the speakers, so they must develop some type of note-taking or shorthand system. This form of interpretation is used most often for person-to-person communication, during which the interpreter sits near both parties.

Translators convert written materials from one language into another. They must have excellent writing and analytical ability. And because the documents that they translate must be as flawless as possible, they also need good editing skills.

Translators' assignments may vary in length, writing style, and subject matter. When they first receive text to convert into another language, translators usually read it in its entirety to get an idea of the subject. Next, they identify and look up any unfamiliar words. Multiple additional readings are usually needed before translators begin to actually write and finalize the translation. Translators also might do additional research on the subject matter if they are unclear about anything in the text. They consult with the text's originator or issuing agency to clarify unclear or unfamiliar ideas, words, or acronyms.

Translating involves more than replacing a word with its equivalent in another language; sentences and ideas must be manipulated to flow with the same coherence as those in the source docu-

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ment so that the translation reads as though it originated in the target language. Translators also must bear in mind any cultural references that may need to be explained to the intended audience, such as colloquialisms, slang, and other expressions that do not translate literally. Some subjects may be more difficult than others to translate because words or passages may have multiple meanings that make several translations possible. Not surprisingly, translated work often goes through multiple revisions before final text is submitted.

The way in which translators do their jobs has changed with advancements in technology. Today, nearly all translation work is done on a computer, and most assignments are received and submitted electronically. This enables translators to work from almost anywhere, and a large percentage of them work from home. The Internet provides advanced research capabilities and valuable language resources, such as specialized dictionaries and glossaries. In some cases, use of machine-assisted translation—including memory tools that provide comparisons of previous translations with current work—helps save time and reduce repetition.

Task 2. Discuss the questions.

What are the essential qualities of a language translator/interpreter?

What's the difference between simultaneous and consecutive interpreting?

Where can you work if you know English?

Task 3. Write an essay on the topic: I have chosen the career of interpreter because....

Task 4. Read and retell the text.

The Origins of English

They speak of English as having its beginning with the conquest and settlement of a large part of the island of Britain by Germanic tribes from the European continent in the mid-fifth century, although the earliest written documents belong to the seventh century. Of course these people did not, upon their arrival in England, suddenly begin to speak a new language. The history of English goes back much further. English is one of a family of languages called Indo-European. The languages of this family, which includes most of the

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modern European languages and some other languages spoken in western Asia from Iceland to India, as well as such important languages of antiquity as Latin, Greek, and Sanskrit, all resemble each other in a number of ways, particularly in vocabulary. Their parent tongue, called Proto-Indo-European, was spoken about 5,000 years ago by nomads believed to have roamed the southeast European plains.

Within the Indo-European family of languages there are several subfamilies, consisting of languages especially closely related. English belongs to the Germanic branch of Indo-European, and is a close relative of such languages as German, Dutch, the Scandinavian languages, and the now extinct Gothic.

Germanic, one of the language groups descended from this ancestral speech, is usually divided by scholars into three regional groups: East (Burgundian, Vandal, and Gothic, all extinct), North (Icelandic, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish), and West (German, Netherlandic [Dutch and Flemish], Frisian, English). English, being a West Germanic language of the Indo-European language family, is closely related to Frisian, German, and Netherlandic languages.

Though closely related to English, German remains far more conservative than English in its retention of a fairly elaborate system of inflections. Frisian, spoken by the inhabitants of the Dutch province of Friesland and the islands off the west coast of Schleswig, is the language most nearly related to Modern English. Icelandic, which has changed little over the last thousand years, is the living language most nearly resembling Old English in grammatical structure.

parent tongue - исходный язык, язык-источник

nomad - кочевник

roam - бродить

extinct - мертвый (язык)

Gothic - готский язык

ancestral - принадлежащий предкам

speech- диалект, язык

Flemish - фламандский язык

Frisian - фризский язык

Retention – сохранение

Task 5. Answer the questions.

1. How far back does the history of English go?
2. What family of languages does English belong to? What

other languages does this family include?

3. What languages belong to the Germanic branch of the Indo-European family of languages?

4. What regional groups are distinguished within the Germanic language group? Which of them does English enter?

5. What languages is English closely related to within its subgroup? What are their brief comparative characteristics?

LEISURE

Task 1. Read the text and discuss the questions.

Nowadays, leisure industry has a great impact not only for a single person, but for whole countries and even the world. Society is separated for unequal parts of people of different income brackets. Advertising industry offers various range of leisure for people with different cultural capital. So, I could say that leisure style is not an independent decision, but probably a result of belonging to a certain social class.

First of all, leisure is something that people do in their free time, such as eating out, going to the cinema, watching a football match, or staying in a hotel. So, the leisure industry makes a huge contribution to the economy. It keeps millions of people in employment, and all of these employees pay their taxes and have money to spend on other goods and services. At the same time, most people spend some of their earnings on leisure activities, and this money therefore goes back into the economy.

Secondly, enjoy preferences are different for various people. In my opinion, peoples with high income spent their leisure not like the middle-income and especially poor families. The truly cultivated leisures may be the province of the very privileged, but even the leisures of mainstream society – going to a museum, visiting a park, or catching a movie at the theater – are more socially divided than we often think. A widely held view is that if the poor do not partake in various leisure activities it must be because they do not have a taste for them or haven't appropriate cultural capital. Communities nowadays become more segregated and income differences become starker. Money is the great social divider, and with leisure it is no different. Staying at home is cheaper for people then going out.

But despite on that all social obstacles, everybody could fill their leisure intelligently. We shouldn't succumb to laziness because

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our leisure is the only time we have for self-development. Using leisure intelligently isn't a sacrifice, but it is an adjustment. We'll need to become independent and deal with questions from people who don't get it.

By the way in which a man uses his leisure his character can be told - more surely than by the way he does his work. For most men work is necessity in order to gain a living. Vast numbers of men have not even been able to choose what work they would do, but have been forced by economic necessity to take the first job that came their way. But in their leisure time they really want to do and their real selves are reflected in their actions.

Some people are completely passive during leisure hours. If such people go out they go to some place of entertainment where no effort is required by them, a cinema, a dancing hall, and if the latter, they do not dance but simply sit and watch others dancing.

A different type of person hurries home from work full of eagerness to begin on some scheme which he has been planning for his leisure time. Perhaps his hobby is carpentry or model engineering, or gardening, or he might wish to write, or to study some subject in which he is interested. This is the creative type of character. For him, leisure hours are full of promise and he can look back on them with satisfaction when he reviews what he has achieved in them.

Leisure should be refreshment; it should send a man out with fresh spirits to battle with the problems of life. Sometimes this freshness comes not from doing anything, but by filling one's mind with fresh springs of beauty. Many a man gets full value from his leisure by contemplating nature, listening to music, or reading noble books. By this sort of occupation he may not have made anything that he can show, but he has none the less recreated his own source of inspiration and made his own mind a richer and fuller treasure house. This is the true use of leisure.

(From "Fifty Model Essays" by Joyce Miller)

1. What influences leisure patterns?
2. How leisure influences personal development?
3. Why can a man's character be told by the way he uses his leisure?
4. What do passive people do during leisure hours?
5. How does a creative type of character spend his leisure time?
6. Why should leisure be refreshment?

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7. What type of character are you?
8. Are you an out-going person?
9. How do you like to spend your leisure hours? What's your hobby?

Task 2. Find in the text equivalents to the following words and phrases:

- 1) досуг, 2) огромное количество, 3) свежие источники красоты, 4) садоводство, 5) полный стремления, 6) место развлечений, 7) собственный источник вдохновения, 8) сокровищница, 9) творческая личность, 10) свое настоящее **Я**, 11) род занятий.
- 2)

Task 3. Recite the poem with proper intonation.

**“Leisure”
by William Henry Davies**

What is this life if, full of care,
 We have no time to stand and stare.
 No time to stand beneath the boughs
 And stare as long as sheep or cows.
 No time to see, when woods we pass,
 Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.
 No time to see, in broad daylight,
 Streams full of stars, like skies at night.
 No time to turn at Beauty's glance,
 And watch her feet, how they can dance.
 No time to wait till her mouth can
 Enrich that smile her eyes began.
 A poor life this if, full of care,
 We have no time to stand and stare.

Task 4. What's the main idea of the poem?

Task 5. Read these ideas about leisure time and point out which of them you totally agree with and with which you don't share the same opinion.

How to Make Your Leisure Time Productive

Every individual whether a student, an employee, or a businessman ideally finds some leisure time in a day. In most instances you spend your free time with your friends and families, which is good. You may also choose to play, read, or fulfill your other hobbies and interests. While you do all such activities, feel the excitement of you doing them in a productive manner. Making the right use of your time can not only be interesting but also be very satisfying if you can be a little more creative to come out with great productive ideas. There are many ideas that you can implement to make your leisure time very productive. Here are a few ideas on how you can make your free time productive.

1 Make some money. The best productive way of utilizing your spare time is to use your hobbies and interests you are skilled at and earn an income. Writing a couple of articles for the websites I have registered with is my favorite leisure time investment that earns me. So, you too can have your interests keep earning you at your spare time.

2 Clean up your belongings. Do some cleaning work at your home, like reorganizing your books scattered in your study room or work space, cleaning your backyard garden, putting your clothes to clean, and many more. This not only helps you maintain cleanliness, but also lets you some good exercises for your body.

3 Revisit your favorite study materials. Keep the sections of your favorite articles and magazines clipped beforehand into one file. Any time you travel or are relatively free doing almost nothing, you can enjoy reading all your favorite collections while equally retuning your knowledge.

4 Plan your important goals: When you have free time and your mind is quite relaxed, you are usually in the best mood to set your milestones and goals. It does not have to be only your professional goals; you can also plan how you want to achieve your personal goals.

5 Clean up your mail. Make use of your spare time to check all your mail to see what important messages you have received. Check all unread e-mails and postal mails if you see them important, and chunk out the irrelevant ones to manage you mails in a better way. This way you remain focused at your busy time without having to break in between to check mails you are yet to read.

6 Revisit your network. Free time is the best part of the day to re-look at your network connections and visit them by sending

them a welcoming message. It really helps when you have been thinking of buzzing someone, but have not been able to do so. Revisiting your network at your leisure times can bring wonders in your relationships.

7 Call up your old time buddies. Most often, although you feel like talking to a few of your friends, things get postponed due to your busy schedules. During your spare time, you can buzz your old friends for a conversation and remake your friendship.

8 Remind yourself of any important tasks. Although you might have reminders set on Outlook and mobile phones, it can be of help to utilize some part of your free time to make a list of all your important activities and meetings you have in plan. This helps you prepare early for your meetings and other tasks.

9 Finish your due tasks. Whether it is your telephone bill or electricity bill that you make payments on a monthly basis, clear the dues at your leisure time without having to wait for the due dates. It saves a lot of time in the future without having you to run around for making payments at the last moment.

10 Stay healthy. Your regular work may keep your busy all the time and you tend to ignore your health. So, it makes lot of sense to do some useful exercise for your body and mind whenever you get some free time. You can go for a walk or run through the jogging track at your locality, do some meditation exercises, or even do some yoga.

Task 6. Make a short summary of your own productive leisure time.

FOOD

Task 1. Read the text and answer the questions.

National dishes and traditions of Great Britain

British nation is considered to be the most conservative in Europe. It is not a secret that every nation and every country has its own customs and traditions. In Great Britain people attach greater importance to traditions and customs than in other European countries.

There are many customs and some of them are very old. The customs of British tea culture have changed over time, but tea remains Britain's most popular beverage. There was a time when some

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people believed that coffee would replace tea as Britain's favorite beverage. In the event, that did not occur, and today, tea remains firmly anchored as Britain's favorite drink, accounting for over two fifths of all the drink consumed in Britain with the exception of water. According to the British ideas about the culture of tea drinking, the table, regardless of the time of day, is always served with different kinds of tea, so that everyone can choose the tea according to the preferences and mood. This is an expression of respect which permeated the entire ritual of English tea.

Another tradition is the tradition of Sunday lunch, which is called The Sunday roast. It is served with Roast beef, which is still a national culinary pride. It is called a "joint," and is served at midday on Sunday with roasted potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, two vegetables, a good strong horseradish, gravy, and mustard.

It is worth paying attention not only to British traditional cuisine, but also to the dishes of some other English-speaking countries. Cawl is the national dish of Wales. It is again a stew and made from bacon, Welsh lamb or beef, cabbage, leeks though recipes for Cawl vary from region to region and sometimes even season to season.

Foreigners often laugh at the British. They say "In Britain you get chips with everything!" But even the British don't eat chips. Instead, they eat the English breakfast, pancakes, roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, haggis and many other kinds of food. Let's start with the traditional English breakfast.

In a real English breakfast you have fried eggs, bacon, sausage, tomato and mushrooms. Then there is toast and marmalade. There's an interesting story about the word "marmalade". It may come from French "Marie est malade" or "Mary is ill". That's because a seventeenth-century queen of Scotland, Mary Queen of Scots, liked it. She always asked for French orange jam when she was ill.

British people eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday in February or March. For pancakes you need flour, eggs and milk. Then you eat them with sugar and lemon. In some parts of Britain there are pancake races on Shrove Tuesday. People race with a frying pan in one hand. They have to "toss" the pancake, throw it in the air and catch it again in the frying pan.

Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding is the traditional Sunday lunch from Yorkshire in the north of England. It is now popular all

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over Britain. Yorkshire pudding is not sweet. It's a simple mixture of eggs, flour and milk, but it's delicious. Two common vegetables with roast beef and Yorkshire pudding are Brussels sprouts and carrots. And of course there's always gravy. That's a thick, brown sauce. You make gravy with the juice from the meat.

Haggis is the traditional food from Scotland. It's made with meat, onions, flour salt and pepper. Then it's boiled in the skin from a sheep's stomach. In Scotland, people eat haggis on Burns Night. Robert Burns (Scottish people call him "Rabbie" Burns), was a Scottish poet in the eighteenth century. Every year the Scots all over the world remember him, read his poems and eat haggis.

mushroom (s) — гриб, грибы

pancake (s) — блин, блины

Shrove Tuesday — вторник на Масляной неделе

flour — мука

roast beef — жареная говядина

delicious — очень вкусный, восхитительный

Brussels sprouts — брюссельская капуста

gravy — подлива

haggis — шотландское блюдо из сердца и других внутренних органов овцы, порезанных и сваренных в коже овечьего желудка

to boil in the skin — кипятить, варить в коже

a sheep's stomach — овечий желудок

the Scots — another name for the Scottish — шотландцы

1. What national dishes of British cuisine do you know?
2. Are there any traditional dishes in your family?
4. Why is tea a traditional drink in the UK?
5. What do you know about the customs of cooking in Britain?

Task 2. Read the text and answer the questions.**Do we live to eat or eat to live?**

I remember as a child growing up in Britain having fish and chips or baked beans on toast at least twice a week on my lap while watching my favourite cartoon. Of course I enjoyed my food but it wasn't something I often talked about. Now, I'm not blaming my cul-

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ture for my lack of interest in food at an early age. Perhaps my silence was due to the fact that I didn't know anything about food. How many children know that prawns only turn pink when they are cooked and that tuna does not come from a can? Now after having lived in Southern Europe, Asia and Australia I find myself talking about food all the time. The world has seduced my taste buds and opened my mouth.

Food that's plain and simple is often the best but not always so. For many of us food is a need. For others, food is a friend. Yet to some others food is an enemy. Cravings grip us at all the wrong times while we struggle to follow a strict diet that turned all our favourite desserts into mortal sins. There are others who regard food as an investment. To them, food has some kind of special powers that can control their lives, for better or for worse. If that's the case, it's time to change and make food work for us.

Let's start by using food the way you would use a pencil or a pair of scissors. We begin using food as a tool. Like tools, some food works well for some tasks and some is specially designed to accomplish others.

Let's say you're feeling down. You had a tough day or a tiff with a best friend that drove you round the bend. You decide to treat yourself to a bar of chocolate –nothing like chocolate to perk you up. Unfortunately you're setting yourself up for a higher dose of the blues. That's because chocolate bars have a hefty amount of fat and sugar – which takes a long time to digest and can draw energy away from your brain – and caffeine which will temporarily boost your mood and alertness but send you crashing back down as soon as its effect starts to wear off.

Does this mean snacking is a bad idea when you're feeling down? Not at all. You just have to do it wisely. In place of a chocolate bar, have a slice of toast with chunky marmalade. Then instead of fat and caffeine you've just given yourself a dose of vitamin C that has been shown to fight depression. In addition, marmalade is loaded with the type of sugar that spurs the release of mood-lifting chemicals in the brain.

In fact you can manage your mood and boost your brainpower,

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metabolism, even your sex life, by eating the right food. Whatever your goals, you can custom-design a diet to help you meet them. Here's how taking control of your food can help you take control of your life.

The next time you have an important meeting that requires mental processing, try some brain processing food that looks like this: tuna salad on whole wheat bread, green salad with tomatoes, a handful of nuts, bananas, a glass of skimmed milk. Tuna, bananas, nuts and whole wheat bread are high in vitamin B6, which has been scientifically proven to help preserve cognitive skills. Protein-rich food contains a nutrient called Tyrosine, which studies have shown, are linked to clear thinking and alertness. Greens such as broccoli and spinach naturally contain loads of vitamins and iron. Lack of these nutrients can lead to fatigue and difficulty in concentrating.

Having said all that, let's not be too stressed about what we eat. Many scientists these days believe that indulging in life's little pleasures may actually help improve your health because of the psychological lift it gives you. There is a lot of truth in the old saying that 'a little of what you fancy does you good'.

- What food do you like?
- What is your all-time favourite food?
- What food don't you like?
- Are there any foods that you wouldn't eat as a child that you eat now?
- Do you cook? If yes, what food do you cook the most often?
- Do you have a favourite restaurant? Why do you like it?
- How often do you eat out?
- Do you like food from other countries?
- What is your favourite drink?
- Do you have take away and junk food in your country?
- Do you have any traditional meals in your country?
- Does your family have any special recipes that are passed down from generation to -generation?
- What special foods do you eat on holidays? (Christmas, New Year's Day or other -types of festivals)
- What is the most unusual food that you have eaten?
- Why do you think obesity is becoming such a problem

throughout the world?

- What do you think about genetically modified food?
- Have you ever found something disgusting in your food?
- Have you ever had food poisoning?
- What is your favourite fruit?
- What sweet food do you like?
- What's your favourite snack?
- Where did you learn to cook?
- Do you have any food allergies?
- Are there any foods that bring back special memories for you?

What are they?

Task 3. Here is a selected list of words related to food. Make a note of any that you are not familiar with. We will discuss any unfamiliar words and their usage:

- Sirloin
- Scrambled
- Pudding
- Unripe
- Poach
- Portion
- Bland
- Bitter
- Sickly sweet
- Sauteed
- Stewed

Task 4. Read the text and answer the questions.

Fast Food

Modern people are very busy. We spend a lot of time at work, at school or at the university. We often do not have time to cook something ourselves. Some eat at the restaurants or in the canteen, others prefer to eat fast food, just because there is no need to cook it.

Fast food is the food that is ready to be eaten. We all know that fast food is mostly not healthy. Many of it has a negative effect on our bodies. First of all, fast food contains a lot of lipids and carbs. If you eat a lot of fast food, you can gain weight. Also problems with digestive system may be caused by eating it. Fast food can also be

the cause of problems with the state of your skin.

Obviously, a diet of fast food is not the best thing for your health, particularly it is high in saturated fat. In 1993, the Journal of the National Cancer Institute reported this type of fat to be associated with a greater risk of cancer. The best advice, for those who cannot live without their hamburgers or chocolate bars, is to limit the amount of junk food they eat.

What are the examples of the fast food? There are sandwiches, pizza, burgers and hamburgers, potato crisps and much more. Nowadays it is popular to keep a healthy lifestyle. So people try to make even fast food healthier. For example, many people like cooking and so they can make and eat vegetable pizza or vegan burgers.

As for me, I like fast food. Some people, of course, do not like it. This kind of food is quite delicious and it is easy to buy and eat whenever you want. Healthy food is also delicious, but sometimes it's really hard to buy it when you're hungry. Fast food is a good decision for the parties, but it's not healthy to eat it every day and it's important to understand that.

Also, nowadays, any kinds of fast food can also be delivered by different fast food, and not, cafes. Even healthy food can be delivered fast now so that's make our life easy.

1. What kind of food do you prefer?
2. Where do you prefer to eat?
3. What is your favorite dish?
4. Do you think that fast food makes our life easy and so we shouldn't spend a lot of time on cooking?
5. Do you like to cook?

Task 5. Read and enlarge the text.

Meals In Russia

Each country has its own traditions of cooking and national dishes. Russia is mainly a northern country with harsh winters, so food there is the source of energy and warmth. The essential components of Russian cuisine are bread and wheat products, vegetables, dairy produce, meat and fish. Russians usually have three meals a day: breakfast, dinner and supper.

Breakfast is a quick meal, as the majority of people are in a hurry for work or school. It may contain a sandwich or two, an omelette, a cup of tea or coffee. Some people eat porridges or cornflakes in the morning.

Dinner is a more sufficient meal. It is usually in the afternoon and may contain fresh salad, soup, main course and a glass of compote – stewed fruit drink. Typical Russian soups are shchi, solyanka, rassolnik, ukha. One of the people's favourites in summer is okroshka – cold soup based on kvas or sour milk. Traditional Russian salads include Olivier and vinegret.

Supper is served in the evening, when everybody comes home after work or studies. It is the second largest meal after dinner and it usually consists of the main course and dessert. Russians like meat and fish dishes, such as pelmeni, kotlety, shashlyk. Pelmeni are similar to dumplings with meat. Kotlety are like meatballs with spices. Shashlyk is a marinated meat grilled on a skewer. After nourishing dinner Russian people like to drink hot tea with jam or honey. Sometimes they cook blini or syrniki for the dessert. It is worth mentioning that Russians practice various techniques of preserving food, such as drying mushrooms and herbs, canning fruit and vegetables. Thus, in winter they can have a piece of summer goodies.

Task 6. Give a recipe of your favourite Russian dish.

TRAVELLING

Task 1. Read the extract below and then comment upon this quotation:

“I should like to spend the whole of my time in travelling abroad, if I could anywhere borrow another life to spend afterwards at home.”

(William Hazlitt)

Adventure is necessary to us all. It keeps us from growing stale and old; it stimulates our imagination. It gives us that movement and change which are necessary to our well-being.

One of the objects of travel is to go in search of beauty. The beauty spots of the world are magnets which draw pilgrims year after year. Yet even more valuable to the traveller is the knowledge which he gets of his fellow men by going among people of different enthusiasms. It is the story of the stay-at-home who is always ready to call someone else "queer" because his ways are a little different; the much travelled man has sympathy to be able to understand another point of view than his own. Frequent travel to other countries by all sorts and conditions of men and women would be the best possible insurance against war.

And then there is for the traveller the great joy of coming home again. He who never leaves his home sees all its imperfection; but the voyager, when his lust for new scenes is satiated, turns his thoughts towards home with longing and affection. However humble his home may be, it contains all the things with which he is most familiar. He loves them, and being parted for a little while from them increases his desire for them. So the traveller, besides the delight of travel, has the additional satisfaction of a fuller appreciation of his home.

(From "Fifty Model Essays" by Joyce Miller)

Task 2. Comment upon the following quotation:

"When we are young we travel to see the world, afterwards to make sure it is still here."

(Cyril Connolly)

Task 3. It is a conversation between a Travel Agent and a customer but that it is jumbled. Put the dialogue in the right order.

Good morning.

Is it a nice hotel?

Oh, a package would be fine. What do you suggest?

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They've got a special offer for individuals: 10 days in Venice for £699.

And for how many people?

Certainly. When would you like to go?

From 1 to 10 August.

Yes, that's right. For ten days.

What does "Going Places" have?

It includes return airfare, plus hotel with breakfast and dinner.

What can I do for you?

Oh, just one. For me.

I see. Are you interested in a package from one of the tour operators?

If you're travelling alone, I recommend, "Going Places".

Oh yes, very nice. On the Grand Canal, with a restaurant and pool.

It's just what I'm looking for! All right. I'll take it.

Well, I'd like to book a holiday in Venice.

For ten days.

That sounds reasonable.

What does the price include?

Good morning.

Task 4. Here is some advice for round-the-world travellers from the 'World traveller' website. Read the advice and tick if you agree / disagree or are not sure about each statement.

Learn the language of each place you plan to visit.

Find a sponsor to provide money while you are travelling.

Make sure you are fit before you begin your trip.

Reserve hotel room in each country you will visit.

Check your equipment at the start of each day of your journey.

Take lots of clothes.

You must be at least 18 to travel alone.

Take a laptop so that you can contact family and friends while you are away.

Task 5. Read the texts and answer the questions.**Round-the-world travelers****Text A**

James Bowthorpe, aged 31, became the fastest man to cycle round the globe when he arrived at Hyde Park in London on September 19th 2009. It took him just 176 days to travel through 20 countries on his epic 18 000-mile (29 000 km) journey. James pedalled out of the English capital, his home town, carrying 30 kilos of gear which included a GPS tracking system, camera batteries and a phone; all powered by a dynamo connected to his bike.

He was sponsored by a British newspaper and managed to raise over £ 58 000 for research into Parkinson's disease. He crossed mountains and deserts, rode along terrifying highways, battled against strong winds, collided with a wombat in Australia, broke his back brake and had to fix numerous punctures. In Thailand he was so ill that he lost a fifth of his body weight and had to spend 3 days in bed to recover. His other low points included being attacked by a gang of men (and then thankfully being rescued by a couple of teenagers).

Most of his encounters along the way were friendly and James was pleased to find that Lance Armstrong, the Tour de France winner was following his trip via Twitter. "For a couple of days I imagined him watching me with his arms folded, shaking his head at my technique," Bowthorpe says.

(Information from The Independent, The Guardian)

Text B

Rosie Swale Pope, a grandmother from Wales, took five years to run around the world. She was 61 when she completed her round-the-world trip in August 2008. Her 20 000 mile (32 190 km) journey, which took her through the Northern Hemisphere including Europe, America, Greenland and Iceland, raised funds for a Russian orphanage and promoted cancer awareness.

Rosie carried her equipment on a small trailer as she ran. She either camped at night or stayed with people she met on the way. She met lots of people on route; most of them friendly. She received 29 proposals of marriage (9 of them in Poland) and was rescued from the

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snow during a blizzard by a local in Alaska.

Did she encounter any difficulties? As well as being hit by a bus, experiencing freezing temperatures and suffering from pneumonia, she was knocked unconscious by an axeman as she was crossing a river. She also had to replace her running shoes 45 times.

(Information from El Periodico, The Telegraph)

Who travelled around the world?

How did he / she travel?

How long did the journey take?

What problems did he / she have?

APPEARANCE AND CHARACTER

Task 1. Read and translate the text.

Appearances are Deceptive!

Appearances are deceptive! It is a real truth. Sometimes people look nice and kind but when you get them to know better and closer you find out that you are mistaking about them and their character is not so nice. Some people just pretend to be good. For instance, a beautiful girl can be angry, nervous person who hates everybody and everything. But ugly plump person can be really nice and friendly. He can be a good friend, who can always help you.

When one sees a tall, broad-shouldered youth, one expects him to be strong-willed and brave. One thinks: 'A model to follow!' How often a good-looking individual turns out to be petty, weak-willed or even cowardly. Then one thinks: 'A mediocrity!'

At the same time everyone knows that a lot of great people were of a poor build: short and fragile. It did not stop them from displaying intelligence and courage. Ingenuity does not depend on one's complexion or constitution.

Plump or fat people create an impression of generous and kind personalities. Strangely enough, not rarely they may be thrifty or even greedy. One usually thinks: 'A scrooge!'

On the contrary, when one sees a skinny brunette with ugly irregular features — a hooked nose, pointed chin, close-set eyes and thin lips, strange thoughts come to one's head; because it is the image of evil people — cruel and cunning. It maybe a relief some time later to find her a clever, gentle and good-mannered lady and think:

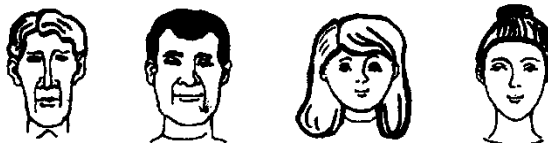
'What charm! A heart of gold!'

During life we get in touch with many people. Character is the most important thing in a person which attracts or repulses other people. Each of us has his or her good and bad traits of character. Every person has many acquaintances and they are all different. Probably some of them are very kind-hearted and friendly, some are not so kind but they are devoted friends and always help them, but they can be cold or indifferent to other people.

deceptive - обманчивый
 common - общепринятый
 ingenuity – находчивость
 dimples – ямочки на щеках
 cunning – хитрый

Task 2. Look at the pictures below and choose the right word from the lists to describe the shape of one's face, eyes, lips.

Face:



a) oval b) round c) long d) square

Eyes:



a) almond b) slanting c) round d) narrow

Lips:



a) thin b) plump c) thick d) heart-shaped

Task 3. Match the idioms in the first column with their definitions in the second column.

1. busybody	a. Someone who is always trying to seem more else in a way that is annoying
2. cheapskate	b. a person who often worries, especially about important
3. couch potato	c. a person who is interested in things that do not esp. other people's private matters
4. wise guy	d. Someone who becomes angry very easily
5. man of his word	e. Someone who does everything according to the way anyone do anything differently.
6. worrywart	f. Someone who is self-confident and ambitious about anything necessary to get what they want.
7. go-getter	g. Someone who stingily avoids spending money.
8. quick temper	h. people who do what they say they will do
9. tough cookie	i. someone whose career progresses rapidly
10. stickler for the rules	j. A person who spends a lot of time sitting or lying watching television

Task 4. Say what kinds of people you like and don't like. Explain why.

Task 5. Role play. Read about these temperaments and act out situations. Guess the temperament.

Sanguine

People with this temperament tend to be playful, lively, care-free, talkative, and pleasure-seeking. They may be warm-hearted and optimistic. They are sociable persons. They laugh for the hard days and always have the energy to start.

Choleric

This temperament is fundamentally ambitious and leader-like. People with this temperament always have a positive attitude in life. Their motto is usually "do it now." They can show leadership, are good at planning, and are often practical.

Phlegmatic

People with this temperament may be principled, reasonable, calm, patient, and tolerant. They are peaceful persons. Idealist is best characterized by the words "easy going". They are silent, controlled, good listener, and always happy with their life.

Melancholic

People with this temperament often prefer to do things themselves, they are not sociable. They respond to others in a slow and indirect manner. They are well organized. People with this temperament will ask specific questions and sometimes they will ask the same question again and again.

Task 6. The face is a map of our personality. And now read the text "Reading Faces" and say what facial reading is.

READING FACES

You've heard of palm reading; but what about facial reading? Yes, you may be able to read someone's character by studying his or her face. A close look at their features, expression, and gestures may tell you a lot about a person. Here are a few things to look for.

Study the person's face and you'll be able to see their strengths, weaknesses, and destination. A person with a large head may be very clever. A low brow may denote cunning, while a wide brow suggests sensitivity and intellect. Wide-set eyes may reveal a person who is careful and watchful, while close-set eyes may indicate greediness. Pursued lips often belong to fearless or aggressive individuals.

Examine the person's eyes. A subject who returns a frank stare may be curious or honest. A person who cannot hold an eye-locking gaze for more than a second or two may be shy, modest, anxious, or guilty. One who stares into space or in another direction, like out the window, could be worried or bored.

Pay attention to gestures or expressions. A tight mouth might reveal that someone is nervous, irritated, or dishonest. When someone turns his or her face from you in a half-angle, the person could be trying to hide something. Looking down or away also may suggest shyness or a lack of openness.

You will need to put all the clues together and in this way you can tell something of an individual's character and personality.

Task 7. Match items in column A with those in column

B.

A	B
1) a large head	A. worried or bored
2) a low brow	B. nervous, irritated, or dishonest
3) a wide brow	C. greediness
4) wide-set eyes	D. fearless or aggressive

5) close-set eyes	E. the person could be trying to hide something
6) pursed lips	F. careful and watchful
7) a frank stare	G. curious or honest
8) a person who cannot hold an eye- locking gaze	H. sensitivity and intellect
9) one who stares into space or in another direction	I. clever
10) a tight mouth	J. cunning
11) when someone turns his or her face from you in a half-angle	K. shy, modest, anxious, or guilty

Task 8. Read and translate the text.

Character Through Handwriting

More and more psychologists and handwriting experts begin to think that your handwriting can tell a lot about your character. So every time when you take a pen you must know that you give yourself away.

You may think that you can deceive the experts by changing your handwriting. But you will still give yourself away, they say.

Everybody writes in different ways at different times. For example, if you write a note to say thanks-for-the-party, it will be different from the one you write to tell the boss you are sorry to be leaving. Your shopping list will be written differently from the long letter to your mother. Still you can't deceive the experts.

Whether you write fast, slowly and carefully, left-handed or right-handed, they can tell the sort of person you are.

It is size, pressure and slant that give you away.

These three factors can reveal your intelligence, your imagination and your strength of personality. And how good you would be for this or that job.

Size is an indicator of how important you think you are. If your capital letters are very large, you think much of yourself. If the capital letters are small, you could be in the wrong job. Small capital letters are a sign of nervous, careful people who agree with everybody.

Big writing means you have a big heart, you are friendly.

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Pressure gives you away; too. That is, the way you press down on your pen. The harder you press, the harder you will work. And you are also more energetic and take the initiative more often.

If you don't press too hard, it means that your work is not very important to you.

Slant shows whether you are happy and carefree or disturbed by different problems.

If your writing slopes backwards, it could show that you are very emotional. And if some of your letters go one way and some another, it almost certainly means that there is something wrong in your relations with friends and relatives.

The experts now say that they can spot heart trouble and cancer in a patient's writing style.

Task 9. Mark if the sentences are true or false.

1. If you write a note to say thanks-for-the-party, it will be simple with the one you write to tell the boss you are sorry to be leaving.
2. Size is an indicator of your traits of character.
3. If your capital letters are very large, you think much of yourself.
4. Small capital letters are a sign of easy-going, careful people who agree with everybody.
5. Big writing means you have many friends.
6. If you press hard, you are energetic.
7. If you don't press too hard, it means that your work **is** very important to you.
8. Slant shows that you are happy and responsible.
9. If your writing slopes backwards, it could show that you are very emotional.
10. If some of your letters go one way and some another, it means that you have many problems with your friends and relatives.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Task 1. Answer the questions.

How active are you?

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1. How often do you walk more than a kilometre?
 - a. Every day
 - b. Once a week
 - c. Once or twice a week
 - d. Very rarely
 - e. Never

2. When was the last time you took any form of physical exercise?
 - a. Yesterday
 - b. Last week
 - c. Last month
 - d. A long time ago
 - e. I can't remember

3. Tick any of the following activities that you do regularly:
 - Cycling
 - Watching TV
 - Playing team games (football, rugby)
 - Watching team games
 - Playing computer games
 - Surfing the net
 - Walking in the countryside
 - Listening to music in your room
 - Playing outside / in the garden / in the street
 - Going to a gym
 - Messaging your friends

Task 2. Read the text and answer the questions.

A Generation of Couch Potatoes

Lots of teenagers have posters of their sports heroes on their bedroom wall. But do they follow the healthy examples set by these athletes? British parents are worried that young people are not as fit and healthy as in the past. Why is this? According to the British Heart Foundation, 13 to 15 year olds are spending too much time doing sedentary activities such as watching TV or playing computer games.

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A special report describes a generation of couch potatoes, young people sitting around at home, growing up in their bedrooms, travelling by car and in serious danger of heart disease as they get older. Is this their fault? Are young people lazy? Many parents don't allow their children to play outside or walk to school by themselves. "I ring my Dad on my mobile and he picks me up from the station. It's 10 minutes' walk from home but he thinks it is dangerous," says 14 year old Carrie. Some teenagers blame their over protective parents for making them unfit. It is certainly becoming more difficult to encourage young people to have an active life and protect their hearts. In recent years schools have spent less time on sports. "My Mum did lots of hockey and netball at school but we didn't have time for that this year because we had so many exams to prepare," says Ben, 16.

How does the lifestyle of Russian teenagers compare to British teenagers?

Are they more active?

Task 3. Do you agree or disagree with these statements?

Discussion: Attitudes towards lifestyles and healthy living

- Young people are naturally fit and healthy and don't need much exercise.
- Eating fast food is OK if you don't eat it every day.
- Older people always say negative things about teenagers habits.
- Sport is good fun.
- Teenagers don't have enough time to do sports because they have too much homework.
- Schools should make all students do at least 2 hours of PE a week.

Task 4. Read the text and answer the questions.

The laws of health

One of the first duties we owe to ourselves is to keep our bodies in perfect health. If our body suffers from any disorder, our mind suffers with it, and we are unable to make much progress in

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knowledge, and we are unfit to perform those duties which are required of us in social life. There are certain laws of health which deserve particular attention and they are so simple. A constant supply of pure fresh air is important to good health. Perfect cleanliness can also be essential. We like to look at one who is tidy if our body and clothes are kept clean we feel pleased with the person.

A certain amount of exercise is necessary to keep the body in perfect condition. All the powers (mental and bodily) we possess can be strengthened by use and weakened by disuse. Therefore labour and study should succeed each other. The best way of getting exercise is to engage in some work that is useful and at the same time interesting to the mind. It is most essential for the old and the young to do morning exercises with the windows wide open in your room or, if possible, in the open air.

Physical fitness has involved increasing number of Russians in activities that provide the necessary physical conditioning and at the same time other enjoyment. Many sports are popular in Russia. They are: hockey, basketball, volleyball, boxing, figure-skating, skiing, swimming. All these sports have their strong supporters.

Remember that exercises warm, invigorate the body. Rest is also necessary to the health of both body and mind. We should go to bed early and get up early. It is a good rule to "rise with the lark and go to bed with the lark".

Most essential to our body is food. Be moderate in eating and don't overeat. We should abstain from everything that intoxicate, especially alcohol because it ruins health and character.

Thus we must remember that moderation in eating and drinking, reasonable hours of labour and study, regularity of exercise, rest, cleanliness and many other essentials lay the foundation for good health and long life.

to invigorate – делать сильным, энергичным; подбадривать

a lark - жаворонок

moderate - умеренный

to overeat - переесть

to abstain from – воздерживаться от чего-либо

to ruin health and character – разрушать здоровье и характер

тер

rest - отдых

to lay the foundation – закладывать основу

1. What is one of our first duties?

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2. Are there certain laws of health?
3. What is essential to good health?
4. How can we keep our body in perfect condition?
5. What is the best way of getting exercise?
6. Why are the Russians so fond of sports?
7. What sports are popular in Russia?
8. What other sports activities attract people from different countries?
9. Rest is also necessary to our health, isn't it?
10. What can ruin our health?

Task 5. Read the text and answer the questions.

Healthy food.

You are what you eat. Any food is food for the whole organism each cell so our state depends on the food we eat. I prefer healthy food.

Healthy food begins with healthy products. Some foods help us to preserve youth and some sanity. The healthier food which I accept the better I feel. A healthy food is primarily natural products without chemical additives and intermediates. Another important factor is the freshness. It is undesirable to store any food for more than three days. I eat lots of fruits, vegetables and cereals. Although I can't live without meat I largely support the vegetarian and raw-foodists. They are 10-20 years old live longer than ordinary people. I think this is the most compelling figure.

Why do so many people eat junk food? Everyone understands how it harms the body. I believe that there are three main reasons for the popularity of such food:

1. Caloric content.
2. Availability
3. Taste qualities.

Although high in fat, salt and sugar leads to obesity. This problem affects millions of people around the world. Healthy eating is very important to me and I encourage everyone to think about what they eat.

- 1) What is healthy food?
- 2) What is the most important indicator of healthy food?
- 3) How many days is it desirable to store any products?
- 4) What are the causes of the popularity of junk food?

5) What causes obesity?

ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES

Task 1. Read the text and answer the questions.

Except the United Kingdom there are some other countries in the world where people speak English and this language is one of the official ones. The largest and most important of them are the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The USA has 50 states. The flag of the USA has 13 red and white stripes, which symbolize the original 13 states. The national symbol of America is the bald eagle; another one is Uncle Sam. 50 stars on the blue field in the left upper corner are for each of the 50 states of the country in our days. The capital of the USA is Washington, D.C. (the District of Columbia). This city was named in honour of the first US president. People of various nationalities live in the USA: the English, the German, the Chinese, the Hindu, the Greek and so on.

The world's second-largest country is Canada. Though Canada is one of largest countries in the world, its population isn't dense. Canada has two official languages – English and French, both spoken by its citizens. The leading cities of Canada are Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. The capital of Canada is Ottawa. The official head of Canada is the Queen of the United Kingdom. But practically there is a Prime Minister of the Canadian government to rule the country. Emblems of Canada are the beaver and the maple leaf. The colours of Canada are white and red.

Australia – a continent and a state – is situated in the Southern Hemisphere, in the southern part of Asia, between the Pacific and Indian oceans. It is about 8 million square kilometres. Australia occupies the Tasmania Island and a number of smaller islands too. It is divided into 8 administrative areas. People of about 200 nationalities live there. The aborigines, the Australian natives, represent about 1.5 percent of the population. The Australian flag is blue. There is the flag of the UK on the Australian banner, a large seven-pointed star beneath it and the Southern Cross constellation.

Another country in the Pacific Ocean where people speak English as an official language is New Zealand. It is located not far from Australia – only the Tasman Sea separates them by a distance of

about 1,600 km. New Zealand is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary form of government.

New Zealand stays in close association with the United Kingdom as a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. And the formal head of the state is the Queen of the United Kingdom. The New Zealand flag represents the Southern Cross, the stars of it are red with white edgings. The flag of the United Kingdom in the left upper corner shows the recognition to the historical foundations and the fact that New Zealand was once a British colony and dominion. The national emblem of New Zealand is a flightless bird kiwi. And silver fern is a sporting emblem.

1. Where is English spoken as an official language?
2. What English-speaking country has 2 official languages? What are they?
3. What are emblems of Canada?
4. What is depicted on Australian flag?
5. What country is situated between the Pacific and Indian oceans?
6. How can you prove that New Zealand was once a British colony and dominion?
7. What is the national emblem of New Zealand?

Task 2. Study the information about the main traditional events and holidays of the United Kingdom and make the report about one of them.

MAIN CEREMONIAL AND TRADITIONAL EVENTS, PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND FESTIVITIES OF THE GREAT BRITAIN

Name	Activity
State Opening of Parliament	The Monarch delivers the Speech from the Throne in Westminster Palace before the official opening of a new session of Parliament (usually at the end of October or beginning of November, or after a general election)

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Trooping the Colour	Inspection of the troops by the Monarch on His/Her Official Birthday (the second Saturday in June). The monarch reviews the seven regiments of the Royal Guard on Horse Guards Parade
Lord Mayor's Show	Travelling of London's new mayor in a golden coach through the city to be sworn in at the Royal Courts of Justice (second Saturday in November)
Changing the Guards	Martial music, shouted commands, handing over the duty to the new guard in Buckingham Palace forecourt and in the Horse Guards court (daily)
Spring Bank Holiday	The bank holiday that falls on the last Monday in May
Ceremony of the Keys	The ritual daily locking up of the Tower of London for the night
Christmas	Buying Christmas presents, putting presents for children into their stockings; using red and green decorations for the house, decorating Christmas trees, singing carols (December 25), bank holiday
Boxing Day	The day of giving small Christmas presents / money to employees, postmen, milkmen, etc. (December 26), bank holiday
New Year's Eve and / or New Year's Day	Making resolutions to give up smoking, to keep to a slimming diet, etc. Cooking New Year's dinner (December 31 / January 1), bank holiday
Remembrance Day (Poppy Day)	Laying wreaths at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, commemorating those who died fighting in the two world wars, poppies being a symbol of mourning (Sunday nearest to 11 November, Armistice Day, the final day of the WW I, 1918)
Summer Bank Holiday (August Bank Holiday)	The bank holiday that falls on the last Monday in August

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Easter Sunday (Easter Day) and Easter Monday	Decoration of Easter eggs, eating candy eggs and giving chocolate eggs and bunnies as presents (no fixed day, falling between 22 March and 25 April), bank holiday
Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday)	The day before Ash Wednesday in February, once thought of as a last day of enjoyment before the fasting of Lent in the Christian year. Many people still traditionally eat pan cakes on Shrove Tuesday (named from a rare verb 'shrive', meaning 'to make one's confession', i.e. to confess one's sins to a priest before Lent)
Mothering Sunday	The fourths Sunday in Lent, when people traditionally give or send cards and presents to their mothers. Now it is usually called <i>Mother's Day</i>
Mother's Day	The second Sunday in May (since WW II), the holiday of the American origin
Father's Day	The third Sunday in June, when presents are traditionally given by children to their father (based on <i>Mother's Day</i> , the tradition was imported to Britain in the 20th century from America)
St. Valentine's Day	Sending cards with red hearts, words of love, etc. (February 14)
Halloween	Telling ghost stories, making masks and playing tricks (October 31)
Guy Fawkes Night	Making a guy for the bonfire (November 5)
Eisteddfod	The annual Welsh picturesque ceremony of choosing the winner among contesting poets and singers

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May Day	The springtime festival celebrating the end of winter, morris men dances, children dancing round the maypole (May 1)
St. George's Day	The Day of the Patron Saint of England (April 23), the church festival, regarded as England's national day (although not an official bank holiday)
St. Patrick's Day	The Day of the Patron Saint of Ireland (March 17), regarded as a national day in Northern Ireland and an official bank holiday there
St. Andrew's Day	The Day of the Patron Saint of Scotland (November 30), the church festival, regarded as Scotland's national day (although not an official bank holiday)
St. David's Day	The Day of the Patron Saint of Wales (March 1), the church festival, regarded as the national holiday of Wales (although not an official bank holiday)

bank holiday - официальный выходной день (общий день отдыха, помимо воскресенья)

Trooping the Colour - вынос знамени {перед войсками}

Bunny - ласк, кролик

Pancake Day - (Shrove последний день масленицы Tuesday)

Ash Wednesday - пепельная среда

morris men - мужчины в средневековых костюмах с звоночками, трещалками, изображающие во время майского праздника легендарных героев

maypole - майское дерево (столб, украшенный цветами, разноцветными флажками и лентами, вокруг которого танцуют на майском празднике весны)

Task 3. Read and translate the text.

VARIETIES OF ENGLISH

There is one standard literary English - Received Standard English - that is characterized by the Received Pronunciation (RJP), but there are also several regional and social dialects. This term denotes the speech of educated people living in London and the south-east of England and of other people elsewhere who speak in this way. RP is not intrinsically superior to other varieties of English; it is itself only one particular regional dialect that has achieved more extensive use than others. It is generally heard on the BBC. Although acquiring its unique status without the aid of any established authority, it may have been fostered by the public schools (Winchester, Eton, Harrow, Rugby, and so on) and the ancient universities (Oxford and Cambridge).

The polished tones of what has become known as "BBC English" still predominate on the radio, although in recent years broadcasters with regional or American accents have become increasingly popular.

Other varieties of English are well preserved in spite of the levelling influences of film, television, and radio. Even in England there are many differences in regional speech. The chief division is between southern England and northern England. South of a line going from Bristol to London, people speak the type of English usually learnt by foreign students, there are local variations.

In accent and character the people of the Midlands represent a gradual change from the southern to the northern type of Englishman.

Further north (roughly beyond a line going from Manchester to Hull) regional speech is usually 'broader' than that of southern Britain. In the Northern dialect RP /ɑ:/ (the first vowel sound in *father*) is still pronounced /æ/ (a sound like the *a* in *fat*) in words such as *laugh*, *fast*, and *path*; this pronunciation has been carried across the Atlantic into American English. In the words *run*, *rung*, and *tongue*, the received-standard pronunciation of the vowel is /ʌ/, like the *u* in *but*; in the Northern dialect it is /ʊ/, like the *oo* in *book*. In the words *bind*, *find*, and *grind*, the received standard pronunciation of the vowel sound is /ai/, like that in *bide*; in Northern, it is /i/, like the sound in *feet*. The vowel sound in the words *go*, *home*, and *know* in the Northern dialect is /o:/, approximately the sound in *law* in some American English dialects. In parts of Northumberland, RP "it" is still pronounced "hit," as in Old English. In various Northern dialects the defi-

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nite article "the" is heard as t, th, or d. In those dialects in which it becomes both t and th, t is used before consonants and th before vowels.

In Wales, people often speak a clear and measured form of English with a musical intonation inherited from ancestral Celtic. They tend to aspirate both plosives (stops) and fricative consonants very forcibly; thus, *true* is pronounced with an audible puff of breath after the initial t.

Lowland Scottish was once a part of Northern English, but two dialects began to diverge in the 14th century. Today Lowland Scots trill their r's, shorten vowels, and simplify diphthongs. Lowland Scottish is not to be confused with Scottish Gaelic, a Celtic language still spoken by about 90,700 people (almost all bilingual) mostly in the Highlands and the Western Isles.

Northern Ireland has dialects related in part to Lowland Scottish and in part to the southern Irish dialect of English. Irish pronunciation is conservative and is clearer and more easily intelligible than many other dialects.

Received Standard English - нормативный, литературный английский язык

Received Pronunciation (RP) - нормативное произношение

Intrinsically - существенно

Foster - способствовать

Level - уравнивать, сглаживать

aspirate - произносить с придыханием

plosive (stop) - взрывной звук

fricative – фрикативный

Task 4. Answer the questions.

1. What variety of British English is considered as a normative standard? What is RP?
2. What varieties of British English can be distinguished according to their regional peculiarities?

MODERN TECHNOLOGIES

Task 1. Read the text and answer the questions.

THE IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY ON OUR LIVES

In the recent world, technology is developing at a very fast pace and people from different fields of the world are making many additions to it. It is impossible to ignore the impact of technology on our daily lives, and nowadays we discuss its classification is into two main query types which are how technology has changed our lives and is technology good or bad? A lot of research is going on by many researchers for many non-profit organizations, education institutes, and businesses. With each invention, our lives are getting more and more busy and social. Technology can have the definition as the implementation of scientific knowledge in solving our daily life problems which we experience in today's world. The technological advancements are playing very important role in our lives, and we are getting addicted to them.

Everything has its pros and cons; similarly, there are both the positive and negative effects of technology. Only it depends on the way we use the things. We need to understand that how technology developed in past few decades and how it brought benefits for us and how it made our lives harder. Without any doubt, technology has left its marks in every field, including business, culture, economy, education and our lifestyles. We should be aware of the fact that how its effects on society were destructive or how they were advantageous.

POSITIVE EFFECTS OF TECHNOLOGY

If we look around, our surroundings are full of the technology even where it is hard to notice its existence. Most of the time we ignore the level of its importance and take it for granted. It has changed our lifestyles and largely enhanced our living criteria. Although in the present, people are facing a lot of problems related to the economy, inflations, unemployment, poverty, illiteracy, etc. but they are living in much better situations with comfortable communications and get themselves fed with a high flow of information. It has become difficult to figure out that is technology good or bad for us due to such remarkable benefits, which we are enjoying nowadays due to development in technology. None of the fields remain untouched. Technology has brought revolution in all the basic aspects of our lives like communication, health, religion, language, entertainment, earning, eating habits, etc. For example: technology has done miracles in bringing much ease and comfort for students all around the world. They can study online while remaining at their home in any part of the world. They can learn any course and get a degree of the desired university online. Also health facilities are being provided now to patients and research done by doctors has laid the foundations for

biological control diseases. By sitting at our home, we can get medical treatment by consulting the doctor just by a video call.

NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF TECHNOLOGY

Whenever we talk about how the technology has changed our lives, we come across many good and bad things which have given to us by it. Along with many advantages, it provided us in every field, a lot of negative effects of technology are also there in many aspects. The problem is not actually with the presence of technological advancements, but the way in which we dealt them with, had caused an immense effect on our behaviors. Here are few negative effects of technology given below which make us think that is technology good or bad:

1. Depletion of natural resources

The technology uses the natural resources as fuel to earn billions of resources in really small time. It led to depletion of natural resources at a faster level.

2. Pollution

Many products made by industry nowadays have filled the air, water and soil with many toxic chemicals. Insecticides, gasses emitted in the air, oil leakages in water, garbage from industry, etc. are the main reasons for producing the negative effects of technology.

3. Health problems

With the increased rate of pollution, many diseases are evolving every day. To win the fight against the breakout of diseases, we need to deal with pollution which itself is a destructive product of the modern technology.

HOW HAS TECHNOLOGY CHANGED OUR LIVES

A lot of changes have occurred in our lives due to technology. Most of the changes have produced many beneficial effects in our lives, making it rapid and easy to perform various jobs. In many ways, it brought many effects which can save us from undergoing the long and hectic procedures. There are many examples around us which can make us understand that how technology has changed our lives. Along with the positive impacts, there are negative effects of technology too. It has given us the chance to make changes in our lives in either way. So it totally depends on us to decide that is technology good or bad for us by considering that how we implement it in our lives and how much allow it to cause an impact on our lives.

pace- темп, скорость;

impact- влияние, воздействие;

query- запрос;

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implementation- реализация, осуществление, выполнение;
to enhance- усилить, повышать, увеличивать;
flow- поток;
immense- необъятный, безмерный;
hectic- беспокойный, суматошный.

1. What role does technology play in our life?
2. Do you think technological advances are always good?
3. What in your opinion are disadvantages of new technologies?
4. What effects can technologies have on ecology?
5. What would you prefer healthy environment or technologies?

Task 2. Read the text about the usage of green energy. Give your own examples.

How green is your energy?

Solar lit handbag

There are many uses for a portable solar panel. You can recharge a number of things such as computer notebooks, torches, mobile phones, even water pumps, with them. The latest design, however, features the handbag. Noticing how often her friends searched for keys and other items at the unseen bottom of their bags, Rosanna Kilfedder, a student at Brunel University, had a bright idea. She designed a handbag with its very own inside light. She called it the Sun Trap, and it works by having a solar cell fitted on the outside. The cell stores solar energy to a battery which lights up the inside of the bag whenever the zip, acting as a switch, is used. What's more, the handy battery is friendly enough to act as an emergency charger for your mobile phone and other small gadgets.

Sun and wind pair up for radio show

Two radio presenters in Wales will be relying on eco-friendly power to keep their small community radio station going. Preseli FM will use power generated from the wind and the sun to broadcast 24 hours a day for a month-long experiment. Preseli FM is designed for the local community with topics of interest for all ages, including 'talk show' spots. But, if all goes well, it is hoped that the signals may have enough puff to reach listeners in other parts of the UK.

Task 3. You are working as part of a design team. You

have to think of a new invention that works from a renewable energy source.

- What is it used for?
- Who would use it?
- How would it work?
- Would people buy it?

Science Quiz

Task 4. Read the following questions and choose the correct answer.

1. What percentage of the world's inventions in the past 100 years have been British?
A. 44% B. 54% C. 34%
2. How many Nobel Prizes have UK scientists received in the last 50 years?
A. 36 B. 26. C. 46
3. How many out of Europe's top 50 technology companies are in the UK?
A. 15 B. 21. C. 25
4. Marie Curie was
A. a Chemist B. a Biologist C. a Physicist
5. Alexander Graham Bell invented the
A. Radio B. Telephone C. Door Bell
- 6 Alexander Fleming discovered Penicillin in
A. 1898 B.1908 C.1928

Task 5. Discuss the following points with the partner.

- Do you think studying science is important? Why or Why not?
- Who do you think are the world's most famous scientists? What did they discover or invent?
 - Can you name any famous scientists from your country or from other countries?
 - Do you think girls and boys have equal opportunities to study science at school and at University?

Task 6. Which of the following scientific discoveries do you think have been the most important for modern life?

- Atomic Bomb
- Wireless technology
- Computers
- Cloning
- Penicillin/Antibiotics
- Solar Power
- Air Travel
- Plastic
- Electricity
- Robots

Task 7. Read the situation and answer the questions.

To Clone or not to clone?

Situation 1

Jane is blind and has a guide dog called Bobby. Bobby has been her guide dog for 10 years but is getting old. Bobby is Jayne's best friend and she feels that without him she couldn't live.

Should Jayne be allowed to clone Bobby before he dies? Should people be allowed to clone their pets?

Situation 2

There is only one Giant Panda left on earth. It does not have a partner to breed with so once it dies the species will be extinct.

Should scientists be allowed to clone another Giant Panda to keep the species alive? Should scientists be allowed to clone endangered species?

Situation 3

Scientists believe that stem cells found in human embryos could be used to cure a range of diseases.

Should scientists be allowed to clone human embryos to create stems cells for medical purposes?

Situation 4

Mrs. Jones eldest son Mark is 10 years old and is dying with cancer.

Should Mrs. Jones be allowed to clone Mark before he dies? Should people be allowed to clone other humans or clone themselves?

Situation 5

John Green is a farmer in Texas and he wants to clone his prize bull to sell it and make money.

Should farmers be allowed to clone their best animals to make money?

Situation 6

A developing country with food shortages want to clone their best food producing animals, cows, chickens, pigs etc. to try and produce more food per animal to solve their food shortages.

Should countries be allowed to clone animals to increase food production?

SPORT IN OUR LIFE

Task 1. Read the text in order to answer the questions.

Why Do People Do Sport?

Today more and more people do sport. It is becoming prestigious and fashionable among youngsters as well as among grown-up people. There are so many places to do sport - a lot of gyms are built, sport complexes, courts and football pitches. But why is it so important to do sport? Why do we need it?

First of all sport is good for our health. Not only does sport strengthen our body and muscles, it also helps us to avoid many diseases. When you do sport you keep fit, your body gets rid of unnecessary fat and you feel better.

If you don't have enough time for sport at least jogging in the mornings can be a good idea. To combine pleasure and useful activity one can go to the swimming pool or swim in the rivers and lakes in summer.

Sport also contributes to your brain - take chess for example. Moreover, sport has a psychological influence - it reduces stress and gives you good emotions. It makes you more disciplined.

Another reason for doing sport is that it contributes to your social life. If you do sport you find new friends and learn how to work in team and have fun together. Sport is meaningful for cultural connections, nowadays we have plenty of competitions which help people to make better international relationship and know each other's culture.

-Do you play any sports?

-Are you good at sports?

-What's your favourite sport?

-Do you think everybody should practice sports?

-Do you think playing sports helps people work better as a team at work?

-Do you think that parents are too involved in their children's sports activities?

Task 2. Read the text and answer the questions.

World of Sports Doping

Sports have long been part of popular culture. In the United States, some players are as famous as movie stars or rock musicians. The lives of famous athletes are described not only in the news media, but in films and literature.

Sports also have found their way into everyday sayings. One such example says: "It's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game." That expression has been used for many years to define honor in sports. But today, many people question the honor of some athletes.

A star of North American baseball announced he had used a banned substance to improve his performance. Alex Rodriguez apologized for using the substance during a three-year period beginning in two thousand one.

Rodriguez is the highest-paid player in Major League Baseball. His comments came two days after a magazine reported that he failed a test for performance-improving drugs, also known as anabolic steroids. Sports Illustrated reported that Rodriguez failed the test in two thousand three. That same year, he won the first of his three most valuable player awards. The report said more than one hundred other players also failed the test.

Major League Baseball did not begin punishing its players for using steroids until two thousand four. Most sports organizations have banned the non-medical use of steroids. But some athletes continue to take them. They believe these substances help them in competition. Steroids are used to increase muscle strength. But steroids can damage the liver and halt the production of testosterone. They can also cause personality changes.

People who take steroids may become increasingly angry. Some become dependent on steroids and feel they cannot live without them. Users can become depressed and, in some cases, even want to kill themselves.

What does it mean to have high levels of testosterone? Tes-

tosterone is a steroid hormone. Hormones are chemicals that help keep the body working normally.

The effects of testosterone can be seen in boys when they become young men. They develop muscle power and become stronger. Testosterone is also important for other changes, like a deeper voice and the growth of hair. Testosterone is produced in the adrenal glands and reproductive organs. Both men and women produce testosterone. Men produce much more of it than women do. But not all males produce the same amounts. Some naturally have higher levels than others.

Some people take testosterone supplements. Such products are manufactured in a laboratory for medical purposes. But some athletes use testosterone to strengthen their muscles and improve their performance. These products are banned in many sports.

Researchers who have studied testosterone generally agree that long-term use may increase athletic performance. But they disagree about the short-term value. Also, testosterone supplements have risks. Most doctors agree that taking large amounts of testosterone can cause harmful effects. These include an increased risk of heart disease.

"Doping" is the general term for the use of banned substances or practices to improve athletic performance. The World Anti-Doping Agency says the term probably came from the Dutch word "dop." That was the name for an alcoholic drink used by Zulu fighters in Africa to improve their performance in battle.

The agency says the word doping began to be used for athletes in the beginning of the twentieth century. At first, it meant the illegal drugging of racehorses. The agency notes that athletes have used substances for centuries to improve their performance. Ancient Greeks used special foods and drinks. Nineteenth century cyclists and others used alcohol, caffeine, cocaine -- even strychnine, a strong poison. By the nineteen twenties, sports organizations were attempting to stop the use of doping substances. But at the time they lacked scientific ways to test for them.

One method of doping is called blood doping. This is the use of substances like hormones or blood itself to increase the production of red blood cells. That way the blood moves more oxygen to the muscles, increasing their strength and performance.

One such hormone is EPO. It is said to be most useful to athletes in endurance sports such as cycling and distance running. Doctors say hormones used for blood doping thicken the blood and increase the chances of heart disease and stroke. Also, the use of blood

from another person can spread viruses. But doctors say even the use of a person's own blood to increase the level of red blood cells in the body can raise the risk of heart disease and stroke.

Another substance that can be used to increase performance is human growth hormone. This hormone is produced naturally by the pituitary gland in the brain. Athletes may take injections of human growth hormone, although that can be found with blood tests. Experts say such use of the hormone can cause diabetes, muscle and bone pain, high blood pressure and other disorders.

Sports dopers continually look for new substances and technologies. The World Anti-Doping Agency has already banned gene doping, although it says it does not believe anyone is doing it yet. Officials say they want to be ready with a test to find genetic changes. For example, imagine an athlete whose body contains genetic material from an animal. In theory, such a person could become a great athlete overnight.

-Have you ever been to watch a professional sporting event?

-Is it good that professional sports are so commercial nowadays?

-What do you think is the most popular sport in the world?

-What is the most popular sport in your country?

-What new sports would you like to try?

-What sports do you like to watch on TV?

-What's a sport that you don't like?

-Who is your favourite professional athlete? Why?

-How do you feel about extreme sports?

-If you had the opportunity to do away with any sport, what sport would you do away with? Why?

-Do you think professional athletes earn too much money? Why or why not? Which sport's athletes do you think earn the money?

-What are some of the benefits of sports?

-Do you prefer playing or watching sports?

-What do you think of the famous quote: "Sports do not build character, they reveal it."?

Task 3. Do you know which sports these places are associated with:

-Court

-Course

- Ring
- Pitch
- Rink
- Alley
- Piste

MASS MEDIA

Task 1. Read the text and fill in the blanks.

life fun radio economic shows understand cultural music

Mass Media become an important part in the _____ of our society. It includes the press, radio and television whose main functions to inform, to educate and to entertain.

I believe millions of people can't live without TV; it's an integral part of everyone's life. Even if we don't watch it, it can be switched on just for the background. The same thing is with radio. We listen to it whenever we have meals or do work around the house. _____ broadcasts are valued mainly for their _____ programs. As for TV, there a great variety of programs from which one can choose in order to satisfy his interests in the best way. Our television provides so much information that sometimes we are even lost in this stream. We get to know about social, _____ and political events that take place in our country and in the whole world. We learn about new discoveries in science and about problems concerning different spheres of our life. There lots of _____, films and games that are entertaining and exciting and help us to relax at the end of the working day.

Newspapers are also able to supply people with any kind of information. They comprise articles about the latest international and national events, all kinds of rumours, advertising, _____ stories, biographies of well-known people and so on. There are newspapers and magazines for people of all age groups where one can read all kinds of news, events and reports on education, sports, _____ life, entertainment and fashion

One more important thing which worth mentioning is advertising. Mass Media is one of the best ways to promote various goods and to help people to _____ what they really need.

Task 2. Read the text and answer the questions.

Social networks

With the advancement of technology, the Internet has become vastly popular for the masses. The Internet brings along a phenomenon, social networking. Networking has never been easier since applications are developed to foster this phenomenon, and people can access the social media through many channels: computer, laptops, even on their smart phones. Online social networking requires the use of computers and computer networks. These communities can range from small to very large and can be local or worldwide.

Area with huge growth potential is the use of social networks and for business whether it is for improving communications, for marketing or by deriving business intelligence. There are now many different solutions in the market for "Social Business Solutions" and large IT companies and consulting firms are starting to create new departments in this area. Businesses are slowly coming to the realization that traditional communication methods are often less effective than social networking.

Facebook is the biggest social network on the web, both in terms of name recognition and total number of users. With nearly 2 billion active users, Facebook is a great medium for connecting people from all over the world with your business. In the 13 years since it launched, Facebook has grown from a simple website where college students could keep in touch into a multifaceted web and mobile social platform where anyone can connect with not just their friends and family, but also celebrities, organizations, businesses and more, thanks to the Pages feature. Considering that Facebook has a wealth of options for any type of organization, it's a great starting point for your business, regardless of your industry. You can use Facebook to share photos, videos, important company updates and more. Additionally, the site can be more low-maintenance than other social networks. Whether you post several updates a day or only a few a week won't make much of a difference in what your fans think of you.

Another social network is YouTube. Is a video-sharing platform with over a billion users, where people can view, upload, rate, share and comment on content. Created over a decade ago, YouTube has gone through numerous changes. For instance, users can now make money from Google AdSense, with the revenue dependent on the number of views on a video. Many businesses on YouTube have a creative, visual or educational component. The platform is heavily driven by creativity in nature, so it's important to have a tailored video editor producing content. However, your business doesn't need a

channel to market on the platform. There's a subculture of vloggers called YouTubers who publish frequent videos and often maintain large audiences. Often, businesses partner with YouTubers for product placement, because these users already have engaged audiences.

Social networking is becoming popular in the modern day and social networking is the most profitable way to reach wider range of audience. In other words, one might say that social media is the most effect way to develop your business.

derive- получать, выводить, происходить

multifaceted- многогранный, многосторонний

update- обновлять, модернизировать

rate- скорость, ставка, темп

decade- десятилетие

tailor- делать на заказ, исправить

editor- редактор, заведующий отделом

frequent- частый, постоянный, часто встречающийся

1. Why do people use social networks?
2. What is the most popular social network today?
3. Which social network do you use most often?
4. Which social network is most suitable for business development?

HOME READING

While reading the literary work find answers for the following:

- Who are the main characters?
- Who are the minor characters?
- What is their literary function?
- What is the character's social status?
- What are the physical and moral features of the characters?
- What are the feelings the character expresses?
- What is the character's relationship with the others and the environment?

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- Is the character structured around one key quality? What is his / her dominant feature?
- What features of the character's nature are accentuated in the story?
- What is the character's age, occupation, social position, sources of income,...? How do you know?
- What is the character's set of values?
- Explain how the reader is given insights into his / her value system and view of life.
- How does the writer reveal the character's attitude to the human condition, other characters ...?
- Which of the character's actions are suggestive or revealing? What are they suggestive of? In which of the character's actions or thoughts can you trace his / her nature?
- What does the character reveal about himself / herself in what he / she says about life, others, ...?
- How does the character's speech characterize him / her?
- Does the character say what he / she really feels or thinks?
- Are there any particular details in the story / novel that might signify something very important about the character? What are they? Comment upon them. Are they meant as artistic details? Do they serve as a means of characterization? How do they characterize the character?
- What is the author's attitude to the protagonist?
- Does the author use a diversity of means of character-creating / drawing or only - one of the known means of character-drawing? What means of characterization are employed by the writer?

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- What literary role do all the minor characters play? Can they be treated as an important means of characterizing the major character?
- Are the speech characteristics of the personages in keeping with their education and social status?
- What style markers can you trace in the character's speech, if any?
- What markers of the emotional state of the character can be found in the personage's speech, if any?
- What markers of uneducated speech occur in the speech of the personage, if any?
- Does the character's language reflect his / her emotional state?
- Does the portrayal of the character contribute to his / her characterization?
- Does the author resort to the description of the world of things that surround the character? Does it throw light on the character's nature as an additional means of character-creating?
- Does the author resort to a most effective means of character-drawing - the psychological portrayal through the penetration into the mind of the character, the description of his / her mental processes, mental workings, subtle psychological changes that motivate the character's actions?
- What do you think is the main and the most effective means of characterization chosen by the author to portray the character?
- Are the characters real / true-to-life and convincing?

- Is the character described / portrayed / represented / depicted economically / laconically?
- How is the main character singled out from the others?

Read and analyze the story according to the above mentioned plan.

The Gift of the Magi by O. Henry

One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty-seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas.

There was clearly nothing left to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it. Which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating.

While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the look-out for the mendicancy squad.

In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal finger could coax a ring. Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr. James Dillingham Young."

The "Dillingham" had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, the letters of "Dillingham" looked blurred, as though they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D. But whenever Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called "Jim" and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della. Which is all very good.

Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a grey cat walking a grey fence in a grey backyard. To-morrow would be

Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result. Twenty dollars a week doesn't go far. Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are. Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim. Her Jim. Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him. Something fine and rare and sterling - something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honour of being owned by Jim.

There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room. Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 flat. A very thin and very agile person may, by observing his reflection in a rapid sequence of longitudinal strips, obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks. Della, being slender, had mastered the art.

Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. Her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its colour within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.

Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's. The other was Della's hair. Had the Queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out of the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty's jewels and gifts. Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement, Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him pluck at his beard from envy.

So now Della's beautiful hair fell about her, rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters. It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her. And then she did it up again nervously and quickly. Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet.

On went her old brown jacket; on went her old brown hat. With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she cluttered out of the door and down the stairs to the street.

Where she stopped the sign read: 'Mme Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds.' One Eight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting. Madame, large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the 'Sofronie.'

"Will you buy my hair?" asked Della.

"I buy hair," said Madame. "Take yer hat off and let's have a sight at the looks of it."

Down rippled the brown cascade.

"Twenty dollars," said Madame, lifting the mass with a prac-

tised hand.

"Give it to me quick" said Della.

Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings. Forget the hashed metaphor. She was ransacking the stores for Jim's present.

She found it at last. It surely had been made for Jim and no one else. There was no other like it in any of the stores, and she had turned all of them inside out. It was a platinum fob chain simple and chaste in design, properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by meretricious ornamentation - as all good things should do. It was even worthy of The Watch. As soon as she saw it she knew that it must be Jim's. It was like him. Quietness and value - the description applied to both. Twenty-one dollars they took from her for it, and she hurried home with the 78 cents. With that chain on his watch Jim might be properly anxious about the time in any company. Grand as the watch was, he sometimes looked at it on the sly on account of the old leather strap that he used in place of a chain.

When Della reached home her intoxication gave way a little to prudence and reason. She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work repairing the ravages made by generosity added to love. Which is always a tremendous task dear friends - a mammoth task.

Within forty minutes her head was covered with tiny, close-lying curls that made her look wonderfully like a truant schoolboy. She looked at her reflection in the mirror long, carefully, and critically.

"If Jim doesn't kill me," she said to herself, "before he takes a second look at me, he'll say I look like a Coney Island chorus girl. But what could I do - oh! what could I do with a dollar and eighty-seven cents?"

At 7 o'clock the coffee was made and the frying-pan was on the back of the stove hot and ready to cook the chops.

Jim was never late. Della doubled the fob chain in her hand and sat on the corner of the table near the door that he always entered. Then she heard his step on the stair away down on the first flight, and she turned white for just a moment. She had a habit of saying little silent prayers about the simplest everyday things, and now she whispered: "Please, God, make him think I am still pretty."

The door opened and Jim stepped in and closed it. He looked thin and very serious. Poor fellow, he was only twenty-two - and to be burdened with a family! He needed a new overcoat and he was with out gloves.

Jim stepped inside the door, as immovable as a setter at the

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scent of quail. His eyes were fixed upon Della, and there was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. It was not anger, nor surprise, nor disapproval, nor horror, nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for. He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face.

Della wriggled off the table and went for him.

"Jim, darling," she cried, "don't look at me that way. I had my hair cut off and sold it because I couldn't have lived through Christmas without giving you a present. It'll grow out again - you won't mind, will you? I just had to do it. My hair grows awfully fast. Say 'Merry Christmas!' Jim, and let's be happy. You don't know what a nice-what a beautiful, nice gift I've got for you."

"You've cut off your hair?" asked Jim, laboriously, as if he had not arrived at that patent fact yet, even after the hardest mental labour.

"Cut it off and sold it," said Della. "Don't you like me just as well, anyhow? I'm me without my hair, ain't I?"

Jim looked about the room curiously.

"You say your hair is gone?" he said, with an air almost of idiocy.

"You needn't look for it," said Della. "It's sold, I tell you - sold and gone, too. It's Christmas Eve, boy. Be good to me, for it went for you. Maybe the hairs of my head were numbered," she went on with a sudden serious sweetness, "but nobody could ever count my love for you. Shall I put the chops on, Jim?"

Out of his trance Jim seemed quickly to wake. He enfolded his Della. For ten seconds let us regard with discreet scrutiny some inconsequential object in the other direction. Eight dollars a week or a million a year - what is the difference? A mathematician or a wit would give you the wrong answer. The magi brought valuable gifts, but that was not among them. This dark assertion will be illuminated later on.

Jim drew a package from his overcoat pocket and threw it upon the table.

"Don't make any mistake, Dell," he said, "about me. I don't think there's anything in the way of a haircut or a shave or a shampoo that could make me like my girl any less. But if you'll unwrap that package you may see why you had me going a while at first."

White fingers and nimble tore at the string and paper. And then an ecstatic scream of joy; and then, alas! a quick feminine change to hysterical tears and wails, necessitating the immediate employment of all the comforting powers of the lord of the flat.

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For there lay The Combs - the set of combs, side and back, that Della had worshipped for long in a Broadway window. Beautiful combs, pure tortoise-shell, with jewelled rims - just the shade to wear in the beautiful vanished hair. They were expensive combs, she knew, and her heart had simply craved and yearned over them without the least hope of possession. And now, they were hers, but the tresses that should have adorned the coveted adornments were gone.

But she hugged them to her bosom, and at length she was able to look up with dim eyes and a smile and say: "My hair grows so fast, Jim!"

And then Della leaped up like a little singed cat and cried, "Oh, oh!"

Jim had not yet seen his beautiful present. She held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm. The dull precious metal seemed to flash with a reflection of her bright and ardent spirit.

"Isn't it a dandy, Jim? I hunted all over town to find it. You'll have to look at the time a hundred times a day now. Give me your watch. I want to see how it looks on it."

Instead of obeying, Jim tumbled down on the couch and put his hands under the back of his head and smiled.

"Dell," said he, "let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em a while. They're too nice to use just at present. I sold the watch to get the money to buy your combs. And now suppose you put the chops on."

The magi, as you know, were wise men - wonderfully wise men - who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents. Being wise, their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication. And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. Of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi.



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