

N. Panfilova, A. Zhalburova

**Elementary short stories for guided
home reading**

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. Чернышевского

Н.А. Панфилова, А.В. Жалбурова

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специальностей)

Саратов

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САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н.Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

Lost Love

by Jan Carew

Read the story.

These things happened to me nearly ten years ago.

I lived in a city, but the city was hot in summer. I wanted to see the country. I wanted to walk in the woods and see green trees.

I had a little red car and I had a map, too. I drove all night out into the country

I was happy in my car. We had a very good summer that year. The country was very pretty in the early morning. The sun was hot, and the sky was blue. I heard the birds in the trees.

And then my car stopped suddenly.

'What's wrong?' I thought. 'Oh dear, I haven't got any petrol. Now I'll have to walk. I'll have to find a town and buy some petrol. But where am I?'

I looked at the map. I wasn't near a town. I was lost in the country.

And then I saw the girl. She walked down the road, with flowers in her hand. She wore a long dress, and her hair was long, too. It was long and black, and it shone in the sun. She was very pretty. I wanted to speak to her, so I got out of the car.

'Hello,' I said. 'I'm lost. Where am I?'

She looked afraid, so I spoke quietly.

'I haven't got any petrol,' I said. 'Where can I find some?'

Her blue eyes looked at me, and she smiled.

'She's a very pretty girl!' I thought.

'I do not know,' she said. 'Come with me to the village. Perhaps we can help you.'

I went with her happily, and we walked a long way.

'There isn't a village on the map,' I thought. 'Perhaps it's a very small village.'

There was a village, and it was old and pretty. The houses were black and white and very small. There were a lot of animals.

The girl stopped at a house and smiled at me.

'Come in, please,' she said.

I went in. The house was very clean, but it was strange, too. There was a fire and some food above it. I felt hungry then.

'That's strange,' I thought. 'They cook their food over a wood fire! Perhaps they have no money.'

I met her father and mother, and I liked them. They were nice people, but their clothes were strange.

'Sit down,' said the old man. 'Are you thirsty after your walk?'

He gave me a drink, and I said, 'Thank you.' But the drink was strange, too. It was dark brown and very strong. I didn't understand. But I was happy there.

I asked about petrol, but the old man didn't understand.

'Petrol?' she asked. 'What is that?'

'This is strange,' I thought. Then I asked, 'Do you walk everywhere?'

The old man smiled. 'Oh, no, we use horses,' he said.

'Horses!' I thought. 'Horses are very slow. Why don't they have cars?'

But I didn't say that to the old man.

I felt happy there. I stayed all day, and I ate dinner with them that evening. Then the girl and I went out into the garden. The girl's name was Mary.

'This is nice,' she said. 'We like having visitors. We do not see many people here.'

We spoke happily. She was very beautiful. But after a time, she began to talk quietly, and her face was sad.

'Why are you sad?' I asked her.

'I cannot tell you,' she said. 'You are only a visitor here. We have to say goodbye tonight. You have to go now.'

I didn't understand. I loved her. I knew that. And I wanted to help her. Why did I have to go? But Mary said again in a sad voice, 'You have to go. It is dangerous here.'

So I said, 'I'll go to the next town and find some petrol. Then I'll come back.' She didn't speak.

'I love you, Mary,' I said. 'And I'll come back to you. You won't stop me.'

She said goodbye to me at the door. Her face was very sad, and I was sad, too. I didn't want to go.

It was midnight. The night was very dark, but I walked and walked. I was very tired when I saw the lights of a town. I found some petrol, and then I asked the name of the village. But the man at the garage gave me a strange look.

'What village?' he asked.

I told him about the village. I told him about the old houses and the people with strange clothes.

Again he gave me a strange look. He thought, and then he said, 'There was a village there, but it isn't there now. There are stories about it — strange stories.'

'What do people say about it?' I asked.

He didn't want to tell me, but then he said, 'There was a big fire in the village. Everybody died. There aren't any people or houses there now.'

'How did it happen?' I asked. 'And why?'

'Oliver Cromwell killed them; he said. 'He was angry with the villagers because they helped the king in the war.' I couldn't speak.

'This isn't right,' I thought. 'That war happened 350 years ago!'

Then I remembered the strange clothes, the long hair, the food over the fire, and the old houses. And I remembered, too, about the horses.

'But I don't understand,' I cried. 'I saw the people and the village. I spoke to some people there!'

The man looked quickly at me, and then he spoke.

'There's an interesting story about the village. For one day every ten years, it lives again - but only for one day. Then it goes away again for another ten years. On that one day, you can find the village. But you have to leave before morning, or you will never leave.'

'Can this be right?' I thought. Perhaps it was. Mary said, 'You have to go.' She loved me, but she said, 'We have to say goodbye.' She was afraid for me. 'Now I understand,' I thought.

I went back to the village, but it wasn't there. I looked again and again, but I couldn't find it. I saw only flowers and trees. I heard only the sound of the birds and the wind. I was very sad. I sat down on the ground and cried.

I will never forget that day. I remember Mary, and I will always love her.

Now, I only have to wait two months. The village will come back again. On the right day, I will go back. I will find her again, my love with the long, black hair. And this time, I will not leave before morning. I will stay with her.

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words. Read the words.

ɔ:	ɒ	ei	a:	i
walk	wrong	strange	dark	pretty
[wɔ:k]	[rɒŋ]	[streɪndʒ]	[da:k]	[ˈprɪti]
war	shone	dangerous	after	quickly
[wɔ:]	[ʃɒn]	[ˈdeɪndʒərəs]	[ˈɑ:ftə]	[ˈkwɪkli]
small	Oliver	afraid	garage	village
[smɔ:l]	[ˈɒlɪvə]	[əˈfreɪd]	[ˈgærɑ:ʒ]	[ˈvɪlɪdʒ]

2. Learn the following words and word-combinations. Pay attention to the use of articles and prepositions. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

petrol	бензин
a garage	гараж
dangerous	опасный
What's wrong?	Что случилось? В чем дело?
to look at the map	посмотреть на карту
on the map	на карте
to get out of the car	выйти из машины
to shine in the sun	сиять на солнце
to smile at smb.	улыбнуться к-лб.
to ask about smth.	спросить о чем-лб.
to ask for smth.	попросить что-лб.
to be angry with smb.	злиться на к-лб.
to be thirsty	испытывать жажду
to feel hungry	испытывать голод
to be hungry	
after a time = after some time	через некоторое время
it was midnight	была полночь
to give smb. a strange look	посмотреть на кого-лб. странно
to say smth. in a sad voice	сказать что-лб. грустным
	ГОЛОСОМ
to speak quietly	ГОВОРИТЬ ТИХО
to walk a long way	ДОЛГО ИДТИ
to wear a dress	НОСИТЬ ПЛАТЬЕ

to meet smb.

ПОЗНАКОМИТЬСЯ С К-ЛБ.

3. Give the three forms of the following verbs:

to wear

to shine

to give

to meet

to say

to feel

4. Answer the following questions:

1. Who is the narrator of the story?
2. When did the things which he describes in the story happen to him?
3. Why did he leave his city one summer day?
4. How long did he drive into the country?
5. What car did he have?
6. Did he enjoy his ride in the country? Why?
7. Why did his car stop suddenly? What was wrong with it?
8. What did he have to help him find a way to a town or a village?
9. What did he understand when he looked at his map?
10. Do you think he wanted to meet anybody there? Why?
11. Did he like the girl who walked down the road? Describe her.
12. Could the girl answer his question about petrol?
13. Where did the girl take him?
14. Was the girl's village unusual? Why?
15. What did he see inside the girl's house?
16. What did he think when he saw they cooked food over a wood fire?
17. What other strange things did he notice?
18. What was the girl's name?
19. What did Mary tell him about visitors to their village?
20. Why did the narrator have to leave the village?
21. When did he leave Mary? What did he promise her?
22. Where did the narrator find some petrol?
23. Did the man in the garage want to speak about the strange village?
24. What legend did he tell the young man about the village?

25. When did the war between the king of England and Oliver Cromwell happen?
26. When would the village appear again?
27. What was the young man's plan?
28. How long does he have to wait at the end of the story before the village lives again?
29. Think of what will happen when the village reappears. Suggest your versions of the events. Do you think Mary will recognize the young man? Will they be happy?

4. Fill in the gaps with the Present and Past Simple forms of the verb *to be*.

- 1 'Hello,' I said. 'I _____ lost. Where _____ I?'
- 2 'You have to go. It _____ dangerous here.'
- 3 I met her father and mother, and I liked them. They _____ nice people, but their clothes _____ strange.
- 4 We walked a long way. There _____ a village, and it _____ old and pretty. The houses _____ black and white and very small. There _____ a lot of animals.

5. Fill in the gaps with appropriate prepositions.

at	on	out of	in	about	for	with
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1. I couldn't find my city _____ the map.
2. In the garden Mary spoke to me _____ a sad voice.
3. I was thirsty and asked my friend _____ a glass of water.
4. Mary looked _____ me with a smile.
5. The man did not answer my question and I was angry _____ him.
6. I wanted to know more about the village and asked the man in the garage _____ it.
7. It was a hot day, I got _____ the car and took a walk in the wood.
8. Mary's black hair shone _____ the sun.

6. *Speaking*

1. Describe the room in the girl's house as you imagine it. Use the construction "There was... There were..." and the following words and expressions:

in the middle of the room	a big wooden table
in the corner	a thick handmade rug
at the door	a pair of big leather boots
on the windowsill	a pot flower
on the floor	an oven

2. Give a detailed reproduction of the story.

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

The Doll

by Jan Carew

Read the story.

Mr. Brown lived near the centre of town, but his small house had a garden. Mr. Brown liked his garden very much. It had a lot of flowers and they were pretty in summer — red, blue and yellow. Mr. Brown liked sitting there in the evenings and at weekends.

But he had to work, too. Mr. Brown worked in an office. It wasn't near his house, so he often went to work on the bus. He came home on the bus, too.

Mr. Brown was a lonely man. He didn't have many friends, and he didn't talk to many people. And so he was sad and often bored.

One very hot day, Mr. Brown walked home. He didn't want to go on the bus that day. He wanted a walk in the warm sun. In one street there was a small shop. Mr. Brown looked in the window. There were very old things in the window, and Mr. Brown liked old things. He went into the shop.

'Good afternoon,' said the man in the shop.

'Good afternoon,' said Mr. Brown. 'Can I look round the shop?'

'Please do.'

Mr. Brown looked at the things in the shop. He saw an old doll with a sad face. It wasn't a pretty face, but Mr. Brown liked it. The doll was a little old man with white hair and black clothes.

Mr. Brown thought, 'Perhaps the doll is lonely, too.'

He asked, 'How much do you want for this old doll?'

The man thought. 'Oh, that. Three pounds,' he said.

Mr. Brown wanted the doll. Why? He didn't know. But he wanted it. Three pounds was a lot of money for an old doll, but Mr. Brown paid it. He went out with the doll in his hand.

He looked at its face. 'Is it smiling?' he wondered. 'No,' he thought. 'It's only a doll.' He said to it, 'I'm going to take you home.'

The doll didn't answer — it was only a doll. So why did Mr. Brown speak to it? Because he was lonely. He put it in his case with his papers from the office.

Mr. Brown was tired now, so he got on the bus. The man came for Mr. Brown's money and Mr. Brown bought a ticket.

Suddenly, somebody on the bus spoke. 'Go away!' said the person. 'You stupid man. Go away!'

Everybody on the bus looked at Mr. Brown. 'Did he say that?' they wondered. The ticket man was angry with Mr. Brown. 'Why did he say that?' he wondered. He gave Mr. Brown a ticket and went away. He didn't like Mr. Brown.

When Mr. Brown got home, he was very tired. 'Who spoke on the bus?' he wondered. He didn't know. He took the doll out of his case and looked at it.

It was only a doll. It wasn't very pretty. It was quite ugly but it had a smile on its face. 'That's strange,' thought Mr. Brown. He put the doll on the table and had his dinner.

Mr. Brown wasn't very hungry, so he only ate some bread and butter. Then he went to bed and slept. He forgot the doll. It was on the table.

Morning came, and the sun shone into the room. Mr. Brown opened his eyes. There was something on his bed. 'What is it?' he wondered.

He looked, and he saw the doll. 'But I left it on the table. It can't walk — it's only a doll,' Mr. Brown didn't understand it. It was very strange.

Mr. Brown went to the front door. 'Are there any letters for me?' he wondered.

Yes, there were three with his name and address. But what was this? The letters were open! Who opened them? Mr. Brown didn't know.

Mr. Brown ate his breakfast. Then he went to the bus stop and waited. His bus came and stopped for him. Mr. Brown got on with his case and sat down.

There were a lot of people on the bus, and one old woman couldn't sit down. Her face was tired, and Mr. Brown was a kind man. He stood up for her, and she sat down.

Then suddenly, somebody spoke. 'You stupid old thing!'

The woman turned and looked at Mr. Brown. She was very angry. Mr. Brown's face went red. Then he remembered the doll.

He got off the bus. He couldn't understand it. 'That doll's at home,' he thought. 'Or is it?'

Mr. Brown opened his case and looked inside. The doll was there, with a big smile on its ugly face!

He put the doll down on the street and left it there. Then he went to work. 'That's the end of that doll,' he thought. 'Good!'

Mr. Brown worked well all day. After work, he walked to the bus stop. But what was that? The doll was at the bus stop! Mr. Brown saw the white hair and the black clothes, and he saw the smile, too. 'What's happening?' he wondered. 'It's waiting for me! It isn't only a doll. But what is it?'

He turned and ran away from the bus stop. Then he walked home. He had to walk three kilometres to his house. He was very tired.

Mr. Brown sat down in a chair and went to sleep. He slept for an hour.

Suddenly, there was a big noise in another room — CRASH! SMASH! Mr. Brown opened his eyes. 'What's wrong?' he wondered. He went into the other room.

The doll was there again. It sat on the table and looked at him. Mr. Brown's cups and plates were all on the floor.

'It's only a doll,' Mr. Brown thought. 'And it isn't a friend. This is difficult. What can I go?'

He took the doll into the garden and buried it in the ground.

'That really is the end of you,' said Mr. Brown. 'You're under the ground now. You won't get out of there.'

Next day, Mr. Brown went to work on the bus. He didn't have the doll now and nobody spoke. He worked hard, and he was happy.

Mr. Brown came home again that night. He watched television.' This is good,' he thought.

At eleven o'clock he went to bed. The house was dark and quiet.

But an hour later, there was a sudden noise in the night. Mr. Brown sat up in bed. He was cold and afraid. 'What was that noise?' he wondered.

The noise was at the back door. Mr. Brown was afraid, but he opened the door. It was the doll again!

It was dirty from the ground, but it looked at Mr. Brown and smiled. It was a cold smile, and Mr. Brown was very afraid.

He looked at the doll and said, 'Go away! Please! Go away!'

The doll didn't speak — it only smiled again. Mr. Brown was very angry now. He took the doll into the garden again. He found some wood, and he made a big fire. He lit the fire. Then he put the doll on the top.

'Now die!' said Mr. Brown. 'It's different this time. This *will* be the end of you.' And Mr. Brown smiled. The fire was hot and red.

The fire got bigger — and bigger. Suddenly there was a loud cry, and people ran out of their houses. 'What's wrong?' they shouted.

'There's a big fire in Mr. Brown's garden,' somebody said. 'Look!' And there was a big fire.

The people looked round the house and garden. They couldn't find Mr. Brown. But on the ground near the fire, there was a doll with white hair and black clothes. It wasn't a pretty doll. And there was a smile on its face.

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words. Read the words.

e	ɜ:	ʌ	ou	au
centre [ˈsentə]	work [wɜ:k]	'wonder [ˈwʌndə]	clothes [klaʊðz]	loud [laʊd]
bury [ˈberi]	burn [bɜ:n]	front [frʌnt]	lonely [ˈlounli]	pound [paʊnd]
friend [frend]	dirty [ˈdɜ:ti]	money [ˈmʌni]	open [ˈoupən]	ground [graʊnd]
bread [bred]	person [ˈpɜ:s(ə)n]	ugly [ˈʌgli]	cold [kould]	down [daʊn]

2. Learn the following words and word-combinations. Pay attention to the use of articles and prepositions. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

at weekends	в выходные, по выходным
to go to work	ходить на работу
to go on the bus/ by bus	ездить на автобусе
a lonely man	одинокий человек
to be bored	скучать
to be tired	устать, быть уставшим
boring	скучный
to look in the (shop)window	посмотреть/заглянуть в витрину
to look in the mirror	посмотреть в зеркало
to look at smb./smth.	посмотреть на к-лб.
to look round the shop	осмотреть магазин

clothes	одежда
to speak/ talk to smb.	говорить с к-лб.
to get on/ to get off the bus	сесть на/ выйти из автобуса
to wonder	интересоваться
to buy a ticket	купить билет
pretty	симпатичный, хорошенький
ugly	уродливый
to go to sleep	заснуть
to bury smb. (in the ground)	похоронить к-лб. (в земле)
to watch television/ TV	смотреть телепередачи
at the front door	у наружной /входной двери
at the back door	у двери в сад
to make a fire	сложить костер
to burn	гореть
to burn to death in the fire	сгореть, погибнуть при пожаре

3. Give the three forms of the following verbs:

to bury	to buy	to burn	to make	to talk	to stand
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4. Answer the following questions:

1. Where did Mr. Brown live?
2. What made his little house so dear to Mr. Brown?
3. Where did Mr. Brown work?
4. How did he get to his work?
5. Why was Mr. Brown often sad and bored?
6. Why did not Mr. Brown take a bus home one day?
7. Why did Mr. Brown go into a small shop on the way home?
8. What attracted Mr. Brown's attention in the shop?
9. Why did Mr. Brown buy that expensive doll?
10. Did Mr. Brown speak to the doll when he bought it?
11. Could Mr. Brown believe that the doll was smiling?
12. Where did he put the doll?
13. Why did Mr. Brown get on the bus?
14. What happened after Mr. Brown bought a ticket?
15. Why did everybody on the bus look at Mr. Brown?

16. When did Mr. Brown put the doll when he came home?
17. What did he see on his bed in the morning?
18. What other strange thing did he notice in his house?
19. Next morning Mr. Brown was kind to a tired woman on the bus.
Why was she angry with him later?
20. Where was the doll at that time?
21. What did Mr. Brown do to the doll at the bus stop?
22. Why did Mr. Brown run away from the bus stop after work?
23. How did he get home that evening?
24. What sounds did he hear when he was sleeping in his chair?
25. What do you think Mr. Brown think and feel when he saw the doll on his table?
26. How did he try to get rid of the doll this time?
27. Why did Mr. Brown wake up at night?
28. Who was standing at his back door?
29. Why did he make a fire in his garden?
30. Why could not the neighbours find Mr. Brown in his house and garden?
31. Who was smiling at them from the ground near the fire?

5. Fill in the gaps with appropriate prepositions.

at	in	on	with	round	to	up
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1. He wanted a walk _____ the warm sun.
2. Everybody on the bus looked _____ Mr. Brown.
3. The conductor was angry _____ Mr. Brown.
4. Mr. Brown liked sitting _____ in the garden in the evenings and _____ weekends.
5. Mr. Brown's office was far from his home, so he went to work _____ the bus.
6. Mr. Brown went into the shop. "Can I look _____ the shop?" he said to the man.

7. Mr. Brown was a kind man. He stood _____ for her, and she sat down.
8. Mr. Brown went _____ the front door.

6. *Speaking*

1. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.
2. Make up a story using the words and expressions from Ex.2.

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

The Other Man

by Jan Carew

Read the story.

These things happened to me nearly ten years ago.

I lived in a city, but the city was hot in summer. I wanted to see the country. I wanted to walk in the woods and see green trees.

I had a little red car and I had a map, too. I drove all night out into the country

I was happy in my car. We had a very good summer that year. The country was very pretty in the early morning. The sun was hot, and the sky was blue. I heard the birds in the trees.

I was a writer. I wrote books. I write now, but nobody knows. Nobody can see me now. Something strange has happened to me. I will tell you about it.

In January, I wanted to write a very long book. So I left my home and I found a little room.

'This is a good room for a writer,' I thought. 'I'll write my book here.'

It was a little room, but I liked it. It was very quiet. I began to work on my book and I was happy.

Then things began to happen — strange things.

One day I was at my desk with my pen in my hand. Suddenly, I thought, 'I want a coffee and I haven't got any. I'll have to go to the shop.'

I put my pen on the table and went out.

When I came back, I looked for the pen. It wasn't on the table. I looked on the floor, on my chair and then on the table again. It wasn't there!

'I don't understand it,' I thought.

That night another strange thing happened. I was in bed and the room was very quiet. Suddenly, I opened my eyes. 'What was that?' I wondered.

Then I heard a voice — a man's voice. 'Who's there?' I cried.

There was no answer and there was nobody in the room! I couldn't understand it, and I was afraid. 'What can I do?' I thought. 'What was that?'

After that, strange things happened every day. But I had to finish my book, so I stayed there.

The room was very small. There were not many things in it; only a bed, a table and a chair. And there was a mirror on the wall. It was a very old mirror and I liked it. And then, one day, I looked in the mirror and - I saw him! The other man! It wasn't me. This man had a beard, but I didn't!

I shut my eyes and looked again. This time, I saw my face in the mirror.

'That didn't happen,' I thought. I was wrong. There wasn't another man.'

I went for a walk that day, and I didn't work on my book. I didn't want to be in the room. I didn't want to see or hear strange things.

At night, I went home again. The room was very quiet. I looked in the mirror and saw my face. But I wasn't happy. I went to bed, but I couldn't sleep.

I'll leave here tomorrow,' I thought. And after that, I slept.

But then another strange thing happened. The other man stood by my bed and spoke to me.

'You will never leave here,' he said. 'You will stay with me.'

And then I opened my eyes. I was very cold and afraid. 'I'll leave now,' I thought. 'I can't stay here for one more minute.'

Quickly, I put my things in a case. I wanted to go - now. I couldn't forget the man, so I was afraid. But afraid of what? I didn't know.

When my clothes were in the case, I thought, 'I'll leave the room now.'

I looked round the room, and I also looked in the mirror again. And then I suddenly felt colder and more afraid. I couldn't see the other man in the mirror. Why? Because he wasn't there. But I couldn't see my face in the mirror! There was no face. Why not?

I tried to shout, but no sound came. I had no voice.

And then I saw him. I saw the other man — the man with the beard. But he wasn't in the mirror. He was at the table, with my pen in his hand. He wrote my book with my pen! I was angry and I tried to speak. But I couldn't, because I had no voice.

The other man didn't speak. He smiled and wrote.

Suddenly, there was a sound at the door, and I heard a friend's voice.

'Are you there?' my friend called. 'I want to see you.'

I was very happy then. 'My friend will help me,' I thought. But I couldn't move. The other man went to the door and opened it.

'Come in,' he said to my friend. 'Come and see my room. I'm writing my book.'

My friend came into the room, but he didn't see me. He smiled at the other man. My friend said, 'Oh, you have a beard now!'

Again and again, I tried to speak but I couldn't. My friend couldn't see me; he couldn't hear me. He only saw the other man.

That is my story. The other man has my room. And he also has my face and my voice. He will finish my book, too.

But the other man doesn't know one thing. I can write — I can tell my story. And I'm telling it to you!

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words. Read the words.

e	i	ə
said [sed]	minute [ˈminit]	mirror [ˈmirɪə] tomorrow [təˈmɒrəʊ]

2. Learn the following words and word-combinations. Pay attention to the use of articles and prepositions. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

I want coffee	= I want to have/drink coffee
I want a coffee	= I want a cup of coffee
to look for smth	искать что-лб.
to look at smth.	смотреть на что-лб.
to look in (the mirror)	посмотреть в (зеркало)
to look out of the window	посмотреть в окно
to look round the room	осмотреть комнату
to go for a walk	пойти на прогулку
there was no answer / no answer came	ответа не было/не последовало
there was no sound / no sound came	звука не было/не последовало
a beard	борода
to shut (the eyes, the door etc.)	= to close (the eyes, the door etc.)

3. Give the three forms of the following verbs:

to write	to know	to tell	to begin	to think	to hear
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4. Answer the following questions:

1. When did the young writer want to write a long book?
2. Why did he leave his home?

3. What did he like about his new room?
4. What was the first strange thing that happened to the writer in his room?
5. What happened after that at night? Why did the writer wake up?
6. How often did strange things begin to happen?
7. When did the writer see the other man for the first time? Did the stranger look like him?
8. Why did not the writer work on his book that day?
9. Why was the writer cold and afraid when he opened his eyes at night?
10. Why did he decide to leave this quiet room?
11. What did he see in the mirror when he stood with his clothes in the case?
12. Could he shout?
13. What did the writer want to do when he saw the other man at his desk with his pen in hand?
14. What did the writer hope for when he heard his friend's voice at the door?
15. Did his friend help him?
16. What did the other man steal from the writer?
17. What secret does the writer have that the other man does not know?

5. *Fill in the gaps with appropriate prepositions:*

at	on	by	in	with	to	into	for
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1. When the writer came back, he looked ____ his pen.
2. There was an old mirror ____ the wall.
3. I looked ____ the mirror and saw a man with a beard
4. I did not want to stay ____ home that day, so I went _____ a walk.
5. I saw a man. He was standing _____ my bed.
6. The man with a beard was not in the mirror. He was ____ the table with my pen in his hand.
7. My friend came ____ the room. He smiled _____ the other man.
8. I am telling this story _____ you.

6. *Speaking*

1. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.

The Charm

by Jan Carew

Read the story.

'He's a brave man,' people say about me. 'He's never afraid.'

They are wrong. I wasn't always a brave man, and at times I was afraid — very afraid.

I am an important man now. I have an important job. People know me and like me. They don't know that I wasn't always brave. I will tell you the story.

I was a very shy young man. I didn't like talking to other young men; I was afraid. 'They'll laugh at me,' I thought.

Women were worse. I never spoke to them; I was always afraid of them.

I try to help shy people now. I never laugh at them, because I remember that time. I was very unhappy then.

Then there was a war between my country and another country. I had to be a soldier. Me! I was always afraid, but I had to be a soldier! And it was very dangerous.

I was afraid. The other soldiers didn't talk about it, but they knew. 'They're laughing at me,' I thought. '*They* aren't afraid.' I was wrong, but I didn't know that. I felt very bad.

One day, I was in the town. I had two days holiday, away from the other soldiers. I wasn't with friends; I didn't have any friends. I was very unhappy. I walked slowly past some shops.

An old man stood by the road. There weren't many cars on it. 'Why doesn't he walk across the road?' I thought. 'Is he afraid?'

I went near him, and then I saw his eyes. 'Oh,' I thought. 'Now I know. He can't see! He wants to go across, but he can't go without help.'

Other people walked quickly past him. They had to go to work, or to their homes. They didn't help him; they didn't have time.

But I had time — a lot of time. 'I'm not doing anything,' I thought. 'Why can't I help him? I won't be afraid of him.'

I took the old man's arm, and I helped him across the road. 'Thank you!' he said. His hand felt my coat. 'This is a soldier's coat,' he said. 'Are you a soldier?'

'Yes.'

Perhaps I said it in a sad voice. The old man put a hand in his jacket. He took something out and gave it to me.

'Take this,' he said. 'It will help you. Wear it, and you'll be all right. Nothing bad will happen to you.'

He walked away, and I looked at the thing in my hand. It was a small charm - pretty, but strange.

'It's a girl's thing,' I thought, and I put it in my coat.

The next day we went to war. I was afraid - very afraid - but I remembered the charm in my coat. 'Perhaps the charm will help me,' I thought, so I took it with me.

Suddenly I wasn't afraid. Why? I didn't know. Was it the charm?

It was bad that day. Men died all round me. 'Perhaps I'll die next,' I thought. But I wasn't afraid!

Our leader was a brave man. He was in front of us, and we followed him. Suddenly he was down. He fell to the ground and didn't move. The other soldiers stopped. They were afraid. I thought, 'Perhaps our leader isn't dead. I'll go and see.'

I went to him. The fighting was worse now, but I wasn't afraid. 'I've got the charm with me,' I thought. 'I'll be all right.'

I brought our leader back to a better place, and then I looked at him. He was very white and ill, but he wasn't dead. His eyes opened, and he smiled at me.

He spoke — not easily, but I heard him. 'Go in front!' he said. 'The men will follow you.'

The men followed me, and we fought well that day.

After that, I was fine. Later, I was a leader, too. The men were happy and followed me. People didn't laugh at me then.

'But is it right?' I thought. 'I'm not very brave. It's only the charm.'

I didn't tell people about the charm. I had friends for the first time, and I was happy.

One day we had to take an important bridge. There were a lot of soldiers on it, and they had big guns. The country was open, without any trees. It was very dangerous, and my men were afraid. 'We're going to die,' they said.

'Listen,' I told them. 'I'll go first, and we'll run very quickly to the bridge. Don't be afraid. They can't kill us all. Follow me, and we'll take that bridge.'

I put my hand in my coat. But the charm wasn't there! 'What am I going to do?' I thought. 'I can't be brave without the charm.'

I looked at the faces of my men. They weren't afraid now.

I thought, 'My words have helped them. They aren't afraid now. They're waiting for me. They'll follow me everywhere. I'm their leader, and I can't be afraid.' I shouted: 'Let's go!'

We ran. We got to the bridge. We lost some men, but we got there! And we took the bridge!

I will never forget that day. I learnt something then about brave men. Brave men are afraid, too. But that doesn't stop them. I will also remember that old man with the charm. 'It will help you,' he said.

He was right. I learnt to be brave without it. I was a young man then, and now I am old. I am a brave man, people think. And, yes — they are right. I am.

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words. Read the words.

ɔ:	ai	f	dʒ
important	die	laugh	bridge
fought	fight	afraid	soldier
thought	right	front	dangerous
walk	white	forget	jacket

2. Learn the following words and word-combinations. Pay attention to the use of articles and prepositions. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

a charm	талисман, амулет; брелок
brave	смелый
shy	робкий
to have a job	иметь работу (рабочее место)
to like doing smth.	любить заниматься ч-лб.
at times	= sometimes
good – better – the best	хороший
bad – worse – the worst	плохой
to laugh at smth./smb.	смеяться над ч-лб./к-лб.
a soldier	солдат
to walk across the street	= to cross the street
to have time to do smth.	иметь время на ч-лб.
a leader	командир
to wait for smb.	ждать к-лб.
to follow smb.	следовать за к-лб.
to learn smth.	узнать ч-лб.

3. Give the three forms of the following verbs:

to run to fall to cross to put to learn to help to take
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4. Answer the following questions:

1. The soldier in this story is a brave man. Everybody says so. Was he always brave?
2. What was he afraid of when he was young?
3. What tells us that he was very unhappy?
4. Why did he go to the town alone one day?

5. Why did he pay attention to an old man by the road?
6. How did he understand that the old man was blind?
7. Why did not anybody help the old man?
8. Why do you think the soldier helped him?
9. How did the old man learn that the young man was a soldier?
10. What did the old man tell the soldier when he gave him the gift?
11. Did the soldier believe the charm could help him?
12. What happened on the day of the battle?
13. How did the soldier save their leader?
14. Why did he go in front of the other soldiers?
15. Did he have many friends after that battle?
16. Why was it very dangerous to take that important bridge?
17. What did many soldiers say before the attack?
18. What did the young soldier tell his comrades to make them brave?
Did his words help them?
19. Did he have his charm with him at that time?
20. Was he afraid to lead his people into the battle?
21. Did they take the bridge?
22. What important thing did the young soldier learn about brave men?
23. What do you think made him a brave man?

5. Fill in the gaps with the adjectives **good** or **bad** in the appropriate degree of comparison.

- 1 After that battle I had many friends. It was the _____ day in my life.
- 2 At night I heard a strange voice and I was afraid. The next night was even _____ than the first because I could not sleep at all.
- 3 My essay was good but Mary's essay was even _____ than mine.
- 4 All summer was cold and rainy, but yesterday was the _____ day of the summer because it was raining from morning till night.

6. Speaking

1. Recall a situation when shy people act bravely.
2. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.

Journey's End

by Jan Carew

Read the story.

Tom Smith was a nice young man. He wanted a job, but he couldn't find one. Many people wanted to work, and there weren't many jobs. Tom felt sad because he never had money for clothes or the cinema.

When he was younger, Tom wanted to be a footballer. He was good at football, and at tennis, too. He was good at every sport. But there were other, better players.

Now Tom had a new idea. He thought, 'Perhaps I can find a job in a sports shop. I'll be happy then and I'll have money.' But it was only an idea. It never happened.

He tried hard to find a job. He looked in the newspapers every day and he wrote letters for jobs — a lot of letters. But he never found a job.

One day he saw something in the newspaper about a fair in the park near his house.

'That will be interesting,' he thought. 'It's next Saturday. I think I'll go. Yes, I'll go. I'm not doing anything this weekend, and it won't cost much.'

On Saturday Tom walked to the park and bought a ticket for the fair. It was a warm summer day. The sky was blue, and the park was very pretty. There were a lot of flowers — blue, yellow and red. Tom felt happy when he saw them.

The fair was good, too. There were a lot of people there, and many different games. Tom played some games. He won a box of fruit and a book about sport. Then he bought an ice-cream because he was hot and thirsty.

'I'm having a good day!' he thought. He sat down and ate his ice-cream. 'Now, what shall I do next?'

Suddenly he saw, in large letters: MADAME ZELDA KNOWS THE FUTURE. Do you want to know about YOUR future? Come in and talk to Madame Zelda.

Tom Smith thought very hard. 'Shall I go in?' he thought. 'Why not? I'm not afraid of the future. Perhaps it will be interesting. Yes, I'll go in and have a conversation with Madame Zelda.'

So he went in. It was very dark inside. An old woman with grey hair and a kind face smiled at Tom.

'Hello, young man!' she said. 'Sit down and I will tell you about your future.'

Tom sat down. The old woman looked at some cards on the table.

'Take three cards,' she said.

Tom took the cards and gave them to her. The woman looked at the cards for a long time. Then she spoke. She didn't smile now.

'Listen!' she said. 'I have to tell you something very important.'

Do not go anywhere next Friday. Make a journey next Friday, and you will never arrive! Something will happen on the way. Don't forget now. I can tell you nothing more. Be careful, young man.'

Tom left. The sun was very hot on his face. He had no more money, and he wanted to go home. 'I'm not afraid,' he thought. 'I don't go on journeys. I won't go anywhere next Friday. Every day is the same to me. I haven't got a job, so I don't go anywhere.'

But on Thursday Tom had a letter. It was an answer to one of his letters! There was a job in a town thirty kilometres away. It was in a sports shop. The boss wanted to meet Tom the next day.

Tom felt very happy. 'I'll have to take a train there,' he thought. 'I can't walk thirty kilometres.'

Suddenly he remembered the old woman at the fair, and he felt afraid. 'Do not go anywhere next Friday,' she told him.

'But what can I do?' Tom thought sadly. 'I can't lose this job. It's too important to me. I'll have to take the train tomorrow. And what can an old woman know about the future? Nothing!'

But he wasn't very happy about it. And he didn't sleep well that night.

The next day was Friday, and Tom went to the station. He bought a ticket at the ticket office. The train arrived, and he climbed on it.

An old man sat down next to Tom. His face was intelligent under his white hair. He had a bad leg, and Tom felt sorry for him.

The train left the station and went through the country. A waiter came round with some food and the old man bought a sandwich. Then he smiled at Tom and said, 'Are you thirsty? I've got some tea with me. Would you like some?'

He took out a cup and gave Tom some tea. 'He's a kind man!' Tom thought. 'I really like him.'

He smiled at the old man and said, 'Thank you. I'm Tom Smith. Are you going a long way?'

But the old man couldn't answer. Suddenly there was a very loud noise and the train stopped. What was wrong? The people on the train were afraid. They all looked out of the windows, but they couldn't see anything.

'Don't be afraid,' Tom told his new friend. 'I'll go and see. Perhaps it's an accident. Stay here and you'll be OK.'

The old man smiled. 'Thank you, my young friend,' he said. 'I will stay here. My old legs are very weak.'

Tom found the guard. 'What's wrong?' he asked him. 'Why did we stop?'

The guard looked at Tom unhappily. 'There's a large tree in front of the train,' he said. 'We'll have to move it, but we can't do it quickly. So this is the end of the journey for you. You'll have to get off the train and walk.'

'Walk where?' Tom asked.

The guard looked at a map. 'There's a village near here. You can go there and perhaps find a restaurant or a café. I have to stay here with the train. I'm very sorry about your journey. But you'll get your money back.'

Tom thought, 'The money isn't important. I really wanted that job!' And he felt very sad.

Tom didn't say anything about the job to the old man. He helped his friend off the train and carried his case to the village.

'Thank you very much,' the old man said to Tom. I know that my case is heavy. There's a computer in it, and there are a lot of papers.'

Tom smiled. 'It's all right,' he said. But inside he was very sad. 'I was stupid,' he thought. 'I didn't listen to the old woman, but she was right. I won't get that job now.'

The old man saw Tom's sad face and asked him, 'What's wrong, my young friend?'

So Tom told him the story about the job in the sports shop.

Then a strange thing happened. The old man smiled, and then he laughed! Why did he laugh? Tom didn't know and he felt a little angry. The old man was his friend, but this was a bad day for Tom. It wasn't funny!

Tom couldn't speak or smile. The old man saw this and he stopped laughing. Then he said, 'Listen to me, Tom, and don't be sad. I'm a rich man. I've got a lot of shops in different towns, and they're all sports shops. I want an intelligent young man to work in my new shop. It's also my biggest shop! Will you work for me? I think I know you now. You were very kind to me on the train. You're the right person for the job. What's your answer?'

'This is wonderful,' Tom said with a happy smile. 'This is the best day of my life, not the worst!'

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words. Read the words

ɛə	ɒ	ɜ:	u:	æ	ai
fair	cost	thirsty	fruit	man	buy
air	boss	thirty	through	sandwich	kind
				[ˈsæn(d)wɪdʒ]	
careful	restaurant	journey	future	café	climb
[ˈkeəfʊl]	[ˈrestə,rɒŋ]	[ˈdʒɜ:ni]	[ˈfju:tʃə]	[ˈkæfeɪ]	[klaɪm]
	[ˈrestrɒnt]				

2. Learn the following words and word-combinations. Pay attention to the use of articles and prepositions. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

<p>a journey</p> <p>to look for a job</p> <p>to find a job</p> <p>to lose a job</p> <p>to be good at smth. (sports, languages)</p> <p>to be good/bad at doing smth. (playing football, singing etc)</p> <p>I have an idea!</p> <p>a fair</p> <p>to play a game</p> <p>to win (a prize)</p> <p>I am/feel hot /cold</p> <p>I am having a good day/time</p> <p>to arrive in (a country or a big city)</p> <p>to arrive at a station /a village/a</p> <p>an answer to a letter</p> <p>a sports shop</p> <p>to take a train/bus/airplane to</p>	<p>путешествие</p> <p>искать работу (рабочее место)</p> <p>найти работу</p> <p>потерять работу</p> <p>быть способным к (чему-л.)</p> <p>у меня идея!</p> <p>ярмарка</p> <p>участвовать в игре</p> <p>выиграть ч-лб. (приз)</p> <p>мне жарко/холодно</p> <p>у меня хороший день/я хорошо провожу время</p> <p>приезжать/прибывать (в страну, большой город)</p> <p>приезжать/прибывать на станцию/в деревню, городок</p> <p>ответ на письмо</p> <p>спортивный магазин</p> <p>поехать/отбыть на поезде/автобусе/самолете</p>
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a ticket office	= a booking office (Br.) билетная касса
to feel sorry for smb.	сочувствовать, жалеть к-лб.
to be the right person for the job	быть подходящим человеком для этой работы
intelligent	умный
Are you going a long way?	Вы едете далеко?
a guard (Brit.)	= a conductor проводник
a restaurant	ресторан
a café	кафе
a waiter	официант

3. Give the three forms of the following verbs:

to lose	to win	to cost	to find	to play	to feel
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4. Answer the following questions:

1. Why did Tom Smith want a job so much?
2. Why did not he become a professional sportsman?
3. What job did he want to find? What did he do for this?
4. Why did he decide to go to the fair near his house?
5. Did he enjoy himself at the fair? What did he do?
6. Who was Madame Zelda?
7. Why did Tom go to talk with her?
8. What did she use to tell fortune?
9. Was Tom's future good or bad according to Madame Zelda?
10. Was Tom upset by the fortune teller's words?
11. What letter did Tom get? Where did he have to travel to get a job in the sports shop?
12. Did Madame Zelda's words stop Tom from the journey to that town?
13. Who was Tom's fellow traveller on the train?
14. What did he look like?
15. Why did Tom think that he was a kind man?
16. Did the train stop because of an accident?
17. Why did the passengers have to leave the train?
18. Was Tom happy that he would get back the money for the ticket?

19. Why did not Tom leave the old man in the train and hurry to the meeting with his future boss?
 20. Did the old man see that Tom was sad?
 21. Why did the old man laugh when he learnt about Tom's problem?
 22. Do you think Tom was the right person for the job?
 23. What new journey began for Tom at the end of the story?
5. *Fill in the gaps with appropriate prepositions:*

at	in	for	to
-----------	-----------	------------	-----------

1. Tom was sorry _____ the old man because he had a bad leg.
 2. In the afternoon we arrived _____ a small station
 3. My friend is very good _____ cooking but he cannot find a job at a restaurant.
 4. Mary is a nurse. She is looking _____ a job at a hospital
 5. When the tourists arrived _____ India they saw palm trees and the ocean.
 6. I wrote to John a month ago, but I got his answer _____ my letter only yesterday.
 7. He is so good _____ languages, he can speak English, Hungarian and Japanese.
6. Speaking
1. What is your favourite holiday destination? Describe your journey to that place (real or imaginary). Use the words and expressions from Ex.
 2. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.

The Judge's House

by Bram Stoker

Read the first part of the short story.

Malcolm Malcolmson was a student at college. Malcolm was twenty-one and he was in his final year. Classes had finished and Malcolm was studying hard for his examinations. But Malcolm was unable to study at home. He lived with his family and the large house was always noisy.

'I can't study here at home,' Malcolm told his father. 'It's far too noisy. I'm going to find a quiet house in a small country town. I'll be alone there and I'll be able to work hard.'

His father agreed and Malcolm packed all his books and papers into a suitcase. He took a train to a small quiet town called Benchurch. Benchurch is in the country. Malcolm had never been there before.

Malcolm stayed the first night in a small hotel. The next morning, after breakfast, he walked round the town. In the quietest part of the town, Malcolm found a large, old house. The garden in front of the house was very untidy and the house looked empty. There was a shop not very far from the house. Malcolm went into the shop and asked about the old house.

'Does anyone live in that old house down the street?' Malcolm asked the man in the shop.

'The house is empty,' replied the man. 'No one has lived there for many years. Go to the lawyer in the High Street. He knows about the house. He'll be able to help you.'

Malcolm walked back to the High Street. The lawyer's office was near the hotel. Malcolm went into the office and met the lawyer.

'That house has been empty for many, many years,' the lawyer told him. 'There is a story about the house. People say strange things about it. No one wants to live there.'

'I am a student,' Malcolm replied. 'I want to study hard and I'm not worried about stories. I like that old house and I want to live there. It's very quiet and I'll be able to work hard at my studies.'

Malcolm gave the lawyer enough money to rent the house for a month. The lawyer handed him the keys to the house. Malcolm took the keys and walked back to the hotel. He packed his suitcase and got ready to leave.

'I'm leaving now,' he told the woman who owned the hotel.

'Are you leaving the town?' the woman asked him.

'No,' replied Malcolm, 'I'm going to stay here, in Benchurch. I have found an old house. It's very quiet and I'll be able to work hard there.'

The woman asked him about the house. When Malcolm told her, she looked frightened.

'You can't live there,' she said. 'You can't live in that house. That's the Judge's House.'

'Why are you so afraid?' Malcolm asked her. 'What is wrong with the Judge's House? Tell me about it.'

'A famous judge lived there a long time ago,' the woman explained. 'He was a very cruel man. He had no mercy on any criminal. He ordered the criminals to be hanged. Many people died because he showed them no mercy.'

The woman's face was white. She was very, very afraid. But Malcolm was busy thinking about his examinations. He did not notice the woman's fear.

'Don't worry about me,' he told her. 'I have my work to do. I'll be very busy. I have a lot of studying to do and many books to read. I won't have any time to be afraid of stories.'

Malcolm said goodbye to the owner of the hotel. She looked very unhappy, but she did not say any more. Malcolm picked up his suitcase and walked from the hotel to the Judge's House.

Malcolm unlocked the door and went inside. The rooms were very dark. Malcolm pulled aside the dark, heavy curtains. The furniture in the rooms was old. It was all covered with sheets. The dining room was big and there was a large table in the centre. Malcolm decided to live in that one room.

I'll work in this room and I'll eat and sleep here, he said to himself. I do not need any of the other rooms.

He moved the chairs in the dining-room to one side. He carried a bed from a bedroom and put it beside a wall. He lit a fire and put his books on the big table. He started studying and worked until the evening. In the evening, he prepared some supper. After supper, it was beginning to get dark. The daylight was fading. Malcolm lit a lamp and put some more wood on the fire. Then he sat down again at the table and continued studying.

He worked until eleven o'clock. Then he stopped and made a pot of tea. He put some more wood on the fire. Outside the light of the lamp and the light of the fire, the room was very dark. There were dark shadows on the walls and behind the chairs. But Malcolm was happy. He was working hard.

I can work really hard here, he said to himself. I'll do well in the examinations.

There was an old wooden chair beside the fire. The chair had a high back and it looked comfortable. Malcolm sat down in this chair and drank his tea. At first, the house was very quiet. There was no noise in

the room at all. But then Malcolm heard a noise. He listened carefully. The noise was getting louder.

Rats, said Malcolm to himself. The light from the fire and from my lamp frightened them away at first. Now they have become used to the light. They are no longer afraid. They have come to look at me. They want to know who I am.

The rats were everywhere. They were running across the floor and over the furniture. Malcolm heard them running under the wooden floor beneath his feet. They ran in and out of holes in the walls. They squeaked and they scratched.

Malcolm was not afraid. Rats did not frighten him. He finished drinking his tea. Then he got up and picked up the lamp. He walked round the room. He lifted the lamp high and looked at the walls. There were some old paintings hanging on the walls. The paintings were covered with dirt and dust. Malcolm was unable to see them clearly. The rats were watching him. He saw their bright eyes shining in the lamplight. When he came too near them, the rats ran quickly away.

Then Malcolm saw something very strange. There was a rope hanging beside the old wooden, high-backed chair. The rope hung from the ceiling between the fire and the chair. The rope was fixed to a big alarm bell on the roof of the house. If anyone pulled the rope, the alarm bell rang.

Malcolm went back to the fire and sat down on the chair. He drank another cup of tea. Then he went back to the big table and read some more books. The noise of the rats continued, but he did not notice it.

Malcolm sat reading for hour after hour. Suddenly he looked up from his books. Something had happened. He listened carefully. The rats had stopped their noise. There was complete silence in the room. Malcolm looked at the fire. He had forgotten to put more wood on and the fire was almost out. Then Malcolm felt a sudden, cold shiver running through his body.

Malcolm looked at the high-backed chair by the fire. Something was sitting on the chair. It was an enormous rat. Malcolm had never seen such a large rat in his life. It was looking at Malcolm and it did not move. Malcolm picked up a book from the table. He raised his arm and threw the book at the rat but the rat did not move. It opened its mouth and showed its big, sharp teeth. Its gleaming red eyes looked cruel in the lamplight.

Malcolm stood up quickly. As soon as he stood up, the rat moved. It jumped from the chair to the rope of the alarm-bell. It ran up the rope and disappeared into the darkness. Immediately, the other rats came back again. They came out of the holes in the walls. The room was once more filled with the noise of their squeaking and scratching.

Malcolm looked at his watch. It was nearly morning. He lay down on the bed and fell asleep. When he woke up again, the sun was shining through the windows.

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words.

Quiet, front, lawyer, worried, enough, month, hotel, leave, judge, busy, fear, furniture, fire, daylight, comfortable, beneath, squeaked.

2. Translate the following words and word-combinations into Russian. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

1. to be in one's final year
2. country town
3. untidy
4. to look empty
5. lawyer
6. strange
7. to be worried about sth
8. to work at sth
9. to rent
10. to hand sth

11. to get ready to do sth
12. to own sth
13. to look frightened, unhappy
14. to be afraid of sth
15. a long time ago
16. cruel
17. to have no mercy on sb
18. criminal
19. to be hanged
20. to be busy doing sth
21. to say goodbye to sb
22. to unlock the door
23. to pull aside the curtains
24. to be covered with
25. dining room
26. to do well in the examinations
27. rat
28. to frighten sb away
29. painting
30. to watch sb
31. rope
32. high-backed chair
33. to be fixed to
34. alarm bell
35. complete silence
36. to be out
37. to feel a shiver running through sb's body
38. to be filled with sth
39. to fall asleep
40. to wake up

3. *Make up a story of your own using at least 10 words or word-combinations from ex.2.*

4. *Answer the following questions*

1. Which year student was Malcolm?
2. How old was he?
3. Why did he want to go to a quiet country town?
4. How did he get to Benchurch?
5. Where did he stay the first night?
6. To whom did Malcolm go to ask about the large old house?
7. What did the lawyer tell him about the house?
8. How long was Malcolm going to stay in the house?
9. Why did he like it?
10. What did the owner of the hotel tell Malcolm about the old house?
11. Why didn't Malcolm notice the woman's fear?
12. What room did he choose to live in?
13. Why was Malcolm happy in the evening?
14. Where did he sit to drink his tea?
15. What did Malcolm think when he heard some noise?
16. Why was Malcolm unable to see the paintings on the walls clearly?
17. What did Malcolm notice between the fire and the high-backed chair?
18. What was sitting in the high-backed chair when the rats had stopped their noise?
19. What did the enormous rat do when Malcolm threw a book at it?
20. Where did it run when he stood up?

5. *Fill in the gaps with the prepositions from the box.*

under out of in across beneath in over
--

The rats were everywhere. They were running _____ the floor and _____ the furniture. Malcolm heard them running _____ the wooden floor _____ his feet. They ran _____ and _____ holes _____ the walls.

6. *Write the past forms of the following verbs*

Finish, study, live, tell, agree, pack, take, find, go, ask, reply, know, give, have, order, hang, die, say, move, carry, light, put, sit, make, hear, listen, run, get up, lift, see, come, pull, ring, drink, read, feel, raise, throw, lie down, fall asleep, wake up.

7. *Study the text to find the following modal verbs and verb patterns. Use them in sentences of your own.*

1. to be (un)able to do sth
2. to be going to do sth
3. to get ready to do sth
4. can do sth
5. to order to do sth
6. to be busy doing sth
7. to have sth to do
8. to start doing sth
9. to continue doing sth
10. to hear sb doing sth
11. to finish doing sth
12. to forget to do sth

8. *Speaking*

1. Learn the dialogue between Malcolm and the owner of the hotel and dramatize it.
2. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.

Read the second part of the short story.

Malcolm got up and had some breakfast. Then he went out for a long walk. He took his books and some bread and cheese with him. It was a beautiful day and the sun was shining brightly. Malcolm felt happy. He walked through the fields and then he sat down and read his books. At lunchtime, he ate the bread and cheese. He sat reading all through the afternoon.

In the early evening, he came back to the Judge's House. He heard the rats as soon as he opened the door. They were already running about and making a noise. Malcolm lit a fire and made his supper. After supper, he sat down in the big chair by the fire and smoked a cigarette. Then he sat down at the big table and went back to work.

That night, from the very beginning, the rats were not afraid of Malcolm. They ran up and down the room - over and under every piece of furniture. They watched Malcolm out of the holes in the walls. Their little, bright eyes shone in the lamplight. But they did not trouble Malcolm. He became used to them. From time to time, he looked up from his books and watched them playing their games.

Malcolm worked for hour after hour. Suddenly he looked up from his books. Once again, there was silence in the room. It was exactly like the night before. The noise of the rats had stopped completely. There, on the high-backed chair beside the fire, sat the same enormous rat. The rat looked at Malcolm with its evil eyes.

Malcolm quickly picked up a book and threw it at the rat. The book did not hit the rat and the rat did not move. Malcolm stood up and moved towards the rat. The rat ran up the rope in the same way as the night before. As soon as it had disappeared, all the other rats started to squeak and scratch. Malcolm looked at his watch. It was midnight.

I'll have another cup of tea, he said to himself. Then I'll get back to my books.

Malcolm put some more wood on the fire and made another pot of tea. He sat down again in the high-backed chair. He drank the tea and smoked a cigarette. Then he looked at the alarm bell rope. He reached

out and touched the rope. He lifted up the end of the rope and held it in both hands. It was strong, but it also felt soft and smooth.

Malcolm had an idea. He thought of a plan to kill the enormous rat. He lifted up the end of the rope and put it on the table. Then he piled up some books and put them near him on the table.

Now I am ready for the rat, he thought to himself. When it comes again, I'll see the rope move. And I'll have these books to throw at it. This time I'll hit the rat and kill it.

Malcolm began his studies once again. He worked for about half an hour. Suddenly the rats stopped the noise. The room was silent. He looked up and saw the enormous rat. It was climbing down the rope. It jumped from the rope onto the high-backed chair. It sat on the chair and looked straight at Malcolm.

Malcolm picked up the first book on the pile. He threw it at the rat. The rat moved a little and the book did not hit it. Malcolm threw a second book, then a third and a fourth. This last book hit the rat. It gave a loud squeak. Then it ran up the back of the chair, jumped onto the rope and climbed up quickly. Malcolm watched the rat in the lamplight. It climbed up and came near one of the big paintings on the wall. Then it jumped from the rope to the painting. The rat disappeared into a hole in this painting. Malcolm looked at the painting carefully. He wanted to remember it.

I'll have a good look at that painting in the morning, he thought to himself. I'll be able to see it more clearly in the daylight.

It was now very late. Malcolm went to bed and slept well. The next morning, he woke up and felt happy. It was another sunny day.

Good, he thought to himself. I'll get out again for a long walk. I'll read my books in the open air.

While Malcolm was drinking a cup of tea, a woman came to the house. She was the cleaning woman. She had come to dust and clean the house.

'I'm going out for a long walk,' Malcolm told the woman. 'You can clean the house while I am out.'

Before he left the house, Malcolm spoke again to the woman. He pointed up at the painting on the wall. It was the one with the hole in the corner. The enormous rat had disappeared into this hole.

'Please, clean this painting very carefully,' Malcolm asked the woman. 'I want to see it clearly.'

Then Malcolm left the house. Again he walked through the fields. After some time, he sat down and read more and more. He worked very hard. In the afternoon, the weather changed. The sun went behind some black clouds and it became windy.

I'll go back to the Judge's House now, thought Malcolm. It's going to rain.

On his way back, Malcolm came to the small hotel. He decided to go in. He wanted to talk to someone. There was a man sitting in a chair in the sitting-room. The man introduced himself to Malcolm.

'Good evening,' he said. 'I am the doctor in this town. And I know who you are. You are the student who is living in the Judge's House. Are you happy there?'

'I am able to study hard in the house,' replied Malcolm. 'That is the most important thing for me. I am studying for my final examinations.'

'And nothing troubles you in the house?' asked the doctor.

'There are hundreds of rats in the house,' replied Malcolm. 'But they do not trouble me very much. I am not afraid of rats. However, there is one enormous rat,' added Malcolm. 'It sits on a chair and looks at me with evil eyes. I want to kill this big rat.'

Malcolm told the doctor all about the enormous rat. He described the high-backed chair and the rope of the alarm bell.

'Does the rat always come down and go up that rope?' asked the doctor.

'Always,' replied Malcolm.

'Do you know what that rope is?'

'It's a very strong and a very soft rope,' replied Malcolm. 'But I don't know anything more about it.'

The doctor looked at Malcolm for a few moments. Then he spoke quietly and slowly.

'When the judge was alive, he was very cruel. He condemned many criminals to death. That was the rope that the hangman used. The hangman made a noose at the end of the rope. The noose was put over the criminal's head. Then the criminal was hanged by the rope until he was dead. The rope by the fire is the hangman's rope.'

Malcolm and the doctor talked about the Judge's House for about an hour. Then Malcolm walked back to the house.

The weather had now changed completely. It had become cold and a strong wind was blowing. When he was inside the house, Malcolm heard the wind blowing round it.

The cleaning woman had lit the fire and Malcolm put on some more wood. He had some supper. Then he went and sat down at the big table. It was time to get back to his studies once again. Before he started reading his books, he looked round the room. He noticed the rope hanging between the high-backed chair and the fireplace. He thought about the doctor's story. This was the rope used by the hangman. Many men had died with this rope round their necks.

Malcolm stood up and walked over to the rope. He took it in his hands. While he was holding the rope, he felt it move. He looked up and saw the enormous rat. It was climbing slowly down the rope. The rat suddenly saw Malcolm. It turned round and ran quickly up and

disappeared into the hole in the painting. All the other rats immediately began running around again, squeaking and scratching.

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words.

Cheese, trouble, hour, enormous, evil, another, touched, idea, disappeared, carefully, dust, replied, nothing, however, condemned, death, noose.

2. Translate the following words and word-combinations into Russian. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

1. to have breakfast
2. to feel happy
3. to trouble sb
4. to become used to sb/sth
5. from time to time
6. to look up from sth
7. enormous
8. evil eye
9. to pick up sb
10. to throw sth at sb
11. to hit sb
12. to disappear
13. to reach out
14. smooth
15. to pile up sth
16. this time
17. to jump
18. to have a good look at sb/sth
19. to go to bed
20. a cleaning woman
21. to point at sth
22. to introduce oneself to sb
23. to condemn sb to death

24. a hangman

25. a noose

3. *Make up a story of your own using at least 10 words or word-combinations from ex.2.*

4. *Answer the following questions*

1. What did Malcolm do after breakfast?
2. What did he have for lunch?
3. When did he come back to the Judge's House?
4. What happened at his second night in the house?
5. What did Malcolm do when he saw the enormous rat on the high-backed chair?
6. What time did the enormous rat disappear?
7. What idea did Malcolm have? Did it work?
8. Who came to the Judge's House in the morning?
9. What did Malcolm ask the cleaning woman to do very carefully?
10. Whom did he meet in the sitting-room of the small hotel?
11. What did the doctor tell Malcolm about the rope in the Judge's House?

5. *Fill in the gaps with the verbs in brackets in the Past Simple Tense.*

Malcolm ___ (put) some more wood on the fire and ___ (make) another pot of tea. He ___ (sit) down again in the high-backed chair. He ___ (drink) the tea and ___ (smoke) a cigarette. Then he ___ (look) at the alarm bell rope. He ___ (reach) out and ___ (touch) the rope. He ___ (lift) up the end of the rope and ___ (hold) it in both hands. It ___ (be) strong, but it also ___ (feel) soft and smooth.

6. *Study the text to find the following verb patterns. Use them in sentences of your own.*

1. to become used to sb/sth
2. to watch sb doing sth
3. to start to do
4. to see sth/sb do sth

5. to want to do sth
6. to decide to do sth

7. *Speaking*

1. Learn the dialogue between Malcolm and the doctor and dramatize it.
2. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.

Read the third part of the short story.

Malcolm picked up the lamp and walked towards the high-backed chair. He stood behind the chair and held the lamp high above his head. He looked at the painting. The cleaning woman had worked hard. She had cleaned off all the dust and dirt from the painting. Malcolm was able to see the hole in the corner where the rat disappeared.

Suddenly Malcolm felt terribly afraid. His face went white. He now saw that it was a painting of a judge in his robes. The judge's face was cruel and his eyes were evil. The eyes of the judge were like the eyes of the enormous rat.

Malcolm held the lamp higher. Now he was able to see the whole painting. In the painting, the judge was sitting in a wooden, high-backed chair. The big chair was beside a fireplace. A rope was hanging down between the chair and the fireplace. It was a long rope and in the painting it looked strong and soft.

Malcolm understood. It was a painting of the room in which he was standing. The wooden, high-backed chair was the same. The fireplace was the same. The strong, soft rope was the same.

Malcolm looked round the room. He looked at the fireplace and then at the rope. Then he looked at the chair. He gave a loud cry. The lamp almost fell from his hand.

The enormous rat was sitting in the chair. The rope was hanging down behind it. The rat's eyes were staring at Malcolm. They were the same eyes as the judge's in the painting.

Inside the room, everything was completely silent. Outside, the wind was blowing strongly. The wind made Malcolm remember the town outside the house.

I am becoming foolish, Malcolm said to himself. I must forget about the doctor's story. I will go back to my books and study hard. I must be strong or I will go mad. I must stop thinking about the judge and the hangman's rope.

Malcolm looked again at the chair. The enormous rat was no longer there. It had disappeared. Malcolm sat down again at the table and began to study. He worked for about an hour. As usual, the other rats ran round the room over and under the furniture. Malcolm listened to their squeaking and scratching. Then suddenly, the noise stopped. Malcolm listened. The room was silent. The rats had disappeared. But outside, the

wind was blowing more and more strongly. The rain was beating against the windows. Malcolm looked at the fire. It was nearly out. The room was cold.

I must put more wood on the fire, he said to himself.

He stood up and suddenly he stopped. He had heard a noise in the room. It was a very quiet scratching noise. Malcolm looked round the room. He saw nothing. Then he looked up at the hangman's rope.

Malcolm was horrified. In the dim light of the lamp, Malcolm saw the enormous rat. It was holding on to the rope. It was about halfway between the high ceiling and the floor. And it was biting at the rope with its sharp, cruel teeth. It was slowly biting through the rope.

Malcolm watched in horror. As he watched, the rat went on biting the rope. Suddenly the bottom half of the rope fell on to the floor. The rat had bitten right through it.

Now the rat was holding on to the top end of the rope. Malcolm picked up a book and threw it at the rat. The book nearly hit the rat. The rat dropped from the rope and landed on the floor. Then it ran away into the darkest corner of the room.

Malcolm was now terribly afraid.

If I am in trouble, I will not be able to ring the alarm bell, he thought to himself. If anything happens to me, I will not be able to call for help.

Malcolm sat down at the table, but he was not able to read his books. The room was still silent. He looked up again at the painting. He shut his eyes and rubbed them. Then he looked at the painting once again.

'It can't be true,' he shouted out loudly in the empty room.

He looked at the painting. The fireplace and the rope were still there. And the high-backed chair was in the painting too. But the high-

backed chair in the painting was empty. There was no one sitting in it. The judge in the painting had disappeared.

Malcolm slowly moved his eyes from the chair in the painting to the real chair in the room. His heart stopped beating for a few moments. His whole body felt like ice. The judge was sitting in the big, wooden high-backed chair.

The judge's eyes were evil and his mouth was cruel. His eyes were looking straight at Malcolm. A clock somewhere in the house struck twelve. It was midnight. Slowly the judge stood up and picked up the rope from the floor. He held the soft, strong rope in his hands. Slowly he twisted the rope into a noose. He started to walk towards Malcolm.

The judge came slowly nearer. Malcolm moved backwards. Suddenly the judge tried to throw the noose over Malcolm's head. Malcolm moved his head to one side. The noose missed Malcolm and the rope fell to the floor.

The judge slowly pulled the rope back. He picked it up. Once again, the noose was in his hands.

Suddenly Malcolm heard a noise. It was the alarm bell on the roof of the house. It was beginning to ring. But it was not ringing loudly. Malcolm looked up. The end of the rope which was hanging from the high ceiling was covered with rats. More and more rats were coming out of a hole in the ceiling. They were climbing down the rope. The rats were trying to help Malcolm. They were trying to make the alarm bell ring. But it was not yet ringing loudly.

The judge heard the alarm bell. His face twisted with anger. He came nearer to Malcolm. His eyes were looking straight at Malcolm. Malcolm's body felt like ice. He was unable to move. The judge slowly came up to Malcolm. He put the noose over Malcolm's head and round his neck. He pulled the noose tighter and tighter.

The judge carried Malcolm to the high-backed chair. He stood Malcolm on the chair. Then the judge disappeared. The enormous rat

suddenly appeared once again. The rat picked up the end of the rope on the floor. It ran up the wall holding the rope with its teeth. It jumped from the wall to the other end of the rope. The rats on the top end of the rope fled away in terror. They disappeared through the hole in the ceiling.

The enormous rat tied the two ends of the rope together. Then it jumped from the rope to the painting. It disappeared into the hole in the corner of the painting.

The judge appeared once again. He stood beside Malcolm. Malcolm was now standing on the chair with the noose tightly round his neck. The rope went from Malcolm's neck right up to the ceiling. The judge knocked the chair away from under Malcolm's feet. Malcolm's body swung from the end of the rope. The alarm bell began to ring. It rang louder and louder.

The alarm bell rang out loudly over the small town of Benchurch. The noise woke the people up. They came running to the Judge's House. They knocked loudly on the door. But no one opened it. Then they knocked the door down and went into the house.

They found Malcolm in the dining-room. His body was hanging from the end of the alarm bell rope. A man pointed up at the painting on the wall. It had not been cleaned for many years. For the first time, they were able to see the painting clearly.

'Look,' the man cried. 'It's a painting of the judge.'

They all stood and looked at the painting. The judge in the painting was sitting in the big, wooden high-backed chair beside the fire. There was a smile on the judge's face. It was an evil smile.

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words.

Whole, loud, almost, down, usual, listened, nearly, halfway, ceiling, floor, teeth, right, true, shouted, towards, tighter, knocked.

2. *Translate the following words and word-combinations into Russian. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.*

1. to go white
2. robe
3. to give a loud cry
4. to stare at sb
5. to go mad
6. to blow
7. to be horrified
8. dim
9. to hold on to sth
10. ceiling
11. to bite at, through
12. to land
13. to be in trouble
14. to call for help
15. to miss sb/sth
16. to be covered with
17. to twist with anger (about a face)
18. to knock the door down

3. *Make up a story of your own using at least 10 words or word-combinations from ex.2.*

4. *Answer the following questions*

1. Whom did Malcolm see in the painting?
2. What was the person in the painting doing?
3. What did Malcolm see between the chair and the fireplace in the painting?
4. What did Malcolm understand when he looked at the painting?
5. Why did he give a loud cry when he looked round the room?
6. What did Malcolm do when the enormous rat had disappeared?

7. What was the enormous rat doing when Malcolm stood up to put more wood on the fire?
8. Why did he rub his eyes when he looked at the painting again?
9. How had the painting changed?
10. Why did Malcolm's body feel like ice when he looked at the real chair in the room?
11. What did the judge do at midnight?
12. Who tried to help Malcolm and how?
13. How did Malcolm die?
14. Why did the people of Benchurch come running to the Judge's House?
15. Was the door open when they knocked on it?
16. How did the Judge's face change in the painting?

5. *Rearrange the following words to make sentences.*

1. hard woman the had cleaning worked.
2. down a fireplace was the hanging rope between the chair and.
3. stopped a moments Malcolm's beating heart few for.
4. face was a on judge's there smile the.
5. to hard I will back my study and go books.

6. *Speaking*

1. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.
2. Answer the questions for further discussion.
 1. Are you ready to stay in an empty old house in a small country town to study hard for your examinations?
 2. What are you afraid of? What can you do to get rid of your fear?
 3. Have you ever been up all night long? Why?

The Iron Maiden

by Bram Stoker

Read the first part of the short story.

This is a story of horror. It happened many years ago, but I still remember it clearly. I will never forget it - and my wife will never forget it either.

After we were married, my wife, Amelia, and I went to Germany. We went to stay in the old city of Nurnberg.

In Nurnberg, Amelia and I met an American. Like us, he was on holiday. His name was Elias. The three of us became good friends and we spent a lot of time together. Every day, we went round the city looking at the buildings. They were very old and very beautiful.

The oldest building in Nurnberg is the castle. The castle stands high above the centre of the city. From the castle, visitors can look down and see the city below them. There is a moat at the foot of the castle walls. At one time, the moat was filled with water. The moat kept the people in the castle safe from their enemies.

Now, however, there is no water. There has not been water in the moat for hundreds of years. Today, there are fruit trees and beautiful gardens in the moat. The road up to the castle is steep and long.

One day, Amelia, Elias and I went to visit the castle. We walked up the steep road and looked down at the gardens in the moat far below. It was summer and the sun was hot. People were sitting in the shade under the trees in the gardens. It was a beautiful scene.

We walked further up the hill and looked down again into the moat. Far down, near the bottom of the wall, we saw a cat. It was a large black cat and she was playing with her kitten. The kitten was chasing its mother's tail and they were happy together. It made us feel happy too.

'How happy they are!' said Elias. 'Let's join them in their game. We can play with them.'

Elias bent down and picked up a stone.

'Look,' he said, 'I'll drop this stone. It will fall near the kitten. And it won't know where the stone came from. It will puzzle the cats.'

'Be careful,' said Amelia. She looked unhappy and frightened. 'Please be careful. Don't hit the little kitten with the stone.'

'I won't hit the kitten,' replied Elias. 'I want to play with them. I don't want to hurt them.'

'But it's a long way down,' said Amelia. 'It's dangerous.'

'No, no,' said Elias. 'Look, I'll drop the stone far away from the kitten and its mother.'

Elias bent over the wall. He opened his hand and dropped the stone. We all looked down. The stone fell and hit the kitten. The kitten died immediately.

The mother cat looked up. Her green eyes stared straight at us. Then she looked at her dead kitten and licked its body. She looked up at Elias again. She opened her mouth and showed her sharp teeth. Her teeth were red with the kitten's blood.

Suddenly the cat tried to run up the wall. She wanted to reach us. She ran up a short way and then fell back to the ground. She fell on top of the kitten. Her fur became red with the kitten's blood. The cat looked very frightening.

Amelia was so upset that she felt ill. I took her to a nearby seat. She sat down in the warm sun.

I walked back to the wall. Elias was standing there. He was looking over the wall. The cat was still trying to run up. She wanted to reach us. Every time she tried to climb up, she fell to the ground again. She looked more horrible every time.

'The poor cat is going mad,' said Elias. 'It was an accident. I'm sorry I dropped that stone. I only wanted to play with the cats. I didn't want to kill the pretty little kitten.'

Amelia felt better after a few moments. She walked back to us. We all looked over the wall again. The cat looked up at us. She saw Elias and tried to run up the wall once more.

'Oh, the poor cat!' cried out Amelia. 'She's so angry. She wants to get near you, Elias, and kill you.'

Elias laughed when Amelia said this. He was a brave man. He was not afraid of a cat. A cat could not hurt him. The cat heard Elias laugh. Immediately she stopped looking at us and went to sit down beside her dead kitten. She began again to lick the blood from its body.

We left that part of the wall and walked on towards the castle. From time to time, we stopped and looked down over the wall. Every time we looked down, we saw the cat looking at us. She was following us. She was walking round the bottom of the wall. At first, she was holding her dead kitten in her mouth. Then she took the kitten and hid it somewhere. She followed us by herself.

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words.

Castle, walk, scene, know, frightened, straight, climb, high.

2. Translate the following words and word-combinations into Russian. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

1. horror
2. to be on holiday
3. castle
4. moat
5. at the foot of sth
6. at one time
7. to be filled with sth
8. to keep sb safe from
9. enemy
10. steep
11. kitten
12. to chase sth
13. tail
14. to bend down
15. to drop
16. to puzzle sb
17. careful

18. to look unhappy, frightened, frightening
19. to hit sb with a stone
20. to hurt sb
21. dangerous
22. to lick
23. blood
24. to be upset
25. nearby
26. to go mad
27. accident
28. brave
29. to follow sb
30. to do sth by oneself

3. *Make up a story of your own using at least 10 words or word-combinations from ex.2.*

4. *True or false?*

1. The story-teller and his wife met Elias in America.
2. The oldest building in Nurnberg is the castle.
3. The moat at the foot of the castle walls is filled with water.
4. The moat kept the people in the castle safe from animals.
5. One day, the friends drove up the steep road to the castle.
6. They saw a large black cat playing with her kitten near the bottom of the wall.
7. The kitten was chasing Elias.
8. Amelia wanted to play with the cats.
9. Elias dropped the stone to kill the kitten.
10. Amelia was upset and felt ill.
11. The mother cat looked frightened.
12. She hid the dead kitten and followed Elias.

5. *Use the adjectives in the comparative or superlative form.*

1. The (old) building in Nurnberg is the Castle.

2. The mother cat looked (horrible) every time.
3. Amelia felt (good) after a few minutes.
4. The Torture Tower is (interesting) building in the city.

6. Write questions for the answers.

1. When...?
The story happened many years ago.
2. Where ...?
The castle stands high above the centre of the city.
3. Whose...?
The kitten was chasing its mother's tail.
4. How soon ...?
The kitten died immediately.
5. Why...?
Her teeth were red with the kitten's blood.
6. What...?
The mother cat was following Elias.

7. Fill in the gaps with the words from the box.

At first	After	Now	Then	Every day	Unfortunately	Suddenly
One day	At one time	From time to time	Every time (2)			

_____ we were married, my wife and I went to Germany. In Nurnberg we met Elias. The three of us became good friends. _____ we went round the city looking at the buildings. _____, Amelia, Elias and I went to visit the castle. There is a moat at the foot of the castle walls. _____, the moat was filled with water. _____, however, there is no water. We walked up the hill. Far down, near the bottom of the wall, we saw a cat. She was playing with her kitten. Elias wanted to play with them and dropped a stone. _____, the stone killed the kitten. _____ the cat tried to run up the wall, but she fell back to the ground. _____ she tried to climb up, she fell to the ground again. We left that part of the wall. _____, we stopped and looked down. _____we looked down, the cat looked at us. She was

following us. _____, she was holding her dead kitten in her mouth. _____ she hid it somewhere.

8. *Speaking*

1. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.
2. Did Elias want to kill the kitten? Was it an accident?
3. Why was the mother cat following them?
4. Which adjectives can characterize Elias, Amelia?
(Brave, indifferent, sensitive, kind, irresponsible, reckless, careless, fearful, caring)
5. What ending can the story have?

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

Read the second part of the short story.

We went on up the road. We came to a big gate. From the gate, a path led to the castle. There is a very famous building in the grounds of the castle. This building is called the Torture Tower. The Torture Tower is the most interesting building in the city of Nurnberg.

We went into the Tower. We were the only visitors there. A man was sitting by the door. He was a guide. His job was to show visitors round the Tower.

The Tower was very dark inside. The only light came through the door. We began to climb up the dusty, wooden stairs. At the top of the stairs, there was a large room.

There were a few small windows in the walls of this room. In the light from the windows, we saw the things in the room more clearly. There were large swords on the walls. These swords were so big that they had to be held with two hands. On the floor, there were bloodstained blocks of wood. Hundreds of years ago, people's heads were cut off on these blocks of wood with an axe.

Everywhere there were horrible instruments. These instruments were used long ago to torture people. Some of the chairs had sharp spikes on their seats. People were hurt when they sat down on them. There were iron collars to put round people's necks. There were things that looked like baskets. But they were made of steel. A basket was put over a person's head and the head was crushed very slowly.

All these things were horrible and frightening to look at. Amelia's face went white and she held my hand.

In the centre of the room, there was the most frightening thing of all. This was called the Iron Maiden. It was made of metal and was shaped like a woman. It was covered with dust and was very dirty. It was very old, too. On the front of the metal body there was a ring made of iron. There was a rope on the ring. The other end of the rope went through a pulley on a wooden pillar in the room.

The guide showed us this Iron Maiden. He pulled the rope and the front part of the metal body opened up. It was like a heavy door on a hinge. We looked inside the body. There was room inside for a person to

get in and stand up straight. The door was very heavy. When the guide let go of the rope, the door fell quickly and shut tightly.

We looked at the inside of the door more carefully. It was very frightening! On the inside of the door, there were long iron spikes. These spikes had sharp points at the ends. When the door was shut, some of the spikes went through the eyes of the man inside. Other spikes went through his heart and his stomach.

Amelia saw these spikes. She was so frightened that she fainted. I carried her downstairs and out into the sun again. I sat with her. Soon she felt better. We then went back and found Elias. He was still looking carefully at the Iron Maiden.

'I want to get inside that,' Elias said. 'I want to see what it feels like to stand inside. But first you must tie my hands together and then my feet.' Elias spoke with great excitement. 'We must find some rope,' he said to us.

Elias spoke to the guide, 'Bring me some rope.'

The guide did not answer. He did not move. He only shook his head. Elias took some money from his pocket. He offered it to the guide.

'Here. Take this money,' Elias said to him. 'And don't be afraid.'

The guide took the money. Then he found a piece of rope. He came back and tied the rope round Elias' hands.

Then Elias said, 'Wait a moment. Don't tie my feet together now. I'm a heavy man and you won't be able to lift me into the Iron Maiden. I will get inside. Then you can tie my feet together when I am in.'

While he was talking to us, Elias got inside the Iron Maiden. It was just big enough. There was no room left in it. Amelia looked frightened, but she said nothing.

The guide tied Elias' feet together with the rope. Now Elias could not move at all. Both his arms and his feet were tied tightly together. Elias was very happy and he smiled at Amelia.

'That's good,' he laughed. 'Now close the door very slowly.'

'Oh, no! No! No!' cried Amelia. 'I can't watch you. I can't!'

Elias looked at Amelia and then at me.

'Take Amelia outside,' he said. 'She's afraid. Take her for a walk.'

Amelia did not move. She held my arm tightly and she trembled with fright.

Slowly, very slowly, the guide let the rope go through the pulley. The door closed little by little. The spikes got nearer Elias' face and body. He looked happier and happier as they got nearer and nearer.

After a few minutes, the guide had let the door down only a short way. I looked at Amelia. Her lips were white. She was not looking at Elias. She was staring at the ground near the bottom of the Iron Maiden. I looked too. The black cat was sitting there. The cat's eyes were shining. There was still blood on her fur.

I cried out, 'Look! There's the cat.'

The cat stood up. She looked very fierce.

Elias saw the cat and laughed.

'Has the cat followed us here?' he laughed. 'If she comes near me, kick her with your foot. I can't move.'

Just then, Amelia fainted. I put my arm round her shoulders to hold her up.

At the same time, the black cat gave a loud cry. She jumped up quickly. She did not jump towards Elias. She jumped at the guide. She scratched his face with her long, sharp claws. Her claws went into the guide's eyes and down his cheeks. His cheeks were badly torn.

The guide screamed. He jumped back and let go of the rope in his hands. The rope ran through the pulley. Elias saw the rope slipping past him quickly. For a second, he looked terrified. His eyes stared straight ahead. His lips moved, but no sound came from them. The door fell and shut tight.

I pulled open the door. When I opened the door, the spikes came out of his body and Elias fell onto the ground. His face looked awful.

I hurried to Amelia. I took her outside and put her on the seat in the fresh air. I did not want her to see Elias' body. It looked very, very horrible.

I then ran back into the room. The black cat was sitting near Elias' head. She was purring loudly and was licking the blood on Elias' face.

Quickly I walked over to one of the walls and took a big sword in my hands. With all my strength, I raised the sword above my head and let it fall suddenly.

I was right to kill the cat. I am sure of that. No one can say that I was cruel.

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words.

Guide, stairs, sword, axe, torture, iron, crushed, through, pulley, stomach, tie, excitement, piece, nothing, fright, fierce, claw, awful, purr, blood.

2. Translate the following words and word-combinations into Russian. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

1. the only
2. guide
3. sword
4. bloodstained
5. to cut off
6. axe
7. to torture sb
8. spike
9. iron
10. collar
11. to look like
12. basket
13. steel
14. maiden
15. to be shaped like
16. pillar
17. hinge
18. room
19. to let go of sth

20. to faint
21. to shake one's head
22. to offer sth to sb
23. to smile at sb
24. to tremble with fright
25. little by little
26. to jump at sb
27. badly
28. to purr
29. with all one's strength
30. to be sure of sth

3. *Make up a story of your own using at least 10 words or word-combinations from ex.2.*

4. *Answer the following questions*

1. Who was sitting by the door of the Torture Tower?
2. How many visitors were there?
3. What horrible instruments did the friends see in the large room at the top of the stairs?
4. When and what for were they used?
5. What was the Iron Maiden?
6. What did the Iron Maiden have on the inside of the door?
7. What happened to Amelia when she saw the spikes inside the Iron Maiden?
8. Why did Elias want to get inside the Iron Maiden?
9. What did he ask the guide to do first?
10. Why did the guide agree to tie the rope round Elias' hands and feet?
11. Why did the guide let go of the rope?
12. What happened to Elias?
13. What was the cat doing with dead Elias when the story-teller returned to the room?
14. What did the story-teller do to the cat?

3. These instruments _____ (use) to torture people.
4. A basket _____ (put) over a person's head to crush it slowly.
5. The most frightening thing _____ (call) the Iron Maiden.
6. It _____ (make) of metal and _____ (shape) like a woman.
7. It _____ (cover) with dust.
8. Elias' arms and feet _____ (tie) tightly together.
9. The guide's cheeks _____ (tear) by the cat.
10. The cat _____ (kill) by the story-teller.

7. *Speaking*

1. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.
2. Do you feel sorry for Elias, for the cat? Why?
3. Do you think the story-teller was right to kill the mother cat?
4. Have you ever been attacked by aggressive pets? What did you do?
5. Elias was a thrill-seeker. He enjoyed being frightened. Do you agree that such people often die young, for example, train surfers and racers?

The return of Abel Behena

by Bram Stoker

Read the first part of the short story.

Two young men once lived in a small town beside the sea. The town was in the south-west of England, on the coast. There was a harbour in the town. Every day, ships and fishermen's boats sailed in and out of the harbour.

On each side of the harbour, there were high cliffs. The cliffs rose up steeply above the sea and above the small town. Over many, many years, enormous rocks had fallen from the cliffs into the sea. These rocks lay half in and half out of the water. They were very dangerous for the ships and for the fishermen's boats. Sometimes, when there was a storm, the wind blew the boats against the rocks. Then the boats were wrecked. Sometimes, the fishermen were drowned.

The two young men in this story were fishermen. Their names were Abel Behena and Eric Sanson. Abel and Eric were friends. They had been friends since they were children. Abel and Eric were both the same age - twenty years old. They were the same height and they looked very much like each other. The only big difference between them was the colour of their hair. Abel had dark, black hair. Eric had light, fair hair.

Eric lived in a small cottage on the cliffs. Abel lived quite near, in another cottage. They both saw the sea every day of their lives. They saw the sea when the weather was fine. Then the sea was smooth and calm and beautiful. They saw the sea when the weather was stormy. Then the sea was rough and cruel and ugly.

One day, when they were both fourteen, Abel saved Eric's life. The two boys had gone out fishing early one morning. They sailed out of the harbour in a small boat. The weather was fine and the sun was shining. The sea was calm. But the weather changed later in the day. It became stormy and the sea became rough. The boys tried to sail their boat back

to the harbour. But the strong wind blew against their boat. It blew their boat towards the huge rocks.

The wind blew their boat against one of the rocks. Abel jumped from the boat onto the rock. He held on tightly with one hand. He held a long, strong rope in his other hand. The boat sank and Eric was not able to jump. He tried to swim through the rough water to the rock. But the strong wind was blowing him out to sea.

Abel threw one end of the rope towards Eric. Eric caught the end of the rope and held it tightly. Abel slowly pulled him towards the rock. Eric reached the rock and Abel pulled him to safety. Abel had saved Eric's life.

After this, their friendship grew stronger. They were always with each other. They worked together and they played together. But, at the age of twenty, their friendship was broken. They both fell in love at the same time- unfortunately, they both fell in love with the same girl.

The girl's name was Sarah. Sarah lived in a small house in the town. The house was on the edge of the town below the cliffs. Sarah lived in the house with her mother. Sarah liked Abel and she liked Eric. She wanted to marry one of them. But she did not know which one.

One day, Abel and Eric both came to Sarah's house. They both asked her the same question.

'Do you love me?' asked Abel. 'Will you marry me?'

'Do you love me?' asked Eric. 'Will you marry me?'

'I want to marry one of you,' Sarah replied. 'But I don't know which one. I love you, Abel. I love you, Eric.'

'But you must decide between us,' the two men said together. 'You must choose one of us.'

'Wait until my birthday,' said Sarah. 'I will be eighteen on 11th April. I will tell you my decision on my birthday.'

On 11th April, early in the morning, both men came again to Sarah's house. They stood outside the house waiting for her. Sarah did not know what to do. She was unable to decide between the two young men. She loved them both. Sarah's mother was busy in the kitchen. Sarah asked her mother for advice.

'What shall I do?' she said to her mother. 'I love Abel Behena. I love Eric Sanson. Which one shall I marry? They are waiting outside. What shall I tell them?'

Sarah's mother thought quietly for a few moments. Then she spoke to Sarah.

'Go out by the back door and take a walk along the cliffs,' she said. 'I will talk to the two men.'

'But what will you say to them?' asked Sarah.

'I will tell you later,' her mother replied. 'Both men want to marry you. But only one of them can marry you. Both men are poor. Neither of them has enough money to get married. But I have an idea. You go for a walk and I will talk to them.'

Sarah went out of the house by the back door. The two men did not see her. She went for a walk along the cliffs. Her mother opened the front door and spoke to Abel and to Eric.

'You are waiting for my daughter,' she said to the two men. 'Both of you want to marry her. She has to decide between you. What are we going to do?'

'Has she made her decision yet?' asked the two men.

'She is unable to decide,' replied Sarah's mother. 'She loves you, Abel Behena. She loves you, Eric Sanson. She is unable to choose between you. But I have an idea.'

'Tell us your idea,' the men said.

'You are both poor,' said Sarah's mother. 'Neither of you has enough money to get married. But why not put your money together? Then one of you will have enough money to marry my daughter.'

'What do you mean?' asked Abel.

'I don't understand you,' said Eric.

'Listen,' said Sarah's mother. 'I'll explain. You must toss a coin for my daughter. The one who wins the toss will marry her. But before you toss the coin, you must make an agreement.'

'An agreement!' said the two men in surprise. 'What kind of agreement?'

'Before you toss the coin, you must agree to put your money together,' replied Sarah's mother. 'The winner will take all the money. He will buy goods with the money and sell the goods in foreign countries. When he is rich, he will return. Then he will be able to marry my daughter.'

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words.

South, coast, harbour, wrecked, drowned, weather, rough, ugly, later, marry, birthday, decision, poor, neither, foreign.

2. Translate the following words and word-combinations into Russian. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

1. sea
2. on the coast
3. harbour
4. fisherman
5. boat
6. to sail
7. cliff
8. rock

9. storm, stormy
10. to blow sth against sth
11. to be wrecked
12. to be drowned
13. to be the same age, height
14. smooth
15. rough
16. to sink
17. to save sb's life
18. to grow stronger
19. to fall in love with sb
20. to marry sb, to get married to sb
21. to wait for
22. to decide between sb
23. to ask sb for advice
24. to take a walk
25. to toss a coin
26. to win the toss
27. to make an agreement

3. *Make up a story of your own using at least 10 words or word-combinations from ex.2.*

4. *Answer the following questions*

1. Where did Abel and Eric live?
2. Why were sometimes the boats wrecked and the fishermen drowned?
3. How old were Abel and Eric?
4. Abel and Eric were the same age, height and looked very much like each other. What was the only big difference between them?
5. How old were they when Abel saved Eric's life?
6. What did he do to save Eric?
7. Why was their friendship broken at the age of twenty?
8. Who did Sarah live with?

9. What did Sarah reply when they both wanted to marry her?
10. Whom did Sarah choose on 11th April?
11. Whom did she ask for advice?
12. What was her mother's idea?
13. What kind of agreement did Abel and Eric have to make?

5. Fill in the gaps with the prepositions from the box.

for	in (4)	of (2)	into	out of (2)
from	beside	against	over	on

Two young men once lived ___ a small town ___ the sea. The town was ___ the south-west ___ England. Every day, ships and fishermen's boats sailed ___ and ___ the harbour. There were high cliffs ___ each side ___ the harbour. ___ many, many years, enormous rocks had fallen ___ the cliffs ___ the sea. They lay half ___ and half ___ the water. They were very dangerous ___ the boats. When there was a storm, the wind blew the boats ___ the rocks.

6. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.

Read the second part of the short story.

Sarah's mother went back into the house. She left the two men standing outside.

When I win the toss, thought Abel, I'll sail to foreign countries. When I return, I will be rich and I will marry Sarah.

When I win, thought Eric, I'll sail to foreign countries. I will be rich when I come back and I will marry Sarah.

Neither of the men thought about losing. They both thought of winning. Sarah came back from her walk.

'I must talk to you both,' she said. 'I promised to give you my decision today. But I cannot decide. I cannot choose between you. I do not know what to do.'

'Stop worrying about the matter,' said Abel. 'Your mother has solved the problem for us.'

'We are going to toss a coin,' Eric explained. 'The one who wins the toss will marry you.'

'And we have made an agreement,' added Abel. 'We are going to pool our money together. The winner will take all the money. He will sail to foreign countries and use the money to trade. He will then become rich. When he returns, he will marry you.'

'That's our agreement,' said Eric.

'Today, 11th April, is my birthday,' said Sarah, with a laugh. 'I am eighteen today. On my next birthday, I will be nineteen. The man who wins must come back on my nineteenth birthday. On 11th April next year I will marry the man who wins.'

'We agree,' both men said.

'Here's a coin,' Abel said to Eric. 'Take it and toss it.'

Eric tossed the coin in the air. He caught it with both hands. He held the coin on the back of one hand and hid it with the other hand.

'Heads or tails?' Eric asked Abel. 'Take your choice.'

'I choose heads,' said Abel. 'Heads.'

Eric slowly lifted his hand from the coin. The three of them looked at the coin. It was lying on the back of Eric's hand. They were looking at the head of the king on the coin. Abel had chosen correctly. Abel was the winner.

Abel shouted out happily. He had won. He took Sarah and held her in his arms.

Eric was very disappointed. He had lost. He threw the coin angrily out into the sea. It sank below the water.

'Don't be angry,' Abel said to Eric. 'Let us be friends. Sarah will be my wife and I will make her happy. You will be like a brother to both of us.'

'I won't. I won't,' Eric cried out angrily. 'You have one year, Abel Behena. You must be back here on 11th April next year. That is the date of the wedding. If you are not back on that day, I will marry Sarah.'

'I will return in one year,' replied Abel. 'I will return in time for the wedding.'

Abel turned and spoke to Sarah.

'You will wait for me, won't you?' he asked her. 'You won't marry Eric before I return, will you?'

'I promise to wait for you,' replied Sarah. 'I will wait for you for one year. I won't marry before 11th April next year.'

Abel tried to make friends again with Eric.

'Don't be angry, Eric,' he said. 'We have been friends all our lives. Please let us stay friends.'

'You are not my friend any more,' Eric replied angrily. 'I hope you don't come back. I hope the Devil takes you!'

Eric Sanson walked away angrily. He did not say goodbye. Abel stayed and talked to Sarah.

Early the following morning, Abel was awakened suddenly by a noise. Someone was outside his cottage. Abel got up, went to the door and opened it. Eric Sanson was walking away quickly. His back was turned to Abel. Then Abel saw a small bag lying on the ground in front of the door. Eric's money was in the bag. Also, there was a note, tied to the bag.

Take this money and go. I will stay here. But remember - you have to be back here on 11 th April next year, or I will marry Sarah.

Eric Sanson

Abel took Eric's money and put it with his own. He bought a lot of toys with the money.

'I will take these toys with me on a ship,' Abel told Sarah. 'And I will sell them in foreign countries. I will become rich. When I return, I will have enough money to marry you.'

On the day of his departure, Abel said goodbye to Sarah. He promised to write to her.

'But remember I will be busy,' he told her. 'Also, letters will take a long time to come to you from foreign countries. But don't forget your promise. Wait for me.'

'I will wait for you until 11th April next year,' Sarah promised. 'I will not marry anyone before that day.'

Abel left on a ship at the end of April. He waved goodbye to Sarah from the ship as it left the harbour.

Sarah waited for a letter from Abel. She woke early every morning hoping for a letter. But no letter came. The months passed - May, June,

July - but there was no letter for Sarah. At first, Sarah waited patiently. But, as the time passed, she became more and more unhappy.

'Perhaps he has forgotten me,' she thought. 'Perhaps he will never come back.'

Then, one morning in August, she received a letter. In the letter Abel wrote:

I am doing very well in business. I have already sold half of the toys. Soon I will sell them all. When I have sold them, I will start on my return journey. Do not forget me. I love you. Our wedding will take place on the day of my return.

Again the months passed and no other letters came from Abel. Soon it was January of the following year. Sarah again became unhappy. She began to see Eric Sanson every day. Eric asked her the same question many times.

'Will you marry me?' he said. 'Perhaps Abel Behena will never come back. He has a lot of money now. Perhaps he has forgotten you.'

Sarah's reply was the same every time.

'Wait until 11th April,' she said. 'If Abel is not here on 11th April, then I will marry you.'

January and February passed. And then it was March. Sarah had not received another letter from Abel. She saw Eric every day and she began to forget Abel. Eric asked her the same question again and again.

'Will you marry me?' he asked.

'It is the month of March now,' replied Sarah. 'It is April next month. Abel has not written another letter. And he has not come back.'

'He will never come back,' said Eric.

'I will marry you on my birthday,' Sarah said. 'I will marry you on 11th April.'

So Eric and Sarah agreed to get married on 11th April. Sarah started to make her wedding-dress. It was soon the beginning of April. The eleventh of April was getting nearer and nearer. And no letter came to Sarah from Abel Behena.

'He will not return,' Sarah said to herself. 'On 11th April, I will marry Eric Sanson.'

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words.

Losing, money, laugh, sank, promise, awakened, quickly, departure, patiently, business, written, nearer.

2. Translate the following words and word-combinations into Russian. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

1. rich
2. to promise to do sth
3. to worry about sth
4. to solve the problem for sb
5. to pool sth together
6. to trade
7. to say with a laugh
8. heads or tails
9. take one's choice
10. to hold sb in one's arms
11. to be disappointed
12. angrily
13. to be back
14. in time for sth
15. to make friends with sb
16. to let sb do sth
17. devil

18. to say goodbye to sb, to wave goodbye
19. to tie sth to sth
20. departure
21. to be busy
22. to take a long time to do
23. to hope for sth
24. as the time passed
25. to do well in sth
26. to take place
27. to agree to do sth
28. wedding-dress

3. *Make up a story of your own using at least 10 words or word-combinations from ex.2.*

4. *Answer the following questions*

1. What did they agree to do with their money?
2. What did Sarah agree to do on her next birthday?
3. Who tossed the coin?
4. What was Abel's choice?
5. Who was the winner?
6. Was Eric happy for his friend?
7. Whom did Abel see outside his cottage early the following morning?
8. Why did Eric Sanson come to Abel's cottage?
9. What did the note tied to the bag say?
10. What did Abel do with the money?
11. Who came to say goodbye to Abel on the day of his departure?
12. When did Abel leave his town?
13. When did Sarah receive a letter from Abel? How many letters did she get?
14. What did the letter say?
15. Did Eric ask Sarah questions to get news about Abel?
16. Why did Sarah agree to marry Eric on 11th April?

5. *Choose the correct variant*

1. When I *win / will win* the toss, I will sail to foreign countries.
2. When I *return / will return*, I will be rich.
3. If Abel *is not / will not be* back here on 11th April, Eric will marry Sarah.
4. Sarah will not marry Eric before Abel *returns / will return*.
5. When Sarah *marries / will marry* me, you will be like a brother to both of us.

6. *Speaking*

1. Learn and dramatize the conversation between Abel, Eric and Sarah.
2. Give the detailed reproduction of the story.

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНА И. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

Read the third part of the short story.

One night, in the first week of April, there was a terrible storm. The wind blew and the sea became rough. The men of the town walked down to the harbour. They looked at the sea. The wind was blowing stronger and the sea was becoming rougher and rougher.

Lightning flashed in the sky. Suddenly, in a flash of lightning, the men saw a ship. The ship was trying to reach the harbour. But the strong wind was blowing it towards the rocks. The men watched in horror. The wind grew stronger and blew the ship against a rock. There was a great crash and the ship sank quickly into the sea.

The men of the town ran from the harbour along the shore. They ran towards the rocks. They heard the cries of the people in the water. They were shouting for help. The people were trying to swim towards the shore. But the strong wind was pulling them out to sea.

'I'm going to help them,' Eric Sanson shouted to his friends. 'I'm going onto that huge rock. Then I can climb down on the other side. If anyone gets near that rock, I will be able to save them.'

'Don't try to climb onto that rock,' his friends said to him. 'The wind will blow you into the sea and you will be drowned.'

'I know that huge rock,' he shouted to them. 'Abel Behena saved my life there when we were boys. I will be able to save anyone who comes near that rock.'

Eric climbed carefully onto the wet rock. He was holding a long, strong rope in one hand. He climbed up onto the top of the rock. Then he climbed slowly and carefully down the other side. The men on the shore were no longer able to see Eric. He was hidden behind the huge rock.

Eric stood staring out into the black, rough water. Suddenly, he heard a cry. Someone was trying to swim to the rock. The lightning flashed. Eric saw a man's head in the water. Eric shouted loudly and the

man heard him. Eric threw the rope towards the man. The man caught it and tied it round his body.

Eric began to pull the rope towards him. The man was coming nearer and nearer to the rock.

Then the lightning flashed again. Eric, for the first time, saw the man's face clearly. It was the face of Abel Behena.

Abel Behena had returned. He had come back to marry Sarah. Sunday, 11th April was a few days away. Eric wanted to marry Sarah on that day. Now Abel Behena had returned.

Abel will marry Sarah on 11th April, Eric thought angrily to himself. What shall I do? I will never love anyone else but Sarah.

In the same flash of lightning, Abel had seen Eric's face.

'It's my old friend, Eric Sanson,' he thought to himself.

Abel smiled. Eric saw the smile on Abel's face. He felt a strong hatred and anger growing inside him.

'No,' he shouted out loud. 'You will not come back. I will marry Sarah.'

Eric let go of the rope. It fell onto the rock and then slipped into the water. Abel sank in the sea. The wind and the waves pulled him away from the rock.

Eric stood for a few moments in horror. He remembered the smile on Abel's face. Abel had been happy to see him again. But Eric had not saved Abel's life. He had let Abel drown in the sea.

Eric hurried back over the top of the huge rock. He climbed back down to the shore. The men were waiting for him.

'Did anyone come near the rock?' the men asked. 'We heard a man crying for help.'

'He did not come near me,' replied Eric. 'No one came near the rock. I waited, but no one came.'

One of the men held a lamp up to Eric's face.

'What is wrong with you?' the man asked. 'Have you seen a ghost? Your face is white and you are shaking with fear.'

'I slipped and nearly fell into the water,' Eric explained. 'The rope fell from my hand. It fell into the water.'

Eric remembered Abel's face again with horror.

'I can never tell them the truth,' he thought to himself. 'Abel Behena saved my life there on that rock. Now, in the same place, I have let my friend drown in the sea.'

'No one came near the rock,' he told the men again. 'I did not hear anyone crying out for help. I did not see anyone.'

Eric hurried back home and went to bed. But he was not able to sleep. When he closed his eyes, he saw once again the face of Abel Behena. Abel was in the water and there was a smile on his face.

The next morning, Monday morning, the storm had gone completely. The sky was clear and the sun was shining brightly. The wind had dropped and had become soft and gentle. Eric stayed at home all day. He remembered the face of Abel Behena. Eric was afraid.

But, in the evening, he felt much braver.

Abel Behena has gone now forever, he told himself. He will never return. Next Sunday is 11th April. It is Sarah's birthday. And it will be our wedding-day. Abel will never come back to marry Sarah.

Eric went to Sarah's house. He wanted to see her and talk about the wedding. Sarah was busy making her wedding-dress when Eric came to the house.

'Have you not finished making the dress yet?' Eric asked with a laugh. 'You must hurry up. It will soon be Sunday and we are getting married on Sunday.'

'I have not forgotten,' replied Sarah. 'Sunday is my birthday and it will be my wedding-day. But who will I marry? Perhaps Abel will come back before Sunday.'

Eric became angry and left the house. He walked back to his cottage on the cliffs. But he was not able to look at the sea. He was now afraid of the sea. Abel Behena had drowned in the sea with a smile on his face.

The days passed slowly. Eric became brave again and went to see Sarah every day. Tuesday came and went. Wednesday came and went. Then it was Thursday.

On Thursday evening, Eric was sitting in his cottage. He was thinking about Sunday - his wedding-day. A man from the town came to the cottage. He was a friend of Eric's and he wanted to speak to him. The man looked very sad and unhappy.

'I want to speak to you about the ship that was sunk in the storm,' the man began. 'I've heard some news about it. I've heard the names of the passengers. They were all drowned. Some of the bodies were washed up on the shore. But not all of them. They are still looking for some of them. One body of a man has not been found. He was a passenger on the ship. He was a friend of yours.'

'A friend of mine? Who was he?' Eric asked.

'I'm sorry, very sorry,' the man replied. 'I have bad news for you. One of the passengers on that ship was Abel Behena. He was on his way back home.'

Eric's face went white. He gave a loud cry. Then he held his head in his hands.

'I'm sorry,' said the man again. 'It is very bad news for you. Abel Behena was your best friend. He once saved your life. But you were not

able to save his life. You climbed over that dangerous rock. But you were not able to save him. No one was saved that night. The sea was too rough and too cruel.'

Eric sat silent with his head in his hands. His whole body was shaking.

'I'm sorry,' the man repeated once again. Then he went out of the cottage and left Eric alone.

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words.

Lightning, crash, climb, staring, clearly, anger, horror, ghost, slipped, truth, brightly, passenger.

2. Translate the following words and word-combinations into Russian. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

1. terrible
2. lightning
3. to flash
4. to watch in horror
5. crash
6. to shout to sb, to shout for help
7. to climb (up, down, onto sth)
8. wet
9. carefully
10. to be hidden behind sth
11. to stare out into sth
12. for the first time
13. to think to oneself
14. to feel sth growing
15. hatred
16. to let go of sth
17. to hear sb doing sth

18. to shake with fear
19. to tell the truth
20. gentle
21. to go forever
22. to be busy doing sth
23. to finish doing sth
24. passenger
25. to be washed up on the shore
26. to be sorry
27. to go white

3. *Make up a story of your own using at least 10 words or word-combinations from ex.2.*

4. *Answer the following questions*

1. What happened one night in the first week of April?
2. Why couldn't the people from the sunk ship reach the shore?
3. How did Eric want to help them?
4. Why were the men on the shore no longer able to see him?
5. Who did Eric see at the end of his rope?
6. What did Eric feel when he saw the smile on Abel's face?
7. Why did Abel smile?
8. What did Eric do?
9. Why did the men on the shore ask Eric if he had seen a ghost?
10. Was Eric going to tell them the truth?
11. What was the weather like the next morning?
12. Why did Eric stay at home all day?
13. Where did he go in the evening?
14. Why did Eric become angry?
15. Who visited Eric on Thursday evening? Why?
16. Had Abel's body been already found?
17. What did Eric do when he heard the news?

5. *Choose the correct variant*

1. The people were trying *to swim / swimming* towards the shore.
2. I will be able *to save / saving* them.
3. Eric wanted *to marry / marrying* Sarah on that day.
4. Eric had let Abel *drown / to drown* in the sea.
5. Sarah was busy *to make /making* her wedding-dress.

6. *Give the detailed reproduction of the story.*

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

Read the fourth part of the short story.

Friday was a quiet day. Nothing unusual happened in the small town. Eric became brave once again. He went to see Sarah.

'One more day,' he said to her. 'On Sunday we will be married.'

'Yes,' said Sarah. 'We will be married on Sunday if Abel does not come back.'

Something unusual happened in the town on Saturday afternoon. Some children were playing round the harbour. The tide was high and the harbour was full of water. The children saw something strange floating in the water. They ran into the streets of the town. They shouted loudly to everyone.

'Come quickly!' they shouted. 'There's a big fish in the harbour.'

Men and women ran quickly to the harbour. They stood round the harbour and looked at the water. But they saw nothing unusual.

'What did you see?' a man asked the children.

'A big fish with a long tail,' a young boy answered.

'It was an enormous fish,' said another boy. 'And it had a long, long tail.'

'The tail went down into the water,' added a girl. 'We were not able to see the end of it.'

The men and women stood on the harbour wall for some time. The tide was now going out and the harbour was not so full of water. They looked into the harbour, but they saw nothing.

'The tide will have taken anything strange in the harbour out to sea again.'

They did not tell the children why they were so interested. They were still looking for bodies from the wrecked ship. When a person is drowned, the body sinks at first to the bottom of the sea. Then, after five

or six days, it comes up again to the top and floats on the water. Perhaps the children had seen the body of one of the passengers from the ship.

The men and women waited for more than an hour. The tide went out and the harbour was almost empty of water. But they saw nothing. They decided to go home.

'It's getting late now,' they said to each other. 'There will be another high tide in the night. Perhaps we will find it on the shore at low tide tomorrow morning.'

'What about the long tail?' one man asked. 'The children said it had a long, long tail.'

'A children's story,' said a woman. 'Children like to make up stories. Now it's time to go home and go to bed.'

Then it was Sunday - the day of the wedding. The weather was fine. The sun was shining and the sky was clear. Eric got up very early in the morning. He got dressed in his wedding clothes.

'This is my wedding-day,' he said to himself. 'Abel Behena cannot take Sarah from me now. He cannot come back - alive or dead.'

The church bells began to ring. It was time for the wedding. Eric left his cottage and walked towards the church. He looked at the sea for a few moments. Then he quickly turned his eyes away. But he noticed that the tide was going out.

When Eric arrived at the church, he stood at the door. He waited for Sarah. All their friends were inside the church. Sarah came up the path. She was wearing a beautiful white wedding-dress. Eric took her hand and they walked into the church together. The church bells stopped ringing. The wedding-service had begun.

They walked out of the church hand in hand. Now they were married. They were man and wife.

They walked together towards Sarah's house in the town. Sarah's mother was preparing the wedding meal for them there. All their friends

walked behind them. They walked slowly and happily down from the church to the shore. Then they walked along the edge of the shore towards the town.

Suddenly, Sarah gave a cry. She pointed at the shore. Everyone stopped and looked. There was a body lying on the shore. Its head was lifted up against a rock. And its eyes seemed to be looking straight at Eric and Sarah.

Some men ran down to look at the body. There was a rope tied round its middle.

'The tail,' said one of the men. 'The children talked about a long tail. It was this rope.'

They looked more carefully at the body. Then a man turned and shouted to everyone.

'It's Abel!' he shouted. 'It's Abel Behena.'

Sarah looked at Eric in horror. She did not move. Abel had promised to return. This was the return of Abel Behena. He had come back on the wedding-day.

Eric said some words quietly to himself. Sarah fainted and fell to the ground. Some friends carried her to her mother's house.

'The Devil helped you,' Eric said. 'The Devil took you. And the Devil brought you back.'

After-reading task

1. Put down the transcription of the following words.

Enormous, church, service, meal, shore, straight, quietly, ground, brought.

2. Translate the following words and word-combinations into Russian. Find the sentences in the text in which they are used.

1. brave
2. to float
3. tail
4. to go out (about tides)
5. to be full of sth
6. to look for sb, sth
7. to sink to the bottom
8. to come up to the top
9. to make up a story
10. to get dressed
11. alive
12. dead
13. church
14. wedding-service
15. hand in hand
16. to be married
17. to be man and wife
18. to point at sth, sb
19. to faint
20. return (v, n)

3. Make up a story of your own using at least 10 words or word-combinations from ex.2.

4. *True or false?*

1. Nothing unusual happened in the town on Saturday.
2. Some children said, there was an enormous fish in the harbour.
3. There was a terrible storm on the day of the wedding.
4. The church bells began to ring because Abel Behena had been found.
5. When Eric arrived at the church and waited for Sarah, all their friends were inside the church.
6. Eric and Sarah went out of the church hand in hand and walked along the shore towards the town.
7. Sarah's mother was walking behind them.
8. Sarah pointed at the shore, because there was a body lying on it.
9. When Sarah saw Abel's body, she ran to her mother's house.
10. Eric and Sarah had become man and wife before they found Abel's body.

5. *Rearrange the following words to make sentences.*

1. be Sunday if not Abel we married does back will on come.
2. an the waited women for than more men and hour.
3. of we not tail to end the were able see the.
4. had Abel on come Behena wedding-day the.
5. to Sarah ground fainted and the fell.

6. *Fill in the gaps with the Past Simple form of the verbs in brackets.*

The weather ___ (be) fine on the day of the wedding. Eric ___ (get up) early, ___ (leave) his cottage and ___ (go) towards the church. When he ___ (arrive), he ___ (stand) at the door and ___ (wait) for Sarah. Sarah ___ (come) up the path. Eric ___ (take) her hand. The church bells ___ (stop) ringing and the wedding-service ___ (begin).

After the wedding-service they ___ (walk) to the shore. Suddenly, Sarah ___ (give) a cry. She ___ (faint) and ___ (fall) to the ground.

7. *Give the detailed reproduction of the story.*

8. *Answer the following questions for further discussion.*

1. Do you think Eric was sorry for what he had done?
2. Did he refuse to save his friend because of great love or selfishness?
3. Can we say that his dream came true?
4. Will Eric and Sarah be able to forget about Abel and live happily?
5. Do you know any other stories about crimes for the sake of love?

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО