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в старших классах средних школ,
лицеях, гимназиях,
на I—II курсах неязыковых вузов*



МОСКВА

АЙРИС ПРЕСС

2008

УДК 811.111(075)
ББК 81.2Англ-93
У45

Адаптация текста, словарь: Г. К. Магидсон-Степанова
Упражнения: Г. И. Бардина

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Серийное оформление А. М. Драгового

У45 **Украденная** бацилла и другие приключенческие рассказы [The Stolen Bacillus and other adventure stories / адаптация текста, словарь Г. К. Магидсон-Степановой; упражнения Г. И. Бардиной]. — М.: Айрис-пресс, 2008. — 160 с.: ил. — (Английский клуб). — (Домашнее чтение).

ISBN 978-5-8112-3190-4

Сборник приключенческих и детективных рассказов содержит произведения английских и американских писателей XIX–XX веков в адаптации Г. К. Магидсон-Степановой. Книга рассчитана на учащихся старших классов средних школ, лицеев, гимназий, студентов I–II курсов неязыковых вузов. После каждого рассказа приводятся упражнения, направленные на овладение лексикой, грамматикой и развитие навыков общения. Книга содержит словарь.

ББК 81.2Англ-93
УДК 811.111(075)

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ISBN 978-5-8112-3190-4



THE ADVENTURE OF THE THREE STUDENTS

In 1895 Mr. Sherlock Holmes and I spent some weeks in one of our great University towns. It was during this time¹ that the facts which I am going to tell you about took place.²

One evening we received a visit from a certain Mr. Hilton Soames, a lecturer at the College of St. Luke's.³ Mr. Soames was so excited that it was clear that something very unusual had happened.

"I hope, Mr. Holmes," he said, "that you can give me a few hours of your time. A very unpleasant thing has taken place at our college and I don't know what to do."

¹ **it was during this time** — как раз в это время (эмпатическая конструкция)

² **to take place** — произойти

³ **College of St. Luke's** ['seint 'lu:ks] — Колледж святого Луки

"I am very busy just now," my friend answered. "Could you call the police?"

"No, no, my dear sir, that is absolutely impossible. It is just one of these cases when it is quite necessary to avoid scandal. I am sure you will keep our secret. You are the only man in the world who can help me. I beg you, Mr. Holmes, to do what you can."

Holmes agreed, though very unwillingly, and our visitor began his story.

"I must explain to you, Mr. Holmes," he said, "that tomorrow is the first day of the examination for the Fortescue Scholarship.¹ I am one of the examiners. My subject is Greek. The first of the examination papers consists of a piece of Greek translation which the candidates for the scholarship have not seen before. Of course, every candidate would be happy if he could see it before the examination and prepare it in advance.² So much care is taken to keep it secret.

"Today at about three o'clock I was reading the proofs of the examination papers. At four-thirty I went out to take tea in a friend's room, and I left the papers upon my desk. I was absent a little more than an hour.

"When I approached my door, I was surprised to see a key in it. For a moment I thought I had left my own key there. But when I put my hand in my pocket, I found the key in it. The other key to my room belonged to my servant, Bannister, who has been looking after my room for ten years. I am absolutely sure of his honesty. I understood that he had entered my room to ask if I wanted tea. When he saw I was not there, he went out and very carelessly left the key in the door.

"The moment I looked at my table I knew that someone had touched the examination papers. There were three pages to it. I had left them all together. Now I found that one of them was lying on the floor; one was on a small table near the window; and the third was where I had left it on my desk."

Holmes spoke for the first time.

"The first page on the floor, the second near the window, and the third where you left it," he repeated.

"Exactly, Mr. Holmes. But how could you know that?"

"Please, continue your very interesting story."

"I did not know what to think. Bannister said he had not touched my papers and I am sure he speaks the truth. Then I thought that some student passing by my door had noticed the key in it. Knowing that I was out, he had entered to look at the papers. The Fortescue Scholarship is a large sum of money, so the student was ready to run a risk in order to get it.

"Bannister was very much upset by the incident. He nearly fainted when I told him that someone had touched the examination papers. I gave him a little brandy and left him in a chair while I made a most careful examination¹ of the room. I soon saw other traces of the man who had been in my room. Evidently the man had copied the paper in a great hurry. My writing table is quite new and I found a cut on it about three inches long. Not only this, but on the table I found a small black ball of something like clay or earth, and some sawdust. I am sure that these marks were left by the man who had touched the examination papers. But there were no traces of his footsteps. I didn't know what to do next, when suddenly the happy thought came into my head that you were in the town. So I came straight to you to put the matter into your hands.² Do help me,³ Mr. Holmes! You see my dilemma. Either I must find the man, or⁴ the examination must be put off until new papers are prepared. But this cannot be done without explanations and a terrible scandal will follow. This will throw a cloud⁵ not only on the college but on the University."

"I shall be happy to look into this matter⁶ and give as much help as I can," said Holmes rising and putting on his overcoat. "The case is not without interest.⁷ Did anyone visit you in your room after the papers had come to you?"

¹ **I made a most careful examination** — я произвел самый тщательный осмотр

² **to put the matter into your hands** — предоставить вам заняться этим делом

³ **do help me** — (так) помогите же мне (*вспомогательный глагол употреблен для усиления просьбы*)

⁴ **either I must find the man, or** — либо я должен найти виновника, либо

⁵ **to throw a cloud** — бросать тень

⁶ **to look into this matter** — заняться этим делом

⁷ **The case is not without interest.** — Дело довольно интересное.

¹ **the Fortescue** ['fɔːtskjʊ:] **Scholarship** — стипендия имени Фортеस्कью

² **in advance** — заранее

"Yes," said Mr. Soames. "Young Daulat Ras, an Indian student who lives on the same floor, came over to ask me a question about some details of the examination."

"The examination which he is going to take?"

"Yes."

"And the papers were on your table?"

"Yes, but as far as I remember,¹ they were rolled up."

"Did anyone else come to your room?"

"No."

"Did anyone know that the papers would be there?"

"No one."

"Did this man Bannister know?"

"No, certainly not. No one knew."

"Where is Bannister now?"

"He was very ill, poor man! I left him in my room, I was in a hurry to come to you."

"So you left your door open?"

"Yes, but I locked up the papers first."

"Well, it seems, Mr. Soames, that the man who touched your papers came upon them without knowing² that they were there."

"So it seems to me," said Mr. Soames.

"Let's go to your room now, Mr. Soames. I am at your service.³ All right, Watson, come with us if you want to.⁴"

* * *

It was already getting dark when we entered the courtyard of the old college. The window of our client's sitting-room opened onto it. Holmes approached the window. Then he stood on tiptoe in order to look inside.

"He must have entered⁵ through the door," said Mr. Soames, "the window doesn't open."

"Well," said Holmes laughing, "if there is nothing to be learned here,¹ we had better go inside.²"

The lecturer unlocked his door and we went in.

"Your servant seems to have felt better,³" said Holmes. "He is not here. You left him in a chair, you say. Which chair?"

"By the window over there."

"I see. Near this little table. Of course, what has happened is quite clear. The man entered and took the papers, page by page, from your writing-table. He carried them over to the window table, because from there he could see if you came across the courtyard."

"He couldn't see me," said Soames, "for I entered by the side door."

"Ah, that's good," said Holmes. "Well, he carried the first page over to the window and copied it. Then he threw it down and took the next one. He was copying it when your return made him go away in a hurry.⁴ He had no time to put the papers back. Did you hear any hurrying steps on the stairs as you came up to your door?"

"No, I didn't."

"Well," Sherlock Holmes went on, "I don't think we can learn anything more from this table. Let's examine the writing table. The man left no traces on it except some clay and sawdust. Dear me,⁵ this is very interesting. And the cut — I see. Where does that door lead to?" Holmes asked suddenly.

"To my bedroom," answered Soames.

"I should like to have a look⁶ at it," said Holmes.

He entered the bedroom and examined it carefully.

"No, I see nothing," he said. "What about this curtain? Oh, you hang your clothes behind it. If anyone⁷ has to conceal himself in this room, he must do it there — the bed is too low. No one there,

¹ if there is nothing to be learned here — если нельзя ничего узнать здесь

² we had better go inside — нам лучше войти в дом

³ your servant seems to have felt better — кажется, ваш слуга почувствовал себя лучше (субъектный инфинитивный оборот)

⁴ made him go away in a hurry — заставил его поспешно удалиться

⁵ Dear me — Боже мой! (восклицание, выражающее удивление, сожаление)

⁶ I should like to have a look — мне хотелось бы взглянуть

¹ as far as I remember — насколько я помню

² without knowing — не зная, не подозревая

³ I am at your service. — Я к вашим услугам.

⁴ if you want to (come) — если вы хотите (пойти)

⁵ he must have entered — он, очевидно, вошел

I suppose?" And he drew the curtain. It seemed to me that he was prepared to find somebody behind the curtain and to act quickly.

"No one," said Holmes. "But what's this?" And he picked up from the floor a small ball of black clay, exactly like the one upon the table.

"Your visitor seems to have left traces¹ in your bedroom as well as in your sitting-room," he said.

"Do you mean to tell me that he was in my bedroom? What for?" asked Mr. Soames.

"I think it is clear enough," answered Holmes. "You came back by the side door, while he was sure that you would come across the courtyard, so he did not see you coming back, and he was copying the paper until he heard your steps at the very door. What could he do? He caught up everything he had with him and he rushed into your bedroom to hide himself."

"Good God,² Mr. Holmes, do you mean to tell me that all the time I was talking to Bannister we had the criminal in my bedroom?"

"So I understand it."

"Perhaps he got out by the window," began Mr. Soames, but Holmes shook his head impatiently.

"I think you have told me," he said, "that there are three students who use the stairs and pass your door."

"Yes, there are."

"And they are all going to take the examination?"

"Yes."

"Who are they?" asked Holmes.

"The first floor," began Soames, "is occupied by a fine student and athlete, he plays cricket for the college³ and is a prize-winner for the long jump.⁴ He is a fine young fellow. His father was very rich,

but lost all his money in horse-racing. He died, and young Gilchrist was left very poor. But he is hard-working and will do well.¹

"The second floor," continued Mr. Soames, "is occupied by Daulat Ras, the Indian. He is a very quiet fellow, very hard-working too, though his Greek is his weak subject.

"The top floor belongs to Miles McLaren. He is a brilliant fellow when he wants to work — one of the brightest intellects of the University. But his conduct is very bad. He was nearly expelled because of a card scandal in his first year.² He is very lazy and I am sure very much afraid of the examination. Perhaps of the three he is the only one³ who might possibly be suspected.⁴"

"Exactly," said Holmes. "Now, Mr. Soames, let us have a look at your servant, Bannister."

Bannister was a little, white-faced, clean-shaven, grey-haired fellow of fifty. His hands were shaking, he was so nervous.

"I understand," began Holmes, "that you left your key in the door?"

"Yes, sir."

"Was it not rather strange that you should do this on the very day⁵ when there were these papers inside?"

"It was most unfortunate, sir. But I have done the same thing at other times."

"When did you enter the room?"

"It was about half past four. That is Mr. Soames's tea-time."

"How long did you stay?"

"When I saw that he was out I left at once."

"Did you look at the papers on the table?"

"No, sir, certainly not."

"How did it happen that you left the key in the door?"

"I had the tea-tray in my hand. I thought I would come back for the key. Then I forgot."

"Then the door was open all the time?"

¹ **will do well** — будет преуспевать (в жизни)

² **in his first year** — на первом курсе

³ **perhaps of the three he is the only one** — возможно, из троих студентов он единственный

⁴ **who might possibly be suspected** — кого можно заподозрить

⁵ **on the very day** — в тот самый день

¹ **your visitor seems to have left traces** — ваш посетитель, кажется, оставил следы

² **Good God** — боже милостивый

³ **he plays cricket for the college** — он играет в крикет в команде колледжа

⁴ **a prize-winner for the long jump** — победитель в соревнованиях по прыжкам в длину

"Yes, sir."

"When Mr. Soames returned and sent for you, you were very much upset?"

"Yes, sir. I nearly fainted, sir."

"Where were you when you began to feel bad?"

"Where was I, sir? Why,¹ here, near the door."

"That is strange, because you sat down in that chair near the window. Why did you pass these other chairs?"

"I don't know, sir. It did not matter to me where I sat."

"I really don't think he knew much about it, Mr. Holmes. He looked very bad," said Mr. Soames.

"You stayed here when your master left?" went on Holmes.

"Only for a minute or so. Then I locked the door and went to my room."

"Whom do you suspect?"

"Oh, I don't know, sir."

"Thank you, that will do,²" said Holmes. "And now, Mr. Soames, I should like to have a look at the three students. Is it possible?"

"No difficulty at all," answered Soames. "Visitors often go over the college³. Come along. I shall be your guide."

"No names,⁴ please," said Holmes, as we knocked at Gilchrist's door. A tall young fellow opened the door and very politely invited us into the room. The student left a very pleasant impression. The Indian, a silent little fellow seemed to be very glad⁵ when we said good-bye to him. We did not get into the third room. In answer to our knock nothing but bad language⁶ came from behind the door.

"I don't care⁷ who you are. You can go to the devil," roared the angry voice. "Tomorrow is the exam, and I won't open my door to anyone."⁸

¹ why — ну, я думаю.

² that will do — достаточно, все

³ go over the college — осматривают колледж

⁴ no names — не называйте наших имен

⁵ seemed to be very glad — казалось, очень обрадовался

⁶ bad language — ругань, брань

⁷ I don't care — мне наплевать

⁸ I won't open my door to anyone — я не собираюсь никому открывать дверь

"A rude fellow," said our guide turning red with anger, "of course, he did not know who was knocking, but anyhow his conduct is rather suspicious."

Holmes' reply was indeed strange.

"Can you tell me his exact height?" he asked.

"Really, Mr. Holmes," answered Soames in surprise, "I can't. He is taller than the Indian, not so tall as Gilchrist."

"That is very important," said Holmes. "And now, Mr. Soames, I wish you good night."

"Good God, Mr. Holmes, are you going to leave me in this terrible situation?" cried Mr. Soames. "Tomorrow is the examination. I must take some definite action tonight."

"You must leave things as they are. I shall come early tomorrow morning and we shall talk the matter over. I hope that I shall be able to help you. Meanwhile you change nothing — nothing at all. Good-bye."

"Very good, Mr. Holmes, good-bye."

"Well, Watson, what do you think of it?" Holmes asked, as we came out into the street. "There are three men. It must be one of them. What is your opinion?"

"The rude fellow on the top floor made the worst impression, but that Indian looked at us in a queer way,¹" I remarked.

"So would you² if a group of strangers came in on you when you were preparing for an examination next morning. No, I see nothing in it. But that fellow Bannister does puzzle me."³

"He impressed me as a perfectly honest man," I said.

"So he did me.⁴ That's all very puzzling. Why should a perfectly honest man?...⁵" Holmes stopped and did not say a word more about the case the whole evening.

¹ in a queer way — странно

² so would you — и вы бы так же смотрели

³ does puzzle me — как раз смущает меня (глагол does дан для усиления значения основного глагола)

⁴ So he did me. — Такое же впечатление произвел он и на меня.

⁵ Why should a perfectly honest man?... — Зачем бы честному человеку?..

At eight in the morning Holmes came into my room.

"Well, Watson," said he, "it is time we went down to the college.¹ Soames will be in a terrible state until we tell him something positive."

"Have you got anything positive to tell him?"

"Well, my dear Watson, I have solved the mystery."

"Have you got fresh evidence?"

"Aha! It is not for nothing that I got up at six² and covered at least³ five miles in two hours. Look at that!"

He held out his hand and I saw three little balls of black clay.

"Why, Holmes, you had only two yesterday."

"And one more this morning. Don't you think, Watson, that the source of No 3 is also the source of Nos⁴ 1 and 2? Eh, Watson? Well, come along and let us help Mr. Soames out of his trouble."

We found Mr. Soames in a very nervous state. He ran towards Holmes.

"Thank heaven, you have come! I feared that you had given up the case in despair.⁵ What am I to do?⁶ Shall we begin the examination?"

"Yes, of course, let it begin."

"But this rascal?"

"He will not take the examination."

"You know him?"

"I think so. Kindly ring the bell."

Bannister entered and stepped back in surprise and fear when he saw Holmes again.

¹ **it is time we went down to the college** — пора отправиться в колледж (После оборота it is time употребляется сослагательная форма глагола, в данном случае went.)

² **it is not for nothing that I got up at six** — не зря же я встал в 6 часов утра

³ **and covered at least** — и прошел пешком по крайней мере

⁴ **Nos** — номера

⁵ **you had given up the case in despair** — отказались расследовать это дело как безнадежное

⁶ **What am I to do?** — Что я должен делать? (Глагол to be с инфинитивом обозначает долженствование.)

"Will you please tell me, Bannister," began Holmes, "the truth about yesterday's incident?"

The man turned white to the roots of his hair.

"I have told you everything, sir," he said.

"Nothing to add?"

"Nothing at all, sir."

"Well, then I shall help you. When you sat down on that chair at the window, did you do so in order to conceal some object? An object which could have shown¹ Mr. Soames who had been in the room?"

Bannister's face was deathly pale.

"No, sir, certainly not."

"Oh, it is only a suggestion," said Holmes very politely. "I can't prove it. But it seems probable enough that when Mr. Soames left the room you let out the man who had been hiding in that bedroom."

Bannister licked his dry lips.

"There was no man, sir."

"Come, come,² Bannister."

"No, sir, there was no one."

"All right, then that will do. But please remain in the room, Bannister. Now, Soames, may I ask you to go up to the room of young Gilchrist and ask him to step down into yours?"

A moment later Soames returned, bringing with him the student. He was tall and very handsome, with a pleasant open face. His troubled blue eyes glanced at each of us, and finally rested on Bannister.

"Now, Mr. Gilchrist, we are all quite alone here, no one will ever know a word of what passes between us. We want to know, Mr. Gilchrist, how you, an honest man, could do such a thing as you did yesterday."

The young man looked at Bannister with horror and reproach.

"No, no, Mr. Gilchrist," cried the servant. "I never said a word."

"But you have now,"³ cried Holmes. "Now, Mr. Gilchrist, you must see that your position is hopeless. Your only chance is a frank confession."

¹ **which could have shown** — который мог бы выдать (букв. показать)

² **come, come** — ну, полно, успокойтесь

³ **But you have (said) now.** — Но вы произнесли сейчас.

For a moment Gilchrist tried to say something but suddenly he burst into a storm of sobbing.¹

"Come, come," said Holmes kindly. "We know that you are not a criminal. Don't trouble to answer. I shall tell Mr. Soames what happened, and you listen and correct me where I am wrong."

"From the moment you told me your story, Mr. Soames, it was clear to me that the man who entered your room knew that the papers were there. How did he know? You remember, of course, that I examined your window. I was thinking of how tall a man must be in order to see, as he passed, what papers were on the writing-table. I am six feet high² and I could do it with an effort. So, I had reason to think that only a man of unusual height could see the papers through the window."

"I entered your room, Mr. Soames, and still could make nothing of³ all the evidence, until you mentioned that Gilchrist was a long-distance jumper.⁴ Then the whole thing came to me at once and I only needed some additional evidence, which I got very soon."

"What happened was this. This young fellow had spent his afternoon at the sports ground, where he had been practising the jump. He returned carrying his jumping shoes, the soles of which, as you know very well, have spikes in them. As he passed your window, he saw, by means of⁵ his great height, these papers on your writing-table and understood what they were. No harm would have been done had he not noticed the key⁶ left in the door by the carelessness of your servant. A sudden impulse made him enter your room and see if they were indeed the examination papers. It was not a dangerous action: he could always pretend that he had simply come in to ask a question."

¹ burst into a storm of sobbing — разразился отчаянными рыданиями

² I am six feet high — мой рост шесть футов

³ still could make nothing of — все еще не мог сделать вывода из

⁴ a long-distance jumper — спортсмен, специализирующийся по прыжкам в длину

⁵ by means of — благодаря

⁶ no harm would have been done had he not noticed the key — не заметь он ключ, ничего дурного не произошло бы (сослагательное наклонение в условном предложении третьего типа)

"Well, he forgot his honour, when he saw the Greek text for the examination. He put his jumping shoes on the writing-table. What was it you put on that chair near the window?"

"Gloves," answered the young man.

Holmes looked at Bannister in triumph.

"He put his gloves on the chair," went on Holmes, "and he took the examination papers, page by page, to the window table to copy them. He was sure that Mr. Soames would return by the main gate, and that he would see him. As we know, he came back by the side gate. Suddenly he heard Mr. Soames at the very door. There was no way by which he could escape. He forgot to take his gloves, but he caught up his shoes and rushed into the bedroom. The cut on the desk is slight at one side, but deeper in the direction of the bedroom door. That is enough to show us the direction in which he drew the shoes. Some of the clay round the spike was left on the desk and a second ball of clay fell in the bedroom."

"I walked out to the sports ground this morning and saw that black clay is used in the jumping pit. I carried away some of it, together with some sawdust, which is used to prevent the athletes from slipping.¹ Have I told the truth, Mr. Gilchrist?"

"Yes, sir, it is true," said he.

"Good heavens, have you got nothing to add?" cried Soames.

"Yes, sir, I have. I have a letter here which I wrote to you early this morning after a restless night. Of course, I did not know then that my action was known to everyone. Here it is,² sir. You will see that I have written, 'I have decided not to take the examination. I have found some work and I shall start working at once.'"

"I am, indeed, pleased to hear that from you, Gilchrist," said Soames. "But why did you change your plans?"

"There is the man who sent me in the right path," said the student, pointing to Bannister.

"Come, now, Bannister," said Holmes. "It is clear now to all of us that only you could have let this young man out, since you were

¹ to prevent the athletes from slipping — не дать спортсменам поскользнуться

² here it is — вот оно

left in the room alone. That is quite clear. What is not quite clear is the reason for your action."

"The reason was simple enough," answered Bannister. "Many years ago I was a butler in the house of this young gentleman's father. When he died I came to the college as a servant, but I never forgot the family. Well, sir, as I came into this room yesterday, when Mr. Soames was so much upset, the first thing I saw was Mr. Gilchrist's gloves lying in that chair. I knew those gloves well, and I understood immediately what they meant. If Mr. Soames saw them, Gilchrist would certainly be a lost man.¹ I sat down in that chair pretending that I felt very bad. When Mr. Soames went to you, Mr. Holmes, my poor young master came out of the bedroom and confessed it all to me. Wasn't it natural, sir, that I should save him,² and wasn't it natural also that I should speak to him like a father and make him understand that he must not profit by such an action? Can you blame me, sir?"

"No, indeed," said Holmes heartily, jumping to his feet. "Well, Soames. I think we have cleared your little problem up, and our breakfast awaits us at home. Come, Watson! As to you,³ Mr. Gilchrist, I hope a bright future awaits you. For once⁴ you have fallen low. Let us see in the future how high you can rise."

Exercises

? Comprehension Check

1. Say who in the story:

- 1) was so excited that it was clear that something very unusual had happened.
- 2) agreed to listen to the visitor's story, though very unwillingly.

¹ would... be a lost man — для него было бы все кончено

² wasn't it natural... that I should save him — эд. разве мог я... не спасти его

³ as to you — что касается вас

⁴ for once — в этот раз

- 3) would be happy if he could see the examination papers in advance.
- 4) was very much upset by the incident.
- 5) would be happy to look into the matter and give as much help as he could.
- 6) used the same stairs and passed the professor's door.
- 7) made the worst impression on Watson.
- 8) looked at the unexpected visitors in a queer way.
- 9) entered and stepped in surprise and fear when he saw Holmes again.
- 10) looked at Bannister with horror and reproach.
- 11) tried to say something but suddenly burst into a storm of sobbing.
- 12) had written the following: "I have decided not to take the examination. I have found some work and I shall start working at once."

2. Say who in the story said it and in connection with what.

- 1) "I am very busy now. Could you call the police?"
- 2) "I am sure you will keep our secret. You are the only man in the world who can help me."
- 3) "The Fortescue Scholarship is a large sum of money, so the student was ready to run a risk in order to get it."
- 4) "The case is not without interest."
- 5) "He must have entered through the door. The window doesn't open."
- 6) "...Mr. Holmes, do you mean to tell me that all the time I was talking to Bannister we had the criminal in my bedroom?"
- 7) "His father was very rich, but lost all his money in horse-racing."
- 8) "He is very lazy and I am sure very much afraid of the examination."
- 9) "No names, please."
- 10) "But that fellow Bannister does puzzle me."
- 11) "I feared that you had given up the case in despair."
- 12) "Gloves."

- 13) "I have a letter here which I wrote to you early this morning after a restless night."
- 14) "For once you have fallen low. Let us see in the future how high you can rise."

3. **Say true, false or I don't know.**

- 1) One evening Watson and Holmes received a visit from a certain student.
- 2) It was one of the cases when it was necessary to avoid scandal.
- 3) The next day was the first day of the examination for the Soros Scholarship.
- 4) The first of the papers consisted of a piece of a Latin translation.
- 5) When the lecturer entered the room, he knew that someone had touched his papers.
- 6) He thought that it was Bannister who had messed them up.
- 7) Bannister was very much upset by the incident.
- 8) Mr. Soames' writing-table was quite new and there were no scratches on it after the incident.
- 9) Five students shared the same building with Mr. Soames and passed his door, using the same stairs.
- 10) Mr. Soames suspected none of them to have touched the examination papers.
- 11) All the three students were very agreeable young people.
- 12) The criminal, who had touched the papers, left no traces whatever.
- 13) Holmes thought the case not interesting at all and gave it up.
- 14) Gilchrist committed this crime with cold heart and wasn't sorry about it.
- 15) In the future Gilchrist will rise high.

4. **Answer the following questions.**

- 1) Where did Mr. Sherlock Holmes and doctor Watson spend several weeks?

- 2) Who paid them a visit one evening?
- 3) Why was it so important for Mr. Soames to avoid scandal?
- 4) Why much care was taken to keep the examination papers secret?
- 5) What did Mr. Soames find when he entered his sitting-room one day?
- 6) Nobody had touched the examination papers, had they?
- 7) Who else was greatly upset by the incident?
- 8) Wasn't it rather strange that Bannister had left the key in the door on the very day these papers were inside?
- 9) Were all the students, living in the same house with Mr. Soames, reliable young men or did they arouse suspicion?
- 10) When being asked by Sherlock Holmes, Bannister was absolutely calm and reserved, wasn't he?
- 11) When examining the crime scene Sherlock Holmes found no evidence, did he?
- 12) Why did Gilchrist's eyes finally rest on Bannister, when Mr. Soames invited him to his room?
- 13) Why did the student burst into a storm of sobbing when Holmes asked him to make a frank confession?
- 14) What clues did Holmes get when he examined Soames' room and the sports grounds?
- 15) What made him think that the criminal was an athlete?
- 16) Why was old Bannister covering the young man?
- 17) Why does Holmes say at the end of the story that "a bright future" awaits Mr. Gilchrist?
- 18) Do you despise young Gilchrist for what he did or do you feel sorry for him? Why?



Working with the Vocabulary

1. Choose to use *as*, *like*, *as ... as* in the following sentences. Before doing the exercise, consider the examples and set phrases given below.

Examples

The girl is like a rose.
He did, as I asked him to do.
He worked as (a) gardener.
She is as cold as ice.

Set phrases

such as
as to (for) me
as usual
as far as I know
as well as

- 1) "I shall be happy to look into this matter and give such help _____ I can," said Holmes.
- 2) "Yes, but _____ far _____ I remember, they were rolled up."
- 3) "You must leave things _____ they are."
- 4) "Your visitor seems to have left traces in your bedroom _____ well _____ in your sitting-room," he said.
- 5) "He impressed me _____ a perfectly honest man," I said.
- 6) "We want to know, Mr. Gilchrist, how you, an honest man, could do such a thing _____ you did yesterday."
- 7) "He returned carrying his jumping shoes, the soles of which, _____ you know very well, have spikes."
- 8) "When he died, I came to the college _____ a servant, but I never forgot the family."
- 9) "Wasn't it natural that I should speak to him _____ a father?"
- 10) "_____ to you, Mr. Gilchrist, I hope a bright future awaits you."

2. Consider the following prepositional phrases, picked out from the story.

a) Translate them into Russian.

To consist of; in advance; to look after; to be sure of; to look into the matter; to come upon; to stand on tiptoe; to look at; to send for; in answer to; to turn red with rage (anger); in a queer way; to give up; in surprise; in despair; to burst into; by means of; to prevent smb from; a reason for; to clear up; a key to a room; to be at one's service.

b) Complete the sentences below with appropriate prepositions.

- 1) "Thank heaven, you have come! I feared that you had given _____ the case _____ despair."
- 2) For a moment Gilchrist tried to say something but suddenly he burst _____ a storm of sobbing.
- 3) Bannister entered and stepped back _____ surprise and fear when he saw Holmes again.
- 4) "When Mr. Soames returned and sent _____ you, were you very much upset?"
- 5) "A rude fellow," said our guide turning red _____ anger.
- 6) The first of the examination papers consists _____ a piece of Greek translation.
- 7) "I shall be happy to look _____ this matter and give such help as I can," said Holmes, rising.
- 8) Holmes approached the window. Then he stood up _____ tiptoe in order to look inside.
- 9) "Well, it seems, Mr. Soames, that the man who touched your papers came _____ them without knowing that they were there."
- 10) _____ answer _____ our knock nothing but bad language came from behind the door.
- 11) "As he passed the window, he saw, _____ means _____ his great height, these papers on your writing-table."
- 12) Holmes looked _____ Bannister _____ triumph.
- 13) "What is not quite clear is the reason _____ your action."
- 14) "I carried away some sawdust, which is used to prevent the athletes _____ slipping."
- 15) "Well, Soames, I think we have cleared your little problem _____, and our breakfast awaits us at home."
- 16) "Really, Mr. Holmes," answered Soames _____ surprise.
- 17) "The other key _____ my room belongs to my servant, Bannister, who has been looking _____ my room for ten years."
- 18) "Let's go to your room now, Mr. Soames. I am _____ your service."

c) Make up your own sentences with some of these prepositional phrases.

3. a) Mate the words and phrases in the left-hand column with their definitions in the right-hand column.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1) to avoid | 1) to prevent smth from happening |
| 2) in advance | 2) to hide oneself |
| 3) to run a risk | 3) a very difficult situation; a hard task to solve |
| 4) a dilemma | 4) that's enough |
| 5) to look into a matter | 5) to dismiss officially from school, college |
| 6) to approach | 6) to look in a strange, unnatural way |
| 7) to conceal oneself | 7) to start doing |
| 8) to expel | 8) to face danger |
| 9) That will do. | 9) ahead; beforehand |
| 10) to take some action | 10) to reach; to come closer |
| 11) to look in a queer way | 11) to investigate the matter |
| 12) a lost man | 12) to get (gain) advantage from |
| 13) to profit by | 13) a man without any hope or future |
| 14) to put off | 14) to move to a later date; to delay |

b) Complete the following sentences from the story with the phrases or their elements from the left-hand column (in an appropriate form).

- 1) "Thank you. _____," said Holmes.
- 2) "Tomorrow is the examination. I must _____ tonight."
- 3) "If anyone has to _____ himself in this room, he must do it here — the bed is too low."
- 4) "But his conduct is very bad. He was nearly _____ because of a card scandal in his first year."
- 5) "I shall be happy to _____ and give such help as I can," said Holmes.

- 6) "You see my _____. Either I must find the man, or the examination must be ... until new papers are prepared."
- 7) Holmes _____ the window.
- 8) It is just one of the cases when it is quite necessary _____ scandal.
- 9) "Of course, every candidate would be happy if he could see it before the examination and prepare it _____."
- 10) The Fortescue Scholarship is a large sum of money, so the student was ready to _____ in order to get it."
- 11) "The rude fellow on the top floor made the worst impression, but that Indian looked at us _____."
- 12) "Wasn't it also natural that I should speak to him like a father and make him understand that he must not _____ such an action?"

4. Complete the following sentences with the words below in an appropriate form.

To confess; evidence; additional evidence; a frank confession; one's position is hopeless; a case; fresh evidence; a criminal; to be suspected; to blame somebody (for); an incident; to examine the room; to solve the mystery.

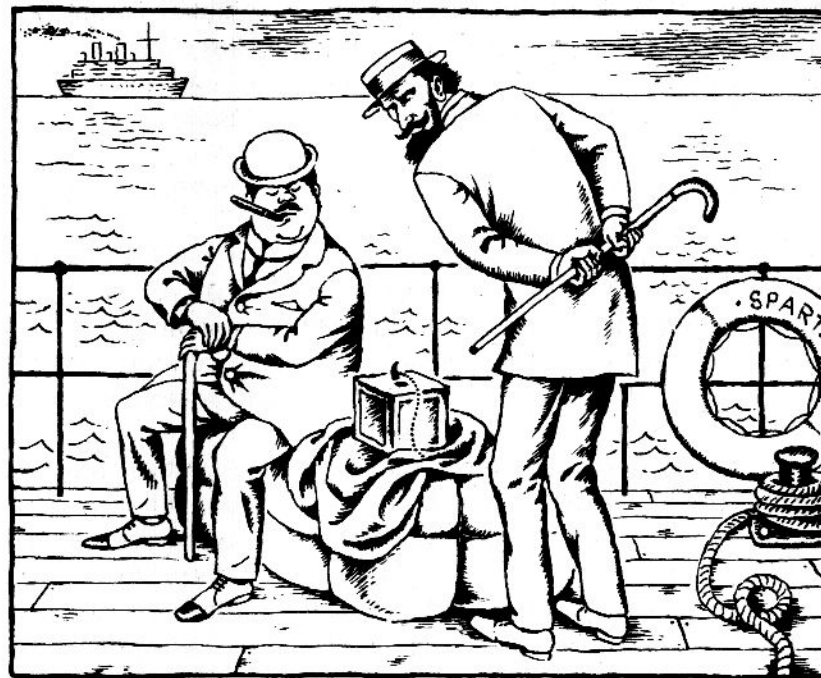
- 1) "Bannister was very much upset by the _____."
- 2) "The _____ is not without interest."
- 3) "Mr. Holmes, do you mean to tell me that all the time I was talking to Bannister we had the ... in my bedroom?"
- 4) "Well, my dear Watson, I _____."
"Have you got _____?"
- 5) "Your only chance is a _____."
- 6) "Now, Mr. Gilchrist, you must see that _____."
- 7) "I entered your room, Mr. Soames, and still could make nothing of all the _____, until you mentioned that Gilchrist was a long-distance jumper. Then the whole thing came to me at once and I only needed some _____, which I got very soon."
- 8) "When Mr. Soames went to you, Mr. Holmes, my poor young master came out of the bedroom and _____ all to me."

- 9) "Wasn't it natural that, sir, that I should save him? Can you _____ me, sir?"
- 10) "He is very lazy and I am sure very much afraid of the examination. Perhaps of the three he is the only one who might possibly _____."



Discussion

1. Give sketch-portraits of the characters of this story (Sherlock Holmes; Mr. Soames; the three students — young Gilchrist, Daulat Ras, the Indian, Miles McLaren; Bannister, Mr. Soames' servant).
2. Who did you suspect at first? How and why did your opinion change?
3. Draw the layout of Soames's flat and explain what happened there, making use of your plan.
4. Follow Holmes's train of thoughts and say what clues helped him to solve the mystery.
5. Comment on the following words:
 - a) "As to you, Mr. Gilchrist, I hope a bright future awaits you. For once you have fallen low. Let us see in the future how high you can rise."
 - b) "You see my dilemma. Either I must find the man, or the examinations must be put off until new papers are prepared. But this can not be done without explanations and a terrible scandal will follow. This will throw a cloud not only on the college but on the University."
6. What measures would be taken at your college or University, if a similar situation happened there?
7. Comment on the following proverb.
"Don't put off till tomorrow what can be done today."
Can it be applied to the story in question?
8. Try to recall any criminal case, describing it by means of the words and phrases from Ex. 4. How was it solved?
9. Would you like to make a career of a private detective? Are you fit for it? What qualities and traits of character are required of a detective?



THAT LITTLE SQUARE BOX

"All aboard?"¹ asked the Captain.

"All aboard, sir," said the mate.

"Then stand by to let her go."²

It was nine o'clock on Wednesday morning. Everything was prepared for a start. The whistle had sounded twice, the final bell had rung. The bow was turned toward England, and all was ready for *Spartan's* run of three thousand miles.

"Time is up!"³ said the Captain, closing his chronometer and putting it in his pocket.

¹ All aboard? — Посадка закончена? (сигнал к отплытию)

² stand by to let her go — приготовиться к отплытию

³ Time is up! — Пора отправляться!

Suddenly there was a shout from the bridge, and two men appeared, running very quickly down the quay. It was clear they were hurrying to the ship and wanted to stop her.

"Look sharp!"¹ shouted the people on the quay.

"Ease her!"² Stop her!" cried the Captain.

The two men jumped aboard at the last moment, and the ship left the shore quickly.

The people on the quay shouted with excitement, so did the passengers.³ They were all glad that the two men had got on.

I went around the deck, looking at the faces of my fellow-passengers. I found nothing interesting. Twenty types of young Americans going to "Yurup",⁴ a few respectable middle-aged couples, some young ladies...

I turned away from them and looked back at the shores of America. I wanted to be alone. So I found a place behind a pile of suitcases and sat down on a coil of rope. I enjoyed being alone.

A few minutes passed. Then I heard a whisper behind me.

"Here's a quiet place," said a voice. "Sit down and we can talk it over. Nobody can overhear us here."

The pile of suitcases was between the men and myself. Looking through a chink between two big suitcases I saw that they were the passengers who had joined us at the last moment. I was sure they did not see me. The one who had spoken was a tall, thin man with a blue-black beard and a colourless face. His companion was a short fellow. He had a cigar in his mouth and a coat hung over his arm. They both looked around them as if⁵ they were afraid that they were being watched.

"This is just the place," I heard the other say.⁶

¹ **Look sharp!** — Осторожно! Берегись!

² **Ease her!** — Малый ход! (морская команда)

³ **so did the passengers** — пассажиры тоже (глагол did заменяет глагол shout)

⁴ **"Yurup"** ['jʊrʌp] — подражание американскому произношению слова Europe ['jʊərəp]

⁵ **as if** — как будто

⁶ **I heard the other say.** — Я услышал, как сказал другой. (объектный инфинитивный оборот)

They sat down and their backs were turned towards me. I found myself, against my wish, playing an unpleasant part of eavesdropper.¹

"Well, Muller," said the taller of the two, "we've brought it aboard all right."²

"Yes," agreed the man whom he had addressed as Muller, "it's safe aboard."

"But we were running a terrible risk."

"Yes, we were, Flannigan," said Muller.

"It would have been horrible if we had missed the ship,"³ said Flannigan.

"Yes, it would," said Muller. "It would have upset our plans."

For some time the little man smoked his cigar in silence.

"I have got it here," he said at last.

"Let me see it," said Flannigan.

"Is no one looking?" asked Muller.

"No, they are all below."

"We must be very careful, of course," said Muller.

He raised the coat that was hanging over his left arm, and I saw a dark box which he laid on the deck. One look at it was enough to make me jump⁴ to my feet in horror. If they had turned their heads, they would have seen my pale face looking at them over the pile of suitcases.

From the first moment of their conversation I had a horrible feeling of danger. Now I was sure that I was right. I looked hard at what lay before me.

It was a little square box of some dark wood. It looked like a pistol-case, only it was much higher. There was a trigger-like arrange-

¹ **I found myself... playing an unpleasant part of eavesdropper** ['i:vzdrəp]. — Я поймал себя на том, что занимаюсь подслушиванием (играю неприятную роль соглядателя).

² **we've brought it aboard all right** — как бы то ни было, мы его доставили на пароход

³ **It would have been horrible if we had missed the ship.** — Было бы ужасно, если бы мы не попали на пароход (сослагательное наклонение в условном предложении третьего типа).

⁴ **was enough to make me jump** — было достаточно, чтобы заставить меня вскочить

ment¹ on the lid of the box, and a coil of string was tied to it. Near the trigger was a small square hole in the wood.

The tall man, Flannigan, as his companion called him, looked through the hole for several minutes.

"It seems all right," he said at last.

"I tried not to shake it," said his companion.

"One must be very careful with such things. Put in what's necessary," said Flannigan.

Then the shorter man took from his pocket a small paper package, opened it, took out some white granules and dropped them through the hole. A funny clicking noise was heard from the box. Both men smiled. They were pleased.

"Everything seems all right there," said Flannigan.

"Yes, everything is going fine," answered his companion.

"Look out!² Here's someone coming. Take it down to our berth. Nobody should know³ what our plans are. It will be very bad for us if anybody finds out about them. And it will be still worse if anyone pulls the trigger by mistake. He will be terribly shocked," said the taller man with a laugh. "It's not badly done, eh?"

"Is it your own design?" asked Muller.

"Yes, it is," was the answer.

"We should take out a patent."

And the two men laughed again with a cold laugh, as they took up the little box and put it under Muller's coat.

"Let's go down and hide it in our berth," said Flannigan. "We shall not need it until tonight, and it will be safe there."

His companion agreed. They went arm-in-arm⁴ along the deck. The last words I heard from Flannigan who was telling Muller to carry the box carefully and not to knock it against the sides of the ship.

How long I stayed there, sitting on the coil of rope, I do not remember. I was shaken by the words which I had overheard. Every-

¹ **a trigger-like arrangement** — что-то, похожее на спусковой крючок

² **Look out!** — Осторожно!

³ **nobody should know** — никто не должен знать (should = must)

⁴ **arm-in-arm** — рука об руку

thing seemed to fit in perfectly well.¹ The two passengers' suitcases were not examined because they had come aboard in a hurry. Their strange manner and secret whispering, the little square box with the trigger, their joke about the shock of the man who would let it off by mistake...² All these facts led me to believe that they were terrorists. They had brought an infernal machine on board and were going to blow up the ship.

I was sure that the white granules which one of them had dropped into the box formed a fuse³ for blowing it up.

They said something about "tonight". Was it possible that they were going to carry out their horrible plans on the first evening of our voyage?

What shall I do? Shall I go to the Captain, and tell him about my fears, and put the matter into his hands? The idea was very unpleasant to me. What would be my feelings if it turned out to be a mistake?⁴ Anything was better than such a mistake. No, I won't go to the Captain. I shall keep an eye⁵ on the two men and tell nobody about them.

I decided to go down and find them. Suddenly I heard somebody shouting⁶ in my ear, "Hullo, is that you, Hammond?"

"Oh," I said, as I turned round, "it's Dick Merton! How are you, old man?"

This was good luck. Dick was just the man I wanted: strong and clever, and full of energy. Ever since I was a small boy in the second form at Harrow⁷, Dick had been my adviser and protector. He saw at once that something was wrong with me.

¹ **Everything seemed to fit in perfectly well.** — Все как будто очень хорошо сходилось (субъектный инфинитивный оборот).

² **who would let it off by mistake** — который по ошибке спустит курок

³ **formed a fuse** — зд. служили запалом

⁴ **What would be my feelings if it turned out to be a mistake?** — Что бы я чувствовал, если бы все это оказалось ошибкой?

⁵ **to keep an eye (on)** — не выпускать из виду

⁶ **I heard somebody shouting** — я услышал, как кто-то прокричал (объектный причастный оборот)

⁷ **ever since I was a small boy in the second form at Harrow** [ˈhærou] — со второго класса колледжа в Хэрроу, когда я был еще маленьким

"Hullo!" he said in his friendly way. "What's the matter with you, Hammond? You look as white as a sheet. Feeling seasick?"¹

"No, no," I said, "something quite different! Walk up and down with me,² Dick, I want to speak to you. Give me your arm."

We started walking up and down the deck. But it was some time before I could begin speaking.

"Have a cigar?" he said, breaking the silence.

"No, thank you," I said. "Dick, we shall all be dead men to-night."

"Is that why you don't want a cigar?" asked Dick calmly. But he was looking hard at me when he spoke. It seemed to me he thought that I was a little mad.

"No," I said, "there is nothing funny here, and I am quite serious. Dick, I've discovered a conspiracy to blow up the ship and everybody on board."

And then I told him everything I knew.

"There,³ Dick," I said, as I finished, "what do you think of that?"

To my surprise he began laughing.

"I would have been frightened if I had heard it from anybody else," he said. "But you, Hammond, have always liked to discover strange things and make up stories about them. Do you remember at school how you told us there was a ghost in the corridor? We soon found out it was your own reflection in the mirror. Why, man," he continued, "why would anyone want⁴ to blow up the ship? Why would these two men want to kill the passengers and themselves too? I am sure you have mistaken a camera or something like it for an infernal machine."

¹ **Feeling seasick?** = Are you feeling seasick? — У тебя морская болезнь?

² **walk up and down with me** — прогуляемся (up and down — взад-вперед)

³ **there** — ну вот; вот так

⁴ **why would anyone want...** — и ради чего кому-то потребовалось бы...

"Nothing of the sort,"¹ I said rather coldly. "I know what I am talking about. As to the box,² I have never before seen one like it. They would not have carried it so carefully if it had been only a camera. They were afraid to drop it because there was something dangerous in it."

"Let's go down to the saloon and have a bottle of wine. You can point out these two men if they are there."

"All right," I answered. "I'm not going to lose sight of them³ all day. Don't stare at them because I don't want them to think⁴ that they are being watched."

"All right," said Dick, "I won't."

When we came down to the saloon, a good many passengers were there. But I did not see my men. We passed down the room and looked carefully at every berth. They were not there.

Then we entered the smoking-room. Muller and Flannigan were there. They were both drinking, and a pile of cards lay on the table. They were playing cards as we entered. The conspirators paid no attention to us at all. We sat down and watched them.

There was silence in the smoking-room for some time. Then Muller turned towards me.

"Can you tell me, sir," he said, "when this ship will be heard of again?"⁵

They were both looking at me. I tried not to show them how nervous I was.

"I think, sir," I answered, "that it will be heard of when it enters Queenstown Harbour."

"Ha, ha!" laughed the angry little man, "I knew you would say that. Don't push me under the table, Flannigan, I don't like it. I know what I'm doing. You are wrong, sir," he continued, turning to me, "quite wrong."

"The weather is fine," I said, "why should we not be heard of at Queenstown?"

¹ **Nothing of the sort.** — Ничего подобного.

² **as to the box** — что же касается ящика

³ **to lose sight of them** — терять их из виду

⁴ **I don't want them to think** — я не хочу, чтобы они думали

⁵ **when this ship will be heard of again?** — когда на берегу будет известно о нашем пароходе?

"I didn't say that," the man answered. "I only wanted to say that we should be heard of at some other place first."

"Where then?" asked Dick.

"That you will never know," said Muller. "But before the day is over, some mysterious event will signal our whereabouts.¹ Ha, ha," and he laughed again.

"Come on deck!" said his companion angrily. "You have drunk too much and now you are talking too much. Come away!"

Taking him by the arm, he led him out of the smoking-room and up to the deck.

"Well, what do you think of it?" I cried, as I turned towards Dick.

He was quite calm as usual.

"Think!" he said. "Why, I think what his companion thinks — that we have been listening² to the silly talk of a half-drunken man. The fellow can't be responsible for his words."

"Oh, Dick, Dick," I cried, "how can you be so blind? Don't you see³ that their every word shows that I am right?"

"Nonsense, man!" said Dick. "You are too nervous, that's all. And how do *you* understand all that nonsense about a mysterious event which will signal our whereabouts?"

"I'll tell you what he meant, Dick," I said. "He meant that some fisherman near the American shore would see a sudden flash and smoke far out at sea. That's what he meant."

"I didn't think you were such a fool, Hammond," said Dick Merton angrily. "Let's go on deck. You need some fresh air, I think."

When it was time to have dinner, I could hardly eat anything. I was sitting at the table, listening to the talk which was going on around me. I was glad to see that Flannigan was sitting almost in front of me. He drank wine. A few passengers sat between him and his friend Muller. Muller ate little, and seemed nervous and restless.

¹ **some mysterious event will signal our whereabouts** — некое таинственное событие просигнализирует о нашем местонахождении

² **have been listening** — слушали

³ **don't you see** — неужели ты не понимаешь

Then our Captain stood up. "Ladies and gentlemen," he said, "I hope that you will make yourselves at home¹ aboard my ship. A bottle of champagne, steward. Here's to² our safe arrival in Europe. I hope our friends in America will hear of us in eight or nine days."

Flannigan and Muller looked at each other with a wicked smile.

"May I ask, Captain," I said loudly, "what you think of Fenian manifestoes³ and their terroristic acts?"

"Oh, Captain," said an old lady, "do you think they would really blow up a ship?"

"Of course, they would if they could," said the Captain. "But I am quite sure they would never blow up mine."

"I hope you've given orders to make it impossible for them," said an old man at the end of the table.

"All goods sent aboard the ship are carefully examined," said the Captain.

"But a passenger may bring dynamite aboard with him...", I said.

"I'm sure they would not want to risk their lives in that way,"⁴ said the Captain.

During this conversation Flannigan didn't show any interest. But he raised now his head and looked at the Captain.

"Don't you know," he said, "that every secret society has some very brave men?.. Why can't the Fenians have them too? There are many men who are ready to die for their idea which seems right in their eyes, though others may think it wrong."

"Murder cannot be right in anybody's eyes," said a passenger.

¹ **you will make yourselves at home** — вы будете чувствовать себя как дома

² **here's to ...** — я поднимаю тост за ...

³ **Fenian manifestoes** ['finjen ,mæni'festouz] — Манифесты фениев (Фении — ирландские мелкобуржуазные революционеры 50-х и 60-х гг. XIX в. Фенианские организации были в Ирландии и в США. Они добивались национальной независимости Ирландии. После неудачных восстаний деятельность фениев свелась к отдельным террористическим актам.)

⁴ **they would not want to risk their lives in that way** — они не стали бы рисковать своей жизнью таким образом

"The bombardment of Paris by the Germans was nothing else,"¹ said Flannigan, "but the whole world paid very little attention to it. Only the unpleasant word 'murder' was changed into the more pleasant one of 'war'. It seemed right enough to German eyes. Why can't dynamite seem right to the Fenian?"

"We had better change the subject of our conversation," said the Captain, "or the ladies may have a restless night."

I drank off two or three glasses of wine, and then I went up on deck.

"Well," I thought, as I looked at the beautiful night around me, "if the worst comes to the worst,² it is better to die here than to wait for death in agony on a sick-bed³ on land."

As I tuned my head, I saw two figures, now well known to me, at the other side of the deck. They were talking, but I could not hear a word. I decided to hide in one of the lifeboats. It was dark now, so dark that I could hardly see the figures of Flannigan and Muller. A few passengers were still on deck, but many had gone below.

Another half-hour passed. I was getting more and more nervous. Then I saw that the two men had crossed from the other side, and were standing rather near me now. I saw that Muller had the coat hanging over his arm. All I could do was to lie in the lifeboat and call myself a fool for not telling the Captain all about it. Then I heard their whispered talk.

"This place will do,"⁴ said a voice.

"Yes, it will."

"Are you sure the trigger will act?"

"Yes. I'm sure, it will."

"We were to let it off at ten, were we not?"⁵

¹ the bombardment [bəm' bɑ:dmənt] of Paris by the Germans was nothing else — артиллерийский обстрел Парижа немцами был ничем иным (как убийством) (Имеется в виду обстрел Парижа немцами во время франко-прусской войны 1870–1871 гг.)

² if the worst comes to the worst (proverb) — на худой конец

³ on a sick-bed — лежа больным в кровати

⁴ This place will do. — Это место подойдет.

⁵ We were to let it off at ten, were we not? — Мы ведь договорились нажать курок в 10 часов, не так ли? (расчлененный вопрос)

"Yes, at ten sharp. We have eight minutes yet."

There was a pause. Then the voice began again, "I'm afraid they will hear the clicking of the trigger..."

"It doesn't matter. It will be too late for anyone to do anything."¹

How slowly time passed!

"It will make a sensation on land," said a voice.

"Yes, it will make a noise in the newspapers."

I raised my head and looked over the side of the boat. There was no hope, no help. Death stared me in the face and I could not do anything. There was nobody on deck except those two dark figures.

Flannigan was holding a watch in his hand.

"Three minutes more," he said. "Put the box down on the deck."

It was the little square box. I looked over again. Flannigan was shaking something out of a paper into his hand. I saw the white granules — the same I had seen in the morning. I was sure they would be used as a fuse. He dropped them into the little box through the hole. I heard the same strange noise which I had heard before.

"A minute and a half more," he said. "Shall I pull the string or will you do it?"

"I shall pull it," said Muller.

I could stand it no longer.²

"Stop!" I screamed, jumping up to my feet. "Stop it at once!"

I was brave enough now.

"Why do you want to have the blood of two hundred people upon your hands?"

"He's mad!" said Flannigan. "Time's up. Pull the string, Muller."

I jumped down on to the deck.

"You shan't do it!"³ I cried.

¹ It will be too late for anyone to do anything. — Будет уже слишком поздно, и никто не сможет ничего сделать.

² I could stand it no longer. — Я больше не мог выдержать.

³ You shan't do it! — Вы этого не сделаете! (Shan't здесь выражает запрещение.)

"What right do you have to stop us? It's no business of yours.¹ Get away from this!"

"Never!" I said.

"We can't lose a moment now! Time is up! I'll hold him, Muller, while you pull the trigger."

Next moment I was struggling with Flannigan. It was useless... I was a child in his hands.

He pushed me against the side of the ship and held me there.

"Now," he said, "he is helpless, he can't do anything, hurry up, Muller!"

I felt that it was time to prepare myself for death. I saw Muller come up to the box and pull the string.

There came a strange clicking noise from the box. The trigger fell, the side of the box dropped, and let off — *two grey carrier pigeons!*..

* * *

Little more can be said. Perhaps the best thing I can do is to keep silent and let the sporting correspondent of the *New York Herald*² explain everything. Here is what he wrote in his article soon after our ship had left America:

"An interesting match of pigeon-flying took place³ last week between the pigeons of John H. Flannigan of Boston and Jeremiah Muller of Lowell. The start was from the deck of the transatlantic steamship *Spartan*, at ten o'clock on the evening of starting from New York. The distance between the ship and the land was about a hundred miles. The match and preparations for it were kept secret as some captains do not allow sporting matches to take place aboard their ships. There was some little difficulty at the last moment, but the match began almost on time.⁴ Muller's pigeon won as it arrived in Lowell on the following morning. What happened to Flannigan's bird — we do not know. We hope that a few such matches will make pigeon-flying more popular in America."

¹ It's no business of yours. — Это не ваше дело.

² *New York Herald* ['herəld] — название газеты

³ an interesting match of pigeon-flying took place — произошло интересное соревнование почтовых голубей

⁴ on time — вовремя, в намеченное время

Exercises

? Comprehension Check

1. Say who in the story:

- 1) appeared, running very quickly down the quay.
- 2) shouted with excitement.
- 3) looked around as if they were afraid that they were being watched.
- 4) had a terrible feeling of danger.
- 5) took from his pocket a small paper package, opened it, took out some white granules and dropped them through the hole.
- 6) was shaken by the words which he had overheard.
- 7) saw at once that something was wrong with the narrator of the story.
- 8) was playing cards and paid no attention to Dick and the narrator, when they entered the smoking-room.
- 9) could hardly eat anything when it was time to have dinner.
- 10) looked at each other with a wicked smile.
- 11) was getting more and more nervous.
- 12) felt that it was time to prepare himself for death.

2. Say who in this story said it and in connection with what.

- 1) "Here's a quiet place. Sit down and we can talk it over. Nobody can overhear us here."
- 2) "But we were running a terrible risk."
- 3) "What's the matter with you, Hammond? You look as white as a sheet. Feeling seasick?"
- 4) "I've discovered a conspiracy to blow up the ship and everybody on board."
- 5) "I am sure you have mistaken a camera or something like it for an infernal machine."
- 6) "I only wanted to say that we should be heard of at some other place first."
- 7) "He meant that some fisherman near the American shore would see a sudden flash and smoke far out at sea."

- 8) "Here's to our safe arrival in Europe. I hope our friends in America will hear of us in eight or nine days."
- 9) "There are many men who are ready to die for their idea, which seems right in their eyes, though others may think it wrong."
- 10) "We had better change the subject of our conversation or the ladies may have a restless night."
- 11) "I'm afraid they will hear the clicking of the trigger..."
"It doesn't matter. It will be too late for anyone to do anything."
- 12) "Why do you want to have the blood of two hundred people upon your hands?"
- 13) "Now he is helpless, he can't do anything, hurry up..."

3. Agree or disagree with the following statements.

- 1) All the passengers of the ship got on board on time.
- 2) The passengers of the ship made an interesting company.
- 3) Both the people on the quay and the passengers of the ship were glad that the two men had got aboard.
- 4) The narrator hid himself behind the pile of suitcases to overhear the conversation between the two men.
- 5) The two men's conversation was of no interest to the narrator and he didn't pay any attention to it.
- 6) The narrator didn't share his fears with the captain because he was afraid it might be a mistake.
- 7) Dick believed the narrator at once and took the news very seriously.
- 8) When the two of them came down to the smoking-room, they didn't see the suspicious men there.
- 9) When at dinner, everybody talked about some trifling things of no importance.
- 10) The narrator kept an eye on the two passengers with a strange box.
- 11) The two men, Muller and Flannigan, wanted to blow up the ship and everybody on it, as they were terrorists.
- 11) The ending of the story was quite unexpected.
- 12) The two "terrorists" turned out to be sportsmen.

- 13) The event had been kept secret, because some captains didn't allow sporting matches to take place aboard their ships.

4. Answer the following questions.

- 1) Who is the narrator?
- 2) Who were the passengers of the ship?
- 3) Where was the ship going?
- 4) Why was there so much excitement both on the ship and on the quay?
- 5) Why do you think the narrator wanted to be alone?
- 6) What did he overhear, sitting behind a pile of suitcases?
- 7) Why did the narrator have a terrible feeling of danger from the very first words of the conversation?
- 8) What made it even stronger?
- 9) What did the narrator take the box for?
- 10) But he didn't tell the captain about his fears, did he? Why?
- 11) Was it good luck that the narrator met his former school-mate on board the ship?
- 12) Did he tell Dick he had discovered a conspiracy to blow up the ship and everybody on board?
- 13) How did Dick take the news?
- 14) Why didn't Dick believe the narrator?
- 15) What were Muller and Flannigan doing in the smoking-room? What were they talking about?
- 16) Why did the narrator ask the captain at dinner about Fenian manifestoes and their terroristic acts?
- 17) What did the narrator see and hear on deck?
- 18) Why did he start fighting the two men?
- 19) What lay behind this mystery?



Working with the Vocabulary

1. Say it in your own words, paying attention to the italicised parts.

- 1) "*All aboard?*" asked the Captain.
"All aboard, sir," said the mate.

- 2) "Time is up!" said the Captain, closing his chronometer and putting it in his pocket.
- 3) I was shocked by the words *which I had overheard*. Everything seemed *to fit in perfectly well*.
- 4) "No, I won't go to the Captain. *I'll keep an eye on the two men and tell nobody about them.*"
- 5) They said something about "tonight". Is it possible that they were going *to carry out their horrible plans* on the first evening of our journey?
- 6) "I am sure *you have mistaken a camera* or something like *it for an infernal machine.*"
- 7) "*Nothing of the sort,*" I said rather coldly.
- 8) "I hope that *you will make yourself at home aboard my ship.*"
- 9) "We had better *change the subject of our conversation.*"
- 10) "*If the worst comes to the worst,* it is better to die here than to wait for death in agony *on a sick-bed on land.*"
- 11) "*I could stand it no longer.*"

2. Choose to fill in the gaps in the following sentences.

- 1) He _____ (1) the coat that _____ (2) over his left arm and I saw a dark box which he _____ (3) on the desk.
 (1) a) rose (2) a) hung (3) a) lay
 b) raised b) hanged b) laid
- 2) It looked _____ a pistol case.
 a) as
 b) like
- 3) The tall man, Flannigan, _____ his companion called him, looked through the hole for several minutes.
 a) like
 b) as
- 4) They both looked around them as if they were afraid that they were being watched. "This is just the place," I heard _____ say.
 a) other
 b) another
 c) the other

- 5) "I hope that you will _____ yourselves at home aboard my ship."
 a) make
 b) do
- 6) _____ this conversation Flannigan had not shown any interest.
 a) for
 b) while
 c) during
- 7) "It will _____ a scandal on land," said a voice.
 a) do
 b) make
- 8) It was dark now, so dark that I could _____ see the figures of Flannigan and Muller.
 a) hard
 b) hardly
- 9) Death stared me in the face and I could not do _____.
 a) nothing
 b) something
 c) anything
- 10) There was nobody on deck _____ those two figures.
 a) besides
 b) except
- 11) "Why do you want to have the blood of two _____ people upon your hands?"
 a) hundreds
 b) hundred
- 12) "We hope that _____ such competitions will make pigeon-flying more popular in America."
 a) a few
 b) few
 c) little
 d) a little
- 13) Suddenly there was a shout from the bridge, and two men appeared, running very quickly down the quay. It was clear they were _____ to the ship.
 a) hurrying
 b) hurrying up
 c) in a hurry

- 14) The two passengers' suitcases were not examined because they had come aboard _____.
 a) hurrying
 b) hurrying up
 c) in a hurry

3. Use appropriate prepositions in the following sentences.

- 1) "It will be very bad for us if anybody finds _____ about them. And it will be still worse if anyone pulls the trigger _____ mistake."
- 2) "Was it possible they were going to carry _____ their horrible plans on the first evening of our voyage?"
- 3) _____ my surprise he began laughing.
- 4) "You, Hammond, always liked to discover strange things and make _____ stories about them."
- 5) "The fellow can't be responsible _____ his words."
- 6) "Here's _____ our safe arrival _____ Europe."
- 7) "Don't stare _____ them because I don't want them to think that they are being watched."
- 8) Muller's pigeon won as it arrived _____ Lowell _____ the following morning.

4. a) Mate the words and phrases in the left-hand column with their definitions in the right-hand column.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) to overhear | 1) to watch smb closely |
| 2) an eavesdropper | 2) I was very close to death |
| 3) to fit in well | 3) This place suits us. |
| 4) to feel seasick | 4) to match; to be logically explained |
| 5) to discover a conspiracy | 5) not to take notice of |
| 6) to stare at | 6) to switch to another topic |
| 7) one's whereabouts | 7) the one, who listens secretly to other people's talk |
| 8) to pay little attention to | 8) a person, who goes somewhere with another one |
| 9) to change the subject of the conversation | 9) not to see smth or smb any longer |

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 10) if the worst comes to the worst | 10) to listen secretly to other people's conversation |
| 11) This place will do. | 11) to uncover one's secret evil plans |
| 12) Death stared me in the face. | 12) to get sick because of the movement of the ship |
| 13) to keep an eye on | 13) I can't bear it any more. |
| 14) I can stand it no longer. | 14) the place, where a person or a thing is |
| 15) to take out a patent of | 15) to get a paper from a government office giving someone the right to make or sell a new invention |
| 16) to lose sight of | 16) to look steadily for a long time in surprise or shock |
| 17) a companion | 17) if the worst possible situation happens |

b) Fill in the blanks with the required phrases or their elements from the left-hand column of the list (in an appropriate form).

- 1) It's rude to _____ other people.
- 2) I never could _____ people telling me what to do.
- 3) The old lady's _____ always drives the car.
- 4) This new invention is protected by patent; the inventor has _____ it.
- 5) The escaped prisoner's _____ are still unknown.
- 6) Please, _____ the baby for me.
- 7) Mary joined the local drama club but didn't seem _____, so she left.
- 8) I saw her for a moment but then _____ of her.
- 9) _____, we can always go by bus tomorrow.

c) Make up your own sentences with some of these phrases.

5. Choose between *hardly* or *hard* to complete the following sentences.

- 1) I looked _____ at what was before me.

- 2) When it was time to have dinner, I could _____ eat anything.
 - 3) It was dark now, so dark that I could _____ see the figures of Flannigan and Muller.
 - 4) But he was looking _____ at me when he spoke.
6. **Translate the following sentences from the story into Russian. Pay attention to the use of the verb *to let*.**
- 1) "Let me see it."
 - 2) Their strange manner and secret whispering, the little square box with the trigger, their jokes about the shock of the man who would let it off by mistake... All these facts led me to believe that they were terrorists.
 - 3) Perhaps, the best thing I can do is to keep silent and let the sporting correspondent of the *New York Herald* explain everything.
 - 4) "Let's go on deck. You need some fresh air, I think."
7. **Narrate the following conversation in the Reported Speech, using the recommended verbs (*to answer, to add, to explain, to exclaim, to say, to tell smb smth, to wonder, would like to know, to repeat, to agree, to object, to contradict, to insist, to be sure, to doubt, etc.*). Observe the rule of the Sequence of Tenses.**

Model: "Yes, this place will do." —

Muller agreed that that place would do.

"This place will do."

"Yes, it will."

"Are you sure the trigger will act?"

"Yes, I am sure it will."

"We were to let it off at ten, were we not?"

"Yes, at ten sharp. We have eight minutes left."

"I am afraid they will hear the clicking of the trigger."

"It doesn't matter. It will be too late for anyone to do anything."

"It will make a sensation on land."

"Yes, it will make a noise in the newspapers."



Discussion

1. Do you consider this story a humorous one or a detective one? Give your reasoning.
2. Supply this story with a different ending.
3. What other title could have been given to it? Give your reasoning.
4. Give sketch-portraits of all the characters of the story under discussion (the narrator; the two strange passengers — Muller and Flannigan; Dick — the narrator's friend).
5. Why had the two men taken so much conspiracy, while preparing their pigeon competition?
6. Find some more information on Conan Doyle. What other stories by this writer have you read? How did you like them? Speak on one of them.
7. Why does this story stand out among other stories by this writer?
8. Act out the conversations between:
 - a) Flannigan and Muller
 - b) The narrator and his friend Dick
9. Act as a reporter. Interview Muller, Flannigan and the captain of the ship after the end of the pigeon competition.



THE STOLEN BACILLUS

A young man was visiting a famous bacteriologist. He had brought a note of introduction from an old friend of the scientist. His pale face and deep grey eyes, his nervous manner and keen interest in bacteriology made a good impression upon the scientist. So the famous bacteriologist was glad to show the visitor his laboratory.

"This," said the scientist, slipping a glass slide under the microscope, "is a preparation of the famous *Bacillus* of cholera — the cholera germ."

The pale-faced visitor looked down the microscope. He was evidently not accustomed to that kind of thing, and held a limp white hand over the other eye.

"I see very little," he said.

"Touch the screw," said the bacteriologist, "perhaps the microscope is out of focus for you."

"Ah! now I see," said the visitor. "Not so very much to see after all!¹ They are so small. And yet, these little bacteria may multiply and kill the population of any great city! Wonderful!"

He stood up. Then he took the glass slide from under the microscope and held it in his hand towards the window.

"You can see them only by straining your eye, so small they are," he said looking at the preparation. "Are these — alive? Are they dangerous now?"

"No, they aren't," said the scientist. "They have been killed already. I wish we could kill all of them² in the world."

"I suppose," the pale man said with a slight smile, "that you don't like to have such things about you in the living — in the active state?"

"On the contrary,³ we are obliged to,"⁴ said the bacteriologist. "Here, for instance —" He walked across the room and took up one of several sealed tubes. "Here is the living thing. This is a cultivation of the living cholera bacteria."

An expression of satisfaction appeared in the face of the pale young man. The scientist was surprised to see pleasure in his visitor's eyes. He held the tube in his hand thoughtfully.

"Yes, here is a great danger imprisoned," he said. "Only break such a little tube as this into a supply of drinking water and these little particles that are difficult to see through the microscope will go forth, increase and multiply in the reservoir. Then death — death swift and terrible, death full of pain will come upon the city... Here it will take the husband from the wife, there the child from its mother, the statesman from his duty, and the working man from his work. Death will come into a house here and a house there and punish the people who do not boil their drinking water; death will wait ready to be drunk by horses in the rivers⁵ and by children in the public fountains.

¹ **Not so very much to see after all!** — Не так уж много можно и увидеть, собственно говоря.

² **I wish we could kill all of them** — если бы мы могли убить их всех (сослагательное наклонение после глагола to wish)

³ **on the contrary** — наоборот

⁴ **we are obliged to** — мы обязаны (сохранить их живыми) (to в этом случае заменяет глагол to keep, чтобы избежать его повторения)

⁵ **death will wait ready to be drunk by horses in the rivers** — смерть настигнет лошадей, которые будут пить воду из рек

Death will appear in mineral water and in the wells, it will appear everywhere at a thousand unexpected places."

He stopped suddenly. Then after a moment's silence he continued, "But it is quite safe here, you know — quite safe."

The pale-faced man nodded. His eyes shone.

"These anarchists," said he, "are fools, blind fools — to use bombs when this kind of thing exists."

Suddenly a knock at the door was heard. The bacteriologist opened it.

"Just a minute, dear," whispered his wife.

When the scientist returned to the laboratory his visitor was looking at his watch.

"I had no idea I had wasted an hour of your time," he said. "Twelve minutes to four. I ought to have left here¹ by half past three. But your things were really too interesting. I'm sorry I cannot stay a moment longer. I have an appointment at four."

He thanked the scientist and went out of the room. The bacteriologist accompanied him to the door and then returned thoughtfully along the corridor to his laboratory.

He was thinking of his visitor. "A strange fellow," he said to himself. "Why should he be so interested² in those cultivations of cholera germs?"

Suddenly a disturbing thought struck him. He turned very quickly to his writing-table. Then he felt hastily in his pockets, and then rushed to the door. "I may have put it down³ on the hall table," he said.

"Minnie!" he shouted in the hall.

"Yes, dear," came his wife's voice.

"Had I anything in my hand when I spoke to you, dear, just now?"

"Nothing, dear, because I remember."

"Blue ruin!" cried the bacteriologist, ran to the front door and down the steps of his house to the street.

Minnie, hearing the door slam¹, ran in alarm to the window. Down the street the young man was getting into a cab. The bacteriologist, hatless, and in his slippers, was running and gesticulating wildly towards this group. One slipper came off, but he did not stop to put it on.

"He has gone mad,"² said Minnie, "it's that terrible science of his."

She opened the window and was going to call after her husband.

The young man, suddenly glancing round, seemed to be mad too.³ He pointed hastily to the bacteriologist and said something to the cabman. In a moment the cab and the bacteriologist running after it disappeared round the corner.

Minnie remained at the window for a minute or two. She could understand nothing at all.

"Of course, he is eccentric," she thought. "But running about London in his socks!"

A happy thought struck her. She hastily put on her hat, seized her husband's shoes, went into the hall, took down his hat and light overcoat from the pegs, came out upon the doorstep and hailed a cab.

"Drive me up the road," she said to the cabman, "and see if we can find a gentleman running about in a velveteen coat and no hat."

"Velveteen coat, ma'am, and no hat. Very good, ma'am."

The cabman said it in the most matter-of-fact way⁴, as if⁵ he drove to this address every day in his life.

People walking along the street were astonished seeing three cabs racing one after the other; a young man in the first cab sat holding a little tube firmly in his hand. His face was like a mask of

¹ **hearing the door slam** — услышав, что хлопнула дверь (*объектный инфинитивный оборот*)

² **he has gone mad** — он сошел с ума

³ **The young man seemed... to be mad too.** — Молодой человек... казалось, тоже сошел с ума (*субъектный инфинитивный оборот*).

⁴ **in the most matter-of-fact way** — как будто это был для него самый заурядный случай

⁵ **as if** — как будто

¹ **I ought to have left here** — мне бы следовало уйти отсюда

² **why should he be so interested** — зачем бы ему проявлять такую заинтересованность

³ **I may have put it down** — может быть, я положил пробирку

fear and exultation. He was afraid of being caught¹ before he could fulfil his mad task. But his exultation was greater than his fear. No anarchist before him had ever done the thing he was going to do: to break the tube that contained the destruction of London into a reservoir.

"The world will hear of me at last," he thought. "I shall teach those who have neglected me, who have always thought me a man of no importance². Death, death, death to them all!"

He felt proud of his cleverness, how brilliantly he had planned the whole thing: forged the letter of introduction and got into the laboratory.

He looked out of the cab. The bacteriologist was only fifty yards behind. That was bad. "I may be caught and stopped yet," the anarchist thought. He felt in his pocket for money, and found half-a-sovereign.³ He held it out in his hand into the cabman's face.

"I'll give you more," he shouted, "if only we get away."

"Very well," said the cabman, snatching the money out of his hand. The cab swayed and the anarchist suddenly felt the little tube crack.⁴ The broken half of it fell upon the floor of the cab. The young man stared at two or three drops of the cultivation on his hand.

He shuddered.

"Well! I suppose I shall be the first to die from cholera. And it's a terrible death. I wonder if it is as terrible as they say it is."

Presently a thought occurred to him. He looked at the tube on the floor of the cab. A little drop was still in the broken end of the tube, and he drank it to make sure.⁵ It was better to make sure.

Then it dawned upon him that there was no further need to escape the bacteriologist. So he told the cabman to stop, and got out. He stood on the pavement with his arms folded upon

his breast, awaiting the arrival of the bacteriologist. There was something tragic and dignified in his pose. He greeted the scientist with a laugh.

"Long live¹ Anarchy! You are too late, my friend. I have drunk it."

The bacteriologist from his cab gave him a curious look.

"You have drunk it! An anarchist! I see now."

He was about to say something more,² and then checked himself. A smile hung in the corner of his mouth. He was going to descend from his cab when he saw the anarchist waving him a dramatic farewell and then walking away towards Waterloo Bridge.

While watching him the bacteriologist did not notice his wife at first, who appeared upon the pavement with his hat and shoes and the overcoat. When he saw her he did not even show any surprise.

"Very good of you to bring my things," he said to his wife, still looking at the figure of the anarchist going away. Minnie felt absolutely sure that her husband was mad.

"Put on?.. Certainly, dear," said he as the cab began to turn and hid the black figure, slowly disappearing in the distance, from his eyes. Then suddenly something grotesque struck him and he laughed. Then he remarked, "It is really very serious, very, very serious."

"You see, that man came to my house to see me. He is an anarchist. No — don't faint, or I shan't be able to tell you the rest. Not knowing that he was an anarchist, I wanted to astonish him. So I took up a cultivation of that Bacterium that causes the blue patches upon different monkeys. I don't know why I did it... Like a fool, I said it was Asiatic cholera. And he ran away with it to poison the water of London. Then he swallowed it. Of course, I cannot say what will happen, but you know, that cultivation turned that kitten blue... and the three puppies — in patches, and the sparrow — bright blue. And the worst of all is, I shall have to prepare another cultivation."

¹ long live — да здравствует

² he was about to say something more — он собирался сказать еще что-то

¹ he was afraid of being caught — он боялся, что его схватят

² a man of no importance — маленький человечек (не имеющий никакого веса)

³ half-a-sovereign — полсоверена (соверен — золотая монета в один фунт стерлингов)

⁴ felt the little tube crack — почувствовал, что пробирка лопнула (объектный инфинитивный оборот)

⁵ to make sure — для верности

Exercises

? Comprehension Check

1. Say who in the story said it and in connection with what.

- 1) "You can see them only by straining your eyes, so small they are."
- 2) "I suppose that you wouldn't like to have such things about you in the living — in the active state?"
- 3) "These anarchists are fools, blind fools — to use bombs when this kind of thing exists."
- 4) "Blue ruin!"
- 5) "He has gone mad, it's that terrible science of his."
- 6) "Velveteen coat, ma'am, and no hat. Very good, ma'am."
- 7) "The world will hear of me at last."
- 8) "Long live Anarchy! You are too late, my friend. I have drunk it."
- 9) "And the worst of all is, I shall have to prepare another cultivation."

2. Mate the beginnings of the sentences in Part A with the endings in Part B.

Part A

- 1) So the famous bacteriologist was glad ...
- 2) "Death will come into a house here and a house there ...
- 3) The bacteriologist accompanied him to the door ...
- 4) The bacteriologist, hatless and in his slippers ...
- 5) Minnie remained at the window ...
- 6) People walking along the street were astonished ...
- 7) No anarchist before him had ever done the thing he was going to do: ...
- 8) He felt proud of his cleverness: ...
- 9) The cab swayed and ...
- 10) Then it dawned upon him ...
- 11) Of course, I cannot say what will happen, ...

Part B

- 1) ... was running and gesticulating wildly towards the group.
- 2) ... to show the visitor his laboratory.
- 3) ... seeing three cabs racing one after the other; a young man in the cab sat holding a little tube firmly in his hand.
- 4) ... how brilliantly he had planned the whole thing: forged the letter of introduction and got into the laboratory.
- 5) ... and then returned thoughtfully along the corridor to his laboratory.
- 6) ... for a minute or two.
- 7) ... the anarchist suddenly felt the little tube crack.
- 8) ... to break the tube that contained the destruction of London, into a reservoir.
- 9) ... that there was no further need to escape the bacteriologist.
- 10) ... but you know, that cultivation turned that kitten blue... and the three puppies — in patches, and the sparrow — bright blue.
- 11) ... and punish the people who do not boil their drinking water; death will wait ready to be drunk by horses in the rivers and by children in the public fountains.

3. Answer the following questions.

- 1) Who was a young man visiting?
- 2) Why was the bacteriologist glad to show the visitor his laboratory?
- 3) What did the bacteriologist show him?
- 4) Were there only killed bacteria in the lab or were there also cultivations of the living cholera bacteria?
- 5) Why was the scientist surprised at the moment?
- 6) What will happen if such a little tube is broken into a supply of drinking water?
- 7) Why did the bacteriologist think that his visitor was a strange fellow?
- 8) How did the young man react when he saw the bacteriologist behind him?
- 9) What thought struck the bacteriologist's wife?
- 10) What were the people in the street surprised to see?

- 11) Why did the young man feel proud after all? What was he planning to do?
- 12) Why did the anarchist think that he'd probably be the first man to die from cholera?
- 13) Why did it occur to him that there was no further need to escape the bacteriologist?
- 14) What did the anarchist tell the bacteriologist when the latter got out of the cab?
- 15) Why was Minnie, the scientist's wife, absolutely sure he was mad?
- 16) What cultivation did he show to the anarchist to surprise him?
- 17) What effect did this cultivation produce on living creatures?



Working with the Vocabulary

1. Find in the story synonyms for the following Russian words (the number of synonyms is given in brackets).

странный (2); хватать, ловить (4); торопиться (2); кричать (2); размахивать руками (2); смотреть (2); быть удивленным (2); рекомендательное письмо (2); разбиваться, давать трещину (2); выходить из кеба (2); бегать друг за другом (2); спастись бегством (2).

2. Check the pronunciation of the following words with the dictionary.

reservoir, to descend, grotesque, cholera, germ, anarchist, bacteriologist, to neglect, half-a-sovereign, to seize, limp, bomb, hastily, bacteria(um), microscope, to gesticulate, exultation, breast.

3. Fill in the gaps in the following sentences with the verbal phrases, containing the preposition a) *out*; b) *on / upon*. Translate the sentences into Russian.

a) *To pass out; to look out; to hold out; to snatch out; to get out.*

- 1) So he told the cabman to stop and _____.

- 2) He _____ of the cab.
- 3) He thanked the scientist and _____ of the room.
- 4) "Very well," said the cabman, _____ the money _____ of his hand.
- 5) He felt in his pocket for money and found half-a-sovereign. He _____ it _____ in his hand into the cabman's face.

b) *To make an impression on; to come upon; to put on (2); to come out upon; to fall upon; to dawn upon; to stand on; to fold arms upon (one's breast); to cause patches upon; to appear upon.*

- 1) While watching him the bacteriologist did not notice his wife at first who _____ the pavement.
- 2) "I may have _____ it down _____ the hall table," he said.
- 3) So I took up a cultivation of that Bacterium that _____ the blue patches _____ different monkeys.
- 4) He stood _____ the pavement with his _____ his breast.
- 5) The broken half of it _____ the floor of the cab.
- 6) Then it _____ him that there was no further need to escape the bacteriologist.
- 7) His pale face and deep eyes, his nervous manner _____ the scientist.
- 8) One slipper came off, but he didn't stop to _____ it _____.
- 9) Then death — death swift and terrible, death full of pain will _____ the city.
- 10) She hastily _____ her hat, seized her husband's shoes, went into the hall, took down his hat and light overcoat from the pegs, _____ the doorstep and called out to a cab.

4. Choose to fill in the gaps in the sentences below.

- 1) "It sounds really very _____, very, very _____."
a) serious
b) seriously

- 2) Then it dawned upon him that there was no _____ need to escape the bacteriologist.
 - a) farther
 - b) far
 - c) further
 - d) farthest
 - e) furthest
- 3) A smile _____ in the corner of his mouth.
 - a) hanged
 - b) hung
- 4) "Certainly, dear," said he as the cab began to turn, and hid the black figure, slowly disappearing _____ the distance.
 - a) at
 - b) in
- 5) The cab swayed and the anarchist suddenly felt the little tube _____.
 - a) crack
 - b) cracking
 - c) to crack
- 6) "I had no idea I _____ an hour of your time," said the young man.
 - a) wasted
 - b) was wasting
 - c) had wasted
- 7) "I'll give you more," he shouted, "if only we _____ away."
 - a) will get
 - b) get
 - c) gets

5. Study the following prepositional phrases and a) use the required prepositions to fill in the gaps in the sentences below; b) translate the phrases into Russian; c) make up your own sentences with some of them.

To be accustomed to; to be out of focus; on the contrary; for instance; in the face; to be interested in; round the corner; in alarm; to get into a cab; a man of no importance; in the distance; to be good of.

- 1) "_____ the contrary, we are obliged to," said the bacteriologist.
 - 2) An expression of satisfaction appeared _____ the face of the pale man.
 - 3) He was evidently not accustomed _____ that kind of thing, and held a limp white hand over the other eye.
 - 4) "Here, _____ instance —" He walked across the room and took up one of the several sealed tubes. "Here is the living thing."
 - 5) "I shall teach those who have neglected me, who have always thought me a man _____ no importance."
 - 6) "Touch the screw," said the bacteriologist, "perhaps the microscope is _____ focus for you."
 - 7) "Why should he be so much interested _____ those cultivations of cholera germs?"
 - 8) "Very good _____ you to bring my things," he said to his wife.
 - 9) In a moment the cab and the bacteriologist, running after it, disappeared _____ the corner.
 - 10) Down the street a young man was getting _____ a cab.
 - 11) Minnie, hearing the door slam, ran _____ alarm to the window.
6. Say it in your own words, paying attention to the italicised parts of the sentences.
- 1) He *was evidently not accustomed to* that kind of thing...
 - 2) "And yet, these little bacteria *may multiply* and kill the population of any great city!."
 - 3) He walked across the room and took up one of several *sealed tubes*.
 - 4) "Yes, *here is a great danger imprisoned*."
 - 5) "I'm sorry I cannot remain a moment longer. I *have an engagement* at four."
 - 6) The bacteriologist *accompanied him to the door*...
 - 7) Suddenly a *disturbing thought struck him*.
 - 8) Then he *felt hastily* in his pockets, and then *rushed to* the door.
 - 9) Minnie, hearing the door *slam*, ran *in alarm* to the window.

- 10) The cabman said it *in the most matter-of-fact way*...
- 11) People walking along the street were astonished, seeing three cabs *racing one after the other*.
- 12) "I shall teach those who *have neglected me*, who *have always thought me a man of no importance*."
- 13) He felt proud of his cleverness, how brilliantly he had planned the whole thing: *forged* the letter of introduction...
- 14) Presently *a thought occurred to him*.
- 15) Then it *dawned upon him* that there was *no further need to escape* the bacteriologist.
- 16) Then something *grotesque struck him*.
- 17) "You see, that man came to my house to see me. He is an anarchist. No — *don't faint*, or I shan't be able to tell you the rest."



Discussion

1. Do you know who can be called "an anarchist"? What's typical of his manner of behaviour and actions? Are there any anarchists known to you from Russian Literature?
2. Is the career of a bacteriologist prestigious? What are they engaged in? Would you like to make a career of a bacteriologist? Why? How is a bacteriologist different from a biologist?
3. Make use of the following words and phrases to draw a sketch-portrait of someone you know. Add some words and phrases of your own.
A pale face (pale-faced); deep grey eyes; a nervous manner; a slight smile; one's eyes shine; to be eccentric; one's face is a mask of politeness (fear, exultation, etc.); to speak in a matter-of-fact way.
4. Do you agree with the bacteriologist's wife that all scientists are eccentric and sort of mad because of science?
5. Narrate the whole story in the person of Minnie, the bacteriologist's wife.
6. Add about five to ten sentences, saying what happened to the poor anarchist after he had swallowed the "blue ruin".
7. Name the story differently and give your reasoning.



THE BLAST OF THE BOOK

Professor Openshaw was a man of science. It was his pride to have given his whole life to studying Psychic Phenomena. He always lost his temper if anybody said that he believed in ghosts. But he also lost his temper if anybody said that ghosts did not exist.

"I am a man of science," he said one morning to Father Brown,¹ who was a friend of his. They were standing on the steps outside the hotel where both had been breakfasting that morning and sleeping the night before. The Professor had come back rather late from one of his experiments. "I am trying," he continued, "to explain psychic phenomena scientifically. I've been working on this problem for a long time. I think a lot of psychic appearances can be explained scientifically. But cases of disappearance of people are

¹ Father Brown — патер Браун (католический священник)

much more difficult to explain. These people in the newspapers, who vanish and are never found — if you knew the details as I do ... Only this morning I have received an extraordinary letter from an old missionary, quite a respectable old boy. He's coming to see me at my office this morning. Perhaps you'd lunch with me or something, and I'd tell you the results."

"Thanks, I shall," said Father Brown.

They said good-bye to each other and the Professor walked round the corner to his small office which he used for the publication of his scientific reports. He had only one clerk, a man named Berridge, who sat at a desk in the outer office¹ working at some calculations for the Professor's report. The Professor paused to ask if Mr. Pringle had called. The clerk answered mechanically in the negative and went on mechanically adding up figures. The Professor turned towards his study.

"Oh, by the way,² Berridge," he said without turning round, "if Mr. Pringle comes, send him straight to me. Go on with your work. I should like to have those notes for my report finished tonight if possible. You may leave them on my desk tomorrow, if I am late."

And he went into his study, still thinking of the problem which the letter from Pringle had raised. He sat down in his large and comfortable chair and read once more the short letter from Pringle. In this letter Mr. Pringle asked permission to come and see the Professor about some curious cases of disappearance of people. He knew that the Professor was interested in psychic problems.

The Professor was surprised when he looked up and saw that the missionary was already in the room.

"Your clerk told me I was to come straight in,³" said Mr. Pringle apologetically, but with a broad grin. The grin was almost lost in a thick reddish-grey beard and whiskers that covered the missionary's face. He had a snub nose and frank friendly eyes.

Openshaw was a man of great detective ability. He could always tell at once if a man was honest or a humbug. He looked with great attention at his visitor, trying to see what sort of man Mr. Pringle was.

He could not find anything suspicious about his appearance. In fact he liked the friendly laughter in Mr. Pringle's eyes, laughter which is never found in the eyes of real humbugs.

"You probably think," said Mr. Pringle, "I am playing a joke on you,¹ Professor. All the same, I must tell my story to somebody who knows, because it's true. And, all joking apart,² it's tragic as well as true. Well, to cut it short,³ I was a missionary in a small station in West Africa, in the thick of the forests. The only other white man there was the officer in command of the district⁴ Captain Wales. He and I were very friendly soon. One day he came back to his tent in the forest, after a short leave, and said he wanted to tell me something. He was holding an old book in a leather binding, and he put it down on the table beside his revolver and an old Arab sword he had. He said this book had belonged to a man on the boat which he had just come off. That man had told him that nobody must open the book, or even look inside it. If anybody did it he would be carried off by the devil, or disappear.

"Wales said to the man that this was all nonsense, of course, and they had a quarrel. The end of the story was very strange. Captain Wales said that the man did look into the book, and then dropped it and walked to the side of the boat—"

"One moment," said the Professor, who had made one or two notes. "Before you tell me anything else. Did the man tell Wales where he had got the book, or who it belonged to?"

"Yes," replied Pringle, now quite serious. "It seems he said he was bringing it back to Dr. Hankey, the Oriental traveller⁵ now in England, to whom the book belonged, and who had warned the man about the book. The magic of the book was demonstrated when the man who had looked into it walked straight over the side of the ship and was never seen again."

"Do you believe it yourself?" asked Openshaw after a pause.

"Well, I do," replied Pringle. "I believe it for two reasons. First, that Wales was a very truthful man. He said that the man had

¹ **outer office** — комната для клерка

² **by the way** — между прочим

³ **I was to come straight in** — чтобы я сразу же вошел

¹ **to play a joke on (somebody)** — разыгрывать (кого-либо)

² **all joking apart** — шутки в сторону

³ **to cut it short** — короче говоря

⁴ **the officer in command of the district** — начальник округа

⁵ **Oriental traveller** — путешественник по восточным странам

walked straight over the side on a still and calm day, but there had been no splash."

The Professor looked at his notes for some seconds in silence, and then said, "And your other reason for believing it?"

"My other reason," answered Mr. Pringle, "is what I saw myself."

There was another silence until he continued again:

"I told you that Captain Wales had put down the book on the table beside the sword. There was only one entrance to the tent; and it happened that I was standing in it, looking out into the forest, with my back to my companion. He was standing by the table grumbling that it was all nonsense and that it was foolish in the twentieth century to be frightened of opening a book, asking why the devil he couldn't open it himself. Then some instinct made me tell him that he had better not do that, the book had better be returned¹ to Dr. Hankey. 'What harm could it do?' he asked restlessly. 'What harm did it do?' I answered him. 'What happened to your friend on the boat?' He did not answer; indeed I did not know what he could answer. 'If it comes to that,'² I continued, 'what is your explanation of what really happened on the boat?' Still he did not answer, and I looked round and saw that he wasn't there.

"The tent was empty. The book was lying on the table; open, but on its face, as if he had turned it downwards. But the sword was lying on the ground near the other side of the tent; and there was a great hole in the canvas of the tent, as if somebody had cut his way out with the sword. I have never seen or heard of Captain Wales from that day.

"I wrapped the book up in brown paper,³ taking good care⁴ not to look at it; and I brought it back to England, intending at first to return it to Dr. Hankey. Then I saw a report in your paper suggesting a hypothesis about such things; and I decided to stop on the way and put the matter before you.⁵"

¹ that he had better not do that, the book had better be returned — что ему лучше бы не открывать книгу, а вернуть ее

² if it comes to that — эд. если уж говорить откровенно

³ brown paper — оберточная бумага

⁴ taking good care — приняв все меры предосторожности

⁵ put the matter before you — изложить все дело вам

Professor Openshaw laid down his pen and looked attentively at the man on the other side of the table. He had met many different types of humbugs, and even some eccentric and extraordinary types of honest men. In the ordinary way he would have begun with the healthy hypothesis that the story was a pack of lies.¹ Yes, the best hypothesis would be to say that the story was a pack of lies! And yet, he could not make himself believe that the man was simply a liar. The man was not trying to look honest as most humbugs do. It seemed that he was honest in spite of² the queerness of the story.

"Mr. Pringle," said the Professor sharply, "where is the book now?"

The grin reappeared on the bearded face which had become quite serious during the recital of the story.

"I left it outside," said Mr. Pringle. "I mean in the outer office. It was a risk, perhaps; but the less risk of the two."

"What do you mean?" demanded the Professor. "Why didn't you bring it straight in here?"

"Because," answered the missionary, "I knew that as soon as you saw it, you would open it — before you had heard the story. I thought it possible you might think twice about opening it — after you'd heard the story."

Then after a silence he added, "There was nobody out there, only your clerk; and he looked a dull honest man busy with his calculations."

"Oh, Berridge," laughed the Professor, "your magic book is safe enough³ with him, I'm quite sure. He is just a Calculating Machine. Human beings like him⁴ if you can call him a human being, would never think of opening other people's brown paper parcels. Let's go and get the book now. I'll tell you frankly that I am not quite sure whether we ought to open it here and now or send it to Dr. Hankey."

The two had passed together out of the Professor's study into the outer office; and even as they did so, Mr. Pringle gave a cry and ran forward towards the clerk's desk. For the clerk's desk was there; but

¹ a pack of lies — сплошное вранье

² in spite of — несмотря на

³ is safe enough — находится в достаточной безопасности

⁴ human beings like him — люди, подобные ему

not the clerk. On the clerk's desk lay an old leather-bound book. It was lying closed, but as if it had just been opened. The clerk's desk stood against the wide window that looked out into the street; and the window was broken. The large hole in the glass looked as if a human body had just passed through it. There was no other trace of Mr. Berridge.

The two men stood as still as statues, and then it was the Professor who slowly came to life. He turned and held out his hand to the missionary.

"Mr. Pringle," he said, "I beg your pardon. I beg your pardon only for thoughts that I have had. But nobody could call himself a scientific man and not face a fact like this."

"I suppose," said Mr. Pringle, "that we should ring up his house and find out if he has gone home."

"I don't know if he's on the phone,¹" answered Openshaw. "He lives somewhere up Hampstead way,² I think. But I suppose somebody will ask for him here, if his friends or family miss him."

"Could we give a description of him if the police want it?" asked the other.

"The police!" said the Professor. "A description. — Well, he looked just like everybody else. He wore glasses. One of those clean-shaven fellows. But the police... look here, what are we to do about this mad business?"

"I know what I ought to do," said the missionary firmly. "I am going to take this book to Dr. Hankey and ask him what the devil it's all about.³ He lives not very far from here, and I'll come straight back and tell you what he will say."

"Oh, very well," said the Professor at last, as he sat down. He was tired, and long after the quick footsteps of the missionary had died away down the street outside, the Professor sat in the same position, staring at the wall and thinking hard.

He was still in the same seat and almost in the same position, when the same quick steps were heard in the street outside and the missionary entered, this time with empty hands.

"Dr. Hankey," said Mr. Pringle, "wants to keep the book for an hour and think over the matter. Then he asks us both to call on him and he will give us his decision. He very much desired, Professor, that you should accompany me on the second visit."

Openshaw continued to stare in silence; then he said, suddenly:

"Who the devil is Dr. Hankey?"

"Do you mean 'is he the devil?'" said Pringle smiling. "I am sure some people have thought so. He is a scientific man like you. He has lived in India for a long time and studied magic there, so perhaps he is not so well known here. He's a thin yellow-faced man with a lame leg and he loses his temper very easily. Still I don't know anything definitely wrong about him."

Professor Openshaw rose heavily and went to the telephone; he rang up Father Brown and invited him to come to dinner instead of lunch; after that he sat down again, lit a cigar and concentrated his mind once more on this strange case.

* * *

Father Brown waited in the vestibule of the restaurant to which he had been invited by the Professor. He waited there for quite a long time. At last Openshaw and Pringle appeared and it was clear that the Professor was terribly excited by the strange things he had just seen and heard.

They had found Dr. Hankey's house; they had found on the door a brass-plate with the name: "J. D. Hankey, M. D.¹". Only they did not find J. D. Hankey himself. What they did find was that terrible book lying on the table in the parlour, as if had just been read. They also found a back door wide-open and a few foot-marks on the ground. It was a lame man that had run out² of the house. It was clear from the foot-marks themselves. There were only a few of them and then... nothing. There was nothing else to be learnt³ from Dr. J. D.

¹ to be on the (tele)phone — иметь телефон у себя дома

² somewhere up Hampstead way — где-то недалеко от Хэмстеда (муниципальный округ Лондона)

³ what the devil it's all about — в чем, черт возьми, тут дело

¹ M. D. — Doctor of Medicine

² it was a lame man that had run out — только хромой человек мог так выбегать

³ there was nothing else to be learnt — больше было узнать нечего

Hankey, except that he had made his decision. He had read the book and received the punishment.

When the two came into the entrance under the palms, Pringle put the book down suddenly on a table, as if it burned his fingers. The priest glanced at it curiously. On the front page there was a couplet:

They that looked into this book
Them the Flying Terror took.¹

Under these lines there were translations of the couplet into Greek, Latin and French.

Openshaw called to the waiter and he brought cocktails to them.

"You will dine with us, I hope," said the Professor to the missionary. But Mr. Pringle shook his head.

"If you'll forgive me," he said, "I'm going off to think over the whole business. Could I use your office for an hour or so?"

"I suppose — I'm afraid it's locked," said Openshaw in some surprise.

"You forget there's a hole in the window," said the missionary. He gave the very broadest of all his broad grins and vanished into the darkness outside.

"A rather odd fellow," said the Professor.

When he turned to Father Brown he was rather surprised to find him talking to the waiter who had brought the cocktails. The talk was about the waiter's baby who had been ill and was out of danger now.

"How did you come to know the man?"² asked the Professor.

"Oh, I dine here every two or three months and I've talked to him now and then,³" was the answer.

The Professor, who himself dined there about five times a week, had never even thought of talking to the waiter.

At this moment a telephone was heard ringing and a few seconds later the Professor was called to it. The voice on the telephone said it was Pringle.

¹ **They that looked into this book them the Flying Terror took.** — Кто книгу эту открывал, Летучий Ужас тех умчал.

² **How did you come to know the man?** — Каким образом вы могли познакомиться с этим человеком?

³ **now and then** — время от времени

"Professor," said the voice, "I can't stand it any longer.¹ I'm going to look into the book for myself. I'm speaking from your office and the book is in front of me. If anything happens to me, this is to say good-bye. No — it's no use trying to stop me.² You wouldn't be in time. I'm opening the book now. I —"

Openshaw thought he heard something like a crash. Then he shouted the name of Pringle again and again, but he heard no more. He hung up the receiver, went back and quietly took his seat at the dinner-table. Then, as calmly as he could, he told the priest every detail of this monstrous mystery.

"Five men have disappeared in this impossible way," he said. "Every case is extraordinary. But the most extraordinary is the case of my clerk, Berridge. It's just because he was the quietest creature that his case is the queerest one."

"Yes," replied Father Brown, "it was a queer thing for Berridge to do. He was always so careful to keep all the office business separate from any fun of his own.³ Why, I'm sure nobody knew he was quite a humorist at home and —"

"Berridge!" cried the Professor. "What on earth are you talking about? Did you know him?"

"Oh, no," said Father Brown carelessly, "only as I know the waiter. I've often had to wait in your office; and of course I talked to him. He was rather a character,⁴ and even eccentric, I should say."

"I'm not sure what you're talking about," said Openshaw. "But even if my clerk was eccentric (and I've never known a man who would be less eccentric than Berridge), it doesn't explain what happened to him. And it certainly can't explain the other cases of disappearance."

"What other cases?" asked the priest.

The Professor stared at him and spoke slowly and loudly as if to a child.

¹ **I can't stand it any longer** — я не могу больше удержаться

² **it's no use trying to stop me** — бесполезно предпринимать попытки помешать мне

³ **to keep all the office business separate from any fun of his own** — эд. чтобы развлечения не мешали его работе

⁴ **he was rather a character** — он был, бесспорно, интересной личностью (оригиналом)

"My dear Father Brown, *five men* have disappeared."

"My dear Professor Openshaw, no men have disappeared."

Father Brown stared back¹ at the Professor and spoke as slowly and as loudly.

"I say that no men have disappeared," he repeated.

After a moment's silence he added:

"I suppose the hardest thing is to prove that $0+0+0=0$. Men believe the oddest things sometimes. But in your case there is a very weak point."

"What do you mean?"

"You saw nobody vanish. You did not see the man vanish from the boat. You did not see the man vanish from the tent. You have simply taken the word² of Mr. Pringle. And I'm sure you would never have taken his word if your clerk had not disappeared."

"That may be true," said the Professor slowly. "You say I saw nothing myself. But I did; I saw my own clerk disappear. Berridge did disappear."

"Berridge did not disappear," said Father Brown. "On the contrary."³

"What the devil do you mean by 'on the contrary'?"

"I mean," said Father Brown, "that he never disappeared. He appeared."

Openshaw stared across at his friend but the priest went on:

"He appeared in your study, disguised in a thick red beard and introduced himself as missionary Pringle. And you had never noticed your own clerk enough to recognise him when he was in so rough-and-ready⁴ a disguise."

"But listen," began the Professor.

"Could you describe him to the police?" asked Father Brown. "Not you!"⁵ You knew perhaps that he was clean-shaven and wore glasses. Taking off those glasses was a better disguise than putting on anything else. You had never seen his eyes, his laughing eyes. He had put his absurd book on the table in your office. Then he calmly broke

the window, put on the beard and walked into your study, knowing very well that you had never looked at him in your life."

"But why should he have played such a mad trick on me?" demanded Openshaw.

"Why, because you had never looked at him in your life," said Father Brown. "You called him the Calculating Machine, because that was all you ever used him for. You never found out that he was a character, that he had his own views on you and your theories. You thought you could see through anybody. Can't you see his mad desire to prove that you could not see through your own clerk? Don't you know the story of the woman who bought two most useless things: an old doctor's brass-plate and a wooden leg? With those two things your clerk created the character of Dr. Hankey. He did it as easily as he created the character of Captain Wales. He placed the brass-plate with the name of 'Dr. Hankey' on the door of his own house —"

"Do you mean that the place we visited up Hampstead Road was Berridge's own house?" asked Openshaw.

"Did you know his house — or even his address?" said the priest. "Look here, I think highly of you and your work. You have seen through a lot of liars. But don't only look at liars. Sometimes do look at honest men — like the waiter."

"Where is Berridge now?" asked the Professor after a long silence.

"I haven't the least doubt," said Father Brown, "that he is back in your office. In fact,¹ he came back into your office at the exact moment when Mr. Pringle read the awful book and disappeared."

There was another long silence and then Professor Openshaw laughed. He laughed with the laugh of a great man who is great enough to look small.² Then he said:

"I suppose I do deserve it; for not noticing the nearest helpers I have. But don't you think that all those incidents coming one after the other could frighten anybody? Did you never feel, just for a moment only, that you were frightened of that awful book?"

"Oh, that," said Father Brown. "I opened the book as soon as I saw it lying there. It's all blank pages."

¹ **stared back** — в свою очередь уставился

² **to take the word** — поверить на слово

³ **On the contrary.** — Напротив (наоборот).

⁴ **rough-and-ready** — сделанный кое-как, наспех

⁵ **Not you!** — Только не вы!

¹ **in fact** — фактически

² **who is great enough to look small** — который достаточно велик, чтобы позволить себе казаться маленьким (человеком)

Exercises

? *Comprehension Check*

1. Say who in this story:

- 1) had given his whole life to studying Psychic Phenomena.
- 2) received an extraordinary letter from an old missionary.
- 3) went into his study, still thinking of the problem which the letter from Pringle had raised.
- 4) could always tell at once if a man was honest or a humbug.
- 5) told Mr. Pringle that nobody must open the book, or even look inside it.
- 6) couldn't make himself believe that the man was simply a liar.
- 7) stood as still as statues.
- 8) rose heavily and went to the telephone to ring up Father Brown and invite him to come to dinner instead of lunch.
- 9) put the book down suddenly on a table, as if it burned his fingers.
- 10) as calmly as he could, told the priest every detail of this mysterious story.
- 11) had a mad desire to prove that the Professor couldn't not see through his own clerk.
- 12) laughed with the laugh of a great man who is great enough to look small.

2. Say who in this story said it and in connection with what.

- 1) "I think a lot of psychic appearances can be explained scientifically. But cases of disappearance of people are much more difficult to explain."
- 2) "Oh, by the way, Berridge, if Mr. Pringle comes, send him straight to me."
- 3) "You probably think I am playing a joke on you, Professor. All the same, I must tell my story to somebody who knows, because it's true."
- 4) "He said this book had belonged to a man on the boat which he had just come off. That man told him that nobody

must open the book, or even look inside it. If anybody did it he would be carried off by the devil, or disappear."

- 5) "I left it outside, I mean in the outer office. It was a risk, perhaps; but the less risk of the two."
- 6) "Oh, Berridge. Your magic book is safe enough with him, I'm quite sure."
- 7) "I know what I ought to do. I am going to take this book to Dr. Hankey and ask him what the devil it's all about."
- 8) "You forget there's a hole in the window."
- 9) "Professor, I can't stand it any longer. I'm going to look into the book for myself."
- 10) "He was rather a character, and even eccentric, I should say."
- 11) "You saw nobody vanish... You have simply taken the word of Mr. Pringle."
- 12) "You called him the Calculating Machine, because that was all you ever used him for."
- 13) "I suppose I do deserve it..."
- 14) "I opened the book as soon as I saw it lying there. It's all blank pages."

3. Say *true, false or I don't know*.

- 1) Professor Openshaw was very proud to have given all his life to studying Physics.
- 2) He never lost his temper if anybody said that he believed in ghosts.
- 3) It's easy to explain psychic appearances, but cases of disappearance of people are much more difficult to be explained scientifically.
- 4) Mr. Berridge was called a Walking Encyclopaedia by the Professor.
- 5) The Professor paid very little attention to the letter which he had received from Mr. Pringle.
- 6) The Professor was very much of a detective and could always tell an honest person from a humbug.
- 7) Mr. Pringle used to be an officer in a small station in West Africa.

- 8) Mr. Pringle didn't know who had brought that old book in a leather binding.
- 9) The professor believed in Mr. Pringle's story without any shade of doubt.
- 10) The clerk disappeared from the office through the window.
- 11) When they found Dr. Hankey's house, luckily Dr. Hankey was in.
- 12) Mr. Pringle wanted to throw away the strange book.
- 13) It was a very extraordinary case, because five men had disappeared.
- 14) The Professor's clerk was a very clever man, always ready to play some practical jokes.
- 15) The Professor was badly offended by this joke.

4. Finish up the following sentences based on the story.

- 1) He always lost his temper if anybody said that he believed in ghosts. But he also lost his temper _____.
- 2) "I am a man of science," he said one morning to Father Brown, who was a friend of his. They were standing _____.
- 3) The Professor walked round the corner to his small office which he used for the publication of his scientific reports. He had only _____.
- 4) The Professor went into his study, still thinking of the problem which the letter from Pringle raised. In this letter _____.
- 5) Openshaw was a man of great detective ability. He could always tell at once _____.
- 6) "One day Captain Wales came back to his tent in the forest, after a short leave, and said he wanted to tell me something. He was holding _____."
- 7) "Did the man tell Wales where he had got the book, or who it belonged to?"
"Yes," replied Pringle, now quite serious. "It seems he said _____."
- 8) "I wrapped the book up in brown paper, taking good care not to look at it; and I brought it back to England, in-

tending at first to return it to Dr. Hankey. Then I saw a report _____."

- 9) "Why didn't you bring it straight here?" demanded the Professor.
"Because," answered the missionary, "I knew _____."
- 10) Mr. Pringle gave a cry and ran forward towards the clerk's desk. For _____.
- 11) "Who the devil is Dr. Hankey?"
"Do you mean 'is he the devil?'" said Pringle smiling. "I am sure some people have thought so. He is _____."
- 12) Only they did not find J. D. Hankey himself. What they did find _____.
- 13) "You called him the Calculating Machine, because that was all you ever used him for. You never found out that _____."
- 14) There was another long pause and then Professor Openshaw laughed. He laughed _____.

5. Answer the following questions.

- 1) What was Professor Openshaw studying?
- 2) Once he received a very extraordinary letter from a young lady, didn't he?
- 3) Why did the Professor pay so little attention to his assistant who worked in the outer office?
- 4) What was the purpose of Mr. Pringle's coming?
- 5) What do we come to know about Mr. Pringle himself from the first pages of the story?
- 6) Who was the first to disappear according to the old missionary's story? How did it happen?
- 7) Why did Professor Openshaw believe every word the missionary told him?
- 8) Why did the Professor think that the magic book was absolutely safe with his clerk, Mr. Berridge?
- 9) What nickname did he give him? Why?
- 10) What happened to the poor clerk? Was it a real shock to the Professor?

- 11) Who did the Professor and Mr. Pringle go to for explanation?
- 12) Why did the Professor say that all the cases of disappearance were queer, but the most extraordinary one is the case of his clerk?
- 13) What did Father Brown mean when he said that the clerk had never disappeared, but, on the contrary, he had appeared?
- 14) What advice did Father Brown give to the Professor? Did it help him to change his attitude to people?
- 15) What sort of book did it turn out to be after all? Was there anything magic about it?

Working with the Vocabulary

1. Say it in one word.

To disappear without leaving any traces (to v _____);
 different mathematical actions (c _____);
 a dishonest person, a person who tells lies (a h _____);
 a person who is sent usually to a foreign country to teach and to spread religion (a m _____);
 to let somebody know about something, usually unpleasant, beforehand (to w _____);
 a weapon with a long sharp metal blade and a handle (a s _____);
 to say something not clearly under one's nose, especially when one is dissatisfied (to g _____);
 a wide smile which usually shows the teeth (a g _____);
 two times (t _____);
 to look at somebody very attentively, steadily (to s _____);
 something like clothes, make-up, wigs that help people make themselves unrecognisable (a d _____);
 pages on which nothing is written (b _____);
 a loud sound made when something is being broken (c _____);
 something strange or funny or unpleasant, happening to you or somebody else (in _____).

2. Check the pronunciation of the following words with the dictionary.

Psychic, scientifically, missionary, calculations, apologetically, whiskers, suspicious, Oriental, sword, wrapped, queerness, recital, honest, clerk, permission, quietly, disguise, doubt, machine, experiment, vestibule, parlour, absurd, hypothesis.

3. Observe the difference in the use of the verbs *to rise* and *to lie* on the one hand and *to raise* and *to lay* on the other. The first two are never followed by an object, while the other two should always take a direct object. Fill in the gaps in the following sentences, choosing between these verbs.

- 1) The Professor went into his study, still thinking of the problem which the letter from Pringle had _____.
- 1) Professor Openshaw _____ heavily and went to the telephone.
- 2) "The tent was empty. The book was _____ on the table; open, but on its face."
- 3) "But the sword was _____ on the ground near the other side of the tent."
- 4) Professor Openshaw _____ down his pen and looked attentively at the man.
- 5) On the clerk's desk _____ an old leather book.
- 6) It was _____ closed, but as if it had just been opened.
- 7) They didn't find J. D. Hankey himself. What they did find was that terrible book _____ on the table in the parlour.
- 8) "Did you never feel, just for a moment only, that you were frightened by that awful book?" "Oh, that," said Father Brown. "I opened the book as soon as I saw it _____ there. It's all blank pages."

4. Make the list of a) synonyms and b) antonyms occurring in this story, to the words given below.

a) a man of science — a scientist

to disappear —
 to pause —

to add up figures —
 to call on —
 curious —
 a liar —
 to look inside the book —
 to reply —
 to look attentively —
 to decide —
 to lay down —
 a smile —
 to be out of danger —
 frank —
 to apologise —
 terribly —
 to look at — (2)
 to have dinner —
 now and then —
 to put down the receiver —
 to play a joke on —
 to suppose —
 to have breakfast —
 to bring back —
 a hypothesis —
 to look out into the street —

b) to appear — to disappear

to take off —
 extraordinary —
 to ask —
 possible —
 a humbug —
 to continue —
 to open —
 foolish —
 a bearded face —
 to stand as still as statues —
 careful —
 appearance —

5. Form the indicated parts of speech from the words below.

Pride — _____ (an adjective); to describe — _____
 (a noun); to calculate — _____ (a noun); queer — _____
 (a noun); to appear — _____ (a noun); scientist — _____
 (an adjective) — _____ (an adverb); a grin — _____
 (a verb); a friend — _____ (an adjective); truth — _____
 (an adjective); health — _____ (an adjective); to recite —
 _____ (a noun); busy — _____ (a noun); to decide —
 _____ (a noun); to accompany — _____ (a noun); din-
 ner — _____ (a verb); curious — _____ (an adverb);
 a disguise — _____ (a verb); a desire — _____ (a verb).

6. Find the following phrases in the text and make up a situation to use them in it.

To lose one's temper; to ask permission; to find smth suspicious in; in fact; all joking apart; to cut it short; to stop on one's way; to put the matter before; a pack of lies; the window looks out into the street (backyard); to wear glasses; to be disguised in; I haven't the least doubt; blank pages.

7. Use appropriate prepositions in the following sentences.

- 1) He always lost his temper if anybody said that he believed _____ ghosts.
- 2) "I've been working _____ this problem for a long time." (2 versions)
- 3) In this letter Mr. Pringle asked permission to come and see the Professor _____ some curious cases of disappearance of people.
- 4) "You probably think I'm playing a joke _____ you."
- 5) The book belonged to the Oriental traveller now in England, who had warned the man _____ the book.
- 6) "I believe it _____ two reasons."
- 7) "There was nobody out there, only your clerk; and he looked a dull honest man busy _____ his calculations."
- 8) "Dr. Hankey wants to keep the book for an hour and think _____ the matter."

- 9) After that he sat down again, lit a cigar and concentrated his mind once more _____ this strange case.
- 10) The talk was about the waiter's baby who had been ill and was _____ danger now.
- 11) "What _____ earth are you talking about? Did you know him?"
- 12) "You never found _____ that he was a character, that he had his own views _____ you and your theories."
- 13) "Look here, I think highly _____ you and your work."
- 14) "It seemed that he was honest _____ spite _____ the queerness of the story."

8. Say it in your own words, paying attention to the italicised parts.

- 1) "You *have simply taken the word of Mr. Pringle*. And I'm sure you would have never taken his word, if your clerk had not disappeared."
- 2) The clerk *answered mechanically* in the negative and *went on working mechanically* adding up figures.
- 3) "You thought that you *could see through anybody*. Can't you see his mad desire to prove that you could not see through your own clerk?"
- 4) "He appeared in your study, *disguised* in a thick red beard and *announced* himself as missionary Pringle."
- 5) "I thought it possible *you might think twice about opening it* — after you've heard the story."
- 6) The two men stood as still as statues, and then it was the Professor who *slowly came to life*.
- 7) "I don't know if *he is on the phone*," answered Openshaw.
- 8) And he went into his study, still thinking of the problem *which the letter from Mr. Pringle raised*.

9. Choose to complete the following sentences.

- 1) "You may leave them on my desk tomorrow, if I _____ late."
a) am
b) will be
c) was

- 2) He sat down in his large and _____ chair and read once more the short letter from Pringle.
a) convenient
b) suitable
c) comfortable
- 3) He could not find _____ suspicious in his appearance.
a) nothing
b) anything
c) something
- 4) That man told him that nobody must open the book, or even look inside it. If _____ did it he would be carried off by the devil.
a) somebody
b) anybody
c) nobody
- 5) "One moment," said the Professor, who had _____ one or two notes.
a) made
b) done
- 6) "I told you that Captain Wales put down the book on the table _____ the sword."
a) beside
b) besides
- 7) "Then some instinct made me _____ him that he had better not do that, the book had better be returned to Dr. Hankey."
a) to tell
b) tell
c) telling
- 8) "What harm could it _____ ?" he asked restlessly. "What harm did it _____ ?"
a) make
b) do
- 9) "What happened _____ your friend on the boat?"
a) with
b) to

- 10) The grin reappeared on the bearded face which had become quite serious _____ the recital of the story.
 a) at
 b) while
 c) during
- 11) "Could we give a description of him if the police _____ it?" asked Mr. Pringle.
 a) wants
 b) want
 c) are wanting
- 12) He was _____ (1), and long after the quick footsteps of the missionary had died away down the street outside, the Professor sat in the same position, staring at the wall and thinking _____ (2).
 (1) a) tied
 b) tired
 (2) a) hardly
 b) hard
- 13) They also found the back door open and _____ foot-marks on the ground.
 a) few
 b) a few
 c) little
 d) a little
- 14) He _____ up the receiver, went back and quietly took his seat at the dinner-table.
 a) hung
 b) hanged
- 15) "Look here, I think _____ of you and your work."
 a) highly
 b) high

10. Fill in the gaps, choosing from *other, another, the other, others, the others*.

- 1) They said good-bye to each _____ and the Professor walked round the corner to his small office.
 2) _____ only _____ white man there was the officer in command of the district Captain Wales.
 3) "And your _____ reason for believing it?"

- "My _____ reason", answered Mr. Pringle, "is what I saw myself."
- 4) "The book was lying on the table; open... But the sword was lying on the ground near _____ side of the tent."
 5) Professor Openshaw laid down his pen and looked attentively at the man on _____ side of the table.
 6) "Human beings like him, if you can call him a human being, would never think of opening _____ people's brown paper parcels."
 7) There was no _____ trace of Mr. Berridge.
 8) "I suppose that we should ring up his house," said Mr. Pringle.
 "I don't know if he is on the telephone," answered Openshaw.
 "Could we give a description of him if the police want it?" asked _____.
 9) "But even if my clerk was eccentric (and I never knew a man who would be less eccentric than Berridge), it doesn't explain what happened to him. And it certainly can't explain _____ cases of disappearance," said Openshaw.
 "What _____ cases?" asked the priest.
 10) There was _____ long silence and then Professor Openshaw laughed.



Discussion

1. Explain what the implication of the title of the story is.
2. In fact how many characters are there in it? Give sketch-portraits of each of them.
3. Do you sympathise with the Professor or do you envy him his views on life?
4. What other practical joke would you have played on the Professor if you had been in his clerk's place?
5. Have you ever met people who thought that they could see through others?
6. While reading the story didn't it come to your mind that Mr. Pringle, Dr. Hankey and Mr. Berridge, the Profes-

- sor's clerk, were one and the same person? Are there any hints in the story that might lead to such a conclusion?
7. Comment on the following phrase from the story: "There was another long silence and then Professor Openshaw laughed. He laughed with the laugh of a great man who is great enough to look small." Do you agree that only great people can laugh at their faults and defects without putting themselves down? Give your reasoning.
 8. Don't you think that Gilbert Chesterton drew a very close-to-life portrait of a scientist, interested only in his science and in nothing else? Give your reasoning.
 9. But for criminal cases, how do scientists explain cases of disappearance of some people nowadays? Is it scientifically proved?
 10. Do you happen to know anything about this short story writer? If not, try to find some information on him.
 11. Did you enjoy reading the story or did you find it boring? Why?
 12. Act out the dialogue between Professor Openshaw and Father Brown, when the latter was explaining the Professor the "mystery" of his clerk's disappearance.
 13. Narrate the whole story in the person of the clerk. Share your emotions and feelings for the Professor.



THE TREMENDOUS ADVENTURE OF MAJOR BROWN

Major Brown, a little man with a large head and a black moustache, went out for his after-dinner walk one bright afternoon. Some time before Major Brown had retired from the army and now lived on a small pension. He had never liked being a military man,¹ so he took a small house in a quiet London street with the greatest pleasure. He devoted the rest of his life to growing his favourite flowers — pansies — in his little garden.

As the Major was slowly walking along a narrow street, he saw an old heavy man pushing before him a barrow full of pansies. The Major had never seen such beautiful flowers. He came up to the old man and began to talk to him.

¹ he had never liked being a military man — ему никогда не нравилось быть военным

"I'll tell you, sir," said the man. "If you're interested in such flowers, you just get onto that wall."

"On the wall?" cried the scandalised Major. He could not even think of doing such a fantastic thing.

"The finest collection of yellow pansies in England is in that garden, sir," whispered the man with the barrow. "I'll help you up, sir."

How it happened no one will ever know, but the fact is that a second later the Major was standing on the garden wall. And the next moment he forgot everything.

In the very centre of the garden he saw a large bed of the most beautiful yellow pansies. Yes, the old man was right. That was the finest collection of pansies in England!

But it was not only the beauty of the flowers that surprised him.¹ It was something else: the pansies were arranged in gigantic letters which formed the sentence: "Death to Major Brown". Another old man was watering the flowers. Brown looked back at the road behind him. The man with the barrow had suddenly disappeared. Then he looked again at the flower-bed with that terrible inscription.

The evening air was still, the garden was quiet and beautiful. Why were those little flowers crying for his blood?² Perhaps that was somebody's practical joke? But if it was a joke, it was a very expensive one: such art arrangement of flowers must be terribly expensive. And who would pour out money like water just for a practical joke against him?

Suddenly the old man who was watering the pansies looked up, saw the Major, and the watering-can fell from his hand.

"Who are you?" he cried shaking with fear.

"I am Major Brown," said the old officer, who was always cool in the hour of danger.

The old man stared at him. With his wide-open mouth he looked like some large fish. At last he said, "Come down, come down here!"

¹ But it was not only the beauty of the flowers that surprised him. — Но его поразила не только красота цветов. (Оборот it was not ... that употребляется для усиления значения какого-либо члена предложения.)

² Why were those little flowers crying for his blood? — Почему эти цветочки жаждали его крови?

"I'm at your service,"¹ said the Major and jumped down on the grass beside the man.

Suddenly the old man turned his back and ran towards the house. The Major followed him with quick steps. The man stopped before a closed door and turned to the Major a face full of terror.

"For Heaven's sake² don't mention jackals."

Then he threw open the door and ran back the way they had come.

The Major stepped into a richly furnished room, hat in hand. The only person he saw³ in that room was a lady, sitting by the window, looking out. She had red hair and was dressed in a green dress.

"Madam," said the Major, bowing simply, "I'm Major Brown."

"Sit down," said the lady; but she did not turn her head.

"I have come, Madam," he said, "to know what the matter is. To know why my name is written across your garden. And I must tell you that the inscription is not at all friendly."

"You know, I must not turn round," said the lady. "Every afternoon till six o'clock I must keep my face to the street."

The major did not understand the riddle but tried not to show his surprise.

"Well," he said, "it's almost six."

At that moment the clock upon the wall began to strike the hour. At the sixth stroke the lady jumped up and turned to the major. He saw one of the most beautiful faces he had ever seen in his life.

"I have been waiting for three years,"⁴ she cried. "This is an anniversary. And I wish the terrible thing would happen once and for all."⁵

As she spoke a sudden terrible cry was heard. From the pavement of the dark street a voice cried out:

"Major Brown, Major Brown, where does the jackal live?"

"It is the end," cried the lady with trembling lips, "it may be death for both of us."

Another cry from the dark street broke her speech:

¹ I'm at your service. — Я к вашим услугам.

² for Heaven's sake — ради всего святого

³ the only person he saw — единственный человек, которого он увидел

⁴ I have been waiting for three years. — Я жду уже три года.

⁵ And I wish the terrible thing would happen once and for all. — И я была бы даже рада, если бы это ужасное событие наконец произошло.

"Major Brown, Major Brown, how did the jackal die?"

Brown threw open the door and ran out into the street. It was quite empty. Even the brave Major was a little frightened. He returned to the house, but as soon as he had entered the drawing-room, the terrible voice was heard again:

"Major Brown, Major Brown, where did —"

In a second Brown was in the street again, and he was in time — in time to see something, which at first glance froze his blood. The cries appeared to come from¹ a head resting on the pavement.

The next moment the pale Major understood. It was the head of a man hidden in the cellar of the house. He had put out his head through the coal-hole in the street.

The Major returned to the lady.

"Where is your coal cellar?" he cried. She looked at him with frightened grey eyes.

"You will not go down," she exclaimed, "alone, into the dark hole, with that beast?"

"Is this the way?" replied Brown, and descended the kitchen stairs. He pushed the door of the coal cellar and stepped in, feeling in his pocket for matches. As his right hand was occupied, a pair of gigantic hands came out of the darkness and seized him by the back of his head. They bent his head down, down in the complete darkness of the cellar. But although the Major's head was upside down,² it was perfectly clear. He put out one of his long strong arms and grabbed the leg of the invisible enemy. He pulled it off the ground, and laid the giant, with a crash, along the floor. The man tried to rise, but Brown was on top of him like a cat. They rolled over and over. It was soon quite clear that the invisible giant now wanted only to escape. But the Major was holding him by the coat collar and was not going to let him out of the cellar. Suddenly the giant's coat buttons burst, and, leaving his torn coat in the Major's hands, he ran out of the cellar.

This coat was the only real clue to the mystery, for when the Major came out of the cellar, the lady and most of the rich furniture of the house disappeared.

¹ **the cries appeared to come from** — крик, по-видимому, исходил от (субъектный инфинитивный оборот)

² **although the Major's head was upside down** — хотя голова майора была опущена вниз (букв. перевернута)

This time the Major did not know what to think or what to do next. He looked about him almost in despair.

"I must go and see Rupert Grant at once," he decided.

* * *

Rupert Grant was a young but very clever private detective. He lived in a small cottage with his brother Basil. Basil Grant had been a judge by profession for a very long time. The two brothers were quite different. Basil was fond of poetry and art while Rupert liked his detective work and was sure that some day he would become as famous as Sherlock Holmes.

When the Major finished the story of his mysterious adventures he noticed that the reaction of the brothers was different. Rupert's eyes were full of excitement while the blue melancholy eyes of Basil were closed as if in sleep.

"The lady was in the conspiracy,¹ of course," said Rupert.

Major Brown's face turned very red.

"I beg your pardon," he said. "I think not."

Rupert raised his eyebrows in surprise and looked at him for a moment but said nothing. When he spoke again he asked:

"Was there anything in the pockets of the coat?"

"Yes," said the Major, "there was some small change,² a cigarette-holder, and this letter." He laid it on the table. It ran as follows:³

"Dear Mr. Plover,

I am sorry to hear that some delay has occurred in the arrangements relating to⁴ Major Brown. Please see that he is attacked⁵ tomorrow, as we have arranged. The coal cellar, of course.

Yours faithfully,
P. G. Northover."

¹ **the lady was in the conspiracy** — женщина была сообщницей

² **small change** — мелкие деньги

³ **it ran as follows** — оно гласило

⁴ **I am sorry to hear that some delay has occurred in the arrangements relating to** — я с узнал огорчением о задержке в осуществлении нашего плана относительно

⁵ **see that he is attacked** — проследите за тем, чтобы нападение на него было проведено

"Is there an address?" asked Rupert.

"No — oh, yes!" replied Brown, looking at the paper. "14, Tanner's Court."

"Then, why are we waiting here?" cried Rupert impatiently. "Let's start immediately. Basil, give me your revolver."

Basil was still sitting with his eyes closed. It was some time before he answered, "I don't think you will need it."

"Perhaps not," said Rupert, putting on his coat. "One never knows¹. Don't forget that we are going to see criminals."

"Do you think they are criminals?" asked Basil in his sleepy voice.

Rupert laughed loudly. "Can you doubt, my dear brother, that the letter is an order to attack and kill the Major? Look at the letter."

"I am looking at the letter," said Basil calmly. "And I don't think it is the sort of letter² one criminal would write to another."

"Well," cried Rupert, turning round, with laughter in his bright blue eyes. "Your methods surprise me. Why,³ this letter does give orders⁴ for a crime. Well, I'm going, anyhow. Can I have your revolver?"

"Certainly," said Basil, getting up. "But I'm going with you."

And the three men went out into the quiet night. It was a funny looking group: the short figure of the Major was marching behind the flying coat of young Rupert Grant, Basil Grant was slowly walking behind the Major with his face turned to the stars.

Rupert paused at the corner of Tanner's Court.

"Shall we go in now?" he asked.

"Not get the police?" said Major Brown, glancing up and down the street.

"I wouldn't get the police,"¹ said Basil in a queer voice.

Rupert turned with impatience.

"We must open the door quickly," he said, "and rush in. If the criminals try to escape, I shall use my revolver. Basil, have your stick ready. Now — one, two, three, four!"

With these words he threw the door open, and the three men rushed into the room and stopped dead.²

They were in an ordinary and well furnished office. Behind a large desk a small man with a black moustache was writing something. He looked at the three men and asked very politely:

"Did you knock? I am sorry, I did not hear. What can I do for you?"

There was a pause, and then the Major stepped forward. The letter was in his hand.

"Is your name P. G. Northover?" he asked.

"Yes, that's my name," replied the man, smiling.

"I think," said Major Brown, "that this letter was written by you." And he threw the letter on the desk. The man called Northover looked at it with interest and nodded.

"Well, sir," said the Major, breathing hard, "what about that?"³

"What about it?" repeated the man.

"I'm Major Brown."

Northover bowed.

"Pleased to meet you,⁴ sir. What have you got to say to me?"

"Say!" cried the Major impatiently. "I want to settle this affair.⁵ I want —"

"Certainly, sir," said Northover, jumping up. "Will you take a chair for a moment?"

He pressed an electric bell, and the next moment a young man entered the room.

¹ **One never knows.** — Трудно сказать заранее.

² **I don't think it is the sort of letter** — мне кажется, это не такое письмо

³ **why** — междометие, выражающее удивление

⁴ **this letter does give orders** — в этом письме действительно есть распоряжение (вспомогательный глагол does употреблен здесь для усиления значения глагола give)

¹ **I wouldn't get the police.** — Я бы не стал звать полицию.

² **stopped dead** — замерли на месте

³ **what about that?** — ну, и что вы скажете по этому поводу?

⁴ **pleased to meet you** — рад познакомиться с вами (общепринятая формула при знакомстве)

⁵ **I want to settle this affair.** — эд. Я хочу знать, в чем дело.

"Mr. Hopson," said Northover, "this is Major Brown. Will you please finish that thing for him which I gave you this morning, and bring it in?"

"Yes, sir," said Mr. Hopson and disappeared at once.

"You will excuse me, gentlemen," said Mr. Northover with a bright smile, "if I continue to work until Mr. Hopson is ready. I have some work that must be finished before I get away on my holiday tomorrow. And we all like the open air of the country, don't we?¹ Ha! Ha!"

The criminal took up his pen with a happy laugh. A few minutes passed. Mr. Northover wrote busily while the three gentlemen looked at him in grim silence.

At last Mr. Hopson appeared again, put a paper before Mr. Northover and disappeared again. Mr. Northover ran his eye up and down the paper² and then handed it to Major Brown.

"I hope you will find it all right, Major," he said politely. The Major looked at the paper and saw that it was a bill addressed to him. It ran as follows:

Major Brown to P. G. Northover:³

	L.s.d. ⁴
Planting and arrangement ⁵ of 200 pansies in garden	2.0.0
Barrow with flowers	0.15.0
Hire of man with barrow	0.05.0
Hire of house and garden for one day	1.0.0
Furniture for house	4.0.0.
Salary of Miss Jameson	1.0.0.
Salary of gardener	1.0.0.
Total	10.0.0.

¹ **we all like the open air of the country, don't we?** — мы ведь все любим бывать на свежем воздухе, не правда ли? (*расчлененный вопрос, часто употребляющийся в разговорной речи*)

² **ran his eye up and down the paper** — пробежал глазами бумагу

³ **Major Brown to P. G. Northover** — долг майора Брауна П. Г. Нортоуверу

⁴ **L.s.d.** — (*лат.*) фунты стерлингов, шиллинги, пенсы

⁵ **planting and arrangement** — посадка в определенном порядке

"What?" cried Brown after a dead pause. His eyes seemed slowly rising out of his head.¹ "What in heaven's name is this?"

"What is it?" repeated Northover with his friendly smile. "It's your bill, of course."

"My bill?" cried the Major. "My bill? And what do I have to do² with that bill?"

"Well," said Northover laughing, "I think you will have to pay it."

The Major's hand was still resting on the back of the chair. He lifted the chair into the air with one hand and threw it at Northover's head. Northover jumped up and got a blow on his elbow.

"Let me go!" he cried. "A client has a full right to protest against overcharges, but not to throw furniture!"

"What, in God's name, do you mean by your 'clients' and 'overcharges'?" cried Major Brown almost hysterically. "Who are you? I've never seen you, or your foolish bills. I only know that you ordered one of your criminals to kill me."

"Mad," said Northover looking round, "all of them mad."

"Your crimes are discovered," said Rupert. "I'm only a private detective, but a policeman is coming here and —"

"Mad," repeated Northover.

At this moment the sleepy voice of Basil was heard suddenly.

"Major Brown," he said. "Can you tell me what was the name of the gentleman who lived in your house before you?"

The Major thought for a moment and said, "Yes, I think, I know. A man named Gurney-Brown. Yes, that was his name."

"And when did you take the house?³" asked Basil. And for the first time his eyes lost their dreaminess.

"I came in last month," said the Major.

At these words 'the criminal' Northover suddenly fell into his chair and shouted with laughter.⁴

"Oh! it's too funny," he cried, "too funny!"

¹ **His eyes seemed slowly rising out of his head.** — Глаза его, казалось, медленно вылезали из орбит.

² **what do I have to do with** — какое отношение я имею

³ **to take a house** — снять, арендовать

⁴ **shouted with laughter** — разразился громким хохотом

Basil Grant was shaking with noiseless laughter.

"Look here, Basil," cried Rupert angrily. "If you don't want me to go mad,¹ tell me what all this means?"

Northover rose.

"Let me explain, sir," he said. "First of all I must apologise to you, Major Brown, for a most unfortunate mistake, which has caused all this trouble. You have behaved with astonishing courage and dignity. Of course you need not trouble² about the bill."

He tore the bill into small pieces and threw them into the waste-paper basket.

"But I don't even begin to understand!" exclaimed the Major. "What bill? What mistake?"

"Do you know where you are, Major?" asked Northover.

"God knows I don't," replied the Major nervously.

"You are in the office of the Adventure and Romance Agency,³" said Northover.

"And what's that?" asked the Major.

Northover looked at him thoughtfully.

"Major," he said, "did you ever feel on some dull afternoon the hunger for something unusual?⁴ Did you ever want something unusual to happen to you? Something that would take you away from the monotony of life, away from its dull routine? Did you ever feel that?"

"Certainly not," said the Major shortly.

"You see," said Northover, "the Adventure and Romance Agency has been started to meet a great modern desire. In conversation and in literature we hear of the desire for the unusual, for adventure. Now the person who feels this desire for adventure pays a certain sum to the Agency. In return,⁵ the Agency surrounds him with the most surprising events. As soon as the man leaves his front door, unusual things begin to happen to him. Of course a very interesting scenario is first written for him by one of the talented writers

¹ **if you don't want me to go mad** — если ты не хочешь, чтобы я сошел с ума (*объектный инфинитивный оборот*)

² **you need not trouble** — вам незачем беспокоиться

³ **the Adventure and Romance Agency** — Агентство приключений и романтики

⁴ **the hunger for something unusual** — тоска по необычному

⁵ **in return** — взамен

who work for the Agency. Your scenario, Major Brown, was extremely interesting and dramatic. It is a pity¹ you did not see the end of it.

"Mr. Gurney-Brown who formerly lived in your house, was our client," Northover went on. "And my foolish clerks decided that Major Brown and Mr. Gurney-Brown were the same person. That's how you found yourself in the middle of another man's story."

"How on earth does the thing work?" asked Rupert.

"We believe that we are doing noble work," continued Northover. "We give people the chance to be heroes; we make them fight strangers, run down long streets from pursuers, climb walls and jump off into mysterious places — all healthy and pleasant exercises, too.² We give them back their childhood, that happy time when they can act stories and be heroes."

Major Brown received the explanation with good humour. "No doubt at all,"³ he said, "the scheme is excellent. But I shall never be your client. Somehow, when one's seen the thing itself, you know — blood and men screaming...⁴ I don't want false excitements. I want a little house and a quiet life."

Northover bowed. Then after a pause he said:

"Gentlemen, may I offer you my card? If any of you desire at any time to communicate with me..."

"I should be obliged for your card, sir," said the Major. "I'd like to pay for the chair."

The agent for Romance and Adventure handed his card, laughing.

"And can I know the end of it all?" asked the Major. "What did it all mean: 'jackals', and 'death to Major Brown'?..."

"I'm terribly sorry," Northover said, "but what you ask is impossible. The scenarios are confidential. I do hope⁵ that you will understand that I have no right to tell you a word more."

¹ **it is a pity** — жаль

² **all healthy and pleasant exercises, too** — все это к тому же приятные и полезные упражнения

³ **no doubt at all** — вне всякого сомнения

⁴ **one's seen ... men screaming** — зд. слышал крики людей (*объектный причастный оборот*)

⁵ **I do hope** — я надеюсь (*вспомогательный глагол do употреблен здесь для усиления значения слова hope*)

"There is no one who understands discipline better than I do," said the Major. "Thank you very much. Good night." And the three men left the office.

* * *

Major Brown married Miss Jameson, the lady with red hair and the green dress. She was an actress and worked for the Agency. Her friends who knew her as a poetic creature, were surprised at her marriage with that prosaic old soldier.

She always replied very calmly that she had met many men, who acted very bravely in the dramas prepared for them by Northover's writers. But she had met only one man who went down into a coal cellar, when he really thought there was a murderer there.

They are living a happy life, and the disciplined veteran never asks his wife about the end of that story, and why he was never allowed¹ to mention jackals.

Exercises

? Comprehension Check

1. Say who in the story:

- 1) had never liked to be a military man.
- 2) was standing on the garden wall.
- 3) stared at Major Brown with his wide-open mouth and looked like some large fish.
- 4) had red hair and was dressed in a green dress.
- 5) was in time to see something, which at first glance froze his blood.
- 6) wanted only to escape.
- 7) was fond of poetry and art and who liked his detective work.

¹ and why he was never allowed — и почему ему никогда не разрешали

- 8) had written the letter, which Mr. Brown found in the pocket of the coat.
- 9) didn't believe that the letter had been written by criminals.
- 10) was sitting behind the desk in the well-furnished office, writing something.
- 11) ran his eye up and down the paper and then handed it to Major Brown.
- 12) apologised to Major Brown for the most unfortunate mistake.
- 13) received the explanation with good humour.
- 14) married Miss Jameson.
- 15) had met only one man who went down into the coal cellar, when he really thought there was a murderer there.

2. Say who in the story said it and in connection with what.

- 1) "If you're interested in such flowers, you just get onto that wall".
- 2) "For Heaven's sake don't mention jackals."
- 3) "Every afternoon till six o'clock I must keep my face to the street."
- 4) "Major Brown, Major Brown, how did the jackal die?"
- 5) "Where is your coal cellar?"
- 6) "I must go and see Rupert Grant at once."
- 7) "The lady was in the conspiracy, of course."
- 8) "And I don't think it is the sort of letter one criminal would write to another."
- 9) "Mr. Hopson, this is Major Brown. Will you please finish that thing for him which I gave you in this morning, and bring it in?"
- 10) "It's your bill, of course."
- 11) "Mad, all of them mad."
- 12) "Yes, I think, I know. A man named Gurney-Brown. Yes, that was his name."
- 13) "You are in the office of the Adventure and Romance Agency."
- 14) "No doubt at all, the scheme is excellent. But I shall never be your client."
- 15) "The scenarios are confidential."

- 16) "There is no one who understands discipline better than I do."

3. Complete the following sentences occurring in the story.

- 1) He had never liked to be a military man, so _____.
- 2) But it was not only the beauty of the flowers that surprised him. It was something else: _____.
- 3) The only person the Major saw in that room was _____.
- 4) A second later Brown was in the street again, and he was in time — in time to _____.
- 5) He pushed the door of the coal cellar and stepped in, feeling in his pockets for matches. As his right hand was occupied _____.
- 6) But the Major was holding him by the coat collar and was not going to let him out of the cellar. Suddenly _____.
- 7) When the Major finished the story of his mysterious adventures, he noticed that _____.
- 8) "You see, the Adventure and Romance Agency has been started _____."
- 9) Major Brown married Miss Jameson, _____.
- 10) They are living a happy life, and the disciplined veteran _____.

4. Answer the following questions.

- 1) Did Mr. Brown like being a military man?
- 2) How did he decide to spend the rest of his life?
- 3) What were his favourite flowers?
- 4) What did the man with the barrow propose him to do?
- 5) What did Mr. Brown see in the very centre of the garden?
- 6) But for the pansies, what else surprised Major Brown that much?
- 7) Who did Major Brown see in the richly furnished room? Describe the lady in detail.
- 8) What strange things happened to Major Brown behind the wall?

- 9) Why did Major Brown's blood freeze in his veins when he saw his favourite pansies in the garden?
- 10) Why did Mr. Brown go to see Rupert Grant? What did Rupert Grant do?
- 11) How did Rupert Grant and his brother react to the same story?
- 12) What did the letter Mr. Brown had found in the coat deal with?
- 13) Who was the letter written by?
- 14) What did Mr. Northover give to Mr. Brown, which surprised him very much?
- 15) Was what happened to Major Brown a crime or was it an unfortunate mistake?
- 16) What agency did Mr. Brown work for?
- 17) Why did this incident happen to Major Brown? What caused all this confusion?



Working with the Vocabulary

1. Major Brown's favourite flowers were pansies. Name at least ten more flowers.
2. Check the pronunciation of the following words with the dictionary.
Moustache, major, inscription, to descend, conspiracy, to occur, hysterically, to apologise, routine, scenario, confidential, to bow, to whisper, prosaic, murderer, disciplined, pursuer, melancholy.
3. Make up a list of words and phrases that can be used while speaking on the topic "Gardening". Make up your own story round these words.
4. Say it in one word, basing your answers on the vocabulary of this story.
 - 1) If a person stops working because of his advanced age, he r_____.
 - 2) If a man cultivates hair under his nose, he has a m_____.

- 3) If there's no noise in the street, this street is q_____.
- 4) If you go down the stairs, you d_____ them.
- 5) If anything happens later than it was planned to take place, you can speak of a d_____.
- 6) If you prepare for something, you make a_____.
- 7) A person, who commits a crime, is called a c_____.
- 8) If you are asked to pay more than you are supposed, you can protest against these o_____.
- 9) Something, happening from day to day, with very little changes, is called a r_____.
- 10) If you give something to a person, you l_____ it.
- 11) If anything is kept secret, this information is c_____.
- 12) If a person follows you everywhere, he can be called your p_____.

5. Add negative prefixes *im-*, *in-*, *un-* to the following words. Find sentences with these words in the story and translate them into Russian.

Fortunate — _____ ; visible — _____ ; patiently — _____ ; possible — _____ ; usual — _____ ; patience — _____ .

6. Study the following prepositional phrases. Complete the sentences, given after the list, with the prepositional phrase (or its element) that fits.

To devote to; to be interested in; to cry for one's blood; to be at one's service; to be in time to do; in despair; to be in conspiracy; to protest against; to apologise to; in return.

- 1) He looked about him almost _____.
- 2) "Why were these little flowers crying _____."
- 3) "Let me explain' sir," he said. "First of all I must _____."
- 4) "The lady was _____," said Rupert.
- 5) "The client has a full right _____ overcharges."
- 6) "If you're _____ in such flowers, you just get onto that wall."
- 7) "I'm _____," said the Major and jumped down on the grass beside the man.

- 8) _____ the Agency surrounds him with the most surprising events.
- 9) A second later Brown was in the street again, and he was _____ to see something, which at sight froze his blood.

7. Translate the sentences into English, choosing from the prepositional phrases listed below.

To help up; to look up; to jump up; to get up; to run one's eye up and down; to come up.

- 1) Вдруг старик, поливавший цветы, поднял голову и увидел майора Брауна.
- 2) «Конечно, — сказал Бейзил, вставая, — я иду с вами».
- 3) «Я помогу Вам подняться на стену», — сказал старик.
- 4) Он подошел к старику и заговорил с ним.
- 5) С шестым ударом часов дама вскочила и повернулась к майору Брауну.
- 6) Мистер Нортон пробежал глазами листок сверху вниз, потом передал его майору Брауну.

8. Make your choice to fill in the gaps in the following sentences.

- 1) The Major _____ into a richly furnished room.
 - a) stepped
 - b) staped
- 2) At the sixth _____ the lady jumped up and turned to the Major.
 - a) strike
 - b) stroke
 - c) struck
- 3) The man tried to _____ but Brown was on top of him like a cat.
 - a) rise
 - b) raise
 - c) arouse

- 4) "Well, sir," said the Major, breathing _____.
 a) hardly
 b) hard
- 5) "Look here, Basil," cried Rupert angrily, "if you don't want me _____ (1) go mad, tell me _____ (2) all this means."
 (1) a) to (2) a) that
 b) — b) what
 c) about

9. Fill in the gaps, choosing from *as, like, as soon as, not so as*.

- 1) And who would pour out money _____ water just for a practical joke against him?
- 2) The old man stared at him. With his wide-open mouth he looked _____ some large fish.
- 3) The man tried to rise but Brown was on top of him _____ a cat.
- 4) The Major laid the letter on the table. It ran _____ follows.
- 5) "_____ soon _____ the man leaves his front door, unusual things begin to happen to him."
- 6) Her friends who knew her _____ a poetic creature were surprised at her marriage with the prosaic old soldier.
- 7) Rupert liked his detective work and was sure that some day he would become _____ famous _____ Sherlock Holmes.

10. Choose from the prepositions *back, up, at, around* to use after the verb *to look* in the following sentences.

- 1) Brown looked _____ the road behind him.
- 2) Then he looked _____ again at the flower-bed with that terrible inscription.
- 3) Suddenly the old man who was watering the pansies looked _____ and saw the Major.
- 4) Rupert raised his eyebrows in surprise and looked _____ him for a moment but said nothing.
- 5) "Is there an address?" asked Rupert.

"No — oh, yes!" replied Rupert, looking _____ the paper.

- 6) "Mad," said Northover, looking _____, "all of them mad."

11. Say it in your own words, paying attention to the italicised parts of the sentences.

- 1) He *devoted the rest of his life* to growing his favourite flowers.
- 2) Why were these little flowers *crying for his death*?
- 3) "*I am at your service*," said the Major and jumped down on the grass beside the man.
- 4) The cries appeared to come from the head *resting on the pavement*.
- 5) As his right hand *was occupied*, a pair of *gigantic* hands came out of the darkness and *seized* him by the back of his head.
- 6) "The lady *was in the conspiracy*, of course," said Rupert.
- 7) "I am sorry to hear that some delay *had occurred in the arrangements* relating to Mr. Brown."
- 8) In a second Brown was in the street again, and was in time — in time to see something, which *at first glance froze his blood*.
- 9) With these words he threw the door open, and the three men rushed into the room and *stopped dead*.
- 10) "Major," he said, "did you *feel* on some dull afternoon *the hunger* for something unusual?"
- 11) "You see," said Northover, "the Adventure and Romance Agency *has been started to meet a great modern desire*."
- 12) In conversation and in literature we hear *of the desire for the unusual*, for adventure.
- 13) Major Brown received the explanation *with good humour*.



Discussion

1. What do you think, are such agencies like the one mentioned in the story, useful for those who look for adventures?

2. Why do you think such agencies have a lot of clients, as the story goes?
3. Give a sketch-portrait of Major Brown. Speak on his looks and character.
4. How would you have behaved and what would you have thought if you had found yourself in Major Brown's place?
5. Can you think of any funny situations caused by some unfortunate mistakes?
6. Finally, did this incident turn out for the Major an unfortunate mistake or a lucky chance? Why?
7. Which of the two Grant brothers was more of a detective? Give your reasoning.
8. What kind of letter would have Miss Jameson written, describing this strange incident to her friend?
9. Which of the characters of this story appeals to you more? Why?
10. Can you think of the end of the scenario, which wasn't told to Major Brown? What, in your opinion, do the words "jackals" and "Death to Major Brown" mean?
11. Act out the conversation between Major Brown and Mrs. Brown remembering this incident after their marriage.



A STRING OF BEADS

"What luck that I'm placed next to you,¹" said Laura, as we sat down to dinner.

"For me," I replied politely.

"That remains to be seen,"² she said. "I wanted so much to have the chance of talking to you. I've got a story to tell you."

At this my heart sank³ a little.

"I prefer to hear you talk about yourself," I answered. "Or even about me."

"Oh, but I must tell you the story. I think you'll be able to use it."

"If you must, you must. But let's look at the menu first."

¹ I'm placed next to you — меня посадили рядом с вами

² That remains to be seen. — Это еще надо посмотреть.

³ my heart sank — у меня екнуло сердце

"Don't you want me to tell it?"¹ she said, a little angrily. "I thought you would be pleased."

"I am. I am pleased."

"It happened to some friends of mine. It's perfectly true."

"That's not a recommendation," I said. "A true story is never so true as an invented one."

"What does that mean?" she asked.

"Nothing very much,"² I replied. "But it sounds good."

"I wish you would let me go on³ with my story."

"I'm all attention," I said. "I'm not going to eat the soup. It's fattening."

She glanced at the menu.

"Oh, well," she said, "if you aren't going to eat it, I think I mustn't eat it either. And yet, bortsch is the only soup I really like."

"Never mind."⁴ Tell me your story and we'll forget about food till the fish comes."

"Well, I was there when it happened. I was dining with the Livingstones.⁵ Do you know the Livingstones?"

"No, I don't think I do."

"Well, you can ask them and they will confirm every word I say. They had asked their governess to come in to dinner because at the last moment some woman had informed them she could not come — and they would have been thirteen at table. Their governess was a Miss Robinson,⁶ quite a nice girl, young, you know, twenty or twenty one, and rather pretty. Personally, I would never take a governess who is young and pretty. One never knows⁷ what may happen."

"But one hopes for the best," I remarked.

Laura paid no attention to my remark.

¹ Don't you want me to tell it? — Неужели вам не хочется, чтобы я рассказала ее?

² Nothing very much. — Ничего особенного.

³ I wish you would let me go on — я бы очень хотела, чтобы вы позволили мне продолжать

⁴ Never mind. — эд. Ну, бог с ним.

⁵ with the Livingstones — у Ливингстонов

⁶ a Miss Robinson — некая мисс Робинсон

⁷ one never knows — заранее никогда ведь не знаешь

"But Miss Robinson had excellent references, and I must admit that she was a very nice, respectable person," Laura went on with her story.

"There was a man at dinner whom I don't suppose you know, but who is a celebrity in his way.¹ He's a Count Borcelli and he knows more about precious stones than anyone in the world. He was sitting next to Mary Lyngate who likes to boast about her pearls. In the course of conversation she asked him what he thought of the string of pearls that she was wearing. He said it was pretty."

"Pretty?" she said. "Only pretty?" And she told him it was valued at eight thousand pounds.

"Yes, it's worth that," he said.

"Miss Robinson was sitting opposite to him. She looked rather nice that evening. Of course I recognised her dress. It was one of Sophie Livingstone's old dresses, but if you had not known that Miss Robinson was only the governess, you would never have suspected it."

"That's a very beautiful necklace that young lady has on," said Borcelli.

"Oh, but that's Mrs. Livingstone's governess," said Mary Lyngate.

"I can't help that,"² he said. "She's wearing one of the finest strings of pearls that I've ever seen in my life. It must be worth fifty thousand pounds."

"Nonsense."

"I give you my word it is."

"Mary Lyngate who has rather a loud voice said to Miss Robinson across the table:

"Miss Robinson, do you know what Count Borcelli says? He says that string of pearls you're wearing is worth fifty thousand pounds."

"Just at that moment there was a pause in the conversation so that everybody heard. We all turned and looked at Miss Robinson. She flushed a little and laughed."

"Well, I made a very good bargain,"³ she said, "because I paid fifteen shillings for it."

"You certainly did," he said.

¹ a celebrity in his way — в своем роде знаменитость

² I can't help that. — эд. И все же это так.

³ I made a very good bargain — я сделала очень удачную покупку

"We all laughed. It was, of course, absurd. We've all heard stories of wives showing their husbands as false a string of pearls that was real and expensive. Those stories are as old as the hills.¹

"But nobody could believe that a governess would remain a governess if she owned a string of pearls worth fifty thousand pounds. It was clear to us that the Count had made a mistake. Then an extraordinary thing happened.

"At that very moment the butler bent over Miss Robinson and whispered something in her ear. I thought she turned a little pale. She certainly looked frightened.

"Mrs. Livingstone,' she said, 'Dawson says there are two men in the hall who want to speak to me at once.'

"Well, you'd better go,' said Sophie Livingstone.

"Miss Robinson got up and left the room. Of course the same thought flashed through all our minds,² but I said it first.

"I hope they haven't come to arrest her,' I said to Sophie. 'It would be too dreadful for you, my dear.'

"Are you sure it was a real necklace, Borcelli?' Sophie asked.

"Oh, quite.'

"She could hardly have had the nerve³ to wear it tonight if it were stolen,' I said.

"Sophie Livingstone turned as pale as death and I saw she was wondering if everything was all right in her jewel case. I only had on a little chain of diamonds but instinctively I put my hand up to my neck to feel if it was still there.

"Don't talk nonsense,' said Mr. Livingstone. 'How on earth⁴ would Miss Robinson have had the chance of stealing a valuable string of pearls?'

"She may be a receiver of stolen things,' I said.

"Oh, but she had such wonderful references,' said Sophie.

"They always do,' I said."

¹ as old as the hills — поговорка, соответствующая русской «старо как мир».

² the same thought flashed through all our minds — нас всех осенила одна и та же мысль

³ she could hardly have had the nerve — вряд ли бы у нее хватило смелости

⁴ on earth — *зд.* черт возьми (*выражение употребляется обычно для усиления*)

I simply had to interrupt Laura.

"Why did you not want to take a brighter view of the case?"¹

"Of course I knew nothing against Miss Robinson and I had every reason to think her a very nice girl, but it would have been thrilling to find out that she was a well-known thief and a member of a gang of international crooks."

"Just like a film," I said. "I'm afraid that it's only in films that exciting things like that happen."

"Well," Laura went on. "We waited breathlessly. There was not a sound. I expected to hear a scuffle in the hall or at least a scream. I thought the silence was terrible. Then the door opened and Miss Robinson walked in. I noticed at once that the necklace was gone.² I could see that she was pale and excited. She came back to the table, sat down and with a smile threw on it..."

"On what?"

"On the table, you fool," said Laura impatiently. "She threw a string of pearls on the table."

"That is my necklace,' she said.

"Count Borcelli leant forward.

"Oh, but those pearls are false,' he said.

"I told you they were,' laughed Miss Robinson.

"That's not the same string you had on a few moments ago,' he said.

"She shook her head and smiled mysteriously. We were all intrigued. I don't think that Sophie Livingstone was so very pleased that her governess was making herself the centre of interest like that. There was something unpleasant in her manner when she said that Miss Robinson had better explain everything.

"Well, Miss Robinson said that when she went into the hall she found two men who said they had come from Jarrot's Stores.³ She had bought her string there, as she said, for fifteen shillings. She had to take it back to the store because the clasp was loose⁴ and had only got it that afternoon. The men said they had given her the

¹ Why did you not want to take a brighter view of the case? — Почему же вы не хотели взглянуть более оптимистично на этот случай?

² the necklace was gone — ожерелье исчезло

³ Jarrot's Stores ['dʒærəts 'stɔ:z] — ювелирный магазин Джаррота

⁴ the clasp was loose — замочек плохо защелкивался

wrong string. Someone had left the string of real pearls at the jeweller's to be restrung,¹ and the assistant had made a mistake. Of course I can't understand how anyone could be so stupid as to take a really valuable string to Jarrot's. The shop assistants there aren't used to dealing with² expensive jewels. They can't tell real pearls from false. But you know what fools some women are.

"Well, that is the reason why Miss Robinson was wearing that string of real pearls. Of course she gave it back to them — she couldn't do anything else I suppose — and they returned her own string to her. Then they said that although they were under no obligation to her,³ they were instructed to give her a cheque of three hundred pounds as a compensation. Miss Robinson actually showed the cheque to us. She was as pleased as Punch.⁴"

"Well, it was a piece of luck, wasn't it?"

"No," said Laura, "as it turned out it was the ruin of her."

"Oh, how was that?"

"Well, when it was time for her to go on her holiday she told Sophie Livingstone that she'd made up her mind to go to Deauville for a month and spend the whole three hundred pounds there. Of course Sophie begged her to change her mind and put the money in the savings bank, but she didn't want to hear of it. She said she had never had such a chance before, and would never have it again and she made up her mind for at least four weeks to live like a duchess. So Sophie sold Miss Robinson a lot of clothes that she didn't want any more. She had been wearing them long enough and was sick to death of them.⁵ She says she just gave them to Miss Robinson, but I don't believe her. So Miss Robinson left for Deauville. What do you think happened then?"

"I haven't got a notion,"⁶ I replied. "I hope she had the time of her life there."⁷

¹ to be restrung — чтобы их перенизали

² the shop assistants there aren't used to dealing with — продавцы в этом магазине не привыкли иметь дело с

³ although they were under no obligation to her — хотя они и не были обязаны делать этого

⁴ as pleased as Punch — поговорка, соответствующая русскому «рада-радешенька»

⁵ she... was sick to death of them — они ей до смерти надоели

⁶ I haven't got a notion. — Не имею ни малейшего понятия.

⁷ she had the time of her life there — она там прекрасно провела время

"Well, a week before she was to come back she wrote to Sophie and said that she had changed her plans and had entered another profession, and hoped Mrs. Livingstone would forgive her if she didn't return. Of course poor Sophie was furious.

"What had actually happened was that Miss Robinson had met a rich Argentine in Deauville and had gone off to Paris with him. And she has been in Paris since that time. I've seen her myself there, with bracelets right up to her elbow and several strings of pearls round her neck. Of course I cut her dead.¹ They say she has a house in the Bois de Boulogne² and I know she has a Rolls.³"

"When you say she was ruined you use the word in a technical sense, I think," I said.

"I don't know what you mean by this," said Laura. "But don't you think you could make a story out of it?"

"Unfortunately, I've already written a story about a necklace. One can't go on writing stories about pearl necklaces."

"I would like to write it myself," said Laura. "Only of course I should change the end."

"Oh, how would you end it?"

"Well, in my story Miss Robinson would be engaged to a bank clerk who was badly wounded during the war, with only one leg, or half face shot away. And they would be terribly poor and there would be no prospect of their marriage for years, and he would be putting all his savings into buying a little house in the suburbs. And then she gives him the three hundred pounds to pay the last instalment for the house. And he cries on her shoulder like a child. And they get the little house in the suburbs and they marry, and they take his old mother to live with them, and he goes to his bank every day, and he's often ill — with his wound⁴ — and she nurses him, and it's all very pathetic and sweet and lovely."

"It sounds rather dull to me," I remarked.

"Yes, but moral," said Laura.

¹ I cut her dead — я сделала вид, что не узнаю ее

² Bois de Boulogne — (фр.) Булонский лес

³ a Rolls — (сокращ.) автомобиль марки «Роллс-Ройс»

⁴ he's often ill — with his wound — рана часто беспокоит его

Exercises

? *Comprehension Check*

1. Say who in this story:

- 1) wanted to tell a story to the writer.
- 2) could confirm every Laura's word.
- 3) knew about this story more than anyone in the world.
- 4) was wearing one of the finest strings of pearls.
- 5) could not believe that a governess would remain a governess if she owned a string of pearls worth fifty thousand pounds.
- 6) turned pale and looked a little frightened.
- 7) threw a string of pearls on the table.
- 8) was not pleased that the governess was making herself the centre of interest.
- 9) received a cheque of three hundred pounds as a compensation.
- 10) had made a mistake at the jeweler's.
- 11) had made up her mind to go to Deauville for a month and spend the whole three hundred pounds there.
- 12) had met a rich Argentine in Deauville and had gone off to Paris with him.
- 13) who would have liked to write the story herself.

2. Say who in the story said it and in connection with what.

- 1) "Oh, but I must tell you the story. I think you'll be able to use it."
- 2) "I am not going to eat soup. It's fattening."
- 3) "Personally, I would never take a governess who is young and pretty."
- 4) "She's wearing one of the finest strings of pearls that I've ever seen in my life."
- 5) "Well, I made a good bargain, because I paid fifteen shillings for it."
- 6) "I hope they haven't come to arrest her. It would be too dreadful for you, dear."

- 7) "Don't talk nonsense. How on earth would Miss Robinson have had the chance of stealing a valuable thing?"
- 8) "Of course I knew nothing against Miss Robinson and I had every reason to think her a very nice girl, but it would have been thrilling to find out that she was a well-known thief and a member of a gang of international crooks."
- 9) "Oh, but those pearls are false."
- 10) "Of course, I can't understand how anyone can be so stupid as to take a really valuable thing to Jarrot's."
- 11) "She was as pleased as Punch."
- 12) "Unfortunately, I've already written a story about a necklace."
- 13) "It sounds rather dull to me."
"Yes, but moral."

3. Answer the following questions.

- 1) Why did the writer's heart sink when Laura said that she wanted to tell him a story?
- 2) What was the only soup that Laura liked? Why did the writer refuse the soup?
- 3) Why did the Livingstones invite their governess to dinner?
- 4) What could Count Borcelli do? Why was he so special?
- 5) What attracted the Count in Miss Robinson, the governess?
- 6) Why did the governess flush when she heard that the string of pearls she was wearing was worth fifty thousand pounds?
- 7) What sort of stories did the writer call "as old as the hills"?
- 8) What extraordinary thing happened then?
- 9) Why did everybody at table start speaking about Miss Robinson's arrest?
- 10) What did Miss Robinson throw on the table after she returned?
- 11) What mistake had the assistant at Jarrot's made?
- 12) With her own string of pearls Laura received from the jeweler's a cheque for three hundred pounds as a compensation, didn't she?
- 13) Why did this money turn out to be the ruin of her, in Laura's opinion?

- 14) Where did she decide to go on her holiday?
- 15) Did she return to the Livingstones? Why?
- 16) Who did she meet in Deauville?
- 17) What end would Laura herself have written to the story?
Why did the writer find her ending "dull"?



Working with the Vocabulary

1. Mate the words and phrases in the left-hand column with their explanations in the right-hand column.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) one's heart sank | 1) not to be obliged to anybody |
| 2) I'm all attention | 2) smb lost hope or was disappointed |
| 3) it's fattening | 3) a famous, well-known person |
| 4) a celebrity | 4) to cost |
| 5) to value smth at a price | 5) to decide; to make a decision |
| 6) to be worth | 6) to turn red |
| 7) to flush | 7) not to want smth any more |
| 8) to have the nerve to do | 8) to have courage to do |
| 9) to be under no obligation to anybody | 9) I'm listening to you very attentively |
| 10) to make up one's mind | 10) to give smth a certain price |
| 11) to be sick of smth to death | 11) when one puts on weight, eating smth |

2. Say it in your own words, paying attention to the parts italicised.

- 1) "One never knows what may happen."
"*But one hopes for the best,*" I remarked.
- 2) "He was sitting next to Mary Lyngate, who likes *to boast* about her pearls."
- 3) "It was one of Sophie Livingstone's old dresses, but if you had not known that Miss Robinson was only the governess, you *would never have suspected* it."

- 4) "We all laughed. It was of course *absurd.*"
- 5) Miss Robinson got up and left the room. Of course *the same thought flushed through all our minds*, but I said it first.
- 6) I simply had to interrupt Laura. "*Why did you not want to take a brighter view of the case?*"
- 7) She shook her head and smiled mysteriously. *We were all intrigued.*
- 8) "Their shop assistants *can't tell real pearls from false.*"
- 9) "And they would be terribly poor and there would be no prospect of their marriage for years, and he would be putting all his savings into buying a little house in the suburbs. And then she gives him the three hundred pounds to *pay the last instalment for the house.*"
- 10) "*I give you my word it is.*"
"Well, *I made a very good bargain,*" she said, "because I paid 15 shillings for it."

3. Study the following comparisons: *as pleased as Punch*; *as old as the hills*; *as pale as death*; etc. Find sentences, containing them, in the story and translate them into Russian. Make up your own sentences with them.

4. Choose the right word to fill in the gaps in the following sentences.

- 1) "She could _____ have had the nerve to wear it tonight if it were stolen."
a) hardly
b) hard
- 2) "On the table, you fool," said Laura _____.
a) impatiently
b) unpatiently
c) dispatiently
- 3) "Of course she gave it back to them — she couldn't do _____ else, I suppose."
a) anything
b) nothing
c) something

- 4) "Oh, well," she said, "if you aren't going to eat it, I think I mustn't eat it _____."
- also
 - neither
 - either
- 5) "Miss Robinson, do you know what Count Borcelli says? He says that the string of pearls you're wearing is worth fifty _____ pounds."
- thousand
 - thousands
- 6) "It sounds rather _____ (1) to me," I remarked.
 "Yes, but _____ (2)," said Laura.
- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| (1) a) dull | (2) a) morally |
| b) dully | b) moral |

Discussion

- Give sketch-portraits of Miss Livingstone, Miss Robinson, the governess, Laura.
- What did Laura mean by calling her ending to the story "moral"? What's the moral of the story?
- Should stories be more moral than entertaining, in your opinion?
- Give your own ending to the same story.
- What do you think would have happened if Miss Robinson hadn't returned the real pearl string?
- What would you have done if you had been in Miss Robinson's place?
- Narrate the whole story in the person of Miss Robinson.
- Give comment on the following sentences:
 - "A true story is never so true as an invented one."
 - "We've all heard stories of wives showing to their husbands as false a string of pearls that was real and expensive. Those stories are as old as the hills."



BEFORE THE PARTY

Mrs. Skinner, her husband and their two daughters were going to a garden party.¹ Mrs. Skinner liked to be in good time. She was already dressed in black silk as she was still wearing mourning for her son-in-law. Standing before her mirror, Mrs. Skinner put her hat on. The hat was decorated with beautiful feathers which Harold, her son-in-law, had brought her from Borneo.

"Yes," she thought, "my poor son-in-law brought them to me last time he was home on leave."²

She was ready now and she looked out of the window behind her mirror. Canon Heywood had a beautiful day for his garden party. It was warm and the sky was blue; the trees had not yet lost the fresh

¹ a garden party — прием гостей, устраиваемый в саду

² on leave — в отпуске

green of the spring. She smiled as she saw her little granddaughter playing in the garden. "Joan is too pale," thought Mrs. Skinner, "it was a mistake to have kept her so long in the tropics. And she is too serious for her age, you never see her run about, she plays her own quiet games."

Mrs. Skinner took her gloves and went downstairs.

Her daughter Kathleen was at the writing-table busy with some work for the Ladies' Golf Club¹ as she was the honorary secretary of the club. But she too was ready for the party.

"I see you've put on your jumper after all,²" said Mrs. Skinner.

They had discussed at luncheon whether Kathleen should wear her jumper or her black chiffon blouse. The jumper was black and white, and Kathleen liked it, but it was not mourning after all. Millicent, Mrs. Skinner's elder daughter, was in favour of it.³

"There's no reason why we should all look as if we'd just come from a funeral," she said. "Harold's been dead eight months already."

It did not seem right to Mrs. Skinner to talk like that. Millicent had been strange since her return from Borneo.

"People don't wear mourning as long as they did before," said Millicent. "I'm sure Harold wouldn't wish me to wear mourning for him indefinitely."

Mrs. Skinner began to put on her new gloves. She looked at the wall, over the sofa, where Malay weapons sent by Harold were hanging. She had liked Harold. She often looked at his photograph which stood on the piano with photographs of her two daughters, her grandchild, her sister, and her sister's son.

"Why,⁴ Kathleen, where's Harold's photograph?" she asked.

Kathleen looked round. It no longer stood⁵ in its place.

"Someone's taken it away," said Kathleen.

"Perhaps Millicent wanted to have it in her bedroom," said Mrs. Skinner.

"I should have noticed it," said Kathleen. "Besides, Millicent has several photographs of Harold. She keeps them locked up."

Mrs. Skinner had thought it very strange that her daughter had no photographs of Harold in her room. She had spoken of it once, but Millicent had made no reply. Millicent had been strangely silent since she came back from Borneo. It seemed she did not want any sympathy that was shown her by Mrs. Skinner. And she did not like to speak of her great loss. Mr. Skinner had said it was the best thing to leave her alone. The thought of her husband turned her ideas to the party they were going to.

"Father asked if he ought to wear a top-hat,"¹ she said. "I said it was better to be on the safe side."²

The garden-party was going to be a grand affair. There would be ice-cream, strawberry, vanilla and iced coffee for the guests. Everyone would be there. They had been asked to meet the Bishop of Hong Kong, an old friend of the Canon. The Bishop was going to speak on the Chinese missions. Mrs. Skinner whose daughter had lived in the East for eight years and whose son-in-law had been Resident³ of a district in Borneo, was very much interested to hear him speak. The East meant more to her than to people who had never had anything to do with⁴ the Colonies.

At that moment Mr. Skinner came into the room. He was a lawyer, and he went up to London every morning and came down every evening. He was able to accompany his wife and daughters to the Canon's garden party only because it was Saturday. Mr. Skinner looked very well in his new suit although he was very bald, his lips were thin and his face was much lined.

"Is Millicent ready?" asked Mrs. Skinner.

"There's plenty of time," said Kathleen. "We're asked to come at four and I don't think we ought to arrive much before half-past. I told Davis to bring the car at four-fifteen."

¹ **Father asked if he ought to wear a top-hat.** — Отец спрашивает, не следует ли ему надеть цилиндр.

² **it was better to be on the safe side** — на всякий случай не мешает

³ **Resident** — резидент (официальный представитель метрополии в каком-либо районе колонии)

⁴ **who had never had anything to do with** — которые никогда не имели никакого отношения к

¹ **the Ladies' Golf Club** — клуб любителей гольфа

² **after all** — зд. все-таки

³ **was in favour of it** — высказалась в пользу (джемпера)

⁴ **why** — зд. соответствует междометию «О!»

⁵ **it no longer stood** — ее (фотографии) там уже не было

Generally Kathleen drove the car, but on grand occasions like this Davis, who was their gardener, put on his uniform and acted as chauffeur.

At last the door opened and Millicent came in. She wore her widow's weeds. Mrs. Skinner never could get used to¹ them, but of course she knew that Millicent must wear them for a year. It was a pity she didn't look well in them. Millicent was thirty-six. It was very sad to be a widow at thirty-six. And there wasn't much chance of her marrying again. Kathleen hadn't much hope either, she was thirty-five. Last time Harold and Millicent had come home Mrs. Skinner asked them if they could invite Kathleen to stay with them for some time. Millicent said they could not do it, Mrs. Skinner did not know why not. Of course she and her husband did not want to get rid of Kathleen, but a girl ought to marry, and all the men they knew at home were married already, and Mrs. Skinner thought that staying in Borneo would give her daughter a chance of getting married. In her opinion Kathleen was quite pretty. No one could say that about poor Millicent who had a bad colour and was too fat.

The light fell on the widow's heavy face as she stopped silently. Kathleen stood with her back to the window. She watched her sister for a moment.

"Millicent, there's something I want to say to you," she said. "I was playing golf with Gladys Heywood this morning."

Gladys Heywood was the Canon's only unmarried daughter.

"She told me something about you which I think you ought to know."

Millicent's eyes passed from her sister to her little daughter watering flowers in the garden. Kathleen looked at her sister calmly.

"The Bishop spent two or three days in Singapore on his way home," she went on. "He's very fond of travelling. He has been to Borneo and he knows a good many² of the people that you know."

"He'll be interested to see you, dear," said Mrs. Skinner. "Did he know poor Harold?"

"Yes, he met him at Kuala Solor," said Kathleen. "He remembers him very well. He says he was shocked to hear of Harold's death."

It seemed strange to Mrs. Skinner that Millicent received her sister's remarks with complete silence.

"Oh, Millicent," she said, "Harold's photo has disappeared. Have you taken it?"

"Yes, I put it away."

"But why?"

Once more Millicent said nothing.

"Millicent," said Kathleen suddenly, "why did you tell us that Harold had died of fever?"

The widow looked at her sister with steady eyes, but her face flushed. She did not reply.

"What do you mean, Kathleen?" asked Mr. Skinner, with surprise.

"The Bishop says that Harold committed suicide," said Kathleen.

Mrs. Skinner gave a frightened cry.

"Is it true, Millicent?"

"It is."

"But why didn't you tell us?"

Millicent paused for a moment.

"I wanted Joan to think that her father had died of fever. I did not want her to know he had committed suicide."

"You've put us in a difficult position," said Kathleen. "It was very hard for me to make Gladys Heywood believe me that I knew absolutely nothing about it and that we told her what you had told us."

"It was my business," said Millicent. "If I decided to keep this fact to myself I didn't understand why I couldn't."

"Didn't you know that sooner or later it would come out?" said Kathleen.

"Poor Harold," said Mrs. Skinner, and tears began to gather in her eyes. "It seems dreadful. He was always a good son-in-law to me. What made him do such a dreadful thing?"

"The climate," said Millicent.

"I think you had better give us all the facts, Millicent," said her father.

"Kathleen will tell you."

Kathleen hesitated. What she had to say was rather dreadful. It seemed terrible that such things could happen to a family like theirs.

¹ to get used to — привыкнуть к чему-либо

² a good many — множество, многие

"The Bishop says he cut his throat," she said at last.
Mrs. Skinner gave a cry and ran up to her daughter. She wanted to take her in her arms.

"My poor child," she sobbed.

"Please, don't fuss, Mother, I hate to be touched.¹"

Mrs. Skinner dried her eyes with a handkerchief and returned to her chair.

"It seemed absurd to be told² the details of my brother-in-law's death by a friend," said Kathleen. "It made us all feel like fools. The Bishop wants very much to see you, Millicent. He wants to tell you how sorry he is for you." She paused, but Millicent did not speak. "He says that Millicent had been away with Joan and when she came back she found poor Harold lying dead on his bed."

"It must have been a great shock," said Mr. Skinner.

Mrs. Skinner began to cry again, but Kathleen put her hand on her mother's shoulder.

"Don't cry, Mother," she said. "It'll make your eyes red and people will think it so funny."

They were all silent while Mrs. Skinner, drying her eyes, made a successful effort to control herself.³

"There's something else I ought to tell you," said Kathleen.

Millicent looked at her sister again, and her eyes were steady, but watchful. She had the look of a person who is waiting for a sound which he is afraid to miss.

"I don't want to say anything to hurt you, dear," Kathleen went on, "but there's something else and I think you ought to know it. The Bishop says that Harold drank."

"Oh, my dear, how dreadful!" cried Mrs. Skinner. "What a shock-ing thing to say!⁴ Did Gladys Heywood tell you? What did you say?"

"I said it was not true," said Kathleen. "They told the Bishop in Singapore that Harold had killed himself while he was suffer-

ing from delirium tremens. I think you ought to deny that, Millicent."

"But how did this story start, Millicent?" asked her father. "It seems to me Harold never drank."

"Here," said the widow.

"Did he drink there?"

"Like a fish."

The answer was so unexpected, and the tone so sarcastic that all three of them were shocked.

"Millicent, how can you talk like that of your husband when he's dead?" cried her mother. "I can't understand you. You've been so strange since you came back. I could never have believed that a girl of mine could take her husband's death like that."

"Never mind about that,¹ Mother," said Mr. Skinner. "We can talk about that later."

He walked to the window and looked out at the sunny little garden, and then walked back into the room. Mr. Skinner was upset. He had finished his week's work and he was a free man till Monday morning. He wanted to have a rest now. He did not care very much about Chinese missions, but it would be interesting to meet the Bishop. And now this! It was most unpleasant to hear that his son-in-law was a drunkard and a suicide... Millicent was looking at him calmly and her calmness irritated him; but instead of addressing her he spoke to his younger daughter.

"Why don't you sit down, Kathleen? There are plenty of chairs in the room."

Kathleen took a chair and without a word sat down. Mr. Skinner stopped in front of Millicent and looked at her.

"Of course I see why you told us Harold had died of fever. I think it was a mistake, because such things come out sooner or later. You must tell us everything now. We can't hope that Canon Heywood and his daughter will tell nobody about it. It will make it easier for all of us if we know the exact truth."

Mrs. Skinner and Kathleen waited for Millicent's reply.

"I don't think you will much like the truth if I tell it to you," she said.

¹ never mind about that — не стоит вдаваться в это

¹ I hate to be touched — терпеть не могу, когда меня трогают

² it seemed absurd to be told — мне показалось обидным выслушивать

³ Mrs. Skinner... made a successful effort to control herself — после некоторого усилия миссис Скиннер удалось овладеть собой

⁴ What a shocking thing to say! — Какие ужасные вещи он говорит!

"You must know that you can expect our sympathy and understanding," said Kathleen.

Millicent looked slowly at the three of them. She seemed to live in a different world from theirs and to have no connection with them.¹

"You know I wasn't in love with Harold when I married him," she said thoughtfully. "I was twenty-seven, and no one else seemed to want to marry me.² It's true he was forty-four, and it seemed to me rather old, but he had a very good position, hadn't he? I could not expect to get a better chance."

Mrs. Skinner was ready to cry again, but she remembered the garden party.

"Of course I see now why you took his photograph away," she said sadly.

"Don't, Mother!"³ exclaimed Kathleen.

Mrs. Skinner had always thought that it was a very good photograph of Harold and she had always thought him quite a fine man. He was heavily built, tall and perhaps a little too fat. He had a small dark moustache, and his face was deeply burned by the sun. Of course his best feature was his eyes; they were brown and large, like Joan's. His conversation was interesting. He was always very attentive to Mrs. Skinner, and she listened as if she were really interested when he spoke of his district. Kathleen said he had a very good opinion of himself, but Mrs. Skinner had always accepted the good opinion that men had of themselves.⁴

"People were very nice to me at Kuala Solor," Millicent said. "Everyone asked us to dinner. Once or twice I heard men ask Harold to have a drink, but he refused. He said he had turned over a

¹ **She seemed to live in a different world from theirs and to have no connection with them.** — Она как будто находилась в каком-то другом мире, не имеющем к ним никакого отношения (*субъектный инфинитивный оборот*).

² **no one else seemed to want to marry me** — кроме него, никто, кажется, не собирался жениться на мне

³ **Don't, Mother!** — Мама, не надо!

⁴ **had always accepted the good opinion that men had of themselves** — всегда безоговорочно принимала на веру преувеличенное мнение мужчин о себе

new leaf now that he was a married man.¹ I didn't know why they laughed..."

They listened to her in silence. Kathleen never took her eyes off her sister's face; Mr. Skinner stared straight in front of him.

"It wasn't till I went back to Kuala Solor a year and a half later that I found out why their manner had seemed to me strange.

I found out that Harold had come back to England — when I met him — in order to marry. He did not much mind who it was.² He just had to marry somebody. The fact was that he was a real drunkard. He used to go to bed every night with a bottle of whisky and drink it before morning. The Chief Secretary told him he would have to resign if he did not stop drinking. He said he'd give him one more chance. He advised him to take his leave, go to England and marry so that when he got back he'd have somebody to look after him. Harold married me because he had hoped I would look after him. They took bets in Kuala Solor how long I'd make him stay sober."

"But he was in love with you," Mrs. Skinner interrupted. "You don't know how he used to speak to me about you, and at that time you're speaking of, when you went to Kuala Solor to have Joan,³ he wrote me such a nice letter about you."

Millicent looked at her mother again and her hands, lying on her knees, began to tremble a little. She thought of those first months of her married life. Though she had nothing much to do the days passed easily enough. Harold went to his office every morning and she spent an hour or two learning the Malay language. In the evening Harold played chess with Mr. Simpson, his assistant. After dinner they read the papers which had left London six weeks before, and then went to bed. She enjoyed being a married woman, with a house of her own, and she was pleased with the native servants. It gave her a pleasant feeling of importance to be the wife of the Resident.

They had been married nearly a year when two English naturalists came to stay with them for a few days. After dinner the men sat

¹ **he had turned over a new leaf now that he was a married man** — перевернул новую страницу своей жизни, поскольку он теперь человек женатый

² **He did not much mind who it was.** — Ему было не так уж важно на ком (жениться).

³ **to have Joan** — *зд.* где должна была родиться Джоан

down to play bridge. Millicent left them presently and went to bed. She did not know at what hour she was awakened by Harold entering the room very noisily. She kept silent because she saw that he was quite drunk. She made up her mind to speak about it in the morning. What would the naturalists think of him? But in the morning she changed her mind because Harold was quite sober and dignified.

But she was glad when the visitors went on with their journey and their life was quiet again.

Some months later Harold went on a tour of inspection¹ of his district and came back with a bad attack of malaria. After he had got well he became very shaky and his manner was quite strange. He could not stand without swaying a little, and he stared at her in a funny way. Then his assistant Mr. Simpson began to look worried and once or twice he seemed on the point of saying something² to her but didn't dare to say.

"What have you got to say to me, Mr. Simpson?" she said suddenly one evening.

He flushed and hesitated.

"Nothing. What makes you think I have anything to tell you?"

"If it's something to do with Harold³ don't you think it would be kinder to tell me frankly?"

He kept silent for a moment.

"I'm afraid it will hurt your feelings,⁴" he said at last. "And I don't like to say anything about my chief behind his back, but I think it's a pity your husband keeps a bottle of whisky at the office."

He was unwilling to speak. Millicent pressed him and at last she began to cry. Then he told her that Harold had been drunk more or less for the last fortnight. The natives were talking about it and they said that soon he would be as bad as he had been before his marriage.

"Do you think he's drinking now?" she asked.

"I don't know."

She got up and went to Harold's office. She found him there smoking cigarettes and talking to three or four Malays who stood in

front of him. There was a bottle of whisky in front of him. His face was red.

The natives went away at once.

"I came to see what you were doing," she said.

"Take a seat, my dear, take a seat," he said politely. She looked at him with angry eyes.

"You're drunk," she said.

"I have no idea¹ what you mean," he said, staring at her.

Suddenly she burst into tears. Harold looked at her for a minute, then tears began to run down his cheeks. He came towards her and fell heavily on his knees.

"Forgive me, forgive me," he said. "I promise you it will never happen again. It was that damned malaria."

He cried like a child. Presently she said, "Will you give me your word of honour that you'll never touch liquor again?"

"Yes, yes. I hate it."

It was then that she told him that she was with child.² He was happy.

"That is the one thing I wanted,"³ he said. "That will keep me from liquor."

And for several months before it was necessary for her to go to Kuala Solor to have Joan, Harold kept his word.

She was to leave him for six weeks, and he promised not to drink in her absence.

Joan was born. Six weeks later Millicent went home with her baby and a nurse. She spent a night at the mouth of the river and sent a messenger in a canoe to announce her arrival. When she came she saw that Harold was drunk. It wasn't a very pleasant home-coming...

Millicent had almost forgotten her mother and her father and her sister who sat there silently listening to her.

"I knew that I hated him then," she said. "I could have killed him."

"Oh, Millicent, don't say that!" cried her mother. "Don't forget that he's dead, poor man."

¹ a tour of inspection — инспекционная поездка

² he seemed on the point of saying something — он, казалось, порывался что-то сказать

³ if it's something to do with Harold — если это касается Гарольда

⁴ it will hurt your feelings — вам это будет неприятно

¹ I have no idea — не имею ни малейшего представления

² It was then that she told him that she was with child. — Именно тогда-то она и сказала ему, что ждет ребенка (эмпатическая конструкция).

³ That is the one thing I wanted. — Это именно то, чего я так хотел.

"Go on," said Kathleen.

"When I told him that I had learnt from the Resident's wife everything about his alcoholic past he did not bother very much more. He drank openly. Three months later he had another attack of delirium tremens."

"Why didn't you leave him?" said Kathleen.

"How could I have done it?" said Millicent. "He would have been dismissed¹ from the service in a fortnight. Who was to keep me and Joan? I had to stay. And when he was sober I had nothing to complain of. He wasn't in love with me, but he was fond of me; I hadn't married him because I was in love with him but because I wanted to be married. I did everything I could to keep liquor from him. I watched him as a cat watches a mouse. But in a little while he had another outbreak. He neglected his duties. I was afraid complaints would be made. And so it went on till our leave."

"Before we came here I begged him to be careful. I didn't want any of you to know what sort of man I had married. And he tried so hard. At last he won. For two years he never touched a drop. He lost his desire for liquor. He was even able to joke about it."

"Mr. Simpson had left us then and we had another young man called Francis."

"I'm a reformed drunkard, you know, Francis," Harold said to him once. "If it hadn't been for my wife² I'd have been dismissed long ago. I've got the best wife in the world, Francis."

"You don't know what it meant to me to hear him say that. I felt that all I'd gone through was worth while.³ I was so happy."

She was silent for a while.

"Then Joan fell ill. When she got well again I took her down to the mouth of the river in order to give her a breath of sea air. It was the first time I had been separated from Harold since I went away to have Joan. I thought a great deal about Harold, and all at once I knew that I loved him. I can't tell you how happy I was to go back to him. I wanted to tell him that and I thought it would mean a great deal to him."

"I was surprised that Harold was not on the landing-stage¹ when our boat came. I walked up the little hill on which the bungalow stood. Joan walked behind me. The bungalow was strangely silent. There seemed to be no servants about² and I could not understand anything. I wondered if Harold had not expected me so soon and was out. I went up the steps. Harold was not in the sitting-room. I called him, but there was no answer. I went into the bedroom. Harold wasn't out, he was lying on the bed asleep. I went up to the bed softly. He was lying on his back and there was an empty whisky bottle by his side. He was drunk."

"It had begun again. All my struggle for so many years was wasted. I was in a rage."

Millicent's face grew once again darkly red, she held onto the arms of the chair she sat in.

"I took him by the shoulders and shook him. 'You beast,' I cried, 'you beast'. I was so angry I don't know what I did, I don't know what I said. I shook and shook him. You don't know how terrible he looked, that large fat man with a purple face that hadn't been shaved for days. He was breathing heavily. I shouted at him but he took no notice.³ I tried to drag him out of bed, but he was too heavy. 'Open your eyes!' I screamed. I hated him. I hated him all the more because for a week I'd loved him with all my heart. He had let me down.⁴ He had let me down."

The widow licked her dry lips. She was silent for a minute.

"There was a parang on the wall by the side of the bed."

"What's a parang?" asked Mrs. Skinner.

"Don't be silly, Mother," her husband replied. "There's one on the wall behind you."

He pointed to the Malay sword which had been brought by Harold who was fond of curios.

Mrs. Skinner drew quietly into the corner of the sofa, with a little frightened gesture.

¹ **he would have been dismissed** — его бы уволили (*условное предложение третьего типа*)

² **if it hadn't been for my wife** — если бы не моя жена

³ **was worth while** — стоило этого

¹ **landing-stage** — пристань

² **there seemed to be no servants about** — казалось, в доме не было даже слуг

³ **he took no notice** — он не слышал

⁴ **He had let me down.** — Он меня предал.

"Suddenly the blood spurted out from Harold's throat," said Millicent. "A lot of blood ..."

"Millicent," cried Kathleen jumping up, "what in God's name do you mean?"¹

Mrs. Skinner stood staring at her, her mouth open.

"The parang wasn't on the wall any more," said Millicent. "It was on the bed. Then Harold opened his eyes. They were just like Joan's."

"I don't understand," said Mrs. Skinner. "How could he have committed suicide if he was in the state you describe?"

Kathleen took her sister's arm and shook it angrily. "Millicent, for God's sake, explain."

"The parang was not on the wall, I told you," repeated Millicent. "I don't know what happened. There was all the blood, and Harold opened his eyes. He died almost at once. He did not speak but he gave a sort of gasp."²

At last Mr. Skinner found his voice.

"But it was murder, do you understand that?"

Millicent gave him such a look of hatred that he shrank back. Mrs. Skinner cried out.

"Millicent, you didn't do it, did you?"³

Then Millicent did something that made them all feel as though their blood were turned to ice in their veins.⁴ She chuckled.

"I don't know who else did," she said.

"My God," said Mr. Skinner.

Kathleen was standing with her hands to her heart.

"And what happened then?" she said.

"I screamed," said Millicent. "I went to the window and opened it. I called for the nurse. She came with Joan. 'Not Joan,' I cried. 'Don't let her come.' She called the cook and told her to take the child. I cried to her to hurry. 'The Tuan's killed himself!' I cried. She gave a scream and ran out of the house."

¹ **what in God's name do you mean?** — ради бога, что ты хочешь сказать?

² **he gave a sort of gasp** — судорожно глотнул воздух

³ **you didn't do it, did you?** — ты же не сделала этого, не сделала?

⁴ **that made them all feel as though their blood were turned to ice in their veins** — отчего у них у всех кровь словно застыла в жилах

"They were all frightened and nobody came. I wrote a letter to Mr. Francis, telling him what had happened and asking him to come at once."

"How do you mean you told him what had happened?" said Kathleen.

"I said to him that on my return¹ from the mouth of the river, I had found Harold with his throat cut. That was all I told him... You know, in the tropics you have to bury dead people quickly. When Mr. Francis came Harold had been buried for nearly two days... Mr. Francis was only a boy. I could do anything I wanted with him. I told him I'd found the parang in Harold's hand and there was no doubt he'd killed himself in an attack of delirium tremens. I showed him the empty bottle. The servants said he had been drinking hard since I left to go to the sea. I told the same story at Kuala Solor. Everyone was very kind to me, and the Government granted me a pension."

For a little while nobody spoke. At last Mr. Skinner gathered himself together.

"I am a member of the legal profession.² I am a solicitor. I have certain duties. You've put me in a monstrous position."

Millicent looked at him with scorn.

"What are you going to do about it?" she asked.

"It was murder, that's what it was," he said. "Do you think I can keep it secret?"

"Don't talk nonsense, Father," said Kathleen sharply. "You can't give up your own daughter."

"You've put me in a monstrous position," he repeated.

Millicent shrugged her shoulders again.

"You made me tell you," she said.

At that moment the door was opened by the maid.

"Davis has brought the car round, sir," she said.

Kathleen had the presence of mind³ to say something and the maid went.

"We had better start now," said Millicent.

¹ **on my return** — по возвращении

² **I am a member of the legal profession.** — По своей профессии я принадлежу к тем, кто стоит на страже закона.

³ **Kathleen had the presence of mind** — у Кэтлин нашлось достаточно самообладания

"I can't go to the party now," said Mrs. Skinner, with horror. "I'm too upset. How can we face the Heywoods? And the Bishop will want to be introduced to you."

Millicent made a gesture of indifference. And in her eyes there was still an ironical expression.

"We must go, Mother," said Kathleen. "It would look so funny if we stayed away."

Mrs. Skinner looked helplessly at her husband. He went to her and helped her up from the sofa.

"I'm afraid we must go, Mother," he said.

He led her out of the room. Kathleen followed them, and a step or two behind came Millicent.

"You'll get used to it, you know," she said quietly. "At first I thought of it all the time, but now I forget it for two or three days together. I don't think there's any danger for us."

They did not answer. They walked through the hall and out of the front door. The three ladies got into the back of the car and Mr. Skinner sat down beside the driver. As it was an old car and they had no self-starter Davis went to crank it up. Mr. Skinner turned round and looked sadly at Millicent.

"You should not have told us the story,"¹ he said. "I think it was most selfish of you."

Davis took his seat and they drove off to the Canon's garden-party.

Exercises

? *Comprehension Check*

1. Say who in the story:

- 1) was going to a garden-party.
- 2) was in favour of the jumper.
- 3) had thought that it was strange that her daughter had no photographs of her husband in her room.
- 4) went up to London every morning and came down every evening.

¹ You should not have told us the story. — Ты не должна была рассказывать нам эту историю.

- 5) didn't want to get rid of Kathleen.
- 6) had a bad colour and was too fat.
- 7) said that Harold had committed suicide.
- 8) had drunk a lot.
- 9) in fact had killed Harold.
- 10) drove the family to the garden-party.

2. Say who in the story said it and in connection with what.

- 1) "There's no reason why we should all look as if we'd just come from a funeral."
- 2) "Millicent, why did you tell us that Harold had died of fever?"
- 3) "I wanted Joan to think that her father had died of fever."
- 4) "They told the Bishop in Singapore that Harold had killed himself while he was suffering from delirium tremens."
- 5) "I don't think you will much like the truth if I tell it to you."
- 6) "And I don't like to say anything about my chief behind his back, but I think it's a pity your husband keeps a bottle of whisky at the office."
- 7) "It was murder, that's what it was."
- 8) "I can't go to the party now. I'm too upset."
- 9) "You should not have told us the story. I think it was most selfish of you."

3. Mate the beginnings of the sentences in Part A with the endings in Part B.

Part A

- 1) Canon Heywood had a beautiful day for his garden party: ...
- 2) The jumper was black and white and Kathleen liked it ...
- 3) Millicent had been strangely silent ...
- 4) Generally Kathleen drove the car ...
- 5) "It seemed absurd to be told the details of my brother-in-law's death by a friend," said Kathleen, ...
- 6) Mrs. Skinner had always thought that it was a very good photograph of Harold ...

- 7) The Chief Secretary told him ...
- 8) "Everyone was kind to me, ...
- 9) "You should not have told us the story," he said, ...

Part B

- 1) ... but on grand occasions like this, Davis, who was their gardener, put on his uniform and acted as chauffeur.
- 2) ... "I think it was most selfish of you."
- 3) ... and the Government granted me a pension."
- 4) ... it was warm and the sky was blue.
- 5) ... and she had always thought him a fine man.
- 6) ... since she came back from Borneo.
- 7) ... but it was not mourning after all.
- 8) ... he would have to resign if he didn't stop drinking.
- 9) ... it made us all feel like fools."

4. Say *true* or *false* to the following statements.

- 1) Mrs. Skinner's son-in-law was alive.
- 2) Canon Heywood had a beautiful day for a garden party.
- 3) Joan was too playful for her age.
- 4) Mr. Skinner went to London three days a week.
- 5) Mrs. Skinner's daughter Kathleen was happily married.
- 6) The Bishop told Kathleen that Harold had died of a heart attack.
- 7) The Bishop's story made everybody feel like fools.
- 8) Millicent had married Harold for love.
- 9) Harold had been an ideal husband for Millicent.
- 10) Harold had given Millicent a word of honour that he would not touch liquor again.
- 11) Kathleen drove the whole family to the garden party.
- 12) Harold committed suicide.

5. Answer the following questions to the story.

- 1) Who was Mrs. Skinner mourning for?
- 2) What kind of hat did she put on?
- 3) What sort of day is good for a garden party?
- 4) Why was it a mistake to have kept Joan so long in the tropics?

- 5) Why had Mrs. Skinner and Kathleen discussed at luncheon if Kathleen should wear her jumper or her black chiffon blouse?
- 6) How long had Harold been dead already?
- 7) How did Millicent, Mrs. Skinner's elder daughter, behave after her husband's death?
- 8) Why was a garden party going to be a grand affair?
- 9) Why was there no hope for Kathleen to get married?
- 10) How had Harold died? Had he died of fever or had he committed suicide?
- 11) What had the Bishop told Kathleen about Harold's death?
- 12) Why did Mr. Skinner ask his daughter to tell the family the whole truth?
- 13) How had Millicent married Harold — for love or for his position?
- 14) What was Harold's and Millicent's routine back in Borneo?
- 15) Why couldn't Millicent leave Harold?
- 16) Why did Mr. Skinner say, after hearing Millicent's story, that it was a murder?
- 17) How did Millicent react to it?
- 18) Did Mrs. Skinner go to the party after she heard the story of her son-in-law's death?



Working with the Vocabulary

1. Make up a list of words denoting family relations.
2. Say it differently, paying attention to the words and phrases **italicised**.
 - 1) Mrs. Skinner liked *to be in good time*.
 - 2) The jumper was black and white and Kathleen liked it, but it wasn't mourning after all. Millicent, Mrs. Skinner's elder daughter, was *in favour of it*.
 - 3) "Why, Kathleen, where's Harold's photograph?" Mrs. Skinner asked. Kathleen looked around. *It no longer stood in its place*.
 - 4) "Father asked if he ought to wear a top-hat," she said. "I said *it was better to be on the safe side*."

- 5) "He was able *to accompany* his wife and daughters to the Canon's garden party only because it was Saturday.
- 6) "I'm sure Harold wouldn't wish me *to wear mourning for him indefinitely*."
- 7) *The thought of her husband turned her ideas* to the party they were going to.

3. **Fill in the gaps in the sentences with proper phrases or their elements given below (in an appropriate form).**

To be busy with; to be in favour of; to be on the safe side; on grand occasions; on one's way home; to die of; to suffer from; to be in love with.

- 1) Generally Kathleen drove the car, but _____ like this Davis, who was their gardener, put on his uniform and acted as a chauffeur.
- 2) Her daughter Kathleen was at the writing-table, _____ with some work for the Ladies' Golf Club as she was the honorary secretary of the Club.
- 3) The Bishop spent two or three days in Singapore _____ home.
- 4) The jumper was black and white and Kathleen liked it, but it was not mourning after all. Millicent, Mrs. Skinner's elder daughter, was _____ favour _____ it.
- 5) "Millicent," said Kathleen suddenly, "why did you tell us that Harold _____ fever?"
- 6) "They told the Bishop in Singapore that Harold had killed himself while he _____ delirium tremens."
- 7) "You know I wasn't _____ Harold when I married him," she said thoughtfully.

5. **Choose the right word to fill in the gaps.**

- 1) She had spoken of it once, but Millicent had _____ no reply.
 - a) done
 - b) made
 - c) said
- 2) Kathleen had not much hopes _____.
 - a) neither
 - b) either

c) also

- 3) She watched her sister _____ a moment.
 - a) during
 - b) for
 - c) while
- 4) "The Bishop says that Harold committed _____ suicide," said Kathleen.
 - a) a
 - b) the
 - c) —
- 5) "What made him _____ such a dreadful thing?"
 - a) to do
 - b) doing
 - c) do
- 6) Millicent was looking at him _____.
 - a) calm
 - b) calmly
- 6) "Oh, my dear, how _____!"
 - a) dreadful
 - b) dreadfully
- 7) "It will make it easier for all of us if we _____ the exact truth."
 - a) shall know
 - b) know
- 8) He cried _____ a child.
 - a) like
 - b) as



Discussion

1. Do you agree that Millicent had killed her husband? Give your reasoning.
2. Give sketch-portraits of all the Skinners.
3. Do you agree that some murders can be justified?
4. If Millicent had been brought to court, would she have been justified there? Why?
5. Do you sympathise with Millicent or do you consider her to be a murderer?

Vocabulary

Принятые сокращения

a adjective прилагательное
a predic. adjective predicative прилагательное, употребляющееся только предикативно, т. е. в качестве именной части составного сказуемого
adv adverb наречие
cj conjunction союз
int interjection междометие
n noun существительное

pl plural множественное число
pron pronoun местоимение
p. p. past participle причастие прошедшего времени
prp preposition предлог
v verb глагол
geogr. — география
зд. — здесь
разг. — употребительно в разговорной речи

В словаре даны в основном те значения слов, которые встречаются в контексте.

A

able [eɪbl] *a* способный; **be able (to)** мочь, быть в состоянии
aboard [ə'bo:d] *adv, prp* на корабле, на борту; **all** ~! посадка закончена
about [ə'baʊt] *prp* о, об; *adv* около, приблизительно, кругом; **be** ~ (to) собираться (что-л. сделать)
above [ə'baʊ] *prp* над
absence ['æbsəns] *n* отсутствие
accept [ək'sept] *v* принимать
accompany [ə'kʌmpəni] *v* сопровождать
according (to) [ə'kɔ:diŋ] *prp* согласно, в соответствии
accuse [ə'kjuz] *v* обвинять
accustomed [ə'kʌstəmd] *p. p.* привыкший; **be** ~ иметь привычку, привыкнуть
ache [eɪk] *n* боль
across [ə'krɒs] *prp* через, сквозь; *adv* поперек, на ту сторону
act [ækt] *v* действовать, поступать; играть (роль в спектакле)

acting ['æktɪŋ] *n* игра (*театр.*)
actually ['æktʃuəli] *adv* фактически, на самом деле
add [æd] *v* добавлять
additional [ə'dɪʃənəl] *a* добавочный, дополнительный
address [ə'dres] *v* обращаться; *n* адрес
admit [əd'mɪt] *v* допускать, принимать
adventure [əd'ventʃə] *n* приключение
advice [əd'vaɪs] *n* совет
advise [əd'vaɪz] *v* советовать
affair [ə'feə] *n* дело
afraid [ə'freɪd] *a predic.* испуганный; **be** ~ (of) бояться
after [ɑ'ftə] *prp* после, за; *cj* после того как
afternoon [ɑ'ftə'nun] *n* время после полудня; **in the** ~ днем
again [ə'gen] *adv* опять, снова
against [ə'genst] *prp* против, к
agency ['eidʒənsi] *n* агентство

ago [ə'gəʊ] *adv* тому назад; **long** ~ давно
agree [ə'gri:] *v* соглашаться
air [eə] *n* воздух
alarm [ə'la:m] *n* тревога
alive [ə'laɪv] *a* живой
all [ɔ:l] *pron* всё, все; **at** ~ вообще, совсем; ~ **over** по всему пространству, поверхности
allow [ə'laʊ] *v* разрешать
almost ['ɔ:lməʊst] *adv* почти
alone [ə'ləʊn] *v* один, одинокий, сама; **leave** ~ оставить в покое
along [ə'lɒŋ] *prp* вдоль, по; *adv* с собой, вместе
aloud [ə'laʊd] *adv* громко, вслух
already [ɔ:l'reɪdɪ] *adv* уже
also ['ɔ:lsəʊ] *adv* тоже, также
although [ɔ:l'dəʊ] *cj* хотя, несмотря на то, что
altogether [ˌɔ:ltə'geðə] *adv* вполне, всецело
always ['ɔ:lwəz] *adv* всегда
amazement [ə'meɪzmənt] *n* изумление
among [ə'mʌŋ] *prp* среди
amuse [ə'mju:z] *v* забавлять, развлекать
angrily ['æŋgrɪli] *adv* сердито, гневно
angry ['æŋgrɪ] *a* сердитый; **be** ~ сердиться, рассердиться
anniversary [ˌæni'vɜ:səri] *n* годовщина
announce [ə'naʊns] *v* объявлять
another [ə'nʌðə] *pron* еще один, другой
anxious ['æŋkʃəs] *a* озабоченный
apologise [ə'pɒlədʒaɪz] *v* приносить извинения
appear [ə'piə] *v* появляться
appearance [ə'piərəns] *n* внешность; появление; призрак
approach [ə'prəʊtʃ] *v* приближаться

Argentine ['ɑ:dʒəntaɪn] *n* аргентинец
arm [ɑ:m] *n* рука (от кисти до плеча); ручка (кресла)
around [ə'raʊnd] *prp* вокруг; около, по
arrange [ə'reɪndʒ] *v* устраивать, располагать; сговариваться, улаживаться
arrangement [ə'reɪndʒmənt] *n* устройство; посадка; договоренность
arrival [ə'raɪvl] *n* прибытие
art [ɑ:t] *n* искусство
article ['ɑ:tɪkl] *n* статья
as [æz, əz] *adv; cj* когда, так как; **as** ... **as** так же как; **as if** как будто; **as soon as** как только
Asiatic [ˌeɪʃi'etɪk] *a* азиатский
ashamed [ə'ʃeɪmd] *a predic.* стыженный; **be** ~ (of) стыдиться
asleep [ə'sli:p] *a predic* спящий; **be** ~ спать; **fall** ~ заснуть
assistant [ə'sɪstənt] *n* помощник, продавец
astonish [əs'tɒnɪʃ] *v* удивлять, поражать; **be** ~ удивляться, поражаться
attack [ə'tæk] *v* нападать; *n* приступ
attention [ə'tenʃən] *n* внимание; **pay** ~ обращать внимание
attentive [ə'tentɪv] *a* внимательный
avoid [ə'vɔɪd] *v* избегать
await [ə'weɪt] *v* ожидать
awaken [ə'weɪkən] *v* будить
awful [ɔ:fl] *a* внушающий страх; *разг.* ужасный

B

baby ['beɪbi] *n* ребенок, младенец
bacillus [bə'sɪləs] *n* бацилла
back [bæk] *n* спина; *a* задний; *adv* назад, обратно

background ['bækgraʊnd] *n* фон; задний план; глубина
bacterium [bæ'ktɪəpəm] *n* бактерия
pl bacteria
bald [bɔ:ld] *a* лысый
ball [bɔ:l] *n* мяч, шар
band [bænd] *n* оркестр
bank [bæŋk] *n* берег
bar [bɑ:] *n* брусок
bare [beə] *a* босой
bargain ['bɑ:ɡɪn] *n* (торговая) сделка
barrow ['bærou] *n* тачка
battle [bætl] *n* битва, сражение
beach [bi:tʃ] *n* пляж
bead [bi:d] *n* бусина; *pl* бусы
bear (bore, born) [beə (bɔ:, bɔ:n)] *v* нести; переносить, выдерживать
beard [biəd] *n* борода
beast [bi:st] *n* зверь
beautiful [bjʊtɪfəl] *a* красивый
beauty ['bjʊti] *n* красота
bed [bed] *n* клумба
become (became, become) [bi'kʌm (bi'keɪm, bi'kʌm)] *v* становиться, делаться
before [bi'fɔ:] *conj* прежде чем, перед (тем как), до
beg [beg] *v* просить; ~ **pardon** просить прощения
begin (began, begun) [bi'ɡɪn (bi'ɡæp, bi'ɡʌn)] *v* начинать
beginning [bi'ɡɪnɪŋ] *n* начало
behave [bi'heɪv] *v* вести себя
behind [bi'haɪnd] *adv* сзади, позади; после, за
believe [bi'li:v] *v* верить
belong [bi'lɒŋ] *v* принадлежать
below [bi'ləʊ] *adv* ниже, внизу, вниз
bend (bent, bent) [bend (bent)] *v* сгибать (ся), гнуть (ся)
berth [bɜ:θ] *n* койка (на пароходе)
beside [bi'saɪd] *prep* рядом с

besides [bi'saɪdz] *adv* кроме того, сверх того
bet [bet] *n* пари; **take** ~ держать пари
between [bi'twi:n] *prep* между
beyond [bi'jɒnd] *adv* вдали; за; на расстоянии
bill [bil] *n* счет
binding ['baɪndɪŋ] *n* переплет
bird [bɜ:d] *n* птица
bishop ['bɪʃəp] *n* епископ
bite (bit, bitten) [baɪt (bit, bɪtn)] *v* кусать; *n* укус
blackguard ['blæɡɑ:d] *n* негодяй
blame [bleɪm] *v* порицать, считать виновным; *n* порицание, упрек
blank [blæŋk] *a* пустой, чистый, неисписанный (о бумаге)
blast [blɑ:st] *n* проклятье
blind [blaɪnd] *a* слепой
blood [blʌd] *n* кровь
blouse [blaʊz] *n* блузка
blow¹ (blew, blown) [bləʊ (blu:, bləʊn)] *v* дуть; ~ **up** взорвать; ~ **tube** духовое ружье
blow² *n* удар
blue [blu:] *a* голубой, синий
boast [bəʊst] *v* хвастать
boat [bəʊt] *n* пароход, лодка
body ['bɒdi] *n* тело
boil [bɔɪl] *v* кипятить
boot [bu:t] *n* ботинок
bortsch [bɔ:ʃ] *n* борщ
both [bəʊθ] *pron* оба; **both ... and** и ... и
bother ['bɒðə] *v* беспокоить(ся), волноваться
bottle [bɒtl] *n* бутылка
bow¹ [bəʊ] *v* кланяться
bow² [bəʊ] *n* нос (корабля)
box [bɒks] *n* ящик
brass-plate ['brɑ:s pleɪt] *n* медная дощечка (на двери)
bravely [breɪvli] *adv* храбро

break (broke, broken) [breɪk (brəʊk, brəʊkn)] *v* ломать, разбивать; прерывать
breast [breɪst] *n* грудь
breath [breθ] *n* дыхание
breathe [bri:ð] *v* дышать
breathlessly ['breθlɪslɪ] *adv* запыхавшись; затаив дыхание
breeze [bri:z] *n* легкий ветерок
bridge [brɪdʒ] *n* мост
bright [braɪt] *a* умный; яркий; ясный, светлый; *adv* ярко
brilliantly ['brɪljəntli] *adv* блестяще
bring (brought) [brɪŋ (brɔ:t)] *v* приносить, приводить
British ['brɪtɪʃ] *a* британский, английский
broad [brɔ:d] *a* широкий
brother-in-law ['brʌðəpɪn,lɔ:] *n* зять, деверь, шурин
bundle [bʌndl] *n* узел
bungalow ['bʌŋɡələʊ] *n* бунгало, дом с верандой
burn (burnt, burnt) [bɜ:n (bɜ:nt)] *v* гореть; загорать (на солнце)
burst (burst, burst) [bɜ:st (bɜ:st)] *v* лопнуть; оторваться; залиться (смехом, слезами)
busily ['bɪzɪli] *adv* деловито
butler ['bʌtlə] *n* дворецкий, старший лакей
button¹ [bʌtn] *n* пуговица
button² *n* кнопка (звонка)
buy (bought, bought) [baɪ (bɔ:t)] *v* покупать

С

cab [kæb] *n* кеб, наемный экипаж
cabman ['kæbmən] *n* извозчик
calculation [kælkju'leɪʃən] *n* расчет; вычисление
call [kɔ:l] *v* звать, окликать; называть; ~ **on** нанести визит
calm [kɑ:m] *a* спокойный

camera ['kæməɹə] *n* фотографический аппарат
candle [kændl] *n* свеча
canoe [kə'nu:] *n* каноэ, челнок
canon ['kænən] *n* каноник (церк.)
canvas ['kænvəs] *n* брезент
car [kɑ:] *n* автомобиль; вагон
card [kɑ:d] *n* карта (игральная)
care [keə] *v* заботиться; *n* забота, внимание; **take** ~ позаботиться
careful ['keəfəl] *a* осторожный, внимательный
carelessly ['keəlɪslɪ] *adv* небрежно, неосторожно; беззаботно
carrier-pigeon ['kæriə,pɪdʒɪn] *n* почтовый голубь
carry ['kæri] *v* нести; ~ **away** унести
case¹ [keɪs] *n* случай
case² *n* коробка
catch (caught, caught) [kætʃ (kɔ:t)] *v* поймать, схватить; ~ **cold** простудиться; ~ **up** схватить, захватить
cause [kɔ:z] *n* причина; *v* причинять
celebrity [si'lebrɪti] *n* знаменитость
cellar ['selə] *n* подвал, погреб
centre ['sentə] *n* центр
century ['sentʃəri] *n* век, столетие
certain [sə'teɪn] *a* некий
certainly ['sɜ:nlɪ] *adv* конечно
certificate [sə'tɪfɪkət] *n* письменное удостоверение, свидетельство
certify ['sɜ:tɪfaɪ] *v* удостоверить, подтверждать
chain [tʃeɪn] *n* цепь
champagne [ʃæm'peɪn] *n* шампанское
chance [tʃɑ:ns] *n* шанс, возможность
change [tʃeɪndʒ] *n* перемена, изменение; *v* менять(ся)
chapter ['tʃæptə] *n* глава

character ['kærɪktə] *n* образ; персонаж; разг. чудака, оригинал
check [tʃek] *n* чек; *v* останавливать-ся, сдерживать
cheek [tʃi:k] *n* щека
chess [tʃes] *n* шахматы
chew [tʃu:] *v* жевать
chief [tʃi:f] *a* главный
chink [tʃɪŋk] *n* щель
chuckle [tʃʌkl] *v* посмеиваться, хихикать
circle [sə:kl] *n* круг
cistern ['sɪstən] *n* бак
clasp [kla:sp] *n* застежка
clay [kleɪ] *n* глина
clean [kli:n] *a* чистый, аккуратный; *v* чистить
clean-shaven [kli:n 'ʃeɪvn] *a* чисто выбритый
clear [kliə] *a* ясный
clever ['klevə] *a* умный
click [klɪk] *n* шелканье; *v* шелкать
client ['klaɪənt] *n* клиент
climate ['klaɪmɪt] *n* климат
climb [klaɪm] *v* взбираться, карабкаться
close¹ [klaʊs] *adv* близко
close² [klaʊz] *v* закрывать(ся)
clothes [klaʊðz] *n* платье, одежда
clue [klu:] *n* ключ (*к разгадке ч.-л.*)
clutch [klʌtʃ] *v* схватить, зажать; *n* сжатие
coal [kəʊl] *n* уголь
coarse [kɔ:s] *a* грубый
coat [kəʊt] *n* пальто; пиджак, сюртук
coil [kəɪl] *n* виток, кольцо (*о веревке*)
collar ['kɒlə] *n* воротник, воротничок
colonel [kə:nl] *n* полковник
come off *v* соскочить; **come out** выплыть (*наружу*), стать известным

commit [kə'mɪt] *v* совершать; ~ **suicide** покончить с собой
comfortable ['kʌmfətəbl] *a* удобный
complain [kəm'pleɪn] *v* жаловаться
complaint [kəm'pleɪnt] *n* жалоба
complete [kəm'plɪt] *a* полный, законченный
communicate [kə'mju:nɪkeɪt] *v* связаться; сообщать
conceal [kən'si:l] *v* прятать, скрывать
conduct ['kɒndʌkt] *n* поведение
confession [kən'feʃən] *n* признание
confidential [kənfi'denʃəl] *a* конфиденциальный, секретный
confirm [kən'fɜ:m] *v* подтверждать
confusing [kən'fju:zɪŋ] *a* запутанный, непонятный
connection [kə'nekʃən] *n* отношение
consist (of) [kən'sɪst] *v* состоять (из)
conspiracy [kən'spɪrəsi] *n* заговор
consult [kən'sʌlt] *v* советоваться
contain [kən'teɪn] *v* содержать в себе
continue [kən'tɪnju:] *v* продолжать
conversation [kən'veɪ'seɪʃən] *n* беседа
cool [ku:l] *a* спокойный
copy ['kɒpi] *v* переписывать, снимать копию
corner ['kɔ:nə] *n* угол
correct [kə'rekt] *v* поправлять
count [kaʊnt] *n* граф
couple [kʌpl] *n* пара
couplet ['kʌplɪt] *n* рифмованное двустишие
courage ['kʌrɪdʒ] *n* смелость, мужество
course [kɔ:s]; *of* ~ конечно
courtyard ['kɔ:tjɑ:d] *n* двор
cover ['kʌvə] *v* покрывать
crack [kræk] *n* треск; *v* производить треск

crank up [kræŋk] *v* заводить рукоятью
crash [kræʃ] *n* грохот
create [kri'eɪt] *v* создавать
creature ['kri:tʃə] *n* существо
crew [kru:] *n* экипаж (*судна*)
crime [kraɪm] *n* преступление
criminal ['krɪmɪnəl] *n* преступник
crook [kruk] *n* обманщик, мошенник
crossly ['krɒsli] *adv* сердито, сварливо
crowd [kraʊd] *n* толпа
cry [kraɪ] *v* кричать, плакать; ~ **out** восклицать; *n* крик
cultivation [kʌltɪ'veɪʃən] *n* культура (*бактерий*)
cup [kʌp] *n* чашка
curio ['kjuəriə] *n* редкая, антикварная вещь
curiously ['kjuəriəslɪ] *adv* странно; с любопытством
curse [kɜ:s] *v* проклинать; ругаться
curtain [kɜ:tɪn] *n* занавеска
cut (cut, cut) [kʌt (kʌt)] *v* резать, порезать; *n* царапина

D

damned [dæmd] *a* проклятый; чертовский
dance [dɑ:ns] *v* танцевать
danger ['deɪndʒə] *n* опасность
dangerous ['deɪndʒərəs] *a* опасный
dare [deə] *v* осмеливаться
dark [dɑ:k] *a* темный
darling ['dɑ:lɪŋ] *n* милый, дорогой; голубчик
dawn [dɔ:n] *v* осенить
dead [ded] *a* мертвый; полный; совершенный; **be** ~ умереть
deal [di:l] *a* great ~ много
death [deθ] *n* смерть
debt [det] *n* долг
decide [dɪ'saɪd] *v* решить(ся)

decision [dɪ'sɪʒn] *n* решение
deck [dek] *n* палуба
decorate ['dekəreɪt] *v* украшать
deep [di:p] *a* глубокий
defend [dɪ'fend] *v* защищать
definite ['defɪnɪt] *a* определенный
delay [dɪ'leɪ] *n* задержка; *v* задерживать(ся)
delirium tremens [dɪ'lɪrɪəm 'trɪmɛns] *n* белая горячка
demand [dɪ'mɑ:nd] *v* спрашивать, требовать
demonstrative [dɪ'mɒnstrətɪv] *a* демонстративный, откровенный
deny [dɪ'naɪ] *v* отрицать
descend [dɪ'send] *v* сойти, спуститься
describe [dɪs'kraɪb] *v* описывать
deserve [dɪ'zɜ:v] *v* заслуживать
design [dɪ'zeɪn] *n* конструкция, проект
desire [dɪ'zaɪə] *v* желать; *n* желание
desk [desk] *n* письменный стол
despair [dɪs'preɪ] *n* отчаяние
destruction [dɪs'trʌkʃən] *n* разрушение, уничтожение
detail ['dɪteɪl] *n* подробность
devil ['devɪl] *n* дьявол
devote [dɪ'vəʊt] *v* посвящать
diamond ['daɪmænd] *n* бриллиант
die [daɪ] *v* умирать
different ['dɪfrənt] *a* разный, различный
dig (dug, dug) [dɪg (dʌg)] *v* копать
dignified ['dɪgnɪfaɪd] *a* величественный; обладающий чувством собственного достоинства
direction [dɪ'rekʃən] *n* направление
disappear [dɪsə'pɪə] *v* исчезать
disappearance [dɪsə'pɪərəns] *n* исчезновение
disappoint [dɪsə'pɔɪnt] *v* разочаровывать(ся)

discipline ['disiplin] *n* дисциплина
discover [dis'kʌvə] *v* узнавать, открывать, обнаруживать
discuss [dis'kʌs] *v* обсуждать
disease [di'zi:z] *n* болезнь
disguise [dis'gaiz] *v* переодеваться, маскироваться; *n* маскировка, маска

dismiss [dis'mis] *v* увольнять
disorder [dis'ɔ:də] *n* беспорядок
distort [dis'tɔ:t] *v* искажать
district ['distrikt] *n* район
disturb [dis'tə:b] *v* беспокоить, мешать; смущать
divide (by) [di'vaɪd] *v* делить(ся)
doorway ['dɔ:weɪ] *n* вход в помещение; **in the ~** в дверях
doubt [daʊt] *n* сомнение; *v* сомневаться
downstairs [,daʊn'steəz] *adv* вниз по лестнице; внизу
doze [dɔ:z] *v* дремать
drag [dræg] *v* тащить
draw (drew, drawn) [drɔ: (dru:, drɔ:n)] *v* тянуть, отодвигать(ся)
dreadful ['dredfəl] *a* ужасный, отвратительный
dream [dri:m] *n* сон; *v* увидеть сон; мечтать
dreaminess ['dri:mi:nɪs] *n* мечтательность
dress [dres] *n* платье; *v* одевать(ся)
drift [drɪft] *v* дрейфовать, относиться течением
drink (drank, drunk) [drɪŋk (dræŋk, drʌŋk)] *v* пить
drive (drove, driven) [draɪv (drouv, drɪvn)] *v* ехать, вести машину
driver ['draɪv] *n* шофер
drop [drɒp] *v* уронить, опустить(ся); *n* капля
drunkard ['drʌŋkəd] *n* пьяница
dry [draɪ] *a* сухой; *v* сушить, высушивать, осушить

duchess ['dʌtʃɪs] *n* герцогиня
dull [dʌl] *a* скучный
during ['djʊərɪŋ] *prp* в течение, во время
dusty ['dʌsti] *a* пыльный
duty ['dju:ti] *n* долг, обязанность

Е

each [i:tʃ] *pron* каждый; **each other** друг друга
ear [ɪə] *n* ухо
early ['ɜ:li] *adv* рано; *a* ранний
earn [ɜ:n] *v* зарабатывать
earth [ɜ:θ] *n* земля, грунт
East [i:st] *n* восток
eat (ate, eaten) [i:t (et, ɛt, ɪtn)] *v* есть
eavesdropper ['i:vz, drɒpə] *n* подслушивающий
eccentric [ɪk'sentrik] *a* эксцентричный
education [ˌedju'keɪʃən] *n* образование
effort ['efət] *n* усилие
egg [eg] *n* яйцо
either ['aɪðə] *pron* один из двух
either ... or *сj* или ... или
elbow ['elbou] *n* локоть
elder ['eldə] *a* старший (*в семье*)
else [els] *pron* другой; *adv* еще, кроме
empty ['empti] *a* пустой, свободный (*о месте*)
engaged [ɪn'geɪdʒd] *a* занятый, помолженный; помолвленный
engagement [ɪn'geɪdʒmənt] *n* занятие; встреча, свидание
enjoy [ɪn'dʒɔɪ] *v* наслаждаться
enough [ɪ'naʃ] *adv* достаточно
enter ['entə] *v* входить; поступать (*на работу*)
escape [ɪs'keɪp] *n* бегство; *v* ускользать
even [i:vən] *adv* даже
event [ɪ'vent] *n* событие

ever ['evə] *adv* когда-нибудь, когда-либо; всегда, когда бы то ни было
evidence ['evidəns] *n* доказательство
evidently ['evidəntli] *adv* очевидно
exact [ɪg'zækt] *a* точный
excellent ['eksələnt] *a* отличный, превосходный
except [ɪk'sept] *prp* за исключением
excitement [ɪk'saɪtmənt] *n* возбуждение, волнение
exciting [ɪk'saɪtɪŋ] *a* волнующий, захватывающий
exclaim [ɪks'kleɪm] *v* восклицать
excuse [ɪks'kjuz] *v* извинять(ся)
expect [ɪks'pekt] *v* ожидать
expel [ɪks'pel] *v* исключать
exist [ɪg'zɪst] *v* существовать
expensive [ɪks'pensɪv] *a* дорогой, дорогостоящий
explain [ɪks'pleɪn] *v* объяснять
explosion [ɪks'pləʊzən] *n* взрыв
expression [ɪks'preʃən] *n* выражение
extraordinary [ɪks'trɔ:dnəri] *a* необычайный, удивительный
extremely [ɪks'tri:mli] *adv* чрезвычайно
exultation [ˌegzəl'teɪʃən] *n* ликование, торжество
eye [aɪ] *n* глаз

F

face [feɪs] *n* лицо; фасад (*дома*); *v* смотреть в лицо; стоять перед
faint [feɪnt] *v* падать в обморок
faithfully ['feɪθfəli] *adv* преданно; **yours ~** с совершенным почтением (*заключительная фраза письма*)
fall (fell, fallen) [fɔ:l (fel, fɔ:ln)] *v* падать; ~ *ill* заболеть
false [fɔ:ls] *a* фальшивый

famous ['feɪməs] *a* знаменитый, известный
farewell [feə'wel] *n* прощание
fast [fɑ:st] *adv* быстро
fate [feɪt] *n* судьба, рок; гибель
fatten ['fætənɪŋ] *v* жиреть, толстеть
favourite ['feɪvərɪt] *a* любимый
fear [fiə] *n* страх; *v* бояться
feather ['fedə] *n* перо (*птицы*)
feature ['fi:tʃə] *n* черта
feel (felt, felt) [fi:l (felt)] *v* чувствовать; нащупывать, ощупывать
feeling ['fi:lɪŋ] *n* чувство
fellow ['felou] *n* парень; **fellow-passenger** ['pæsɪndʒə] *n* попутчик
fever ['fi:və] *n* лихорадка
few [fju:] *a* мало; **a ~** несколько
fight (fought, fought) [faɪt (fɔ:t)] *v* драться, сражаться; *n* драка, сражение
figure ['figə] *n* фигура; цифра
fill (up) [fɪl] *v* наполнять, заполнять
finally ['faɪnəli] *adv* в конце концов; в конечном счете
find (found, found) [faɪnd (faʊnd)] *v* найти; ~ **out** обнаружить, узнать
fine [faɪn] *a* прекрасный, отличный
finger ['fɪŋgə] *n* палец
fire¹ [faɪə] *n* костер
fire² *v* стрелять
firmly ['fɜ:mli] *adv* твердо
fisherman ['fɪʃəmən] *n* рыбак
fist [fɪst] *n* кулак
fit [fɪt] *a* годный, подходящий; **be ~ (for)** подходить, соответствовать
flame [fleɪm] *n* пламя
flash [flæʃ] *n* вспышка; *v* быстро промелькнуть
flower ['flaʊə] *n* цветок

flush [flʌʃ] *v* приливать к лицу (*о крови*); вспыхнуть, покраснеть
flying ['flaɪɪŋ] *a* развевающийся; летучий
fold [fould] *v* складывать; *n* складка
follow ['fələʊ] *v* следовать, идти за; **(the) following** следующее
fond [fɒnd] *a* любящий; **be ~ (of)** любить, быть привязанным
food [fu:d] *n* пища
fool [fu:l] *n* глупец
foolish ['fu:lɪʃ] *a* глупый
foot [fut] *n* фут; нога (*ступня*); *pl* feet
footmark ['futmɑ:k] *n* след ноги
footstep ['fʊtstep] *n* шаг; след
forehead ['fɔ:ɪd] *n* лоб
forge [fɔ:dʒ] *v* подделывать
forget (forgot, forgotten) [fə'get (fə'got, fə'gotn)] *v* забывать
forgive (forgave, forgiven) [fə'gɪv (fə'geɪv, fə'gɪvən)] *v* прощать
formerly ['fɔ:məlɪ] *adv* раньше
formulate ['fɔ:mjuleɪt] *v* формулировать
forth [fɔ:θ] *adv* вперед, дальше
fortnight ['fɔ:tnaɪt] *n* две недели
forward ['fɔ:wəd] *adv* вперед
fountain ['faʊntɪn] *n* источник, фонтан
frankly ['fræŋkli] *adv* откровенно
free [fri:] *a* свободный
freeze (froze, frozen) [fri:z (frouz, frouzn)] *v* заморозить; замораживать
fresh [freʃ] *a* свежий, новый, последний
fry [fraɪ] жарить
friendly ['frendli] *a* дружеский; *adv* дружелюбно
fright [fraɪt] *n* страх, испуг
frighten [fraɪtn] *v* пугать
fulfil [ful'fɪl] *v* выполнять

full (of) [ful] *a* полный
fun [fʌn] *n* удовольствие; забава, шутка
funeral ['fju:nərəl] *n* похороны
funny ['fʌni] *a* забавный, смешной; странный
furious ['fjuəriəs] *a* взбешенный, неистовый, бешеный
furnished ['fɜ:nɪʃt] *a* меблированный
furniture ['fɜ:nɪtʃə] *n* мебель
further ['fɜ:ðə] *a* сравнит. степен. от far; *a* дальнейший; *adv* затем
fuse [fju:z] *n* запал, фитиль
fuss [fʌs] *v* суетиться, поднимать шум вокруг ч.-л.

G

game [geɪm] *n* игра, развлечение
gang [gæŋ] *n* шайка, банда
gate [geɪt] *n* ворота, калитка
gather ['gæðə] *v* собирать(ся)
generally ['dʒenərəli] *adv* обычно, как правило, вообще
germ [dʒɜ:m] *n* микроб; **cholera** ~ микроб холеры
gesticulate [dʒe'stɪkjuleɪt] *v* жестикулировать
gesture ['dʒestʃə] *n* жест
get (got, got) [get (gɒt)] *v* получать, доставлять; делаться, становиться ~ **on (with)** ладить; ~ **rid (of)** избавляться; ~ **used** привыкать; ~ **well** выздоравливать
ghost [gəʊst] *n* призрак, привидение
giant [dʒaɪənt] *n* великан
gigantic [dʒaɪ'gæntɪk] *a* гигантский
gist [dʒɪst] *n* суть, сущность
give (gave, given) [gɪv (geɪv, gɪvn)] *v* дать; ~ **up** выдать, донести
glance [glɑ:ns] *n* взгляд; *v* бросать взгляд
glasses ['glɑ:sɪz] *n* очки

glove [glʌv] *n* перчатка
go (went, gone) [gəʊ (went, gɒn)] *v* идти; ~ **mad** сойти с ума
going ['gəʊɪŋ] *pres.p.* от **go**; **be ~** собираться, намереваться (*что-л. сделать*)
gold [gəʊld] *n* золото; *a* золотой
golf [gɒlf] *n* гольф (*игра*)
goods ['gʊdz] *n* товары
governess ['gʌvənɪs] *n* гувернантка
government ['gʌvənmənt] *n* правительство
grand [grænd] *a* грандиозный, большой, пышный
grant [grɑ:nt] *v* жаловать, дарить
granule ['grænjʊ:l] *n* зернышко, гранула
grass [grɑ:s] *n* трава
great [greɪt] *a* великий
greek [gri:k] *n* греческий (*язык*)
greet [gri:t] *v* приветствовать
grey-haired [,greɪ'heəd] *a* седовласый
grim [grɪm] *a* мрачный
grin [grɪn] *n* оскал зубов; усмешка; *v* ухмыляться
groan [grəʊn] *n* стон; *v* стонать
ground [graʊnd] *n* земля, почва
grow (grew, grown) [grəʊ (gru:, grəʊn)] *v* расти, выращивать; делаться, становиться
grumble [grʌmbəl] *v* ворчать
guide [gaɪd] *n* проводник, гид, экскурсовод
guilty ['gɪltɪ] *a* виновный
gun [gʌn] *n* пушка; ружье

H

hair [heə] *n* волосы
half-closed [,ha:f 'kləʊzd] *a* полузакрытый
half-drunken [,ha:f 'drʌŋkən] *a* полупьяный
hand [hænd] *v* вручить

handkerchief ['hæŋkətʃɪf] *n* носовой платок
handle [hændl] *n* ручка
handsome ['hænsəm] *a* красивый
hang (hung, hung) [hæŋ (hʌŋ)] *v* висеть
hang (hanged, hanged) [hæŋ (hʌŋd)] *v* вешать
happen ['hæpən] *v* случаться, происходить
happy ['hæpi] *a* счастливый
hard [hɑ:d] *a* твердый, жесткий; тяжелый, трудный; *adv* тяжело, усиленно, напряженно; с трудом
hardly ['hɑ:dlɪ] *adv* едва-едва; вряд ли
hardworking [,hɑ:d'wɜ:kɪŋ] *a* усердный, работающий
harm [hɑ:m] *n* вред
hastily ['heɪstɪli] *adv* поспешно
hat [hæt] *n* шляпа
hate [heɪt] *v* ненавидеть
hatless [hætɪs] *a* без головного убора
hatred ['heɪtrɪd] *n* ненависть
head [hed] *n* голова, глава
healthy ['helθɪ] *a* здоровый
heap [hi:p] *n* куча
hear (heard, heard) [hiə (hɔ:d)] *v* слышать; **be heard of** давать о себе знать
heart [hɑ:t] *n* сердце
heavens [hevnz] *n* небеса; **good ~!** О боже!
heavy ['hevi] *a* тяжелый; пухлый
height [haɪt] *n* рост
help [help] *v* помогать; *n* помощь
helpless ['helplɪs] *a* беспомощный
hero ['hɪərəʊ] *n* герой, *pl* heroes
herself [hə'self] *pron* себе, себя; сама
hesitate ['hezɪteɪt] *v* колебаться
hide (hid, hidden) [haɪd (hɪd, hɪdn)] *v* прятать(ся)

high [haɪ] *a* высокий
hill [hɪl] *n* холм, пригорок
hire [haɪə] *v* нанимать; *n* наем
hit (hit, hit) [hɪt (hɪt)] *v* ударить; ушибить
hole [həʊl] *n* яма, дыра
hold (held, held) [həʊld (held)] *v* держать, удерживать; ~ **out** протянуть, вытянуть
honest ['ɒnɪst] *a* честный
honorary ['ɒnərən] *a* почетный
honour ['ɒnə] *n* честь
hope [haʊp] *n* надежда; *v* надеяться
hopelessly ['haʊplɪslɪ] *adv* безнадежно
horrible ['hɒrɪbl] *a* ужасный
horror ['hɒrə] *n* ужас
horse [hɔ:s] *n* лошадь
horse-racing ['hɔ:s, reɪsɪŋ] *n* скачки
hot [hɒt] *a* жаркий
huge [hju:dʒ] *a* огромный
human ['hju:mən] *a* человеческий
humbug ['hʌmbʌg] *n* обманщик; хвастун
humorist ['hju:məɪst] *n* человек с чувством юмора, шутник
hunger ['hʌŋgə] *n* голод
hunt [hʌnt] *v* охотиться
hurry ['hʌrɪ] *v* спешить, торопиться
husband ['hʌzbənd] *n* муж
hush [hʌʃ] *int* тише!, тсс!
hypothesis [ˌhaɪ'pɒθəsɪs] *n* гипотеза, предположение
hysterically [hɪ'sterɪkəlɪ] *adv* истерично, истерически

I

ice [aɪs] *n* лед
idea [aɪ'dɪə] *n* мысль, идея, понятие
immediately [ɪ'mɪdiətli] *adv* немедленно, тотчас же

impatiently [ɪm'peɪʃəntli] *adv* с раздражением, нетерпеливо
importance [ɪm'pɔ:təns] *n* значительность, важность
important [ɪm'pɔ:tənt] *a* важный
impossible [ɪm'pɒsəbl] *a* невозможный
impression [ɪm'preʃən] *n* впечатление
imprisoned [ɪm'prɪznd] *p.p.* заключенный
inch [ɪntʃ] *n* дюйм (= 2,5 см)
increase [ɪn'kri:z] *v* увеличивать(ся)
indeed [ɪn'di:d] *adv* в самом деле, действительно
indefinitely [ɪn'defɪnɪtli] *adv* неограниченное время
indifference [ɪn'dɪfrəns] *n* безразличие
infernally [ɪn'fə:nli] *a* адский; ~ **machine** адская машина (снаряд, начиненный взрывчаткой и воспламеняющийся при помощи часового механизма)
inscription [ɪn'skrɪpʃən] *n* надпись
inside [ɪn'saɪd] *adv* внутри, внутрь
instalment [ɪn'stə:lmənt] *n* очередной взнос (при рассрочке)
instance ['ɪnstəns] *n* пример; **for** ~ например
instead [ɪn'sted] *adv* вместо этого, взамен; ~ **of** *ppr* вместо
instinctively [ɪn'stɪŋktɪvli] *adv* инстинктивно
intend [ɪn'tend] *v* намереваться
intense [ɪn'tens] *a* интенсивный, напряженный
interrupt [ɪntə'rʌpt] *v* прерывать
intrigued [ɪn'trɪgd] *p.p.* заинтригованный
introduce [ɪntrə'dju:s] *v* представлять, знакомить
introduction [ɪntrə'dʌkʃən] *n* рекомендация

invent [ɪn'vent] *n* изобретать
invisible [ɪn'vɪzəbl] *a* невидимый
invite [ɪn'vaɪt] *v* приглашать
ironical [aɪ'rɒnɪkəl] *a* иронический
irony ['aɪrəni] *n* ирония
irritate ['ɪrɪteɪt] *v* раздражать

J

jackal ['dʒækəl] *n* шакал
jaw [dʒɔ:] *n* челюсть
jewel ['dʒu:əl] *n* драгоценный камень; ювелирное изделие
join [dʒɔɪn] *v* соединять(ся), присоединять(ся)
joke [dʒəʊk] *n* шутка; **practical** ~ розыгрыш; *v* шутить
journey ['dʒɜ:nɪ] *n* поездка, путешествие
judge [dʒʌdʒ] *n* судья
jump [dʒʌmp] *v* прыгать
juniper ['dʒʌmpə] *n* прыгун, скакун
juniper² *n* джемпер
jungle [dʒʌŋɡl] *n* джунгли
just [dʒʌst] *adv* только что, как раз; именно; *разг.* просто

K

keen [ki:n] *a* пронизательный; острый
keep (kept, kept) [ki:p (kept)] *v* держать, удерживать; сохранять, соблюдать; содержать
key [ki:] *n* ключ
kill [kɪl] *n* убивать
kind¹ [kaɪnd] *n* вид, род, тип
kind² *a* добрый
kindly ['kaɪndli] *adv* любезно
kiss [kɪs] *v* целовать
kitchen ['kɪtʃən] *n* кухня
kitten [kɪtn] *n* котенок
knee [ni:] *n* колено
knock [nɒk] *n* стук; *v* стучать; ~ **down** свалить с ног

know (knew, known) [nou (nju:, noun)] *v* знать, узнавать
knowledge ['nɒlɪdʒ] *n* знание

L

lady ['leɪdɪ] *n* дама; **ladylike** воспитанная, имеющая вид и манеры леди
lake [leɪk] *n* озеро
lame [leɪm] *a* хромо
land [lənd] *n* земля; страна; *v* приземляться, высаживаться (на сушу)
landing ['ləndɪŋ] *n* лестничная площадка
last¹ [lɑ:st] *a* последний, прошлый; ~ **night** вчера вечером; **at** ~ наконец
last² *v* продолжаться
late [leɪt] *a* поздний; *adv* поздно
laugh [lɑ:f] *v* смеяться
lawyer ['lɔ:jə] *n* адвокат, юрист
lay (laid, laid) [leɪ (leɪd)] *v* положить, класть
lazy ['leɪzɪ] *a* ленивый
lead (led, led) [li:d (led)] *v* вести (за собой)
lead [led] *n* свинец
leaf [li:f] *n* лист; страница
lean (leant, leant) [li:n (lent)] *v* наклоняться, прислоняться
learn (learnt, learnt) [lɜ:n (lənt)] *v* учиться; узнавать
least [li:st] *a* *превосх. ст.* **om little**; **at** ~ по крайней мере
leather ['leðə] *n* кожа; *a* кожаный
leave (left, left) [li:v (left)] *v* уходить, покидать, оставлять; *n* отпуск; ~ **alone** оставлять в покое
lecturer ['lektʃərə] *n* лектор
left [left] *a* левый; *adv* налево, слева
leg [leg] *n* нога (от бедра до ступни)

legal ['li:ɡəl] *a* юридический
let (let, let) [let (let)] *v* позволять, разрешать (*в повелительном наклонении выражает приглашение, приказание*); ~ **out** выпускать
letter ['letə] *n* буква; письмо
liar [laɪə] *n* лгун
lick [lɪk] *v* облизывать
lid [lɪd] *n* крышка
lie (lay, lain) [laɪ (lei, leɪ)] *v* лежать
lifeboat ['laɪfbəʊt] *n* спасательная шлюпка
light (lit, lit) [laɪt (lɪt)] *v* зажигать; *a* светлый
like [laɪk] *a* похожий, подобный; *adv* подобно, как; **look** ~ быть похожим, выглядеть как
limp [lɪmp] *a* мягкий, слабый
lined [laɪnd] *a* морщинистый
lip [lɪp] *n* губа
liquor ['lɪkə] *n* спиртной напиток
listen [lɪsn] *v* слушать, прислушиваться
lock [lɒk] *v* запирать
lonely ['ləʊnli] *a* пустынный, одинокий
look [lʊk] *v* смотреть, выглядеть; ~ **about** оглядываться по сторонам; ~ **after** заботиться ~ **around** оглядеться; ~ **for** искать; ~ **in** взглянуть, зайти; ~ **like** походить
lose (lost, lost) [lu:z (lɒst)] *v* терять; ~ **one's temper** рассердиться, разозлиться
loss [lɒs] *n* потеря
lot [lɒt] *n* множество **a** ~ **of** много, масса
loud [laʊd] *a* громкий
love [lʌv] *n* любовь; *v* любить; **be in** ~ быть влюбленным
lovely ['lʌvli] *a* прекрасный, восхитительный
low [ləʊ] *a* низкий; тихий

luck [lʌk] *n* удача
luncheon ['lʌntʃən] *n* завтрак (*обычно официальный*)

M

ma'am [mæm] (*сокp. от madam*) *n* сударыня, госпожа
mad [mæd] *a* сумасшедший; **go** ~ сходить с ума
magic ['mædʒɪk] *n* магия, волшебство; *a* волшебный, колдовской, заколдованный
maid [meɪd] *n* служанка
main [meɪn] *a* главный
mainland ['meɪnlənd] *n* материк
make (made, made) [meɪk (meɪd)] *v* делать; ~ **fun (of)** высмеивать; ~ **one's way** прокладывать себе дорогу; ~ **sure** удостовериться; ~ **up** придумывать
Malay [mə'leɪ] *n* малаец
manner ['mænə] *n* манера; поведение
mark [mɑ:k] *v* отмечать; *n* отметка; след
marriage ['mæɪrɪdʒ] *n* женитьба, замужество, брак
marry ['mæri] *v* выйти замуж, жениться
match [mætʃ] *n* спичка
material [mə'tɪəriəl] *n* материал
matter ['mætə] *n* дело; **what is the** ~ в чем дело? **it does not** ~ неважно
maybe ['meɪbi] *adv* может быть
mean (meant, meant) [mi:n (ment)] *v* значить, означать; иметь в виду, хотеть сказать
means [mi:nz] *n* средство, способ; **by** ~ **of** при помощи
meanwhile ['mi:nwaɪl] *adv* тем временем, между тем
meat [mi:t] *n* мясо
medicine ['medsən] *n* лекарство

meet (met, met) [mi:t (met)] *v* встречать(ся)
member ['membə] *n* член
mention ['menʃən] *v* упоминать; **don't** ~ **it** не стоит, пожалуйста (*в ответ на благодарность*)
messenger ['mesəndʒə] *n* посыльный, курьер
middle [mɪdl] *n* середина; **in the** ~ посередине
mile [maɪl] *n* миля (= 1609 м)
mind [maɪnd] *v* возражать; *n* ум, рассудок; **change one's** ~ передумать; **concentrate one's** ~ сосредоточиться; **make up one's** ~ принимать решение
mirror ['mɪrə] *n* зеркало
miserable ['mɪzərəbl] *a* жалкий, несчастный
miss [mɪs] *v* пропустить; не попасть
mission [mɪʃn] *n* миссия
missionary ['mɪʃənəri] *n* миссионер
mistake (mistook, mistaken) [mɪs'teɪk (mɪs'tʊk, mɪs'teɪkn)] *v* по ошибке принять за кого-л. другого; *n* ошибка; **be mistaken** ошибиться
mistress ['mɪstrɪs] *n* хозяйка
mock [mɒk] *v* насмехаться
money ['mʌni] *n* деньги
monkey ['mʌŋki] *n* обезьяна
monstrous ['mɒnstərəs] *a* чудовищный
moon [mu:n] *n* луна
moral ['mɔ:rl] *a* добродетельный, высоконравственный
most (of) большинство; ~ **of all** больше всего
mostly ['mʌʊstli] *adv* большей частью; в большинстве
motionless ['mʌʊʃənɪs] *a* неподвижный
mountain ['maʊntɪn] *n* гора

mourning ['mɔ:niŋ] *n* траур
mouse [maʊs] *n* мышь
moustache [mə'sta:ʃ] *n* усы
mouth [maʊθ] *n* рот; устье реки
move [mu:v] *v* двигать(ся), перемещать(ся)
Mr. ['mɪstə] (*сокp. от mister*) *n* мистер, господин
Mrs. ['mɪsɪz] (*сокp. от mistress* ['mɪstrɪs]) *n* миссис, госпожа (*ставится перед фамилией замужней женщины*)
multiply ['mʌltɪplaɪ] *v* размножаться
murderer ['mɜ:dərə] *n* убийца
mysterious [mɪ'stɪəriəs] *a* таинственный, непостижимый
mystery ['mɪstəri] *n* тайна, секрет

N

narrow ['nærou] *a* узкий
native ['neɪtɪv] *n* туземец
natural ['nætʃərəl] *a* естественный, природный
naturalist ['nætʃərəlɪst] *n* естествоиспытатель
nature ['neɪtʃə] *n* натура, природа
necessary ['nesɪsəri] *a* необходимый, нужный
neck [nek] *n* шея
necklace ['neklɪs] *n* ожерелье
need [ni:d] *v* нуждаться
neglect [nɪ'glekt] *v* пренебрегать
neighbour ['neɪbə] *n* сосед
nervous ['nɜ:vəs] *a* нервный; **be** ~ волноваться
next [nekst] *a* следующий, соседний; *adv* рядом
nice [naɪs] *a* милый, славный, хороший, приятный
noble [nəʊbl] *a* благородный
nod [nɒd] *v* кивать (*головой*)
noise [nɔɪz] *n* шум
noiseless ['nɔɪzɪs] *a* бесшумный

none [nʌn] *pron* никто, ни один
nonsense ['nɒnsəns] *n* бессмыслица, чепуха, ерунда
nose [nəʊz] *n* нос
note [nəʊt] *n* записка, письмо; заметка, запись
nothing ['nʌθɪŋ] *pron* ничто, ничего
notice ['nəʊtɪs] *v* замечать
notion ['nəʊʃən] *n* представление
number ['nʌmbə] *n* номер, число, количество; **a ~ (of)** много
nurse [nɜ:s] *n* няня; *v* ухаживать за больным

O

object ['ɒbdʒɪkt] *n* предмет
oblige [ə'blaɪdʒ] *v* обязывать; **be obliged** быть обязанным
occasion [ə'keɪʒən] *n* случай, возможность
occur [ə'kɜ:] *v* случаться, происходить; приходить в голову
odd [ɒd] *a* странный
offend [ə'fend] *v* обижать, оскорблять
offer ['ɒfə] *v* предложить
once [wʌns] *adv* однажды; **at ~** немедленно
opinion [ə'pɪnjən] *n* мнение
opposite ['ɒpəzɪt] *adv* напротив
order ['ɔ:də] *n* заказ; приказ; поря- док; **in ~ (to)** для того чтобы
ordinary ['ɔ:dɪnɪ] *a* обыкновенный, простой
oriental [ˌɔ:ri'entl] *a* восточный
ought (to) [ɔ:t] *v* следует, нужно (*мо- дальный глагол, выражающий моральное долженствование, близкий по значению к should*)
outbreak ['aʊtbreɪk] *n* срыв (*мораль- ный, психический*)
outer ['aʊtə] *a* наружный, внешний

outside ['aʊt'saɪd] *adv* снаружи; наружу
overcharge ['əʊvətʃɑ:dʒ] *n* слишком высокая цена
overcoat ['əʊvəkəʊt] *n* пальто
overhear [ˌəʊvə'hɪə] *v* подслуши- вать
own [aʊn] *v* владеть, обладать; *a* собственный
owner ['əʊnə] *n* владелец

P

package ['pækɪdʒ] *n* пакет, сверток
pain [peɪn] *n* боль
pair [peə] *n* пара
pansy ['pænzɪ] *n* анютины глазки (*цветок*)
parang ['pæræŋ] *n* длинный малай- ский кинжал
parcel [pɑ:sl] *n* сверток
parlour ['pɑ:lə] *n* гостиная
particle ['pɑ:tɪkl] *n* частица, кру- пица
party ['pɑ:ti] *n* прием гостей; вечер, вечеринка
pass [pɑ:s] *v* пройти, перейти; про- исходить
patch [pætʃ] *n* небольшой участок земли; пятно
passenger ['pæsɪndʒə] *n* пассажир
pathetic [pə'θetɪk] *a* трогательный
patience ['peɪʃəns] *n* терпение
pause [pɔ:z] *n* пауза; *v* остано- вить- ся
pavement ['peɪvmənt] *n* тротуар
pay (paid, paid) [peɪ (peɪd)] *v* пла- тить; *n* жалование
pearl [pɜ:l] *n* жемчуг
peer [pi:p] *v* смотреть сквозь щель
peg [peg] *n* вешалка
perfectly ['pɜ:fɪktli] *adv* совершенно
perhaps [pə'hæps] *adv* возможно
permission [pə'mɪʃn] *n* разрешение
person ['pɜ:sn] *n* человек, особа

personally ['pɜ:sənəli] *adv* лично; что касается меня
phenomena [fɪ'nɒmɪnə] *n* *мн. ч. от*
phenomenon [fɪ'nɒmɪnən] *яв- ление*
piano ['piænəʊ] *n* пианино
pick up [pɪk] *v* подбирать, подни- мать (*с полу, земли*)
piece [pi:s] *n* кусок
pile [paɪl] *n* куча, груда
pit [pɪt] *n* углубление, впадина
pity ['pɪtɪ] *n* жалость, досада; *v* жа- леть
plant [plɑ:nt] *v* сажать, высаживать
play [pleɪ] *n* пьеса
pleased [plɪzd] *a* довольный
pleasure ['pleʒə] *n* удовольствие
plenty ['plenti] *n* масса
pocket ['pɒkɪt] *n* карман
poetic [pəu'etɪk] *a* поэтический
poetry ['pəʊətri] *n* поэзия
point [pɔɪnt] *v* указывать, направ- лять; *n* пункт; **strong ~** сильная сторона
poison [pɔɪzn] *n* яд; *v* отравлять
politely [pə'laɪtli] *adv* вежливо
population [ˌpɒpjʊ'leɪʃn] *n* населе- ние
pose [pəʊz] *n* поза
possible ['pɒsəbl] *a* возможный
potatoes [pə'tetəʊz] *n* картофель
pound [paʊnd] *n* фунт стерлингов (=20 шиллингам)
pour [pɔ:] *v* лить, разливать
precious ['preʃəs] *a* драгоценный
prefer [prɪ'fɜ:] *v* предпочитать
preparation [ˌprepə'reɪʃən] *n* пре- парат
presently ['prezntli] *adv* вскоре
press [pres] *v* нажимать
pretend [prɪ'tend] *v* притворяться, делать вид
pretty ['prɪti] *a* миловидный
prevent [prɪ'vent] *v* предотвращать

prick [prɪk] *v* колоть; *n* укол
priest [pri:st] *n* священник
private ['praɪvɪt] *a* частный, лич- ный
probable ['prɒəbəl] *a* вероятный, возможный
profit ['prɒfɪt] *n* выгода, прибыль; *v* извлекать выгоду
promise ['prɒmɪs] *v* обещать; *n* обе- щание
proof [pru:f] *n* гранка
prospect ['prɒspɜ:kt] *n* перспектива, надежда
protect [prə'tekt] *v* защищать
proud [praʊd] *a* гордый; **be ~ (of)** гордиться
prove [pru:v] *v* доказывать
psychic ['saɪkɪk] *a* психический
pull [pul] *v* дергать, тянуть; вытас- кивать, отрывать
punish ['pʌnɪʃ] *v* наказывать; отом- стить, уничтожить
puppy ['pʌpi] *n* щенок
purple [pɜ:pl] *a* фиолетовый
pursuer [pɜ'sju:ə] *n* преследователь
push [puʃ] *v* толкать
put (put, put) [put (put)] *v* класть; ~ **on** надевать; ~ **off** откладывать; ~ **out** высовывать, вытянуть
puzzle [pʌzl] *v* ставить в тупик, оза- дачивать

Q

quarrel ['kwɒrəl] *n* ссора
quay [ki:] *n* мол, причал; набереж- ная
queer [kwɪə] *a* странный
quietly ['kwaɪətli] *adv* спокойно, тихо

R

race [reɪs] *v* мчаться; *n* скачки
rage [reɪdʒ] *n* ярость
rail [reɪl] *n* перила

raise [reɪz] *v* поднимать, приподнимать
rascal ['rɑːskəl] *n* мошенник
rather ['rɑːðə] *adv* довольно
reach [riːtʃ] *v* достигать
ready ['redi] *a* готовый
real [riəl] *a* действительный, настоящий
really ['riəli] *adv* действительно
reason ['riːzn] *n* причина
receive [riː'siːv] *v* получать
receiver [riː'siːvə] *n* укрыватель краденного; телефонная трубка
recital [riː'saɪtəl] *n* рассказ (*устный*)
recognise ['rekəɡnaɪz] *v* узнавать, признавать, распознавать
reef [riːf] *n* риф, подводная скала
reference ['refrəns] *n* отзыв, характеристика
reflection [riː'flekʃən] *n* отражение
reformed [riː'fɔːmd] *p.p.* от **reform** испарившийся
refuse [riː'fjuːz] *v* отказываться(ся)
regiment ['redʒɪmənt] *n* полк
remain [riː'mein] *v* оставаться
remark [riː'mɑːk] *n* замечание, высказывание
remember [riː'membə] *v* помнить, вспоминать
reply [riː'plai] *v* отвечать; *n* ответ
reproach [riː'praʊtʃ] *v* упрекать; *n* упрек
reservoir ['rezəvwaː] *n* водоём, резервуар
resign [riː'zain] *v* уходить в отставку
respectable [riː'spektəbl] *a* порядочный
responsible [riː'spɒnsəbl] *a* ответственный; **be ~ for** отвечать за что-либо
(the) rest¹ [rest] *n* остаток, остальное; **rest**² *v* отдыхать; лежать; останавливаться (*на ком-либо*); *n* отдых
restless ['restlis] *a* беспокойный

retire [riː'taɪə] *v* уходить в отставку
return [riː'tɜːn] *v* возвращаться; *n* возвращение
rich [riːtʃ] *a* богатый
rid [riːd] *v* избавлять; **get ~ of** отделиться, избавляться от
ride (rode, ridden) [raɪd (roud, rɪdn)] *v* ехать верхом
riddle [rɪdl] *n* загадка
right [raɪt] *a* правильный, правый; *n* право
rise (rose, risen) [raɪz (rouz, rɪzn)] *v* подниматься
river ['rɪvə] *n* река
road [rəʊd] *n* дорога
roar [rɔː] *v* орать
roll [rəʊl] *v* катить(ся); свертывать(ся)
romance [rəˈmæns] *n* романтика
root [ruːt] *n* корень
rope [rəʊp] *n* веревка, канат
rough [rʌf] *a* грубый; неровный
round [raʊnd] *a* круглый; *adv* вокруг
routine [ruː'tiːn] *n* заведенный порядок
rude [ruːd] *a* грубый
ruin [ruːn] *n* гибель
run (ran, run) [rʌn (ræn, rʌn)] *n* бежать; ~ **a risk** рисковать
rush [rʌʃ] *v* бросаться
rustle [rʌʃl] *n* шелест

S

sad [sæd] *a* печальный, грустный
safe [seɪf] *a* безопасный; надежный
safely ['seɪfli] *adv* благополучно; надежно
salary ['sæləri] *n* жалованье
satisfaction [ˌsætɪs'fækʃən] *n* удовлетворение
save [seɪv] *v* спасти; откладывать (*деньги*)

savings ['seɪvɪnz] *n* сбережения
sawdust ['sɔːdʌst] *n* опилки
scandalised ['skændəlaɪzd] *a* шокированный, смущенный
scheme [skiːm] *n* схема, план, программа
science ['saɪəns] *n* наука
scientific [saɪən'tɪfɪk] *a* научный, ученый
scientist ['saɪəntɪst] *n* ученый
scholarship ['skɒləʃɪp] *n* стипендия
scorn [skɔːn] *n* презрение, насмешка
scream [skriːm] *n* крик, визг; *v* кричать
screw [skruː] *n* болт, гайка; *v* заворачивать
scrub [skrʌb] *v* мыть, скрести
scuffle [skʌfl] *n* борьба, драка
sea [siː] *n* море
sealed [siːld] *p.p.* от **seal** запечатанный
secret ['sɪkɪt] *n* тайна; **keep ~** держать в тайне
see (saw, seen) [siː (sɔː, siːn)] *v* видеть
seem [siːm] *v* казаться
seize [siːz] *v* схватить
selfish ['selfɪʃ] *a* эгоистичный
self-starter [ˌself'stɑːtə] *n* мех. автоматический завод, стартер
sell (sold, sold) [sel (sould)] *v* продавать
sentence ['sentəns] *n* приговор; предложение, фраза
separate ['sepərɪt] *a* отдельный; *v* [ˌsepə'reɪt] разлучать(ся)
serious ['sɪəriəs] *a* серьезный
servant ['sɜːvənt] *n* слуга
service ['sɜːvɪs] *n* услуга
severely [siː'verɪli] *adv* жестоко
shake (shook, shaken) [ʃeɪk, (ʃuːk, 'ʃeɪkən)] *v* трясти(сь); дрожать, качать(ся); потрясать

shaky ['ʃeɪki] *a* шаткий, нетвердый
sharp [ʃɑːp] *a* острый, резкий; *adv* ровно, точно
shave [ʃeɪv] *v* бриться
sheet [ʃiːt] *n* лист (*бумаги*)
shine (shone, shone) [ʃaɪn (ʃoun)] *v* сиять, блестеть, светить(ся)
ship [ʃɪp] *n* корабль, судно
shiver [ʃɪvə] *v* дрожать
shock [ʃɒk] *v* шокировать
shoe [ʃuː] *n* башмак
shoot (shot, shot) [ʃuːt (ʃɒt)] *v* стрелять
shore [ʃɔː] *n* берег
should (*модальный глаг., выражающий долженствование*)
shoulder ['ʃouldə] *n* плечо
shout [ʃaʊt] *v* кричать
show (showed, shown) [ʃəʊ (ʃəʊd, ʃoun)] *v* показывать
shrink (shrank, shrunk) [ʃrɪŋk (ʃræŋk, ʃrʌŋk)] *v* отпрянуть; уклоняться
shrug [ʃrʌɡ] *v* пожимать (*плечами*)
shudder ['ʃʌdə] *v* вздрагивать, содрогаться
side [saɪd] *n* сторона; борт парохода; *a* боковой
sigh [saɪ] *v* вздыхать; *n* вздох
sign [saɪn] *v* подписывать(ся)
silence ['saɪləns] *n* молчание
silk [sɪlk] *n* шелк
silly ['sɪli] *a* глупый
simple [sɪmpl] *a* простой
since [sɪns] *adv* со времени, с тех пор
sing (sang, sung) [sɪŋ (sæŋ, sʌŋ)] *v* петь
sir [sɜː] *n* сэр, сударь
sitting-room ['sɪtɪŋruːm] *n* общая комната в квартире, гостиная
skirt [skɜːt] *n* юбка
sky [skaɪ] *n* небо

trick [trɪk] *n* трюк; **play a ~** сыграть шутку
trigger ['trɪɡə] *n* крючок, спусковой крючок
triumph ['traɪəmf] *n* триумф, торжество
tropics ['trɒpɪks] *n* тропики
trouble [trʌbl] *n* беспокойство, неприятность; *v* беспокоить
true [tru:] *a* верный, правильный
truth [tru:θ] *n* правда
truthful ['tru:θfəl] *a* правдивый
try [traɪ] *v* пытаться, стараться; пробовать
tube [tju:b] *n* труба, трубка
turn [tɜ:n] *v* поворачивать(ся); становиться; сделаться; ~ **pale** побледнеть; ~ **out** оказаться; ~ **over** перевернуть; ~ *n* очередь
twist [twɪst] *v* крутить
twopence ['tʌpəns] *n* два пенса

U

unexpected [ˌʌnɪk'spektɪd] *a* неожиданный
unfortunate [ˌʌn'fɔ:tʃənɪt] *a* неудачный
uniform ['ju:nɪfɔ:m] *n* форменная одежда, униформа
unfortunately [ˌʌn'fɔ:tʃənɪtli] *adv* к сожалению
unknown [ˌʌn'nəʊn] *a* неизвестный
unpleasant [ˌʌn'pleznt] *a* неприятный
until [ən'tɪl] *prep* до; до сих (тех) пор
unusual [ˌʌn'ju:ʒuəl] *a* необычный
unwillingly [ˌʌn'wɪlɪŋli] *adv* неохотно
upset (upset, upset) [ʌp'set] *v* расстраивать; **be ~** быть расстроенным
upward ['ʌpwəd] *adv* вверх
use [ju:s] *n* польза; *v* [u:z] употреблять, использовать; **used to** обычно, бывало
useless ['ju:sɪs] *a* бесполезный

V

vain [veɪn] *a* напрасный; **in ~** напрасно
valuable ['væljuəbl] *a* ценный
value ['vælju:] *n* цена; *v* оценивать
vanish ['vænɪʃ] *v* исчезать
victory ['vɪktəri] *n* победа
view [vju:] *n* взгляд, точка зрения
visitor ['vɪzɪtə] *n* посетитель, гость
voice [vɔɪs] *n* голос
voyage [vɔɪdʒ] *n* путешествие

W

waist [weɪst] *n* талия
wait [weɪt] *v* ожидать
waiter ['weɪtə] *n* официант
wake (up) (woke, waked) [weɪk (wouk, weɪkt)] *v* просыпаться; будить
war [wɔ:] *n* война
warmly ['wɔ:mlɪ] *adv* тепло
warn [wɔ:n] *v* предупреждать, предостерегать
wash [wɒʃ] *v* мыть
waste [weɪst] *v* тратить (время); расточать
waste paper basket *n* корзинка для ненужных бумаг
watch [wɒtʃ] *v* наблюдать, следить
watchful ['wɒtʃfəl] *a* настороженный
water ['wɔ:tə] *n* вода; *v* поливать
watering-can ['wɔ:tərɪŋ 'kæn] *n* лейка
wave [weɪv] *v* махать (рукой)
way [weɪ] *n* путь; средство, способ, манера
weak [wi:k] *a* слабый
weapon ['wepən] *n* оружие
wear (wore, worn) [weə (wɔ:, wɔ:n)] *v* одевать(ся), быть одетым; носить (одежду)
weeds [wi:dz] *n* вдовий траур, креп
well [wel] *n* колодец
whether ['weðə] *conj* ли
while [waɪl] *adv* в то время как; **for a ~** некоторое время

whiskers ['wɪskəz] *n* бакенбарды
whisper ['wɪspə] *v* шептать; *n* шепот
whist [wɪst] *n* вист (карточная игра)
whistle [wɪsl] *n* свист; *v* свистеть
whole [həʊl] *a* целый, весь
wicked ['wɪkɪd] *a* злой, испорченный, грешный
wide [waɪd] *a* широкий
widow ['wɪdəʊ] *n* вдова
wig [wɪɡ] *n* парик
wildly [waɪldli] *adv* дико
win (won, won) [wɪn (wɒn)] *v* выигрывать
wish [wɪʃ] *v* желать; *n* желание
witness ['wɪtnɪs] *n* свидетель
wonder ['wʌndə] *v* удивляться, интересоваться

Y

wonderful ['wʌndəfəl] *a* удивительный
wood [wud] *n* дерево (материал); лес
world [wɜ:ld] *n* мир, свет
worry ['wʌpɪ] *v* беспокоиться, волноваться
worth [wɜ:θ] *a* стоящий
wound [waʊnd] *n* рана; *v* ранить
wrap [ræp] *v* завертывать
wrong [rɒŋ] *a* неправильный

yard [jɑ:d] *n* ярд
yellow ['jeləʊ] *a* желтый
youth [ju:θ] *n* молодость

Список собственных имен и географических названий

Bannister ['bænɪstə]
Basil ['bæzɪl]
Beehive ['bi:haɪv] название гостиницы
Berridge ['berɪdʒ]
Borcelli ['bɒtsɛli]
Borneo ['bɔ:niəʊ]
Boston Quay ['bɒstən 'ki:]
Brown [braʊn]
Davis ['deɪvɪs]
Deauville [dou'vi:l] приморский курорт во Франции
Dick Merton ['dɪk 'mɜ:tn]
Flannigan ['flænɪɡən]
Fortescue ['fɔ:tɪskju:]
Francis ['frænsɪs]
Gilchrist ['gɪlkɪrst]
Gladys ['glædɪs]
Gurney ['gɜ:ni]
Harold ['hærəld]
Harrow ['hærəʊ]
Heywood ['herwud]
Hilton Soames ['hɪltən 'səʊmz]
Hopson ['hɒpsən]
Jameson ['dʒeɪmsən]
Jeremiah [dʒeri'maɪə]
Joan ['dʒəʊn]
Kathleen ['kæθli:n]
Kuala Solor ['kwɑ:lə 'səʊlə]
Laura ['lɔ:rə]
Lowell ['ləʊəl]
Lyngate ['lɪŋɡet]
Miles Mc Laren ['maɪlz mæk'leərən]
Millicent ['mɪlɪsnt]
Minnie ['mɪni]
Muller ['mʌlə]
Northover ['nɔ:θəʊvə]
Openshow ['əʊpənʃəʊ]
Paris ['pærɪs]
Philippines ['fɪlɪpi:nz] Филиппинские острова
Plover ['plʌvə]

Pringle [ˈprɪŋɡl]
Queenstown Harbour [ˈkwɪnztaʊn
 ˈhɑːbə] гавань
Rupert Grant [ˈrʊpət ˈɡrɑːnt]
Sherlock Holmes [ˈʃəːlək ˈhəʊmz]
Simpson [ˈsɪmpsn]
Singapore [ˈsɪŋɡəpɔː] Сингапур
Skinner [ˈskɪnə]

Sophie Livingstone [ˈsɒfi ˈlɪvɪŋstən]
St. Luke [ˈseɪnt ˈljʊk] святой Лука
 (сокр.)
Tanner's Court [ˈtænəz ˈkɔːt]
Wales [weɪlz]
Waterloo Bridge [ˈwɔːtəlʊːbrɪdʒ] Мост
 Ватерлоо в Лондоне
Watson [ˈwɒtsən]

Contents

The Adventure of the Three Students — <i>A. Conan Doyle</i>	3
Exercises	16
That Little Square Box — <i>A. Conan Doyle</i>	25
Exercises	37
The Stolen Bacillus — <i>H. Wells</i>	46
Exercises	52
The Blast of the Book — <i>G. Chesterton</i>	59
Exercises	70
The Tremendous Adventure of Major Brown — <i>G. Chesterton</i>	83
Exercises	94
A String of Beads — <i>S. Maugham</i>	103
Exercises	110
Before the Party — <i>S. Maugham</i>	115
Exercises	130
Vocabulary	136
Список собственных имен и географических названий	157

Учебное издание

**УКРАДЕЙНАЯ БАЦИЛЛА
и другие приключенческие рассказы**

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Подписано в печать 18.02.08. Формат 60×90/16.
Печать офсетная. Гарнитура «Ньютон». Печ. л. 10.
Усл.-печ. л. 10. Тираж 5000 экз. Заказ № 3082.

ООО «Издательство «АЙРИС-пресс»
113184, Москва, ул. Б. Полянка, д. 50, стр. 3.

Отпечатано в ОАО «Можайский полиграфический комбинат»
143200, г. Можайск, ул. Мира, 93

Scanned by Shokoladnitsa
for RuTracker.org
Kyiv, Ukraine.
2011