

The Fresher's ILE

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Dance Battle 2018 – Count Us In!

Kristina Babenko & Helen Nazarets, Group 151

One of the annual events which attract students of all departments and units of the Crimean Federal University is the Dance Floor of Faculties. It has been held for five years so far and has proved to be one of the most anticipated and spectacular public events of the year. This year's dance battle took place on December 6th and brought overwhelming emotions and breathtaking atmosphere. The students of the Institute of Foreign Philology have been regular participants of the event and this year was no exception.

The contestants competed in three categories – solo, duet and group dance – and treated the audience to different dance styles, modern, classical, ballroom and Latin American among them.

The two months of preparation involved three-hour daily rehearsals, working at each movement and synchronicity. Amateurs as well as those professionally engaged in

choreography, freshmen as well as senior students had a chance to demonstrate their skills. The result was both a group and each individual's achievement.

The contestants were happy to participate in The Dance Floor 2018. It was not the victory, but the feeling of rapport and affinity that mattered. "I've been encouraged by the process to give a try to more and more new things. There were so many cool people who gave me a lot of positive emotions," admitted Olga Bakholdina, a first-year student of the English Department. It was the first time she has participated in an event of that kind, and she is grateful for the experience.

However, not everything in the garden is rosy. There were some flaws in the Institute's team preparation for the event, which can teach us a lesson. "Firstly, the choice of music wasn't the best. It should have been something really trendy, something which would sound familiar to the audience. Secondly,

there was lack of practice. It was next to impossible to gather the whole team for rehearsals. Meanwhile, the choreography was wonderful. It was a pleasure to attend the event. Besides, a word must be said about our cheer-leading squad. Compared with other faculties' supporters, our fans were a bit passive and few in number. So, we hope to have more support next year," said Alina Shevchenko, a first-year student of the English Department who took part in the performance.

Regardless of minor disappointments, The Dance Battle 2018 made our team stronger and more united. We understood that the Institute of Foreign Philology is our extended family. We realized what to aim for. We learned our lesson and we have an ambition to make everything turn out much better next year.

We encourage you to participate in dance battles and other events organized by our University. Both participants and fans are required. All hands on deck!

The Oktoberfest

Alina Shevchenko & Adile Dzhaparova, Group 151

The Oktoberfest is the largest Bavarian folk festival that takes place on the Theresienwiese in the center of Munich, Germany. It has been a major public event for over 200 years.

The Oktoberfest tradition started on October 12th, 1810 as a royal wedding of Bavarian Prince Ludwig I to Saxon Princess Therese. The citizens of Munich were all invited to join in the five-day festivities on the meadows outside the city. The event included a horse race and was so much fun that Ludwig ordered to hold it annually.

The next year an agricultural show was added, and in 1818 two swings and a carousel were set up. Eventually, the amusements included wheel barrow and sack races, mush eating contests, barrel rolling races, goose chases and tree climbing competitions. Mechanical rides appeared in 1870 and in 1908 the festival boasted Germany's first roller coaster. When the city began allowing beer on the fairgrounds, makeshift beer stands started springing up. They grew in number and were replaced by beer halls in 1896.

The Oktoberfest was moved forward into September in 1872 because of weather considerations. In 1904 the festival was permanently rescheduled for the end of September but the name was preserved. In 1881, the first roast chicken shop was opened, and in 1892 beer was served in glass mugs for the first time.

If you can't afford to fly over to Germany for the Oktoberfest, there is most likely a



smaller celebration nearby. On October 5th the Oktoberfest was held at the Institute of Foreign Philology. The students of the Institute were rushed off their feet preparing for the event. They worked out a menu, bought the ingredients and cooked famous German dishes – Bavarian sausages, the Black For-

est cake, Munich salad, and others. The idea was to hold a fair and raise some money for local charities.

Interesting facts about the Oktoberfest

- The Oktoberfest is all about cherishing Bavarian traditions, so the only beer you'll find on the festival grounds is brewed within the city limits of Munich.
- The name "Oktober" is misleading because most of the festival takes place in September.
- In 200 years of its history, the Oktoberfest has only been cancelled 24 times mainly due to cholera epidemics and wars.
- The Oktoberfest opens between 9 am and 10 am, and closes between 11:30 pm and midnight.
- In 1910 the festival celebrated its centenary with 120,000 liters of beer – that's about 1,500 bathtubs!
- About 600-800 visitors seek medical attention for alcohol poisoning every year.
- Only 19% of the visitors come from countries other than Germany.
- When 17, Albert Einstein worked as a trainee electrician and helped to set up lighting on one of the beer tents.



A Piece of Spain in Our Hearts



Alina Shevchenko & Adile Dzharparova, Group 151

On October 17th we attended a Spanish festival which was held by the Department of French Philology. The event featured a presentation about Spain including the country's administrative division, population, culture and lifestyle, followed by a mini performance about unrequited love in Spanish. The actors did their best to arouse emotions in the spectators and create the special holiday mood. Spanish singing and the lively folk dances Fandango, Pasodoble and Macarena provided an opportunity to dive into the atmosphere of Spain. At the end of the holiday we got acquainted with the national cuisine and tried some national dishes.

What do you know about Spain?

Spain is one of the most popular countries in Europe. The country is famous for its beaches and sea, cuisine and nightlife, special atmosphere and friendliness of the locals. An interesting fact: Spain is the

third country in the number of UNESCO world heritage sites. It is second only to Italy and China. It is a country with great geographical and cultural diversity. Here you can find almost everything from lush meadows and snowy mountains to swamps and deserts.

Spanish celebrations

All holidays or Fiestas in Spain can be divided into:

- *National*: Constitution day, religious holidays, three King' festival for children;
- *Regional*: in Valencia the fire festival is very popular, in Murcia — the festival "Romans and Carthaginians", in Alicante — the holiday "Moors and Christians", in Seville — the holiday of Seville;
- *Local*: Some Spanish cities and settlements boast their own unique festivals, i.e. La Tomatina in the Valencian town of Buñol.

Crazy holidays and traditions in Spain:

- It is customary to eat 12 grapes on the

New Year's Eve.

- There is a festival of Mummies Devils in Spain. All residents dress up in costumes of evil spirits and tie bells to their belts at this festival. The event lasts 3 days with street dancing and singing.

- On May 15th, all unmarried girls and women gather in the Church of Hermita de San Isidro. There they use pins to prick their fingers. This ritual is believed to help find a spouse.

- The Running of the Bulls is held on the eve of the bullfighting season in Spain. Six or more bulls are released into the streets and the participants have no choice but to run from the animals. The event might involve some injuries and even fatalities.

- There is an interesting custom of protecting children from dark spirits and demons in Spain. To do this, adults dress up in costumes of the devil and jump over their babies.

STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

Вестник ин. яз.

Επέτειος του “Όχι” (Anniversary of ‘No’)

Anastasia Shishova and Olga Kolesnikova, Group 181

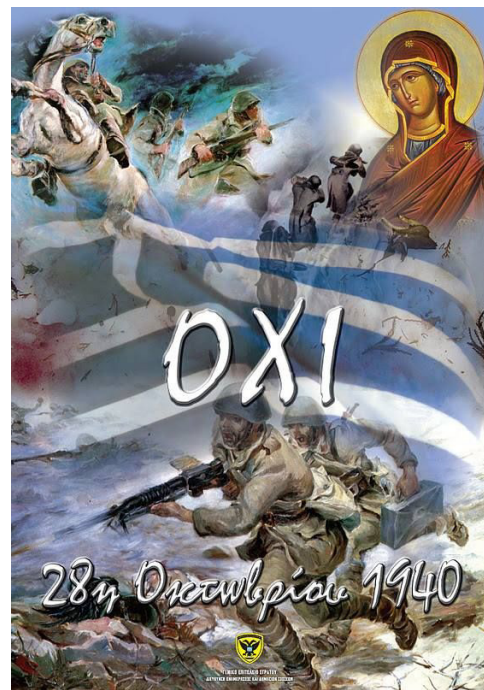
The war is obviously a dark period in every country's history. Greece is one of those countries which have heroically opposed enemies. The anniversary of one of such courageous deeds is commemorated on Ohi Day every year throughout Greece.

On October 28th, 1940 the Italian government issued an ultimatum to Greek Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas demanding to let fascists occupy certain Greek territories which were important strategic locations. Otherwise, Benito Mussolini, the leader of the national fascist party, would declare war on Greece. The ultimatum was answered with a single word *όχι* (No!). In response to Metaxas's rejection, the Italian government ordered the army to attack the Greek border. At 5:30 a.m. Greece entered World War II.

Although the action of the prime minister involved the country into the war, it was widely supported by Greek population, who regarded it as an act of bravery and took to

the streets chanting ‘Ohi!’ Since then this day has been celebrated as Ohi Day. Every year all Greeks take part in parades and other events dedicated to the celebration.

After Metaxas's refusal the Italian army started attacking Greek cities and villages. People were terrified but did not let the aggressors go too far. For more than five months the Greek people restrained the assault of fascist Italy though Italian armed forces outnumbered Greek ones. The Greek army even threw the fascists back to the Adriatic Sea. Later the Italian dictator had to seek assistance from his ally, Nazi Germany, and on 27th April Athens were occupied. Despite the eventual defeat, Greeks gave hope to millions of people by struggling their best. Others were inspired and believed that it was actually possible to resist and vanquish the Nazi enemy. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill allegedly commented on the brave struggle of the Greeks, “Hence, we will not say that Greeks fight like heroes but that heroes fight like Greeks.”



This year first-year students of the Greek Department participated in celebrating the Anniversary of ‘No’ at Franko Scientific Library. We were told about the dark and terrifying years in Greek history as well as about heroism of Greek soldiers. We are grateful for the opportunity and hope to be invited to another event.

Let's Talk About Fashion of the Past

Karina Oskolkova, Karolina Babayeva
& Daria Anisimova, Group 181

Do you know what your national costume looks like? Can you imagine a national Greek costume? Let's find out!

At the mention of the national Greek clothes, imagery from the myths of Ancient Greece comes to mind: women wearing elegant tunics, warriors in short skirts. Actually, in the ancient times not much store was put by clothing; it was simple, elegant and practical. More attention was paid to the beauty of the inner world, education, intelligence and moral qualities of a person. Of course, the aristocracy were supposed to wear expensive jewelry and decorate their attire with embroidery and precious jewels, but the fabric and style were quite simple. The military wore special skirts whereas civil citizens wore tunics – light dresses with belts. There was no headgear in Ancient Greece. Women adorned their hair with flowers. As for footwear, men wore simple leather sandals, while women often painted theirs bright colours and decorated them with jewels and gold.

First year students of the Greek Depart-

ment were invited to participate in an event held by the Greek community in Simferopol. We couldn't resist the temptation to try some national costumes on – red skirts, waistcoats and hats for girls, red vests and plain black trousers for boys. On that day, a local Crimean TV channel arrived in the community and we took part in filming a video about Greek national costumes. It gave us invaluable ex-

perience and unforgettable memories!

In the Greek community we were told how important the national costume is for the Greek people, as it emphasizes the military strength of Greek men and the purity and dedication of Greek women. Unfortunately, few people understand how much history and meaning national clothing has. It's a good idea to know the history of your nation and to appreciate the importance of the national costume.



To Sport or Not to Sport?



Mikhail Faritov, Group 153

“Mens sana in corpore sano,” runs an ancient Latin saying. Although philologists are considered to be people who are not really keen on sports, that is not true. Most of our students are into sport and some have been doing it professionally. They are good at tennis, volleyball, swimming, etc.

This year some sport events have been held at University in order to motivate students and increase their interest in sport; among them was a cultural and sport quest for first-year students of different faculties. The participants were to complete a series of challenging tasks at various locations in Bagrov Botanical Garden. In the end, our Institute's team came second and received some tasty awards.

The Medical Academy housed another event – the annual volleyball championship among all-year students of the Crimean Federal University. The contestants had been training hard and showed awesome results. It should be noted that some absolute beginners as well as experienced students took part in the competi-

tion. Everybody was welcomed.

All these events were organized by the Sport Committee of the Institute of Foreign Philology. Its head, Valeria Demchenko, says the following about its work, “Our committee has been working for over a year and a half. During this period we have already organized a lot of big and small sport events. Our ambitions for the next year are to promote a fitness programme, to hold a table tennis competition, to run a variety of workshops, to start a campaign against smoking and many others.”

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The Sport Committee of the Institute of Foreign Philology is a big team of determined and outgoing students of all years. Our work involves organizing events and volunteering. It doesn't demand being athletic.

athletic. We are in search of people who are interested in this kind of activities, whether they are good at sports or not. We are striving to create a strong and powerful community of those who care.

You can easily find us on VK at https://vk.com/sport_kom_ta. You are welcome to join in!



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They Have Survived

Senior Students Sharing Their Memories About Their First Year of Higher Education and Giving Small Tips for Freshmen

Anna Rachok & Yana Maslina, Group 153

Every year school leavers start a new stage – University. The applicants are unsure what lies in store for them and what there is on the curriculum. This year it has fallen to our lot. Everything here seems very different and many freshmen feel lost. We interviewed senior students on what awaits freshmen and here is what they came up with.

1. How was your first day at university?

Kirill, a second-year student: Well, I had expected better of it. That day I understood that there was a lot of work to do and felt a bit confused.

Mary, a second-year student: To be honest, I don't really remember my first day at university. But I immediately liked the people I am currently studying with. We got a lot of information about the educational process. And our group tutor tried to give us an insight on what we would do in the coming years.

Anastasia, a third-year student: Well, it was horrible. My very first class was Latin, and I couldn't understand a thing. I felt frustrated and disappointed.

2. What's the basic difference between school life and university life?

Kirill: School life was more fun! There was MUCH more free time. I miss it now, you know.

Mary: It's much easier now than at school. And I like it more. We have chosen our future profession ourselves and we are studying relevant subjects. There is no unnecessary information.

Anastasia: No one cares about you. And if you feel unwell, you can't stay at home. You must be at University no matter what happens!

3. So, the exams are coming. That's

why we can't help asking you: how do you deal with stress?

Kirill: I always try to find some time to have a rest. I prefer watching movies, eating snacks and sweets, drinking some alcohol. Well, I know that's really bad for my health, but destroying my nerves with stress is worse.

Mary: There is no place for stress in my life, but the time before each exam session is very difficult for me. I know this is only because I don't do everything on time. Probably someday I'll stop postponing everything until the last day and my stress will vanish.

Anastasia: I don't. I live in stress. I can't say that I like it. Maybe, I've just got used to it.

4. Can a student dare sleep during lectures?

Kirill: Sure! If you really feel sleepy and unable to work, you can easily allow yourself to do it. But don't go wild!

Mary: Oh, of course. I don't think this is right, but I see it almost every day. Every teacher deals with this in his own way.

Anastasia: For sure. As a student, you have a permission to sleep anywhere and anytime!

5. What was the best and worst thing about your first year of studying?

Kirill: The worst was the schedule, because it is difficult to spend the whole day from morning till evening at university, and the best thing was that we were given complete freedom of action and thought.

Mary: Definitely, the worst thing was the exams. As for the best thing, it is difficult to name just one. The year brought a lot of good memories and I won't be able to choose one.

Anastasia: The best thing was my groupmates, my friends and CCQ (KBH in Rus.) So, basically, people. The worst was German.

6. Is it possible to successfully combine personal life and studies?

Kirill: Yes, if everything is done correctly and carefully, by planning everything in advance.

Mary: Yes, university gives enough free time for personal life. The most important

thing is to plan your day correctly.

Anastasia: Sure. But only if you don't need to sleep.

The best thing was my groupmates, my friends and CCQ (KBH in Rus.) So, basically, people.

7. Is there a good eatery nearby that you could recommend?

Kirill: Each time it is different. But most often we eat in a cafe located in the city centre.

Mary: Fortunately, our faculty is centrally located and finding a good cafe is not a problem. If you want to find your favourite place, try eating at several places and choose one. If you're interested in my personal opinion, I prefer the "Merry Berry" café. The coffee there is really tasty.

Anastasia: B&B for sure! It's nearby and you can get some coffee and a sandwich or salad there. Sponsored publication. Well, I'm kidding, but it's a really nice place where you can eat something tasty and do it quickly.

8. If you could give me a piece of advice what would it be?

Kirill: Everything is much easier than you think. Don't worry about your studies too much.

Mary: I don't know what good advice would be. But I'd like to wish you good luck in all your endeavors.

Anastasia: Sleep and work hard before the exams.

9. Is socializing an important aspect of studying?

Mary: Communication between students is very important. You can always ask a peer for help, get some tips.

Anastasia: Absolutely. For me, there is nothing more important than socializing. It has saved me multiple times, actually.

We were glad to have an opportunity to interview second- and third-year students and hope that these tips will be helpful for freshmen and applicants.

To be honest, I don't really remember my first day at university. But I immediately liked the people I am currently studying with. .

Studying in France

Adile Dzharparova, Group 151

Though studying abroad is a great investment of effort, time and money, it invariably appeals to students. These are the main factors that motivate students to go studying abroad:

Plans for the future

Many applicants seek education abroad in order to start their career there. They also believe they have more chances of getting a well-paid job in a developed country.

In-depth study of a foreign language

People who are interested in mastering a language dream of getting into the country where this language is official. There's no doubt that studying abroad is a good opportunity for communication with native speakers and improving your speaking skills. It is great practice!

See the world

Studying abroad is a chance to immerse yourself into a reality which is different from your current lifestyle. It provides opportunities for travel, excursions, sightseeing, research into local traditions and culture – something that a short tourist trip lacks.

Experience of adaptation

Students have an opportunity for adaptation to completely unfamiliar circumstances. Adaptability to various life situations might prove helpful in the future.

France for students

France is an ideal place to study abroad for many reasons. Here are some of them:

- Higher education in France is virtual-

ly free and available to foreigners who are fluent in French.

- Students receive scholarships that are allocated by the government, ministries, universities, etc.

- There are a number of benefits for students. They include various discounts on travel, food, etc.

- You can enter a university without exams.

- There is an opportunity to earn money while studying.

Student societies

French university towns house a lot of sports teams and student associations. Activities suit all tastes and include sporting, performing, cultural, voluntary and scientific work. They can involve a small gathering in someone's dwelling as well as a larger meeting in a pub or club.

Combining work and study

International students are allowed to work in France provided they are registered with a French university (or another higher education institution). The working hours are limited to 20 hours a week. As a rule, foreign students work in the fields of services or retail.

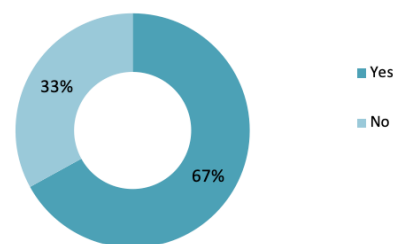
Education and accommodation fees

Studying at a state university is as cheap for a foreign student as for a French citizen – the annual fee is only 150–400 euros. In non-state higher schools the cost of education is 5–10 thousand euros per academic year.

Foreign students are entitled to a place in a dormitory, but, unfortunately, they can't

accommodate everyone. The cost of staying in a public dormitory is 140–400 euros per month. The rent for a room varies geographically, between 300–600 euros in the regions and 800–1000 euros in Paris.

WOULD YOU STUDY IN FRANCE IF YOU HAD AN OPPORTUNITY?



Scholarships

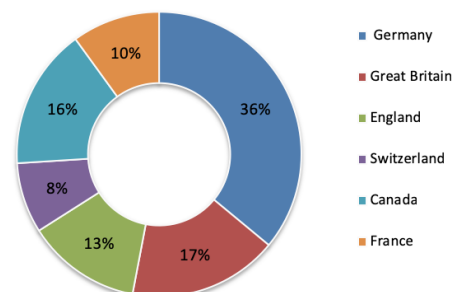
The government finances foreign students training from the state budget, not distinguishing between “locals” and “strangers”. Therefore, every Russian student entering a state university or a higher school in France automatically becomes a scholarship recipient.

Living expenses

According to the French government estimates, an international student should have access to around €615 per month to cover living costs and maintenance. Food costs are estimated at 150–300 euros. Basic student medical insurance will cost 189 euros per year. Another 50–150 euros will be necessary for the purchase of textbooks and other educational needs.

Acquiring education abroad provides students with numerous opportunities and perspectives, but requires independence. Higher education develops critical thinking and ability to perceive the world around in its various aspects. If you have a great desire to study in France, do not miss your chance. Good luck!

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO STUDY?



Be Smart, Don't Start!

Olga Checheneva, Group 154

AIt is more important than ever before to know how smoking affects our lives. Is it really as bad as they say or are we being tricked by companies promoting healthy lifestyle?

Actually, it is no secret that there are a lot of smokers among young people nowadays. For someone smoking is a way to relieve stress, others just want to seem cool. If you were to ask a person what the main causes of teenage smoking are, you would possibly get one of these answers:

- **Social and physical environment**

Youth are more likely to start smoking if they see that smoking is an accepted norm among their friends or family members.

- **Biological and genetic factors**

There is evidence that youth may be sensitive to nicotine and that teens can develop dependency on nicotine faster than adults do. Genetic factors may also make quitting smoking more difficult for young people.

- **Mental health and myths about smoking**

There is a strong connection between youth smoking and such conditions as depression, anxiety and stress, as the latter often trigger early smoking. It can also be initiated by expectations of positive outcomes of smoking such as coping with stress or controlling weight.

- **Other factors**

Lack of hobbies and a temptation to fill an excess of free time with smoking.

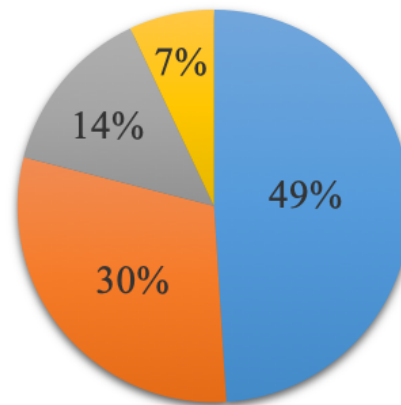
Lack of parental support.

Exposure to tobacco advertising.

As we can see, people can start smoking for various reasons. Therefore, we conducted a social survey of 40 first-year-students of the Institute of Foreign Philology to find out how many of them smoke and why the smokers do not quit. The results were overwhelming.

The survey revealed that 70% of the

WHY DON'T YOU QUIT SMOKING?



■ I'm addicted, I fully understand it is bad, but can change nothing.

■ I enjoy smoking.

■ I smoke whenever I'm nervous, which happens quite often.

■ It has never occurred to me.

freshmen smoke, while the other 30% lead a healthy lifestyle.

Answering the question 'why don't you quit?', 7% of the polled students say they don't bother to quit, 14% of the students claim that they smoke every time they get nervous, 30% of the students smoke as they enjoy it and 49% are aware of their own addiction, but can't defeat it.

As we see, the survey has confirmed our preliminary presumption that many people around us smoke. Actually, every third one.

One of the intimidating stigmas for any teenager is addiction. They all believe that they are able to quit any minute, but it's not true. Usually the first step towards quitting smoking is to acknowledge your addiction. And, surprisingly, many students admit it.

In addition, to help smokers find the motivation to give up this bad habit we have decided to appeal to their reason with a few eloquent facts.

Firstly, smoking is very expensive. It is obvious to everyone that students are always short of money. So, to prove it we asked our fellow-students a simple question: how much money do you spend on one pack of cigarettes? As a result, we have found out the following information reflected in the diagram.

If you smoke a pack a day, just imagine how much you spend. According to the answers, the average price of a pack is 100 rubles. In a month, you will spend about 3.000 rubles, in a year – 36.000. Are you sure you want to spend that much money on smoking? You could buy something

more valuable.

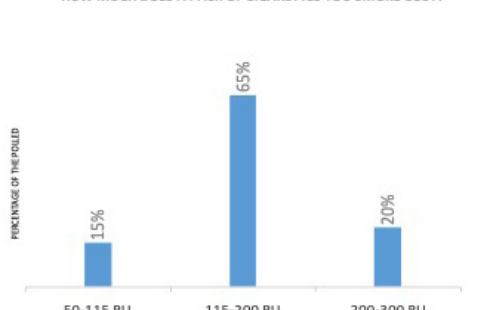
Secondly, as we all know, smoking is very harmful for health. Every pack of cigarettes carries a lot of scary words such as "mis-carriage", "impotence", "lung cancer" and various other diseases. Interestingly, some freshmen specifically ask for a different cigarette brand if the pack they wanted to buy has a warning about certain fatal diseases. For example, the word "impotence" provokes quick rejection among most young men. However, it is so silly to think that the disease will not "get you" if a pack of cigarettes doesn't carry its name on it.

We all think that the most terrible things happen to anyone but us. Moreover, this is the fatal mistake of the humanity. We only realize our mistakes when we face them. No one will ever learn from the mistakes of others.

The last, but not the least reason is the smell. I think we all know how disgusting it is to constantly feel the smell clothes, mouth, hair and hands reek of. Smokers have to understand it disgusts their family and friends.

To sum up, I wish everyone were aware of their mistakes and always thought about the consequences of their actions not only for themselves, but for the people around them.

HOW MUCH DOES A PACK OF CIGARETTES YOU SMOKE COST?



Food: Delicious? Nutritious? Or Vicious?

Leila Adylova & Emir Khalilov, Group 154

So simple and so difficult at the same time. Food. Do we pay as much attention to what we eat as we should? What dangers are hidden in a bun or a piece of meat we eat on a regular basis? If you have never given it a thought, it's just the time to answer the questions about what we eat, when and where. In fact, we have asked these questions to 25 students of the Institute of Foreign Philology just to find the following:

60% of the polled say they are not bothered about where, what and when they eat whereas only 40% of the polled state that they wouldn't eat anything and anywhere.

20% of those surveyed claim they eat fast food once a week or less often while 80% of the surveyed answer that they eat fast food several times a week on a regular basis.

The conclusion we can draw is that most students don't follow a healthy diet, which is regrettable for a few reasons.

We know that fast food is high in calories and contains a range of nutrients. However, here comes a big fat fly in the ointment: it contains trans fats. They are artificial fats and, when processed by our body, may cause its malfunctioning. Just imagine, only one portion of French fries includes 30% of trans fats while the safe amount is only 1%! Think twice! Do you really want all these cardiovascular and liver killers in your body? Looking at a juicy burger, remember: you'll be buying your own poison!

But even if you are a fast food lover, it doesn't mean there is no way back, it's never late to change your life. Just add more vegetables to your diet, replace sweets with fruit, eat more dairy products and meat. Here's a little life hack: our brain relaxes when we see a big plate full of food, so accompany the main course with lots of salad. Try avoiding such side dishes as greasy chips, pasta and white rice. As many nutritionists say, this will help you get healthier and decrease calorie intake.

As for the nutrients, the most important building material for our body is protein, so don't forget to eat fish, as it is full of iodine and protein, as well as phosphorus, which is useful for your eye sight. The residents of Hokkaido, a Japanese island which boasts one of the highest life expectancies in the

world, say that the secret of their health and longevity is fish. So, why don't we follow their example? Besides, living on the peninsula, it would be foolish to miss an opportunity of treating yourself to fresh seafood! Such fish as mackerel, herring, sprat and red mullet, which are rich with Omega-3 and Omega-6, are common in the Black Sea. So eat fish at least once a week, go to the fish market or catch some fish by yourself.

If you are a sweet tooth, remember that the sunny land of Crimea provides us with lots of fruit that can replace sweets. In summer you can enjoy watermelons, grapes, melons, figs and cherries. They are a real vitamin engine and no less delicious than some cakes or candies. If you still have some doubts, here is a scientific fact: some lollipops are made of a substance similar to shellac which is used for nail polish. So, every time you are about to lick a candy, just imagine yourself licking a fingernail.

Fats, proteins and carbohydrates... Now you should understand how important it is to have delicious and varied food. The last, but not the least problem is the calorie intake, especially if you are a student as it is always difficult to eat properly. For instance, the results of our poll show that 30% of the students eat twice a day, 40% of the students eat once a day and only 30% eat three times a day or more.

From our point of view, eating once a day might be dangerous for health, as our body needs a constantly renewed source of energy and such unbalanced diet can cause digestive problems and metabolic dysfunction. Remember that your health is your treasure. If you don't have energy, you will be weak and have no fervor to do anything. Sometimes you should put everything aside and just have lunch. It is always a good idea to have a snack between the meals. Moreover, you can complete your lunch with a good cup of tea as it stimulates brain activity. It is not for nothing that the English have their five o'clock tea tradition.

And here comes the final tip: make up your mind if food is just a pleasure or a way to a long and happy life? Remember a simple wisdom which is hard to follow: we eat to live and we don't live to eat. Lastly, in order to help you make the first small step

towards a healthier diet we offer this easy, affordable and delicious recipe.

Our khachapuri recipe is as easy as pie.

Ingredients:

- 1 sheet of yeast-free pita (165 g.)
- 1 pack of nonfat crumbly curd cheese, i.e. farmer's cheese (200 g.)
- 150 g. of cheese or suluguni
- 1 egg
- 150 ml. of kefir

Instructions:

- 1) Cut the pita bread into triangles to fit your baking pan (it is better to take a small one).
- 2) Grate the cheese and mix it with the farmer's cheese (add salt to your taste, though the cheese is salty enough).
- 3) Beat the egg with kefir properly.
- 4) Lay it out in layers: grease the pita bread with the egg mixture, pour in a little filling, put the next layer on top, grease it again and sprinkle with more filling. Do as many layers as you can. When you reach the last layer, add the remaining egg-kefir mixture and let the dish soak slightly for about 15 minutes.
- 5) Bake it in the oven for 30 minutes at a temperature of 180° until golden brown.

Khachapuri is ideal for any occasion, be it an everyday meal or a holiday. We do hope that you'll cook a delicious khachapuri and share it with your friends. Cook with pleasure and enjoy your meal!



From the Cimmerian to the Hunnic: 14 Centuries, 7 Languages, 1 Peninsula

Denis Shchirsky, Group 154

Crimea has belonged to different countries in its entire history. Different nations lived here and spoke different languages, many of which have vanished with no trace or only remained in fragments of ancient manuscripts. So, let's set on a trip to the past and learn about the languages that were spoken here over the most remote period of 1400 years, specifically from the 10th century BC to the 4th century AD.

First, let's go almost 30 centuries back in time, when the Cimmerians lived on the Crimean peninsula. Cimmerians, warlike nomadic tribes, inhabited the Northern Black Sea region and the lowland part of the Crimea in the 9th-7th centuries BC. Only several proper names of the Cimmerian language remain to date, occurring mainly in Assyrian texts. The names refer to the Iranian origin and are considered close to the Scythian equivalents. Assyrian Shandakshatru, the name of the Cimmerian king, matches to the Avestan čandra-cšagra meaning "who has brilliant power"; Dugdammē corresponds to dugda-maeši "who has milking sheep"; and Teušpa is compared to the ancient Persian Čaišpiš. In the 7th century BC the Scythians forced the Cimmerians out of the Northern Black Sea region. But the memory of them was long preserved in ancient geographical names in Ancient Greek (Cimmerian Bosphorus (Greek: Βασιλειον το Κιμμερικο Βοσπορου), Cimmerik (Greek: Κιμμερικόν) and others).

Almost at the same time with the Cimmerians, from the 10th century BC to the 3rd century AD, the Tauri lived in the mountainous regions of the Crimea. Researchers have failed to identify the ethnicity of the Tauri and they can't say for sure what language they spoke, although attempts were made to attribute this language to the Indo-European or Indo-Iranian language. There is also an opinion that the Tauri were the descendants of the Indo-Aryan dialect whose speakers lived in the territory of Mesopotamia around 2000 BC.

Now we'll go 3 centuries forward in time, when nomadic tribes of the Scythians appeared in the Northern Black Sea

region and steppe Crimea in the 7th century BC. Their vocabulary has been reconstructed from personal names, toponyms, ethnonyms and glosses in ancient and cuneiform sources, legends on coins and from the supposed Scythian borrowings in ancient and modern languages (the North Caucasian languages, the Thracian language, Alanian, Greek and possibly the Finno-Volga languages). In the 3rd century AD Late Scythian state fell under the blows of the Sarmatians, and then the Goths and the Huns. The surviving Scythians mixed with them.

At about the same time Ancient Greek colonists arrived in the Crimean peninsula. Choosing places convenient for living and sailing, the Greeks founded city-states called "Polises": Theodosia, Chersonesus, Myrmekion and others. Of course, they brought their language with them. They spoke the Attic dialect of the Greek language. Many Athenian authors wrote in this dialect, so it became the classic example of the Ancient Greek. It had 5 vowels, 17 consonants, 5 cases, the verb had 4 moods, 3 voices, 2 types of conjugation, 2 groups of tenses (main and historical), the word order in the language was free, the vocabulary of this language was rich.

The Sarmatians are believed to have been related to the Scythian people. In the 3rd century AD they moved to Crimea from the Volga region. There are many disputes over the relationship of the Scythian and Sarmatian languages. For example, the famous Russian linguist Joe Edelman claims that there is a genetic connection between the Scythian and Sarmatian languages. She also thinks that it is possible to use the concept of the "Scythian-Ossetian languages".

Now we are in the middle of the 1st century when the Crimea became a part of the Roman Republic, and then the Empire. Latin was the main language of the country; the Roman intervention wasn't accompanied by the massive arrival of colonists from the mainland, and therefore did not lead to the romanization of the population of the peninsula. As a result, the linguistic and demographic picture of Crimea almost didn't change: the Greek and Hellenized populations remained on

the coasts of the peninsula. The Tauri lived in the mountains and nomads periodically invaded the northern steppes.

After the fall of the Late Scythian state in the 3rd century AD, the Goths settled on the Crimean peninsula. They spoke the Crimean dialect of the Gothic language. The existence of this dialect in the Crimean peninsula is confirmed by sources from the 4th to 18th centuries AD. But only one source sheds light on the language – the letter written by the Belgian ambassador Ogier de Busbecq. It contains 96 words and phrases like "Apel" – an apple, "Handa" – a hand, "Thurn" – a door, and a song supposedly in Crimean Gothic. However, the information given by Busbecq is not exact for one reason: Busbecq's transcription was likely influenced by his first language, a Flemish dialect of Dutch.

The 70s of the 4th century AD witnessed the arrival of the Hunnic language, which was spoken by the Huns, who were a strong tribal alliance formed in the steppes and deserts of Central Asia. They came to the east of the Crimean peninsula. Shortly after their invasion of the Crimea, the Hellenistic Bosphoran cities and other settlements were destroyed. The Huns belonged to the Mongoloid race and spoke the Hunnic language, which is known by the separate words in the Greek, Latin or Chinese sources. There is no scientifically proven hypothesis about the origin of this language and there are different views on which language family to refer it to. Presumably, this language could be related to Altai, Ural, Yenisei or Turkic languages.

Crimea has always been at the junction of the habitats of different nations, standing in the way of their historical movements. The existence of different cultures and languages didn't pass without a trace for them: they influenced, changed and enriched each other, and sometimes even merged.

FROM A PERSPECTIVE OF OTHER CULTURES

Они и мы...

Five Things That Surprised Me in Simferopol

Roh Chan Yang, Group 152

1. Transport

I was surprised that bus fare is cheap. And when people get off a bus, they say, "Halt at the next bus stop, please." It is unusual that I have to pass money to the driver when I sit in the back of a bus. When you go by bus in Korea, you can use your card or pay money when you enter the front door and exit the back door. If you want to get off a bus, you press a button which beeps and changes its colour. Nowadays there are many buses in Simferopol with a similar button you can press to get off.

2. In Korea you can't buy only one vegetable or fruit

In Korea groceries sell most goods by a certain amount and vegetables and fruit are packed. So you have to buy several wrapped vegetables even if you need just one. In Simferopol people sell things by the kilogram and the price is charged per kilo, which means I can buy as much food as I need for one day.

3. School hours

I was also surprised when I began studying at university. In Korea classes last for 40, 45 and 50 minutes. 40 minutes are fixed for elementary school, 45 minutes for middle school and high school, and 50 minutes for university, with ten-minute breaks in between. But here classes last for an hour and a half, which is quite long and tiring. At first I found it difficult to adapt myself, but now I am OK with it. There are fewer classes that last longer, and in Korea there are more classes that are

shorter. Additionally, the most widespread teaching method in Korea is cramming, but in Simferopol there are a lot of dialogues and discussion in class. Korea has a unique approach to school education based on overnight self-study. From my point of view, this method leaves much to be desired as students require a good night's sleep to be able to attend all the lessons next day.

4. Greeting

Another surprising thing here was greeting. People greet each other as if they haven't met for ages, even if they last met yesterday. People also greet strangers as if they are acquaintances. I saw women hug each other a lot. And I have noticed that Russian people don't bow to one another whereas in South Korea people greet one another by slightly bowing their heads or shaking hands.

5. Toilets

There are many public toilets in Korea. And they are free. In Simferopol you are charged for using a public restroom. However, in a good restaurant you don't have to pay for the toilet. Besides, in Korea you can pour water on the walls or the floor in a toilet or bathroom in your apartment, but here you must be careful not to splash it.

My feelings

There are many countries, many people, and many cultures in our world. I think it is good to go to many countries and to come to grips with other cultures. I think if I experience many cultures, I can become a better person.

Korean and Russian Food: Similar but Different

Jeong Woo Jin, Group 152

We have been living in Simferopol for about a year now. It is a lot different from when we lived in Korea. One of the most impressive differences is food, as it looks alike but the flavours are strikingly different. We remember the first time we came here we had a hard time eating food for a while.

I was surprised at the food in the restaurant when I ate out for the first time. I saw something that looked familiar and ordered it. I ate the dish up but the taste and the smell were quite different. That food was pelmeni, really similar to Korean food called Mandu. The recipes are also very similar.

While living here, we eat mainly local food, but we cook some Korean food as well. Except for a few ingredients, most of them are available here, though some are hard to find.

Basic Korean cuisine ingredients as soy sauce, kochujang and doenjang. Kochujang is a sauce made from pepper whereas Doenjang is a sauce made from soybean. These three sauces make the backbone of Korean cuisine.

Another noticeable difference is the variety of processed food. There aren't as many types of processed food here as in Korea. What is characteristic of Korean people is a constant sense of urgency, so they like to work quickly and try to do everything fast. This tendency is reflected in the food culture. Different kinds of food, varying from a simple dish to a complicated one, are processed and sold so that they can be cooked in a little while.

Finally, I think that when it comes to the main characteristic of Korean food, it is the spicy taste. Once we treated our Russian friends to some home-cooked Korean food, and even though we made it less spicy than usual, they almost cried. It was a dish called JeYuk Bokkeum, the main ingredient for which is kochujang. Kochujang is really spicy, so it can be even more challenging for those Russians who avoid spicy food.

Food reflects the culture of a country. It matches the characteristics of the country and the climate. Simferopol and Korea are far apart. I used to think that I wouldn't be able to find anything in common, but I did, and it was very interesting to try the local food and compare.



Они и мы...

FROM A PERSPECTIVE OF OTHER CULTURES

Same Outside, Different Inside

Maria Kazakova, Group 152

Though we might occasionally closely resemble somebody in appearance, it's our soul and way of thinking that make us that unique snowflake which no one can repeat but can only imitate. The following interview is a great example of what foreigners think and feel, which enables a comparison between a foreigner's point of view and your own.

A friend of mine, Erika Lambert, is a 16-year-old girl from Orange County, Virginia, the USA. Erika is an ordinary teenage girl who goes to high school. Some of you might comment that her point of view is not actually expert, but just try and spare a thought for what she has to say.

Interviewer: Hello, Erika. Shall we start? The first question is: what's your favorite part about the USA?

Erika: Hello! Well, my favorite thing is that you can actually speak freely, without worrying that you might be punished. I also like that there is diversity of opinion on races, sexuality, politics and overall perspectives. I do like programs that are dedicated to social movements for animal rights, gay people rights and stuff like that.

Interviewer: Oh, that is interesting! And what's your least favorite part about the USA?

Erika: The most terrifying thing is gun violence in schools that is ignored by the government. Also a lot of people care about unimportant stuff instead of caring about vital things. People care too much about money and appearances.

Interviewer: That is really sad. Let's hope everything will change one day! So, the next question is: what is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear "Russia"?

Erika: Hmm, I don't mean to sound offensive, but it's communism. I also imagine people who are really strong, up-front and honest.

Interviewer: I knew that you were going to mention communism! Have you ever felt that there are some differences between our national characters?

Erika: Yes, of course! I think Russian people are more straightforward and they don't hide their feelings.

Interviewer: Would you like to be-

come "more Russian"? If so, why?

Erika: I was adopted by an American family when she was only 9 months old. She was born in Rostov-on-Don.*

Erika: Yes, I do, because it's a culture that interests me. Besides, I enjoy studying Russian history. I feel kinship with the people.

Interviewer: Do you find Russian culture a little bit weird? Is there anything that really disturbs you?

Erika: I think that the fact that you guys eat fish eggs is weird. Some people here eat caviar too, but it's not really common. It's weird that you eat meat jelly. It's weird that a lot of your dishes are fattening.

Interviewer: Would you say that our countries are absolutely different?

Erika: Yeah, I would. Absolutely. But I think religious beliefs are similar.

Interviewer: Do you think there might be a real bond between Russian and American people? I mean as nations.

Erika: I think Russians and Americans could have a bond because our presidents are alike and we hope for the best.

Interviewer: Do you think Russian and American people can become real friends?

Erika: Yeah, our relationship proves that. It doesn't matter how different we are because we're both human. And young. Social networks would bridge the divide.

Interviewer: Do you pay attention to what propaganda does?

Erika: It's powerful. It makes youngsters adopt negative attitude toward Russia. You can hear a lot of bad things about Russia here.

Interviewer: It's the same here. What's the most foolish Russian stereotype you've heard?

Erika: Simple: vodka, bears, borshch.

Interviewer: Ha-ha! Really simple. And what was your first impression when you arrived in Russia?

Erika: Moscow was very attractive, but I didn't understand anything at the museums. Russia is not really convenient for foreign visitors. The architecture is different but pretty. However, my hometown Rostov was a disappointment. It was dirty, had a lot of graffiti and looked very poor. There were a lot of stray dogs and cats. Food

was way different.

Interviewer: What impression did Russian people give you in general?

Erika: I thought the people were really nice, though some strangers on the streets were unfriendly.

Interviewer: I agree Russian people can look kind of moody sometimes. Let's talk about your career. Have you made up your mind what you'd like to do in the future?

Erika: Yes, I have. I'd like to be either a vet or an animal rights lawyer.

Interviewer: Has anyone actually influenced your choice or was it your independent decision?

Erika: My mom has brought the decision about by teaching me from a very young age that animals matter, whether they are big or small.

Interviewer: So true! Erika, thank you for your time! Would you like to add anything in the end?

Erika: It was a pleasure. Remember that we are all people and we're all equal! Believe in yourself! Live in peace and love, surround yourself with positive people only.

That is it! I hope you enjoyed the interview. I want to emphasize that our conversation doesn't really convey every single American's opinion. Anyway, I just wanted you to connect with someone who's far away right now and lives a completely different life.

Welcome to Crimea!

Alina Galeta, Group 153

We are interviewing Yanis Karriofilidis who comes from Greece and is currently a student of the Crimean Federal University. Apart from studying medicine, the purpose of his stay is to get acquainted with Crimean culture.

- Hello, Yanis! My name is Alina. I am a student of the Institute of Foreign Philology.

- Hello, Alina! Pleased to meet you.

- Nice to meet you too. So, you come from Greece. Why did you decide to visit Crimea?

- I decided to go on studying medicine after getting my first degree. It was physio-

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE TRIVIA

Язык и культура...

therapy. In 1998, my uncle graduated from the Crimean Medical University. He is very happy about that because he got a lot of important knowledge and enormous experience here. That's why I decided to study in Simferopol. Moreover, when I came, my best friend was already here studying medicine as well.

- Was it hard to get accustomed to living in another country?

- Surely, it is hard to be away from your family but it is to happen sooner or later. Even more, Crimean weather is similar to the weather in Greece. The climate and nature are also really alike.

- How do you like studying here?

- Regarding the educational system, I prefer the Russian one. In medical schools all around the country they have the 5-point assessment scale. This kind of assessment is a daily procedure. That keeps each student alert; anyway, this is what it is supposed to do. In Greece, it's different. The final mark is the result of a mid-term and the end-of-year exams. That's why most students are relaxed. Of course, stressful life is bad, but as a future doctor, I should be ready for any situation. A huge disadvantage I see in our academy is that after Crimea became a constituent territory of the Russian Federation, the medical university joined TNU. As for me, it isn't right.

- I see. Is acquiring medical education the only reason why you arrived?

- No, I am also fond of Crimean culture. Every year, as a participant of dancing group «Artemis» which is called in honour of the Ancient Greek goddess, I take part in a multinational event. We try to promote Greek culture through dancing.

- Oh, it sounds interesting. I've attended such events. Would you say that you could settle here?

- Generally, I like Russia, especially Russian food such as olivie and meatball soup. I like Russian holidays as well. For example, the Victory Day. Every year lots of patriotic parades are held to commemorate that day. I am also proud of this day as long as my two great-grandfathers fought in this holy war. When I hear «Holy War» and «Farewell of Slavianska», it gives me goose bumps. This is a unique feeling. However, I'm not planning to settle here as I have an ambition to pursue my career in the EU or Canada. But I will definitely visit Crimea now and then.

- I hope those visits will bring back happy memories! Thank you for your time. I would like to wish you good luck in achieving your goals.

- Nice talking to you.

Small Dos and Don'ts of the House of Windsor



Taisia Avlakhova & Tatyana Pshenichko, Group 153

What is England associated with? First and foremost, with the royal family who are guardians of traditions and the center of national unity. Thus, the knowledge of etiquette and customs of the House of Windsor will help us learn more about the life of the royal family from the aspects both cute and strict.

How can members of the royal family call the Queen?

Different people in the family have their own privileges. The Queen's husband calls her Lilibeth. Elizabeth used to call herself like this in her childhood. But the other members of the family should call her 'Your Majesty' (even her son Charles). However, Prince George can call her Gan-Gan (Great Grandmother).

The British royal family don't have a true surname.

What surname has Elizabeth II got? Actually, members of the royal family can choose almost any surname. Elizabeth's father changed his surname from Sax-Coburg-Goth to Windsor; later it was changed into Mountbatten-Windsor.

They fly economy class.

The Queen always flies business class. As for the others, you might be surprised to spot a royalty as a fellow passenger sitting next to you.

The members of the royal family can't take selfies or sign their autographs.

In the royal family there is a ban on autographs and selfies. They can't give autographs because someone could forge their signatures. As for the selfie restriction, it is

not related to safety. It's just because Queen Elizabeth doesn't approve of it. However, the ban on selfies has been repeatedly violated by Prince William, Kate Middleton and Megan Markle, to name just a few.

They can't travel together. Family flights are not allowed.

This rule might be not very pleasant, but it's quite logical. Disasters happen and even the royal family are not impervious to that. The rule was broken only once when Prince William and Prince George flew to Canada, with the Queen's consent.

You cannot touch a royal person.

However, in 2009 Michelle Obama broke the royal protocol when she put her arm round the Queen's shoulders. By the rules, it's the monarch who can take the initiative and hold out her hand.

Always have a black outfit. What for?

The royal family must always be ready for any unexpected events. So, while travelling they must have a black outfit. By the way, black colour in clothes is allowed only for mourning days.

How should an heir be dressed?

The royal children also have to follow a strict dress code. For example, trousers can be worn only by adults, this is why Prince George will wear shorts until at least eight years old in any weather.

Elizabeth II is called the Queen of England.

But it's not perfectly right. Besides the United Kingdom, Elizabeth also rules Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, New Zealand, Papua-New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Jamaica, etc.

What Do You Know About English?

Helen Nazarets, Group 151

What is your mother tongue? Do you speak any other language apart from it? How much do you know about English and its history? What are the origins of the English language and which words are the most ancient? Try a short quiz and see.

1. When did the history of English start?

- ☐ In the Renaissance
- ☐ in the Early Middle Ages
- ☐ in the Age of Enlightenment
- ☐ in the ancient world

2. What are the oldest words in English?

- ☐ Hi, guy, book, look, two
- ☐ Pear, me, think, word, lord
- ☐ I, we, town apple, gold
- ☐ Three, my, this, phone, case

3. What is the longest actually existing word in English?

- ☐ Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious
- ☐ Bootleggermellifluous
- ☐ Evanescenthistoryancient
- ☐ Symbolanguageletter

4. Which symbol used to be a letter of the English alphabet?

- ☐ @
- ☐ #
- ☐ &
- ☐ \$

5. How many dialects are spoken in the UK?

- ☐ 28
- ☐ 15
- ☐ 7
- ☐ 22

The history of the English language started in the Early Middle Ages. The language has passed three periods: Old English (449-1066) – Anglo-Saxon; Middle English (1066-1500) – the era of the three languages (French, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon); New English (since 1500) – the English literary language. The oldest words in the English language are pronouns I and we, numerals two and three and nouns

town, gold and apple. Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious is the longest word in English. It originated in 1940s and was popularized by the 1964 film "Mary Poppins". It's informal in style and means «extraordinary good». Its equivalent in Russian is «суперархияэкстраальтрамегаграндиозно». Therefore, next time when you want to express joy, you can use this unpretentious word. The '&' symbol was once a full-fledged letter of the English alphabet. Earlier the ampersand (&) was a part of the English alphabet and settled down in its end after the letter Z. The term "ampersand" resulted from a mixture of words. The Latin expression "per se" that means "by itself" was added to letters A and I in order to differentiate between the letters themselves and the pronoun I and the article a. The final symbol of the alphabet was also pronounced as "and per se and", which was eventually transformed to "ampersand". Finally, it has not occurred to us that we may not understand native speakers when we first arrive in England. There are 22 dialects spoken in the UK, among them are Cockney, Cornwall and Westmorland.

Once I had an opportunity to talk to a native speaker. I could not even understand what Bill said. His speech and manner of communication were absolutely different from those that we had been taught. Here is a small tip – before I started speaking to him I listened to his conversation with my classmate to get used to his manner and style. Actually, we are learning "Queen's English" – literary English with standard pronunciation (Received Pronunciation or RP), while native speakers might have different accents.

Among other things, Bill told me that in English there are sentences that use all letters of the alphabet, for example, "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog", "The five boxing wizards jump quickly", "Pack my box with five dozen liquor jugs", "Sphinx of black quartz, judge my vow". What surprised me most is that in English there is a special name for people whose identity is not established or has been withheld for one reason or another. John Doe for male and Jane Doe for female.

What other interesting facts do you know about English?

Heartbeat

Olga Bakholdina, Group 151

“A night always comes after a long day and a morning follows the night. But sometimes I feel as if it won't come. To tell the truth, I haven't slept for a really long time. Sounds terrible, doesn't it? But no one cares. I can't fall asleep for many reasons. One of them is my neighbour Jim. He's a pretty good guy but he is always snoring terribly. I'm sure he won't remember it in the morning mainly because he has that kind of partial amnesia. Sometimes he can even forget his own name. A hospital is the only place where we can meet such people. They are broken and disappointed with their lives, just like me. I don't enjoy being here. I don't mind dying at home, but I hate all those people around me who won't lose a chance to cheer you up or express their regret. It annoys sometimes, you know. They are liars. I know that I'm hopeless, so why do they give me hope if I don't need it? In an hour I'll finally be able to leave this room without permission. Jim is turning in his bed while my heart is starting to beat faster. I know well what it means. And I'm not ready for it. I never am, but there is no time left.”

Noah tried to get out of bed, but suddenly felt so weak and helpless. Everything was blurred, he couldn't move and his head felt twice its size. He blinked one more time and suddenly saw a different view in front of him. There was no hospital ward, no more patients. Noah found himself in the road nearby his house. Every single thing around him, including skyscrapers, tiny shops, a playground in the yard and even large trees that were growing along the road, had all the colours of the rainbow. The sky was purple with warm scarlet shades that were similar to figures of some unknown creatures. Noah tried to catch his breath but he was so shocked that he couldn't even move. He touched his chest and found out that his heart wasn't beating. At least it was out of its usual place. It wasn't placed right as it used to be. Noah's heart was on the left. It was glittery and felt believably warm.

“But how?” whispered Noah and touched his heart with his fingertips.

Noah looked around again. It was the same place he was used to seeing every day but it didn't feel like home any longer. All those colours and shades made it strange and mysterious. It was like the world turned upside down and there was no way out. Noah followed the familiar

A FLIGHT OF FANCY

Таланты нашего института

streets. Autumn leaves were falling down burning with warm colours, the water from the paddles was forming multicolour drops that were rising into the sky. Noah took a deep breath and tried calling somebody out but there was no answer. Time stranded still in this place.

"Noah," called someone. "Wake up."

"Who is it?" responded Noah, but he didn't see anything. "Who are you?"

He looked at the end of the road and saw a skinny weightless figure that was similar to a man although it was absolutely limpid. It was standing far away, staring at Noah.

"Where am I? What is going on?" Noah kept asking. "Answer me!" yelled he.

Noah's heart sank and he was struck with terrible pain.

"Wake up, I say."

He finally opened his eyes. It took him another moment until he finally recognized Doctor Anderson. He was a middle-aged man, but his hair had already gone grey. At the moment he looked so tired and nervous.

"Come on! Wake up! You've fainted, chap," he shook Noah twice.

"Yes, I've noticed that. Please don't touch me. I can do everything by myself."

He tried to get out of his bed, but the man held him tight. He didn't let Noah move until he had examined him.

"I hoped you'd feel better, but it's only going worse. This heart arrhythmia, another attack, I hate to tell you, but you are still not ready for your surgery."

"Oh, you must know it, I'm sure. You are a doctor," said Noah sarcastically.

"I just want to help, calm down."

"Just leave me alone then. What is really hard is listening to your annoying words of consolation. I've been suffering from this stupid dextrocardia for my whole life. I'm the guy who is about to die because of his right-placed heart. You can't help me. I have no one and live in fear of another heart attack. I'm 20 years old and don't want to go, but there is no way out! Got it?"

Doctor Anderson didn't say anything. He slowly went towards the door.

"If you want to feel sorry for yourself, go on, I won't prevent you," said he coldly, "and if I were you, I would enjoy every single minute of my life no matter what, Noah. There are a lot of people that would like to give up everything for a tiny chance to survive and you still have it for free. I hope you are happy with it."

Then he went away and left Noah alone with his thoughts.

"I am," said he and tears gushed.

He tried not to cry and forget about all terrible regrets, but his attempts were hopeless. While Noah was sobbing with deep self-pity, Jim woke up. He lazily got out of his bed and stared at Noah.

"Morning N..." faltered Jim, trying to recall the neighbour's name.

"It's Noah," answered the guy quietly wiping his tears away.

"Right. I'm so sorry it's my damn amnesia. I wish I could remember your name."

"Don't worry, it is okay. We got acquainted just two days ago. I guess, you'll remember me after a while."

Jim spaced out for a second and then exclaimed, "Of course! Noah Finch. We met two days after my car accident. You have dextrocardia, right?"

"Exactly. I also have cardiac insufficiency and heart attacks from time to time."

"That's why you were crying?" meekly muttered Jim.

Although he seemed to be a middle-aged man, his questions and behavior were naive and childish resulting from a severe brain injury.

"What? No, I just had a bad dream."

"How bad was it? Was it terrifying?"

"Hardly terrifying and maybe not bad at all, I'm not sure."

Doctor Anderson came into the room.

"What's up, Jim?"

"I'm better today, Doctor Anderson."

"Good," he smiled and turned to Noah, "Follow me, boy."

Doubtful, Noah followed Doctor Anderson out of the room.

"Where are we going?"

"I've got something to show you. I hope it will relieve all those pessimistic thoughts of yours. Here we are."

Doctor Anderson stopped beside a room with large glass panels through which Noah saw many people lying in beds. They were totally helpless, connected to life support devices. They were surrounded by relatives, who were holding their weak hands.

"They have about a week or even less left. We can't help them, although we tried a lot. It's impossible to discontinue life support at once, it isn't right. So we persist as long as we can, but they already know that they are destined to die sooner or later. And you still have a chance. I'm sure you can handle it, buddy, nobody said it would be easy. Try your best and fight."

"You know, I'm not a fighter," Noah's voice wavered, "I don't belong to this world."

"Foolish thoughts, you know. We are all

different, you don't have to escape."

"I don't want to stay still and wait until I become one of those people."

"You know well that it won't happen!" Doctor Anderson started losing his temper.

"You don't understand! You just keep telling me that it's okay but I'm fed up with it! I don't care about my damn heart anymore!"

He walked away as fast as he could.

The terrible heart pain let him know that another attack was coming. At that time he was ready to accept his dream. That reality was no longer a strange illusion; he wanted to hide there forever.

The warm wind caressed Noah's arms. He opened his eyes. This world welcomed him, although it was absolutely strange and unknown. There was no pain, no hopeless thoughts and no frustration, just this beautiful sky.

Since he discovered this world, Noah had visited it hundreds of times. At first it was scary, because his heart behaved strangely as the guy was sinking in upside down, but later it didn't bother him at all. There were millions of dreams that could make Noah smile. Noah knew this world would give him everything. This beautiful nature, peaceful atmosphere were made for him. He didn't see anyone there. Not a single soul except some lost silhouettes that avoided Noah. Every time Noah tried to come a little bit closer, they disappeared and he didn't have a chance to touch their glittering skin.

He didn't have any regrets about being away from the reality. He even hoped that no one remembered him any longer. But that wasn't true. At least Doctor Anderson still worried about him.

"If you are interested, your situation is getting worse. I'm still trying my best, but it has gone out of control," said he a couple of days after Noah's first journey.

"What do you mean?"

"Your heart is tired and weak. It's strange, because last week you felt better."

Noah quickly understood that it was his fault.

"So you mean that I can die?" it was the first time Noah ever said it aloud.

"I just want to say that we are doing everything possible, but it's always up to you, do you understand?"

"Then I have to stop," whispered Noah. Now he was extremely scared and didn't know what to do.

The heart got stuck for the last time. Familiar shades and colours started approaching and circled Noah up. He couldn't move. He slowly got down on his knees trying not to cry out with pain.

Язык и культура...

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE TRIVIA

"Noah!" exclaimed Doctor Anderson and called for help.

But Noah didn't hear anything. He found himself in the other world, but now he was locked in a place that he had thought would save him from frustration. He ran trying to get away from the place. The ground disappeared below him and turned to liquid glass; his feet were leaving trembling waves on it.

"No!" he slapped the glass and it came apart.

Noah looked at his hands and suddenly noticed that they weren't as pale as they used to be. They were sparkling with silver dust, just like those silhouettes he had seen before. He shook them but the dust kept spreading. He knew what was going on. This illusion tried to lock him in and make Noah a part of this world forever. But the guy didn't want to be another lost ghost that wanted to get rid of his fears.

"I'm in here! Can anybody hear me? I'm still here! I don't want to go!"

More silhouettes showed up.

"Get away!" cried Noah but it was too late. He fell down and tried to fight them back but they kept coming closer and closer. Overcoming his fear, Noah touched one of the phantoms. It immediately got hold of Noah's hand and helped the guy to his feet. As soon as he had done it, Noah stopped disappearing and a strange spirit left his body. It was like the other silhouettes, but still different. It was right-hearted. He had no fear, no doubts, only fire burning in his right-placed heart. All other silhouettes left at once. And Noah's part followed them.

The guy was left alone in that quiet place. Nothing could break the silence. All of a sudden he heard something. It was his heartbeat. Noah plucked up the courage and made the first step to nowhere.



How Does It Feel to Be a Student?

Kristina Babenko, Group 151

Is a student's routine a prime?
Is skipping lectures a big crime?
Will studying be a hard long climb?
And what's your expectation?

A morning, waking up, sunrise,
The blanket, dress and exercise.
Today you have to reach some heights.
Be proud – you're a freshman.

Having a shower, breakfast, tea.
Move on, a few minutes are free.
Revising homework. You can't flee
From the advancing exam session.

Classes, learning and essay.
You can't give up and run away.
Don't worry! It will be OK.
No sadness, no depression!

How does it feel to be a student?
First of all, don't be a truant.
Be responsible and fluent.
Your aim is your profession!

Editorial Team

Nikita Khorunzhiy, Group 351

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