



BRAIN

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WAVE

Hello dear friends!

January 11, can be called without exaggeration one of the most "polite" dates of the year - it is International Thank You Day. We all realize the value of good manners, their necessity in everyday life, but most of the thanks we say casually, without thinking about their meaning. However, words of gratitude have magical properties to help people give joy to each other, express attention and convey positive emotions, without which our life would be scanty and dark. That's why in many tourist guides and instructions tourists are often indicated that the word "thank you", even spoken with the accent help to create a calm and pleasant stay.

Psychologists believe that the words of gratitude can soothe and warm with their warmth. The main thing is that they must be spoken from the bottom of the heart!

Students Day in Russia January, 25 2015

Despite the frost and the snow, January is a month full of joyful events in Russia. After New Year, Christmas and the Orthodox New Year (according to the Julian Calendar), there is still another day that many are awaiting for: January 25th, Tatiana's Day or Students Day.

On January 25th 1755, Empress Elizabeth of Russia signed a decree for the establishment of the 1st Russian university, under the care of Ivan Shuvalov first minister of Education in Russia, who wanted all Russians to have a better education. The decree was signed on the name day of his mother, Tatiana, to whom he said: "I give you a university" as a present.

So that day became the official University day, which was called in those days, the Day of the Moscow University. At first, it was only celebrated in Moscow with a brief ceremony in the building of the University followed by noisy and well washed down parties all over the city.

Later on, in 1791, the Church of Saint Tatiana was built on the old campus. The Russian Orthodox Church declared Saint Tatiana saints of all students and Tatiana's Day began to celebrate as Russian Students Day.





My English Lessons

I began learning English in primary school in the first form. My first English teacher was my first class teacher Yulia Nikolaevna. I remember how we learnt English alphabet and how we sang funny and simple songs in English. The most interesting thing for me is history of

England, the most amusing - poems, tongue twisters and songs, the most useful - is ability to write letters in English, know English grammar, irregular verbs, especially if you plan to use English in future. Actually, it is useful to know more than one language!

Our teacher gives us summer reading books. I know that it is very useful for us, so I read them all. It usually isn't that easy, but reading English books you find a lot of new words and phrases and your language is becoming more fluent and correct. I also use dictionaries when I read a text with words I don't know. I prefer reading difficult texts, because reading stories in easy English I find useless.

Grammar drills – are the main part of our English lessons. To tell the truth, they are quite boring for me and sometimes difficult, but I understand well how important they are. We must learn and know grammar in any language!

While learning a language we learn to listen and understand what you hear, write correctly, learn new words. I suppose the most difficult for my friends and me is learning large texts by heart. In general, I have good marks in English, but sometimes I have hardships with grammar. I think about using English in future, but I haven't made the final decision yet.

Simonova Rita, 7B

Elvis Aaron Presley (January 8, 1935 – August 16, 1977) was an American singer and actor. Regarded as one of the most significant cultural icons of the 20th century, he is often referred to as "the King of Rock and Roll", or simply, "the King". Commercially successful in many genres, including pop, blues and gospel, he is the best-selling solo artist in the history of recorded music. On the anniversary date of his death, every year since 1997, thousands of people gather at his home in Memphis to celebrate his memory, during a candlelight ritual.



Ecological problems



We live on our beautiful planet-the Earth which is very rich in resources, fresh air, clean water, wild life, picturesque scenery. That's why city-dwellers prefer spending their holidays far from the noise of the city, breathing fresh air, swimming in clean waters.

Nowadays pollution is one of the most urgent problems. Millions of cars, trucks, buses, factories all over the world release exhaust fumes and poisoned substances into the atmosphere. These poisoned substances pollute air, water and it's usually hard and dangerous to breathe in large cities where there are lots of plants.

Water pollution is very serious, too. Rivers full of dirty water polluted with factory waste, poison a lot of fish.

Both clean air and water are necessary for our health. If people want to survive they must solve ecological problems quickly. That's why people all over the world think and speak about ecology a lot.

Anastasia Shkurupiy, 6B



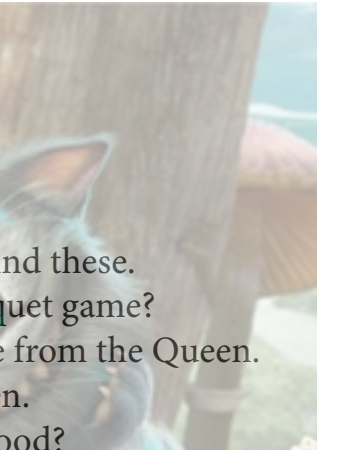
Person of the Year 2014 Ebola fighters

Person of the Year is an annual issue of the United States news magazine Time that features and profiles a person, group, idea or object that "for better or for worse...has done the most to influence the events of the year". The tradition of selecting a "Man of the Year" began in 1927 when aviator **Charles Lindbergh** made his historic trans-Atlantic flight. Since then, individual people, classes of people, the computer ("**Machine of the Year**" in 1982), and "**Endangered Earth**" ("**Planet of the Year**" in 1988) have all been selected for the special year-end issue. However, Time magazine points out that controversial figures such as **Adolf Hitler** (1938), **Joseph Stalin** (1939 and 1942), **Nikita Khrushchev** (1957) and **Ayatollah Khomeini** (1979) have also been granted the title for their impacts. Another controversial choice was the 2006 selection of "**You**", representing most if not all people for advancing the information age by using the Internet. The last issue of 1989 named **Mikhail Gorbachev** as "Man of the Decade". The December 31, 1999 issue of Time named **Albert Einstein** the "Person of the Century". **Franklin D. Roosevelt** and **Mahatma Gandhi** were chosen as runners-up.

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, born 27 January 1832, better known by his pen name, Lewis Carroll, was an English writer, mathematician, logician, Anglican deacon and photographer. His most famous writings are *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, its sequel *Through the Looking-Glass*, which includes the poem *Jabberwocky*, and the poem *The Hunting of the Snark*, all examples of the genre of literary nonsense.

«Alice in Wonderland» - Quiz

Each answer starts with the letter of the alphabet before it.

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- A - The star of this story.
 - B - 'Drink me' was written on this.
 - C - This cat kept fading away.
 - D - Sat in a teapot.
 - E - What did the cake say?
 - F - What was used as a croquet stick?
 - G - The White Rabbit asked Alice to find these.
 - H - What was used as balls in the croquet game?
 - I - A fish footman bought one of these from the Queen.
 - J - It was claimed that these were stolen.
 - K - Who was accused of stealing the food?
 - L - Who wrote 'Alice in Wonderland'?
 - M - Who hosted the tea party?
 - N - Alice was told this when she wanted to sit down at the tea party.
 - O - The Queen of Hearts keeps shouting this.
 - P - What did the baby turn into?
 - Q - Who were the gardeners frightened of?
 - R - Alice fell down one.
 - S - These people were croquet arches.
 - T - The three sisters lived on this.
 - U - According to the Mock Turtle this was branch of arithmetic.
 - V - Alice thought that this might make you sour.
 - W - He was late.
 - X
 - Y - Will Won'tsang the Mock Turtle
 - Z - The sound the dormouse often made.

Australia celebrates its national holiday on the 26th of January. Quiz

1. What is the monetary unit of Australia?
2. What are the names of the only egg-laying mammals in the world, living in Australia?
3. What are the national emblems of Australia?
4. When did Australia set the diplomatic relations to Russia?
5. What city was the capital of Australia till 1927?
6. What animals can you see on Australia's coat-of-arms?
7. When did the Australia's native inhabitants, the Aborigines, arrive in Australia?
8. What can one find in Sydney and in London?
9. How do people call Australia?
10. What does the name "Canberra" mean in the Aborigine language?
11. What is the longest river in Australia?
12. What kind of State is Australia?
13. How did the British government use the area of Australia in the past?
14. What is the main occupation in Australia?
15. What is the geographical centre of Australia?
16. Who is the Head of the State?



*The world is so full
of a number of things,
I'm sure we should all be
as happy as kings.
R.L. Stevenson*

Martha – the last of 5 billion Passenger Pigeons



Once, in North America lived several billions of pigeons, which travelled in great flocks, that's why they were called passengers. They didn't look like the

pigeons we see in the streets of our cities and towns now. It was a very nice bird. Once, near the lake Ontario one could see a flock of these birds which spread on 1,5 km in width and 500 km in length. To fly over a city it took this flock 14 hours and it contained 3.5 billion species. The sound they made wasn't pleasant, the noise they produced was deafening!

At the end of 19-th century American slaveholders started using the cheap meat of pigeons to feed their slaves. Hunting on these pigeons became the most popular entertainment of children. A lot of people understood that the passenger pigeon would soon disappear at all. But the authorities replied, «The passenger pigeon doesn't need any protection. It can breed easily and travel for many miles in search of food». In 1896 the last flock was seen on the Earth. All 250,000 birds were killed in one day. They were destroyed by sportsmen who had been promised a great amusement – the opportunity to shoot the birds. Some single birds continued to be killed until in spring 1900 the last passenger pigeon was shot by a boy from Ohio. The last passenger pigeon, kept in the Zoo was Martha, which died in 1914.



«Gatsby» – a novel of 50 000 words without "E"

In 1939 a writer Ernest Vinsent Wright created a novel "Gatsby". The name of the main hero was John Gatsby and the plot was quite ordinary. A very unordinary thing was the fact that the novel, containing more than 50.000 words didn't contain letter "E"! The novel was written in the genre of "Lipogramme" (from Greek language) when the author avoids using this or that letter. In the case with letters Z, X, Q – it is not a problem – such letters are not often met in the words. But for the letters T, E, A – it is quite a problem! To solve his task Wright had not to use the numerals more than 6 and less than 13 and to avoid using the verbs in the Past tense (they have the "ed" ending).



Computer Chair and Thomas Jefferson

We all got used to the revolving chairs which are called "computer" or "office" ones. But not many people know that it was invented by Thomas Jefferson, the President of the USA. It happened at the end of the 18-th century – when Jefferson bought himself a Windsor chair but decided to improve it. He made the chair possible to turn around and to move on small castors.

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