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BIG CLOSE UP НАВЧАЛЬНО-МЕТОДИЧНА РОЗРОБКА З АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ

УДК 811.111(072)

B 68

Рекомендовано до друку науково-методичною радою Східноєвропейського національного університету імені Лесі Українки (протокол № 9 від 20 червня 2018р.).

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Big Close Up: навчально-методична розробка/ Наталія Валеріанівна Волошинович, Олена Георгіївна Котис, Вікторія Русланівна Новак . — Луцьк :« », 2018. — 40с.

Навчально-методична розробка «BigCloseUp» призначена для студентів 1-4 років навчання спеціальності «Прикладна лінгвістика»; складається із передмови та восьми частин, які містять лексико-граматичні та комунікативні вправи, які спонукають студентів до невимушеного спілкування. Використання відео та кінофільмів під час проведення практичних занять з основної іноземної мови стимулює студентів до вияву мовної активності, що має пріоритетне значення.

УДК 811.111(072)

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ПЕРЕДМОВА

Навчально-методична розробка «*Big Close Up*» призначена для студентів 1-4 років навчання спеціальності «Прикладна лінгвістика» факультету іноземної філології.

У процесі навчаннястуденти набувають комунікативної компетенції завдяки моделюванню основних закономірностей мовленнєвого спілкування. Використання відеоматеріалів дає змогу реалізувати конкретні навчальні завдання, створити позитивний емоційний фон усього процесу вивчення мови. Доцільність використання навчального відео та кінофільмів зумовлена тим, що слуховий та зоровий аналізатори є домінуючими каналами сприйняття навчального матеріалу. Використання відеоматеріалів значно покращує ефективність навчального процесу, спонукає до комунікативної діяльності та дозволяє засвоїти до 65% матеріалу. Студенти можуть бачити результати своєї роботи, що мотивує їх для подальшої праці.

Заняття з використанням відео або кінофільму передбачає такі етапи: 1) підготовка до перегляду сюжету; 2) перегляд і виконання завдань; 3) виконання завдань після перегляду.

Мовний чи тематичний аспект відеосюжету використовують як опору для розв'язання нових завдань.

Навчально-методична розробка містить вісім розділів, у кожному з яких студентам пропонують різні завдання та вправи на основі перегляду культових кінострічок, які дають змогу оцінити рівень розуміння матеріалу, уміння узагальнювати зміст побаченого, виокремлювати ключові слова і вирази.

Підбір комплексу вправ даної навчально-методичної розробки сприяє системному вивченню матеріалу з обраних тем навчального відео, оскільки вони відповідають розмовним темам, які відображені у навчальних планах.

Використання такої методики продемонструвало її доцільність та ефективність, тому розробка подібних методичних посібників є актуальною та необхідною для впровадження у вищих навчальних закладах у роботі зі студентами на різних рівнях володіння іноземною мовою.

Навчально-методичну розробку можна використовувати під час проведення практичних занять з основної англійської мови зі студентами факультету іноземної філології та слухачами курсів інтенсивного вивчення англійської мови, а також усіма тими, хто самостійно вивчає іноземну мову.

SLEEPY HOLLOW

(based on the movie)

Section I

INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION

- 1. Do you believe in ghosts (dead people who come back)? Why?/Why not?
- 2. What exactly are these "things" that we call ghosts?
- 3. What places do we call haunted?.
- 4. Do you think that we can learn important things from dreams?

Section II

GENERAL COMPREHENSION

Task 1. Put the events of the movie in chronological order:

- a) Crane begins his investigation, remaining highly skeptical about the supernatural elements in the case until he actually encounters the Headless Horseman himself,
- b) Ichabod Crane is a 24-year-old New York City police officer in 1799, facing imprisonment for going against traditional methods and favoring forensic investigation techniques such as finger-printing and autopsies not considered to be orthodox at that time and considered unimportant.
- c) Boarding in a room at the home of the town's richest family Crane falls in love with their daughter Katrina.
- d) Arriving in Sleepy Hollow, Crane is informed by the town's elders that the killer is not of flesh and blood, but rather an undead headless horseman from the American Revolutionary War who rides at night on a massive black horse in search of his missing head.
- e) Following a fight in the local windmill and a stagecoach chase through the woods, Crane eventually thwarts Lady Van Tassel by throwing the skull to the Horseman, breaking the curse.
- f) Crane and Katrina come across the cave dwelling of a reclusive sorceress. She reveals the location of the Tree of the Dead, which marks the Horseman's grave, as well as his portal into the natural world from the supernatural.

Are there any important events missing? What are they?

Task 2. Answer the questions:

- 1. What is the name of the main character of Sleepy Hollow?
- 2. What was Ichabod Crane's profession?
- 3. What was the name of the girl whom Ichabod loved?
- 4. Who was Katrina's father?
- 5. Who told Ichabod about the legend of the Headless Horseman?
- 6. What happened to Ichabod when he listened to the story?

Task 3. Write down words that mean without... Use the clues.

- 1. has no head *headless*
- 2. is no use –
- 3. doesn't take care –
- 4. is not worth anything –
- 5. has no job –
- 6. doesn't cause pain –
- 7. is out of breath –
- 8. doesn't know what to say –
- 9. has no point –

Write the meaning of the adjectives:

- 10. heartless *shows no kindness*
- 11. penniless –
- 12. homeless –
- 13. tactless –

Section III

DISCUSSING DETAILS

Task 1. Who said this:

1) 'There is a farming communityupstate, Constable... ten daysjourney north in the Hudson Highlands. It is named SleepyHollow. Within a fortnight, threepersons have been murdered there. Each with their head lopped cleanlyoff. The elders of the Hollow have sentdispatches to me, requesting assistance, and now, just this very moment, I have chosen you.'

- 2) 'The Horseman... he was a Hessianmercenary, sent to our shores by German princes to help keep Americans under the thumb of England. However, unlike hiscompatriots who came as muscle intrade for currency, he camewillingly. For love of carnage.'
- 3) 'While I will do everything I canto find your assassin, I will look for a man of flesh and blood. Notsome goblin-demon from hell'.
- 4) 'As my husband says, a wife should be always like an echo, and at the same time, quite unlike an echo.Like an echo, she should speak onlywhen spoken to, and unlike an echo, should never try to have the lastword.'
 - 5) 'I've read a great deal about yourNew York City. Do be a dear and tell me all about it. Sounds like an extraordinary place to live a life.'

Task 2. Answer the questions and dwell on the following:

- 1. When does the story take place?
- 2. Sleepy Hollow was next to the river. What was the name of the river?
- 3. How was the soldier killed?
- 4. What was the ghost of the soldier looking for?
- 5. What was the name of the soldier?
- 6. When he arrived, who did Ichabod encounter first?
- 7. Who was the first person to die after Ichabod's arrival?
- 8. Who told Ichabod that there were 5 bodies in 4 graves?
- 9. When Katrina gives Ichabod the spell book, what does she tell him to do with it? 'Keep it close to your...
- 10. During his time in Sleepy Hollow, Ichabod has flashbacks to what?
- 11. How old was Ichabod when he lost his faith?
- 12. Did Ichabodlearn important things from dreams?

FOLLOW-UP TASK:

- 1. *Sleepy Hollow* is a 1999 American horror film directed by Tim Burton. It is a film adaptation loosely inspired by the 1820 short story *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving. What do you know about the author of the story, Washington Irving?
- 2. What do you know about the war between Britain and the American colonies?

A CHRISTMAS CAROL (2009)

(based on the movie)

Section 1

INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION

- 1. Do you know that there are three Christian traditions (theatrical performances) that people of all religions enjoy? One of these is The Messiah, an oratorio written by the German composer George Frederick Handel and performed by a chorus, orchestra and solo singers. Another classic work performed annually during the Christmas season is the composer Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky's ballet The Nutcracker. Finally, there is a story by the 19th century English author Charles Dickens which is traditionally performed as a play and tells the tale of a character Ebenezer Scrooge who learns to understand and regain the spirit of Christmas the spirit of caring for and sharing with others. What is the name of the story?
- 2. How does the idea of giving gifts relate to the Christmas story and the holiday spirit?
- 3. Will you make a New Year's resolution this year? What will it be?

Section II

GENERAL COMPREHENSION

Task 1. Put the events of the movie in chronological order:

- 1. The second spirit is the Ghost of Christmas Present, which shows Scrooge the happiness of his fellow men on Christmas Day. Among them are Fred, who playfully makes jokes with his family at Scrooge's expense, and the Cratchit family, who are barely able to make do with what little pay Scrooge gives them. Scrooge is touched by the Cratchits' sickly young son Tiny Tim and his commitment to the spirit of Christmas, and he is dismayed to learn from the spirit that Tim may not have much longer to live.
- 2. In 1843, Ebenezer Scrooge, a bitter and miserly old moneylender at a London counting households everything that embodies the joys and spirit of Christmas in contempt. He refuses to visit his cheerful nephew, Fred, at his Christmas dinner party with his family, and he forces his underpaid employee Bob Cratchitto beg to take the day off for his own family. On Christmas Eve, Scrooge is visited by the ghost of his former business partner Jacob Marley, who had died seven years prior and is now forced to spend his afterlife carrying heavy chains forged from his own greedy ways. Marley warns Scrooge that he will suffer an even worse fate if he does not repent. He then tells Scrooge he will be visited by three more spirits that will help guide him.

- 3. The first spirit is the Ghost of Christmas Past, which shows Scrooge visions of his own past that takes him to when he was a child. This takes place around the Christmas season, reminding Scrooge of how he ended up the avaricious (=greedy) man he is now. In the visions, Scrooge spends much of his childhood neglected by his father over the holidays at a boarding school until he's finally brought home by his loving sister, Fan, who dies prematurely after giving birth to her son, Fred. Scrooge later begins a successful career in business and money lending, and he becomes engaged to a woman named Belle, though she later breaks off the engagement when his obsession with wealth drives her away.
- 4. The third spirit Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come shows Scrooge scenes related to the death of a "wretched man". A group of businessmen snicker about how it's likely to be a cheap funeral and one man doesn't mind going if lunch is provided; his possessions are stolen and sold by his maid saying if the man hadn't frightened everyone away while he was alive she wouldn't have his things to sell, and a young couple who owed the man money are relieved he is dead, as they have more time to pay off their debt. The spirit takes Scrooge to Cratchit's house where he learns Tiny Tim had died and he sees Bob and his family grieving. Scrooge watches Bob climb the stairs and he is able to see Bob's face, grief stricken and heartbroken. Scrooge senses the time with the spirit is almost over, so he asks who was the man who died. The spirit takes Scrooge to the cemetery and points to a tombstone but the name is covered in snow.
- 5. Scrooge awakens on Christmas morning with joy and love in his heart: happy and surprised that the spirits' did their work in one night. He anonymously sends a prize turkey to the Cratchit home and attends Fred's Christmas dinner. The following day, he gives Cratchit a raise and becomes like "a second father" to Tiny Tim. A changed man, Scrooge now treats everyone with kindness, generosity, and compassion; he now embodies the spirit of Christmas. The movie ends with Scrooge carrying Tiny Tim on his shoulder; Tim saying "God bless us, everyone!"
- 6. Scrooge asks the spirit if the future events he witness can be changed if the course they are on changes. The spirit reveals the name on tombstone as Scrooge's name, he weeps, wonders if there is no hope for him. To little response, the spirit reveals Scrooge's own grave, showing his own date of death as December 25 of a forthcoming year (or perhaps the very next morning, as the year is never shown), and forces Scrooge to fall into his empty coffin sitting in a deep grave atop the fires of Hell.

Task 2. Tick off ∨ true or false

	TRUE	FALSE
Scrooge wasn't rich.		
2. He didn't like to spend money.		

3. Jacob Marley was S	crooge's friend.	
4. Scrooge went to Fre	d to have dinner.	
5. Scrooge didn't like	Christmas.	
6. Marley's ghost told	Scrooge not to change	
his life.		
7. Scrooge wasn't afra	id of ghosts.	

Task 3. Choose the right answer:

- 1. What was the main reason Marley's ghost visited Scrooge?
- a) to visit his old friend
- b) to scare him to death
- c) to warn him about his fate
- d) to bring him a Christmas gift
- 2. Marley was bound by a chain. Why did he have to wear the chain?
- a) It was a punishment for how he acted when he was alive.
- b) It represented all of the people he made happy.
- c) It was to prevent him from escaping his grave.
- d) It represented the money he made in business.
- 3. Marley's ghost said Scrooge would receive visitors. Who were those visitors?
- a) three spirits.
- b) his nieces and nephews.
- c) the police.
- d) people he had wronged.
- 4. The Ghost of Christmas Past took Scrooge to a scene between himself and a former love. What happened between him and his former love?
- a) She left him because he was too focused on money.
- b) She died in a terrible accident.
- c) She left him so she could marry someone else.
- d) She found out she was expecting a child.
- 5. How did Scrooge's attitude change when he recognized people from his past?
- a) He became angry and mean.
- b) He became quiet and shy.

- c) He felt poor and worthless.
- d) He felt very excited and joyful.
- 6. Characters in a story are often different. How was Scrooge's nephew most different from Scrooge?
- a) He was taller than Scrooge.
- b) He was wealthier than Scrooge.
- c) He was happier than Scrooge.
- d) He was busier than Scrooge.
- 7. Which detail best shows how Scrooge started to change when he saw his old friends?
- a) He wished he had given a young caroler some money the night before.
- b) He said that his sister was a delicate creature with a large heart.
- c) He wished he had treated Old Fezziwig better when he was alive.
- d) He said that he wanted that night to remain with him forever.
- 8. No matter how hard Scrooge tried to make the Ghost of Christmas Past disappear, he could not hide the light which streamed from under the cap. What did the light most likely represent?
- a) daylight
- b) fire
- c) anger
- d) hope
- 9. How does the Ghost of Christmas Future communicate with Scrooge?
- a) By staring him in the eyes until Scrooge guesses what the Ghost of Christmas Future wants.
- b) By writing on a note pad.
- c) By sending him text messages.
- d) By point his finger at something he wants Scrooge to notice.
- 10. Because of the main character, what does the term "Scrooge" mean in today's world?
- a) Someone who loves Christmas.
- b) Someone who doesn't have the Christmas spirit.
- c) Someone who is a grouch (=a habitually complaining or irritable person).
- d) Both b and c.

Section III

DISCUSSING DETAILS

Task 1. Who said this:

- 1) "What else can I be when I live in such a world of fools as this? Merry Christmas! Out with Merry Christmas! What"s Christmas to you but a time for paying bills without money; a time for finding yourself a year older but not an hour richer. If I could work my will, every idiot who goes about with "Merry Christmas" on his lips should be boiled with his own pudding and buried with a stake of holly through his heart."
- 2) "I am here to warn you that you have yet a chance and a hope of escaping my fate. A chance of my procuring, Ebenezer..... You will be haunted by three spirits".
- 3) "But if you were free today, would you choose a dowerless girl? A girl left penniless by the death of her parents? You, who weighs everything by gain? I release you, Ebenezer."
- 4) ".... before I draw nearer to that stone to which you point, answer me one question! Are these the shadows of things that may be? Men's courses in life foreshadow certain ends. But if these courses are departed from, these ends will change. Isn't that so?"
- 5) "And therefore... I am about to raise your salary! A merry Christmas to you, Bob. A merrier Christmas, Bob, my good fellow, than I've given you in many a year. I'll raise your salary, and do whatever I can to help your struggling family. And we'll discuss your affairs this very afternoon over a bowl of Christmas punch. But first, let's make up the fires. I want you to go out... and buy another scuttle of coal before you dot another "I"."

Task 2. Answer the questions and dwell on the following:

- 1. Which of the spirits does not speak to Scrooge?
- 2. What is Jacob Marley forced to drag about as a result of his sinful life?
- 3. Why does Scrooge like darkness?
- 4. Who is in the grave in Stave Four?
- 5. In what year was A Christmas Carol written?
- 6. Which character is Fred's mother?
- 7. Why does Belle end her engagement to Scrooge?
- 8. To whom does Scrooge send the Christmas turkey?
- 9. Which one of the spirits has a glowing head?
- 10. What is Scrooge's typical response to "Merry Christmas"?
- 11. Which character utters the famous words, "God bless us, Every one"?

FRIDA KAHLO: LIFE PATH AND ARTISTIC HERITAGE

(based on the movie)

Section I

INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION

1. What is art?

The Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English defines art as 'the use of painting, drawing, sculpture etc. to represent things or express ideas'. Do you agree that one of the important roles of art is expressing ideas? Agree of challenge.

- 2. What kind of art form (painting, sculpture, theatre, photography, dancing) do you associate with the concept of ART? Why? Provide examples.
- 3. Do you like painting? Who is your favorite painter? What Ukrainian painters do you know?

Section II

GENERAL COMPREHENSION

Task 1. Put the events of the movie in chronological order:

- a) Frida gets pregnant
- b) Frida's exhibition opens
- c) Diego and Frida move to NY
- d) Frida gets in the accident
- e) Diego creates murals for Rockefeller
- f) Frida loses her baby
- g) Frida's mother dies
- h) Trotsky comes to Frida's house
- i) Frida dies

Are there any important events missing? What are they?

Task 2. Answer the questions:

- 1. Do you think Frida Kahlo was a strong personality?
- 2. How would you describe Frida? What kind of person is she?
- 3. How does she treat Diego Rivera?
- 4. How does Diego treat her?
- 5. Read the short dialogue between A and B. Who are the people talking?

- A: What do you think matters mostfor a good marriage?
- B: A short memory.

Is this dialogue important for the movie? Is the topic of marriage important to Frida? What about Diego?

Section III

DISCUSSING DETAILS

Task 1. Who said this:

- 1) 'I admire her.Her work is acid and tender...hard as steel...and fineas a butterfly's wing.Loveable as a smile...cruel as...the bitterness of life.I don't believe...that ever before has a womanput such agonized poetryon canvas.'?
- 2) 'I paint what I see...the world outside.'
- 3) '...your paintings expresswhat everyone feels...that they are alone in pain.'?
- 4) '...you paint from here [heart].'

Task 2. Answer the questions and dwell on the following:

- 1. What philosophers, politicians and painters are mentioned in the movie?
- 2. Who is a 'German Jew'? Who calls him/ her this way?
- 3. Who is a 'communist'? Who calls him/ her like that?
- 4. Who called Frida and Diego's marriage 'the marriage of an elephant and a dove'? Why?
- 5. Did Frida wear a white dress for her wedding? Dwell on this situation.
- 6. Are fidelity and loyalty important for Frida and Diego? When is the first time they talk about these?
- 7. How many wives had Diego had before he married Frida?
- 8. Where does the wedding take place?
- 9. How much time do two of the wedding guests 'give' Frida and Diego to live as a couple? Why?
- 10. Who cooked their first family breakfast? Was it delicious?
- 11. Who is Lupe? How does she call Diego?
- 12. Why do Frida and Diego move to NY?
- 13. Why does Mr. Rockefeller have a serious talk with Diego? What is the outcome?
- 14. Does Frida have her hair cut or does she cut her hair herself? Why?
- 15. What is a 'jigsaw puzzle' and in what context is this phrase used in the movie?
- 16. Who opens Frida's exhibition? Is she present during the opening?

FOLLOW-UP TASK:

- 1. Choose a dialogue from the movie and learn it by heart with appropriate intonation.
- 2. Pick any of Frida's paintings and describe it in written form. Print it out (black and white) and attach to the sheet with description.

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING (2014)

(based on the movie)

Section I

INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION

1. Read the reviewof the film below. Decide if the reviewer likes it and tell your partner why. **The Theory of Everything.**

The film tells the incredible story of Professor Stephen Hawking's life. It's a love story between Hawking and his beautiful first wife Jane, but don't expect a typical romance – this film has more to offer. Eddie Redmayne is convincing as Hawking, and Felicity Jones is excellent as his wife. Hawking has lived a fascinating life, and the plot reflects this. The cinematography is stunning and you won't be able to get the soundtrack out of your brain. This is an impressive biopic - perfect for a Sunday afternoon.

2. Have you seen the film? Do you agree with the writer? If you haven't seen the film, do you think you would like it? Discuss with your partner.

Section II

GENERAL COMPREHENSION

Task 1. Put the events of the movie in chronological order:

- a) Stephen tells Jane that he has been invited to America to accept an award and will be taking Elaine with him. Jane faces the realisation that her and Stephen's marriage has not been working, telling him she "did her best." Jane and Stephen agree to divorce. Stephen goes to the lecture with Elaine, the two having fallen in love, and Jane and Jonathan reunite. At the lecture, Stephen sees a student drop a pen; he imagines getting up to return it, almost crying at the reminder of how his disease has affected him. He goes on to give an inspiring speech, saying, "There should be no boundaries to human endeavor. We are all different. However bad life may seem, there is always something you can do, and succeed at. While there's life, there is hope."
- b) In 1963, Cambridge University astrophysics student Stephen Hawking (Eddie Redmayne) begins a relationship with literature student Jane Wilde (Felicity Jones). Although Stephen excels at mathematics and physics, his friends and professors are concerned over his lack of a thesis topic. After Stephen and his professor Dennis Sciama (David Thewlis) attend a

- lecture on black holes, Stephen speculates that black holes may have been part of the creation of the universe and decides to write his thesis on time.
- c) While pursuing his research, Stephen's muscles begin to fail, eventually causing him to fall and hit his head. He learns he has motor neurone disease; he will be unable to talk, swallow, breathe or move most of his body, and has approximately two years to live. Stephen asks what will happen to his brain. The doctor tells Stephen that the disease doesn't affect the brain and that Stephen's thoughts won't change but eventually, no one will know what they are. As Stephen becomes reclusive, focusing on his work, Jane confesses her love to him. She tells Stephen's father she intends to stay with Stephen even as his condition worsens. They marry and have a son.
- d) An extended closing series comprises select moments from the film shown in reverse back to the moment Stephen first saw Jane. A final title sequence brings the lives of the lead characters up to date. Jane and Jonathan are happily married and she has completed her PhD. She and Stephen remain close friends. Stephen declines a knighthood and continues his research with no plans to retire.
- e) Stephen presents his thesis to the examination board, arguing that a black hole created the universe in a Big Bang, that it will emit heat, and that it will end in a Big Crunch. While celebrating with Jane and his friends, Stephen realises he cannot walk and begins using a wheelchair.
- f) After having a second child, a daughter, Stephen develops a theory about the visibility of black holes and becomes a world-renowned physicist. While focusing on the children, Stephen's health and his increasing fame, Jane is unable to work on her own thesis and is frustrated; Stephen tells her he understands if she needs help. She joins the church choir, where she meets widower Jonathan (Charlie Cox). She and Jonathan become close friends, and she employs him as a piano teacher for her son. Jonathan befriends the entire family, helping Stephen with his illness, supporting Jane, and playing with the children.
- g) While Jane and Jonathan take the children camping, Stephen is invited to attend an opera performance in Bordeaux and contracts pneumonia. While in the hospital, the doctors tell Jane that Stephen needs a tracheotomy, which will leave him unable to speak. She agrees to the surgery. Stephen learns to use a spelling board and uses it to communicate with Elaine (Maxine Peake), his new nurse. He receives a computer with a built-in voice synthesiser, and uses it to write a book, A Brief History of Time, which becomes an international best-seller.

Task 2. Answer the questions:

- 1. What was your immediate response to the film? Which scenes did you find particularly powerful and memorable, and why?
- 2. Why do you think the filmmakers chose to focus on Stephen's relationship with Jane, rather than other aspects of his life?
- 3. What does the title of the film mean?
- 4. What genre is it?
- 5. Is it based on a book?
- 6. Where is the film set?
- 7. When is the film set?
- 8. Who stars in the film?
- 9. Who is your favourite character in the film? (Why?)
- 10. What kind of person would like this film?

Section III

DISCUSSING DETAILS

Task 1. Who said this:

- 1) 'What is the nature of time? Will it ever come to an end? Can we go back in time? Some day these answers may seem as obvious to us as the Earth orbiting the sun, or perhaps as ridiculous as a tower of tortoises. Only time, that's what we say.'
- 2) 'It's called motor neuron disease. It's a progressive neurological disorder that destroys the cells in the brain that control essential muscle activity, such as speaking, walking, breathing, swallowing. The signals that muscles must receive in order to move are disrupted. The result is gradual muscle decay. Wasting away. Eventually, the ability to control voluntary movement is lost. Entirely. I'm afraid average life expectancy is two years. There's nothing I can do for you.'
- 3) '[to a room full of physicists] As you know, my field is evolution of the hot universe, the properties of the microwave background radiation and the theory of black holes. To be honest, I came here today expecting to hear a lot of nonsense. I go home disappointed. The little one here has done it! He has done it!'
- 4) 'I don't understand. You've spent years assuming black holes exist, and you believe Cygnus X-1 could well turn out to be the first black hole that we can actually observe. And yet, you've bet Kip Thorne it's not a black hole.'
- 5) 'Reading Stephen Hawking's draft of A Brief History of Time: "Who are we? Why are we here? If we ever learn this, it would be the ultimate triumph of human reason, for then we would know the mind of God."

Task 2. Answer the questions and dwell on the following:

- 1. Can we find a full and powerful answer to all of life?
- 2. Why is love so powerful?

FOLLOW-UP TASK:

The Theory of Everything is a 2014 British biographical romantic drama film directed by James Marsh and adapted by Anthony McCarten from the memoir Travelling to Infinity: My Life with Stephen by Jane Wilde Hawking, which deals with her relationship with her exhusband, theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking, his diagnosis of Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease or Motor neurone disease), and his success in physics.

Do you know any other interesting, fascinating facts about him and his work?

LIFE OF PI

(based on the movie)

Section I

INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION

- 1. What animal frightens you most? Why? Write or draw to tell how scary it is.
- 2. If you were stranded on a lifeboat, what three things would you most want to have with you?
- 3. Have you ever had to work with someone you didn't like very much? Did you work together successfully? Tell how your relationship with the person changed, or didn't, as you were forced to spend time together.

Section II

GENERAL COMPREHENSION

Task 1. Put the events of the movie in chronological order:

- g) When Pi is 16, his father announces that they must move to Canada, where he intends to settle and sell the animals. The family books passage with the animals on a Japanese freighter. During a storm, the ship founders while Pi is on deck. He tries to find his family, but a crewman throws him into a lifeboat. A freed zebra jumps onto the boat with him, breaking its leg. The ship sinks into the Mariana Trench. Pi briefly sees what appears to be a survivor, but it turns out to be Richard Parker.
- h) Pi and Richard Parker leave the island, eventually reaching the coast of Mexico. Pi is saddened that Richard Parker does not acknowledge him before disappearing into the jungle. He is rescued and brought to a hospital. Insurance agents for the Japanese freighter company interview him, but do not believe his story and ask what really happened. He tells a different story, in which the animals are replaced by human survivors: his mother for the orangutan, an amiable sailor for the zebra, and the ship's brutish cook for the hyena. In this story, the cook kills the sailor and feeds on his flesh. He also kills Pi's mother after which Pi kills him with a knife and uses his remains as food and fish bait. The insurance agents are dissatisfied with this story, but they leave without questioning Pi further.
- i) In Canada, novelist Yann Martel meets Pi Patel. Martel has been told that Pi's life story would be a good subject for a book. Pi tells his story to Yann.

Pi's father names him Piscine Molitor after the swimming pool in France. In secondary school in Pondicherry, he adopts the name "Pi" (the Greek letter) to avoid the soundalike nickname "Pissing Patel". He is raised in a Hindu family, but at 12 years old, is introduced to Christianity and then Islam, and decides to follow all three religions as he "just wants to love God". His mother supports his desire to grow, but his rationalist father tries to secularize(= to make something less religious, or to stop it from being controlled by religion) him. Pi's family owns a zoo, and Pi takes interest in the animals, especially a Bengal tiger named Richard Parker. After Pi gets dangerously close to Richard Parker, his father forces him to witness the tiger killing a goat.

j) After the storm, Pi awakens in the lifeboat with the zebra, and is joined by a resourceful orangutan. A spotted hyena emerges from under a tarpaulin (=a protective covering of canvas or other material waterproofed withtar (смола, гудрон), paint, or wax) covering half of the lifeboat and snaps at Pi, forcing him to retreat to the end of the boat. The hyena kills the zebra and later the orangutan. Richard Parker emerges from under the tarpaulin, killing the hyena before retreating back to cover for several days.

Pi fashions a small tethered raft from flotation vests which he retreats to for safety from Richard Parker. Despite his moral code against killing, he begins fishing, enabling him to sustain the tiger as well. When the tiger jumps into the sea to hunt for fish and then comes threateningly towards Pi, Pi considers letting him drown, but ultimately helps him back into the boat. One night, a humpback whale breaches near the boat, destroying the raft and its supplies. Pi trains Richard Parker to accept him in the boat, and realizes that caring for the tiger is also helping keep himself alive.

k) Weeks later they encounter a floating island of interconnected trees. It is a lush jungle of edible plants, fresh water pools and a large population of meerkats (сурикати), enabling Pi and Richard Parker to eat and drink freely and regain strength. At night, the island transforms into a hostile environment. Richard Parker retreats to the lifeboat while Pi and the meerkats sleep in the trees; the water pools turn acidic, digesting the fish in them. Pi deduces that the island is carnivorous after finding a human tooth embedded in a flower.

Task 2. Answer the questions:

- 1. What is the significance of Pi's unusual name?
- 2. How does the idea of survival play out in this text?

- 3. What does Pi try to communicate through his choice of the animals, other than the tiger, with whom he shares the lifeboat?
- 4. How many days was Pi marooned (=left in a place from which you cannot escape) at sea?

Task 3. When we want to compare two things that are alike in some way, we sometimes use 'as ... as ...'. For example, sometimes we compare people with animals: *She's as brave as a lion*. We call these expressions *similes* to show that two different things can have similarities.

With a partner, read the sentences and complete the simile using the following words:

a peacock	a mule	a bee	an owl	an ox	a tortoise
1. She is alwa	ays working, in	fact she's as b	ousy as		
2. He may loo	ok thin, but he'	s as strong as .			
3. When my	Grandpa climb	s the stairs, he'	s as slow as .		
4. My teacher	r knows a lot, i	n fact she's as	wise as		
5. When he sl	howed me his 1	new car, he loo	ked as proud	as	
6 I tried to ge	et her to change	e her mind. but	t she was as st	ubborn as	

Task 4. Using the table below, identify and list characters that show positive character traits and negative character traits. Characters might show both positive and negative character traits.

List attributes that are most important to Pi's survival on the raft and explain why.

Positive Character Traits	Negative Character Traits
selfless	selfish
resilient	gives up
finds humour	doesn't laugh
flexible	inflexible
logical	illogical
team oriented	works alone
curious	not curious

reasonable	irrational
calm	impulsive
caring	uncaring
takes responsible risks	irresponsible
effective communicator	ineffective communicator
listens	doesn't listen
innovative	not innovative
imaginative	uncreative
collaborative	doesn't use others
interdependent	does not need others
empathetic	fails to understand others
plans	spontaneous
questions	unquestioning
capitalises	unresourceful
absorbs	takes nothing in
notices	oblivious
reasons	unreasonable
revises	continues to do things the same way

Section III

DISCUSSING DETAILS

Task 1. Who said this:

- 'None of us knows God until someone introduces us.I was first introduced to God as a Hindu. There are 330 million gods in the Hindu religion - how can I not come to know a few of them?'
- 2. 'Yashoda once accused baby Krishna of eating dirt: "Tut, tut, you naughty boy you shouldn't do that...That's what he told her."I didn't eat dirt!" "No? Well, then open your mouth." So Krishna opened his mouth...And what do you think Yashoda saw?... She saw in Krishna's mouth the whole entire universe.'
- 3. 'Listen: instead of leaping from one religion to the next, why not startwith reason? In a few hundred years, science has taken us farther in understanding the universe than religion has in ten thousand.'

- 4. 'Vegetarian the cow that produced this liver was vegetarian, the pigs that went into these sausages were vegetarian.'
- 5. 'Hunger can change everything you ever thought you knew about yourself.'
- 6. 'Mr. Patel's is an astounding story of courage and endurance unparalleled in the history of shipwrecks. Very few castaways can claim to have survived so long at sea, and none in the company of...(He looks up at Pi)...an adult Bengal tiger.'

Task 2. Answer the questions and dwell on the following:

- 1. It seems like Pi wants us to believe in his first version of his survival at sea. The version with the tiger. But does this version essentially count as a lie? Are there times when you should tell "a dry, yeastless" version? Meaning: does fiction have a limited place in society?
- 2. By the way, which version of Pi's survival at sea story do you choose to believe in? Why?
- 3. It's odd to suddenly remember that both Pondicherry, India, where Pi is from, and Canada, where the author is from, were both French colonies. In the worst examples of colonization, one culture destroys another. Can one story not necessarily "the better story" colonize another? Martel also mentions Darwin a few times in the novel. Would you say that stories, like species, also battle it out for survival? That the best story survives?
- 4. Pi develops a deep friendship with Richard Parker. Can you think of other intense bonds between people and animals? What do these bonds say about compassion and empathy? About our abilities as humans to project?
- 5. Do you believe Pi forgets all too quickly about his family? Can we criticize Pi for not talking about the loss of his brother and his parents? Or does the alternate story at the end explain his silence?

FOLLOW-UP TASK:

- 1. What is the core theme or message to the film *Life of Pi*?
- 2. Is *Life of Pi* based on real events?

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (2005)

(based on the movie)

Section I

INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION

- 1. Do you believe in love at first sight? Why?/Why not?
- 2. How do you feel women were treated during the Regency period (1810-1820) in Great Britain?
- 3. Think about justice/injustice in terms of the Regency period. Has the concept changed over time?
- 4. Work in pairs to learn about the institution of marriage. Do some research on marriage through ages and around the world. Study different time periods, choose the period and place/culture on your own. Consider questions of class, gender (different expectations for men and for women), culture, religion, traditions, and economics.

Section II

GENERAL COMPREHENSION

Task 1. Put the events of the movie in chronological order:

a) A couple of months later, the Gardiners take Elizabeth on a trip to the Peak District; their visit also includes Darcy's estate, Pemberley; Elizabeth agrees to go with them, believing he is in London. Elizabeth is impresssed by its wealth and beauty and hears nothing but good things about Darcy from his housekeeper. There, she accidentally runs into Darcy who has arrived home early. He invites her and the Gardiners to meet his sister. His manners have softened considerably, and Georgiana takes an instant liking to Elizabeth. When Elizabeth learns that her immature and flirtatious youngest sister Lydia has run away with Wickham, she tearfully blurts out the news to Darcy and the Gardiners before returning home. Her family expects social ruin for having a disgraced daughter, but over a week later they are relieved to hear that Mr. Gardiner had discovered the pair in London and that they had married. Lydia later slips to Elizabeth that Darcy was the one who found them and paid for the marriage.

b) When Bingley and Darcy suddenly return to Netherfield, Jane accepts Bingley's proposal. The same evening, Lady Catherine unexpectedly visits Elizabeth, insisting she renounce Darcy as he is supposedly to marry her own daughter, Anne. Elizabeth refuses and, unable to sleep, walks on the moor at dawn. There, she meets Darcy, also unable to sleep after hearing of his aunt's behaviour. He admits his continued love and Elizabeth accepts his proposal.

Mr. Bennet gives his consent after Elizabeth assures him of her love for Darcy.

c) During the late 18th century, the Bennet family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet and their five daughters—Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Kitty and Lydia—live in comparative financial independence as gentry at Longbourn, a working farm in rural England. As the Bennets have no sons, Longbourn is destined to be inherited by Mr. Bennet's cousin, Mr. Collins, and so Mrs. Bennet is anxious to marry off her five daughters before Mr. Bennet dies, to secure herself in her widowhood.

Wealthy bachelor Charles Bingley has recently moved into Netherfield, a nearby estate. He is introduced to local society at an assembly ball, along with his haughty sister Caroline and reserved friend, Mr. Darcy, who "owns half of Derbyshire". Bingley is enchanted with the gentle and beautiful Jane, while Elizabeth takes an instant dislike to Darcy after he coldly rebuffs her attempts at conversation and after she later overhears him insulting her. When Jane becomes sick on a visit to Netherfield, Elizabeth goes to stay with her, verbally sparring with both Caroline and Darcy.

d) Months later, Elizabeth visits the newly-wed Mr. and Mrs. Collins at Rosings, Lady Catherine's manor estate; they are invited to dine there and meet Darcy and Colonel Fitzwilliam, Lady Catherine's nephews. Here Darcy shows greater interest in Elizabeth. The next day, not realizing that Jane is Elizabeth's sister, Colonel Fitzwilliam lets slip to Elizabeth that Darcy had separated Bingley from Jane. Distraught, she flees outside, but Darcy chooses that moment to track her down and propose marriage. He says he loves her "most ardently" despite her "lower rank." Elizabeth refuses him, citing his treatment of Jane, Bingley, and Wickham; they argue fiercely, with Darcy explaining that he had been convinced that Jane did not return Bingley's love. Darcy leaves angry and heartbroken. He finds Elizabeth later and presents her with a letter, which explains that Wickham is a gambler who demanded and received £3,000 in cash in-lieu of the clergy position intended for him by Darcy's father; upon being refused more money, after having squandered it all a few years later, Wickham attempted to seduce and elope with Darcy's 15-year-old sister, Georgiana, to obtain her £30,000 inheritance but abandoned her upon learning that he would never receive the money.

e) Later the Bennets are visited by Mr. Collins, a pompous clergyman who talks of little but his patroness, Lady Catherine de Bourgh. After learning from Mrs. Bennet that Jane is expected to become engaged soon, Collins decides to pursue Elizabeth, utterly oblivious to her lack of interest in him. Meanwhile, the easy-going and charming Lieutenant Wickhamof the newly-arrived militia captures the girls' attention; he wins Elizabeth's sympathy by telling her that Darcy had cheated him of his inheritance. At a ball at Netherfield, Elizabeth, startled by Darcy's abrupt appearance and request, accepts a dance with him before realizing it, but vows to her best friend Charlotte Lucas that she has "sworn to loathe him for all eternity". During the dance, she attacks him with witty sarcasm and Darcy responds in kind. At the same ball, Charlotte expresses concern to Elizabeth that Jane's behaviour towards Mr. Bingley is too reserved and that Bingley may not realise that she loves him.

The next day at Longbourn, Collins proposes to Elizabeth but she strongly declines. When Bingley unexpectedly returns to London, Elizabeth dispatches a heartbroken Jane to the city to stay with their aunt and uncle, the Gardiners, in hopes of re-establishing contact between Jane and Bingley. Later, Elizabeth is appalled to learn that her friend Charlotte will marry Collins to gain financial security and avoid remaining a spinster.

Task 2 Read the dialogues and complete the tables.

Extract A

"Come, Darcy," said he, "I must have you dance. I hate to see you <u>standing about by</u>yourself in this stupid manner. You had much better dance." "I certainly shall not. You know how I <u>detest</u> it, unless I am particularly acquainted with my partner. At such an assembly as this it would be insupportable. Your sisters <u>are engaged</u>, and there is not another woman in the room whom it would not be a punishment to me to stand up with."

Place where it happens	Speakers	What is the situation? What do
		the characters mean?
	Charles Bingley	Mr Bingley thinks Mr Darcy
		should dance.
		Mr Darcy

Extract B

"To walk three miles, or four miles, or five miles, or whatever it is, above her ankles in dirt, and alone, quite alone! What could she mean by it? It seems to me to show an <u>abominable</u> sort of <u>conceited</u> independence, a most country-town indifference to <u>decorum</u>." "It shows an affection for her sister that is very pleasing," said Bingley. "I am afraid, Mr Darcy," observed Miss Bingley in a half whisper, "that this adventure has rather affected your admiration of her fine eyes." "Not at all," he replied; "they were <u>brightened</u> by the exercise."

Place where it happens	Speakers	What is the situation? What do
		the characters mean?
a room at Netherfield		

Look at the extracts again. What do the <u>underlined</u> words mean? Write their meaning in the text or in your notebook.

Section III

DISCUSSING DETAILS

Task 1. Answer the questions and dwell on the following:

- 1. Consider the kinds of marriages that appear throughout Pride and Prejudice, including the marriage of Elizabeth and Darcy. What kinds of relationships between a man and a woman did Jane Austen idealize?
- 2.Throughout Pride and Prejudice, Austen makes many statements about personal relationships. What are these statements? Are they still valid today? Why or why not?
- 3. The members of British society in Pride and Prejudice are very class conscious. Debate whether class consciousness is a part of American/Ukrainian society. If not, do you think that affects our enjoyment and understanding of Austen's novel? Why or why not?
- 4. Identify the main characters in the novel and discuss what you feel is Austen's attitude toward each of them. Are the verbal portraits she paints flattering or otherwise?
- 5. Debate whether Elizabeth Bennet would still be considered a remarkable woman in the modern-day United States/Ukraine.
- 6. Although its setting and characters are certainly "dated," *Pride and Prejudice* has remained a popular novel for almost 200 years. Why do you think this is the case?

FOLLOW- UP TASK:

If you could produce/direct a film production of *Pride & Prejudice*...

- Which actors would you choose to play the main characters?
- Which setting would you choose?
- Which scene would you choose for the trailer?

Create your own film project!

THE KING'S SPEECH

(based on the movie)

Section I

INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION

- 1. What is stammering? If we ignore it will it go away?
- 2. Can parents cause stammering?
- 3. Is there a cure for stammering?
- 4. Do you know other types of communication disorder?

Section II

GENERAL COMPREHENSION

Task 1. Put the events of the movie in chronological order:

- a) During preparations for his coronation in Westminster Abbey, George VI learns that Logue has no formal qualifications, as initially assumed by him.
- b) Prince Albert, Duke of York, the second son of King George V, stammers through his speech closing the 1925 British Empire Exhibition at Wembley Stadium, while the resulting ordeal is being broadcast by radio worldwide. The Duke has given up hope of a cure, but his wife Elizabeth persuades him to see Lionel Logue, an Australian speech therapist in London.
- c) After King George V makes his 1934 Christmas radio address, he explains to his son the importance of broadcasting to a modern monarchy.
- d) In January 1936, George V dies, and David ascends the throne as King Edward VIII, but causes a constitutional crisis with his determination to marry Wallis Simpson, an American socialite divorcée who is still legally married to her second husband. At a party inBalmoral Castle, Albert points out that Edward, as head of the Church of England, cannot marry Mrs. Simpson, even if she receives her second divorce; Edward accuses his brother of wanting to usurp his place.
- e) Later, the Duke plays Logue's recording and hears himself unhesitatingly reciting Shakespeare. He decides to return to Logue, where he and his wife both insist that Logue focus only on physical exercises. Logue teaches his patient muscle relaxation and breath control techniques but continues to probe gently and persistently at the psychological roots of the stutter.

- f) During their first session, Logue breaches royal etiquette by referring to the Prince as "Bertie," a name used by his family. When the Duke decides Logue's methods and manner are unsuitable, Logue wagers a shilling that the Duke can recite Hamlet's "To be, or not to be" while listening to "The Marriage of Figaro" on headphones. Logue records his performance on an acetate record. Convinced he has stammered throughout, Prince Albert leaves in anger, declaring his condition "hopeless" and dismissing Logue. Logue offers him the recording as a keepsake.
- g) Upon the declaration of war with Nazi Germany in September 1939, George VI summons Logue to Buckingham Palace to prepare for his upcoming radio address to millions of listeners in Britain and the Empire. Knowing the challenge that lies before him, both Winston Churchill and Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain offer the King their support. The King and Logue are then left in the room. He delivers his speech somewhat competently, while Logue guides him. By the end of his speech, George VI is speaking freely with little to no guidance from Logue. Afterwards, the King and his family step onto the balcony of the palace, and are applauded by the thousands who have gathered.

Are there any important events missing? What are they?

Task 2. Questions for discussion.

- 1. What elements of the film did you like/dislike? Why?
- 2. What observations are made about the pressures of being part of the royal family? How do these pressures differ from our own every day struggles? In what ways are these observations positive or negative?
- 3. In Bertie's sessions with Lionel we learn of the difficulties he faced as a young boy. How have these experiences moulded him into the man we see?
- 4. How do Bertie's priorities and values contrast to those of his brother Edward? What motivates each of them?
- 5. Do you think Bertie's apprehension to become king was justified? Why?/Why not? What characteristics do you think a person needs to be a king? Did Bertie possess these?
- 6. Although the film touches on wider issues such as the impending war situation and the tensions within the royal family, its primary focus is exploring the relationship between Lionel and Bertie. What is the significance of this relationship?

7. How are Bertie and Lionel similar? How are they different? How does this affect their

exchanges?

8. In what ways did Lionel's therapy sessions help Bertie? Was it just that his methods

were different or did his help go beyond speech therapy?

9. To what extent does Bertie influence Lionel as well as vice versa?

10. **Bertie:** Listen to me! Listen to me!

Lionel: Why should I waste my time listening to you?

Bertie: Because I have a voice!

Lionel: Yes, you do.

What comments does The King's Speech make about an individual right to be heard? How

can this be helpful for our own experiences and interactions with others?

Section III

DISCUSSING DETAILS

Task 1. Who said this:

1) 'When I'm dead that boy will ruin himself, this family, and this nation, within twelvemonths.

Who'll pick up the pieces? David's friend, Oswald Mosley? His black-shirtBritish Union of

Fascists are marchingthrough London. Hitler terrorizing half of Europe, Stalin the other half.

Who'll stand between us, the jackboots, and the proletarian abyss? You?'

2) 'The lurking shadows. Courtiers and peers...the whole panoply of a class which once ruled

the nation which once ruled the world, afraid of losing their last vestigeof privilege if the

monarchy is further debased.'

3) 'Dear, dear, man, I refused your first two marriage proposals because, as much as I loved

you, I couldn't abide the thought of living in the Royal gilded cage. Then I realized...you

stuttered so beautifully...they'd leave you alone.'

4) 'Splendid. Here's another. "She sifted seventhick-stalked thistles through strong

thicksieves." At home, twenty-five times, inrapid succession.'

5) 'Breathe deeply...expand your chest... nowyour stomach...deep into the diaphragm.Splendid.

How do you feel?'

Task 2. Answer the questions and dwell on the following:

1.British Kings and Queens have very little official power anymore, but they still have a lot of

influence with the British people. Does your home country have a king or queen? How much power

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does he or she have? Or, did your home country have a king or queen in the past? What do you think of him or her? Is it good to have a king or queen? Why?

- 2. Many of the characters in this movie are celebrities because they are members of the royal family. Would you want to be a celebrity? What are the advantages and disadvantages of being a celebrity?
- 3. Bertie's job as the Duke of York requires him to give many public speeches. Have you ever had to give a public speech before? What was your speech about? How did you feel before you gave the speech? And after?
- 4. In the 1930s, the use of radios changed the ways leaders communicated with their people. How has recent technology (the internet, television, cell phones) changed the way the people and leaders communicate with each other? How has the spread of technology changed politics?

Task 3. Match the following words to their definitions.

1. stammer 2. discretion (n) 3. unorthodox (adj) 4. to pop by (v) 5. my turf 6. strong
suit 7. square in the eye/face 8. indentured servitude 9. inane (adj) 10.audition (n)
11.approach (n) 12.physician (n) 13.to commence (v) 14.defect (n) 15.impediment (n)
16.flawlessly (adv) 17.to wager (v) 18.to ingratiate (v) 19.schilling (n) 20.to intimidate
(v) 21.abyss (n) 22.awkward (adj) 23.invariably (adv) 24.firm (n) 25.appreciate (v)
26.method (n) 27.immoral (adj) 28.divorced (adj)

- a. Directly in the eye or face b. Perfectly; with no mistakes c. A try-out for a play or performance
- **d.** To quickly stop by a place **e**. To bet **f.** A medical doctor **g.** Work where the employee works in exchange for benefits such as travel and housing. The employee cannot leave the contract. **h**. A dark, bottomless hole **i.** A speech disorder that causes a person to pause while speaking **j.** Not revealing private information **k**. To make others pleased with something **l.** An imperfection or flaw **m.** Breaking away from tradition **n.** My territory **o.** To start, to begin **p.** An obstacle **q.** A coin used in the UK worth 1/20 of a pound **r.** A method **s.** To force some to do something with fear and threats **t.** A person's strengths **u.** Stupid, silly **v.** Another word for a company or business **w.** Another word for "always" **x.** Describes something uncomfortable or embarrassing **y.** A way of doing things**z.** To value something **aa.** Describes people who are no longer married **bb.** Describes something that conflicts with what is considered right or proper

FOLLOW-UP TASK:

1. Find the words in bold in the reading. Can you guess the meaning of these words in the context?

Over the past several centuries, the powers of the British monarch (the king or queen of Great Britain) have been gradually eliminated. British kings and queens can no longer declare war, collect taxes, or pass laws. Democratically elected officials – not monarchs – are now responsible for government decision-making. Instead of acting as ruler, the monarch is now supposed to work as a symbol of national stability and culture as well as promote national pride and national **perseverance** in difficult times.

This puts the British monarchy in a **precarious** position: the monarchy is an undemocratic institution, but it is supposed to represent the nation. For this reason, the monarch must have the respect and love of the people to successfully complete his or her responsibilities. When Bertie (the main character in the film) inherited the British **throne** in 1936, the challenges facing the monarchy were **grave**. The **conduct** of his older brother David had damaged the reputation of the monarchy at a time when long-standing monarchies across Europe were being **abolished**. Many people believed the British monarchy would (or should) be abolished. As well, the prospect of a world-wide war added to people's fears. The prospect of war also guaranteed that Bertie – a terrible public speaker – would be required to give frequent speeches in order to promote national **perseverance**.

2. Choose a dialogue from the movie and learn it by heart with appropriate intonation.

DARKEST HOUR

(based on the movie)

Section I

INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION

Task 1. Answer these questions. Pre-study if necessary.

- 1. When and how did World War II start? Which countries formed the opposing military alliances?
- 2. What do you know about Winston Churchill: his political role, his personality, his achievements?
- 3. What was the story of Dunkirk? What was called Operation Dynamo?
- 4. What influential political personalities do you know? Talk about their role in history.

Task 2. Match the people to their positions at the beginning of the movie:

Lord Halifax Churchill's wife

Clementine Churchill's son

Randolph Foreign Secretary

Elizabeth Layton Prime Minister

Neville Chamberlain First Lord of the Admiralty

Winston Churchill Churchill's secretary

Section II

GENERAL COMPREHENSION

Task 1. Put the events of the movie in chronological order:

- 1. Uncertain of what to do, Churchill decides to ask London Underground passengers.
- 2. Churchill refuses to negotiate for peace, believing that the Germans are untrustworthy, but the French Prime Minister thinks him delusional for not admitting that the Allies are losing the Battle of France.
- 3. As Churchill prepares to address Parliament, Halifax asks Chamberlain to continue with their plan to resign.
- 4. Parliament reacts coolly to Churchill's first speech promising "Blood, toil, tears and sweat," for which he is chastised by the King.
- 5. Defeat in France causes the War Cabinet to support negotiating with Germany.

- 6. Churchill meets with the Outer Cabinet and other members of Parliament, who also support him.
- 7. The opposition Labour Party in Parliament demands the resignation of British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain.
- 8. The British Expeditionary Force is trapped at Dunkirk and Calais. Against the advice of the War Cabinet, Churchill orders Brigadier Claude Nicholson in Calais to lead the 30th Infantry Brigade in a suicide attack to distract the enemy while the soldiers at Dunkirk evacuate.
- 9. King George VI reluctantly invites Churchill to form a government including Chamberlain and Halifax.
- 10. Chamberlain decides to support Churchill, and Parliament applauds the Prime Minister's defiance.
- 11. Churchill tries to dismiss his new secretary for mis-hearing him, which earns him a rebuke from his wife.
- 12. George VI unexpectedly visits Churchill; the King, not wanting to rule in exile should Britain be invaded, encourages the Prime Minister to continue the war.
- 13. Halifax and Chamberlain agree, keen to use Italian Ambassador Giuseppe Bastianini as intermediary to negotiate with Germany, planning to resign from the government if Churchill refuses the proposal.

Task 2. Answer the questions:

- 1. Who is the film directed by?
- 2. Who stars in the leading role?
- 3. Why did Neville Chamberlain have to resign as British Prime Minister? List 4 reasons declared in the movie.
- 4. Do you think Winston Churchill was a strong personality? How can you prove your opinion?
- 5. Was his family a great support to W. Churchill? Why? / Why not?
- 6. What was the major opposition at the vital decision-making moment shown in the movie?
- 7. What impression of Clementine Churchill have you formed after watching the movie? Why?
- 8. In her 1958 memoir Mr. Churchill's Secretary the real Elizabeth Layton wrote: "[T]hat great man who could at any time be impatient, kind, irritable, crushing, generous, inspiring, difficult, alarming, amusing, unpredictable, considerate, seemingly impossible to please, charming, demanding, inconsiderate, quick to anger and quick to forgive was unforgettable. One loved him with a deep devotion. Difficult to work for yes, mostly; loveable always; amusing without fail." Has the movie proved it?

Section III

DISCUSSING DETAILS

Task 1. WHO said that and TO WHOM?

- 1. 'I appreciate your confidence in me. However, my time has not yet come.'
- 2. 'He can be an awful brute. He has a knack for drawing out the very worst in those who are trying to help him the most.'
- 3. 'I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat.'
- 4. 'Even a stopped clock is right twice a day.'
- 5. 'If we can get him to declare that he refuses to even consider peace negotiations with Germany, you and I perhaps have clear grounds to resign. That would force a vote of no confidence.'
- 6. 'First, we must rouse our old friends to heroic resistance. France must be saved.'
- 7. 'We must strive for peace so that every son and daughter of this land can emerge from this crisis with something recognizable as home.'
- 8. '...But now our bond unites us all. To wage war until victory is won, and never to surrender ourselves to servitude and shame. Whatever the cost and the agony may be, conquer we must as conquer we shall.'
- 9. 'The Neutrality Act we signed last year has tied my hands.'
- 10. 'One never knows what's going to come out of your mouth next. Something that will flatter, something that will wound.'
- 11. 'You cannot reason with a tiger when your head is in its mouth.'
- 12. 'No one can put words together like you.'
- 13. 'We must prepare for the imminent invasion of our island. We recommend that the country should be warned and roused to the immediate danger, and that all personnel required to put Britain in a state of defense should be mobilized without a moment's delay.'
- 14. 'You are refusing to grasp the reality of how precarious our position is. Our entire army is about to be wiped out. Terms must be struck.'
- 15. 'You have the full weight of the world on your shoulders. But these inner battles have actually trained you for this very moment. You are strong because you are imperfect. You are wise because you have doubts.'
- 16. 'Nations which go down fighting rise again, and those that surrender tamely are finished.'
- 17. 'It appears to be your will also that if this long island story of ours is to end at last, then let it end only when each one of us lies choking in his own blood upon the ground!'
- 18. 'We shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end! ... We shall defend your island whatever the cost may be.'

- 19. 'Those who never change their mind never change anything.'
- 20. 'He mobilized the English language and sent it into battle.'

Task 2. Match the following words to their definitions:

1	peril	a	the condition of someone being sent or kept away from their own country, village, etc., especially for political reasons
2	to step down	b	something that is done or said in order to get an advantage, often dishonestly
3	to turn down	С	more important than anything else
4	abdication	d	lack of care in saying or doing things that should be kept secret, something that is considered embarrassing or morally wrong
5	litany	e	a very unpleasant and painful or difficult experience
6	(to) bugger	f	extremely violent, wild, or frightening; very serious or cruel
7	ploy	g	great danger, or something that is very dangerous
8	buoyancy	h	control of your own behaviour, such as not drinking or eating too much
9	ordeal	i	a long list of unpleasant things, especially things that are repeated
10	to surrender	g	to do the same thing as someone else
11	indiscretion	k	to prevent further disagreement in arguments or war by giving to the other side an advantage that they have demanded
12	rap on the knuckles	l	an occasion when a king or queen makes a formal statement that he or she no longer wants to be king or queen
13	temperance	m	the condition of increasing or staying at a high level
14	to woo	n	to refuse to accept or agree to something, or to refuse someone's request
15	to appease	0	to break or spoil something; something that is very difficult or annoying
16	paramount	р	to try to persuade someone to support you or to use your business
17	to follow suit	q	to give up a job or position
18	savage	r	a punishment that is not severe
19	exile	S	to stop fighting and admit defeat

Task 3. Answer the questions and dwell on the following:

- 1. When and where is the movie set?
- 2. Why did the need for a new Prime Minister arise?
- 3. Why did Churchill think he was getting the job?
- 4. Was the King keen on appointing Churchill Prime Minister? Why? / Why not?
- 5. What main steps did Churchill take trying to deal with the danger the country was facing?
- 6. What was the danger in Dunkirk?

- 7. What was Halifax's plan to get rid of Churchill?
- 8. What challenge did Churchill face?
- 9. Comment on the quotation given at the end of the movie: "Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts." Winston Churchill

FOLLOW-UP TASK:

Make a guess. Question the story. Answer these questions to find out more.

- 1. In the spring of 1940, was confidence in Churchill really as low as it is portrayed to be in the movie?
- 2. Was Churchill often mean to his staff?
- 3. Was Churchill's personal secretary, Elizabeth Layton, at his side during the events depicted in the film?
- 4. Was Churchill's wife Clementine really as central of a figure in his life?
- 5. Did they really meet in the underground War Rooms?
- 6. Did Churchill get into heated discussions with Halifax during meetings of the War Cabinet?
- 7. Did Churchill really become increasingly indecisive about standing his ground against entering into peace negotiations with Germany?
- 8. Did Churchill really make a late-night phone call to President Roosevelt, pleading for help?
- 9. Did Elizabeth Layton's brother really die while fighting in France?
- 10. Did a late-night meeting result in Churchill and King George VI becoming friends?
- 11. Did Winston Churchill ride the London Underground to get a sense of the mood of ordinary Brits in relation to the war?

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Навчально-методичне видання

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Англійська мова навчально-методична розробка

Друкується в авторській редакції