

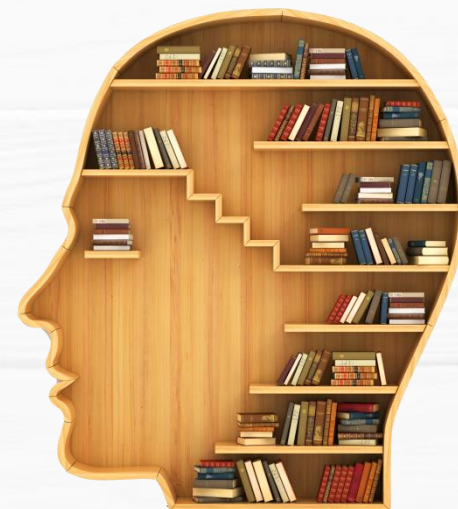
# Язык и культура: современные подходы в преподавании элективных курсов по иностранным языкам в профильной школе.

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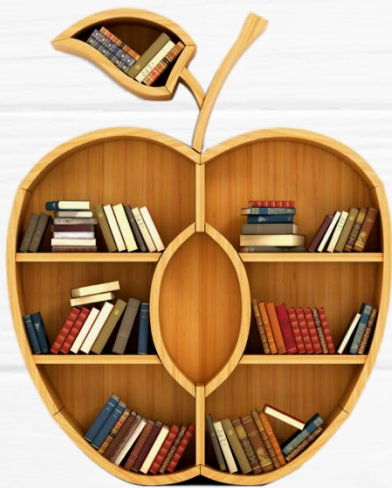
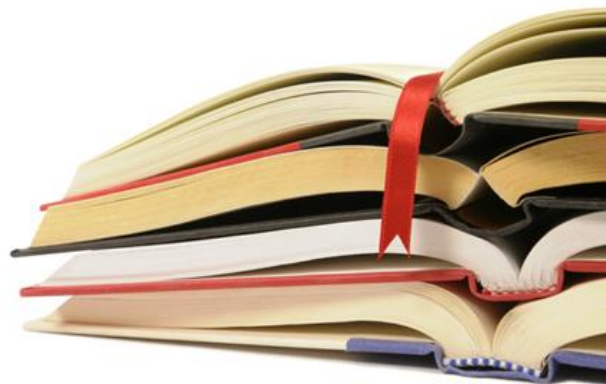


**Гуманитарное отделение:**

**«Страноведение» и  
«Литература»  
Великобритании,  
США, Германии**



# English Literature



## “Beowulf” (circa 8<sup>th</sup> c.)

Beowulf (the main character of the oldest known epic poem) comes to the aid of the Danish king Hrothgar, whose hall is raided each year by the monster Grendel. The epic is probably a conglomeration of ancient Scandinavian legends. The author is unknown, but the poem is thought to have been written sometime around the 8th century AD. Though the poem is unedited, it has been translated into modern English since the early 19th century.

In this extract from the very end of the poem (given in a Modern English translation), Beowulf and his men celebrate his funeral, and in a certain sense the end of their civilization, the golden age of the Geats has come to an end.



For him then they prepared a huge funeral pyre on the earth, hung with helmets, war-shields, and bright coats of mail, as Beowulf had asked.

There they laid the famous

prince and lamented that beloved lord. Warriors then built the greatest of fires. Wood-smoke ascended, dark black over the flames. That roar wrapped around sorrowful weeping. The wind stood still. Then his bone-house broke, the heart burned.

Beowulf's queen uttered a mournful song, spoke her heart's care with her hair bound tight. She earnestly how she feared evil days,

### POST-READING EXERCISES

1. Do you know the translator of the poem? If not, find some examples of his work.
2. What do you know about the main hero of the poem – Beowulf? Find the sentences that describe his characteristics and his death. How does Beowulf's tomb (mound) look like? What kind of a stronghold (open-air, underground, or on a hill) does it have? What kind of material riches does it contain? How does the queen lament the death of her husband?
3. What is the effect of all this on mankind? What is the real reason for the funeral? Is it only for pious motives?

## Geoffrey Chaucer. From the Prologue to “The Canterbury Tales”



This is the famous and lovely opening of the Canterbury Tales. It reveals some of the general characteristics of the poem as a whole. It is a masterpiece of medieval English poetry, and yet it is so original and so full of life that it is still read and loved today. It is a masterpiece of the blending of realistic details and a multitude of original and living whole, it is typical of the Canterbury Tales. It is a masterpiece of the blending of realistic details and a multitude of original and living whole, it is typical of the Canterbury Tales. Below you will find two versions of the text: the first written by Geoffrey Chaucer, and the second – is a fine literary English translation.

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Th sp fo (A

1. When that Aprill with his shoures soote
2. The droghte of march hath perced to the roote,
3. And bathed every veyne in swich licour
4. Of which vertu engendred is the flour;
5. Whan zepirus eek with his sweete breath
6. Inspired hath in every holt and heeth
7. Tendre croppes, and the yonge sonne
8. Hath in the ram his halve cours yronne,
9. And smale foweles maken melodye,
10. That slepen al the nyght with open ye
11. (so priketh hem nature in hir corages);
12. Thanne longen folk to goon on pilgrimages,
13. And palmeres for to seken straunge strondes;
14. To ferne halwes, kowthe in sondry londes;
15. And specially from every shires ende
16. Of engelond to canterbury they wende,
17. The hooly blissful martir for to seke,
18. That hem hath holpen whan that they were soeke.

1. Zephyr: the west wind

2. The sun is half way through the constellation of the Ram (Aries), i.e., it is in the sign of Aries.

### POST-READING EXERCISES

1. Translate the following words into modern English: *shoures, soote, d, wende*.
2. What elements of spring does Chaucer mention? Write down the effect of each element.
  - The April showers
  - The west wind
  - The sun
  - Birds
  - Nature in general
3. What is the effect of all this on mankind? What is the real reason for the pilgrimage? Is it only for pious motives?



The book *Animal Farm* by George Orwell is a brilliant example of political satire. The author describes the life at the farm where animals made a revolution under the leadership of two pigs, Snowball and Napoleon. The owner of the farm, Mr. Jones, left it and the animals started a new order. The book, written during World War II and the claimed corruption of Soviet socialism under Stalin.

(From Chapter 2) ... The animals had their breakfast, and then Snowball and Napoleon called them together again. "Comrades," said Snowball, "it is half-past six and we have a long day before us. Today we begin the hay harvest. But there is another matter that must be attended to first."

The pigs now revealed that during the past three months they had taught themselves to read and write from an old spelling book which had belonged to Mr. Jones's children and which had been thrown on the rubbish heap. Napoleon sent for pots of black and white paint and led the way down to the five-barred gate that gave on to the main road. Then Snowball (for it was Snowball who was best at writing) took a brush between the two knuckles of his trotter, painted out the top bar of the gate and in its place painted ANIMAL FARM. This was to be the name of the farm from now onwards. After this they went back to the farm buildings, where Snowball from ladder which they caused to be set against the end wall of the big barn. They explained that by their studies of the past three months the pigs had succeeded in reducing the principles of Animalism to seven Commandments. These Seven Commandments would now be inscribed on the wall; they would form an unalterable law by which all the animals on Animal Farm must live for ever after. With some difficulty (for it is not easy for a pig to balance himself on a ladder) Snowball climbed up and set to work, with Squealer a few rungs below him holding the paint-pot. The Commandments were written on the tarred wall in great white letters that could be read thirty yards away. They ran thus:

### THE SEVEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy.
2. Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend.
3. No animal shall wear clothes.

4. No animal shall sleep in a bed.
5. No animal shall drink alcohol.
6. No animal shall kill any other animal.
7. All animals are equal.

It was very neatly written, and except that "friend" was written "freind" and one of the "S's" was the wrong way round, the spelling was correct all the way through. Snowball read it aloud for the benefit of the others. All the animals nodded in complete agreement, and the cleverer ones at once began to learn the Commandments by heart. "Now, comrades," cried Snowball, throwing down the paint-brush, "to the hayfield! Let us make it a point of honour to get in the harvest more quickly than Jones and his men could do." But at this moment the three cows, who had seemed uneasy for some time past, set up a loud lowing. They had not been milked for twenty-four hours, and their udders were almost bursting. After a little thought, the pigs sent for buckets and milked the cows fairly successfully, their trotters being well adapted to this task. Soon there were five buckets of frothing creamy milk at which many of the animals looked with considerable interest. "What is going to happen to all that milk?" said someone. "Jones used sometimes to mix some of it in our mash," said one of the hens. "Never mind the milk, comrades!" said one of the pigs. "The milk is more important. Comrade Snowball will lead the way. I shall follow in a few minutes. Forward, comrades! The hay is waiting." So the animals trooped down to the hayfield to begin the harvest, and when they came back in the evening it was noticed that the milk had disappeared.

### POST-READING EXERCISES

1. What shows that *The Seven Commandments* was the law for the animals and it was necessary to follow it?

## Indo-European (Proto - language)

**The Germanic languages:** **English**, German, Dutch, Norwegian, Danish, and Swedish.

**The Roman languages:** Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Romanian.

**The Celtic languages:** Welsh and Gaelic.

**The Slavic languages:** Russian, Polish, Czech, Slovak, Serbo-Croatian, and Bulgarian.

**The Baltic languages:** Lithuanian and Latvian.

**The Iranian languages:** Persian and Pashto.

**The Indic languages:** Sanskrit and Hindi.

**Other miscellaneous languages;** Albanian, Armenian.



Dutch  
*broeder*

Irish  
*Brathair*

German  
*Bruder*

Russian  
*brat*

English  
*brother*

Sanskrit  
*bhrata*

Old Slavic  
*bratu*



## Old English

Faeder ure thu eart on heofonum,  
si thin nama gehalgod. Tobecume  
thin rice. Gewurthe thin willa on  
eorthan swa swa on heofonum.



## Middle English

Oure fadir that art in heuenes,  
halwid be thi name; thi kyngdom  
cumme to; be thi wille don as in  
heuen and in erthe.





## Early Modern English (1611)

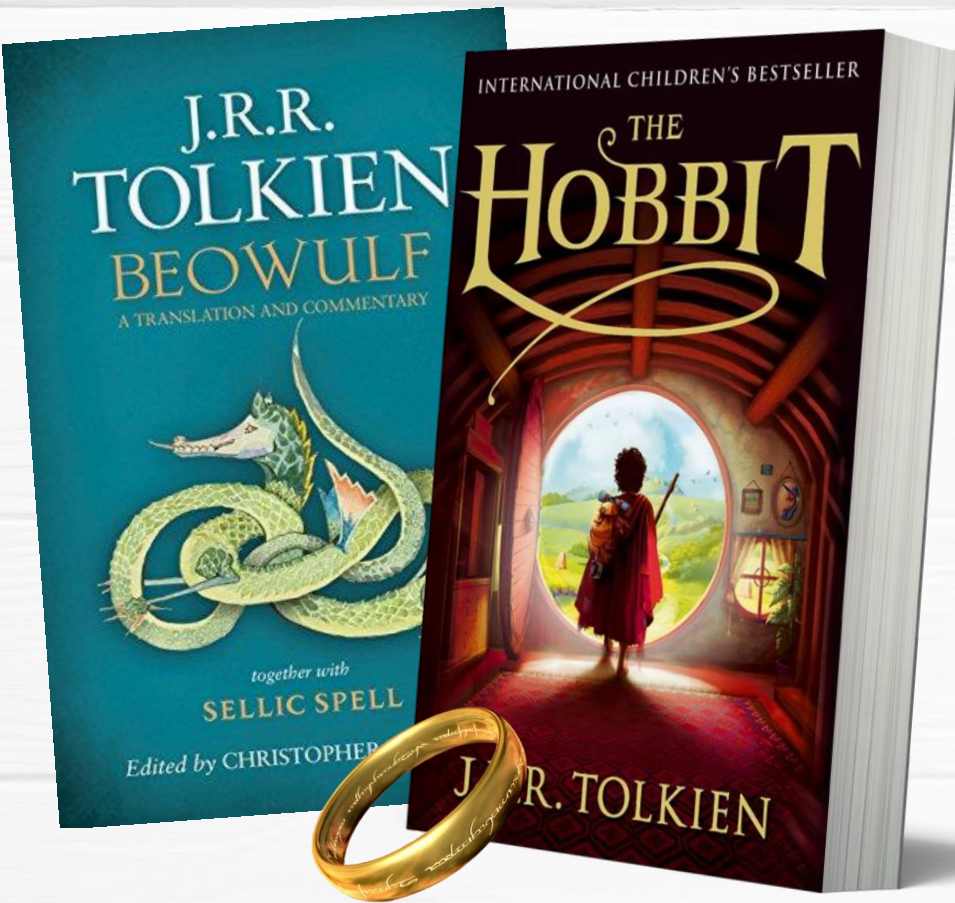
Our father, which art in Heaven,  
hallowed be thy name. Thy  
kingdom come; thy will be done on  
earth as it is in Heaven.



## Modern English

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours. Now and forever. Amen.





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*Lewis Carroll. From "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" (1865)*

*"Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" is a work of children's literature by the British mathematician and author Reverend Charles Lutwidge Dodgson under the pseudonym Lewis Carroll. It tells the story of a girl named Alice who falls down a rabbit-hole into a fantasy realm populated by talking creatures and anthropomorphic playing cards.*

*The tale is fraught with satirical allusions to Dodgson's friends and to the lessons that British schoolchildren were expected to memorize. The Wonderland described in the tale plays with logic in ways that has made the story of lasting popularity with children as well as grown-ups.*



*"The Mock Turtles Story" (from Chapter 9)*

( ... ) Then the Queen left off, quite out of breath, and said to Alice, 'Have you seen the Mock Turtle yet?'

'No,' said Alice. 'I don't even know what a Mock Turtle is.'

'It's the thing Mock Turtle Soup is made from,' said the Queen.

'I never saw one, or heard of one,' said Alice.

'Come on, then,' said the Queen, 'and he shall tell you his history.'

As they walked off together, Alice heard the King say in a low voice to the Queen and the Knave, 'You are all pardoned.' 'Come, *that's* a good thing to say,' thought Alice to herself, for she had felt quite unhappy at the number of executions the Queen had ordered.

had ordered.

They very soon came upon a Gryphon, lying fast asleep in the sun. (If you don't know what a Gryphon is, look at the picture.) 'Up, lazy thing!' said the Queen, 'and take this young lady to see the Mock Turtle, and to hear his history. I must go back and see after some executions I have ordered': and she walked off, leaving





1969



**William Shakespeare.**  
*From "Romeo and Juliet" (1595?)*

*The language in Shakespeare's plays harmonizes with the type of character who uses it. All the characters speak in a distinctive poetic style ranging from the talkative almost-prose of Capulet and the Nurse to the melodramatic posed style of Tybalt. Shakespeare uses lyric forms and conventions to spotlight some moments in the drama and thereby heighten the impact of the action.*

*Act I, Scene 5*  
**ROMEO**

*If I profane with my unwortheist hand  
This holy shrine, the gentle fine is this:  
My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand  
To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.*

**JULIET**

*Good pilgrim, you do wrong your hand too much,  
Which mannerly devotion shows in this;  
Saints have hands that pilgrims' hands do touch,  
And palm to palm is holy palmers' kiss.*

**ROMEO**

*Not saints lips, and holy palmers too?*

*...m, lips that...*



1996



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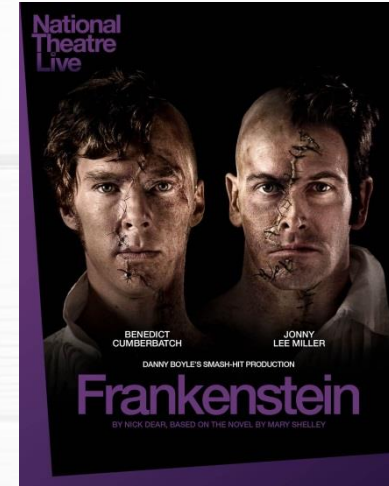
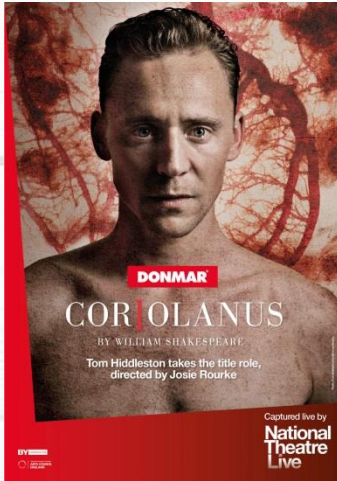
### POST-READING EXERCISES

1. Read the following passage of the first meeting of Romeo and Juliet at the Capulet ball in Act I, Scene 5. Mark the rhyming scheme. What do you notice? Why do you think Shakespeare employs this poetic form for the key moment of the drama?
2. Explain Romeo's metaphor of pilgrimage. What is a pilgrimage? Who is the pilgrim here? Who is the holy saint? How does the metaphor characterize the relationship between the two soon-to-be-lovers? Find other metaphors in the extract.
3. Note how many repetitive words there are in the passage. What are they? Why does Shakespeare use them so many times?
4. Pay attention to the balanced division of lines between Romeo and Juliet in their sonnet. How does this contrast with the poetic tradition of a lover addressing his unresponsive lady? Whose sonnet is this in the end?
5. Look at the last quatrain. How does the playful exchange of "sins" here look forward to the tragic outcome of the play?
6. What does Juliet's closing "You kiss by the book" mean? How does her stepping out of the metaphor with this line characterize her role in their relationship? How does it look forward to her actions later in the play? Remember that Shakespeare's plays were meant not to read but to be performed.

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