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в 9 классе

МБОУ «Борская средняя общеобразовательная школа»

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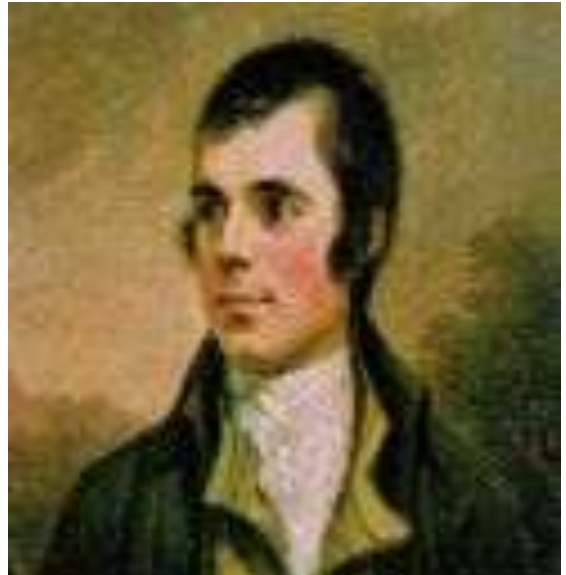
Январь 2019

Robert Burns – the National Poet of Scotland

Most will describe Burns as one of the world's greatest poets, but he was much more than a great poet.

Who was Robert Burns?

Robert Burns was born on 25th January 1759, in a small village of Alloway on the West Coast of Scotland. His father William was an extremely poor man and in 1750 had moved in search of work to Doonholm. There he worked as Head Gardener in the market garden. Then he rented a small farm. He met and married Agnes Broun, a local girl, and built a small cottage at the farm. (The cottage, now renamed "Burns Cottage", still stands to this day and is visited by tourists from all over the world).



Robert Burns was born in this little cottage, he was the eldest son of a poor farmer. Life on the farm was extremely hard and even as a small child he was to work with his father. In the evenings they gathered round the fire listening to his father reading from the bible. Robert's

mother had a beautiful voice, she knew many Scottish songs and ballads and often sang them and told many folk-tales to her children. His mother's friend Betty told Robert many fantastic tales about devils, fairies and witches. Robert remembered mother's songs and stories all his life. Burns's mother died in 1820. She lived long and enjoyed the fame of her poet son.

But the cottage was too little for the family (4 boys – Robert, Gilbert, William and John, and 3 girls – Agnes, Annabella and Isobel) and in 1765 William Burns rented the farm at Mount Oliphant.

Robert got much of his education from his father, who taught his children reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and history. He was also taught by John Murdoch who opened a school in Alloway in 1763 and taught Latin, French, and mathematics to both Robert and his brother Gilbert (1760-1827) from 1765 to 1768.

Helping his father in the field Robert often sang. In his songs he spoke of what he saw, of the woods, the fields, the valleys, of the farmer's poor cottage home.

Robert Burns began to write poetry when he was fifteen. He composed verses to the melodies of old folk-songs, which he had admired from his early childhood. He sang of the woods, fields and wonderful valleys of his native land. He wrote about people, about everyday life. The heroes of his mother's stories became the heroes of his poems. During the harvest of 1774 he met Nelly Kilpatrick to whom he wrote his first love song *Handsome Nell*.

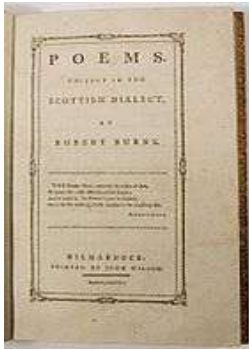
Later, in 1777, the family finally moved a few miles to Lochlie farm near Tarbolton, where they stayed until William Burns' death in 1784. After his death they moved to the farm at Mossgiel. During the summer of 1784 he met Jean Armour, the daughter of a stonemason. Burns dedicated to Jean many beautiful poems, such as *I Love My Jean, Thy Bonnie Face*.

She bore him twins in 1786, but her father was against their marriage. Robert and Jean continued meeting secretly. Robert gave Jean a paper declaring them man and wife. When Jean's father learned about it, he tore the paper up and forbade his daughter to see Robert. Jean



Portrait of
Jean Armour

obeyed and Robert was very angry at her for that and swore never to see her again.



*Title page of the
Kilmarnock Edition*

In July 1786 Robert Burns published his poems in the volume *Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish dialect*, known as the Kilmarnock volume. It contained much of his best writing, including *The Twa Dogs*, *Address to the Deil*, *Hallowe'en*, *To a Mouse*, and *To a Mountain Daisy*, many of which had been written at Mossiel farm. The book made him known across the country.

But soon Edinburgh society grew tired of him and forgot about the poet. Later that year, Robert went to Edinburgh where he received a warm welcome and found many admirers of his poetry. On 18 February 1788 he returned to Ayrshire and rented a farm near Dumfries. Over the next few years, Robert turned his attention to the gathering and writing of Scottish songs. He had often put his own poems to music he composed.

Meanwhile, he continued writing poems, and in November 1790 had produced *Tam O' Shanter*, one of his greatest poems. But just two years later, his health, which had never been great, began to decline further.



On 21 July 1796 he died in Dumfries at the age of 37. The funeral took place on 25 July 1796.

*Burns' House in
Dumfries, Scotland*



Statue of Burns in Dumfries town center.

What was special about his work and why is it so popular?

His poems give a detailed description of the life and culture of that time. He had always stood for liberty, justice and honesty. His poetry is deeply democratic and full of criticism against the landlords, the government officials. All of Robert Burns's poetry shows him to be one of great masters of lyrical verse, patriot of his native country.

Burns wrote for himself, his friends and his countrymen, not just the academics! He wrote his poems using simple language, because when you understand the words, it's easy to understand the whole piece. It is clear that the very structure, phraseology and rhythm of Burns' poetry are unusual.

Robert Burns – the National Poet of Scotland



Задачи урока

Образовательные: а) практика речевой деятельности: монологической, диалогической, аудирования; б) активизация лексики по теме “Famous Writers”, расширение словарного запаса.

Воспитательные: развитие интереса к изучению иностранного языка, к культуре Великобритании, расширение кругозора, развитие чувства красоты художественного слова.

Развивающие: а) развитие мышления, творческой фантазии, умения дать оценку, высказать свое мнение на английском языке; б) развитие межпредметных связей (с литературой); в) развитие сенсорного восприятия.

Форма урока: литературный клуб.

Оснащение урока: книги стихов Р. Бернса, портрет поэта, плакаты с цитатами, аудиокассета с записью стихов и песен Р. Бернса.

ХОД УРОКА

Teacher: Good afternoon, everybody! Glad to see you. Dear friends! You are at the meeting of our English Literary Club, dedicated to the great Scottish poet Robert Burns.

The motto of our club is: *Choose a book as you choose a friend*. While working you should follow some golden rules:

Let's repeat them: 1. Business before pleasure;

2. First think, then speak; 3. He does much, who does well what he does.

I hope that all of you will take an active part in our work. We'll speak about Robert Burns, his life, his beautiful poems and songs.

Pupil 1: Robert Burns was born in 1759, on the 25th of January. He was born in Alloway, in Ayrshire, Scotland.

Pupil 2: There was a lad was born in Kyle,

But what na day o' what na style,

I doubt it's hardly worth the while.

To be sae nice wi' Robin.

Pupil 3: The Gossip keekit in his loof,

Qou' scho wha lives will see the proof,

This waly boy will be nae coof,

I think we'll ca' him Robin.

He'll hae misfortunes great and sma',

But ay a heart aboon them a'

He'll be a credit till us a',

We'll a' be proud o' Robin.

В деревне парень был рожден,

Но день, когда родился он,

В календари не занесен.

Кому был нужен Робин?

Разжав младенческий кулак,

Гадалка говорила так:

– Мальчишка будет не дурак,

Пускай зовется Робин!

Немало ждет его обид,

Но сердцем все он победит.

Парнишка будет знаменит,

Семью прославит Робин!

Teacher: The fortune-teller told that Robin would be famous. And she was right. He became famous not only in Scotland and Great Britain, but all over the world. His life was short, he died at the age of 37. Let's recollect the most important dates of his biography.

Task: *Match the dates with the facts of R. Burns' life.*

1. 1759 a) Robert was sent to school, but his school days did not last long as their teacher left the school. Burns' father employed a tutor for his sons so they got a good education.

2. 1765 b) He was born in Alloway, on the 25th of January.

3. 1772 c) He wrote his first poem "Handsome Nell". It was written for a girl who worked in the field with him.

4. 1773 d) He had to begin working on the farm as his family was poor.

5. 1786 e) He married Jean Armour, the daughter of a rich master-mason.

6. 1788 f) He published his first volume of poems chiefly in Scottish Dialect.

7. 1796 d) He died on the 21st of July in Dumfries.

Key: 1. b; 2. a; 3. d; 4. c; 5. f; 6. e; 7. d

Teacher: Now I see that you know some facts from R. Burns' biography. But I want to know what you think of R. Burns' education. Was it good enough or not? Do you know who his tutor was?

(Pupils' answers: Robert got a rather good education. His tutor was John Murdoch, who was very clever. He gave his pupils good knowledge of English. Besides Robert read a lot, etc.)

Teacher: I've got some more facts of Robert Burns' biography, but I'm not sure if they are true or false. Would you help me?

Task: Say if the facts are true or false. If they are false, correct them.

1. R. Burns travelled all over the world. He was interested in Scottish and English songs, legends and poems. (It's false. He travelled only around Scotland.)
2. He was a ploughboy and at 13 he worked in the field as much as grown-ups. (It's true.)
3. When Robert was 25 years old, his father died and he became the head of the family. (It's true.)
4. Robert fell in love with Jean Armour as she was the most beautiful girl in the village. (It's true.)
5. Jean Armour's parents wanted Jean to marry Robert Burns. (It's false. They didn't want Jean to marry Robert Burns, because he was poor.)
6. In 1788 Robert and Jean got married. They had already had twins. (It's true.)
7. In last years of life Robert Burns lived in Dumfries with his family. He liked that old town for its beauty. (It's true.)
8. Jean had a beautiful voice. She sang his songs with great pleasure. Robert Burns composed songs for her. (It's true.)

Teacher: Robert Burns wrote a lot of beautiful songs. He was called "The greatest songwriter in English literature". Listen to one of his songs.

(Звучит песня Р. Бернса "Coming Through the Rye".)

Teacher: In his poems he glorified true love and friendship. Listen to his poem "A Red, Red Rose". (Ученик читает стихотворение наизусть.)

Teacher: Robert Burns' poetry is so much loved by people. What did he write about in his poems? (Pupils' answers:

- He wrote about the common people, their life.
- He wrote about his love for Scotland.
- He wrote humorous, ironical, satirical poems.
- He wrote about friendship.)

What people did he respect? (honest, hard-working)

You are right. R. Burns wrote for the common people. He respected their honest poverty. Listen to his famous poem "For a' That and a' That".

(Ученики читают стихотворение "Честная бедность".)

Teacher: Now, I want you to reconstruct one of the poems written by R. Burns. "My Heart's in the Highlands". (на карточках)

(Звучит тихая музыка, ребята восстанавливают стихотворение "В горах мое сердце".)

_____, my heart is not here,

My heart's in the Highlands _____.

Farewell to the Highlands, _____,

_____, the country of worth.

Wherever I wander, _____

_____ forever I love.

Use these lines:

a-chasing the deer

My heart's in the Highlands

Farewell to the north

Chasing the wild deer

The birthplace of valour

wherever I go

wherever I rove

The hills of the Highlands

Teacher: Now, listen to the poem and check your work.

(Ученики слушают стихотворение, записанное на аудиокассету, затем ученик читает стихотворение на русском языке.)

Task: Give English equivalents.

В горах мое сердце
Гоню я оленя, пугаю козу.
Север, прощай,
Отечество славы и доблести край.
Прощайте, поникшие в бездну леса,
Доныне я там.

(Беседа по стихотворению.)

Teacher: What is the main idea of this poem? What can you say about the Highlands? Do you know what the main occupation of Highlanders is? (*farming, fishing, hunting*) You know that it isn't easy to translate poems from one language into another. But R. Burns' poems were translated into different languages and Russian as well. Who is considered to be the best Russian translator of Burns' poems? (Marshak). Why is it difficult to translate poems? (Because the structure of languages is different and it's necessary to find a rhyme, rhythm, etc.) Let's look at some of R. Burns' poems and try to find their translation.

Task: Match an English poem with its Russian translation. (no карточкам)

(Ребята работают в группах по три человека, подбирая русский перевод соответствующий английскому стихотворению.)

(1) Go fetch to me a pint o' wine, And fill it in a silver tassie; That I may drink, before I go, A service to my bonie lassie: The boat rocks at the Pier o' Lieth, Fu'loud the wind blows frae the Ferry, The ship rides by the Berwick-law, And I maun leave my bony Mary.	(а) Меня в горах застигла тьма, Январский ветер, колкий снег. Закрылись наглухо дома, И я не мог найти ночлег. По счастью, девушка одна Со мною встретилась в пути, И предложила мне она В ее укомный дом войти.
(2) In summer when the hay was mawn, And corn wav'd green in ilka field, While claver blooms white o'er the lea, And roses blaw in ilka bield; Blythe Bessie, in the milkin-shiel, Says, I'll be wed come o't what will; Outspak a dame in wrinkled eild, O'gude advisement comes nae ill.	(б) Когда кончался сенокос, И колыхалась рожь волной, И запах клевера и роз Струей вливался в летний зной. Когда в саду среди кустов Жужжала сонная пчела, – В тени, в загоне для коров Беседа медленная шла.
(3) When Junuar wind was blawing cauld, As to the north I took my way, The mirksom night did me enfauld, I knew na whare to lodge till day. By my gude lucka maid I met, Just in the middle o' my care; And kindly she did me invite To walk into a chamber fair.	(в) Вина мне пинту раздобудь, Налей в серебряную кружку. В последний раз, готовясь в путь, Я пью за милую подружку. Трепещут мачты корабля, Как будто силу ветра меря... Пред тем, как скроется земля, Пью за тебя, малютка Мэри!

Key: 1. в; 2. а; 3. б

Teacher: As you see, R. Burns' poems are written in Scottish dialect. Many words are reduced. Sometimes it's difficult to guess their meaning. But try to do it.

Task: *Match a word in A with a word in B.*

A	B
Luve	of
a'	go
wi'	all
o'	love
tho'	with
thou	through
thee	ты
gang	тебя

Teacher: So, you see, it is very difficult to translate Burns' poems into Russian. But thanks to Marshak's translations we have come to know and love Robert Burns. His poems seem to be written in Russian. We love and enjoy them. Our meeting is coming to the end. Let's finish it with the Scottish national song "Auld Lang Syne" composed by Robert Burns. It is often sung at the parties and meetings of friends all over the world. Today we shall honour the memory of the great poet of Scotland by singing his song.

(Ученики исполняют песню стоя.)

Should auld acquaintance be forgot

And never brought to mind?

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,

And days of auld lang syne!

For auld lang syne, my dear,

For auld lang syne,

We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet

For auld lang syne.

Teacher: Our meeting is over. Thank you for taking an active part in it. Good-bye!