



Vasnetsov figurines

*Developing English communication
skills for grades 7th-9th*



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Introduction

Дорогой ученик!

Перед тобой не просто пособие по английскому языку, а твой личный путеводитель по культурному коду родного города, посвященный уникальному проекту «Васнецовские фигурки». Он объединяет историю Кирова, великое искусство династии Васнецовых и изучение иностранного языка.

Что тебя ждет внутри?

Материал разделен на два блока: теоретический и практический. В этой (теоретической) части тебя ждут:

- ✓ **История и личность:** биография выдающегося живописца В.М. Васнецова и его портреты.
- ✓ **Искусство и вдохновение:** знакомство с картинами, которые стали прообразами для создания сказочных латунных персонажей.
- ✓ **Прогулка по городу:** фотографии фигурок и подробная карта их расположения на улицах Кирова.
- ✓ **Интерактив:** QR-коды, которые мгновенно перенесут тебя на сайты крупнейших музеев страны.

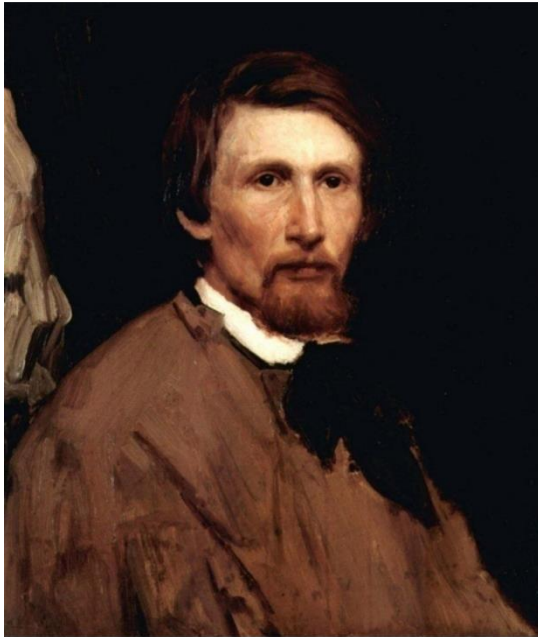
Почему это полезно?

Современный мир требует умения рассказывать о своей культуре на международном уровне. Изучая этот материал, ты не только расширишь свой словарный запас английского языка, но и научишься быть настоящим гидом по своей малой родине.

После изучения теории обязательно переходи к практической части, чтобы закрепить свои знания и выполнить интересные задания.

Успехов в пути!

The Legend of Vyatka: Viktor Vasnetsov



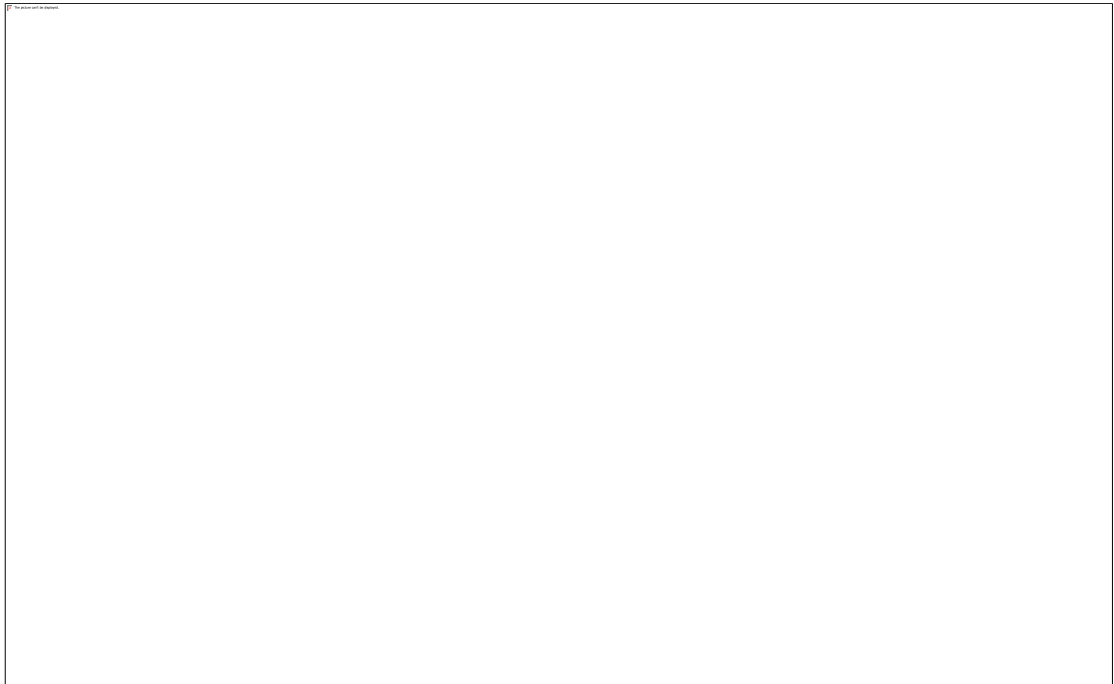
V.Vasnetsov, 1873

Viktor Mikhailovich Vasnetsov (1848–1926) was a famous Russian artist. He was born in the village of Lopyal of Vyatka Region of Russia, into the family of a rural priest. He studied at the Vyatka Theological Seminary, but he never graduated from it because he entered the St. Petersburg Academy of Arts in 1868 and in two years' time received a large silver medal. In 1878, he moved to Moscow, where he painted his most famous masterpieces, such as "The Last Battle of Igor Svyatoslavich's Army against the Polovtsy" (1880), "Alyonushka" (1881), "Tsar Ivan the Terrible" (1897), and "Bogatyr" (1881-1898). Vasnetsov "turned to

decorating life", took up the most varying art areas: theatrical scenery, architecture, applied art and illustration. He participated in more than 50 exhibitions in Russia and abroad, including in London and Paris. He always kept in touch with his brothers who lived in Vyatka, and he became an honorary citizen of the city in 1910. He died in Moscow and was buried at the Vvedenskoye Cemetery. In 1981, the Vasnetsov House Museum was opened in the village of Ryabovo.



“Self-portrait” painting in the State Tretyakov Gallery



Vyatka Art Museum of V. M. and A. I. Vasnetsov in Kirov

In 1981, the Vyatka Art Museum of V. M. and A. I. Vasnetsov was opened in Kirov. It was the first art and history museum in the north and northeast of Russia.

Location: 70 Vladimirskaia Street, Kirov.



Vyatka Art Museum of V. M. and A. I. Vasnetsov on Yandex Maps

1. Write the definitions for the following words

rural priest	keep in touch
theological seminary	honorary citizen
graduate from	be buried
receive a medal	cemetery
theatrical scenery	masterpiece
applied art	vary
Illustration	architecture
exhibition	village
abroad	art area

2. Fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. Viktor Vasnetsov was born into the family of a rural _____.
2. He entered the St. Petersburg _____ of Arts.
3. He painted his most famous _____ such as "Alyonushka".
4. Vasnetsov took up varying art areas: architecture, illustration and theatrical _____.
5. In 1910, he became an honorary _____ of the city of Vyatka.
6. V. Vasnetsov was buried at the Vvedenskoye _____.

Pre-reading tasks

1. Study the vocabulary

Rural priest [*'rʊərəl pri:st*] — сельский священник

Theological seminary [*θi:ə 'lɒdʒɪkl 'seminəri*] — духовная семинария

Graduate from [*'grædʒueɪt frəm*] — оканчивать (учебное заведение)

Receive a medal [*rɪ'si:v ə 'medl*] — получить медаль

Masterpiece [*'ma:stəpi:s*] — шедевр

Theatrical scenery [*θi'ætri:kl 'si:nəri*] — театральные декорации

Applied art [*ə'plaɪd ɑ:t*] — прикладное искусство

Illustration [*ɪlə'streɪʃn*] — иллюстрация

Exhibition — [*eksɪ'biʃn*] — выставка

Abroad [*ə'brɔ:d*] — за границей/за рубежом

Keep in touch [*ki:p ɪn tʌtʃ*] — поддерживать связь

Honorary citizen [*'ɒnərəri 'sɪtɪzn*] — почетный гражданин

Be buried [*bi 'berɪd*] — быть похороненным

Cemetery [*'semətəri*] — кладбище

Architecture [*'ɑ:kɪtektʃə(r)*] — архитектура

Vary [*'veəri*] — менять(ся), варьировать

Village [*'vɪlɪdʒ*] — деревня / село

Art area [*ɑ:t 'eəriə*] — область искусства

2. Guess the meaning of the international words from the text:

Artist [*'ɑ:tɪst*] — художник

Region [*'ri:dʒən*] — регион/область

Academy [*ə'kædəmi*] — академия

Medal [*'medl*] — медаль

Architecture [*'ɑ:kɪtektʃə(r)*] — архитектура

Illustration [*ɪlə'streɪʃn*] — иллюстрация

Exhibition [*eksɪ'biʃn*] — выставка

3. Translate into English:

1. Виктор Михайлович Васнецов был знаменитым русским художником.
2. Он родился в семье сельского священника в Вятском крае.
3. Его самые известные шедевры — это «Алёнушка» и «Иван Грозный».
4. Дом-музей Васнецовых был открыт в селе Рябово.
5. В 1981 в Кирове был открыт Вятский художественный музей имени В. М. и А. М. Васнецовых.

4. Listen to the text and fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. Vasnetsov was born in the village of _____
2. He received a large silver _____
3. He moved to Moscow in the _____ year.
4. He participated in exhibitions in London and _____
5. He always kept in touch with his _____
6. He died in _____

Mythical Messengers: From Paradise to Vyatka

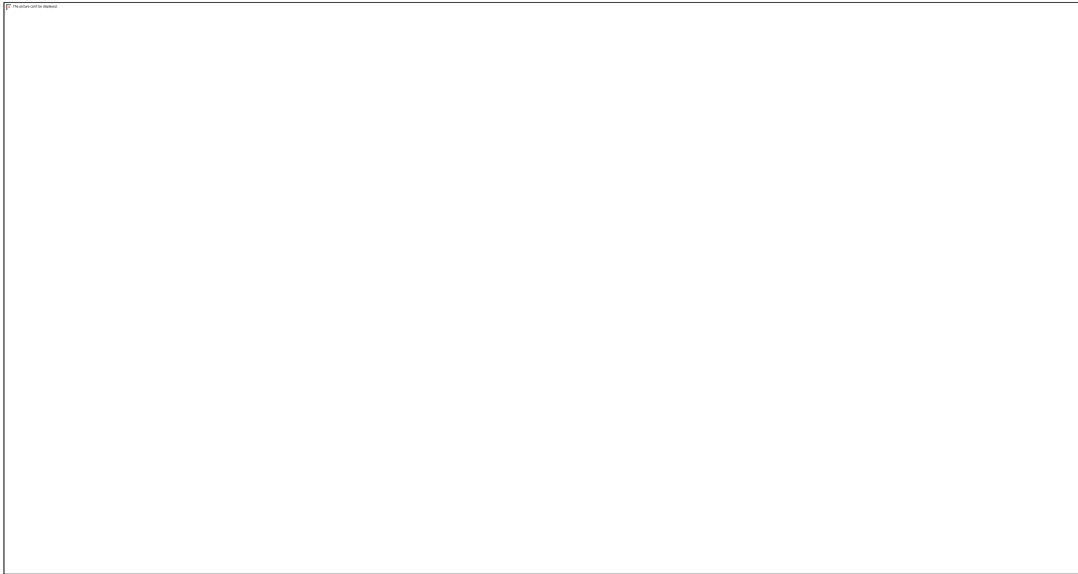


V. M. Vasnetsov “Sirin and Alkonost – Birds of Sorrow and Joy” (painting, 1896)

In the painting “Sirin and Alkonost: Birds of Sorrow and Joy”, we can see dark and light birds against the orange morning sky. Alkonost is a bright bird and the embodiment of joy: it is open to the sun. But Sirin is a dark bird embodying sorrow, hiding from the approaching dawn. They are both one and indivisible in every person's life. It is the great harmony of life.



“Sirin and Alkonost – Birds of Sorrow and Joy” in the State Tretyakov Gallery



“Sirin and Alkonost”

Tiny sculptural figures have quietly taken up residence in Kirov. Their forms reflect images from Victor Vasnetsov’s paintings and bring these familiar characters into the heart of the city. Among them are the figures of Sirin and Alkonost. These graceful bird-like sculptures stand in the Artists’ Square, cast in brass, shining softly in the light. They are admired by all who pass by.

Victor Vasnetsov painted “Sirin and Alkonost – Birds of Sorrow and Joy” in 1896. Sirin and Alkonost form an inseparable pair, two opposites bound together: grief and joy, misfortune and happiness, darkness and light. Alkonost appears as the bright messenger of joy and happiness, while Sirin represents the shadow of sorrow, forever longing for a lost Paradise.

In Russian legends, Alkonost had the face of a woman and the body of a bird. Sirin also had a woman’s face, but her form was like that of an owl. Many who wander through Kirov gladly pause to look at these familiar characters brought to life in brass.



The sculptural figures “Sirin and Alkonost” on Yandex Maps

1. Write the definitions for the following words

Shadow	Misfortune
Sorrow	Familiar characters
Joy	Long for
Wander through	Graceful
Bright bird	Cast in brass
Embodiment	Inseparable pair
Indivisible	Opposites
Quietly	Grief
Appear	Admire
	Softly

2. Fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. Sirin and Alkonost _____ of Sorrow and Joy.
2. Victor Vasnetsov painted the picture in _____.
3. These familiar _____ stand into the heart of the city.
4. Sirin is the dark messenger of _____.
5. They are both one and _____ in every person's life.
6. The Sirin was an _____.

Pre-reading tasks

1. Study the vocabulary

Shadow	<u>[ˈʃædəʊ]</u> — тень
Sorrow	<u>[ˈsɒrəʊ]</u> — печаль
Joy	<u>[dʒɔɪ]</u> — радость
Wander through	<u>[ˈwɒndə θruː]</u> — бродить по
Bright bird	<u>[braɪt bɜːd]</u> — яркая птица
Embodiment	<u>[ɪmˈbɒdɪmənt]</u> — воплощение
Indivisible	<u>[ɪndɪˈvɪzəbl]</u> — неделимый
Quietly	<u>[ˈkwaɪətli]</u> — тихо
Appear	<u>[əˈpreɪ]</u> — появляться, представлять

Familiar characters [fə'miliə 'kærəktəz] — знакомые персонажи
 Long for [lɒŋ fɔ:] — тосковать по / жаждать
 Graceful [ˈɡreɪsfl] — изящный, грациозный
 Cast in brass [kɑːst ɪn brɑːs] — отлит из латуни
 Inseparable pair [ɪn'seprəbl peə] — неотъемлемый, неотделимый
 Opposites [ˈɒpəzɪts] — противоположности
 Grief [ɡriːf] — горе, печаль, скорбь
 Admire [əd'maɪə] — восхищаться, любоваться
 Softly [ˈsɒftli] — мягко, нежно
 Misfortune [ˌmɪs'fɔːtʃən] — несчастье

2. Guess the meaning of the international words from the text:

Harmony [ˈhɑːməni] — гармония
 Sculptural [ˈskʌlptʃərəl] — скульптурный
 Messenger [ˈmesɪndʒə] — вестник, посланник, гонец
 Artist [ˈɑːtɪst] — художник
 Residence [ˈrezɪdəns] — резиденция
 Legend [ˈledʒənd] — легенда
 Painting [ˈpeɪntɪŋ] — картина (живопись).

3. Translate into Russian:

1. Виктор Васнецов написал картину «Сирин и Алконост» в 1896 году.
2. Крошечные скульптурные фигурки поселились в Кирове.
3. Алконост - вестник радости и счастья, в то время как Сирин олицетворяет печаль, вечную тоску по утраченному раю.
4. Эти изящные скульптуры из латуни стоят в сквере художников.
5. У них лицо женщин, а тело птиц.

4. Listen to the text and fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. These graceful bird-like sculptures stand in the _____ Square.
2. It is the great _____ of life.
3. Alkonost is the bright messenger of _____.
4. While Sirin represents the shadow of sorrow, forever longing for a lost _____.

5. They are _____ by all who pass by.

6. The Alkonost was a_____.

5. Look at the figures and write six sentences to describe the birds.

Use the words:

Tiny, graceful, cast in brass, grief and joy, misfortune and happiness, darkness and light.

6. Use the QR code and read about this painting then write the sentences from the texts.

7. Role Play.

1. Act as a guide. Show tourists the sculptural figures of Sirin and Alkonost.
2. Imagine: you are passing the sculptural figures of Sirin and Alkonost with a group of tourists. They ask you questions about them. Talk to them.
3. Make a TV report about the sculptural figures of Sirin and Alkonost.

Alyonushka: The Soul of Russian Nature



V. M. Vasnetsov “Alyonushka” (painting, 1881)

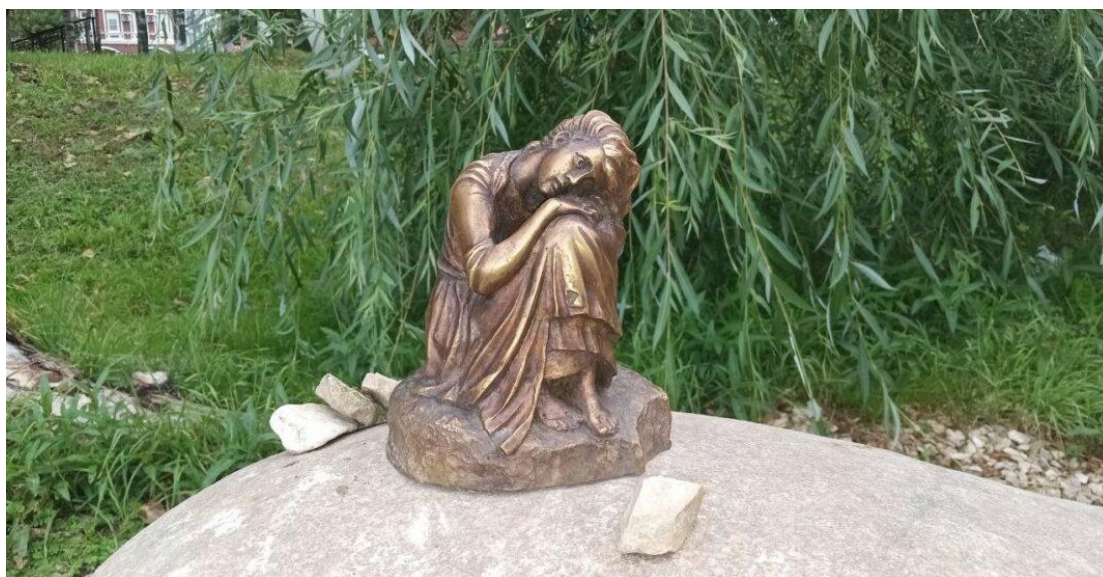
Subject and emotions: A sad orphan girl sits on a stone by a dark forest pool. Her posture and gaze, filled with “longing, loneliness, and purely Russian sorrow,” convey profound melancholy. Nature shares her mood fully. The aspens appear downcast, and the water is calm and still.

Colors and details: The overall color scheme is restrained. Greenish-gray and golden autumnal tones dominate the palette. The heroine’s uncovered red hair stands out as a vivid accent. Another important detail is the swallows above her head. They symbolize hope.

Location: The State Tretyakov Gallery.



“Alyonushka” painting in the State Tretyakov Gallery



“Alyonushka”

The Vasnetsov-inspired figurine of Alyonushka is situated on a stone behind the Spassky Cathedral. Crafted from brass, this figurine is a miniature interpretation of Viktor Mikhailovich Vasnetsov’s famous painting “Alyonushka”, completed in 1881. The painting has become a classic symbol of Russian culture and folk art, embodying the image of a Russian girl immersed in deep contemplation amid a natural landscape.



The sculptural figures “Alyonushka” on Yandex Maps

1. Write the definitions for the following words

Inspired by	Posture and gaze
Situated on a stone	Convey profound melancholy
Cathedral	Nature shares her mood
Crafted from brass	Overall color scheme
Symbol of culture	Autumnal tones
Immersed in contemplation	Stand out
Natural landscape	Symbolize hope
Orphan girl	Vivid accent

2. Fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. The figurine of Alyonushka is situated on a _____ behind the Spassky Cathedral.
2. This figurine is _____ from brass, a miniature version of the painting.
3. The painting has become a classic _____ of Russian culture.
4. Alyonushka is _____ in deep contemplation amid a natural landscape.
5. A sad _____ girl sits by a dark forest pool.
6. Her _____ and gaze convey profound melancholy.

Pre-reading tasks

1. Study the vocabulary

Inspired by [ɪn 'spaɪəd baɪ] — вдохновленный
Situated on a stone ['sɪtʃuəɪtɪd ɒn ə stəʊn] — расположена на камне
Cathedral [kə 'θi:drəl] — собор
Crafted from brass [kra:ftɪd frəm bra:s] — изготовлена из латуни
Symbol of culture ['sɪmbl əv 'kʌltʃə(r)] — символ культуры
Immersed in contemplation [ɪ'mɜ:st ɪn kəntəm'pleɪʃn] — погружена в раздумья
Natural landscape ['nætʃrəl 'lændskeɪp] — природный ландшафт
Orphan girl ['ɔ:fn gɜ:l] — девочка-сирота
Posture and gaze ['pɒstʃər ənd geɪz] — поза и взгляд
Convey profound melancholy [kən 'veɪ prə 'faʊnd 'melənkeɪli] — передавать

глубокую меланхолию

Nature shares her mood ['neɪtʃə feəz hə mu:d] — природа разделяет её настроение

Overall color scheme [əʊvər'ɔ:l 'klɜː ski:m] — общая цветовая гамма

Autumnal tones [ɔ: 'tʌmnəl təʊnz] — осенние тона

Stand out [stænd aʊt] — выделяться

Symbolize hope ['sɪmbəlaɪz həʊp] — символизировать надежду

Vivid accent ['vɪvɪd 'æksent] — яркий акцент

2. Guess the meaning of the international words from the text:

Miniature ['mɪnətʃə(r)] — миниатюрный

Interpretation [ɪn tɜːprɪ'teɪʃn] — интерпретация

Classic ['klæsɪk] — классический

Landscape ['lændskeɪp] — ландшафт/пейзаж

Emotions [ɪ'məʊʃnz] — эмоции

Melancholy ['meləŋkəli] — меланхолия

Palette ['pælit] — палитра

3. Translate into Russian:

1. Фигурка Алёнушки стоит на камне в центре города.

2. Эта маленькая фигурка сделана из латуни.

3. Грустная девочка-сирота сидит у лесного пруда.

4. Её поза и взгляд показывают глубокую печаль.

5. Природа полностью разделяет её настроение.

4. Listen to the text and fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. Nature _____ her mood fully.

2. The overall _____ scheme is restrained.
3. Greenish-gray and golden _____ tones dominate the palette.
4. The heroine's red hair stands _____ as a vivid accent.
5. The swallows above her head _____ hope.
6. The painting is located in the State Tretyakov _____.

5. Look at the figures and write six sentences to describe Alyonushka.

Use the words:

Figurine, inspired, situated, stone, cathedral, crafted, brass, miniature, interpretation, landscape.

6. Use the QR code and read about this painting then write the sentences from the texts.

7. Role Play.

1. Act as a guide. Show tourists the sculptural figure Alyonushka
2. Imagine: Interview with the artist. You are a reporter for a culture magazine. You have a unique chance to interview Viktor Vasnetsov about his newly masterpiece "Alyonushka. Prepare and act out the interview.
3. Make a TV report about the sculptural figure Alyonushka.

The Snow Maiden: A Winter Fantasy



The painting "The Snow Maiden" is a beautiful winter fairy tale.

In the center of the painting, we can see a young girl frozen at the edge of a winter forest.

Her face reflects an inner struggle. She wants to go toward people, but she fears the unknown. She stays half-turned, her arms slightly raised in a questioning gesture. She seems unsure whether to move forward or to turn back.

The Snow Maiden is dressed beautifully. She wears a pearl-silver brocade coat, a fur-trimmed hat, and warm mittens. Her image symbolizes purity, winter beauty, and nobility. She embodies gentleness, fragility, and innocence.

V. M. Vasnetsov "The Snow Maiden" (painting, 1899)



"The Snow Maiden" painting in the State Tretyakov Gallery



“The Snow Maiden”

A brass figurine of the Snow Maiden stands in front of the Art Museum in Kirov.

This art installation is part of the tourist route “The Gateway to the Russian North.” The route focuses on the work of the Vasnetsov artists, who grew up in the Vyatka region. Seven figurines inspired by Viktor Vasnetsov’s paintings have been installed across the city.

The Snow Maiden is a delicate figure of a young girl who fills passersby with admiration and warm affection.



The sculptural figures “The Snow Maiden” on Yandex Maps

1. Write the definitions for the following words.

snow maiden	purity and nobility
edge of a winter forest	gentleness and fragility
inner struggle	in front of
unsure	tourist route
turn back	gateway to the north
brocade coat	across the city
fur-trimmed hat	delicate figure
mittens	warm affection

2. Fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. A brass _____ of the Snow Maiden stands in front of the Art Museum.
2. This art installation is part of the tourist _____.
3. The Snow Maiden is a _____ figure of a young girl.
4. She fills _____ with admiration and warm affection.
5. In the center of the painting, a girl is _____ at the edge of a forest.
6. Her face reflects an _____ struggle.

Pre-reading tasks

1. Study the vocabulary

Snow Maiden — ['snəʊ meɪdn] — Снегурочка
Edge of a winter forest — ['edʒ əv ə 'wɪntə 'fɒrɪst] — опушка зимнего леса
Inner struggle — ['ɪnə 'strʌɡl] — внутренняя борьба
Unsure — ['ʌn 'ʃɜ:] — неуверенная
Turn back — ['tɜ:n bæk] — повернуть назад
Brocade coat — ['brə 'keɪd kəʊt] — парчовое пальто (шубка)
Fur-trimmed hat — ['fɜ: trɪmd hæʔ] — шапка, отороченная мехом
Mittens — ['mɪtnz] — варежки
Purity and nobility — ['pjʊərətɪ ənd nəʊ 'bɪlətɪ] — чистота и благородство
Gentleness and fragility — ['dʒentlnəs ənd frə 'dʒɪlətɪ] — нежность и хрупкость
In front of — ['ɪn frʌnt əv] — перед (чем-то)
Tourist route — ['tʊərɪst ru:t] — туристический маршрут
Gateway to the North — ['geɪtweɪ tə ðə nɔ:θ] — ворота на Север
Across the city — ['ə 'krɒs ðə 'sɪtɪ] — по всему городу
Delicate figure — ['delɪkət 'fɪɡə] — изящная фигурка
Warm affection — ['wɔ:m ə 'fekʃn] — теплая привязанность

2. Guess the meaning of the international words from the text:

Installation — [*ɪnstəˈleɪʃn*] — инсталляция

Museum — [*mjuˈzi:əm*] — музей

Route — [*ru:t*] — маршрут

Innocence — [*ˈɪnəsns*] — невинность

Questioning gesture — [*ˈkwestʃənɪŋ ˈdʒestʃə*] — вопросительный жест

Fairy tale — [*ˈfeəri teɪl*] — сказка

Passersby — [*pɑːsəzˈbaɪ*] — прохожие

3. Translate into Russian:

1. Латунная фигурка Снегурочки стоит перед Художественным музеем в Кирове.

2. Эта арт-инсталляция является частью туристического маршрута.

3. В центре картины мы видим молодую девушку, замершую на опушке зимнего леса.

4. Её лицо отражает внутреннюю борьбу, и она кажется неуверенной.

5. Её образ символизирует чистоту, зимнюю красоту и благородство.

4. Listen to the text and fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. She seems _____ whether to move forward or to turn back.

2. Her arms are slightly raised in a questioning _____.

3. She wears a pearl-silver _____ coat and a fur-trimmed hat.

4. Her image _____ purity, winter beauty, and nobility.

5. She _____ gentleness, fragility, and innocence.

6. Seven figurines have been installed _____ the city.

5. Look at the figures and write six sentences to describe the Snow Maiden. Use the words:

Brass figurine, stands in front of, inspired by, delicate figure, art installation, tourist route, gateway to the north, across the city, passersby, warm affection.

6. Use the QR code and read about this painting then write the sentences from the texts.

7. Role Play.

1. Act as a guide. Show tourists the sculptural figure the Snow Maiden.
2. You are a famous art critic. You have a unique opportunity to interview the great Russian painter Viktor Vasnetsov immediately after he finished his new painting "The Snow Maiden".
3. Make a TV report about the sculptural figure the Snow Maiden.

The Flying Carpet: A Dream of Adventure



V. M. Vasnetsov “The Flying Carpet” (painting, 1880)

Subject and emotions: Ivan Tsarevich stands on a flying carpet and holds a cage with the captured Firebird. The composition conveys a sense of triumph. It also suggests movement and the miracle of free flight.

Colors and details: The bright, patterned carpet resembles a gigantic bird. It contrasts with the pale, misty early-morning landscape. The Firebird is the most vivid splash of color.

Location: The Nizhny Novgorod State Art Museum.

“The Flying Carpet” painting in the Nizhny Novgorod State Art Museum





“The Flying Carpet”

The brass figurine of the Flying Carpet, inspired by a painting by Viktor Vasnetsov, is a unique work of art that brings together the world of Russian painting and ancient Eastern legends. Viktor Vasnetsov, renowned for his works devoted to Russian epic tales (bylinas) and folklore, created an image of the Flying Carpet imbued with symbolism and a mystical atmosphere.

The brass figurine of the Flying Carpet is located in the Square of the 60th Anniversary of the USSR. Inspired by Vasnetsov's painting, it serves as a distinctive artistic piece that unites the traditions of Russian fine art with the imagery of age-old Eastern narratives. Vasnetsov, celebrated for his depictions of Russian epic heroes and folk motifs, endowed the Flying Carpet with rich symbolism and an aura of enchantment.



The sculptural figures “The Flying Carpet” on Yandex Maps

1. Write the definitions for the following words

flying carpet	vivid splash of color
holds a cage	movement and miracle
captured firebird	unique work of art
sense of triumph	brings together
free flight	renowned for
bright patterned	epic tales
gigantic bird	imbued with
misty landscape	aura of enchantment

2. Fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. Ivan Tsarevich stands on a flying carpet and holds a cage.
2. He holds a cage with the captured Firebird.
3. The composition conveys a sense of triumph.
4. It also suggests movement and the miracle of free flight.
5. The bright, patterned carpet resembles a gigantic bird.
6. The carpet contrasts with the pale, misty early-morning landscape.

Pre-reading tasks

1. Study the vocabulary

Flying carpet ['flaɪɪŋ 'kɑ:pɪt] — ковер-самолет

Holds a cage ['həʊldz ə keɪdʒ] — держит клетку

Captured firebird ['kæptʃəd 'faɪəbɜ:d] — пойманная Жар-птица

Sense of triumph ['sens əv 'traɪʌmf] — чувство триумфа

Free flight ['fri: flaɪt] — свободный полет

Bright patterned ['braɪt 'pætnd] — яркий узорчатый

Gigantic bird ['dʒaɪ 'gæntɪk bɜ:d] — гигантская птица

Misty landscape ['mɪsti 'lændskeɪp] — туманный пейзаж

Vivid splash of color [ˈvɪvɪd splæʃ əv ˈklɪə] — яркое пятно цвета

Movement and miracle [ˈmuːvmənt ənd ˈmɪrəkl] — движение и чудо

Unique work of art [ju ˈni:k wɜ:k əv ɑ:t] — уникальное произведение искусства

Brings together [brɪŋz tə ˈgeðə] — объединяет

Renowned for [rɪ ˈnaʊnd fɔ:] — прославленный чем-либо

Epic tales [ˈepɪk teɪlz] — эпические сказания (былины)

Imbued with [ɪm ˈbju:d wɪð] — пропитанный (чем-то)

Aura of enchantment [ˈɔ:rə əv ɪn ˈtʃɑ:ntmənt] — аура очарования

2. Guess the meaning of the international words from the text:

1. Unique — [ju ˈni:k] — уникальный
2. Mystical — [ˈmɪstɪkl] — мистический
3. Aura — [ˈɔ:rə] — аура
4. Motif — [məʊ ˈti:f] — мотив
5. Epic — [ˈepɪk] — эпический
6. Anniversary — [æni ˈvɜ:səri] — годовщина (юбилей)
7. Triumph — [ˈtraɪɪmf] — триумф

3. Translate into Russian:

1. Иван-царевич держит клетку с пойманной Жар-птицей.
2. Композиция передает чувство чуда свободного полета.
3. Яркий ковер контрастирует с туманным пейзажем.
4. Латунная фигурка — это искусство, которое объединяет живопись и легенды.

5. Виктор Васнецов прославлен своими работами, посвященными былинам и фольклору.

6. Образ ковра пропитан аурой волшебства

4. Listen to the text and fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. The Firebird is the most _____ splash of color.

2. The brass figurine of the Flying Carpet is a _____ work of art.

3. It _____ together the world of Russian painting and ancient legends.

4. Viktor Vasnetsov is _____ for his works devoted to Russian epic tales.

5. The image of the Flying Carpet is _____ with symbolism.

6. The carpet is endowed with an aura of _____.

5. Look at the figure and write six sentences to describe the Flying Carpet. Use the words:

Brass figurine, unique work, inspired by, brings together, ancient legends, renowned for, epic tales, mystical atmosphere, distinctive piece, aura of enchantment.

6. Use the QR code and read about this painting then write the sentences from the texts.

7. Role Play.

1. Act as a guide. Show tourists the sculptural figures of the Flying Carpet.

2. Imagine: you are passing the sculptural figures of the Flying Carpet with a group of tourists. They ask you questions about it. Talk to it.

3. Make a TV report about the sculptural figures of the Flying Carpet.

Prince Oleg: The Legend of Fate



V. M. Vasnetsov "Wise Prince Oleg at his horse's bones" (artworks, 1899)

Subject and emotions: The painting shows Wise Prince Oleg standing at full height on a high cliff, looking down at his horse's bones. Overcome by sadness, he puts his foot on the skull.

Colors and details: The overall color scheme is restrained. Bluish-gray tones dominate the palette, creating a quiet and gloomy setting. But the most important detail is at the prince's feet. A small, dark snake emerges from the horse's skull. It is about to bite Oleg, fulfilling the old prophecy.

Location: The State Literary Museum, Moscow.



“Wise Prince Oleg at his horse's bones” painting in the State Literary Museum



“The Wise Prince Oleg”

The brass figurine of Wise Prince Oleg, inspired by Viktor Vasnetsov’s illustrations, stands on the Grin Embankment in Kirov. This exquisite artwork is dedicated to Alexander Pushkin’s famous poem, "The Song of the Wise Oleg"

The sculpture depicts the prince standing at full height on a burial mound, looking down at his horse’s skull. A small snake is slithering toward him, fulfilling the ancient prophecy. This legendary image is imbued with a sense of fate and deep sadness, bringing the world of Russian folklore to the picturesque riverbank.



The sculptural figures “Oleg the Wise” on Yandex Maps

1. Write the definitions for the following words

wise prince	exquisite artwork
standing at full height	depicts the prince
horse's skull	ancient prophecy
slithering toward	sense of fate
early 10th century	legendary image
grin embankment	deep sadness
burial mound	bringing to the heart
dedicated to	fulfilling the prediction

2. Fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. The brass _____ of Wise Prince Oleg stands on the Grin Embankment.
2. This _____ artwork is dedicated to Alexander Pushkin's famous poem.
3. The sculpture _____ the prince standing on a burial mound.
4. The prince is standing at _____ height.
5. He is looking down at his _____ skull.
6. A small snake is _____ toward him.

Pre-reading tasks

1. Study the vocabulary

wise prince [*waɪz prɪns*] — вещий князь
standing at full height [*'stændɪŋ ət fʊl haɪt*] — стоящий в полный рост
horse's skull [*'hɔ:sɪz skʌl*] — череп коня
slithering toward [*'slɪðərɪŋ tə 'wɔ:d*] — подползающий к
early 10th century [*'ɜ:li tenθ 'sentʃəri*] — начало 10-го века
Grin Embankment [*grɪn ɪm 'bæŋkmənt*] — набережная Грина
burial mound [*'berɪəl maʊnd*] — курган
dedicated to [*'dedɪkeɪtɪd tu:*] — посвященный

exquisite artwork [*ɪkˈskwɪzɪt ˈɑːtwɜːk*] — изысканное произведение
 depicts the prince [*dɪˈpɪkts ðə prɪns*] — изображает князя
 ancient prophecy [*ˈeɪnfənt ˈprɒfəsi*] — древнее пророчество
 sense of fate [*sens əv feɪt*] — чувство судьбы (рока)
 legendary image [*ˈledʒəndri ˈɪmɪdʒ*] — легендарный образ
 deep sadness [*diːp ˈsædnəs*] — глубокая печаль
 bringing to the heart [*ˈbrɪŋɪŋ tə ðə hɑːt*] — приносящий в сердце
 fulfilling the prediction [*ˈfʊlˈfɪlɪŋ ðə prɪˈdɪkʃn*] — исполняя предсказание

2. Guess the meaning of the international words from the text:

Illustration [*ɪləˈstreɪʃn*] — иллюстрация

Poem [*ˈpəʊɪm*] — поэма

Sculpture [*ˈskʌlptʃə(r)*] — скульптура

Heroic [*hɪˈrəʊɪk*] — героический

Historical [*hɪˈstɒrɪkl*] — исторический

Fate [*feɪt*] — фатум (судьба)

Folk [*fəʊk*] — фольклор

3. Translate into Russian:

1. Вещий Олег стоит в полный рост на высоком утесе.
2. Он охвачен печалью и смотрит на кости своего коня.
3. Маленькая темная змея выползает из черепа.
4. Латунная фигурка Олега стоит на Набережной Грина.
5. Олег правил народом на Руси в начале 10 века.

4. Listen to the text and fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. «Oleg at his horse's _____»
2. He puts his foot on the _____.
3. _____ tones dominate the palette.
4. A small, dark _____ comes out from the head.
5. Snake is about to _____ Oleg.

6. The location of the painting is in the State Literary Museum,_____.

5. Look at the figure and write six sentences to describe the Wise Prince Oleg. Use the words:

Wise prince, standing at full height, burial mound, horse's skull, slithering snake, ancient prophecy, sense of fate, deep sadness, exquisite artwork, inspired by illustrations.

6. Use the QR code and read about this painting then write the sentences from the texts.

7. Role Play.

1. Act as a guide. Show tourists the sculptural figures of Wise Prince Oleg on the Grin Embankment.
2. Imagine: you are passing the sculptural figures of Wise Prince Oleg with a group of tourists. They ask you questions about it. Talk to it.
3. Make a TV report about the sculptural figures of Wise Prince Oleg.

Tsar Ivan the Terrible: History and Legend



The painting shows the tsar standing at full height on the staircase of his chambers. His gaze is heavy and piercing, and his figure is monumental. Together, they convey a sense of absolute power, severity, and inner complexity.

Deep gold dominates the brocade fur-lined coat, emphasizing grandeur. Symbolic details play an important role. He holds a staff in one hand, representing power. In the other hand, he holds prayer beads, signifying piety. A winter view of Moscow is visible through the window.

Vasnetsov recalled wandering through the Moscow Kremlin. He seemed to see the tsar's shadow and hear his formidable footsteps.

Location: The State Tretyakov Gallery.

V. M. Vasnetsov “Tsar Ivan the Terrible” (painting, 1897)



“Tsar Ivan the Terrible” painting in the State Tretyakov Gallery



“Tsar Ivan the Terrible”

The brass figurine of Tsar Ivan Vasilyevich the Terrible is located near the Vasnetsov Brothers Art Museum on Spasskaya Street, Cathedral Square.

The brass figurine of Tsar Ivan Vasilyevich the Terrible is located near the Vasnetsov Brothers Art Museum on Spasskaya Street. The sculpture, made of brass, is based on Viktor Mikhailovich Vasnetsov’s renowned painting Ivan the Terrible. The brass material lends the piece a noble golden hue, emphasizing the majesty of the figure and the durability of the medium. It depicts the tsar standing at full height, probably holding a staff.



The sculptural figures “Tsar Ivan the Terrible” on Yandex Maps

1. Write the definitions for the following words

staircase of his chambers

heavy and piercing gaze

monumental figure

convey a sense

absolute power

inner complexity

fur-lined coat

emphasizing grandeur

play an important role

representing power

prayer beads

signifying piety

visible through the window

recalled wandering

tsar's shadow

formidable footsteps

2. Fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. The painting shows the tsar standing on the _____ of his chambers.

2. His _____ is heavy and piercing.

3. The figure of the tsar is _____ and strong.

4. Together, they _____ a sense of absolute power.

5. The painting shows the tsar's severity and inner _____.

6. Deep gold _____ the brocade fur-lined coat.

Pre-reading tasks

1. ***Study the vocabulary***

Staircase of his chambers ['steəkeɪs əv hɪz 'tʃeɪmbəz] — лестница его палат

Heavy and piercing gaze ['hevi ənd 'piəriŋ geɪz] — тяжелый и пронзительный взгляд

Monumental figure ['mɒnju 'mentl 'fɪgə(r)] — монументальная фигура

Convey a sense ['kən 'veɪ ə sens] — передавать чувство

Absolute power ['æbsəlu:t 'paʊə(r)] — абсолютная власть

Inner complexity ['ɪnə kəm'pleksəti] — внутренняя сложность

Fur-lined coat ['fɜ:(r) laɪnd kəʊt] — шуба на меху

Emphasizing grandeur ['emfəsaɪzɪŋ 'grændʒə(r)] — подчеркивая величие

Play an important role ['pleɪ ən ɪm'pɔ:tnt rəʊl] — играть важную роль

Representing power ['reprɪ'zentɪŋ 'paʊə(r)] — олицетворяющий власть

Prayer beads ['preə(r) bi:dz] — четки

Signifying piety ['sɪgnɪfaɪɪŋ 'paɪəti] — означая благочестие

Visible through the window ['vɪzəbl θru: ðə 'wɪndəʊ] — видимый через окно

Recalled wandering [ri'kɔ:ld 'wɒndərɪŋ] — вспоминал, как бродил

Tsar's shadow ['zɑ:z 'ædəʊ] — тень царя

Formidable footsteps ['fɔ:mɪdəbl 'fʊtsteps] — грозные шаги

2. Guess the meaning of the international words from the text:

Monumental ['mɒnju 'mentl] — монументальный

Complexity ['kəm'pleksəti] — комплексность/сложность

Grandeur ['grændʒə(r)] — грандиозность/величие

Role [rəʊl] — роль

Represent ['reprɪ'zents] — олицетворять

Piety ['paɪəti] — благочестие

Visible ['vɪzəbl] — видимый

3. Translate into Russian:

1. Царь изображен стоящим на лестнице своих палат.
2. У него тяжелый, пронизывающий взгляд.
3. В одной руке он держит посох, а в другой — четки.

4. Зимний вид Москвы виден через окно.
5. Когда Васнецов бродил по Московскому Кремлю он словно видел тень царя.
6. Латунная фигурка стоит в районе Соборной площади в Кирове

4. Listen to the text and fill in gaps with the words from the text

1. Symbolic _____ play an important role in the painting.
2. He holds a _____ in one hand, representing power.
3. In the other hand, he holds prayer _____.
4. The beads are _____ piety and religious faith.
5. A winter _____ of Moscow is visible through the window.
6. Vasnetsov seemed to see the tsar's _____ in the Kremlin.

5. Look at the figure and write six sentences to describe the tsar. Use the words:

Brass figurine, noble golden hue, standing at full height, holding a staff, majesty of the figure, historical character, durability of the medium, monumental figure, royal image, inspired by painting.

6. Use the QR code and read about this painting then write the sentences from the texts.

7. Role Play.

1. Act as a guide. Show tourists the sculptural figures of Ivan the Terrible on the Cathedral Square.
2. Imagine: you are passing the sculptural figures of Ivan the Terrible with a group of tourists. They ask you questions about it. Talk to it.
3. Make a TV report about the sculpture.