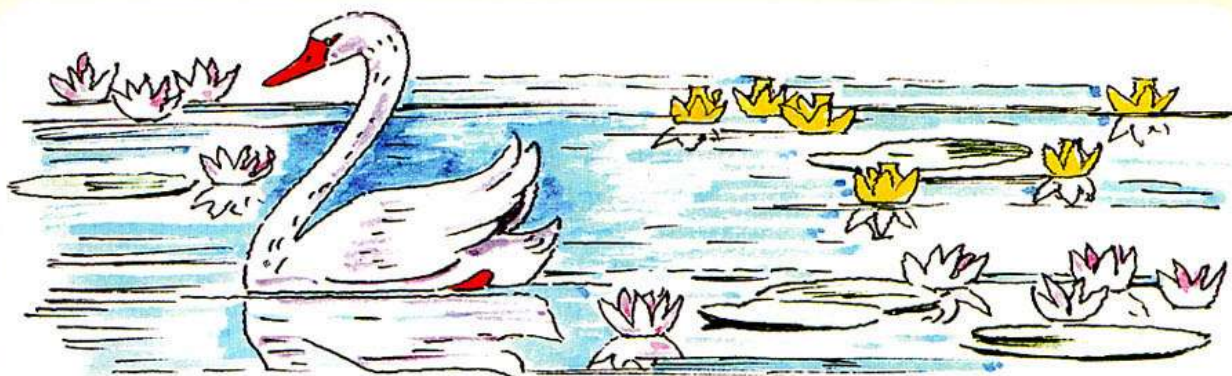


- 34 Read the story **The Ugly¹ Duckling (Part 1)**, then answer the question: When did the duckling understand that he was not from the duck's family?

The Ugly Duckling (Part 1)
after Hans Christian Andersen



One warm spring morning, a duck sat upon her egg. Suddenly the egg began to crack open and out came a large grey duckling with a long neck.

"What an ugly baby!" said some of the ducks. "And he can't swim at all!" That was a surprise!

"He is not one of us," they said.

The days went by. All the ducks laughed at the duckling. Sometimes they even pecked him. The duckling was so sad that he ran away from the barnyard.

He went to the place where wild ducks and geese lived. "Will they peck me, too?" the duckling thought. But the wild birds did not even look at him.

One day the duckling heard a loud noise. Hunters were shooting² at the geese! The duckling wanted to hide in the reeds, but suddenly he saw a big dog near him. The dog looked at him, then walked away.

"I'm glad I'm ugly," thought the duckling. "Even the dog ran from me."

Autumn came, and the leaves became red and gold, then they fell from the trees. The days became shorter, and the air was colder.

- 35 Answer the questions.

- 1 Where and when was the duckling born?
- 2 Why did the other birds laugh at him?
- 3 Where did the duckling run away?

¹ **ugly** ['ʌɡli] уродливый


² **Hunters were shooting** ... охотники стреляли...

- 36** Read the story **The Ugly Duckling (Part 2)**, then answer the question: What bird was the “duckling”?

The Ugly Duckling (Part 2)
after Hans Christian Andersen

One day a flock of snow-white birds with long necks flew over the duckling. They flew to warmer lands for the winter. When the duckling saw them, he thought, “How beautiful they are! If only I could be one of those beautiful birds and fly away with them!”


Soon winter came. The frost was terrible, and the water in the lake became ice. The duckling could not swim any longer, and one day his legs froze¹ in the ice. A farmer saw him, broke away the ice, and carried him to his warm house. The duckling lived there till spring.

 At last the air got warmer. It was springtime again. The duckling ran away from the farmer’s house and began swimming, all alone. Suddenly he saw the beautiful snow-white birds in the sky. “I saw them last autumn,” thought the duckling. “They are coming to this lake!”


The white birds flew nearer. Then they began swimming toward the duckling.

“Do they want to peck me?” thought the duckling. But the birds did not peck him. They began to touch him gently

How happy the duckling was! Then he looked down into the water. He could not understand at first whom he saw. There was no ugly duckling! He saw a snow-white bird with a long beautiful neck.

The farmer’s children were standing on the bank. “Look!” the little girl cried. “The swans are back, and see — the one Papa brought home last winter is with them.” 

- 37** Answer the questions.
- 1 What birds did the duckling once see? What did he think of them?
 - 2 What happened to the duckling in winter?
 - 3 Was it a surprise for the duckling that the white birds did not peck him?
 - 4 What did the duckling see when he looked down into the water?

 **38** Listen and practise reading this part of the text.

- 39** **What do you think?** Say:
- how the duckling felt when he lived in the barnyard with other ducks;
 - how the duckling felt when he understood who he was.

¹ to freeze [fri:z] (**froze**) замерзать