

WHAT WAS DONE?

- 1 *Read the story **How The Book Was Born** and answer the question: Who was the first man to print books in England? in Russia?*

How The Book Was Born

Johann Gutenberg [dʒou'hæn 'gu:tʌnbə:ɡ],
 Willam Caxton ['wɪljəm 'kækstən]

What is a book? It is part thing and part thought. When we open the book, we find ourselves in a silent wonderful world. We visit foreign shores, we discover hidden treasures, we travel among stars. Man's thoughts and dreams are stored in books.

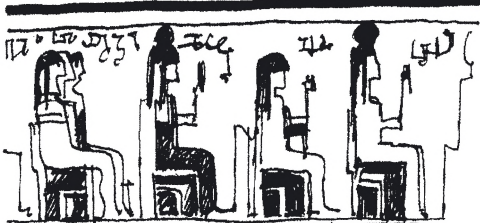
From the first books which were made by hand the book has come a long way. At first man learned to draw pictures, later alphabetic writing appeared. Then a new problem raised its head — what to write on? Papyrus [pə'paɪərəs], sheep and goat skins were used for a long time. Centuries passed. Then the Chinese gave us paper. For six centuries it remained a secret of the East until some Chinese paper makers were captured¹ by the Arabs. To Rome we owe² the format of the book; to Germany, the art of printing³. Indeed, the book was born thanks to the genius⁴ and hard work of many people and nations.

¹ **be captured** ['kæptʃəd] — попасть в плен

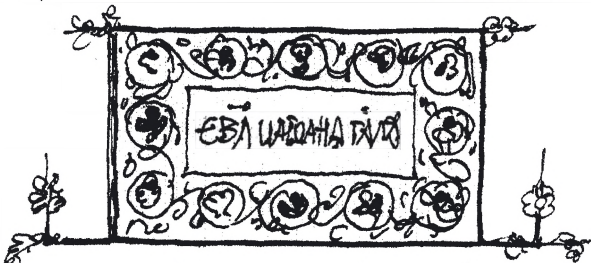
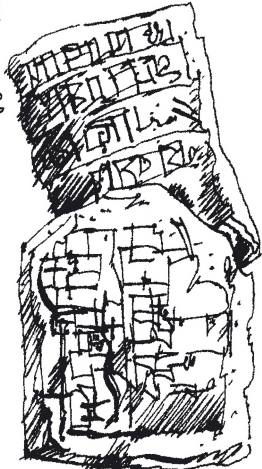
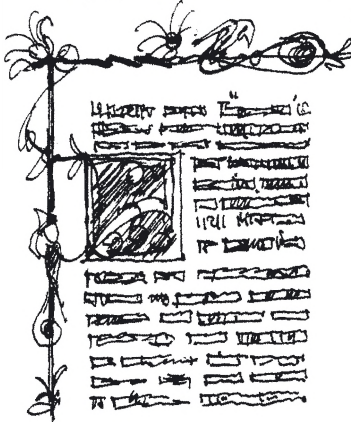
² **to owe** [ou] — быть обязанным

³ **to print** — печатать

⁴ **genius** ['dʒi:niəs] — гений



Handwritten text in a stylized script, possibly a mix of Latin and other characters, arranged in a row.



Handwritten text in a stylized script, arranged in two columns. The first column starts with a small drawing of a figure.

Handwritten text in a stylized script, arranged in two columns, continuing the text from the left column.

Long, long ago there were not so many books as there are now. In fact there were very few. Men did not know how to print, so all books were written by hand with pen and ink. Most of this writing was done by monks¹.

Some of the books were very beautiful. Pictures were painted on each page. But it took a very long time to write books. Often many years were spent to make one copy of a book. This made books very expensive². Most people had no books at all, and a man who had twenty books was thought to be very rich³.

At last men learned how to print. In the middle of the 15th century a German named Johann Gutenberg (1399 — 1468) cut pieces of wood into the shape of letters. These letters were made into words, ink was put on them and then the words were pressed on a sheet of paper. In this way words were printed on paper and a book was made. It took a long time to make the wooden letters, but when they were made, they were used again and again. So books were made very much more quickly.

The first man to print books in England was named William Caxton (1422 — 1491). When William was a boy, he was sent by his parents to work for a merchant⁴ in London. In time he became a great merchant himself. He left England, and went to live in Germany where he saw the new way to make books. When he had found out all about it, he returned to London and began to print books himself.

¹ **monk** [mʌŋk] — монах

² **expensive** [ɪks'pensɪv] — дорогой

³ **was thought to be very rich** — считался очень богатым

⁴ **merchant** ['mɜ:tʃənt] — купец

In those days a man who kept a shop always hung a sign which showed what he made or sold over his door. Outside his house Caxton hung a white shield with a red stripe¹. The people nearby were very puzzled² when they saw this new sign and the strange machines which were taken into Caxton's house. Soon everybody in London heard that William Caxton was a printer, and great lords and ladies came to see him at work.

Before long, other men also began to print books. The new books were cheap³, so that many people could buy them.

The man who invented the art of printing in Russia is Ivan Fedorov (1510 — 1583). Ivan Fedorov had his press in Moscow from 1563 to 1565. Then he had to move to other cities and work there. But his masters were against printing books. They made him stop his work.

Now we remember the name of Ivan Fedorov and the year 1574 when his *Azbuka* was printed. Ivan Fedorov's *Azbuka* helped the people to learn the alphabet and taught them to read books.

The year of 1574 is the most important event in the cultural life of Russia of the 16th century.

Today we find it hard to imagine the bookless world of the past, hard to imagine the long way the book has come. Now even boys and girls at school have as many books as rich people used to have in the days before men learned to print.

¹ **a white shield** [ʃi:ld] **with a red stripe** — белый щит с красной полосой

² **be puzzled** [pʌzld] — быть озадаченным (очень удивленным)

³ **cheap** [tʃi:p] — дешевый

Do You Understand The Story?

2 *Choose the correct ending to each sentence.*

- 1 Paper was given to people by:
 - the Arabs.
 - the Germans.
 - the Chinese.

- 2 The first books were printed by:
 - an Englishman named William Caxton.
 - a German named Johann Gutenberg.
 - a Russian named Ivan Fedorov.

- 3 The first books were expensive because:
 - there were large and beautiful pictures in them.
 - a lot of time was spent to make a book.
 - they were written by hand.

- 4 William Caxton found out everything about the art of printing when he lived:
 - in London.
 - in Germany.
 - in Rome.

- 5 Ivan Fedorov's Azbuka appeared in:
 - 1565.
 - 1574.
 - 1583.

3 *Find in the text and read the sentences which prove that:*

- the book has come a long way;
- it took a very long time to write books;
- the first printing machines seemed to look strange;
- Fedorov's *Azbuka* was a very important book.

4 *Answer the questions.*

- 1 What inventions were made and what problems were solved by man to make a book?
- 2 How were books made in old times?
- 3 Why were books very expensive at that time?
- 4 When was printing invented?
- 5 In what way were words printed on paper?
- 6 Where did William Caxton learn the art of printing?
- 7 Who invented the art of printing in Russia?
- 8 Why did Ivan Fedorov have to move to other cities?

How Good Is Your English?

(see pp 57—58)



What Do You Think?

5 *Try and explain:*

- why the year of 1574 was a very important event in the cultural life of Russia;
- why it was a great thing that men learned to print;
- why we say that the book was born thanks to the genius and hard work of many people and nations.





How Good Is Your English?



6 *Use the proper word from the box.*

- 1 We have no from each other.
- 2 Give yourself time for before you decide.
- 3 It is my to go to Italy.
- 4 Stories about pirates often tell us about great and how people looked for them.
- 5 I enjoy the ballet, but I don't think it is really great
- 6 We are sure this competition will be an important
- 7 The city was founded a ago.

century
thought
dream
treasures
secrets
event
art

7 *Use the correct preposition.*

against
by
in
of
on
at

- 1 When he was a boy he was sent his parents to study in London.
- 2 those old days, there were no printing machines.
- 3 The book looked very beautiful because there were bright illustrations each page.
- 4 It was very interesting to watch printers work.
- 5 The art printing was unknown in Russia in the 15th century.
- 6 It now seems surprising that some Russian masters were printing books.

- 8 Match the words in column A with the words in column B.

A	B
expensive	machines
rich	imagination
beautiful	events
clever	illustrations
cheap	books
cultural	thoughts
important	paper
strange	life

- 9 a) Write the missing forms of the verbs.

to write	wrote	written
to print		
to take		
to use		
to do		
to store		

- b) Use the correct form of the **Passive Voice**.

Example: The first books (make) by hand.
The first books **were made** by hand.

- Man's thoughts and dreams
..... (store) in books.
- Pictures (paint) on each page.
- Sheep and goat skins
(use) for a long time to write on them.
- All books (write)
by hand with pen and ink. Most of this writing
..... (do) by monks.
- Strange machines
(take) into the printer's house.
- Ivan Fedorov's Azbuka
(print) in 1574.