
OUR LEISURE TIME

- 1 *Read Part I of the story **The Picture-book** and answer the question: What problem did Jeremy have when he was thinking of a birthday present for his cousin Mary?*

The Picture-book

Part I

(from *Jeremy And Hamlet* after Hugh Walpole)

It was the last shop in the street. The shop window was very big

Jeremy ['dʒerɪmɪ], Mary [mæəri],
Robinson Crusoe ['rɒbɪnsən 'kru:səʊ]

and there were the strangest things in it. There were blue glasses, smoking pipes¹ that someone had painted in the gayest colours, there were gold and silver boxes and the model of a ship in full sail². There were old pictures, and lots and lots of other things as well.

Jeremy pushed the door back, heard a little bell ring above his head, and at once was in a shop full of people. A young man with a pale face and red hair was behind the very high counter, so high that Jeremy's nose just touched it.

"Have you got such a thing as a book?" Jeremy asked very politely.

The young man smiled. "What sort of a book?"

"Well, she said she wanted *Sylvie and Bruno* or — I've forgotten the names of the others. They have good pictures in them. You haven't got that one, have you?"

"No, I haven't," said the young man, quite seriously.

"Have you got any books?" said Jeremy.

"I can show you this one," said the young man, and

¹ **pipe** — трубка

² **in full sail** — на всех парусах



put a thick heavy book on the counter. “You see it’s got rather fine pictures. Will you have a look at them?”

“Oh, it’s very nice,” said Jeremy. “How much is it?”

“Eight pounds,” said the young man.

“I think I’d better tell you at once,” said Jeremy, “that I’ve only got **five shillings**.”

The young man **scratched his head**¹. “I don’t think we’ve got any books for five shillings,” he began; then suddenly, “Perhaps this will be the very thing — if you like pictures.”

He disappeared for a while and then came in with two or three long books, dusty and yellow. He **wiped** them with a cloth and gave them to Jeremy.

At the first sight of them he knew that they were what Jeremy wanted. He read the titles: one was *Robinson Crusoe*, another *The Swiss Family Robinson*, the third *Masterman Ready*. He looked at *Crusoe*, and gave a delighted cry as he turned over the pages. The pictures were coloured, and richly coloured. Oh, it was a lovely book! a perfect book! the very, very thing for his cousin Mary.

“How much is it?” he asked, **trembling**² with excitement as he waited for the answer.

“Exactly five shillings,” said the young man seriously.

“That’s strange,” said Jeremy in delight and keeping his hand on the book. “That’s just what I’ve got. Isn’t that lucky?”

“Very lucky, indeed,” said the young man. “Shall I **wrap it up**³ for you?”

“Oh, yes, please do — and very carefully, please, so that nobody can guess what it is.”

¹ **to scratch one’s head** — почесать затылок

² **to tremble** [ˈtrembl] — дрожать

³ **to wrap** [ræp] **up** — заворачивать

The young man wrapped it up very cleverly and in a moment he handed Jeremy a parcel¹ that easily could be taken for² a ship or a railway train.

“Good-bye,” said Jeremy. “Thank you. I’ll come again one day and look at the other things in your shop.”

“Please do,” said the young man. Jeremy went out, and the little bell rang gaily behind him.

All the way back in the bus the book grew and grew in magnificence³ simply because Jeremy could not see it. Back at home, he rushed up to his bedroom, locked the door, and then, with trembling fingers, undid the paper.

The first look at *Robinson Crusoe and the Footmark on the Sand* thrilled him so that the white-washed walls of his room faded away⁴ and birds flew above his head and the sand lay hot at his feet. Mystery⁵ was there — the footprint in the sand, and Crusoe with his shaggy beard and peaked hat⁶ looking...

His fingers turned the pages, and picture after picture opened for his delight. He had never before seen a book with so many pictures, pictures so bright and yet so true, pictures so real that you could almost touch the trees and the figures and Crusoe’s hat.

Suddenly he heard Mary’s voice behind the door, “Aren’t you coming, Jeremy? We’re going to have dinner.”

Mary! He had forgotten all about her. Of course, this book was for her. Just the book for her. She would love the pictures. He had forgotten all about...

¹ **parcel** ['pa:sl] — пакет, сверток

² **that... could be taken for** — который... можно было принять за

³ **magnificence** [mæg'nɪfɪsns] — великолепие

⁴ **to fade away** — постепенно исчезать

⁵ **mystery** ['mɪstəri] — тайна

⁶ **with his shaggy beard** [bɪəd] **and peaked** [pi:kt] **hat** — с его косматой бородой и остроконечной шляпой

He went down to dinner and was very absent-minded¹ during the meal. That afternoon his dreams were all of Crusoe, of burning sands and flaming skies, and Man Friday.

As a rule the next morning is the testing time, and too often we find that the treasure that we bought the day before has already lost some of its shine. Now it was not so, the pictures had grown better and better, richer and richer. The loveliest pictures.

Just the book for Mary. He suddenly thought that he did not want to give the book to Mary. He wanted to keep it for himself. It was so horrible a temptation² that he did not look it in the eyes. He was a generous³ little boy, and had never done a mean⁴ thing in all his life. He was always eager to give anything away, although he loved to have his things near him, and they seemed to him, his books and his toys and his football, as alive as the people around him. He had never felt anything so alive as this book was.

When he came down to breakfast he was surprised to find that the sight of Mary made him feel rather angry. She had always irritated⁵ him a little, as she herself well knew. This morning she irritated him very much. Her birthday would be four days from now; he would be glad when it came; he could give her the book and the temptation would be over. Indeed, he would like to give her the book now and be done with⁶ it.

Two days later he decided that he could not part with⁷ the book. He must find something else for Mary, something very fine indeed, the best thing that he had.

¹ **absent-minded** [æbsənt'maɪndɪd] — рассеянный

² **so horrible a temptation** [temp'teɪʃn] — такое ужасное искушение

³ **generous** ['dʒenərəs] — щедрый, великодушный

⁴ **mean** [mi:n] — подлый, нечестный

⁵ **irritate** ['ɪrɪteɪt] — раздражать

⁶ **to be done with** — покончить с

⁷ **to part with** — расстаться с

He went over all his things. The trouble with them was that Mary knew them so well.

Impossible to pretend that there was anything there that she could want! He collected the best of them and laid them out on the bed — a pocket-knife, three books, a watch chain¹, a leather pocket-book — not a very brilliant collection.

He did not now dare to look at the book at all. He put it away in the bottom of the chest of drawers². He thought that perhaps if he did not see it or take it out it would be easier to give. But he had imagination, and the book grew in his mind, the pictures flaming like suns.

Then his sister Helen said to him: “What are you going to give Mary on her birthday?”

“Why?”³ he asked.

“I only wanted to know. I’ve got mine. Everyone knows you went to a shop and bought something. Mary herself knows.”

That was the worst thing in a family. Everyone knew everything!

“Perhaps it wasn’t for Mary,” he said.

Helen sniffed⁴. “Of course, if you don’t want to tell me,” she said, “I don’t care.”

Then Jeremy discovered the little glass bottle with the silver stopper⁵. It had been given him two years ago on his birthday by a cousin who was staying with them at the time. What anybody wanted to give a boy a glass bottle with a silver stopper for, Jeremy could not understand. It was good for a girl. Mary had always liked it, had picked it up and looked at it with delight. She would be glad to have it, Jeremy thought. Of course, she knew that it had been his for two years.

¹ **watch chain** [tʃeɪn] — цепочка для часов

² **chest of drawers** [drɔːz] — комод

³ **Why?** — зд. А что?

³ **to sniff** — презрительно фыркать

⁴ **stopper** [ˈstɒpə] — пробка

Do You Understand The Story?

2

Answer the questions.

- 1 What shop did Jeremy choose when he wanted to buy his cousin a present?
- 2 What thrilled Jeremy in the book the young man in the shop showed him?
- 3 Why did Jeremy ask the young man to wrap the book up carefully for him?
- 4 What were the feelings of the boy when he turned over the pages of the book? What was he impressed by?
- 5 When did Jeremy first think that he could not part with the book?
- 7 What idea came to Jeremy?
- 8 What did the boy decide to give Mary as a present?
- 9 What troubled Jeremy when he had decided to give Mary the glass bottle with the silver stopper?

3

Find the lines in the story which :

- prove that Jeremy knew exactly what kind of present he wanted to buy;
- explain why the boy's fingers trembled when he undid the paper into which the book was wrapped;
- describe what the boy felt each time he turned over the pages of *Robinson Crusoe*;
- prove that it was not easy for Jeremy to decide whether to give Mary *Robinson Crusoe* as a present or to keep the book for himself;
- explain why Jeremy chose a silver stopper as a present for Mary.

- 4 *Imagine the shop where Jeremy bought the book about Robinson Crusoe. Describe it. How was it unusual?*

How Good Is Your English?

(see pp 52–53)

What Do You Think?

- 5 *Try and explain:*
- what made Jeremy so excited when he saw the book which described Robinson Crusoe's adventures;
 - why he was very absent-minded during the meal;
 - why the boy did not dare to look at the book and put it away in the bottom of the chest-drawers;
 - why Jeremy did not want to part with the present he had bought for his cousin's birthday;
 - why the sight of Mary began to irritate Jeremy.
- 6 *Say whether you think that Jeremy was a mean or selfish boy. What do you think about Jeremy's behaviour?*
- 7 *Say whether you think it is good to give your friend (a cousin or somebody else) a present which you had once got yourself, but which you do not like.*



How Good Is Your English?



8 Use the proper word from the box.

- 1 Did you hear the noise, or was it my ?
- 2 From the look on his face it's easy to that he has won.
- 3 The with Jill is that she doesn't take any interest in learning foreign languages.
- 4 Stories about pirates often describe how they sailed to far-off lands in search of buried
- 5 Jane came up with a idea for a story.
- 6 The child laughed at the of a funny toy.
- 7 They have a family — not to speak during meals.

treasure
brilliant
rule
imagination
guess
trouble
sight

9 Complete the phrases with appropriate nouns.

to turn over the pages

to tremble with

to wrap

to part with

to discover

to collect.....

10 Choose the best word to complete the sentences (✓).

- 1 He loved his family and was always ... to do something pleasant for everybody.
a) lucky b) eager c) thrilled
- 2 He was an honest and noble-hearted man, and had never done a thing in all his life.
a) unusual b) foolish c) mean
- 3 The wonderful sight of the mountain lake ... all the travellers.
a) amused b) delighted c) irritated

11 Use the correct article if necessary.

- 1 The boy could not tear his eyes off ... wonderful picture in his new book.
a) — b) a c) the
- 2 The shop assistant was ... young man with ... pale face and ... red hair.
a) — b) a c) the
- 3 All her dreams were about ... dangerous voyages and ... exciting adventures.
a) — b) a c) the
- 4 It is always very difficult for everybody to part with ... people who are so dear to you.
a) — b) a c) the

12 *Past Indefinite? Past Perfect? Choose the correct form of the verb (✓).*

- 1 The boy was not surprised that the sight of Mary made him feel angry because she always (irritated, had irritated) him.
- 2 The boy suddenly thought that he (wanted, had wanted) to keep the book for himself.
- 3 Jeremy's sister Helen knew that he (went, had gone) to a shop to buy a birthday present.
- 4 He felt ashamed at the thought that he (did, had done) a mean thing.

13 *Report the following statements and questions.*

- 1 "How much does this book cost?" the boy asked.
.....
- 2 "I'll come again one day and buy something else in your shop," said Jeremy.
.....
- 3 "What are you going to give Mary on her birthday?" Helen asked.
.....
- 4 "I have never seen a book with so many splendid pictures in it," Jeremy thought.
.....

- 14 *Read Part II of the story **The Picture-book** and say when Jeremy changed his opinion of Mary.*

The Picture-book

Part II

(from *Jeremy And Hamlet* after Hugh Walpole)

Mary's birthday came. On such a day who would not be happy? And Mary was perhaps the happiest little girl in the whole world. Her eyes shone, her mouth smiled. She was lucky in her presents. Her mother gave her a silver watch, quite smart, with the hours marked in blue on the face, and her father gave her a silver watch chain so thin that you thought that it would break if you looked at it. But it was really so strong that not even the strongest man in the world could break it. Aunt Amy gave her a muff¹, soft and furry, and Helen gave her a red leather blotter², and Uncle Samuel sent her a book that she wanted, and Miss Jones gave her a work-basket, and there were a pair of gloves from Barbara and — a glass bottle with a silver stopper from Jeremy!

It seemed that she liked this last present best of all.

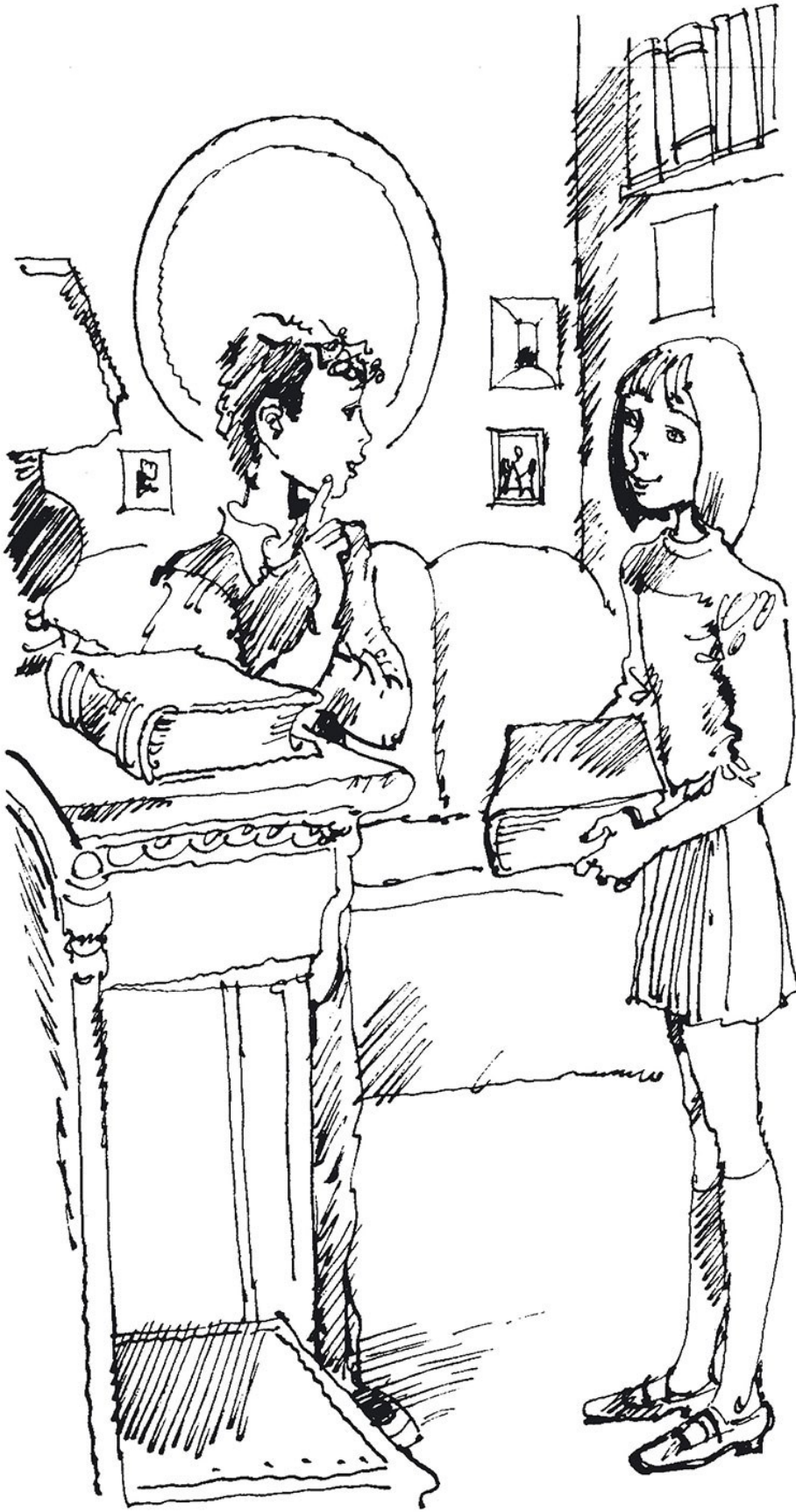
“Oh, Jeremy! I am so glad. That's just what I wanted! I've never seen such a nice thing. I've never had any silver things to stand on my table. Oh, mother, do look! See what Jeremy's given me! Isn't it pretty? You've given me the nicest present, Jeremy, and I'll have it all my life!”

Jeremy stood there, his heart like lead³. It may be said with truth of him that never in his whole life had he felt so ashamed as he did now. Mean, mean, mean! Suddenly, now that it was too late he hated the book

¹ **muff** [mʌf] — муфта

² **leather** ['leðə] **blotter** — кожаная папка

³ **lead** [led] — свинец



upstairs lying safely in his bottom drawer¹. He didn't want ever to look at it again.

And Mary. She must know that this was his old glass bottle that he had had so long. She had seen it a hundred times. It is true that he had rubbed it up and the silver stopper shone brightly; but still she must know. He looked at her with new interest. Was it all acting, this enthusiasm? No, it was not. She was really moved² and delighted. Was she pretending to herself that she had never seen it before, making herself believe that it was new? He would keep the book and give it to her at the New Year. But that would not be the same thing. The deed was done now. The horrible, mean deed.

He did everything he could to make her birthday a happy one. He was with her all the day. But nothing could raise his spirits³.

The days that followed could hardly help to raise Jeremy's spirits. But they were pleasant ones because the weather was lovely, warm, beautiful days without any wind.

Yet, something hung⁴ over Jeremy like a black, heavy cloud. His pride in himself was gone. He had done something mean.

He now looked at Mary with new eyes. She was a nice girl. He looked back over the past months and saw how much better she had been to him than he had been to her. She had often irritated him, of course, but then that was because she was a girl. All girls were irritating.

All that time Jeremy never looked at the book again. It lay in his bottom drawer and he did not take it out.

¹ **bottom drawer** [drɔː]— нижний ящик (*комода*)

² **be moved** — *зд.* быть растроганным, взволнованным

³ **to raise one's spirits** ['spɪrɪts]— поднять настроение

⁴ **to hang (hung, hung)** — висеть

One day Mary received in a letter a postal order¹ for ten shillings. This was a present from one of her aunts who lived in some far-off place and who had suddenly remembered Mary's birthday. Pleased with the present, Mary went to a shop to spend it.

That evening when Jeremy was washing his hands, there was a knock on his door and Mary's voice: "May I come in?"

"Yes," he said.

She came in, her face looked mysterious². She held a paper parcel in her hands.

"What is it?"³ Jeremy asked rather angrily.

"Oh, Jeremy. I've got something for you," Mary said, then as though she was ashamed of what she had done, she took the parcel to the bed and undid the paper with clumsy⁴ fingers.

"There," she said, "I got it for you because I thought you'd like it."

He looked at it; it was a book. It was *Swiss Family Robinson*, it was a companion book to his *Robinson Crusoe*. Jeremy could say nothing.

"You like it, don't you?" she asked, looking at him anxiously⁵. "It's got lots and lots of pictures. There was a funny shop at the end of the street and I went in. I thought it was just what you'd like. You like it, don't you?" she asked again.

But the boy could only look at it, he did not dare to touch it. He was buried deep, deep in shame. There came a knock on the door and Helen's voice:

"Mary, if you're in there with Jeremy, mother says you're to come at once. It's five minutes to supper."

¹ **postal** ['poustəl] **order** — почтовый денежный перевод

² **mysterious** [mis'tɪriəs] — таинственный

³ **What is it?** — зд. Что тебе надо?

⁴ **clumsy** ['klʌmzi] — неуклюжий

⁵ **anxiously** ['æŋksɪəsli] — с тревогой, с волнением

“Oh, dear, I’ve forgotten.” And with one last look at Jeremy, she went.

Still he did not move. Could anything possible prove to him more clearly what a pig he was? Mary had bought the book with her own money. He did not touch the book, and went down to supper. When the meal was finished he said to Mary:

“Come upstairs a minute. I want to speak to you.”

She followed him in fear. He did not like the book! He was going to thank her for it in the way that he had when he was trying to be polite, and did not find it easy. She followed him into the room. He carefully closed the door. She saw at once that the book lay exactly where she had placed it on the bed — that he had not even opened it.

“Sit down on that chair!” he said. She sat down.

“Look here, why did you give me that book? I know that Aunt Lucy sent you that money to spend on yourself.”

“I thought you’d like it,” she said.

“I like it,” Jeremy said. “It’s splendid. But I’ve done something awful¹ — and I’ve got to tell you now you’ve given me that.”

“Oh, Jeremy! Something awful! What is it?”

“That day I went to a shop to buy you a present. And I did buy you one. I went into that same shop you went to and I bought *Robinson Crusoe*, just like the one you bought me. When I bought it I meant to give it to you, of course, but when I got home I liked it so much I kept it for myself and I gave you that old bottle instead — and then I didn’t like the book after all and I’ve never looked at it since your birthday. So I gave you an old thing that I’d had for years.”

“No,” she interrupted, “I’ve wanted that bottle ever so long. I used to go up to your room and look at it sometimes when you were at school.”

¹ **awful** [ˈɔːful] — ужасный

Jeremy went to the drawer and took out *Robinson Crusoe* and gave it to her. She accepted it gratefully¹, but said:

“And now I shall have to give you back the bottle.”
“Oh, no, you won’t.”

“But I can’t have two presents.”

“Yes, you can. I don’t want the old bottle, anyway. I never used it for anything. And now we’ll each have a book, so it won’t be like a present exactly.”

She smiled with pleasure. “Oh, I’m so glad you’re not angry.”

“Angry?” he repeated after her.

“Yes,” she said, getting up from the sofa. “I thought you were when you asked me to come up here.”

He looked at her surprised. She seemed to him a new Mary whom he had never seen before.

“Am I often angry?” he asked.

“Not angry exactly; but I get frightened that you are going to be cross and then I say the silliest things — not because I want to, but because I want to be clever, and then, of course, I never am.”

He stood looking at her. “Am I as bad as that?” he asked.

“Oh, you’re not bad,” she told him. “No, you’re not. But I’m afraid of you, and I’m fonder of you than anybody — lots fonder — and I always say to myself, ‘Now I’m not going to be silly this time,’ and then I am. I don’t know why,” she sighed². “But I’m not nearly as silly as I seem.”

No, she wasn’t. He suddenly saw that he had made a great mistake. Here was a possible companion. She was superior³ to him, perhaps, knowing more than he did about many things, but she understood his feelings.

¹ to accept [ək'sept]... gratefully — принимать с благодарностью

² to sigh [saɪ] — вздыхать

³ superior [sju:'rɪəriə] — стоящий выше, лучший

“I say, Mary, we’ll do things together. I’m very lonely sometimes. I want someone to tell things to — often. We’ll have a great time next holidays.”

It was the happiest moment in Mary’s life. She just nodded¹ and, holding *Robinson Crusoe* to her heart, ran.

Do You Understand The Story?

15 *Answer the questions.*

- 1 What presents did Mary get on her birthday?
- 2 How did Mary accept Jeremy’s present?
- 3 What did Jeremy think of himself and of Mary’s behaviour?
- 4 What did Jeremy speak with Mary about after he had invited her to come upstairs?
- 5 What did Jeremy begin to think of Mary after their talk?
- 6 What did Mary bring to Jeremy one day?
- 7 What made Jeremy feel ashamed when he saw the book Mary was giving him as a present?
- 8 How did Mary behave towards Jeremy?

16 *Find the lines in the story which:*

- prove that Jeremy felt ashamed that he had given Mary an old thing as a present;
- explain why Jeremy began to look at Mary with new interest;
- explain why Jeremy was very gloomy after the birthday party;
- explain how Mary treated Jeremy.

¹ to nod — кивнуть

How Good Is Your English?

(see pp 62–63)

What Do You Think?

- 17 *Do you think that Mary knew at once that Jeremy's present was his old glass bottle? Why did she behave as she did?*
- 18 Jeremy stood, his heart like lead. *Can you explain why it was so?*
- 19 *Do you think it was difficult for Jeremy to begin to talk about how he had bought **Robinson Crusoe** and the present he had really given Mary?*
- 20 *Try and explain:*
- why Mary's birthday party was such a happy event;
 - why Jeremy did not enjoy the party;
 - why Mary's face looked mysterious when she came to see Jeremy;
 - why Mary was a little afraid of Jeremy;
 - why Jeremy began to think that Mary would be a good companion.
- 21 *Say what you think made Jeremy tell Mary the truth.*
- 22 *Do you think it was honest of Jeremy to talk to Mary about what he had done? Why?*
- 23 *Why do you think Mary made up her mind to buy Jeremy **Swiss Family Robinson**?*
- 24 *Do you think Jeremy and Mary will be good friends?*



How Good Is Your English?



25 Use the proper word from the box.

- 1is a very unpleasant feeling you have when you think that you are in danger.
- 2 She could hear her..... beating wildly.
- 3shone in the man's eyes when he spoke about his famous son.
- 4 We would like to know the whole of what had happened on that day.
- 5 It was of you to go out in the hot sun without a hat.
- 6 She is an excellent travelling, always friendly and merry.

truth
fear
companion
silly
pride
heart

26 Complete the phrases with appropriate nouns.

to receiveguests

be pleased with

to spend

be ashamed of

to accept

be afraid of

27 Use the correct preposition .

- 1 She thought her home was the best the whole world.
- 2 After this happening we began to look at Mary new eyes.
- 3 There was a post-office the end of the street.
- 4 They have known each other many years, that's why they understand each other's feelings and actions.
- 5 I'm not very fond rock music.

with
of
at
in
for

28 *Choose the best word to complete the sentences (✓).*

- 1 The girl accepted the present ...
a) gratefully b) carefully c) easily
- 2 The boy felt ... of all the wrong things he had done.
a) clumsy b) moved c) ashamed
- 3 Their kindness really ... me.
a) touched b) moved c) hurt
- 4 When you were a child, were you ... of the dark?
a) surprised b) excited c) afraid

29 *Past Indefinite? Past Perfect? Choose the correct form of the verb (✓).*

- 1 Mary saw that the book lay exactly where she (placed, had placed) it on the bed and understood that Jeremy (did not open, had not opened) it.
- 2 The wonderful day could not raise Jeremy's spirits because he always remembered the mean deed he (did, had done).
- 3 When Jeremy bought the book he (meant, had meant) to give it to Mary as a birthday present.
- 4 He looked at Mary in surprise because she (seemed, had seemed) to be different from the girl whom he (knew, had known).
- 5 The boy understood that he (made, had made) a great mistake and Mary could be his good friend.

30 *Past Indefinite? Past Continuous? Choose the correct form of the verb (✓).*

- 1 Jeremy wondered whether Mary (pretended, was pretending) that she was delighted with the present or she was really moved.
- 2 One day Mary (received, was receiving) a letter from her aunt.
- 3 When the boy (washed, was washing) his hands, somebody knocked at the door.
- 4 All girls often (irritated, were irritating) Jeremy.