**Кейсовое задание**

**Case Study**

Remember the recording of Vysotsky’s performance as Hamlet from the museum or watch it again.



● Which translation of Hamlet was used?

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| **HAMLET by W. Shakespeare** | **Перевод М. Лозинского** | **Перевод Б. Пастернака** |
| To be, or not to be – that is the question:  Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer  The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune  Or to take arms against a sea of troubles  And by opposing end them. To die, to sleep –  No more – and by a sleep to say we end  The heartache, and the thousand natural shocks  That flesh is heir to. 'Tis a consummation  Devoutly to be wished. To die, to sleep –  To sleep – perchance to dream: ay, there's the rub,  For in that sleep of death what dreams may come  When we have shuffled off this mortal coil,  Must give us pause. There's the respect  That makes calamity of so long life. | Быть или не быть – таков вопрос;  Что благородней духом – покоряться  Пращам и стрелам яростной судьбы  Иль, ополчась на море смут, сразить их  Противоборством? Умереть, уснуть –  И только; и сказать, что сном кончаешь  Тоску и тысячу природных мук,  Наследье плоти, – как такой развязки  Не жаждать? Умереть, уснуть. – Уснуть!  И видеть сны, быть может? Вот в чем трудность;  Какие сны приснятся в смертном сне,  Когда мы сбросим этот бренный шум, –  Вот что сбивает нас; вот где причина  Того, что бедствия так долговечны. | Быть иль не быть, вот в чем вопрос.  Достойно ль  Смиряться под ударами судьбы,  Иль надо оказать сопротивленье  И в смертной схватке с целым морем бед  Покончить с ними? Умереть. Забыться  И знать, что этим обрываешь цепь  Сердечных мук и тысячи лишений,  Присущих телу. Это ли не цель  Желанная? Скончаться. Сном забыться.  Уснуть… и видеть сны? Вот и ответ.  Какие сны в том смертном сне приснятся,  Когда покров земного чувства снят?  Вот в чем разгадка. Вот что удлиняет  Несчастьям нашим жизнь на столько лет. |

● Compare the original text by Shakespeare with the two translations.

Which translation do you find more appropriate? Why?

● How does the language of the Shakespearian time differ from the modern language? Can you find any archaic words or constructions?

Take notes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

● There are some words in the original text that you probably usually use in a different sense. Which definitions would best describe the meanings of these words in Hamlet’s soliloquy?

1. Heir:
2. a person who inherits or has a right of inheritance in the property of another following the latter's death;
3. a person who inherits or is entitled to inherit the rank, title, position, etc., of another;
4. a person or group considered as inheriting the tradition, talent, etc., of a predecessor.
5. Rub:
6. an act or instance of rubbing;
7. something that annoys or irritates one's feelings, as a sharp criticism, a sarcastic remark, or the like.
8. Respect:
9. a particular, detail, or point (usually preceded by in);
10. relation or reference;
11. esteem for or a sense of the worth or excellence of a person, a personal quality or ability, or something considered as a manifestation of a personal quality or ability;
12. the condition of being esteemed or honoured;
13. *Archaic.* a consideration.

● Which translation of these words is more accurate? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How important are the accuracy and precision in the translation of literature? What about other texts and kinds of translation?

● Why do you think the Taganka Theatre chose the translation by B. Pasternak? What is your opinion on this choice?

● Watch the video and compare the performance given by Vysotsky and British actors. The performances are given in the following order:

***Vladimir Vysotsky (played Hamlet since 1971)***

***Laurence Olivier (1948)***

***Richard Burton (1964)***

***Kenneth Branagh (1996)***

***David Tennant (2008)***

***Benedict Cumberbatch (2015)***

***Andrew Scott (2017)***

Use the QR-code to access the video:



What is the most notable difference between the Russian and British approaches to this scene? Which do you find more impressive? Explain your answer.

● How would you describe each Hamlet? Why?

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| *contemplative, playful, aggressive, calm, nervous, fidgety, dreamy, uncertain, depressed, decisive, violent, secretive, relaxed, excited, passive, reserved, volatile* |

What are the most significant differences in the actors’ performances? Take notes.

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| **Actor** | **Hamlet’s Image** | **Special Features** |
| Vladimir Vysotsky |  |  |
| Laurence Olivier |  |  |
| Richard Burton |  |  |
| Kenneth Branagh |  |  |
| David Tennant |  |  |
| Benedict Cumberbatch |  |  |
| Andrew Scott |  |  |

● Do you think that different expressive techniques depend on the actors’ or directors’ vision or personality? Does their background (family, culture, education) influence the performance? Is the interpretation of the play influenced by the historical period when and the country where it is staged?

Which Hamlet do you find most/least convincing? engaging? striking? Why?

● Write an article titled ***My Kind of Hamlet***. Include the following:

* an overview of different Hamlet interpretations;
* your vision of Hamlet;
* the actor that best incarnates your vision;
* explain what ideas you’d like to convey through Hamlet and why.

Use the information you’ve obtained from the previous activities and visiting the museum.

Write 200–400 words.

● Exchange articles with your classmates and hold a class discussion on the topic.