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«Гомельский государственный университет  
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**Н. В. Насон, Л. А. Литвинова**

**Английский язык  
Домашнее чтение:  
Подвиги Геракла**

Практическое пособие

для студентов факультета иностранных языков  
специальностей 1-02 03 06 «Иностранные языки (английский,  
немецкий)», «Иностранные языки (английский, французский)»,  
1-02 03 08 «Иностранный язык (английский)»

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Практическое пособие содержит текст для домашнего чтения  
«Подвиги Геракла» и упражнения к нему; направлено на развитие  
навыков устной и письменной речи, овладение новыми лексическими  
единицами и закрепление активного словаря.

Предназначено для студентов факультета иностранных языков  
специальностей 1-02 03 06 «Иностранные языки (английский,  
немецкий)», «Иностранные языки (английский, французский)»,  
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## Предисловие

Данное практическое пособие предназначено для использования студентами факультета иностранных языков специальности 1-02 03 06 «Иностранные языки (английский, немецкий (французский))» и студентами заочного факультета специальности 1-02 03 08 «Иностранный язык (английский)» в рамках изучения дисциплины «Домашнее чтение».

Целью пособия является совершенствование умений монологической и диалогической речи, развитие навыков анализа и интерпретации художественного текста.

Пособие имеет продуманную структуру и состоит из двенадцати разделов с заданиями к сборнику рассказов английской писательницы Агаты Кристи «Подвиги Геракла».

Предлагаемые задания направлены на формирование лексических и грамматических навыков, расширение словарного запаса, развитие и совершенствование умений говорения. Предусмотрены проблемные вопросы, которые способствуют более глубокому пониманию и осмыслению прочитанного.

Данное пособие может использоваться как для аудиторной, так и для внеаудиторной (самостоятельной) работы.

## Unit 1. Foreword and the Nemean Lion

*1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.*

- 1) to become acquainted with smb
- 2) low intelligence
- 3) self-imposed
- 4) to investigate
- 5) to recollect
- 6) to get a demand for
- 7) precious
- 8) to burst into tears
- 9) to be out of breath
- 10) intruder
- 11) dyed with peroxide
- 12) a trace of lipstick
- 13) resemblance to
- 14) to give a gasp
- 15) to tamper with
- 16) sentimental
- 17) to prosecute
- 18) to wag one's tail
- 19) to be superior to
- 20) to recall
- 21) incredulously

*2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) pagan
- 2) to assure smb
- 3) a born secretary
- 4) to let smb down

- 5) kidnapping
- 6) to be in the habit of
- 7) to approve of
- 8) to resist doing smth
- 9) to enclose
- 10) the person in question
- 11) to end abruptly
- 12) to give instructions
- 13) to sniff
- 14) to give the alarm
- 15) it's ridiculous
- 16) to carry out the threats
- 17) inevitable
- 18) to ask a favour
- 19) to recover the money
- 20) to owe smb
- 21) to risk one's neck

*3. Say whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false ones.*

- 1) Poirot is retired and grows vegetable marrows.
- 2) Poirot admired Hercules.
- 3) Poirot found out that the dog disappeared a day ago.
- 4) Miss Carnaby was a slim woman between thirty and forty.
- 5) Lady Hoggin believed that Miss Carnaby was completely foolish and didn't like babies.
- 6) Mrs. Harte didn't know anything about Captain Curtis.
- 7) Mrs. Samuelson's husband laughed when he heard about the money paid as a ransom for the dog.
- 8) Miss Carnaby had a sister.
- 9) Amy Carnaby was able to save quite a lot of money.
- 10) "Old maids are known to be foolishly careless about the babies."
- 11) Sir Joseph preferred to start prosecution and didn't take his money back.
- 12) Poirot claimed no fee from Sir Joseph.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) As usual, Miss Lemon had been right.
- 2) Hercule Poirot blushed and withdrew.
- 3) "A modern Robin Hood."
- 4) Dr. Burton left behind him an Idea.
- 5) "I was wondering if a friend of mine had been staying here lately. A Captain Curtis."
- 6) "Anything of interest this morning, Miss Lemon?"
- 7) Sir Joseph received Hercule Poirot in his study.
- 8) He's so clever...One can teach him anything.
- 9) Twenty minutes later Hercule Poirot was climbing the stairs of an obscure block of flats.
- 10) The first case must concern some celebrated public figure.
- 11) "You realise that my fees are high?"
- 12) You see, to most people, one Pekinese is very much alike another.
- 13) Pekinese are terribly sensitive – just as sensitive as children.
- 14) "Funny, this tonic tastes quite different."
- 15) "But I had the dog lead still. Shall I get it?"
- 16) Mrs. Samuelson's dog was called Nanki Poo.
- 17) Emily gave a cry of joy.
- 18) Poirot murmured: "A curious little case."
- 19) Consider it as you fee.

*5. Answer the following questions.*

- 1) What does Hercule Poirot look like?
- 2) Was his room a mess?
- 3) Why was Hercule Poirot shaken and embittered one morning?
- 4) Why did Sir Joseph Hoggin send for Hercule Poirot after meeting old Samuelson at the Club?
- 5) As Sir Joseph and Hercule Poirot entered, a small Pekinese dog got frightened and tried to hide, didn't it?
- 6) What was said in the letter Lady Hoggin received?
- 7) Was Mrs. Samuelson's letter different?

8) Did Mrs. Samuelson consult her husband before dispatching the money? Why?

9) What did Sir Hoggin mean when he said the following: "Pride goes before a fall."

10) Why was Amy Carnaby afraid for her future?

11) How many were there "successful operations"?

12) Did Hercule Poirot put Amy Carnaby to prison? Why?

13) Why did Hercule Poirot tell Sir Joseph about one of his early cases?

14) Why wasn't Lady Hoggin's tonic bitter any more?

15) What did Hercule Poirot do with those two hundred pounds?

6. *Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter V "The drawing-room of Mrs. Samuelson was larger, more...shortly afterwards you received the letter."*

## **Unit 2. The Lernean Hydra**

*1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.*

1) to come to the point

2) inkling

3) inflammation

4) proverbial

5) to do utmost

6) to get rid of smb

7) to put the lid on

8) inquisitive

9) to keep from

10) dreadful

11) by any chance

12) to burst into tears



- 13) impression
- 14) gravity

*2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) rumours
- 2) a last resort
- 3) well-to-do
- 4) to be on good terms
- 5) the North Pole
- 6) frank
- 7) on earth
- 8) to keep smth strictly to oneself
- 9) to exaggerate
- 10) a mare's nest
- 11) to buzz like a beehive
- 12) fingerprints
- 13) dusk
- 14) originator

*3. Say whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false ones.*

- 1) Dr. Charles Oldfield was a man of fifty.
- 2) Dr. Oldfield's wife left him about thirty thousand pounds after their divorce.
- 3) Miss Moncrieffe worked for Dr. Oldfield as a nurse-companion of his wife.
- 4) Dr. Oldfield contemplated the possibility of an action for slander.
- 5) Hercule Poirot put up at Dr. Oldfield's house.
- 6) Jean Moncrieffe did not want to marry Dr. Oldfield.
- 7) Miss Leatheran asked Hercule Poirot to tea.
- 8) Nurse Harrison was unemployed after her client's death.

- 9) Beatrice King was a real beauty.
- 10) According to Dr. Alan Garcia Hercule Poirot is always right but not this time.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) "You've got it exactly!"
- 2) "You can't miss it. It's got pillars and a porch."
- 3) "Calm yourself and sit down again."
- 4) "These two have come out of its shadow into the sun..."
- 5) "More than sufficient arsenic to cause death has been found."
- 6) He went out and telephoned to Detective Sergeant Grey of the Berkshire Police.
- 7) "Have you ever heard of poisoning by arsenic?"
- 8) "I am powerless – trapped – and slowly and mercilessly being destroyed".
- 9) "I must ask you to forgive me, M. Poirot."
- 10) "There is no 'lady in the case'."
- 11) "Who in your opinion is the most inveterate talker in the village?"
- 12) "It's true – it's all true...I killed her."
- 13) "Is there any way out of this nightmare?"
- 14) "If he is innocent – his innocence will be proved."
- 15) "I can trust your discretion, Mademoiselle?"

*5. Answer the following questions.*

- 1) What did Hercule Poirot compare rumours with?
- 2) When did Dr. Oldfield's wife die?
- 3) Why did the rumours about him start to circulate?
- 4) Was Jean Moncrieffe enthusiastic about Hercule Poirot's arrival?
- 5) Why did Hercule Poirot want to be introduced to Miss Leatheran?
- 6) What conversation did Nurse Harrison overhear?
- 7) What did she tell Hercule Poirot after the autopsy?

- 8) Did the pink powder compact belong to Jean Moncriffe?
- 9) Why did Jean Moncriffe never say anything about the missing arsenic?

6. *Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter V*  
*“Emerging into the post office he leaned...I don’t know nothing.”*

### **Unit 3. The Arcadian Deer**

1. *Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.*

- 1) to lay a fire
- 2) eloquent
- 3) embarrassed
- 4) at one’s disposal
- 5) out of order
- 6) to fall for
- 7) to be in a bit of trouble
- 8) to be ill at ease
- 9) a born liar
- 10) quest
- 11) curiosity
- 12) to blackmail
- 13) to overtake

2. *Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) to hire a car
- 2) to comprehend
- 3) it’s cheek

- 4) to draw a deep breath
- 5) in a fortnight
- 6) to pluck up courage
- 7) to go off in a hurry
- 8) to pretend
- 9) an enchanting creature
- 10) a clue
- 11) to recover consciousness
- 12) to feel disinclined
- 13) to invent
- 14) to catch one's breath

*3. Say whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false ones.*

1) Hercule Poirot decided to spend a week-end in the village of Hartly Dene.

2) He had no car and had to hire one to get there.

3) He was served a marvelous dinner.

4) The man from the garage wanted to see Hercule Poirot to tell him about his car.

5) The young man was rather shy.

6) He told Poirot a story about his wife.

7) Everything happened last June in the same inn.

8) Ted said that he could pay five or even twenty pounds.

9) Poirot refused to help him.

10) The girl's name was Miss Valetta.

11) She was from Russia.

12) Katrina Samoushenka went to Italy.

13) Sir George Sanderfield agreed to meet Hercule Poirot but he did not remember Nita.

14) Marie Hellin told Poirot everything about Sir George Sanderfield.

15) Duke Alexis Pavlovich helped Poirot find an Italian maid.

16) Poirot met the girl in Pisa.

17) That was the end of Poirot's journey.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) Nita her name was, so she told me, and she was lady's-maid to a Russian dancer who was staying there.
- 2) Bianca was always such a clever girl.
- 3) But she never came.
- 4) His car had not behaved with that mechanical perfection which he expected of a car.
- 5) There was distress in his eyes – distress and appeal.
- 6) ...not Juanita – but Incognita...
- 7) All Sanderfield's uneasiness had returned.
- 8) Yes, she used to weekend with him at his house on the river.
- 9) I could manage five pounds – or even ten.
- 10) He looked up with approval at the young man who entered and stood there looking ill at ease.
- 11) The boy shuffled at his feet.
- 12) Katrina Samoushenka was looking at him with faint curiosity.
- 13) But think, there is another life.
- 14) She has a fatalistic nature.
- 15) Well, perhaps you know Grasslawn, sir, that big house down by the river past the bridge?
- 16) Gone away a long time ago, she has.
- 17) An unpleasant gleam came into her eyes.

*5. Answer the following questions.*

- 1) Why did Hercule Poirot appear to be in the riverside village and why did he refuse to hire a car?
- 2) Why did he agree to help Ted Williamson?
- 3) Where did Poirot start to look for the girl?
- 4) Who did he talk to?
- 5) What was the connection between Nita and Katrina Samoushenka?
- 6) What happened to the Italian maid?
- 7) Why did Katrina Samoushenka disappear from the stage?
- 8) What helped Poirot find the real Nita?

*6. Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter VIII*  
*“Katrina murmured: “The stricken deer...Nita will die young.”*

## Unit 4. The Erymanthian Boar

*1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.*

- 1) to take advantage of
- 2) moustache
- 3) dependable
- 4) ruthless
- 5) to exchange
- 6) to overlook
- 7) repose
- 8) to suspect
- 9) complexion
- 10) at any rate
- 11) anxiety
- 12) tinned food
- 13) to run into
- 14) to yield to
- 15) to be in smb's debt
- 16) a tray of food
- 17) a bribe
- 18) to fail
- 19) a surgeon

*2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) a funicular
- 2) to punch
- 3) to get in touch with
- 4) coincidence
- 5) to look after
- 6) to be confused

- 7) out of the season
- 8) avalanche
- 9) in disguise
- 10) to a casual glance
- 11) to keep an eye on smb
- 12) to get/enter into conversation with
- 13) to be dismissed
- 14) to be dressed in
- 15) second on the list
- 16) to be known as
- 17) to double cross
- 18) bewildered
- 19) to silence

*3. Say whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false ones.*

- 1) Hercule Poirot decided to travel through France.
- 2) Hercule Poirot was mistaken for Inspector Drouet.
- 3) Hercule Poirot read in the papers the details of the cold-blooded murder of a well-known conductor.
- 4) The manager was surprised that so few visitors came to the hotel.
- 5) Mr Schwartz was very friendly but did not talk to anyone.
- 6) Although there was an accident to the funicular there was a possibility to communicate with the valley below.
- 7) Inspector Drouet had a photo of Marrascaud.
- 8) There was no staff at the hotel according to Drouet.
- 9) Early in June the chambermaids and the extra waiters arrived.
- 10) Hercule Poirot was badly injured.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) Monsieur must not judge the hotel too hardly.
- 2) Marrascaud was a member of a well-known race-course gang.
- 3) Marrascaud will kill no more – nor will he rob his friends!

- 4) "Because I wanted to be quite sure of handing the real Marrascaud over to the police."
- 5) "Impossible to remain here."
- 6) Some reason unknown was bringing Marrascaud to this meeting place far above civilization.
- 7) He recalled three faces.
- 8) "I think that anyone might well mount ten thousand feet for her sake..."
- 9) "The manager, he knows of course who you are?"
- 10) The eyebrows of Hercule Poirot rose a little on his forehead.
- 11) The only thing that was unusual was the place where they were.
- 12) He was engaged in tracking down a very dangerous criminal.
- 13) He started up the next flight of stairs.
- 14) Three pairs of hands were raised rapidly.
- 15) ...he took one quick look outside, then shut the door again and returned to the bedside.
- 16) "Did anyone see him go?"
- 17) It was clear that everyone in the funicular was going up to Rochers Neiges.

*5. Answer the following questions.*

- 1) What brought Hercule Poirot to Switzerland?
- 2) Who gave a small wad of paper to Hercule Poirot?
- 3) What did Hercule Poirot know about Marrascaud?
- 4) Why was he surprised that the meeting of a gang of criminals was to take place at Rochers Neiges?
- 5) What was Marrascaud compared with?
- 6) How many passengers were there in the funicular? (provide a short description for each of them)
- 7) What did Hercule Poirot find out about them from the manager?
- 8) Who introduced himself as Drouet to Poirot?
- 9) What happened with the funicular in the night?
- 10) Why did Hercule Poirot think that the criminals had chosen a very strange place for their meeting?



- 11) What did Hercule Poirot find out about Robert?
- 12) What happened to Hercule Poirot after midnight?
- 13) What did he find in the unused wing of the hotel?
- 14) Who did the police finally arrest?
- 15) What happened to the real Inspector Drouet?
- 16) Why did Marrascaud choose such a strange place?
- 17) Did Hercule Poirot ever believe Gustav?

6. *Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter VII "Over breakfast, Poirot explained gently to the bewildered American...and where a certain happening could take place".*

## **Unit 5. The Augean Stables**

*1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.*

- 1) to long to do smth
- 2) retirement
- 3) hypocritical
- 4) nickname
- 5) to take steps
- 6) ghost of a smile
- 7) to leak out
- 8) to be concealed
- 9) charity
- 10) to play ball
- 11) to divert
- 12) to embezzle
- 13) to take no notice
- 14) to have a nervous breakdown
- 15) victim
- 16) to bear resemblance to
- 17) to take a deep breath

2. *Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) welfare
- 2) to feel a sympathy for
- 3) eloquent
- 4) a sigh of relief
- 5) to sue for libel
- 6) to be at stake
- 7) to clean up the mess
- 8) cleansing
- 9) not to lift a finger
- 10) to present a good appearance
- 11) to take offence
- 12) naughty
- 13) there's no smoke without fire
- 14) to drink like a fish
- 15) to call witnesses
- 16) to mean no harm
- 17) devoted

3. *Say whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false ones.*

1) Sir George Conway clearly explained the situation to Hercule Poirot.

2) Edward Ferrier was the Home Secretary and a son of the former Prime Minister.

3) Edward Ferrier refused to explain the situation to Hercule Poirot.

4) John Hammett was an honest man and politician.

5) Edward Ferrier had a curious attitude of reserve towards his father.

6) It was nevertheless possible to hush up the whole thing.

7) Hercule Poirot promised to do what he could.

8) Percy Perry agreed to take money from Hercule Poirot.

- 9) People started to discuss the improper behavior of Mrs Ferrier.
- 10) Nobody believed Thelma Andersen.
- 11) Hercule Poirot used greed to hush up the political scandal.
- 12) Mrs Ferrier knew nothing about Poirot's plot.

4. *Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) "Can you perform miracles, M. Poirot?"
- 2) He had felt the same sometimes when reading parliamentary debates.
- 3) "You know then, what these revelations are going to be?"
- 4) "...did you – know all along?"
- 5) Two days later an action for libel was brought against the X-ray News.
- 6) "It is a pity that you do not feel in need of money."
- 7) "I only knew that my father was not – was not what everyone thought him."
- 8) "I was completely deceived."
- 9) If a MacLeod called a man sound it was a testimonial to character compared with which no popular or press enthusiasm counted at all.
- 10) "I looked for her in Denmark, and I find her there."
- 11) "...the damages would be extremely heavy."
- 12) The defence was unconvincing.
- 13) "Perhaps, M. Poirot, you are acquainted with a weekly periodical called the X-ray news?"
- 14) "They'll send someone to talk pretty..."
- 15) "That, my friend, shall be a scoop for your paper."
- 16) "It will be put down as another political plot to discredit the Government."

5. *Answer the following questions.*

- 1) Who came to Hercule Poirot to ask for help and what was their occupation?
- 2) Why did Hercule Poirot feel a keen interest in Edward Ferrier?
- 3) What was John Hammett's symbol and why?
- 4) What real Prime Ministers are mentioned in the story?

- 5) What did Edward Ferrier tell Hercule Poirot about a weekly periodical called the X-ray News?
- 6) Why weren't they going to sue the paper for libel?
- 7) What was the real reason for John Hammett's resignation?
- 8) Who did Hercule Poirot meet on his way downstairs?
- 9) What did Hercule Poirot discuss with Percy Perry?
- 10) Who gave evidence in court?
- 11) What was the verdict?
- 12) What explanations did Hercule Poirot provide to Edward Ferrier?

*6. Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter X: "How much money did this gentleman offer you...was patent to everyone."*

## **Unit 6. The Stymphalean Birds**

*1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.*

- 1) old-fashioned
- 2) omen
- 3) to be distracted from
- 4) insanely jealous
- 5) to cross one's path
- 6) out-of-the-way
- 7) to sob one's heart out
- 8) to fling a door open
- 9) to take in the situation
- 10) embarrassment
- 11) misunderstanding
- 12) to be in danger of
- 13) disaster
- 14) to bribe
- 15) relief

- 16) to guess
- 17) harmless
- 18) credulous

*2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) overcrowded
- 2) to shiver
- 3) a widow
- 4) arrogant
- 5) vultures
- 6) to master the language
- 7) indignation
- 8) to look frightened to death
- 9) a paper-weight
- 10) to be aghast at
- 11) to confirm
- 12) to be acquitted of
- 13) to catch at a straw
- 14) to hush smth up
- 15) to keep out of
- 16) to give a fright
- 17) to be of assistance
- 18) to be in charge of

*3. Correct the following statements.*

- 1) Harold Waring was middle-aged and had a wife.
- 2) One afternoon he noticed two young women with long, curved noses and pretty faces.
- 3) Elsie always came down to tea.
- 4) Mr Waring was indifferent to the story of Elsie's marriage.
- 5) Mr Waring knew three foreign languages.
- 6) Elsie told Mr Waring that she was jealous of her husband.

- 7) It was Mr Waring who threw a heavy paper-weight.
- 8) Elsie's mother came and said that Philip Clayton had left the hotel.
- 9) Mr Waring was not worried about the possible end of his political career.
- 10) Mrs Rice wanted to lie to the local police.
- 11) Mr Waring had no money for the bribe.
- 12) Hercule Poirot could not help Mr Waring.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) "Thank God our police force isn't like that."
- 2) As he did so, the door was flung open and a man stood in the doorway.
- 3) "It is they who are well-known birds of prey."
- 4) An undersecretaryship at the age of thirty was something to be proud of.
- 5) ...the resemblance between them was so close that they were obviously sisters.
- 6) She had been crying.
- 7) "To attempt a thing like that would be quite crazy."
- 8) He had walked there for perhaps five minutes when he heard an unmistakable sound.
- 9) The other people in the hotel had not aroused Harold's notice.
- 10) He realized, suddenly, that his interest in her went a little beyond friendship.
- 11) They got up and turned in the direction of the hotel.
- 12) "Go back to your room. They'll come – they'll find you here."
- 13) "These harpies will force you to pay – and pay – and pay again!"
- 14) Elsie had a letter from her husband. She mayn't come down to tea.
- 15) Disaster – that was the word that rang insistently in Harold's brain.
- 16) "This isn't the moment to quarrel with the corruption of the public services."
- 17) "Those women are going to blackmail us."

5. Answer the following questions.

- 1) What was Harold Waring's occupation?
- 2) Where did he take a holiday?
- 3) What English people did he meet there and what was his first impression?
- 4) What impression did Harold Waring get when he saw two other women one afternoon?
- 5) What did Mrs Rice tell Mr Waring about Elsie's husband?
- 6) What did Elsie tell Mr Waring when he saw her crying?
- 7) Why did a cold fear grip Mr Waring when he was told that Philip Clayton was dead?
- 8) What did Mrs Rice offer?
- 9) Did Mr Waring have any chance to take part in the proceedings that started the following morning?
- 10) Who arrived at the hotel afterwards?
- 11) Why was Mr Waring again attacked by despair after two Polish ladies talked to Mrs Rice?
- 12) Who was arrested with the assistance of Hercule Poirot?
- 13) What scheme did those women follow?
- 14) Who said the following words: "You can't possibly tell what people are like just by looking at them." Do you agree 15) with them taking into account this story?

6. Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter IV  
"Harold jumped up, startled...with not a moment's hesitation, followed him."

## Unit 7. The Cretan Bull

1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.

- 1) to break off the engagement

- 2) half-witted
- 3) occurrences
- 4) magnificent
- 5) artificial
- 6) as mad as a hatter
- 7) to gaze
- 8) to take after
- 9) tortured
- 10) family heritage
- 11) a razor
- 12) eye trouble
- 13) a soothing cream
- 14) a washbasin
- 15) obstinacy
- 16) to be obscured
- 17) to be driven mad
- 18) to be impregnated
- 19) to be bent on revenge
- 20) to pay the penalty

*2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) out of the way
- 2) the Navy
- 3) to give a reason
- 4) to adjoin
- 5) to be in one's line
- 6) generation
- 7) the spitting image of smb
- 8) to investigate
- 9) outsiders
- 10) to put one's foot down
- 11) leak
- 12) to take possession of
- 13) to startle
- 14) hospitality



- 15) unconscious
- 16) to get guts
- 17) to arouse suspicion
- 18) the eternal triangle
- 19) in great trouble
- 20) to put the idea into one's head
- 21) to restrain

*3. Correct the following statements.*

- 1) Hugh's father came to Hercule Poirot and asked for help.
- 2) According to Diana there was some fuss about cows.
- 3) Hercule Poirot arrived at Diana's house where he was introduced to Admiral Chandler.
- 4) Colonel Frobisher refused to talk to Hercule Poirot.
- 5) Colonel Frobisher never knew Hugh's mother.
- 6) Colonel Frobisher didn't know why Admiral Chandler had forced his son to leave the Navy.
- 7) Admiral Chandler refused to talk about his wife's death.
- 8) Hugh was convinced that everything was all right with him.
- 9) Diana asked if Hercule Poirot had great courage.
- 10) Admiral Chandler liked that Hercule Poirot wanted to spend a night in Lyde Manor.
- 11) Hercule Poirot had no brush so he went to the local shop.
- 12) Diana was killed in the morning.
- 13) Colonel Frobisher decided to commit suicide.
- 14) Admiral Chandler always loved his wife.
- 15) Colonel Frobisher hated Admiral Chandler's son.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) "Is there, perhaps, madness in his family?"
- 2) "It's the only way out."
- 3) "I don't think the Admiral believes much in doctors either."
- 4) "What was the best thing to be done?"
- 5) He saw a pale face with a determined-looking chin.
- 6) "I'm not actually hopelessly off my head yet – but it's getting worse."

- 7) "There was someone – trying to get in – I heard them – feeling the door – the handle – scratching on the panels..."
- 8) "At the time, perhaps, he too was astonished."
- 9) Colonel Frobisher led the way to the Picture Gallery.
- 10) It was towards early morning that the summons came.
- 11) "But Charles Chandler saw it."
- 12) "A perfect specimen of healthy manhood."
- 13) "...watched the last of the Chandlers to cross the Park and go up into the woods."
- 14) "Do you mean that hatred could go on – to a son?"
- 15) ...all signs of intense mental strain.
- 16) "It is much easier to catch a murder than it is to prevent a murderer."
- 17) "Used to spend most of my leaves here."
- 18) "She'd be happy with him – and safe, I want her – to be happy."

*5. Answer the following questions.*

- 1) Who visited Hercule Poirot one day?
- 2) What did Diana tell him about her fiancé's occupation?
- 3) What did she tell him about local rumours?
- 4) Who did Hercule Poirot meet when he arrived at Lyde Manor?
- 5) What did Hercule Poirot find out about the insanity in Hugh's family? (Colonel Frobisher's story)
- 6) Why was Hugh afraid to see a doctor?
- 7) What happened to Hugh's mother?
- 8) What did Hugh tell Hercule Poirot about his state? What dreams did he have? What did he see being wide awake?
- 9) Why did Hugh break off the engagement (according to him)?
- 10) What did Hercule Poirot offer Diana?
- 11) Why did Hercule Poirot want to stay at Lyde Manor?
- 12) Why did Hercule Poirot go to the chemist's?
- 13) What happened in the morning?
- 14) Who was really insane? What was the reason for his/her behavior?
- 15) What aroused Hercule Poirot suspicion?

6. Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter VI: "The man on the chair stirred...where's that cursed foreigner?"

## Unit 8. The Horses of Diomedes

1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.

- 1) to respect
- 2) in my professional capacity
- 3) a loafer
- 4) vicious
- 5) to tip-toe
- 6) misery
- 7) income
- 8) ill-natured
- 9) a predecessor
- 10) indignation
- 11) to make undesirable friends
- 12) moody
- 13) alert
- 14) to prey
- 15) to be sentenced
- 16) a scapegoat

2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).

- 1) grateful
- 2) brand-new
- 3) to think over
- 4) out of the limelight

- 5) a note of relief
- 6) to be puzzled
- 7) a drawback
- 8) to roll in money
- 9) an oyster
- 10) gout
- 11) to take it all round
- 12) a drug peddler
- 13) mutual friends
- 14) initials
- 15) to start afresh
- 16) to settle down

*3. Correct the following statements.*

- 1) Hercule Poirot refused to help Dr Stoddart.
- 2) Hercule Poirot reached the Mews in the morning.
- 3) Mrs Hope Grace took a pot-shot at her boyfriend and killed him.
- 4) That was an ordinary drunken binge.
- 5) Sheila Grant was badly wounded.
- 6) General Grant had three daughters.
- 7) Hercule Poirot enjoyed his talk with Lady Carmichael.
- 8) General Grant claimed that he suffered from arthritis.
- 9) General Grant never heard about Anthony Hawker.
- 10) General Grant knew that his daughters took drugs.
- 11) Pam Grant, whom Hercule Poirot met at Mrs Larkin's, was Sheila's mother.
- 12) Poirot picked up a flask with initials S.G.
- 13) Hercule Poirot blamed the girls for all the crimes.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) "I patched him up all right. It wasn't serious."
- 2) "...but he had acquired by now a large circle of friends and he had no difficulty in getting himself invited for a visit in 3) that part of the world."

- 3) "I suppose it would be awful cheek if I asked you to come round at this time of night..."
- 4) "Got into a bad set, have they?"
- 5) Mrs Larkin's room was full of people.
- 6) Ashley Lodge was situated on the side of a hill, had good stables and a straggling, rather neglected garden.
- 7) "She's got through a couple of husbands, and now she's got a boyfriend whom she suspect of trying to run out on her."
- 8) "Is it the first time you have taken cocaine, Mademoiselle?"
- 9) "...he regained his balance with a clutch at the General."
- 10) "An attempt is being made to induce your daughter Sheila to become a drug addict."
- 11) Tony Hawker's flask was not empty. It was full – of white powder.
- 12) "...the door opened and Hawker and Sheila Grant came in."
- 13) "It is your evidence and your evidence alone that will convict him."
- 14) "Question is, where does it come from?"
- 15) "We are talking of the effects of drug-taking."
- 16) "Some of the old cats don't like 'em."
- 17) "One of the labours of Hercules was the taming of the wild horses of Diomedes."

*5. Answer the following questions.*

- 1) Who phoned Hercule Poirot at night?
- 2) Why did Hercule Poirot call Dr Stoddart "Mon cher Watson"?
- 3) Who was Dr Stoddart worried about?
- 4) What did the girl tell Hercule Poirot about the party?
- 5) Who did Hercule Poirot visit to get more information about the Grants?
- 6) What did General Grant's house look like?
- 7) Who brought Hercule Poirot to Mrs Larkin's?
- 8) What did Pam Grant tell Hercule Poirot about Tony Hawker?
- 9) What was Sheila's reaction when Hercule Poirot told her about the effects of drug-taking?

10) What was the real name of Sheila Grant and what past did she have?

11) Who was the drug peddler and what was his scheme?

12) When did Hercule Poirot find out the truth about General Grant?

13) Was Michael Stoddart disappointed when he found out the truth about Sheila?

*6. Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter VII  
“Michael Stoddart stared at Poirot in amazement...and she just faltered it out.”*

## **Unit 9. The Girdle of Hyppolita**

*1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.*

- 1) theft
- 2) authenticity
- 3) neatly
- 4) imaginative
- 5) a compartment
- 6) to be homesick
- 7) notwithstanding
- 8) to give a hand
- 9) a conjuring trick
- 10) to damage oneself
- 11) water-colour sketches
- 12) disaster
- 13) to throw light upon
- 14) mediocre
- 15) impostor

*2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) to be placed on display
- 2) to smuggle
- 3) to treat with respect
- 4) to pass through the customs
- 5) approximately
- 6) to make sense
- 7) to look forward to
- 8) doped
- 9) concussion
- 10) in the meantime
- 11) superiority
- 12) to make the acquaintance
- 13) unpacked
- 14) to discourage
- 15) to be on the look-out for

*3. Correct the following statements.*

- 1) The Monet was stolen from the picture gallery.
- 2) Alexander Simpson did not want to turn to the police.
- 3) Alexander Simpson told Hercule Poirot about the case of the Missing Schoolgirl.
- 4) The name of the missing girl was Winnie Queen.
- 5) Miss Pope's establishment for English and American girls was situated in London.
- 6) It was supposed that Winnie had fallen off the train.
- 7) Winnie was fourteen and a half.
- 8) Winnie was a real beauty.
- 9) Hercule Poirot decided not to discuss the case with Detective Inspector Hearn.
- 10) Miss Pope looked fussy.
- 11) Winnie returned to Miss Pope's establishment after everything that had happened to her.

- 12) Miss Pope refused to hand Winnie's trunk over to the police.
- 13) The picture hanging in Miss Pope's office was painted in water-colour.
- 14) Hercule Poirot took the picture and provided no explanations.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) It was just as Poirot was leaving the house that the onslaught took place.
- 2) "You have a spirited nature."
- 3) "It was quite a small picture, you see."
- 4) "Was the train searched?"
- 5) "So she was last seen – when exactly?"
- 6) The police could be trusted to deal with the straightforward robbery.
- 7) Miss Pope received Poirot with the competence of one whose judgment seldom fails.
- 8) "But the puzzle is still there, it seems."
- 9) "Her hat was found by the side of the line..."
- 10) He unhooked the picture and took it to the window.
- 11) Finally Hercule Poirot was induced to accept the task.
- 12) "And what do you think of it – as a painting?"
- 13) "What about the child's family?"
- 14) "Looks as though she's been kidnapped."
- 15) "She had her shoes on all right when she was found, but there was a pair of shoes on the line."

*5. Answer the following questions.*

- 1) Why did Alexander Simpson send for Hercule Poirot?
- 2) What was the role of the unemployed in the theft?
- 3) Did Alexander Simpson know who had stolen the picture?
- 4) Why did Hercule Poirot agree to accept the task?
- 5) What did Chief Inspector Japp mean when he said, "...you might as well kill two birds with one stone."
- 6) Where was Winnie going when she was kidnapped?



- 7) When was it discovered that Winnie was missing?
- 8) When was Winnie last seen?
- 9) Was there any body found?
- 10) Why did Japp mention Marcia Gaunt?
- 11) What family did Winnie have?
- 12) Where was Winnie found and in what state?
- 13) What other passengers travelled in the coach?
- 14) Why did the criminals fail to get the stolen picture?
- 15) Where did Hercule Poirot find it?
- 16) In what way did the story told by Hercule Poirot have resemblance to the story of the Ugly Duckling?
- 17) Do you agree with the slogan "Art is a Luxury. Feed the Hungry"?

*6. Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter IV "But I am showing you how the conjuring trick was worked on the train...she will remember very little of what has occurred."*

## **Unit 10. The Flock of Geryon**

*1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.*

- 1) to intrude
- 2) to teach a new trick
- 3) to evade custom duties
- 4) a craving for excitement
- 5) to receive a legacy
- 6) to centre around
- 7) to make a will
- 8) a mare's nest
- 9) a preliminary interview
- 10) take a grip on oneself

- 11) to benefit
- 12) as sound as a bell
- 13) to spy on
- 14) an unbelievable sight
- 15) a scoundrel
- 16) to overhear

*2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) to encounter
- 2) in praise of
- 3) idle mind
- 4) to sublimate
- 5) a thought reader
- 6) credulous
- 7) suspicious circumstances
- 8) pure coincidence
- 9) heathen
- 10) to surrender
- 11) the prick of a needle
- 12) strictly in confidence
- 13) a bill
- 14) a warrant for arrest
- 15) to act on the spur of the moment
- 16) bacilli

*3. Correct the following statements.*

- 1) Miss Carnaby boasted that she was a hardened criminal.
- 2) Miss Carnaby continued to work for Lady Hoggin.
- 3) Miss Carnaby was absolutely dependent on what she earned.
- 4) Miss Carnaby was worried about her sister.
- 5) When three wealthy women died leaving all their money to the sect, their relations made protests.

- 6) Miss Carnaby refused to take the risk.
- 7) Miss Carnaby wasn't impressed by the "Great Shepherd".
- 8) Miss Carnaby didn't share the enthusiasm of those who were present at the Feast of Joy.
- 9) Poirot asked Miss Carnaby if she saw Mr Japp down at the Sanctuary.
- 10) Mr Cole was Dr Andersen's faithful watch-dog.
- 11) Dr Andersen turned out to be a martyr.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) "It looks to me as though Augustus shared these criminal tendencies we were speaking of just now!"
- 2) Time was infinite...
- 3) "...a dominating personality, the power of creating mass hysteria and the reactions produced by this drug."
- 4) "I must consider where your talents may best be employed."
- 5) "That is the danger of your ideas."
- 6) "One really feels he doesn't care about money at all."
- 7) Everyone was shocked – horrified.
- 8) She said anxiously, "You do remember me, don't you?"
- 9) And at it, she, Amy Carnaby, was to become initiated – to become one of the Flock.
- 10) "It is usually lonely women who belong to this gathering."
- 11) "It is then as a colleague that you present yourself?"
- 12) "But I think Mr Cole is mad. Those Visions he has..."
- 13) "Are the members of the Great Flock mostly women?"
- 14) "I think I can safely leave that part to you?"
- 15) "He's a devil if there ever was one!"
- 16) "What I am talking about are these odd sects."
- 17) "I thought the Master put it all so beautifully at the service last night."
- 18) "Have you met a Mr Cole down at the Sanctuary?"
- 19) "It was entirely her idea."
- 20) "What about those names and addresses I gave you?"

5. Answer the following questions.

- 1) Why did Hercule Poirot know Miss Carnaby?
- 2) Why does Miss Carnaby have a lot of leisure time now?
- 3) Why did she come to Hercule Poirot? What did she tell him about her friend?
- 4) Who was the leader of the Flock of Shepherd?
- 5) What happened to some wealthy women attending this sect?
- 6) What did Hercule Poirot suggest to Miss Carnaby?
- 7) Did Chief Inspector Japp find anything suspicious about Dr. Andersen?
- 8) What did Miss Carnaby feel after the ceremony being a part of the Festival of the Full Pasture?
- 9) What did Miss Carnaby and Hercule Poirot talk about the Festival of the Full Pasture? (Chapter IV)
- 10) What happened in a small teashop?
- 11) What scheme did Dr Andersen use?

6. Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter VIII  
“Poirot went on...die for Hercule Poirot!”

## Unit 11. The Apples of the Hesperides

1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.

- 1) a connoisseur of works of art
- 2) the Renaissance
- 3) to come into one's possession
- 4) robbery
- 5) to be on the look out for smth
- 6) rivals
- 7) to yield to smb

- 8) to conclude a private arrangement
- 9) to cache
- 10) wisdom
- 11) heirloom
- 12) to dispose of
- 13) to purify
- 14) to get in exchange

*2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) to go hand in hand
- 2) a goblet
- 3) to break into
- 4) to split up
- 5) to be brought to justice
- 6) to refund
- 7) a point of honour
- 8) allies
- 9) to melt down
- 10) the Mother Superior
- 11) a parcel
- 12) a request
- 13) superstition
- 14) investment

*3. Correct the following statements.*

- 1) Emery Power was a well-known historian.
- 2) Hercule Poirot heard about emeralds and got interested in the case.
- 3) Emery Power bought a nice picture but it was stolen from his house.
- 4) The Marchese's Palace was broken into on the day of the sale.
- 5) Four men were engaged in the murder.

6) Emery Power suspected that Mr. Duvauglier had commissioned the theft.

7) Inspector Wagstaffe was in charge of the investigation as he spoke a bit of Spanish.

8) Three months later Hercule Poirot stood on a rocky point and surveyed the Pacific Ocean.

9) Hercule Poirot talked to Sister Ursula and found out the truth.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

1) "One asks oneself, what would Hercules have done?"

2) "Is it, then, an affair of great moment?"

3) "What was there behind that attitude of yours?"

4) ...Hercule Poirot told his story and restored the chalice to the Mother Superior.

5) "You are only restoring to Caesar the things that are Caesar's."

6) "And now – it is all to start again from the beginning?"

7) "...it is an omen!"

8) "I thought I knew who was actually in possession of the goblet."

9) He felt forlorn and very much alone.

10) "That would be only money in another form."

11) "The goblet would not have been placed openly on view."

12) "On account of its intrinsic value or for other reasons?"

13) "What about the third man, Casey?"

14) "Sometimes I think collectors haven't any morals at all."

15) It was a revealing smile.

16) "How did that happen?"

17) "Recently there has been a merger of oil interests."

*5. Answer the following questions.*

1) What work of art did Emery Power tell Hercule Poirot about?

2) How much did he pay for it and why?

3) Why did Emery Power fail to come into possession of his purchase?

- 4) Who was engaged in the robbery?
- 5) What happened to them?
- 6) Why did Emery Power refuse to accept the Marchese's offer to refund the money?
- 7) Why did Emery Power engage a second agent?
- 8) When did the robbery take place and why did Emery Power decide to come to Hercule Poirot?
- 9) Why did Hercule Poirot put down country names in his notebook while talking to Inspector Wagstaffe?
- 10) What 'golden rule' did Hercule Poirot mention and why?
- 11) Why did Hercule Poirot come to Ireland?
- 12) What omen did he have sitting in the saloon bar?
- 13) Where was the goblet hidden and why?
- 14) How did it come into possession to Hercule Poirot?
- 15) What did Hercule Poirot request from Emery Power?

6. *Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter VIII*  
*"There was a pause...I heard that."*

## **Unit 12. The Capture of Cerberus**

*1. Practise the pronunciation of the words and word combinations from the story. Translate them into Russian and learn by heart. Find the sentences in the text where these words and combinations are used. Translate them into Russian.*

- 1) to sway to and fro
- 2) the rush hour
- 3) to rid of
- 4) ferocious
- 5) to feel embarrassed
- 6) dislike
- 7) demeanour
- 8) substitution
- 9) to mistrust

- 10) a rake
- 11) astonished
- 12) to double-cross
- 13) an accomplice
- 14) hue

*2. Reproduce the situations where the following words and word combinations are used (and learn these words and word combinations by heart).*

- 1) to revolt from
- 2) startled
- 3) in perplexity
- 4) to pave the way to
- 5) for one's sake
- 6) taken aback
- 7) to take the trouble
- 8) dummy
- 9) prosperous
- 10) balloon goes up
- 11) by inadvertence
- 12) to be worth
- 13) to frame
- 14) tribute

*3. Correct the following statements.*

1) Hercule Poirot was travelling by bus when he met Miss Carnaby.

2) Hercule Poirot talked to her and got disappointed.

3) Miss Lemon was unbelievably pretty and incredibly sufficient.

4) Hercule Poirot thought that Countess Rossakoff hadn't changed at all.

5) Alice was Countess Rossakoff's daughter.

6) Alice was a flamboyant woman.

7) Then Hercule Poirot saw a dark-haired young man, which momentarily put Alice Cunningham out of his head.



- 8) Chief Inspector Japp wanted to arrest the Countess.
- 9) The Countess told Poirot that she didn't own the place.
- 10) The police operation was planned for Tuesday.
- 11) The police operation was a success.
- 12) Hercule Poirot found out that the Countess was a drug dealer.

*4. Put the sentences in the right order.*

- 1) "Ah, you have come! My dear – my very dear friend!"
- 2) ...there were too many people in the world.
- 3) "There are moments when one does not economise."
- 4) "And the dope's being paid for not in money, but in precious stones."
- 5) "We've solved the problem, I think."
- 6) Cerberus beat the floor with the tail – but he did not move.
- 7) At that moment, a voice cried his name.
- 8) "A sop for Cerberus!"
- 9) "There are a lot of other girls in America."
- 10) "We want to know who's supplying the stuff and where it's coming from."
- 11) "...how is your son, Madame?"
- 12) A woman in a thousand – in a million!
- 13) "Time for me to do my stuff?"
- 14) "...where can I find you?"
- 15) "Poirot knew very well that the young man was neither rich nor idle."
- 16) "Do you also deal in drugs here?"
- 17) "Nevertheless, the dope was in the Club and someone took it out of the Club."
- 18) "I am writing a book on criminal psychology."
- 19) "If a friend asked you to meet her – or him – in Hell, what would you do?"

*5. Answer the following questions.*

- 1) Who did Hercule Poirot meet at the beginning of the story?

- 2) When did he see her last time?
- 3) Where did she offer to meet?
- 4) Who helped Hercule Poirot to find the place of meeting? What was it?
- 5) What did Hercule Poirot see when he entered the Hell?
- 6) Who did he meet there?
- 7) What did Chief Inspector Japp suspect the Countess of?
- 8) Who came to Hercule Poirot in the morning after the police operation and what did they talk about?
- 9) What was the criminal scheme?
- 10) What did Hercule Poirot need the man with a red nose for?

6. *Translate the following passage (in writing): Chapter V "But you say you believe me, my friend...and say how clever once more has been Scotland Yard."*

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