

SCRIPTS

UNIT 5

LESSON 2

Ex. 4. b.

As the UFO's door opened and a small silver-suited figure appeared the police got frightened. But then a famous British businessman Richard Branson came out of the UFO. It turned out that it was his April Fool's Day practical joke and he thought it was one of his best. Trying to combine his passion for ballooning with his love of practical jokes, Branson had secretly built a hot-air balloon that looked like a UFO. He was sorry that the poor weather conditions had spoiled his original plan to land in Hyde Park. At first, the police didn't see the funny side of the joke, they were angry with the prankster and threatened to arrest him but later they joined in the laughter.

LESSON 4

Ex. 4. b.

1. The job isn't given to the ravens for life. In 1981 a raven, Grog by name left the Tower and settled near a local pub after 21 years of service to the Crown! In 1986 another raven, George, was posted to the zoo for bad behaviour: he had developed an unhealthy taste for attacking and destroying TV aerials.

2. Merlina was originally called Merlin. When she is very bored, she plays dead. Quite a lot of visitors have fallen for the trick. Imagine their shock when they see that a bird is lying on its back with its legs up!

3. Ravens are very good mimics. There was a raven called Hardy who enjoyed scaring tourists by barking like a dog. And here is a story about Thor who was good at socialising with people. While the President of Russia was visiting the Tower, the bird greeted him with his deep "Good morning!" The president was impressed.

LESSON 5

Ex. 2. b.

Speaker 1 (a girl): It's the most unusual alarm clock I've ever heard of. Can you imagine that ever since the Queen came to the throne in 1952, her day has started to the sound of a bagpipes playing outside her bedroom window? I've read that every weekend the Queen's official piper dressed in Highland uniform plays for fifteen minutes beginning at 9 o'clock. The tradition itself is much older. It was started by Queen Victoria after her trip to the Scottish Highlands and dates back to 1843.

Speaker 2 (a boy): Last July, my classmates and I had a wonderful experience: we got a certificate for helping the Swan Uppers. For five days they count the Queen's swans on the River Thames and check their health. In the past, swans were used for royal meals. The birds are no longer eaten, but the Crown keeps this almost 900-year-old tradition alive. I also know that when Queen Elizabeth II attended Swan Upping in 2009, it was the first time that the monarch had personally watched the ceremony in centuries!

Speaker 3 (a man): We were lucky to get to see the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London. The guide says Yeomen Warders have performed the ceremony for over 700 years – without missing a single day! At first, the Tower was locked up at sunset but in 1826 the time was fixed at 10 p.m. It takes them only seven minutes to close and lock up all the huge wooden doors of the Tower and at exactly 10 o'clock the keys are taken back to the Queen's House.

Speaker 4 (a woman): The Royal Maundy ceremony takes place on the Thursday before Easter Sunday. In the Middle Ages, English monarchs gave the poor money and gifts and, imagine, washed their feet! In 1382, King Henry IV decided to give gifts according to the number of years he had lived. The custom of washing the feet did not survive the 18th century but the kings still gave people food and clothing. By the 19th century, the tradition had changed again and the monarch started giving out only Maundy money.

LESSON 7

Ex. 2. b.

Dan: Are you superstitious?

Kate: Well, I don't believe that I am. And yet I do certain things to avoid bad luck.

Dan: Like what?

Kate: Well, if you spill salt, you have to throw some over your left shoulder.

Dan: Do you often spill salt?

Kate: No, but when I do, I always throw a little bit over my left shoulder. And do you do that?

Dan: No, but if I did spill it, I'd say Argh! Do you follow any others, like the salt thing?

Kate: Mmm, a black cat. Interestingly, it's a sign of good luck.

Dan: Oh. Is it?

Kate: Yeah. In the rest of Europe, if you see it crossing across the road in front of you, it is considered bad luck.

Dan: In the States, we are much like the rest of Europe: black cats are signs of very bad luck. You know, Granny is very superstitious. If she sees a cat in front of her, she will turn around. And she will never walk under a ladder.

Kate: We have that one too. I don't believe in any of that, it's ridiculous. But I'm not going to walk under a ladder, just in case. Ha-ha

Dan: And do you have this "Find a penny, pick it up, all the day you'll have good luck"?

Kate: Yes, we do.

Dan: And another one, “Don’t step on a crack or ... you’ll fall and break your back”? Something like that. Do you believe in that?

Kate: If I’m thinking about it, I never step on a crack.

Dan: What about ... (*knocking*) knock on wood? Or you say “touch wood”?

Kate: Yeah, we say touch wood for good luck.

Dan: They say this practice has its root in ancient traditions when people believed helpful spirits lived inside certain trees. So if you touched that tree, you asked the spirit for protection.

Kate: I think all superstitions are rooted in common sense. Like walking under a ladder can be dangerous. Salt was expensive, so spilling it also wasn’t a good thing. And mirrors used to be very expensive too. So here in the UK if you break a mirror, it’s seven years of bad luck.

Dan: We also believe in that. And to end the chain of bad luck, you should take the broken mirror outside and bury it ... under the moonlight!

LESSON 10

Ex. 2. b.

Gardening is very important to us. It is also a big part of how the rest of the world sees us. Throughout the country, there are gardens, great and small, formal and informal, public and private, that illustrate the passion. According to a recent survey, 78 per cent of houses have private gardens and there are about 27 million gardeners in the UK!

Our national love of gardening starts early. Such children’s books as “The Secret Garden”, “Wind in the Willows”, and “Winnie the Pooh” have nature at their hearts. So we learn very early that gardens are magical places and that the landscape is very important to who we are. That sense of a private kingdom, a playground for our imagination, is at the very heart of our love. It’s interesting to observe how American gardens are often at the front of the house, open to the world, all “Hello, neighbour!” – while our gardens traditionally are at the back of the house, hidden, secret, private.

Gardening is not just popular as a practical hobby, but also a leisure activity in the form of garden visiting, which is almost unknown elsewhere. People visit both historical gardens and modern private ones. Just imagine that only last year saw the opening of around 3,700 private gardens, with the ticket money going to charity. Visiting other people’s gardens gives keen gardeners ideas and opportunities to compare themselves with others and ... to be nosy about other peoples’ lives.

Gardening in Britain has deep roots. Thanks to its geographical location and a long growing season, plants from different lands and climate zones can be grown together. Plant hunters, who were part of the story of the British Empire, brought lots of plants to the British shores. Some of them came to the gardens and greenhouses of the aristocracy, others to botanical gardens, such as that established at Kew in 1759. Just ten years later it had more than 3,400 species of exotic plants. At first the playthings of the rich, they soon found their way to common people’s gardens.

Gardening is not only about plants but also about landscape and garden design. Britain's greatest gift to world culture has been the landscape movement. Until the 18th century, gardens in Europe had been formal and geometric. British gardeners, however, broke with tradition. The landscape around the country house was made to look as natural as possible.

By the end of the 19th century, simple plants grown by country people had become more popular with gardeners than exotic plants. Thus was born the cottage garden movement which became the heart of the British garden ideal. Images of country gardens in books and magazines and on packaging showed the world what it meant to be British.

LESSON 12

Listening

For some people, birthdays are a time of celebrating and feeling happy, for others it's a time of sadness as they worry about getting older. Birthdays cause a lot of different emotions, but for most of us, the birthday only comes around once a year.

However, the British Queen is lucky to have two birthdays. The first is her actual birthday on 21 April. She normally celebrates the big day privately, with her friends and family at Windsor. No special ceremony is held on that day, although there is one British tradition you can expect to see: several royal gun salutes are fired at noon to mark the occasion.

The bigger celebration comes on her official birthday. On that day the Queen is joined by the members of the Royal Family for the annual Trooping the Colour parade in the centre of London. Originally, it was a military ceremony that took place before a battle. In 1748 thanks to George II it became the monarch's birthday parade.

The King was born in chilly November and cold wet weather often spoiled parades and other outdoor celebrations. So he combined his birthday with the Trooping the Colour parade in summer. The second birthday began with Edward VII whose birthday was also in November. After his death, the practice didn't happen because the monarchs had their actual birthdays in the summer. The Queen's father, George VI, started it again because he was a winter baby and the Queen followed that tradition.

At first, Elizabeth II marked it on the second Thursday of June, just like her father had done it before. In 1959 the date was changed so that more people could attend it. Nowadays it falls on the second Saturday in June. It's interesting that Canada, New Zealand, and Australia hold it on other dates.

UNIT 6

LESSON 3

Ex. 1. c.

The hanging straw spiders are the most mysterious objects in Belarusian straw weaving. According to an ancient belief, the spider, with its web, protected the house and brought happiness to the family. Our ancestors believed that the spider's positive energy would help the coming harvest. The spider was usually put in the most important place in the house, for example, above the table or in the corner where the icon was. Every year the old spider was burnt and a new one was hung in its place.

Belarusian ornamental towels are very symbolic, each element of decoration on the rushnik has its meaning. The rushnik was used both in everyday life and in different rituals. A newborn baby was put in a piece of new linen so that the baby wouldn't become poor. During epidemics and other disasters, the whole village wove a special linen towel which was called abydzyonnik (абыдзённік). The most elegant and generously decorated rushniks were used for wedding ceremonies. According to ancient beliefs, an embroidered rushnik would protect a new family from bad luck.

Slutsk belts are a unique symbol of the national culture. The first Slutsk belts appeared in the 13th century. Weavers used silk, gold, and silver threads to create amazing works of art. All the weavers were men, as it was believed that if a woman touched a belt, the silver threads would darken. In fact, weaving the belts was hard work even for men. A belt could be up to 3 metres long and it took about four to five months to make one belt. That is why Slutsk belts were extremely expensive accessories worn only by magnates and wealthy people. Each belt had two or four sides so a man could wear it on four different occasions.

Today, real Slutsk belts are very rare, and most of them are in museums and private collections around the world. Fortunately, in Belarus, the unique production technology of Slutsk belts has been reborn. They say Slutsk belts will appear in shops soon but they will be quite expensive.

LESSON 3

Ex. 4. a.

In the past Belarusians had many beliefs that helped them to predict (*предсказывать / прадказваць*) weather and harvest. Here are some February beliefs:

A lot of stars in the sky on 1 February, Makar's Day, meant that the winter wouldn't end soon. The weather on that day helped people to say what the weather would be like in February. If 2 February, Catholic Hramnitsy, was a sunny day, people were happy that spring would come early; if it was a cloudy day, they knew there would be a long winter with snowstorms. People thought that a lot of snow on February 4, Tsimafey's Day, would bring a rich harvest. Good weather on

February 6, Aksinia's Day, was a sign of warm spring. Many ancient beliefs were connected with 15 February (Orthodox Hramnitsy). People believed that winter met spring that day and it was the only winter day with thunder and lightning.

LESSON 3

Ex. 4. b.

In the past on 15 February Belarusians lit candles because they were afraid that lightning would burn the house. People made bonfires and blew clay or wooden bird whistles because they hoped that spring would come soon. On that day, people fed domestic birds with grain so that in the summer they would have a lot of eggs. They also shook the snow off the trees in their gardens because they believed it would help them to have a large fruit harvest in summer. According to an ancient belief, a frosty day meant that, the snow would melt soon but the spring and summer would be cold and rainy. People believed that a strong wind would bring them a good flax harvest. The melting snow gave them hope that they would have a rich wheat harvest in summer.

LESSON 4

Ex. 5. a.

In Belarusian villages, people had strict table manners which they taught their children from an early age. They could take a spoon only after they had washed their face and hands. The father took the most important seat – at the head of the table, then the older children sat next to him; after them, the younger ones and, finally, the mother who was serving the dishes. The children served themselves only if they had learned to use a spoon.

Without saying a word, the father cut the bread and gave out the slices to everyone. Only after he had spooned some food out of the pot standing in the centre of the table, the other family members could do the same. Soup or stew was often the main dish so the children were taught to carry their spoon from the pot to their mouth over a slice of bread so that they wouldn't spill it on the table. The family had to eat all the food on the table without any leftovers. The parents told their children that the leftovers would come to them at night and wake them up if they didn't eat all the food. People ate slowly in silence so that they wouldn't choke. In the end, everyone put their spoons on the table after they had licked them clean. Many of these old table rules have disappeared nowadays as our lifestyle has changed dramatically.

LESSON 6

Ex. 1. b.

Hi everyone! Today my city, my dear Brest is celebrating its 1000th anniversary! Wow! I'm so happy and excited as are all the residents and guests of the city. The celebration commemorates the 1000th anniversary of the first written mention of

Brest which was then called Byarestse. Thanks a lot to the elders of the city and every resident for the great work they have done to prepare for this remarkable event. The preparations started two years ago when the mayor promised they would build new monuments and restore the city landmarks such as the Brest Fortress memorial and the Byarestse museum. The three-day festivities started yesterday, on the 6 September, with the first international festival of theatre and books. In the city streets the best folk groups put on their impressive performances which they had specially prepared for the anniversary. In the evening, many spectators gathered in the central square to watch the brilliant music show "The city of light" and the music band parade. You know, I participated in the parade too! I was very proud to be walking through the streets together with my friends and playing the drum. We had walked more than 5 kilometres before we reached the square. Can you imagine how tired we were?

LESSON 6

Ex. 2. a.

Today is the main day of the city celebration and it is full of unforgettable events. You know that Brest has become the cultural capital of the CIS this year. And, there are a lot of reasons for this. Now it is 11 o'clock and we are at the huge monument dedicated to the 1000th anniversary of Brest. On the top, you can see an angel, the city guard, holding a cross and a shield. The monument is surrounded by numerous stalls with unique souvenirs made by local artisans. We're at the crafts fair. You can find anything you want here from an embroidered linen towel to funny ceramic figurines of animals. How much is this lovely straw bell? Three roubles? Well, I'll take two. Thank you. What other events are worth visiting today? If you are a sports fan, I highly recommend going to the Park of Culture and Leisure which offers a variety of sporting events such as athletes' performances, sports contests, and races. My sister is taking part in the cycling race at 12:30. I need to hurry up to cheer her on!

LESSON 6

Ex. 4. a.

While everyone is looking forward to the firework display, let's go to the favourite place of all Brest residents, Savetskaya Street. It has a remarkable tradition. Every evening, when the sun sets, in any weather, a lamplighter dressed in a dark blue uniform appears in the street. He looks like a character from Hans Andersen's fairy tales. The man stops at each of the twenty lanterns, climbs his metal ladder, and lights the kerosene lamp inside the lantern. After the lamplighter lights the last kerosene lantern, electric lamps are lit up further along the street. Kerosene lanterns appeared in Brest in the 19th century. The tradition was brought back in 2009 and since then the lamplighter has been one of the main tourist attractions. People take photos of him and even touch a button on his uniform to make a wish. Now I'll touch his button and make a wish. Would you like to join me? You're welcome to do so!

LESSON 7

Ex. 2. b.

Alex: Mark, what do you think about going to the Knights' festival at the weekend?

Mark: Is it a medieval festival? I've always been interested in the Middle Ages.

Alex: Yes, "Our Grunwald" is an international festival of medieval music and culture.

Mark: Wow! Grunwald?

Alex: Yes, we can see the re-enactment of the famous battle of Grunwald there.

Mark: Wait a minute. Is that the battle in which the armies of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and the Kingdom of Poland fought the army of the Teutonic Order and won?

Alex: Right! I see you really love history. Then, you will also enjoy the knights and archers' tournaments, the medieval crafts fair, the folk-rock concert, and the fire show.

Mark: Sounds great! Where does it take place?

Alex: At the "Dudutki" open-air museum. It's about 30 km away from Minsk.

Mark: How are we going to get there? By bus?

Alex: Actually, my dad is driving us there. To tell you the truth, he's a real fan of medieval battles.

Mark: Fantastic! How much are the tickets?

Alex: Let me see. The entrance fee is 8 roubles and you can spend the whole day there.

Mark: What about lunch? We'll get hungry, I'm afraid.

Alex: Don't worry. There'll be a food court where you can try various dishes of Belarusian cuisine.

Mark: Well, I'm looking forward to attending the festival!

Alex: Superb! Now let's have dinner!

LESSON 8

Ex. 1. c.

After the contest, my parents participated in the blacksmithing and weaving workshops. Dad made a cool iron horseshoe and Mum wove a lovely linen napkin. A funny thing happened to me during the potato-carving workshop. I was thinking about what I should carve from a potato when a small bird sat on my shoulder. I had an idea! The bird was sitting on my shoulder while I was carving a bird! Incredible! My dad took a photo of us before the bird flew away. You know, I got a prize for my art, a "golden" grater!

LESSON 12

Listening

Helen: How was your weekend, Katya?

Katya: Great! I went on a school trip to the “Spring calling” festival. It was fun!

Helen: Sounds great. Is it a medieval festival?

Katya: No, it’s much older than that. This tradition has been handed down from generation to generation for more than two thousand years.

Helen: M-m, that’s a lot. Did you enjoy yourself?

Katya: Sure! First, we tied the paper birds to the trees with colourful ribbons. We made them in our Handicraft lesson.

Helen: Why did you do that?

Katya: To attract the birds flying back from the south. Our ancestors believed they would see the bright paper birds and bring spring on their wings faster.

Helen: Interesting! What activity did you like most of all?

Katya: Well, there was a wide range of activities. We listened to spring songs and performed traditional dances but, most of all, I liked the baking competition. My friend Sasha and I decided to try our hand at baking birds from dough. You know, I didn’t win the contest but my birds were really cute. I wanted to take them home for my parents but when we were getting on the bus, I couldn’t find them in my bag. Perhaps I had left them on the table in the food court. Luckily, I didn’t lose the clay bird-whistle I had bought as a keepsake at the crafts fair.

Helen: It’s a pity that you lost the birds. Did you have the opportunity to eat your favourite draniki there?

Katya: Yes, I did! Draniki with sour cream and hot green tea! They were delicious!

Helen: Well, I haven’t made draniki for a long time. I think I’ll make them for dinner today.

Katya: Enjoy your meal!

UNIT 7

LESSON 1

Ex. 4. b.

1. When my mum was a teenager she liked listening to pop music. She was crazy about the Backstreet Boys, Britney Spears, the Spice Girls, their rhythmic songs, and manner of performance. Now she is into the band IOWA and their catchy lyrics. Their songs are such earworms that you can't get them out of your head. And naturally, they often top Belarusian music charts. And my mum is a big fan of music charts, so she always stays tuned to the local radio station while cooking. As for me, I'm keen on rock and alternative music. When I need to do an important task I put on Queen or The Rolling Stones. I also like having background music while I am studying. When I want to relax after a stressful day I listen to classical music. It gives me pleasure and a feeling of happiness. Some pieces of classical music are so touching that I easily get goose bumps. By the way, I'd like to learn how to play the piano in the future.

2. As for me, I can't say I prefer listening to some particular kind of music all the time. The choice of music I listen to depends on my state of mind and mood. I can tell you what kind of music I prefer to listen to when I feel depressed, and it's jazz. The first reason is that jazz music usually has a powerful rhythm, so it is a kind of music that fills you with energy and strength. Secondly, it provides a brilliant combination of instrumental tunes and voice. Jazz immediately carries me away from my troubles, fills me with hope and joy, even though its tunes are often sad. I don't mind listening to dance music, especially when I go to disco clubs. This style of music is catchy and I like catchy tunes. It makes me feel more energetic.

LESSON 2

Ex. 2. (task 3)

The samples of music:

1. *The bagpipe*; 2. *the tsymbaly*; 3. *the cello*; 4. *the violin*; 5. *the synthesiser*; 6. *the accordion*; 7. *the saxophone*; 8. *the piano*.

LESSON 3

Ex. 2. a.

Alex: Hi, Kate! Can you hear me? Turn on your camera, please! Wow! What cool headphones you've got! I love them!

Kate: So do I! Hi, Alex! Thanks, they are a birthday present from my dad; he is a real music lover, so we share the same taste in music. Have you already listened to 30 Second To Mars latest single?

Alex: Sure! I really like Jared Leto's voice! It sounds so sincere I always listen to this band at full volume!

Kate: So do I! Their music is absolutely unique! By the way, do you like alternative rock?

Alex: I wouldn't say that I'm into rock music. I prefer rap to rock when I am alone. However, while hanging out with friends I can listen to anything. Now we are really into Belarusian singers Like Tima Belorusskikh or Naviband. They are getting popular with young people. And what about you? Are you a rock lover?

Kate: Yes, I am a rock fan. As I've said my father had the biggest influence on my musical taste. So we have no debate on what to listen to in the car. However, last Christmas one of my friends presented me with the latest album by "One Direction". It's the British boy band that plays pop, though they have a wide range of stylistically different songs. I like their manner of singing and I am dying to see their live performance. But dad says he doesn't like that they don't play any musical instruments on the stage. To be honest, he just doesn't like the band at all.

Alex: Neither do I! Sorry, Kate. But actually, their performance is for the girls, I think. It's always pleasant to listen to a live performance with a variety of musical instruments. That's why I dream of going to an "Imagine Dragons" concert. They are just amazing. They play the guitar, the bass guitar, and the drums. I can't wait for their next world tour!

Kate: Me neither! I learnt the lyrics of their top rock songs "Believer", "Thunder" and "Radioactive" by heart a long time ago!

Alex: So did I. Then we must go to their next concert. I will google when it is gonna take place.

Kate: A good idea. Can I invite dad to join us?

Alex: Sure!

Kate: Oh, sweet!

LESSON 4

Ex. 2. a.

Alex: Hi, Kate! How is it going?

Kate: Great! I'm just giving you a ring to ask if you were serious yesterday about going to a concert.

Alex: Certainly. It is one of my dreams. Do you wanna say you've come across something interesting?

Kate: Look, unluckily, "Imagine Dragons" aren't playing any concerts this year, but my dad suggested that we should go to the live concert of "Coldplay" next April. Have you heard of them?

Alex: Sure. But I thought that the guys had decided not to give any concerts until they could make their concerts "green", without using any plastic and stuff like that. I have no idea how they will manage to come up with any possible solutions.

Kate: Neither do I. It is fantastic to see that such world-famous artists are stepping up to protect the planet. But I am talking about a small charity concert. "Coldplay" will perform a one-off concert for fans in London. All the money from the show will be donated to charity. My dad and I want to attend it. So would you like to join us?

Alex: Let me think. Can you send me a message with all the details? I need to ask my parents for permission to go. How much time do I have to decide?

Kate: No problem. I suppose we can wait for a week. Is it OK?

Alex: I think so. I can't wait to get the positive vibes from a live performance!

Kate: Neither can I. Call me back as soon as you make up your mind.

Alex: I will! See you soon! Say hello to your family from me!

Kate: Likewise! I'll text you in a minute, remember to check the messenger!

Alex: Ok, bye for now!

LESSON 6

Ex. 3

"If only you would listen" – School of rock (not full)

You always talk, talk, talk all the time.
You never let me get in a word.
I wish I had, I had a dime
For every thought, I've swallowed unheard.
No matter what it is that I do,
It's like I just can't seem to get through.

I've got so much to say,
If only you would listen.
I've tried every which way,
And still, you never listen.
Can't you see I'm hurting?
I couldn't be more clear.
But I promise,
One day I'll make you hear.

You know I try, try, try to explain
I'm not the kid you want me to be.
And yet it's all, it's all in vain
You just don't wanna see the real me.
You think you know what I'm all about
And yet you just keep shutting me out!

LESSON 8

Ex. 2. b.

(a melody stops, the applause of the audience is being heard)

Judge 1: Wow! Sarah! You've performed the song really well and it was not an easy one. But I should draw your attention to a couple of problems. I would like to help because I hear the sincerity in your voice. Your way of singing was really-really nice. Good luck to you! Thank you for the courage to go up and show your talent!

Participant: Thank you a lot ... I really appreciate your words.

Judge 2: Hi, Sarah! I agree with my colleague. I do really love that nostalgic song and your own way of presenting it to us. Your manner of performing on stage rings a bell, but at the moment I cannot recall the name of a person I associate you with. There are only two spaces left, you know... You have to face the music. And I am beating the drum for using your voice in our contest and ask you to choose me as your coach on your way to the most splendid victory ever.

Judge 3: Come on, stop this chin music! Guess what? You are not the only one who wants to get this talent into their team! Sarah, listen, never dance to anybody's tune. Your way of singing is unique, it suits your appearance. I see a ready self-made image of a popular singer. And if you choose me as your coach, I'll keep it, I promise. And I never sing a different tune. So ... as far as your singing is concerned, you've made that song sound different and I like it pretty much. I like the way you sing. You have a wonderful voice. I've never heard anyone show us such a large range of vocal variations. I hope you'll be part of my team.

Participant: Oh my God, your words are music to my ears! I am so happy right now!

Judge 4: Sarah, I'll tell you the reason I've turned. At the very start, your voice seemed to be so big and powerful and I wondered how long you would keep this level ... and you just kept doing it and doing it and I thought wow, I couldn't let that girl go. You'll be an incredible addition to my team.

Participant: Oh, thank you so much!

Presenter: Honorable judges, thank you all for the detailed evaluation! Sarah, it is time for you to call the tune and choose your coach!

LESSON 8

Ex. 4. a.

"The show must go on" – Queen

(not full)

Empty spaces.

What are we living for?

Abandoned places.

I guess we know the score.

On and on.

Does anybody know what we are looking for?

Another hero,

Another mindless crime

Behind the curtain

In the pantomime.

Hold the line.

Does anybody want to take it anymore?

Show must go on.

Show must go on.

Inside my heart is breaking.

My make-up may be flaking.

But my smile still stays on.

LESSON 9

Ex. 3.

"Music" – Madonna (not full)

Hey Mister DJ, put a record on
I wanna dance with my baby
And when the music starts
I never wanna stop
It's gonna drive me crazy
Music, music, music
Music makes the people come together
Music makes the bourgeoisie and the rebels
Don't think of yesterday and I don't look at the clock
I like to boogie-woogie, uh uh
It's like ridin' on the wind
And it never goes away
Touches everything I'm in
Got to have it every day
Music makes the people come together, yeah
Music makes the bourgeoisie and the rebels

LESSON 10

Ex. 3.

"Yesterday" – "The Beatles" (not full)

Yesterday all my troubles seemed so far away.
Now it looks as though they're here to stay.
Oh, I believe in yesterday.

Suddenly, I'm not half the man I used to be.
There's a shadow hanging over me.
Oh, yesterday came suddenly.

Why she had to go?
I don't know, she wouldn't say.
I said something wrong.
Now I long for yesterday.

LESSON 10

Ex. 4. a.

"Pesniary" was a popular Soviet Belarusian folk rock band. It was founded in 1969 by guitarist Vladimir Mulyavin. Before 1970 the band was known under the name "Liavony".

It was one of the very few Soviet bands to tour in America in 1976. The period of 1974–1980 is considered the Golden Age of the band when it achieved peak popularity in the USSR, Eastern Europe and in other countries.

Pesniary played different types of music, but it mostly used Belarusian folklore with elements of rock. Several of Pesniary's songs were composed by Aleksandra Pakhmutova. The band often used lyrics from the famous Russian and Belarusian poets of the past. Pesniary's favourite was Yanka Kupala. The band adapted his two poems: "Pesnia pra dolyu" (Song of Fate, 1976) and "Huslar" (1980).

Among their best known songs are "Kasiu Jas kaniushynu", "Belovezhskaya Pushcha", "Belorussiya" and "Alesia".

In 1979, after the success of the rock opera Guslar, the whole band was awarded the honorary title Merited Artist of the Soviet Union. Vladimir Mulyavin personally received a higher title of People's Artist.

After Mulyavin's death in a car accident on 26 January 2003, the original Pesniary split. However, Mulyavin's contribution to Belarusian music is deeply felt.

LESSON 10

Ex. 5. a.

"Moy Rodny Kut" – "Pesniary" (not full)

Мой родны кут, як ты мне мілы,
Забыць цябе не маю сілы!
Не раз, утомлены дарогай,
Жыццём вясны мае убогай,
К табе я ў думках залятаю,
І там душою спачываю (2 р.).

Вось, як цяпер, перада мною
Стае куточак той прыгожа,
Крынічкі вузенькае ложа
І елка ў пары з хваіною,
Абняўшысь цесна над вадою,
Як маладыя ў час кахання
У апошні вечар раставання.

LESSON 12

Listening

The deaf musician

As you may know, Beethoven started losing his hearing at the age of 26 and was completely deaf at 53. However, the maestro composed some of his later pieces while playing the piano with his ear close to the keys.

The disability drove Beethoven to despair, as he wrote in 1801 to a friend: "For almost two years I have stopped attending any music events, just because I find it impossible to say to people: I am deaf. If I had any other profession, I might be able to cope with my disability; but in my profession, it is a terrible challenge."

It was a real challenge for Beethoven to present his Ninth Symphony to the audience. He managed to do it without hearing a single note. Beethoven was standing next to the conductor during the performance to guide him as to the tempo. As the symphony was over, Beethoven didn't hear the applause and naturally continued standing with his back turned to the audience until one of the soloists turned him around to show the enthusiastic applause of the standing audience. A volcanic explosion of admiration was repeated again and again and seemed as if it would never end.

Beethoven's Ninth Symphony is one of the greatest pieces of music ever written and has been added to the United Nations World Heritage List.

Beethoven died just three years after the premiere of his last symphony, in 1827. He was 56.

UNIT 8

LESSON 2

Ex. 3. a.

Speaker 1: My tastes in books is varied. I enjoy reading classic literature, science fiction, fantasy, history, and even cookbooks. My favourite genre is detective novels. I love solving puzzles and mysteries, and these books give me the chance to predict how the story unfolds for myself and catch the killer before I turn the last page. Arthur Conan Doyle and Agatha Christie are my favourites. Their books keep you in suspense till the very end and once I start reading any of their stories, I simply can't put it down.

However, there is one type of books I absolutely can't stand reading: romantic novels. They all have a predictable plot and I always know what the ending will be. I think they are absolutely mind-numbing. There is nothing in them I can relate to.

Speaker 2: I'm a real bookworm. I read everything, everywhere and all the time. But the genre I'm crazy about is sci-fi. Science fiction lets us predict what the future holds for us. If you think spaceships and robots are great, you will find science fiction pretty cool. Now I'm reading "The Sirens of Titan" by Kurt Vonnegut and it's a real page-turner. I started only yesterday and I'm already halfway through the book.

Speaker 3: I must say I absolutely hate reading fiction. It's just a chore for me. I only remember some of the titles but not the plot or the ideas of the books. I believe there is no point in reading about imaginary characters and events. If you read too much fiction, you lose touch with reality. The only thing I'm really interested in is blogs. They are real stories about real people coping with real situations.

Speaker 4: Personally, I prefer non-fiction. It gives real facts and knowledge. I have a huge collection of encyclopaedias and dictionaries, and different reference books, so I can easily look up anything. And they are so much more reliable than the Internet. Reading non-fiction enriches your vocabulary and helps you to learn more about the world.

LESSON 3

Ex. 3. a.

Librarian: Can I help you?

Max: I'd like to return these books.

Librarian: When did you borrow them?

Max: A couple of weeks ago.

Librarian: OK. Just sign here and leave the books with me.

Max: Sure. Is that all?

Librarian: Yes.

Max: I'm also looking for "Frankenstein". I saw it on the shelf two weeks ago, but I can't find it now.

Librarian: Give me a moment, please. Let me check it here. It's listed in our database, but someone's taken it. It's not available at the moment.

Max: What a shame! I'm going on holiday and I need something to read during the flight. Can you recommend anything?

LESSON 3

Ex. 6. a.

Max: I'm going on holiday and I need something to read during the flight. Could you recommend anything?

Librarian: Yes, actually do you know "Lord of the Rings" by J.R.R. Tolkien. Have you read it?

Max: No, I don't think so.

Librarian: It's one of the most popular fantasy books of the last century. The author created an imaginary world, full of elves and magicians. It's really gripping. It's also thought-provoking.

Max: What can be so thought-provoking about a fantasy book?

Librarian: There are a lot of symbols in the book. The Ring means great power which everybody wants to have.

Max: Yeah, sounds interesting, but I'm not really into fantasy, I'm afraid. Two years ago I started "The Chronicles of Narnia" and gave up halfway through the first book.

Librarian: I see. What about "Life of Pi"? It's an adventure novel. The main character spends 227 days after a shipwreck on a boat with a Bengal tiger.

Max: Actually, I started reading this book a while ago and found it monotonous. The plot was very slow-moving and I couldn't get into it. As I expected it has a predictable ending. I don't think it lives up to all the hype around it.

Librarian: OK. Here is another one: "Lord of the Flies" by William Golding. A group of schoolboys find themselves on an island. At first, without adults, they enjoy themselves. And then trouble begins. There are unexpected twists in the plot. Some people find it upsetting, and too violent, but I believe the author conveys a powerful message about fear, power and, violence.

Max: It's not an easy read.

Librarian: No, it's not.

Max: I think I need something more entertaining. Like Sherlock Holmes books. I read them last summer and literally couldn't put them down.

Librarian: So, you are a great fan of detective novels. Have you read anything by Agatha Christie?

Max: I've read all Conan Doyle's books, but none by Agatha Christie.

Librarian: It's a good idea to start with "Murder on the Orient Express". A real masterpiece. It has all elements of success: a fast-moving plot with many twists in the tale that keep you in suspense. And the ending is very surprising. It's a real page-turner.

Max: OK, I'll give it a go.

LESSON 4

Ex. 4. b.

Speaker 1: The book I'm currently reading is "Diary of a Wimpy Kid". I've read the first book of the series and I'm into the second one. I'm really enjoying it. It's absolutely hilarious. Greg Heffley, who has just started middle school, describes his life and his feelings. When you read the book, you get the impression that Greg is selfish, lazy, and unreliable. Because of this he usually gets himself and others in trouble. However, other times, Greg shows loyalty to his friends and family. He can be caring, intelligent, and courageous. Why do I like him? I guess I can relate to this character in some way but some situations do look unrealistic.

Speaker 2: I really enjoy reading adventure novels, and one of my favourite books in that genre is "Robinson Crusoe" by Daniel Defoe. The book is an autobiography of the main character, who spent 28 years on an uninhabited island and learnt to cope with all sorts of problems. Defoe shows him as a fearless hero and a practical and inventive man. Any negative traits? Well, he is selfish ... But still, I always remember Robinson when I am in trouble or have some problems. I try to stay calm and concentrate on the problem at hand and come up with a solution. Maybe when I grow older, I'll have another hero I will admire. Whoever my hero is, he will be honest, strong, and brave.

Speaker 3: I got "His Dark Materials" last year as a present for my birthday. I'm not really into fantasy but once I started reading the book I couldn't put it down. I've read all three books from cover to cover twice. The main character is Lyra Belacqua. She is a young girl who lives in another world that is both like and unlike our own. And one day she finds herself involved in a cosmic war. Lyra is shown as determined and fearless. She's highly intelligent. At the same time, the girl is unruly, tomboyish, doesn't pay attention to her appearance, and often acts without thinking. I think Lyra's an amazing character and I really admire her ability to cope with difficulties.

LESSON 5

Ex. 3

The book is based on a European medieval mystery, a legend that is well represented in folklore, but not much in classic literature, which makes this book unique.

The main character tries to solve a puzzle he comes across one stormy evening and he is determined to uncover the truth. He's like a Belarusian Indiana Jones, a good-hearted young man with a strong will and curious mind, and a talent to invite trouble.

The novel goes from a gothic tale to the crime story that took place not that long ago. The book describes many interesting facts about the country this story is set in. However, the author does not hurry to reveal the solution to the puzzle and keeps the reader in suspense to the very last page, with spooky elements and descriptions, and lots of unexpected twists in the plot and a very unpredictable ending. Combined with a romantic love story, the novel is a real page turner and a great read.

LESSON 6

Ex. 5. b.

Agatha Christie (1890–1976), whose books are famous all over the world, was an English crime novelist, short-story writer, and playwright. Often called the “Queen of Crime”, she is the only detective writer who has created two equally famous and much loved characters – Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple. Agatha Christie wrote 66 detective novels and 14 short-story collections which have sold over four billion copies – a record beaten only by the Bible and the works of William Shakespeare. The “Guinness Book of Records” ranks Christie as the best-selling novelist ever. Her books have been translated into at least 103 languages.

Agatha Christie was born in Devon, England. When she was 11, she wrote a poem which was printed in a London newspaper. In her late teens Agatha, whose passion was music, studied to be a classical musician but was too nervous to perform. During World War I, she worked at a hospital and then a pharmacy. That’s why many of the murders in her books involve poison.

The event which happened in December 1926 caused quite a storm in the press and transformed Agatha Christie’s life and personality. The woman disappeared for eleven days and couldn’t remember her name when she was found. Soon after that her first marriage, which turned out unhappy, was over. In 1930, Christie married again. Her second husband was an archaeologist with whom she travelled a lot. So several of her novels are set in the Middle East.

Agatha Christie also wrote romance novels and plays, which were very successful too. In 1971, the writer was given the title Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

LESSON 10

Ex. 3. b

1. The Sonnet (by William Shakespeare)

To me, fair friend, you never can be old,
For as you were when first your eye I ey’d,
Such seems your beauty still. Three winters cold,
Have from the forests shook three summers’ pride,
Three beauteous springs to yellow autumn turn’d,
In process of the seasons have I seen,
Three April perfumes in three hot Junes burn’d,
Since first I saw you fresh, which yet are green.
Ah! yet doth beauty like a dial-hand,
Steal from his figure, and no pace perceiv’d;
So your sweet hue, which methinks still doth stand,
Hath motion, and mine eye may be deceiv’d:
For fear of which, hear this thou age unbred:
Ere you were born was beauty’s summer dead.

Translation to modern English

To me, lovely friend, you could never be old, because your beauty seems unchanged from the time I first saw your eyes. Three cold winters have shaken the leaves of three beautiful springs and autumns from the forests as I have watched the seasons pass: The sweet smell of three Aprils has been burned up in three hot Junes since I first saw your youthful beauty, which is still in its prime. Ah! But beauty moves forward continually, imperceptibly, like the hands of a clock. In the same way, your beauty, which seems unchanged to me, moves forward, deceiving my eyes. In consideration of that, listen, you unborn generations: the height of beauty was dead before you were born.

2. The Haiku (by Matsuo Basho)

An old silent pond...
A frog jumps into the pond,
splash! Silence again.

3. The Cinquain (by Adelaide Crapsey)

Listen.
With faint dry sound,
Like steps of passing ghosts,
The leaves, frost-crisp'd, break from the trees
And fall.

4. The Lymerick (attributed to Edward Lear and William Cosmo Monkhouse)

There was a young lady of Niger
who smiled as she rode on a tiger;
They returned from the ride
with the lady inside,
and the smile on the face of the tiger.

5. The Nonet (by Centfie)

Amazing; you growing inside me
Adventures end others begin
Flutters and tummy movements
Responding to my touch
Kicked from the inside
Alive and kicking
You are a
Marvel
Babe

6. The Tanka (by Princess Nukata)

While, waiting for you,
My heart is filled with longing,
The autumn wind blows –
As if it were you –
Swaying the bamboo blinds of my door.

7. The Fable (by Ivan Krylov)

When partners can't agree
Their dealings come to naught
And trouble is their labor's only fruit.
Once Crawfish, Swan and Pike
Set out to pull a loaded cart,
And all together settled in the traces;
They pulled with all their might, but still the cart refused to budge!
The load it seemed was not too much for them:
Yet Crawfish scrambled backwards,
Swan strained up skywards, Pike pulled toward the sea.
Who's guilty here and who is right is not for us to say –
But anyway the cart's still there today.

LESSON 12

Listening

Speaker 1: First, you get more knowledge. The more you read, the more words you learn, so you enrich your vocabulary. When you read a book, you have to keep track of the characters, their roles, their story, and so on, which improves your memory. While reading a book, you focus on the story and forget about everything else. You are taken into a new world, which sparks the imagination. Reading shows you new ways to cope with difficulties. Books help you understand the world and yourself in a different way and inspire you to do things you've never done before. Through reading, you discover your hobbies and explore things. Generally speaking, reading helps your brain to be more active and gives it a different kind of workout rather than TV or listening to the radio.

Speaker 2: Some people find it difficult to understand written texts. Others have a very slow reading speed, so the time it takes to read a good book for them is more effort than fun. Sometimes other hobbies can be more enjoyable than reading. Some people's lives are so busy that when they do have a little time to themselves, a book is not on the menu. Some smart people can predict the plot of the book they are reading after a few pages and the book becomes tedious and monotonous. And, sometimes, we prefer to read YouTube comments, rather than books and magazines.

Speaker 3: When I read I escape to another world that is imaginary to some but to others, such as me, it is real. As a child, I loved it when my parents would read to me bedtime stories and took me to magical wonderlands. Then I turned 4 (or was it 5?) and suddenly my parents didn't have to unlock the door to this wonderland. I was free to go to and from this place as often as I wanted. I was a very fast reader, and my thirst for more knowledge never ended. My mother noticed how quickly I was reading and realised I needed a book long enough to take me some time. After my mother and I found "Harry Potter", I fell in love with the Wizarding World. It took me a month to read the first book. Since then I have read hundreds of books, but the genre I enjoy reading the most is still fantasy.

UNIT 9

LESSON 2

Ex. 5. a.

Speaker 1: I think it's simply the best way to escape reality. Great movies can inspire you to put yourself in the shoes of the character of the movie. You can simply imagine a future where you can be whatever you want. Movies are no longer just a simple source of entertainment. They convey a message or an idea, which might influence your life. Different genres of movies stir different emotions in people. It's amazing... You know you have watched something great when you feel different emotions deep inside you.

Speaker 2: Films aren't just a form of entertainment but also a form of education. We learn from films. Of course, we do. Vocabulary is a big part of the film: we learn more about basic things in life and different possible situations people can get into. And, of course, morals found in films, the same as in books, can teach people the right thing to do. They stir your imagination. I personally will never be a detective or see the Wild West, or fight vampires, but I can watch a film about it and feel what it would be like to be the character.

Speaker 3: It depends on the field in which that film will be used. In the classroom, a film can help in many ways, for example, to show processes that may take years to happen. This could be demonstrated within a few seconds through a film, which helps learners understand the idea much faster. Besides, the visual image helps to remember things much better.

Speaker 4: The first aim of films is entertainment. Before there were drama and street plays. Films appeal to many people and can greatly influence them, by shaping the opinion of the public. That's why before making a film, a film director should think what message it will convey. A good film should highlight different social issues and also suggest constructive solutions.

Speaker 5: They are a waste of time. There is a growing addiction to TV shows. Millions of people spend the whole weekend binge-watching a new TV series. If you go to the cinema, you are supporting a billion-dollar industry that wastes money on nothing, while we could be using that money to solve millions of problems around the world. And use our own money for things we actually need.

LESSON 3

Ex. 4. b.

Mike: What are you doing tonight?

Daniel: Nothing special. Why?

Mike: I was thinking of going out later. Would you like to join me?

Daniel: Yeah. Maybe. What's on at the Odeon?

Mike: Well, there are a few good films on. Do you like musicals?

Daniel: Yeah. If I'm in the right mood. Why?

Mike: There's this film adaptation of the famous musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber, "Cats", that I'd quite like to see. They say the music is amazing.

Daniel: That sounds fun, but I saw the original musical on TV. Besides, I read the reviews and they were awful.

Mike: OK. What about "Star Wars", then? It is the final episode of the sequel trilogy, "The Rise of Skywalker". I know you're a big fan.

Daniel: Yeah. I'm really into that film. I saw it the first night it came out.

Mike: OK, then. We've got only two options left. "Frozen 2" and "Dolittle".

Daniel: Do you mean the animated film about Elsa and Anna? It sounds like a film for my little sister. I don't think you'll like it.

Mike: You might be right. Dolittle, then? According to the reviews, it's an American fantasy film about a vet who can talk to animals with an all-star cast.

Daniel: That should be fun to watch. When is it on?

Mike: There is a showing at just after three and then a late one at eight.

Daniel: Well, I'm not sure it's a good idea to go to the late one. After all, it's school night tonight and we should be up quite early tomorrow.

Mike: Shall we meet at quarter to three, then? To have time to grab some popcorn.

Daniel: OK. Whoever gets there first should start queueing.

LESSON 5

Ex. 4. a.

This actress is best known for playing the character of Hermione Granger, one of Harry Potter's best friends in the "Harry Potter" films. She was born on 15 April, 1990, in Paris, France, but raised in England. She attended the theatre arts school at Oxford where she studied singing, acting, and dancing, and performed in school plays. Her theatre teachers introduced her to the agents looking for actors to cast in an upcoming movie based on the first novel of the best-selling "Harry Potter" series. A 9-year-old girl auditioned eight times for the role that would make her an international star and got her big break as a child with "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone", growing up on screen. Her film debut was an enormous success: "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" earned a record-breaking \$33.3 million on its opening night in the United States and later became a box office hit with a total of \$975 million worldwide. It was nominated for three Academy Awards and seven BAFTA Awards. She continued to star in the eight-part series. In 2007 she starred in another film based on a children's novel, "Ballet Shoes", which was aired on BBC One. The actress was also successful in the fashion and modelling industries and continued to prove her acting abilities with roles in films like "Beauty and the Beast" and "Little Women".

LESSON 6

Ex. 3. a.

The history of the Belarusian film-making industry dates back to the beginning of the 20th century when Belarusfilm, under the name Belgoskino, was founded

in 1924. Film production was interrupted by World War II, and restarted in 1946 when the studio got its current name. In Soviet times, the studio was nicknamed Partizanfilm because it produced a lot of films depicting the Soviet partisans fighting against the Nazi occupation. The film “Come and see” directed by Elem Klimov at Belarusfilm and Mosfilm was nominated for Best Foreign-language Film at the Oscars in 1985. In 2019 it was ranked first in the top 10 best war films in the world by the “Screen rant” entertainment website. The film conveys a powerful message. It’s not so much depressing as it is angering that such a tragedy took place and the only thing people can really do is make sure it doesn’t happen again. The studio was also well-known for its children’s films, such as “The adventures of Buratino” and “A tale about Star the boy” directed by Leonid Nechaev. In 1997 it became the National Film Studio of the Republic of Belarus. One of the most successful periods of its work was 2007, when seven feature films and five animated films were made by Belarusfilm. That year the films produced by the studio took part in 30 international and regional film festivals and received around 30 awards. Nowadays Belarusfilm is also a co-organiser of the Listapad Film Festival held in Minsk, Belarus in November.

LESSON 7

Ex. 1. b.

1. The last film I watched was really dreadful: I left the cinema halfway through the film.
2. The acting was very convincing. I found the characters realistic.
3. I’ve never seen such films before. The combination of the plot, the acting, and the cinematography made it really special, I would say even one-of-a-kind.
4. I was really amazed by the film “I, Robot”. It’s an incredible fantasy which combines an original plot and eye-popping special effects.

LESSON 7

Ex. 5. a.

Speaker 1: First is a brilliant script. A good movie is fast-moving and every scene develops the story. The plot must have original elements and twists.

The film directors must use all available tools to convey the message. A cast of first-rate movie actors can go a long way to make a great movie. The actors don’t have to be well known and popular.

Speaker 2: “The Grand Budapest Hotel”. It is a movie I really wanted to watch since the trailer scenes were so carefully selected and they made me think it was a movie with clever jokes. However, a slow-moving plot and strange dialogues left me puzzled and confused. But okay, it had nice cinematography. Many of my friends who are film buffs still believe the movie is a masterpiece, but I can’t really share the same opinion.

Speaker 3: On Monday I watched “Dr. Strange” on Netflix. I had put it off for a few months because I knew what I wanted to see and I thought it might not live up to my expectations. Boy, it was wonderful. The actors, especially Benedict Cumberbatch, did a great job. The special effects were amazing and eye-popping. I was on the Internet checking to see if the sequel was planned any time soon before the movie ever finished! I never do that. That was the movie I wanted to see ever since I picked up the Dr. Strange comics at the age of 8.

LESSON 12

Listening

Speaker 1: The older I get, the less I like horror films, fighting, and bad guys. I dislike those kinds of film, because I see too much of that unpleasant stuff in real life. I don’t want any of it in my entertainment. 99% of the movies I like are comedies, especially comedies about families, friendship, and romance. I also like sci-fi if it doesn’t have too much bad science. I can accept impossible things like time travel if they’re the main point of the movie, but everything else should be realistic.

Speaker 2: Both have pluses and minuses. Watching a film is better at the cinema as the screen is bigger, the sound is louder, and so on. For some genres of film, this is a big deal. For others not. But, going to the cinema is expensive. It usually costs minimum £10 in the UK. Also, there may be people making noises during the screening, or annoying kids that will kick seats. And the prices for refreshments are too high. All in all, I prefer watching films at home.

Speaker 3: Generally, we watch films to escape reality, or “to create a new reality”. Also, to relate ourselves to characters and situations that we don’t have in our everyday lives. Humans differ from other species because we like to feel things, and we HAVE to feel things. Nothing can stir emotions like a good film, other than perhaps, music or art. For example, inspiration, joy, fear, adrenaline, sadness, comfort – we need all of these things, both positive and negative, and films can, usually, give them to us in one good hit!

Speaker 4: The man who holds the Guinness World Record for the most stunts done by a living actor, Jackie Chan. Since 1972, he has starred in more than 200 films.

In Hollywood, if you asked a hundred people this question, you’d probably get a hundred different answers. For example, I was at a family dinner party earlier tonight and the topic of the best actors came up. My grandmother mentioned Clark Gable. Right after, my grandfather shouted ‘Marlon Brando’. My dad? Clint Eastwood. My brother? Matt Damon. Every generation is different.