## Лучшие эссе студентов на английском языке

# «One Day in Oxford»

## 1 место

**Дыхне Филипп**, ПГНИУ, 1 курс, Филологический факультет, журналистика

"One Day in Oxford"

I woke up in Oxford and was very happy about it, because I had long wanted to visit this famous University. I opened my eyes. There were beautiful old buildings in front of me. There was something unimaginable about them. It was like being at Hogwarts.

Some time later, I decided to take a walk around the ancient University. A strange man was sitting on a bench in the shade of a beautiful alley. I moved closer to him. His face was beginning to look familiar. It was Lewis Carroll, the famous writer. The atmosphere of Oxford could not but affect his work. This place is very inspiring! I started a conversation with him. To my surprise, the author of a famous work supported my initiative. I told him I wanted to be a writer in the future and showed him some of my work. Lewis looked at them carefully and said: "not bad, there is something to work on. Everything is in your hands." We spent the whole day talking about creativity and philosophical issues. I thanked the great English writer and walked along the green, winding path.

Suddenly, it got dark. The sun was replaced by the moon. In the firmament, the stars lit up with a bright flame. A silhouette was blurring in the distance. It was looking at the night sky through a telescope. I approached him with stepping slowly. It turned out to be the great scientist Stephen Hawking. I said 'Hello' to him. The Professor seemed to be waiting for me. "Steven, I know you're famous for studying black holes. This is so interesting. What is their mystery? What happens to a person when they are beyond the event horizon?" I asked Hawking. "My friend, let's leave black holes alone. The time will come when people will know their secret. Humanity is not ready for this yet." After these words, everything went dark. I opened my eyes and woke up in Perm in a Dorm room. Was it a dream? And there was no meeting with famous graduates of the ancient University?

One day I will definitely go to Oxford. In the meantime, I need to study, learn a lot of new things and master my future profession.

Сушко Оксана, 3 курс, экономика предприятия, Пермский институт (филиал) РЭУ им. Г.В.Плеханова

#### **ONE DAY IN OXFORD**

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. It was as if I was in the past. I went outside and asked a passerby: "What year is it today?" I was answered: "1874."

I decided to explore the city. I went first to the Bodleian library. It was empty. At that time, everyone was at work, and students were studying. I walked along the shelves of old books. A young man was standing in the corner by the window. He was reading a book thoughtfully. I greeted him and introduced myself. He stopped reading and smiled at me.

He was a student at New College. He had an Irish accent. I asked him to take me to the most beautiful places in the city. He kindly agreed.

First he showed me the whole library and told me about the underground tunnel. The tunnel connected the old and new libraries.

Then we went outside and he told me a little about the history of the town:

Oxford was first mentioned in Chronicles in 912. In 1117, the first University in Great Britain, Oxford University, was founded in order to give the clergy a more complete education. It was only under Henry II that Oxford became a real University town.

We came to the territory of New College where my new friend studied. He showed me the Chapel and the College. I liked the ancient walls and the fairy forest very much.

Then we went to the Botanic Garden. My friend told me about it:

The garden was the first Botanical garden in Great Britain and one of the oldest scientific gardens in the world, founded in 1621 for the cultivation of special plants for medical purposes.

Then I asked him to go boating. We rented a boat and went down the river Thames.

At 4 o'clock we went to eat in the pub the Eagle and Child, opened in 1650.

It was evening. My friend took me to the Church of the virgin Mary. We climbed the tower and admired the unforgettable view of the surburbs. The sun was setting. The whole atmosphere was mesmerising. Then my friend said:

"I forgot to introduce myself. My name is Oscar.»

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**"One day in Oxford"** *Gourmet travel notes* 

> "Pull up a chair. Take a taste. Come join us. Life is so endlessly delicious." Ruth Reichl

I woke up in one of the bedrooms of the "Long Grendon" manor with the wonderful views of the maze-fenced garden. "First we eat, then we do everything else," - I said to myself and went to the living room for breakfast. There I was served a traditional English breakfast: glaze, crispy bacon, grilled sausage, baked tomatoes, stewed white beans, reddened toast, berry jam, butter and pudding. Splendid! I had a cup of coffee and went to "Iffley lock".

The incredible castle on the River Thames was fascinating with its look. There I was able to feed ducks and geese and went to the centre of Oxford along the river. There I visited the "Oxford Museum of History". Then I hurried to the Oxford's best restaurant "The Oxford Kitchen", where I was offered a delicious lunch. It's possible to say exactly that the chef of the restaurant was a real genius of cooking, because he was able to combine the incongruous products and get one star Michelin. The play of the tastes, colors and flavors on a plate fascinated me.

Then I went to the "Indoor Market". In my opinion, it's a hidden gemstone, with the narrow passes leading to all sides and a seemingly endless number of magnificent shops and cafes at every corner. Many market visitors usually freeze next to the confectionery, where behind the transparent glass professionals make delicious and magnificent cakes.

Then I went to a French cuisine restaurant where I ate a grilled duck (hope, it wasn't one of those ducks I had fed earlier in the morning) fillet with a sauce from the mango, ginger and chilli and chocolate fondant with homemade ice cream.

At the end of the day I drank white wine with homemade cheese and bruschettas with chutney in the maron and remembered the words of Bethenny Frankel : "Your diet is a bank account. Good food choices are good investments."

I am very grateful to Oxford for unforgettable food choices!

**Куликова Татьяна,** 2 курс, консерватория Пермский институт искусств и культуры

#### One Day in Oxford

One day, on the most magical night in year, one little Girl found an invitation to a small cozy town which was called Oxford in her mailbox. She took a book "The World's 100 Best Cities" and sat at the fireplace. Looking at the pictures of Oxford, Girl admired the beauty of its buildings and streets. Also, she liked the nature of England.

Leafing through page after page Girl saw huge skeletons of prehistoric animals. She screamed, "What a huge skeleton!" Suddenly, she looked up and covered face with her hands with the fear. What happened? The skeletons were looking at her. Girl got the courage, got up from the easy chair and went to see around the place. The exhibits were very interesting and amazing. The Girl was looking at the Fossil vertebrates - mammals, fish, and marine reptiles. She ran past showcase with Fossil invertebrates because she thought that sponges, mollusks, arthropods and echinoderms are terrible and horrible. When Girl was looking at Stromatolite's pattern, she thought that she must get this stone for her collection. During a walking around the exhibits little Girl felt tired and sat in the chair. She read on the page, "Museum of Natural History". "I'm in the museum!" - She said.

She continued to look at the images in the book, turned the page and found herself on intersection of four road near Carfax Tower. The center was crowded with cars and people. Girl was scared of the crowd and walked into the tower. In the book she found out that the Carfax Tower is the highest building the town. The height of the Tower is 23 meters. The Girl went up to the top of the tower. She did not believe her eyes because she saw a wonderful view of Oxford. She could see all town with its architecture and amazing panorama. She liked the view so much and did not want to leave the tower.

However, the evening came and street-lamps lighted up. It was getting cold. The Girl took a book and turned another page. Now, she was standing in the center of the warm and great reading-hall of Bodleian library. A large number of books, high ceilings and the design of the reading-room made a little Girl got surprised. She recognized the hall! The other day, her brother and she watched the film about a young wizard. It was exactly the same hall as in the film.

Girl felt tired again and sat down in the chair. She opened the last page in the book. Turning the page, Girl saw her fireplace. She was at home. Her journey was over. Her mind was racing. She was sitting and could not understand what had happened to her. She put the book aside and ran up to her mother to tell about the trip. She also wanted to make boast of the library that she had seen to her brother. She showed him the book – the picture of ancient English town of Oxford was proudly displayed on the open page of the book.

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#### ONE DAY IN OXFORD

I woke up in an Oxford hotel. My friends and I were playing roulette and I got this town. Well, let's see what's interesting about it. I dressed, slung my backpack over my shoulder, and went outside. The weather was perfect. I was walking along the streets, the wind caressing my face, and suddenly I saw a black cat that was staring at me, sitting on the asphalt. I went over and put my hand on its padded back, but it suddenly pounced on me, tore off the watch, and ran away. I ran after her, barely able to keep up, because the clock was precious to me. She ducked through a gap in the fence, and I looked up to see a sign that read "Botanic garden."

Determined to find the thief, I bought a ticket. At the same time, I would admire the plants.

The garden was striking in its soft, fresh beauty. Squat trees, as if from fairy tales, paved paths, a variety of flowers and herbs made you slow down.

"Becky! Becky! Show me what you brought."

I hid behind a bush and saw a worker who was looking at my watch in surprise!

I couldn't stand it any longer.

"Return the watch!"

"Oh, these are yours? Take it, take it. Becky is like that", said the gardener, fondly stroking his cat. Suddenly he looked at me and said: "Do you want to know where she works?"

-"A cat? Does it work?"

- "Yes. Follow me."

My curiosity was stronger than me. Half an hour later, we entered the Bodleian library's reading room and Becky abruptly ducked under the tables.

"Protects from mice", smiled the gardener.

I wandered around the building, wondering how old and mysterious the atmosphere was preserved here, and went out into the street, because there was still a lot of things that could surprise me in Oxford.

Голдобина Юлия,

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#### My first day at Oxford

Unforgettable sensations and views of the River Thames. Having just arrived in Oxford at 6 in the morning, I stayed in a small hotel for exchange students. I settled in a room with two girls, one of them was from Canada, and the other from St. Petersburg. Lily and Nadia. We found a common language at once and decided to walk and explore Oxford together.

Immediately in the morning we went for a walk and decided to stop somewhere for breakfast. Since I am a technologist, I was very interested in what students of Oxford ate. It was a place at Balliol College, where students had their meals. All the best traditions of Oxford early days were presented in the dining room: long tables and benches made of wood, table lamps. Everything reminds the medieval atmosphere of Harry Potter movies. They serve the typical English breakfast for students: oatmeal, scrambled eggs with bacon and tea. Having breakfast I looked out of the window and suddenly noticed blooming magnolia near one of Oxford's colleges. I saw such beauty for the first time!

After breakfast we went to the library with more than six million books used by students and teachers. In the library I spent time looking through a huge variety of culinary books: from old manuscripts and tomes of ancient recipes to up-to-date magazines with recipes for fusion cuisine.

Time passed quickly and we hurried to the main building to attend seminars and classes in our specialties and not only. The atmosphere was inspiring! We were carried away with the wave of educational process!

After classes, we could not simply leave the University as we were full of new emotions, so together with our new classmates we went to one of the yards of Oxford. Sitting on a green lawn, we played intellectual games and drank juice with sandwiches.

Having been in Oxford one day, I realized that I wanted to return there again! Very unusual town! On one hand, it's energetic like a student's life, school life is in full swing here. On the other hand, it's so peaceful, spiritualized and harmonious.

#### Рязанова Валерия, 3 курс «лингвистика», ПГНИУ

#### «One Day in Oxford»

It's early morning. I slowly wake up, stretch, open my eyes and realize that I am in a chic room furnished with strict furniture made of dark wood, in the hall there is an elegant fireplace, and on the walls everywhere colorful wallpaper with patterns and works of art. I look around everything seems so old, but so cozy and familiar. Later I notice a large wooden window; I open its thick half-century-old frames and inhale this special smell, the smell of the city. You know, sometimes it's said that every city has its own special aroma, and this city fragrances of nature and antiquity; it stores echoes of the past. Later I notice that the window is covered with ivy. How old is this plant? How many guests have seen this hotel? How many people before me have looked at the scenery of this magnificent city? The whole city seems to be saturated with a leisurely bustle. I found myself in one of the oldest cities in the UK in Oxford.

I'm leaving my room to have Breakfast at a nearby cafe. Scrambled eggs with bacon, toast with jam and strong coffee- is such a great start to the day. Then I'm walking around the city, wandering through unfamiliar streets, studying it. It's so nice to get lost in a small town, because everything you see here is new to you. I'm visiting the Oxford Botanic Garden, Oxford Castle, going to the Oxford University campus, and then visiting the Covered Oxford Market, and the rest of the time I get on various random buses and exploring that city. I'm looking at its architecture and the people passing by. I believe this way I can understand the town better, feel Oxford with my heart.

One day just one day is so little to get to know the city, feel its way of life, character, its spirit and values, but at the same time if you do not hurry anywhere, enjoy the time that you are given to stay there, you inhale the aroma of ancient streets, merge with the passing crowd, be a simple inhabitant of life, write down random thoughts in a cheap notebook bought around the corner, sometimes make small sketches while drinking a traditional English drink in a cafe, take some photos of random passers - by in their immediacy, it can happen so, that this one day in Oxford will remain not just a fleeting memory from your life, but something more that will warm your heart and fill your soul with reverence at the thought of Oxford..

Смышляева Анна, экономика, Пермский институт (филиал) РЭУ им. Плеханова

#### **ONE DAY IN OXFORD**

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. The weather was sunny and it made my day joyful. I felt very excited and looked forward to the day of new discoveries and achievements in my life. For the first time I was abroad to attend an economic forum, business courses, and English learning course. It's very interesting to know opinions and learn from people who work and study at one of the most prestigious universities in the world. As a student of Plekhanov Russian University of Economics I found all the events very important to me.

I was eager to meet the smartest people in the country because the University of Oxford's synonymous of prestige and elitism, the highest quality of education, science and knowledge, the possibility of grants and contracts on training, conducting experiments, and implementing various projects.

After having breakfast at the hotel, I went to the Innovation Center to attend the Economic Forum. Business courses were also arranged there. The hall was not very large, but there were a lot of people. People looked friendly and greeted everyone in the conference room. The topic of the Forum was dedicated to overcoming the global crisis in connection with coronavirus. The consequences of the coronavirus pandemic required immediate actions. The Forum was held in English. It was conducted by the best specialists of the University, who asked opinions of everyone, so you had to listen very carefully. During the Forum, people expressed their opinions, presented projects to improve the economic performance of their countries. After the Forum, everyone gathered in the Formosan Tea Bar cafe, where they served the most delicious tea.

During the business courses, we learned how to control our own business and become specialists with deep interdisciplinary knowledge and practical skills in the field of business management. During the courses, I met a girl from Norway. She studied for a master's degree at the University of Oxford. She shared her stories about life there and suggested to visit the History of Science Museum. In the Museum, I saw a lot of old exhibits and bought a couple of souvenirs.

It was evening, and I went back to my room. I really enjoyed the day. I met good people, learned a lot of new things, gained experience.

Next time I will definitely go somewhere else, visit new places in order to create good memories.

#### Утробина Юлия, 1 курс, журналистика, ПГНИУ

#### **One Day in Oxford**

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. The awakening after sleep was very sharp. As if a certain power source in me began to work after sleep. Electricity began to spread through my body, and I sharply opened my eyes. Strange interpretation, isn't it?

However, this has happened. After I opened my eyes, I immediately realized that I was in an unfamiliar place for me. I glanced around the room, got up, made the bed, and began to inspect the room. I immediately realized that this room is a hotel room. But it was an unusual hotel room, which I had been before. The interior of the room was made in the European style, namely in the English style. But also there were parts of a Scandinavian style in the interior. I don't know why I took this interior in this way... Perhaps this was influenced by my imagination. A little later I noticed an unusual picture on the wall. This picture was depicted animals entwined with chains. Those animals were elephant, beaver and ermine. "This picture is like a coat of arms," I thought. Seeing a red bull among the animals, I made sure that this picture is indeed a coat of arms, namely the coat of arms of Oxford. At that moment, I was struck by an unprecedented surprise! I could not understand how I could find myself in a hotel room, but not somewhere in Russia, but in Oxford. But I did not want to think about it for a long time. I looked at the clock it was exactly 10 o'clock in the morning. And I decided that I should not miss a single second, but spend this day with benefit.

I washed, did a light make-up in the European style and went outside. The weather was wonderful. I remembered that I did not pay attention to clothes. But when I saw my reflection in the bakery window opposite, I was convinced that I looked pretty presentable. So, I did not think about this anymore. The streets of the city were clean. Most of the buildings were probably Victorian. These buildings retained their historical appearance so well that, being among them, I felt in a fantasy world. I wanted to cry at this moment... Because, I began to introduce myself as a Disney princess, at the same time Belle from "Beauty and the Beast" and "Cinderella". Such an amazing feeling filled me at that moment! I immediately wanted to visit the local convenience stores, the famous Oxford University, libraries and museums. I just walked along a straight road. Since I was not well acquainted with Oxford and did not know where, what is located, I decided to navigate the area with the help of a guide map that I managed to take when I left the hotel. I came to the Oxford Canal. It was very beautiful there! Judging by the time of year, it was mid-October. Then, by some miracle, I found myself opposite the University of Oxford. I walked into the university, as there were no obstacles. I walked along the corridors of the university, introduced I myself as a student of this university for a while. Then I ended up in a spacious hall. Looking around the space, I saw that something was lying on the floor. It was a bookmark for books with the university logo. It was probably dropped by one of the students. This bookmark was not like those bookmarks that I later saw in a Souvenir shop. During the day, I therefore visited many places. I would like to tell a little more that I visited Bodleian Library. Why? When I was in that library, I saw Kate Middleton. She was without a husband and children, but surrounded by many people. It's hard to believe. Because, at that moment I also did not want to believe my eyes! I was always admired by this woman. And so I see this woman in reality. I became interested to know what she was telling people who were sitting and listening carefully to her. She talked about books that she read in childhood. It was a truly magnificent story. I followed the example of other people, sat in an empty seat and began to listen to her story...

## 3 место

#### Хатыбзянова Ильсина, 1 курс, Менеджмент и Маркетинг, ПНИПУ

#### «One Day in Oxford»

Oxford... a Seemingly simple word consisting of only seven letters. But as soon as a person hears the word "Oxford" from someone's mouth, thoughts associated with a great, picturesque city arise in his head. Oxford is the oldest University city in England, the citadel of English education and just a very beautiful city with characteristic architecture. For more than 800 years, it has been considered the birthplace of knowledge, education and students. Thousands of students from all over the world are eager to get there. The city is not only gnawing the granite of science, it is full of attractions, each of which has a chance to sink deep into the heart. Beautiful streets attract visitors, and the impregnable stone walls of medieval buildings remind someone of knights and beautiful ladies, someone - about the fictional world of Harry Potter.

And you can imagine how elated and happy I was when I found myself in a hotel room in Oxford one day. It was a beautiful Sunny day in early August, and my friend Emily sat down next to me and explained Oxford to me using a small paper tourist map of all the Oxford colleges. She explained to me that Oxford is basically the crossroads that the city has grown out of, and that around the intersection in the center of the city, I will find all the interesting and historical sights that the city has to offer.

"And what happened next?" you may ask. The next day, with a small map in my pocket, I went to explore this fantastic and unforgettable city.

The first thing I noticed was the famous river Thames, which, as it turned out, flows not only through London, but also through Oxford. How beautiful this river is, coming out of the city in the South and flowing in the direction of London. Along the Thames are the homes of various Oxford University rowing clubs, and it's good that the weather was good, because I was able to see the rowing teams training on the river. I visited many unique places: the Ashmolean Museum of Art and archaeology, one of the oldest public museums in the world and an example of beautiful architecture; the most famous of all Oxford colleges is Christ Church, the most expensive and therefore most popular. There are two observation points in Oxford that offer fantastic views of the city. One of them is the CARFAX tower, the other is the tower of the University Church of

St. Mary the virgin. Emily recommended me to visit St Mary's Church and it was a great experience, the views are impressive. We can not fail to mention the impressive Museum of natural history, not only with its collection of skeletons, minerals and insects, but also with the building itself.

Naturally, after some research during the day, I got hungry and visited the Turf tavern, a cultural and culinary highlight of Oxford, and it was also the filming location of not only Harry Potter, but also other British TV shows and movies, as evidenced by the beautifully written boards throughout the room.

I learned a lot of interesting things. It turns out that the townspeople gather together on a May morning - may 1 - to hear the Magdalen College choir sing from the top of Magdalen tower. This tradition is more than 500 years old, but it is still observed. Most come to the tower at night to hear communion, and bars are open around the clock on the night of May 1, so that first-year students can gather there. Traditionally, dances are held-they involve students returning at night from the ball, which is organized annually in the evening of the previous day. I decided that I simply must visit Oxford in May, see this spectacle, and there are still many unique places that I simply could not visit in one day. I will emphasize that if a person wants to get a real cultural experience, then it is to Oxford.

Well, what can I say in General? There is so much to see and do here that one day in Oxford will never be enough. I am extremely happy to have visited this amazing, unforgettable city of Oxford.

## Специальная номинация за изящество стиля

## Ситькова Анна, 4 курс, перевод и переводоведение, ПГНИУ

## One Day in Oxford

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford... My dream has come true. Imbued with my innate curiosity and my thirst for exploring one of the oldest British cities, I immediately sprang to my feet and went on an adventure!

The first thing that came to my mind when I found myself in this city was the University of Oxford, the oldest one in the English-speaking world. Seeing this legendary place with my own eyes, only then I understood the true meaning of the expression "Oxford is the City of Dreaming Spires". Stunning architecture and splendid buildings – everything there, in my view, has been keeping the history.

In order to feel the real life of British people, I believed there was nothing better than taking a stroll around the city. I was impressed with seeing that nowadays Oxford has been still the stronghold of British traditions. Everything there was saturated with the spirit of Old England – from the abundance of bucolic landscapes, as if descended from the long-forgotten engravings, to sophisticated monuments ... I went through the narrow streets, came into the pub Royal Blenheim

where I enjoyed the laid-back glee that prevailed there and got acquainted with local students, and then I visited the South Park to contemplate the pristine beauty and to relish the unity with nature. However, this light patina of the Middle Ages absolutely doesn't mean that there is nothing for a 21st century man in this city. I discovered Oxford to be a land that combines the beauty of the past with all the best hope of the future.

Today was a very special day... Next time I would like to touch history of London and I'm sure it will be no less exciting than this long-awaited day in Oxford.