

**Школьники, занявшие 1 место  
в конкурсе эссе на английском языке «One Day in Oxford»**

Гущина Елизавета, 10 лингвистический класс  
МАОУ "Лицей № 2", НОЦ г.Перми

One day in Oxford

...my trip from London to Oxford is over. I'm a painter and looking for bright and inspirational images and ideas. I heard a lot about The City of Dreaming Spires and can't wait to see it with my own eyes.

I am going to walk around searching for interesting things. I have my sketchbook with me to draw everything that will impress me today.

The architecture here is a true wonder. The streets are flanked with heavy, gothic buildings, which go one by one. It creates a feeling of safety, feels like walking inside a fortress. Moreover, from the bird's eye view the city looks exactly like a labyrinth, with an endless number of buildings, which are spreading everywhere like a spiky ornament.

The first thing to appear in my sketchbook is the Bridge of Sighs. It is a tiny bridge, which connects two houses and is located right above the street. The bridge is decorated with stained-glass windows, decorative columns and stucco with angels in the middle.

Then I went straight to Oxford castle, which was built in 1071. This stunning old building looks epic next to the modern surroundings. I see young people playing rugby in a beautiful red and yellow uniform.

Architecture was not the only thing I saved in my sketches. There was a guy, who was sitting in the café with a stack of books and a cup of coffee. He was mumbling, while trying to remember something from the book in his hands and was wearing a big olive scarf underneath his coat. I thought that he perfectly fitted the atmosphere of the city.

I haven't seen all sights of this city but it's time to go home. Oxford has fulfilled my expectations. I would like to visit it again some day.

**Мукаева Арина, 9 «В»**

МАОУ «Гимназия №2» г. Пермь

The mysterious savior

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. I have been here already for two days. I looked outside from a small gloomy window, the weather was drear. Honestly, I had a bad feeling; it felt like something horrible was about to happen to me. Oh, I forgot to mention that it was the day of my university entrance exam. I have been aiming to get to this University as long as I live. My parents prepared me for this every day of my life.

I got out of bed and got ready. When I went downstairs to have a breakfast at a local café I caught the eye of this strange old lady. I didn't pay attention to her and after having a breakfast I went to the University. On my way there a man was following me and when I went to the narrow street he attacked me and wanted to steal my money! Then that old lady appeared she looked at the man and that exact second he became blind. That was beyond belief! I thanked the lady and ran as fast as I could.

When I came to the exam the test was incredibly difficult. Then I looked out of the window and saw the old lady again. She was staring at me and the answers appeared on my test. I was amazed! I passed the exam and I wanted to thank the old lady. I was looking for her the whole evening and I found her in the forest near the University but she wasn't an old lady anymore! She was a beautiful princess Frideswide, the founder of Oxford! She helped me because she wanted me to stay in her wonderful city.

**Мамаева Алёна, 9 «Б» класс**  
МАОУ «СОШ №127 с углубленным изучением отдельных предметов» г. Перми

### One day in Oxford

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford.

I was awakened by the bright sunlight from the window.

At first, I didn't want to wake up but I understood that I can't skip this day in beautiful English city.

I decided to go to the hotel dining room and have breakfast. Going downstairs, I met a grey cat. He seemed to be calling me with his little beady-black eyes. I decided to go after him. We went outside and went for a walk around the city. Following the cat, I saw many old historical buildings and talked to the locals. They told me about the history of Oxford, suggested places to visit and what dishes to try.

As time went on, me and the cat still walked the streets of Oxford and suddenly came out to Gloucester Green - the main historical market of the city. Here you can find different products from all the surrounding area. For example, a variety of pastries, meat, fish, vegetables, fruits and local delicacies. Sellers offered their products to buyers, inviting various promotions, games and interesting offers. I walked through the market, bought the cat a little fish for a snack and got myself a delicious apple pie from the best bakery on the market. Each piece just melted in my mouth.

Then my friend and I continued our walk and the cat took me to University Church Mary the Virgin. This was a tall old building. I really loved the way it looked. I saw the stairs and went up on the roof.

I watched a breath taking view of the evening Oxford. I was watching the sunset and lots of different roofs for a long time could not take my eyes off. I can say that it definitely was my cup of tea.

This is how my day in Oxford went, thanks to my little grey friend. I hope that when I come to this city again, we will see each other and continue our journey to new places.

**Хохрякова Анна, 9 класс, МАОУ "Гимназия 5", г. Пермь**

One day I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. At first I didn't know where I was. It wasn't my room around me and I was scared. It was the small room with a modest old interior. There was a study table in the corner with a pile of new for me books. An official school uniform and old dark robe were on a chair. I saw the Oxford badge on this robe. I was in shock and stood in a stupor for five minutes and couldn't believe it. Looking out the window, I was very surprised to see a old

building in front of me. Students were walking around it, they were reading on benches. I realized that I was really in Oxford! I couldn't have dreamed of it!

Looking at my watch, I saw 9:00 and decided to hurry up so I could see everything. When I left the room, I found myself in a corridor teeming with professors and students. Everyone was in a hurry, reading textbooks, discussing lessons. I went into a large room where a large map of the college on the wall. I was so lucky to come across it! I saw the library on it and hurried there. When I entered into it, I found that it was two stories high! There were also workstations with computers and students working behind them. After talking to the librarian, he told me that the library in Oxford is open 24 hours a day. It's very comfortable for students! One professor noticed me and we started talking. He offered to walk me to the dining room. On the way, he told me that this Oxford College is old and therefore retains some traditions. For example, all students must wear robes to dinner, otherwise you will be left without food. In the dining room, I sat down at a table with students and met a nice girl who was studying to be a philologist. She also said with displeasure that professors enjoy the privilege of eating separately from students and even eating other food. And she pointed to their table, which rose at the end of the dining room above the students' tables. This fact struck me as funny, but it didn't bother me. I'm in Oxford! It's time to learn. I found myself in a classroom alone with a teacher! As it turned out, such lessons are common practice for them. He said that their College supports religion and that there is a special chapel on the grounds. I decided to go there after the lecture. This chapel was very beautiful. There was a prayer before dinner. All the students gathered for dinner. I saw a cafe on the street and decided to go there. Inside, intellectual games were held between students of completely different specialties and directions. I could feel it in her, and it was a lot of fun, and useful. I realized that studying at Oxford is not only about lectures, but also meeting and communicating with different new people, because I really learned a lot that night. There I met the physicist David, who promised to show me his workplace in the laboratory. We walked until nightfall, and when I got to my room, I was so tired that I went straight to bed. But I remember that my last thought was, "what a wonderful day!"

The next day I woke up in my usual room. My mother called me to a regular breakfast. I got on my regular school bus and went to my regular school. I didn't tell anyone I was in Oxford. Was it just a dream? But I will never forget it, it was the most fantastic and unusual experience of my life.

**Заозерских Анастасия, МАОУ «Гимназия №5», 11 класс**

### **One Day in Oxford**

I woke up in an unfamiliar room that looked old-fashioned. Everything seemed to me strange. I got up and came to the window. All the buildings and people looked weird, signboards had exclusively English words. Suddenly I saw a horse carriage crossing the street. "Am I really a time traveler?" I asked myself. I put on my casual clothes and tried to leave the hotel without being noticed. On the way out, I paid attention for the hotel's signboard. There was an inscription «The Randolph Hotel» at the top of it. "This is one of the oldest hotels in Oxford!" I've finally figured out where I am.

I saw a man walking towards me, when I was strolling near the University of Oxford. He was the only one who didn't care about my appearance. He was only over 20, he had a brown neatly styled hair and very sad face. He seemed familiar to me.

I started to go after him because I wanted to understand who is he. The man entered a cafe, so I followed him, trying not to be suspicious. The strange man started to writing something in his notebook. After ten minutes the stranger unexpectedly got up and left the building. I wanted to catch up with him, but had noticed some pieces of paper on his table. I took them and left the café. He was gone, so I just started to examine the paper sheets. There were pictures of rabbit in a jacket, a little girl and smoking caterpillar mixed with mathematical formulas. "It was Lewis Carroll!" I understood. "He had probably just finished his lecturing." What a pity that I didn't talk to him.

And then I woke up. What a dream! It was a perfect day in Oxford.

**Субботина Злата, 10 лингвистический класс, МАОУ "Лицей № 2"**

### **One Day in Oxford**

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. "Finally my time machine worked," I thought and looked at the date on my phone. It showed that it was December 24, 2087. "Great, but where is my time machine?" I looked around the room and saw nothing but furniture. I went out hoping to find the machine outside. Surprisingly, the only scene, that impressed me most, was

modern skyscrapers. Looking around I saw two people leaving a store. One of them seemed quite familiar to me. Then I realized that it was John Ronald Reuel Tolkien. My heart sank. "Tolkien died in 1973," I thought. I approached him and he suddenly widened his eyes.

"Are you a human?" he asked.

"Of course, I am! And so are you, right?"

"No, I'm a robot and I thought that humans do not exist anymore".

I was shocked. "I came from 2020".

"Hm, it explains everything, but I want to let you know that there are only human-like robots in the world," said Tolkien.

"Oh no, I have to return home, can you help me to find my time machine?" I begged.

"Sure, let's start looking in the Bodleian Library". Then we went there. I have never seen such a big library. Tolkien and I had been searching everywhere in the library but did not find my time machine. Therefore, we decided to go to the Museum of Natural History. Having entered the museum, we saw my time machine as an exhibit. I felt relieved. Then I turned to Tolkien and said, "Thanks for your help, now I need to go back and make sure that people will survive". We waved at each other and I returned to my time.

## **2 место**

### **в конкурсе эссе на английском языке «One Day in Oxford»**

**Гришук Елизавета, 9 класс, МАОУ “Гимназия 2”**

Something feels odd. Even though the scenario of awakening in an unknown room seems frightful, that is rather calming, though the incessant noise from the street wakes you up in a flash. Getting out of bed, you notice your room seems slightly different. Your closet is full of old-fashioned dresses, there is no laptop on the table, at this moment you feel like a film character having switched the bodies. Despite the fear, curiosity got the best of you. You put on the first dress that catches your eye, weirdly enough, you look like the main character in one of Jane Austen’s books. Here you are, running fearlessly downstairs in a mansion that cannot help but amaze you with its beauty. Courageously you rush into the town centre. You are definitely in Oxford of the 19th century. Unbelievable, your wildest dream came true! Suddenly your eyes see the university that strikes you with the splendor. Again, curiosity takes over and you are in the hallway to Magdalen College. You have never seen a building that stunning. Walking down the hall, you see a familiar face. You have certainly seen this gentleman before, so you come closer to find out who it is. Incredible, your beloved writer - Oscar Wilde! He glances at you for a second, then continues writing his notes. You can feel your whole body is shaking, your heavy eyelids are closing. Darkness! The next thing you know – you are waking up to your obnoxious alarm with the feeling of emptiness inside. You would give everything for being there once more. But it was just a dream! Little did you know that at the moment of you seeing Wilde, you witnessed the birth of one of the most successful novels of modernity - The Portrait of Dorian Gray.

**Мишарина Дарья, 10 лингвистический класс, МАОУ Лицей №2**

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

Once upon a time I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. I had a very significant mission there as I was a Superhero, -saving the cultural heritage of Oxford. In the previous evening I had a message from students of Oxford with the request for help which I couldn’t ignore. I put my purple cloak on and flew in Oxford. In the morning I set off to the Bodleian library. From the library some valuable books disappeared and I had to find them. Straightening my cloak, I was flying over wonderful old streets. I had to overcome the obstacles to find treasures and return them to their place. My strategy was to set up a trap in that library. Suddenly, I heard voices and recharged my gun. There were 2 men wearing masks, who found antiques again. For Oxford it would be a huge loss of ancient values, so I had all the hope from local people. I shoot and the net came down on them. Having come down to the ground, I took everything that they had grabbed. The police brought back all cultural heritage of Oxford: not only books and notes, but some famous pictures from great Ashmolean Museum. My mission was completed, I helped to return treasures to Oxford. At the output I met with Colin Cook – the head of Oxford. He decided to thank me and suggested a participation in film shooting of Harry Potter, where I would be one of the wizards. I couldn’t describe how glad I was ! The mission gave me many pleasant emotions from this city: lovely local people, rich history and old streets. I would definitely return there on premiere new film about Harry Potter, visit Ashmolean Museum and Church Of The Holy Virgin Mary to feel Oxford’s culture again.

### One Day in Oxford

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. I got up, made the bed, did exercises, brushed teeth and put on a white shirt and black skirt. I put everything I needed in a bag.

I decided to go outside and walk to High Street, locally called the historic center. Here I immediately looked into the Oxford Botanical Garden. Near the Botanical Garden is the Magdalene Bridge over the Charwell River. The first mention of the bridge dates back to 1004. During a flood in 1772, several arches of the bridge collapsed, after which a new stone bridge was erected on this site.

Then I decided to take a walk to Oxford Boat Dock and decided to rent a traditional Oxford boat and sail on the Charwell River in Oxford. Later I got to know the legendary University, which reminds me of a medieval castle most of all. It's just incredibly beautiful here! And, of course, I looked into the Radcliffe Chamber - this is the same dome library depicted on all postcards dedicated to Oxford. Closer to lunchtime, I dropped by the Ashmolean Museum, if only because it is one of the oldest in the public domain. This institution began operating in 1683, which in itself made it legendary. And here you can find a huge number of works of art, including the antique period, precious stones, amazing paintings. Here I met, without expecting it, Emma Watson. She is one of the initiators of the worldwide movement HeForShe. I really enjoyed spending time with her, she is a wonderful person. After we said goodbye to her, I met Rosamund Pike. She is an English theater and film actress, it's hard to believe what she told me, but Rosamund was not accepted into any acting school, which the girl wanted to enter in order to get a professional education. But at Wadham College, Oxford University, she found a place.

I felt amazing, a lot of emotions and a good mood. I am very glad that I met such wonderful people and visited such a beautiful place. Next time I would like to visit the Kerfax Tower and more. My day has come to the end, I advise everyone to visit here.

**Тайсина Алена, 11 класс,**

МАОУ «СОШ №50 с углублённым изучением английского языка» г. Перми

I woke up in a gray hotel room in Oxford which seemed very gloomy and small, as if it was squeezing me. Two weeks ago, our team learned about the existence of one humanoid android, that got out of control and started cloning himself. The people in Oxford started to disappear.

That day we were to put an end to all those mysterious cases. More and more people had vanished into the thin air. It was absolutely necessary to stop and prevent it.

I quickly dressed up and left the room. Having left the keys at the reception, I hurried to the bus.

Half an hour later I was at Wesley Memorial Church. The old building became our meeting point. Being out, I felt freezing cold: it was very cloudy and the sun was nowhere to be seen. In order to distract myself from the sad thought that I was going to freeze to death while waiting, I decided to inspect the building. It was wafting its glory but at the same time it was mysterious and a little scary. The tall gray gothic church seemed to warn against going anywhere, imposed returning back to the hotel as if something terrible was about to happen. I wondered: "How can the four of

us defeat the robot and all those creatures he managed to create?" My thoughts were interrupted by guys. "Why are you so alarmed?", asked Sam. "I don't know, I have a bad feeling...", - I began but then suddenly a sound came from behind me: "Hello. I was looking forward to our meeting too". I slowly turned to the voice and was horrified. "Oh no", I thought when I saw the ones we were chasing. And in the meantime our enemies began to approach us...

**Шакирова София**, 10 лингвистический класс МАОУ «Лицей № 2» г. Перми

### One Day in Oxford

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. I was awoken by the sound of bells. I looked out the window and saw Carfax Tower. Boy's voices were heard from the street: Sensation! The first 100 women were accepted to the University of Oxford on October 7, 1920.

I realized that I had come back in the past. I went outside and looked around, there were brick house in the Gothic style. A man was standing not far from me. This is John Frederick Baddeley, an English scientist and journalist. Probably he came to his hometown to visit nearest and dearest.

A young man came up to me and asked if I was lost. He introduced himself Arnold. His face was familiar, but I didn't remember how I knew him. I told him this is my first time in this city. He said he was going to the Ashmolean Museum and offered to join him. The museum looked like grandly with high doors and huge columns. While we were looking at the paintings and sculptures, Arnold told that he was studying at new College, Oxford, and was interested in sculpture and archaeology.

After the museum we decided to go to a cafe. Coming to the place, I realized that I was familiar with it. That's right, it's the Queen's Lane coffee House, Oxford's oldest cafe. We ordered tea, and I listened to my new friend. When we were done, we said our goodbyes and parted.

It wasn't until I went to bed that I realized I'd spent the day with Arnold Walter Lawrence, a British specialist in classical sculpture and architecture. He doesn't know yet that in 7 years he will release his first book and will be famous in the future.

**Четверикова Полина**, 11 класс, МАОУ Гимназия 31

### One day in Oxford

Can you imagine? I'm in Oxford! In the city-partner, about which I studied a lot, preparing for different projects.

Today I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. The sun was shining, the birds were singing. The weather was beautiful. I was going to see the famous Oxford University. I am interested in classical literature and European languages that is why I decided to visit the Department of English languages and literature.

The Dean of this faculty kindly provided me with a student Laura who introduced me to the University buildings. I was told that the University is a federation, comprising over forty self-governing colleges halls, along with a central administration headed by the Vice-Chancellor.

The Oxford library impressed me very much. Laura told me that the University maintained the largest university library system in the UK, and, with over 11 million volumes housed on 190 km of shelving. It was an incredible sight. I have never seen so many books in my life.

When I was exploring the University grounds, I saw David Cameron. He is the 25th Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. Besides, David Cameron studied politics, philosophy and Economics in Oxford. Certainly, I was not able to communicate with him, but it was a great surprise for me to see him.

I spent the rest of the day attending lectures on Shakespeare's works. It was unbelievable experience for me.

In the evening, I decided to take a walk through the streets of the city. I visited the Church of St. Mary, which offers a picturesque view of the city.

Oxford is terrific! But now, our partners, I invite you to Perm. I hope, once you will visit my native city. And I'm sure, if you, a citizen of Oxford, were in Perm now, you would also have an unforgettable adventure, meeting interesting people in my city, joining any clubs in our Gorkovski Library...

I think, next time I would like to go to Oxford in reality.

### **3 место** **в конкурсе эссе на английском языке «One Day in Oxford»**

**Камашева Ирина, 2 курс, ГБПОУ «Пермский техникум  
промышленных и информационных технологий им Б.Г. Изгагина»**

#### One Day in Oxford

I have a dream, or rather a plan. I want to visit all the galleries in the world. I like to explore art in all its sides, and galleries are an opportunity to do it in the best way. Therefore, if I were in Oxford, the first thing I would do would be to visit all the galleries. I would start with the Museum of Modern Art. Art does not stand still, it moves forward, and contemporary art is proof of its development. Visiting galleries is the best way to understand artists' thoughts and aims. The Gallery of Modern Art is a small free gallery in downtown Oxford with two large exhibition halls and a couple of small adjoining rooms. It is an amazing place worth visiting again and again.

The next gallery to visit is the Aidan Meller Gallery This is an Oxford gem loved by collectors, with fine exquisite art and extremely experienced, hospitable people. They also offer in-depth conversations and courses, highlighting the art and putting it in context. It is a fascinating place that everyone should visit and of course come back again.

In conclusion of my review I would like to say a few words about OVADA. It is an artist-driven art space with large exhibitions, events, courses and workshops, friendly, community-based, worth visiting if only for its non-standard atmosphere.

I want to say that Oxford is full of amazing places, the whole city is like a work of art, but unfortunately I have only a day to learn more about this wonderful place.



## One Day in Oxford

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. I still couldn't believe that I was there, in one of the most famous university cities in the world. I looked out of the window and I saw IT - the Radcliffe Camera! I decided not to waste my time and went to explore that magnificent city immediately.

Walking down the street takes you back hundreds of years as Oxford was founded in the eighth century. First of all, I headed for University College which is considered to be the oldest one. On the way there I saw students rushing to lectures. They looked excited, but, I have admit, a little sleepy.

To find out if I was going in the right direction, I stopped one of the students and asked her to help me. Her name was Anna. She offered to accompany me to Univ and even invited to attend a lecture there with her. Undoubtedly, I agreed because it was an opportunity nobody would miss.

The atmosphere of the place was really inspirational. When we went inside the building, I was totally amazed by the interiors which were even more beautiful than the facade. It was like being at Hogwarts: there was some magic in the air. And then Anna told me that most of the scenes in the films about Harry Potter were filmed in the walls of Oxford University. For instance, the great hall where all the important and solemn moments took place - was filmed in the dining hall of Christ Church College. I felt like a wizzard in this mysterious world of Harry Potter.

We listened to the lecture and after that Anna took me to the big hall, where there was a vending machine with bars. We had a snack and talked. She recommended me to go to the Ashmolean Museum, the first museum in England, where you can see the works of Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Rembrandt. She said that she could come with me and we had a great time there. That is how I found my first friend in Oxford!

## Специальная номинация за оригинальность

Куделько Юлия, МАОУ СОШ № 22 г. Перми, 9ф класс

### I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford one day

I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford one day,

I said to myself: "Is it a play?"

Well, I really tried not to panic,

'cause our twin-city is not a Titanic.

It's a profound ship of knowledge.

So I went straightly to the college:

For over fifty scientists there won the Nobel Prize

And now I want to win it twice)

Then I moved to Radcliffe's rotunda,  
And what I learned was a thunder:  
That 'Oxford' is for oxen ford –  
The library of Bodlean explained the word.

I felt so calm, walking the streets  
With fussing students on their deeds.  
I breathed in all scientific air  
And smell of freedom in the atmosphere.

I was alone with no one to share  
But with twin-city we didn't care.  
Admiring the gothic architecture slowly  
I didn't feel myself there lonely.

And I also remembered to go to the church  
The one of Saint Mary was in my lurch.  
I heard Old Tom's calling the students back  
For Christ Church college wanted its pack.

I went to Ashmolean Museum of Art  
As being a bit artist who wanted to start  
Career of prominent talents like da Vinci,  
In order to paint the second Pretty.

At last I decided to do the shopping,  
And went to the centre to have my purse mopping.  
I found a nice market with a roof over it.  
I bought souvenirs and something sweet.

For twenty five years we are together,  
Our twin cities are friends in any weather.  
In Oxford I had such a nice and sweet dream,  
I hope to come back and meet the Queen!

## **Специальная номинация за интересный сюжет**

**Ложкина София, 10 класс МАОУ «Лицей №2»**

### **One Day in Oxford**

One day I woke up in a hotel room in Oxford. «That`s incredible! What am I doing here?» - I thought. But it had been my dream since I was ten.

Without thinking twice, I got dressed and went out into the street. I was shocked: charming wide bustling streets, contemporary buildings and modern architecture surrounded me. «I`m a lucky girl. This should be the best day of my life! » - I decided.

First of all I went to a cafe and you won`t believe who I met. Robert Pattinson! He was handsome like in the movies. He had a square face with pronounced facial features, beautiful almond-shaped green eyes and bushy eyebrows. I can also say he was robust and broad-shouldered man. It`s my favorite actor, I watched all films with his participation. I went up to him and asked to take a picture. He said: « Of course, but I have a better suggestion. Would you like to go to the shooting of a movie with me?» I thought I was dreaming. «What? Sure. But pinch me first». We were driving for about two hours. Robert was telling about his life and I was observing breathtaking sceneries in the window. Oxford was urban and overcrowded city with inspiring atmosphere and it was full of historic places. I even saw famous Oxford University.

When we arrived I was surprised by the size of the film set. When we came in we met a lot of actors and actresses. I was so happy and I wanted to scream, but I kept my countenance. It was so cool to watch the movie being shot. I even thought of a career as an actress.

In the evening I was informed that I had a plane in the morning and Robert took me to the hotel. It was an unforgettable day and I will definitely return to Oxford.

**Екатерина Некипелова, 9 Б, МАОУ «СОШ № 42»**

### **One Day in Oxford**

After waking up early in the morning, I quickly got ready, took the money for the bus and, filled with enthusiasm, set off to explore the wonderful world of Oxford.

My goal for that day was the Bodleian Library. Long before that big day I had been told that it was one of the largest in the world, and within its walls there were about thirteen million books, magazines, newspapers and even sound recordings. Having passed the massive gate, I found myself in a huge reading room, the wall of which was lined with bookshelves. To my great astonishment, the library was full of people, especially young students. Perhaps, those people, who say that teenagers are reading books less and less, are mistaken about it.

Inhaling the smell of old books, I felt a sense of joy and a certain aura of a fairy tale. As if I got into the library of the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry from the Harry Potter films, some scenes of which, by the way, were filmed in the buildings of Oxford.

I took the book and began to read line by line, plunging deeper and deeper into this atmosphere.

The ringing of the bells of the Carfax Tower brought me out of this trance state. It was part of the local church, which operated until the early 19th century, and then fell into disrepair and gradually collapsed. Only the Carfax Tower survived.

«It is a great reason to visit it tomorrow» — I thought as I put the vintage book down and walked back to the bus stop.

**Яшина Анастасия, МАОУ «Лицей № 2» 10 лингвистический класс**

### **“One day in Oxford”**

One day I woke up at midnight because of a weird noise, it took me a while to realize that I was not at home. That room was similar to mine! I was puzzled, I went out, looked around and saw lots of glorious decorations. After that I heard a voice of mixed languages, I came in a bright tent and saw a capture: “Welcome to the Oxford New Year’s fair!”. Oh, really? Am I in Oxford? I was in Perm last evening! What a New Year surprise! I came to a group of men in Russian-folk clothing and greeted them. They told me that they came to Oxford from Perm for two weeks by invitation of Lord-Mayor of the city to take part in the New Year concerts. They had been living there a week and already gave 7 concerts of dancing and singing. After that I left the tent and went on to explore the fair.

While I was going through the arcade someone took my hand and pulled me to the roundelay. There were other guests of the fair. I was completely amazed that British people are so amiable and cheerful.

Suddenly the emotions, that I was overwhelmed with, woke me up and brought me to my room. I thought: “What a magnificent dream, I would like to bring it to life.” Now I know how Oxford and Perm became twin cities.

I woke up in a hotel room. That's how my holiday in Oxford started. I came downstairs and saw a table full of different food. I ate some traditional English breakfast and went outside. I didn't even know what was going to happen to me then.

I walked out of my hotel. It was early morning and bright rays of the sun dazzled my eyes. I decided to go to the center of the city and start my adventure there. I walked down the street when I noticed a man who seemed to come out of an old classic movie. He was dressed in a classic costume of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, with a top hat on his head and a walking stick in his hand. I was looking at him in surprise when our eyes met. He immediately realized that I was a tourist and smiled to me. He came up and started a conversation. I apologized for staring at him and he laughed. «This is a normal thing for me, don't worry. I understand that tourists don't often see people like me in their own country». He told me that he teaches history in Oxford university and dresses like that to help his students know their culture better. «As for me, I came to Oxford from Russia to practice English and observe the UK from the inside». He offered me a tour of the Oxford University and I agreed.

«By the way, do you know that our cities are twins?» I was really surprised by this information and thanked him a lot for the tour. This was my first day in Oxford.