

Методическая разработка
по роману **А. С. Пушкина «Капитанская дочка»**
для урока английского языка в 8 классе

выполнила учитель английского языка
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“The Captain’s Daughter” (an extract)

The next morning, early, Marya Ivanovna woke up, dressed, and quietly went to the garden. It was a beautiful morning; the sun lit up the tops of the linden trees that had already turned yellow under the fresh breath of autumn. The wide lake shone motionlessly. The awakened swans majestically swam out from under the bushes along the shore. Marya Ivanovna walked near a beautiful meadow where a monument had just been erected in honor of the recent victories of Count Pyotr Alexandrovich Rumyantsev. Suddenly, a white English breed dog barked and ran towards her. Marya Ivanovna got scared and decided to stop. At that very moment, a pleasant female voice said, “Don’t be afraid, she won’t bite.” And Marya Ivanovna saw a lady sitting on a bench opposite the monument. Marya Ivanovna sat at the other end of the bench. The lady looked at her intently; and Marya Ivanovna, for her part, after casting a few indirect glances, managed to examine her from head to toe. She was in a white morning dress, in a nightcap, and wearing a warm jacket. She seemed to be about forty years old. Her full, rosy face expressed **significance** and **calmness**, while her blue eyes and slight smile had an indescribable charm. The lady was the first to break the silence.

“You are not from around here, are you?” she said.

“Exactly so: I only arrived yesterday from the province.”

“Did you come with your family?”

“Not at all. I came alone.”

“Alone! But you are still so young.”

“I have neither father nor mother.”

“You are here for some business, I suppose?”

“Exactly so. I came to submit a petition to the sovereign.”

“You are an orphan: probably, you complain about injustice and offense?”

“Not at all. I came to ask for mercy, not justice.”

“May I ask who you are?”

“I am the daughter of Captain Mironov.”

“Captain Mironov! The same one who was the commandant in one of the Orenburg fortresses?”

“Exactly so.”



The lady seemed moved. “Forgive me,” she said in an even gentler voice, “if I am intruding into your affairs; but I frequent the court; explain to me what your petition is about, and perhaps I can help you.”

Marya Ivanovna stood up and respectfully thanked her. Everything about the unknown lady involuntarily attracted the heart and inspired confidence. Marya Ivanovna took out a folded paper from her pocket and handed it to her unknown patroness, who began to read it to herself.

At first, she read with an **attentive** and **benevolent** expression; but suddenly her face changed, and Marya Ivanovna, following her movements with her eyes, was frightened by the stern expression of her face, which had been so **pleasant** and calm a moment ago.

“Are you asking for Grinev?” said the lady with a cold look. “The Empress cannot forgive him. He joined the pretender not out of ignorance and gullibility, but as an **immoral** and **harmful** scoundrel.”

“Oh, that’s not true!” exclaimed Marya Ivanovna.

“How, not true!” the lady retorted, all aflame.

“It’s not true, by God, it’s not true! I know everything, I will tell you everything. He risked everything for me alone. And if he did not justify himself in court, was it only because he did not want to involve me?” Then she passionately told everything that is already known to my reader.

The lady listened to her attentively. “Where are you staying?” she asked then; and hearing that it was with Anna Vlashevna, she said with a smile: “Ah! I know. Farewell, do not tell anyone about our meeting. I hope that you will not have to wait long for a response to your letter”.

1. Answer the questions according to the text:

- 1) What was the weather like when Marya Ivanovna went to the garden?
- 2) Why did Marya Ivanovna get scared while in the garden?
- 3) Whom did she meet after that?
- 4) Was this woman young, old or middle-aged?
- 5) Why did the woman decide to read the young girl’s letter?
- 6) What caused the changes in the expression on the woman’s face?
- 7) Did Marya Ivanovna explain the real situation about Grinev to the woman?

2. Identify the statements as “True” or “False” and correct the wrong sentences:

- 1) Marya Ivanovna arrived in the city with her family. True / False
- 2) The lady who spoke to Marya Ivanovna was about forty years old. True / False
- 3) Marya Ivanovna came to ask the sovereign for justice. True / False
- 4) The lady told Marya Ivanovna that the Empress could forgive Grinev. True / False
- 5) Marya Ivanovna explained that Grinev joined the pretender to save her. True / False
- 6) Marya Ivanovna handed her petition to the unknown lady to read. True / False
- 7) The lady asked Marya Ivanovna not to tell anyone about their meeting. True / False

3. Give Russian equivalents to the words in bold and find antonyms to them from the list:

Unimportance **Passion** **Abstracted** **Mean** **Severe** **Honorable** **Kind**

4. Explain in English the underlined words.