

Использование лимериков на уроках английского языка

Лимерик – это своего рода стихотворение, одна из составляющих английского юмора и культуры.

Сейчас трудно узнать, кто был создателем первого лимерика и почему его название произошло от графства Лимерик в Ирландии. Однако существует мнение, что название стихотворения восходит к обычаю придумывать и петь на вечеринках шуточные песенки, припевом которых была фраза "Will you come up to Limerick?" - "Вы приедете в Лимерик?" (или по другой версии "Come all the way up to Limerick?"). Впервые в Великобритании название стихотворения встречается в Новом словаре английского языка (New English Dictionary) в 1898 году, а в американских книгах в 1902 году.

Первым человеком, выпустившим сборник лимериков собственного сочинения (1846), считается Эдвард Лир. Книга называлась «Чепуха» («Book of Nonsense»). Э. Лир – один из самых известных английских поэтов. Благодаря ему, в 19 веке лимерики стали популярны. Лир написал 212 лимериков, большинство из которых были забавно-абсурдного характера. В то время в книгах они, как правило, сопровождались такими же абсурдными иллюстрациями.

Лимерик – это короткое смешное стихотворение, состоящее из пяти строк. Кроме того, отличительной чертой лимерика является его одинаковая форма. Первая строка рифмуется со второй, третья – с четвертой, а первая и вторая с пятой. Третья и четвертая строки, как правило, короче остальных (особенно в более ранних произведениях). Поскольку последняя строка представляет собой некое заключение, то она может быть похожа на первую строку и может заканчиваться тем же словом. Лимерик обычно начинается со слов "There was a...".

There was an Old Man of Peru,
Who dreamt he was eating his shoe.
He awoke in the night
In a terrible fright
And found it was perfectly true!

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.

Однажды увидел чудака

Во сне, что он ест свой башмак
Он вмиг пробудился
И убедился,
Что это действительно так.

Одна хохотушка-девица
Любила кататься на львице.
Признаться вам честно –
Девница исчезла,
Зато улыбается львица.

There was a man of Calcutta
Who spoke with a terrible stutter
At breakfast he said:
"Give me b-b-b- bread
And b-b-b-butter!"

There was a clever old miser who tries
Every method to e-co-no-mize.
He said with a wink
"I save gallons of ink
By simply not dotting my i's"

There was an Old Person of Fife,
Who was greatly disgusted with life;
They sang him a ballad,
And fed him a salad,

Which cured that Old Person of Fife.

There was an Old Man of the North,
Who fell in a basin of broth;
But a quick-witted cook
Fished him out with a hook,
Which saved that Old Man of the North.

There was a Young Lady whose nose
Was so long that it reached to her toes;
So she hired an Old lady
Whose conduct was steady,
To carry that wonderful nose.

There once was a man from Harare,
Who bought a brand new Ferrari.
Now the buck and the gnu
And the elephant too
Hide away when he goes on safari.

There was an Old Man, who when little,
Fell casually into a kettle;
But growing too stout,
He could never get out,
So he passed all his life in that kettle.

There was an Old Man with a beard,
Who said, "It is just as I feared! —

Two Owls and a Hen,
Four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my beard!"

There was a Young Lady whose chin
Resembled the point of a pin;
So she had it made sharp,
And purchased a harp,
And played several tunes with her chin.

There was a young lady named Bright
Who travelled much faster than light.
She started one day
In a relative way
And returned on the previous night.

The limerick packs laughs anatomical
Into space that is quite economical.
But the good ones I've seen
So seldom are clean.
And the clean ones so seldom are comical.

There was a young man of Japan
Whose limericks never would scan.
When they said it was so
He replied, "Yes I know,
But I always try to get as many words into the last line as ever I possibly can."

A pretty young teacher named Beauchamp
Said, "Those awful boys! How shall I teauchamp?
I try to look grave
But they will not behave
Though with tears in my eyes I beseauchamp."

There was an old Derry down Derry,
Who loved to see little folks merry;
So he made them a book,
And with laughter they shook
At the fun of that Derry down Derry.

There was a young girl of Darjeeling
Who could dance with such exquisite feeling
There was never a sound
For miles around
Save of fly-buttons hitting the ceiling.

There was a Young Person of Smyrna
Whose grandmother threatened to burn her;
But she seized on the cat,
and said 'Granny, burn that!
You incongruous old woman of Smyrna!'

A rocket explorer named Wright
Once traveled much faster than light.
He set out one day
In a relative way?

And returned on the previous night.