

Think of three questions you would like to ask about Chekhov. Then, read the biography and see if you can answer them.

Anton Pavlovich Chekhov was born in Taganrog in Russia. When he was nineteen, he went to medical school in Moscow and later became a doctor. It was while working as a doctor that he began to publish his stories in order to help support his family. By 1886, he had become famous as a writer of plays and short stories. His

works include the play *The Seagull* (1896) and his famous short story *The Steppe* (1888).

Chekhov was a very fast writer who could

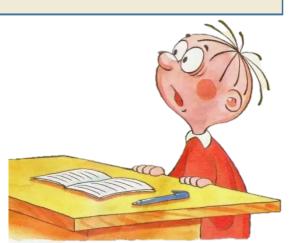
produce a story in under an hour! A typical Chekhov story is about the thoughts and emotions of the characters. In *The Darling* (1899), Chekhov describes a woman, Olenka, who uses other people to give her own life meaning.

He wrote The Darling (1899) and The Steppe (1888).

He became famous in 1886.

Moscow and Taganrog.

He wrote The Seagull (1896).



Learn new words

коммерческий
осматривать,
инспектировать
чрезмерный
засунутый
печально, грустно
заплетаться
парень
пристыженный
глазеть на

переполненный лучезарно улыбаться учить наизусть бормотать туманный, смутный мурлыкать ямочка на щеке привязанность, узы материнский **ИНСТИНКТ**

commercial

to inspect

superfluous

tucked

sorrowfully

overflowing

fellow

ashamed

to stare at



To look at something or someone carefully in order to discover information, especially about their quality or condition

to beam

to learn by heart

to mutter

misty

to purr

dimple

tie

maternal instincts

When she had seen Sasha off to school, D Her face, are they related? which had grown younger in the last six months, smiled and beamed. People who met her were pleased as they looked at her.

"How are you Olga Semyonovna, darling? How are you getting on, darling?"

"The school courses are very difficult nowadays," she told people at the market. "It's no joke. Yesterday the first class had a fable to learn by heart, a Latin translation, and a problem. How is a little fellow to do all that?"

And she spoke of the teacher and the lessons at the textbooks, E At three o'clock they had dinner. In the evening they did his

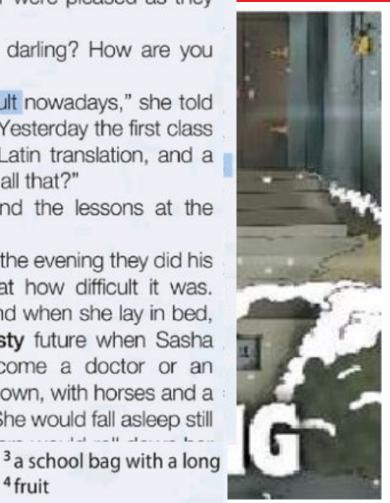
homework together, both crying at how difficult it was. When she put him to bed, F And when she lay in bed, she dreamed of the far-away, misty future when Sasha would finish his studies and become a doctor or an engineer, have a large house of his own, with horses and a carriage, marry and have children. She would fall asleep still

4 fruit

1 hard, brittle cakes or biscuits

² stories which teach moral lessons





Text 1

Text 2

Text 3

Text 4

Note



When she had seen Sasha off to school, **D**..... Her face, which had grown younger in the last six months, smiled and **beamed**. People who met her were pleased as they

ith the parts of the is extra.

day.

the cross



- 1 repeating exactly what Sasha said about them.
- 2 she A 5 D 2 ul and
- 3 and B 7 E 1
 - and C-3 F-6
 - over him, muttering a prayer.

 7 looking at him as though he was departing on a long journey.

engineer, have a large house of his own, with horses and a carriage, marry and have children. She would fall asleep still

thinking of the same things and tears would roll down her hard, brittle cakes or biscuits

3 a school bag with a long
4 fruit

Text 1

Text 2

Text 3

Text 4

Note

Study skills

Sentences

Answers

d. Match each sentences she dreamed of the far-away, misty future when Sasha would d you decide? finish his studies and become a doctor or an engineer, have a 60 large ho have chi 1 - C abandoned (line 11) purring: 2 - G sound asleep (line 16) HOW ald 3 - F breakfast (line 21) on, darlin 4 - A went ... to the school (line 28) "The scho 5 - E ashamed of being followed at the ma learn by h 6 - D fable to learn, Latin translation, a And she problem (line 51, 2) books, re 7 - B dreamed of the far-away, misty At three future homewor 2 a school bag with a long strap

Text 1

Text 2

Text 3

Text 5

Text 4

Note

Sentences

Answers



Match the highlighted words in the text with their meanings below.

rather fat	abandone
deeply	fixed up
set up, organised	sound
pushed quickly and carelessly	shoved
hard	stout
awakened	aroused
left alone for a long time	difficult



Using a dictionary, explain the words in bold.



More than is needed or wanted



Look at the list of amotions and feelings below she dreamed of the far-away, misty future when Sasha would finish his studies and become a doctor or an engineer, have a 60 large house of his own, with horses and a carriage, marry and 56) have children. 7 And the black cat would lie at her side purring: "Mrr, mrr, mrr." now are you, Olga serriyonovna, dariing? now are you getting on, darling?" "The school courses are very difficult nowadays," she told people 50 at the market. "It's no joke. Yesterday the first class had a fable to learn by heart, a Latin translation, and a problem. | 6 And she spoke of the teacher and the lessons and the textbooks, repeating exactly what Sasha said about them. At three o'clock they had dinner. In the evening they did his 55 homework together, both crying at how difficult it was. When she put him to bed, she stayed a long time making the sign of the cross over him, muttering a prayer. And when she lay in bed,

ow difficult it was (l.

Olenka sympathy affection 3 happiness/joy sorrow

responsibility

dedication

peacefulness



Which part of the text best describes the picture?



The picture shows Olenka looking at Sasha as he enters school.



Sasha comes home one day and tells his aunt he wants to go and live with his mother in Kharkov. How would he say this? How might Olenka react? In pairs, write a short dialogue, then act it out for the class. Vote for the best dramatization.

Suggested Answer Key

- A: Aunt Olenka, there's something I'd like to tell you.
- B: Yes Sasha, darling. What is it?
- A: Aunt, I want to go and live with my mother.
 I miss her very much!
- B: What!
- A: Please, Aunt Olenka. I miss my mother and I want to be with her.
- B: But your mother abandoned you.
- A: I don't care. I hate it here. School is so difficult.
- B: But I love you, Sasha darling.
- A: I know, but I have to go.

Answer

Fill in: beam, stare, mutter, purr, overflow, arouse in the correct form.

- 1 Jim was so bored in the lesson that he just stared out of the window.
- 2 "Stop muttering Nancy, I can hardly hear what you're saying!" said Grandpa.
- 3 The cat began to purr as she stroked its head.
- 4 The garden was overflowing with fresh vegetables.
- 5 That lecture has really aroused my interest in politics.
- 6 Sarah's mother beamed with pride as she watched her win the race.

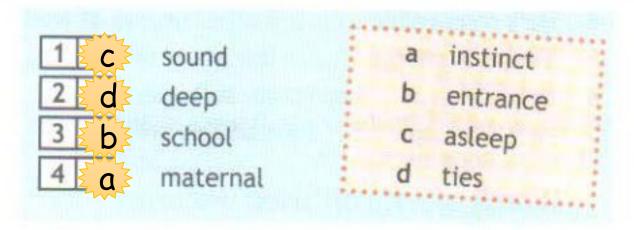
Workbook

- 1 It is not certain whether the project will be a ... commercial ... success or not. COMMERCE
- She was really ashamed about the way she had acted.
 SHAME
- 3 It was a cold and misty morning. MIST
- 4 George was .. abandoned by his parents as a small child.

 ABANDON
- 5 They tried to find a peaceful solution to the troubles. PEACE
- 6 She shook her head ... sorrowfully after hearing the sad news. SORROW



Match the words. Then, use the phrase to complete the sentences.



- 1 She didn't know she had a , maternal instinct, until she held her newborn baby.
- 2 Mother started to cry when she dropped me off at the .. school entrance ... for the first time.
- 3 The baby was , sound asleep , despite all the noise.
- 4 Mothers usually have deep emotional ties with their children.

Fill in: die, open, learn, mind.

- 1 The pupils have to ... learn ... the poem by heart before the performance.
- 2 I hadn't eaten for so long I felt like I was going to die of hunger.
- 3 When you graduate from university there are many roads ... open to you.
- 4 It's not always easy to concentrate in class, especially when you have other things on your mind

Annie: Yes. It's like the rules of what you should and should not wear. Some companies are very conservative while others allow a bit of individuality.

Presenter: And how can our listeners find out this information?

Annie: Try to get in touch with people who already work for that company and ask questions about the dress code. Another alternative is to take the bull by the

horns and just call the Human Resources office and ask. **Presenter:** Great. Any general tips that you consider a must for any potential interviewee?

Annie: Well, first and foremost, never wear jeans. They are far too casual for any interview. Women

should avoid short miniskirts and loud noisy jewellery. Men should not wear casual jumpers or leather jackets.

Better stick to a suit, either blue or grey in colour.

Presenter: Well, that's all been so helpful. Thank you so much for being with us today.

according to Airile, a black suit is appropriate

so much for being with us today.

Annie: You're very welcome. Glad to be of help.

if you're interviewing for

A any job.

B a creative job

any job. B a creative job. a high position in a big company.

the correct answer.



What does Annie suggest is essential in an interview?

There should be something characteristic in the candidate's appearance.

B The candidate should be well-dressed.
C The candidate should wear a tiepin.

How can candidates find out more information

about what to wear to the interview?

A Go to the company and look at what the others are wearing.

B They can call Annie at her office.

They can speak to other employees of the company.

What should all candidates definitely NOT wear to an interview?

A Jewellery b Jeans C Leather jackets

Script 1 Script 2 Script 3 Script 4

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