

Л.М. Адамовська  
С.А. Зайковскі

# English Texts

## for Reading and Discussion

### Form 6



ТЕРНОПІЛЬ  
НАВЧАЛЬНА КНИГА – БОГДАН  
2003

ББК 81.2Англ  
А-28

Рецензенти:

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А-28 Англійські тексти для читання та обговорення. 6 клас. –  
Тернопіль: Навчальна книга – Богдан, 2003. – 44 с.

**ISBN 966-692-232-0**

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ББК 81.2Англ

ISBN 966-692-232-0

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# AN OLD TALE

Once a little old woman baked cakes in her oven. She had on a black dress and a small white apron. A red cap was on her head. A poor old man came to her kitchen door and said, "I am hungry, good woman, please give me one of your cakes."

The old woman said, "These cakes are too large for you. I shall bake you a little cake."

So she made a very little cake and put it into the oven. But the cake began to grow bigger and bigger.

"This cake is too large," said the old woman. Then she made a tiny cake and put it into the oven. But it began to grow bigger too.

"I shall not give you this cake," said the old woman, "it is too large for you."

Then she made a tiny cake again and put it into her oven.

But that cake began to grow bigger and bigger too.

"I don't want to give you any cake," said the old woman. "I shall eat them but not you. Go away."

So the poor old man went away hungry.

Now comes the strangest part of this story. As the old woman began to eat her cakes she began to grow smaller and smaller. Her nose became a sharp beak. She looked at her arms. And what did she see? She saw black wings.

She looked at her black dress and white apron. But they were all feathers. Now she was a bird.

You can see this little bird. It hops up and down trees.

People say that the old woman who did not want to give one tiny cake to a poor old man is a woodpecker now.

baked cakes in her oven — пекла млинці в печі  
apron — фартух  
tiny — дуже маленький, крихітний  
strange — дивний  
began to grow smaller and smaller — ставала все меншою і меншою  
a sharp beak — гострий дзьоб  
wing — крило  
were all feathers — стали пір'ям  
It hops up and down trees. — Вона стрибає ввверх і вниз по деревах.  
woodpecker — дятел

---

*Answer the questions*

1. What did a little old woman bake in her oven?
2. What had she on?
3. What was on her head?
4. Who came to her?
5. What did the poor old man ask her?
6. Did the woman want to give the old man a large cake? Why not? What makes you think so?
7. Did the woman give the old man any cake?
8. What is the strangest part of the story?
9. What bird did the woman turn into?

## **SUSAN TAKES THREE TRIPS**

Susan skipped down the street. She stopped at Jane's house. Jane was playing with Ted. Susan said, "I've just been to a circus."

"But there is no circus in town," said Ted.

"Just the same, I went to a circus," said Susan. "I saw an elephant dance. I saw a lion show. And I saw monkeys riding bikes." Susan turned and skipped back home.

Jane said, "I don't understand. Susan always tells the truth."

The next day, Susan again skipped down the street. She went to see Jane and Ted. "I've just been to Africa," she said.

Ted and Jane looked at each other. "That can't be true," said Ted. "Are you sure?" said Jane.

“Yes, I’m sure,” said Susan. “I saw zebras and giraffes in the jungle. I saw elephants and monkeys. And I saw the natives.” Susan then skipped back home.

Ted said, “I don’t believe her.”

Jane said, “But Susan says so.”



The next day, Susan again went to see Jane and Ted.

“I have been playing with a pet dinosaur,” said Susan. “That can’t be true,” said Ted. “There are no dinosaurs anywhere.”

“Just the same, it is true,” said Susan. “Where I went today, there was a dinosaur. I have done three wonderful things this week. You see, I have read three books!”

( *After S. M. Jorjorian* )

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**Vocabulary**

skip — стрибати

circus — цирк

show — вистава

ride (rode, ridden) a bike — кататися на велосипеді, їхати верхи

truth — правда

the jungle — джунглі

the natives — туземці

believe — вірити

a pet dinosaur — ручний динозавр

wonderful — чудовий