Stecuk Maksim group 1.2

**The Red Dog – A Worksheet**

*Task C*

1. The author had to leave his dog behind because he was **called into the army**. In other words, he was drafted.
2. Spook was a beautiful Irish setter, a dog with long hair and a **reddish** copper coat. What does this mean?

Answer:

A reddish copper coat means that the color of the Spook's coat has a warm hue, mixing red and orange shades with a small amount of brown or yellow, resembling the color of copper ore.

1. **In the author’s eyes**, Spook was a rare treasure. This was how he f \_ \_ t about the dog; it was his opinion.
2. Spook thumped the floor with his tail, but **his eyes remained fixed on my face**. Spook was looking straight at the author; he was sneering at his master.
3. After a month in the army the author wrote his friend a letter **inquiring** about the dog. This is the verb **inquire**. The related noun and adverb are both used in the story. Can you find them?

Answer:

noun – inquiries (I gave up making inquiries…);

adverb – inquiringly (Laurette lifted her eyebrows inquiringly)

1. When his friend didn’t respond to his letter, the author wrote to **other** friends and asked about the dog.
2. When he still got no answer to his question, he **tried his best to put the dog from his mind**. That is, he tried not to think about Spook, to forget about him.
3. When he returned from the army, he got married. He and his wife lived in **the city**. What city? Spook was in a village in **upstate** New York. What does that mean?

Answer:

Before and after the war, the author lived in New York, and he took the dog to his friend in Upstate New York, which is a rural area located north and northwest of New York City.

1. As they were packing their bags in the car, Laurette suddenly asked, “**Suppose** we run into your Spook?” But, after taking one look at her husband’s face, she never finished the question. Besides, he said in no uncertain terms that the dog was dead. What kind of look do you suppose he had on his face? How do you think she would have finished her question? What else could she have said instead of “Suppose…”?

Answer:

Lauretta's husband's face could be both extremely sad and extremely angry, because he tried his best to put the dog from his mind.

Lauretta could end the question in different ways, for example, "Suppose we run into your Spook, how will you feel?" or "Suppose we run into your Spook, what will you do?"

Instead of “Suppose…” she could said “What if…” or “Imagine if…”.

1. **The minute they arrived** in the village, the author drove to the garage. What this means is that he went straight to the garage as soon as they got to the village.
2. If the tank in his car was still **half full**, then it was also half empty.
3. When he went into the garage and greeted his friend, we can imagine that they engaged in some small talk. But, finally the author **couldn’t stand it any longer** and **blurted out**, “What happened to Spook?” What was it that he couldn’t stand? And how did he ask the question? (Quickly and without tarrying).

Answer:

Despite his attempts to forget spook, the author could not stand and not try to find out from his friend about the fate of the dog and the reason why his friend did not respond to letters. He blurted out his question. It means, that he said quickly without thought.

1. His friend had given Spook away to a minister because he had been **drafted**, or called, into the army and hadn’t known that he would be **turned down**, or rejected.
2. Although, in his letters, the author had been **pleading** (or begging) for news of the dog, his friend hadn’t written back to him. So, when asked why, he **flushed with embarrassment** – his face turned red (he blushed), and he was ashamed.
3. Spook was in perfect condition and was **hard as nails**. He was tough, he was fit, he was in good physical shape.
4. If anybody went out hunting, Spook was **ready and willing to tag along**, i.e. he was prepared and eager to follow them.
5. When his wife asked if Spook was alive, the author **nodded his head**. What does this mean? If the opposite had been true, what would he have done with his head?

Answer:

When the author nodded his head in response to his wife's question if Spook was alive, it means he made an upward and downward motion with his head, which showa agreement with the question. If the opposite were true, the author would shake his head, which means moving left and right.

1. As the author was climbing up the side of the valley, he **stopped to rest**. Maybe he was out of breath.
2. This is when he first spotted Spook, along with his current “master”, a boy who looked to be about sixteen years old. After the two of them had crossed the field, “**the trees on the far side swallowed them**”. Another way of saying this is that they disappeared into the trees on the other side of the field.
3. The next time he saw the dog, he and his wife were hav**ing** dinner at a restaurant. Why did he use the continuous tense here?

Answer:

The author uses continuous tense to show the reader the duration and continuity of the action. This way of describing the event allows the author to better convey the dynamics and atmosphere of the events taking place.

1. Because there had been a **heavy rainstorm**, or downpour, Spook was **soaking wet**. He was absolutely drenched.
2. What does a dog do when it wants to get someone’s attention? What does it do with its tail when it wants to communicate its emotional state? What does it often do with its body when it is getting ready to take a nap?

Answer:

When a dog wants to get someone's attention, it may bark or make eye contact. When a dog wants to communicate its emotional state it may wag its tail. And when dogs are going to take a nap, they often curl up, resting their heads on their paws.

1. In the restaurant, Spook **watched every move the author made** (his eyes remained fixed on the author’s face), just the way **he used to**. What does this mean?

Answer:

It can be assumed that Spook studied the author, his behavior and his face in order to better understand the mood of his real master. Another reason for this behavior could be the fear of losing his master again.

1. What do you think the waitress was going to do when she said, “Here you…”? We will never know for sure, because the author interrupted her and told her to leave the dog alone. His tone of voice was so sharp, though, that it **startled** her. This was so sudden and unexpected that she may have jumped.

Answer:

The waitress brought the food to the author and his wife and most likely wanted to utter a phrase meaning this action. For example, "Here your food".

1. When the author let Spook out, **the darkness swallowed up the dog**. This means that Spook vanished into the darkness.
2. When a dog is indoors and wants to go outside, what do we say that it wants? When it is outdoors and wants to come inside a building, what do we say? Do we use these expressions with people?

Answer:

When a dog is indoors and wants to go outside we say that it wants out. When dog is outdoors and wants to come inside a building we say it wants in. But for both humans and dogs, we can use expressions such as “…want to go out” or “…want to come in”.

1. In the middle of the night, the author heard Spook get up and change position; then he heard him **hit the floor with a thud**. What kind of sound is that? Then he heard him let out a **sigh** that **seemed to contain all the contentment in the world**. What does this mean? Does a sigh always reflect contentment?

Answer:

Hit the floor with a thud" means that something made a heavy, dull sound. In this case, most likely, the Spider, changing its position, made this sound with its body. When the author heard Spock let out a sigh that seemed to have all the satisfaction in the world, it meant that the dog felt comfortable and peaceful next to his master. However, a sigh does not always have a positive meaning. It is often caused by negative emotions.

1. Why do you think that Spook was **wining anxiously** as they were heading to the Crockers’ place?

Answer:

Spook felt the author's mood and excitement. Most likely, he understood that they could expect a quick breakup, because when the author first left him with a friend, they also drove a car through this area.

1. What do people often put around a dog’s neck? Why?

Answer:

People often put a collar around the dog's neck to show that it is not homeless and has an owner.

1. The boy who came to the door when the author knocked on it was **astounded** to see him with the dog. How else could you say this? (There are any number of synonyms.)

Answer:

The boy who came to the door when the author knocked on it was surprised to see him with the dog.

The boy who answered the door when the author knocked on it was amazed to see him with the dog.

1. When he was chasing after the car, Spook was **running his heart out**. How was he running? Can you use “heart out” with any other verbs?

Answer:

When it's said that Spook was "running his heart out," it means that he was running as fast as he could, putting all his effort and energy into it. The phrase "heart out" can be used with other verbs to convey a similar sense of putting maximum effort or emotion into an action.

1. While this was happening, the author **couldn’t** **tear his eyes from the rear-view mirror**. What is another way of saying this?

Answer:

Another way of saying "the author couldn’t tear his eyes from the rear-view mirror" could be “the author couldn’t stop looking in the rear-view mirror”.

1. He knew that the dog would never **give up**. What would it not stop doing?

Answer:  
In this case, “never give up” means that the dog would never stop running after his car, despite being tired or exhausted, it would continue to run.

1. After all of this the dog was **exhausted**. This means that it was very, very tired.
2. What is a **recurring dream**?

A recurring dream is a dream that repeats over time, often with identical content.