

# 21 - The Book - a persons friend

## *The Book – a Person's Friend*

Talk about – rozprávajte o:

- **Different kinds of books** – rôzne druhy kníh
- **My attitude to books** – môj vzťah ku knihám
- **Famous English writers** – slávni anglickí spisovatelia
- **My favourite book** – moja obľúbená kniha

**1. Different kinds of books**  
People like reading books – it is one of the most favourite leisure activities. We can buy books in a bookshop or we can borrow them from a library.

We can read books anywhere - at home, on the bus or train, at the doctors'... The books are a good source of information and entertainment. Reading books can be fun when it is a hobby, but it can also be boring – for example for students who have to study and learn a lot of information when they have to take an exam or a test. Every year, the Nobel Prize for Literature is awarded to the writer whose work of fiction is considered unique and great. For example E. Hemingway, J. Steinbeck are the Nobel Prize winners.

**Literature** can be divided into 2 categories:  
**a) NON-FICTION BOOKS** – náučná literatúra  
**b) FICTION BOOKS** - beletria

**NON-FICTION BOOKS** /náučné knihy/ – they are usually for information. They can be divided into:

- **textbooks** /učebnice/ - they are educational books which contain information about some subject – for example mathematics, geography, a foreign language ...
  - **dictionaries** /slovníky/ - they tell us about the meanings of words
  - **encyclopaedias** /encyklopédie/ - they are large books and they contain a lot of facts and dates about different subjects – e.g. the world encyclopaedias, the animal encyclopaedias and so on.
  - **biographies** /biografie, životopisné knihy/ – they contain information about a life of a famous person – e.g. of a president, scientist ... Sometimes there are also biographies about ordinary people.
  - **autobiographies** and **memoirs** /autobiografie a spomienky/
  - **travel books** – cestovné / cestopisné knihy
  - **art books** /knihy o umení/
  - **cookery books** /kuchárske knihy/ - they contain recipes and teach people how to cook different meals or bake cakes
- FICTION BOOKS** /beletria/ - there are 2 types of fiction books:

- **POETRY** /poézia/ - poems
- **PROSE** /próza/ - it contains:
  - **tales** – príbehy => **fairy tale** = rozprávka
  - **short stories** – poviedky
  - **westerns** – westerny
  - **science-fiction** – sci-fi
  - **crime/spy novels** – kriminálne/špionážne novels
  - **romantic novels** – romantické novels
  - **historical novel** – historické romány
  - **thrillers** - trilery

## **2. My attitude to books**

a) I like reading books. It is my favourite leisure activity. I have read many books in my life. I prefer ..... /fiction / non-fiction/. My favourite books are encyclopaedias because I like to learn about the human history, the nature, animals or important inventions. Sometimes I read novels, especially spy and crime novels that have a complicated plot because they are interesting. They usually investigate a murder. I don't like romantic novels - I think that they are boring.

b) I don't like reading books. I only read books when I have to read them for school. I think that books are boring. I prefer playing football or watching TV. But sometimes I read encyclopaedias about animals because I like wild life. But that is not very often.

## **3. Famous English writers**

There are many famous English writers. For example:

- **William Shakespeare**
- **Charles Dickens**
- **Brönte sisters /Emily Brönte, Charlotte Brönte/**
- **Ernest Hemingway**

### **- Oscar Wilde...WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (1564 – 1616)**

- he was an **actor** /herec/, **poet** /básnik/, **playwright** /dramatik, písal divadelné hry/
- he **was born in Stradford upon Avon** and died when he was 52 years old
- he came from a fairly rich family – **he attended a grammar school** /gymnázium/, but **he didn't have university education**
- he got married when he was 18 years old – his wife was older than him when they got married – she was 26 years old => they **had 3 children** – 2 daughters and 1 son. Their son died when he was 11 years old – the death of his son reflected /sa odrazila/ in his work
- some people don't believe that Shakespeare could write all his works because he didn't have university education – they think that somebody else wrote it

**His work:**

- he **wrote for money**
- he used **excellent language** /he used metaphors, jokes.../ in his work and he invented many new words and sayings which we still use in our everyday lives => for example *"Love is blind"* – *"Láska je slepá"*
- He wrote 139 plays /play = divadelná hra/:
- **Romantic plays** – romantické hry
- ***Romeo and Juliet***
- **Tragedies** – tragédie
- ***Othello***
- ***Mackbeth***
- ***King Lear***
- ***Hamlet***
- **Comedies** – komédie
- ***All's Well That Ends Well*** – Koniec všetko napraví
- **Historical plays** – historické hry:
- ***Henry VIII.***
- ***Richard III.***

He also wrote:

- **poetry** – poéziu
- **sonnets** – sonety

#### 4. ***My favourite book***

My favourite book is ..... It is a ..... /love story, crime story, spy novel.../ I have read it many times. It is about ..... I got it as a present for my birthday / I borrowed it from the library / my friend gave it to me.

I don't have a favourite book because I don't like reading books. It takes a long time to read a book. I prefer watching TV or reading newspapers and magazines because they contain a lot of information and I can read about what happens in the world now.

**Vocabulary:** different kinds of books – rôzne druhy kníh  
 leisure activity – aktivita na voľný čas  
 borrow – požičať  
 library – knižnica  
 anywhere – hocikde  
 a source of information – zdroj informácií  
 entertainment – zábava  
 fun – zábava  
 boring – nudný  
 students who have to study – študenti, ktorí musia študovať  
 take an exam – urobiť /vykonať skúšku  
 every year – každý rok  
 the Nobel Prize for Literature is awarded – Nobelová Cena za literatúru je udelená  
 work of fiction – beletria  
 consider – považovať  
 unique – unikátny, jedinečný  
 the Nobel Prize winner – ten, komu bola udelená Nobelová Cena  
 divide - rozdeliť  
 contain – obsahovať  
 a foreign language – cudzí jazyk  
 the meanings of words – významy

**slovo**  
**ordinary people** – obyčajní ľudia  
**recipe** – recept /na jedlo/  
**meal** – jedlo  
**bake cakes** – piecť koláče  
**attitude** – postoj  
**I have read many books in my life.** –  
 Prečítal/a som vo svojom živote veľa kníh.  
**prefer** – uprednostňovať  
**the human history** – ľudská história  
**the nature** – príroda  
**important inventions** – dôležité vynálezy  
**spy** – špión  
**crime** – kriminalita, zločin  
**complicated plot** – komplikovaná zápleтка  
**they investigate a murder** – vyšetrojú vraždu  
**have to** – musieť  
**wild life** – život v divočine  
**he was born** – narodil sa  
**a fairly rich family** - pomerne bohatá rodina  
**attended** – navštevovať /školu/  
**university education** – univerzitné vzdelanie  
**get married** – oženiť sa  
**wife** - manželka  
**death** – smrť  
**he could** – on mohol  
**somebody else** – niekto iný  
**he used excellent language** – používal vynikajúci jazyk  
**joke** – vtip  
**saying** – príslovia  
**still** – ešte stále  
**in our everyday lives** – v našom každodennom živote  
**play** – divadelná hra  
**I have read it many times.** – Čítal som to mnohokrát.  
**a present** – darček  
**It takes a long time to read a book.** – Trvá to dlho prečítať knihu.  
**happen** – stať sa