

МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ  
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# **Angel Pavement**

John Boynton Priestley

*Методические указания по домашнему чтению  
для студентов 4 курса специальности  
«Английский язык и литература»*

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Методические указания предназначены для самостоятельной работы студентов 4 курса специальности «Английский язык и литература» при подготовке к занятиям по домашнему чтению с книгой Дж. Б. Пристли «Улица Ангела».

Указания включают биографическую справку об авторе и секции, каждая из которых предлагает выражения и фразеологические единицы для активного усвоения, упражнения, направленные на развитие языковых и речевых умений и навыков, а также вопросов и заданий дискуссионного характера. Наряду с заданиями коммуникативной направленности предлагаются также упражнения по лингвистическому анализу текста.

Задания помогут студентам самостоятельно подготовиться к обсуждению основных проблем книги, поступков героев, их характеристик, интересных эпизодов, а также выразительных средств и стилистических приемов автора.

В разделе **Suggested topics** дается примерный перечень тем, рекомендуемых для заключительного обсуждения книги.

Методические указания состоят из 12 секций, каждая из которых рассчитана на 3 часа аудиторной и 4 часа самостоятельной работы. Задания рекомендуется выполнять выборочно, в зависимости от целей занятия и уровня подготовки студентов.

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## Priestley, J(ohn) B(oynton)

Priestley, John Boynton was born in 1894, September 13, Bradford, Yorkshire, England and died in 1984, August 14, Alveston, near Stratford-upon-Avon, (Warwickshire). He is a British novelist, playwright, and essayist, noted for his varied output and his ability for shrewd characterization.

Priestley served in the infantry in World War 1 (1914-19) and then studied English literature at Trinity College, Cambridge (B.A., 1922). He thereafter worked as a journalist and first established a reputation with the essays collected in *The English Comic Characters* (1925) and *The English Novel* (1927). He achieved enormous popular success with *The Good Companions* (1929), a picaresque novel about a group of travelling performers. This was followed in 1930 by his most solidly crafted novel, *Angel Pavement*, a sombre, realistic depiction of the lives of a group of office workers in London. Among his other more important novels are *Bright Day* (1946) and *Lost Empires* (1965).

Priestley was also a prolific dramatist, and he achieved early successes on the stage with such robust, good-humoured comedies as *Laburnum Grove* (1933) and *When We Are Married* (1938). Influenced by the time theories of John William Dunne, he experimented with expressionistic psychological drama— e.g., *Time and the Conways* and *I Have Been Here Before* (both 1937) and *Johnson over Jordan* (1939). He also used time distortion as the basis for a mystery drama with moral overtones, *An Inspector Calls* (1946). Many of his plays featured skillful characterizations of ordinary people in domestic settings.

An adept radio speaker, he had a wide audience for his patriotic broadcasts during World War II and for his subsequent Sunday evening programs. Priestley's large literary output of more than 120 books was complemented by his status as a commentator and literary spokesman for his countrymen, a role he sustained through his forceful and engaging public personality. Priestley refused both a knighthood and a peerage, but he accepted the Order of Merit in 1977.

A revival of interest in and a reappraisal of Priestley's work occurred in the 1970s. During that decade he produced, among other works, *Found, Lost, Found, or The English Way of Life* (1976).

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# John Boynton Priestley

## *Angel Pavement*

### SECTION I

#### **PROLOGUE (P.P. 9 –18)**

**1. Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.**

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. to lend a hand with sth (9)            | 7. to ruminate for some time (12)    |
| 2. to discharge some cargo (9)            | 8. half as much again (16)           |
| 3. to look out (9)                        | 9. next to nothing (16)              |
| 4. a convivial voyage (11)                | 10. to make a few inquiries (16)     |
| 5. to do sb a good/ill turn (11)          | 11. to lay one's hand on sb/sth (17) |
| 6. to watch sb with idle benevolence (12) | 12. to be for one's own benefit (17) |

**II. Transcribe and pronounce the following words.**

Manoeuvring (9), prologue (9), moustache (10), bald (10), liquor (11), buccaneer (11), estuary (11), interview (n, v.) (12), palaver (12), bass (16), veneer (16), ulster (18).

**III. Interpret the following sentences.**

1. He was one of those men who are difficult to place.
2. The second mate liked to air his English.
3. "I expect you'd like to get away", said one of them, beginning to chalk up his approval of the luggage.
4. ... for nothing removes the curse of Babel like food, drink and fellowship.

**IV. Translate in writing.**

P.P. 12-13 "Dusk was falling; the river rippled darkly ... the finger of a hand flung out to the sky".

**V. Give the Russian equivalents of the following combinations connected with business. (pp. 16-17)**

To be in the trade; to invent a new process/machine/treatment; to turn out veneers and inlays; labour costs; to get orders; to pay half as much again; to walk out with a contract in one's pocket; a sole agent; to make big profit; to be in the way of selling; to be in this line of business; to make plenty of money; money is tied up; money is not circulating.

**VI. Find the English equivalents in the text. (p.9)**

Пароход, баржа, гавань, трап, трос, палуба, разгружать груз, рабочие

порта, чиновники службы безопасности, полицейские.

**VII. Give synonyms.**

Contrive (v.) (9), stow away (v.) (12), genuine (adj.) (13), enormous (14), entanglement (n.) (15), anguish (n.) (16).

**VIII. Reproduce the dialogue between Mr Golspie and the Captain.**

**IX. Comment on the figures of speech.**

1. She came gliding along London's broadest street, and then halted, swaying gently. (9).
2. The Tower Bridge cleared itself of midgets and toy vehicles and raised its two arms, and then she passed underneath, accompanied by cheerfully impudent tugs. (9).
3. The ship, for her part, began to think about discharging her mixed cargo. (9).
4. On the wharf, men in caps lent a hand with ropes and gangway, ... and men in bowler hats arrived from nowhere; and two men in blue helmets, large and solid men, took their stand in the very middle of the scene. (9).
5. The sight of London Bridge itself too, pleased him now, for all the buses had turned on their lights and were streaming across like a flood of molten gold. (14).
6. You could find anything or anybody you wanted in it, and you could also hide in it. (14).
7. «He was, was he?» Mr Golspie boomed, with a certain brutal heartiness characteristic of him. (16).

**X. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.**

1. Describe Mr Golspie. What traits of character does his portrait suggest?
2. On what occasion was the dinner party on board the ship given? Who was present there?
3. London as described in the chapter.
4. J.B. Priestley's biography and his literary activity.
5. Peculiarities of the language of the main characters.

**SECTION II**

## CHAPTER I *They Arrive* (P.P. 19 - 55)

### **1. Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.**

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. nimble (20)                            | 10. to dwindle (32)               |
| 2. gala night (20)                        | 11. to be under a spell (39)      |
| 3. to work one's fingers to the bone (23) | 12. haphazard (40)                |
| 4. to plunge into (23)                    | 13. up to the nines (44)          |
| 5. to goad into (25)                      | 14. to give sb a rise (44)        |
| 6. languid (24)                           | 15. a cut in the salary (46)      |
| 7. to go into the question (25)           | 16. I take your word for it. (48) |
| 8. to give tongue to (31 )                | 17. apparition (51)               |
| 9. dexterity (33)                         | 18. loathe (53)                   |

### **II. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.**

1. Он работал не покладая рук, надеясь получить повышение по службе. Можете себе представить себе его состояние, когда он узнал о предстоящем понижении в зарплате.
2. Мне кажется, что прежде чем говорить с такой самоуверенностью об этом, тебе следовало бы внимательно заняться этим вопросом.
3. В эту праздничную ночь город казался необычно красивым, залитый огнями реклам, кинотеатров, праздничной иллюминацией.
4. Они встретились совершенно случайно. Джон был настолько поражен внезапным появлением друга, который исчез год назад, что несколько дней он сам был не свой.
5. Она выглядит такой вялой, что мне не верится, что она может делать что-либо с проворством. Ну что ж, поверю вам на слово. Посмотрим, что из этого выйдет. Я принимаю ее на работу.

### **III. Interpret the following sentences.**

P.20 ... any number of mellowed whiskies or fine sparkling ales to be consumed on or off premises.

P.24 She had better be putting her hastiness behind a brush and duster ... .

P.26 She struck an attitude that suggested a counsel for prosecution of a high-handed type.

P.33 ... and to occupy a safe stool and receive your hundred and fifty a year was to have arrived.

P.36 It always gets round.

P.36 Mr Smeeth's face fell at once, and he made a tut-tut-tutting noise.

P.43 Some of the people in the trade must be cutting it as fine as that to get orders. P. 45 I'll have a good shot at it anyhow.

**IV. *Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.***

1. Describe Angel Pavement.
2. What was «Twigg & Dersingham»? What was the state of affairs in the company in the period when the events are described?
3. Describe the characters which are introduced in this chapter: Stanley, Turgis, Miss Matfield, Mr Smeeth, Mr Dersingham. What is the way of portraying these characters?

**Y. *Give a brief summary of each paragraph of the chapter.***

### SECTION III

#### CHAPTER II *Mr Smith is Reassured* (P.P.55 - 87)

**I. *Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.***

1. to ponder over sth (55)
2. to be out of sth (56)
3. to set one's eyes on sb /sth (60)
4. in a flash (63)
5. to laugh in sb's face (65)
6. to intimidate (75)
7. to be at odds with sth (75)
8. to sack sb (76)
9. to be all smiles (78)
10. to have a finger in sth(80)

**II. *Transcribe and pronounce the following words.***

Pouch, connoisseur, financier, extravagance, melancholy, liqueur, minute.

**III. *Paraphrase the following expressions and use them in sentences of your own.***

1. to cut sb short (55)
2. a regular customer (56)
3. to keep one's eyes open (58)
4. a snub nose (62)

5. to read the cards, to tell the fortune (68)

**IV. Translate in writing.**

P.P.63-64 "According to all the literary formulas... and bargaining and adventure and concupiscence."

**V. Give the Russian equivalents.**

1. too many knick-knacks (66)
2. this chap... has got something up his sleeve (76)
3. for donkeys' years (76)
4. he was short of breath (78)
5. he booted himself out (79)
6. a hefty commission (79)
7. I've been puzzling my head (83)
6. a thick brutal finger (83)

**VI. Find the English equivalents in the text.**

1. Их злобе нет конца. (74)
2. Тебе придется поторопиться. (74)
3. Мне это показалось подозрительным. (79)
4. Так вы не будете сокращать штат? (80)
5. Все же я здесь хозяин. (81)

**VII. Give synonyms.**

To concoct, to be in for sb, to puzzle, fragrant, to be out of date, guffaw.

**VIII. Explain the meaning of the phraseological units.**

1. «... my heart went into my boots» (67)
2. «to be in Queer Street» (76)
3. «We're not going to give these fellows much rope in future» (81)

**IX. Make up a short dialogue to illustrate the proverb "Make hay while the sun shines". (84)**

**X. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.**

1. What was Mr Smeeth's mood like on the day described in the chapter? What were the reasons for it?
2. Where did Mr Smeeth buy his tobacco? What was peculiar about the place?
3. Describe the members of Mr Smeeth's family. Why couldn't Mr Smeeth understand his children?

4. Why was George both a disappointment and a mystery to his father? How does Priestley account for it?
5. What was Mr Smeeth's passion that made him different from other members of his family?
6. Give an account of the events in the office from Mr Smeeth's point of view.
7. Did Mr Smeeth have a foreboding of some trouble coming? Comment on the description of the beastly London weather.
8. Do you think Mr Dersingham was an experienced businessman? And Mr Golspie?
9. How does Mr Golspie's treatment of Benenden and his talk characterize him?
10. Choose an episode from the chapter and interpret it (2-3 pages).

## SECTION IV

### CHAPTER III *The Dersinghams at Home* (P.P. 88 – 124)

#### I. *Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.*

- |                             |                                      |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. ostentatious (92)        | 6. repentant (103)                   |
| 2. to bump into sb (92)     | 7. to catch sb's eye (108)           |
| 3. to be apt to do sth (94) | 8. unabashed (109)                   |
| 4. to hum a tune (96)       | 9. to have the heart to do sth (112) |
| 5. to mope (99)             | 10. to rack one's brains (115)       |

#### II. *Transcribe and pronounce the following words.*

Veneers, torpedo, maisonette, yachtsman, matinee, admirable, grimace, duet, coquettish.

#### III. *Paraphrase the underlined parts of the sentences.*

1. They made way for him with almost ostentatious smartness.
2. He was apt to jeer and sneer.
3. She used to sit moping in the flat from one week's end to another.
4. Late guests may be divided into two classes: the repentant and the unrepentant.
5. Mr Golspie, earnest and unabashed, assured her.
6. Mrs Dersingham was racking her brains to remember something amusing in that letter.
7. The last remark was uttered with rash facetiousness.

#### IV. *Interpret the following sentences.*

1. Miss Dora Black ... knew more, though at second hand... (90)

2. "Look here, you'd better go home now - break the news to your wife." (93)
3. ... She created an atmosphere in which a few outings and encounters were transformed into a rich and strenuous social life. (99)
4. «Oh, you men!» cried Mrs Pearson, who had not lived at Singapore for nothing: she knew her cues. (102)
5. «You never told me that, and I've been dying to know». (105)
6. ... only of course these Trevors are out of that - they're terribly in with all that young smart set. (107)
7. ... glances, which removed Mr Golspie once and for all from decent society and handed him over to the social worker and the anthropologist. (109)
8. And Mrs Pearson, once outside, did not simply intrude, did not gape and hang about and get in the way, but took charge of the situation . (110)
9. ... and put down the tray with the air of a camel exhibiting the last straw. (119)
10. Miss Verever, every feature in battle order, now bore down on Lena, opening the engagement with a long-range smile of the most sinister peculiarity. (120)

**Y. Give the Russian equivalents.**

1. ... as girls once married beneath them. (89)
2. I've got about four likely ones here. (92)
3. I know the ropes. (93)
4. ... there was no escape: Golspie was not a gentleman. (94)
5. All the rooms were ... singularly cheerless. (95)
6. «Very queer. What do you make of it?»(101)
7. »Do leave it to me». (112)
7. It was a wretched situation. (114)
8. Mrs Dersingham did not press the fruit upon her guests.(116)
9. «So I took a taxi and came here. And that's that.» (117)

**YI. Give synonyms.**

Conscientious, an applicant, a culprit, to jeer, veneration.

**YII. Express your opinion in response to the following statements.**

1. Late guests may be divided into two classes: the repentant, who arrive, perspiring and profusely apologetic, to babble about fogs and ancient taxis and stupid drivers, and the unrepentant, who look somewhat aggrieved when they see all the other guests...(103)
2. Games ought to be played for their own sake. Clean sport. Sport and business, two different things. (106)

**YIII. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.**

1. Describe the atmosphere in the office and its staff after Golspie's arrival.

2. Why does Priestley give so much of his attention to the types of applicants anxious to get the job at the office? In what respect can the two men, Mr Smeeth and one of the applicants, be called brothers?
3. The Dersinghams. Their preparations for the party. What is the image of a silly girl at the back of her mind introduced for?
4. Describe the dinner party from the point of view of one of those present there. Why does J. Priestley stress the fact that they were shouting at one another? Pay attention to the choice of verbs, synonyms. ( 100,101)
5. How do you account for Mr Golspie's behaviour, for his being cross and aggressive at the party?
6. Comment on the choice of words as one of the means of tinting the description with humour.
7. Describe Miss Golspie's appearance. Is it suggestive of her personality? Is the drawing of detailed portraits characteristic of Priestley's manner of writing?
8. Follow the events that brought the party to a complete failure. What was the climax of the tension?
9. What is Priestley's attitude to the Dersinghams' guests?

**IX. *Revise the active vocabulary (Tasks I) of the previous sections and make up 10 sentences in Russian to be translated into English by your groupmates.***

**X. *Give a brief summary of each paragraph of the chapter.***

**SECTION Y**  
**CHAPTER IY *Turgis Sees Her* (P.P.125 - 161 )**

**I. Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own. Think of a short situation where at least 5 expressions are used.**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. to be in the know (126)                | 6. to dower with (147)                        |
| 2. wistful (131)                          | 7. to turn down an invitation (151)           |
| 3. to wag a finger at sb (131)            | 8. to strike up an acquaintance with sb (154) |
| 4. to make for (140)                      | 9. to have sth in store (156)                 |
| 5. to be on the tip of one's tongue (143) | 10. to look daggers at sb (158)               |

**II. Complete the sentences using the active vocabulary.**

1. Nobody dared to argue with him because ...
2. "If you don't finish those letters in ten minutes, be sure you'll be in dry dock", said Mr Smeeth to Stanley and ...
3. The name slipped from my mind, just a minute, it's just ... .
4. I'd like to go, but you see, I'm pressed for time, so ...
5. Then Mr Frank Dadds mounted the platform and ....
6. You can hardly make him feel ill at ease, he always has ...
7. Now and again, on Sundays, Turgis looked in at various meetings because he hoped...
8. Mr Pelumpton could often be found in the humblest auction rooms, ready ...

**III. Interpret the following sentences.**

1. So far it had not begun in the tangle, blather, jumble of mere existence, of eating, sleeping, working, journeying and staring, it had only made a number of false starts. (129)
2. "All right, Miss Dirty Fringe, you'll have to be told off soon, you will". (130)
3. As soon as she saw Turgis she put down her cup and, as it were, jumped into the saddle again. (134)
4. Mr Pelumpton was essentially a "Yersh" man. (136)
5. He could spin out the whole evening, perhaps on the edge of adventure all the time. (140)
6. It was all a gamble, with the odds heavily against the wonderful girl. (145)
7. She was thirty if she was a day. (148)
8. ... to make sure that he was on the same tack. He was. (153)
9. "... you don't see how your leg's being pulled." (158)

**IV. Translate in writing. Find similes in this passage and state their functions.**

P. 132 "Very soon the city itself up to ... a sudden raw awakening... Monday".

**Y. Give synonyms .**

Diffident, to shred, stern, to break the spell, to congregate.

**YI. Agree or disagree with the following statements.**

1. Turgis was not lazy though he never regarded himself as one of the firm.
2. Turgis was very attractive, a downright lady-killer.
3. Mr. Pelumpton was one of those men who do not work themselves.
4. It was on Sundays that Turgis felt his loneliness most keenly.
5. Lena Golspie didn't produce any impression on Turgis.

**YII. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.**

1. What do you come to know about Turgis and his "dream kingdom"? Does the image of this "romantic lover" appeal to you?
2. Why was a new typist a great disappointment to Turgis?
3. Give a character sketch of Mrs Pelumpton. What means are used by the author to create a humorous effect?
4. Give a character sketch of Mr Pelumpton. Make use of the following word combinations: *a man of great dignity; to be a dealer; to be in the second-hand trade; to be a great reader of newspapers; to be fit for a palace; to be in steady demand.* Comment on the peculiarities of his pronunciation.
5. What was Turgis' usual programme for a Saturday night?
6. Describe the weekend as it might have been described by Turgis.
7. What were the attractions of the Sovereign Picture Theatre for a layman, such as Turgis?
8. How do you account for the introduction of Park, "a tremendous communist worker", into the book?
9. What kind of treat was in store for the audience?
10. What happened "on Monday of all days"?

**YII. Give a brief summary of each paragraph of the chapter.**

**SECTION YI**  
**CHAPTER Y *Miss Matfield Wonders* (P.P. 162 - 205 )**

**I. Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.**

- |                                       |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. to stand up to (163 )              | 6. not a patch on sth (195)        |
| 2. abject (168 )                      | 7. to be in the thick of sth (197) |
| 3. to be up to the neck in sth (172 ) | 8. at great length (197)           |
| 4. to stun one's appetite ( 188)      | 9. not to turn a hair (202)        |
| 5. to drop the subject (192)          | 10. to feel close to tears (204)   |

**II. Paraphrase the underlined parts of the sentences.**

1. She couldn't really stand up to his talking in the same strain.
2. An Englishman doesn't like to make a display of his feelings.
3. We'd better drop this subject.
4. She was not altogether pleased at the turn the conversation had taken.
5. Evelyn was in the thick of her preparations for the Empire tour.
6. I'd spend money like water on all sorts of silly rubbish and never turn a hair.

**III. Translate in writing.**

P. 163. «Miss Matfield drew her full lower lip ... . Yet she didn't really dislike him, not now».

**IV. Give the Russian equivalents.**

1. for the time being (163)
2. a bit weird (164)
3. a few months of larking about (170)
4. the Ansdell family row saga (173)
5. but there was in him an extraordinary theatrical strain (175)
6. I like a man to have a plenty of character, a solid lump of it (181)
7. I'll never get a wink of sleep all night (194)
8. it was a little jaunt for her (199)

**V. Give synonyms.**

Mode of life, slap-dash, to fluster, to chuckle, acute.

**VI. Explain the meaning of the idiom «Dead as mutton». (195)**

Give some other examples of idioms where the word «*dead*» is used in the same meaning. (Use «English idioms and How to use them» M., 1983).

**VII. Comment on the figures of speech.**

1. And Miss Matfield raised her eyes and gave him a steady level glance. (162)
2. It was all too stupid, and when she got up to leave the bus she determined to leave Mr Golspie behind her, too. (166 - 167)

3. You were congratulating on getting into the Burpenfield when you first went there, and you were congratulated even more heartily when you finally left it. (169)
4. Norman Birtley was waiting in the lounge, looking very tall, very awkward, very uncomfortable. (183)
5. He was looking at Ingleton-Dodd with fascinated repulsion written clearly on his simple and expressive features. (183)
6. All the way home, ... Don Juan taking one home after a dance. (193)

***YIII. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.***

1. Copy out words on the topic «Theatre». (190 - 191) What is their stylistic function?
2. Why did Mr Golspie attract Miss Matfield's attention?
3. The atmosphere in the Burpenfield.
4. Which is the key word in characterization of Miss Matfield's inner state of mind?

***IX. Give a brief summary of each paragraph of the chapter.***

**SECTION YII**  
**CHAPTER YI *Mr Smith Gets His Rise* (P.P. 206 - 245 )**

**I. Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.**

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. apprehensive (208 - 209)    | 6. to be face to face with sb (227)        |
| 2. to tackle a problem (212)   | 7. to badger (228)                         |
| 3. to take off (214)           | 8. to give sb a piece of one's mind (229)  |
| 4. to lay down the rules (217) | 9. to dart (233)                           |
| 5. to snort (220)              | 10. to be a great (good) hand at sth (237) |

**II. Interpret the following sentences.**

1. Twigg and Dersingham were looking pretty rocky ... (207)
2. In his universe, the gods had been banished but not the devils. (209)
3. But of a facer that; eh? (215)
4. ... expensive and highbrow as it sounded. (218)
5. «I'll bet he didn't», said Edna, an aggressive low-brow. (225)
6. Besides, we've got to have a bit of life sometime. (226)
7. But we will let bygones be bygones. (227)
8. ... they've had a regular dust-up and the long and short of it all is, my lady's sacked. (228)
9. Well, after the first excitement had gone he would have to put his foot down. (235)
10. You're inside all the time, aren't you? (238)

**III. Translate in writing.**

P.237 «Mrs Smeeth's cousin ... his voice a headache».

**IV. Find the English equivalents in the text.**

1. Голспи здесь не хозяин! (211)
2. Что же у них будет на черный день? (213)
3. Жили они как кошка с собакой. (216)
4. Она была как собака на сене... (216)
5. Он чувствовал, что ему полагается отметить свои успехи на службе. (217)

**V. Give synonyms.**

To banish, benevolent, to sb's dismay, fastidious, to bounce.

**VI. Pick out the names of the musical instruments and give their Russian equivalents. (p.p.219-220)**

**VII. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.**

1. Express Mr Smeeth's opinion of the present state of affairs in the firm.

2. What gave Mr Smeeth a feeling of deep satisfaction? What was life like for him?
3. What were the two things that happened to Mr Smeeth in the morning after Mr Golspie's departure?
4. Why was Mr Smeeth in two minds about what to do with extra money?
5. Why was Mrs Smeeth to be envied in her husband's opinion? What figure of speech is used in the sentence: «She came in like a savoury whirlwind»? How does it characterize Mrs Smeeth?
6. Choose one of the fragments of the text describing the symphony pieces. (p.p.220 - 222). Find 4-5 figures of speech you are familiar with and comment on their functions.
7. Describe the party at the Smeeths'.

**YIII. Give a brief summary of each paragraph of the chapter.**

**IX. Get ready for a test on sections I – VII.**

### SECTION VIII

#### CHAPTER VII *Arabian Nights for Turgis* (P.P. 246 - 289 )

**I. Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.**

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. on the prowl (250)                       | 6. to appease (270)      |
| 2. to go to the length of doing sth (254)   | 7. to dispatch (277)     |
| 3. instigation (255)                        | 8. to be in a hole (277) |
| 4. to bother one's head about sth/ sb (257) | 9. in the long run (285) |
| 5. to be the very image of sb (258, 263)    |                          |

**II. Transcribe and pronounce the following words.**

Luxury, dreary, mattress, extravagance, receipt, mannequin, yapping.

**III. Paraphrase the underlined parts of the sentences.**

1. There were clergymen of all sects on the prowl for him, willing to lead him in prayer. (250)
2. Turgis went to the length of buying a few collars. (254)
3. He told himself he was silly to bother his head about the girl. (257)
4. And now, after paying out this eight pence he was in a hole, he had to curtail his lunch to a mere gobble and gulp. (285)

**IV. Interpret the following sentences.**

1. ... the Anti-Socialists, who would have been delighted to show him how to mount a soap-box. (250)

2. «... I believe you are right», said Mr Smeeth, with the air of a dutiful cross-talk comedian. (276)
3. He's a decent sort and anyhow it isn't often *he* breaks loose. (257)
4. Lena introduced him, in an off-hand, slap-dash fashion ... (267)
5. The chief picture, a talkie - ... - was good stuff. (269)
6. ... replied Turgis, keeping a hold on himself. He was bubbling inside. (276)
7. ... for he did not belong to the seat-booking classes ... . (285)

**Y. Give the Russian equivalents.**

1. He was just a chap in the crowd. (250)
2. a lovely bird of passage (251)
3. on the strength of that (252)
4. as spruce as it was possible for him to be (255)
5. as conscientious and pains-taking a wag (256)
6. she had walked off in a huff (258)
7. on the brink of a vast abyss of misery (276)
8. with great roaring tides sounding in his ears (282)
9. a lump, compact of sheer misery, rose in his throat (286)
10. ... found himself in a hot salty darkness (289)

**YI. Make up a dialogue or a situation of your own using the following words and word combinations.**

- |                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. to litter                     | 4. to draw sb like a magnet |
| 2. to wipe one's hands on sth    | 5. to take offence          |
| 3. to take no interest in sth/sb | 6. to add spice to sth      |

**YII. Give synonyms.**

To be on the look-out, disdainful, ferocious, to hurl, humble.

**YIII. Comment on the figures of speech.**

1. They were very cosy together in the blank wooly night. (269)
2. Mr Smeeth looked up from his neat little wonderland of figures. (277)
3. He jumped out of bed and then jumped into the part of this new and splendid chap. (274)

**IX. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.**

1. The relations between Turgis and the Pelumptions. Why did Turgis feel vaguely grateful to them?
2. Why was it that Turgis fell in love with Lena?
3. What changes in Turgis' behaviour could be noticed by his colleagues? Express your opinion as if you were one of them.

4. What changes of mood did Turgis undergo in Lena's room? What were the obvious reasons for them?
5. Dwell on the means used by the author to depict Turgis' changing mood.
6. Why was Lena so friendly and nice, to your mind?
7. Act out the dialogue between Lena and Turgis on p.p. 280, 281.
8. How does Lena's behaviour in the Colladium and in her room characterise her? And her attitude to Turgis?
9. How does J.B. Priestley describe Turgis' state of mind? Did Lena make him suffer?

**X. *Entitle each paragraph of the chapter and prove your point of view.***

**XI. *Revise sections Y-VIII and translate the following sentences from Russian into English.***

1. Хотя у меня так и вертится на языке это известие, я придержу его в запасе.
2. Терпеть не могу этого легкомысленного франта. Его единственное стремление - заводить знакомства со всеми и быть посвященным во все.
3. Я думаю, он отклонил ваше предложение только потому, что с утра всецело занят своими экспериментами.
4. Не стоит выказывать свое огорчение, даже если ты чуть не плачешь.
5. Никто не ожидал, что он согласится помочь нам в этом трудном деле и глазом не моргнув.
6. Беседа приняла неожиданный оборот; придется вам очень подробно изложить все детали исследования.
7. Ради своей выгоды он не остановится и перед тем, чтобы обмануть их.
8. Он всегда выглядит таким жалким; не может постоять за себя, он - точная копия своего отца.
9. Не забивай голову всякими бредовыми идеями! В конце концов тебе все равно придется сократить расходы из-за всех этих неудач, иначе окажешься в долгах.
10. Наше теперешнее положение не идет ни в какое сравнение с прежним. Не пытайся решить эту проблему в одиночку. Я не знаю никого, кто бы смог помочь. Такая полоса неудач.

**SECTION IX**  
**CHAPTER VIII *Miss Matfield's New Year* (P.P. 290 - 328)**

**I. Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.**

- |                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. to be taken by surprise (290) | 6. to dawdle over (302)     |
| 2. to snap one's head off (293)  | 7. to work miracles (304)   |
| 3. to be keen on sb/sth (295)    | 8. to do homage to sb (306) |
| 4. to confer (297)               | 9. to jot down (311)        |
| 5. evasive (301)                 | 10. truculent (328)         |

**II. Transcribe and pronounce the following words.**

Horizon, clairvoyant, brigade, lounge, employee, employer, alien, solemn.

**III. Give possible beginnings using the active vocabulary.**

1. As ... , she was afraid she wouldn't be able to buy Christmas Gifts on time.
2. ... she didn't give me any chance to tell her what I wanted.
3. Due ... , nobody wanted to argue with him.
4. After ... , she arrived at Paddington just in time to get three-quarters of a seat in the 5.46.
5. As ... , Stanley was on the point of getting the sack.
6. ... , his collection of stamps is incomparable.
7. Due ... , it was rather difficult to come in touch with him.

**IV. Interpret the following sentences.**

1. Never had the round been duller. (292)
2. Miss Matfield, a tougher subject than most, refused to be taken in. (293)
3. "I saw you swallowing the bait, as if you'd just been born." (296)
4. "No, on second thoughts, you can't come". (297)
5. He was like too many men she had met at home, the sort who cry "shooting" when somebody makes a good stroke at tennis. (300)
6. ... on five pounds you can really begin to splash about a bit. (307)
7. There was nothing spectral about Mr Golspie. (312)
8. But I've picked up a good many different sorts of business in my time, and I haven't finished yet, not by a long chalk. (313)
9. ... they all behaved like men and women who had been reprieved in the very shadow of the gallows. (323)

**Y. Translate in writing.**

P.P. 303 – 304. "Never before had Miss Matfield seen ... miles of string called into service every few minutes".

**VI. Give synonyms.**

Candour, to have the cheek to do sth., accessory, solitary, to chatter.

**VII. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.**

1. In what mood does J.B. Priestley describe Christmas? Is it really a festive season? Why?
2. What was Miss Matfield's usual Christmas and her secret dream of it?
3. Miss Matfield's opinion of the Burpenfield girls.
4. Why didn't Miss Matfield have any respect for Mr Dersingham?
5. What was the atmosphere in the office like on the Christmas Eve?
6. Is there any connection between Lilian's idea of a man and the books she preferred to read?
7. How can you explain Lilian's desire to change her room on her arrival to the club?
8. Describe the dinner at Bundle's. Compare it to the dinner Miss Matfield had with Norman.
9. What was Mr Golspie's opinion of Mr Dersingham? Mr Smeeth? Turgis?
10. Dwell on Lilian's state of mind. Make a character sketch of Miss Matfield.

**VIII. Give the main idea of §§ 5, 6 in a nutshell.**

**IX. Entitle each paragraph of the chapter and prove your point of view.**

**SECTION X**

**CHAPTER IX *Mr Smeeth is Worried* (P.P. 329 - 371)**

- I. ***Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.***

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. to do sth at sb's expense (331) | 6. to go at sb (353)                             |
| 2. in the same strain (344)        | 7. to transcend (356)                            |
| 3. up to the mark (345)            | 8. to leap to sb's eye (358)                     |
| 4. in earnest (347)                | 9. at one swoop (361)                            |
| 5. to feel down in the mouth (349) | 10. to take the wrong (right) line with sb (362) |

**II. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.**

1. После очередной перебранки с женой я впал в уныние.
2. Я не хочу больше ждать. Давайте покончим с этим делом одним махом.
3. После непродолжительной прогулки он чувствовал себя прекрасно.
4. Ваша последняя работа превзошла все мои ожидания. Продолжайте в том же духе!
5. Напрасно ты нападаешь на меня; я говорю совершенно серьезно.

**III. Paraphrase the underlined parts of the following sentences.**

1. He was sure he had certainly taken the wrong line with her.
2. They asked him to put the idea out of his head, but he continued speaking in the same strain.
3. My opinion is, Turgis - you've not been feeling up to the mark lately.
4. They were not on proper speaking terms and he felt a bit down in the mouth.
5. Well, you needn't go at me, Dad.
6. He wanted to clear our account at one swoop.

**IV. Interpret the following sentences.**

1. That remark of his would, he knew, take some living down. (333)
- 2.... he was a reluctant and unenterprising reader, one of those people who hold their books almost at arm's-length and examine them in a very guarded manner ... (334)
3. ...apparently a man of few words (339)
4. He does his work, but only after a fashion, and it's not a fashion I like. (340)
5. It'll soon blow over. (345)
6. ... he had brought up a boy who had suddenly turned into an Indian. (355)
7. ... if he doesn't like it, he can lump it. (361)
8. ... how sorry I am to hear he's laid up. (363)

**V. Give the Russian equivalents.**

1. You give me the pip, Dad. (330)
2. That's you all over. (331)
3. She was liable at times to get flushed. (333)
4. Turgis gave Miss Sellers a hand with the copying. (340)

5. There was no escaping him. (344)
- 6.1 don't make head or tail of this. (347)
7. He's a character. (350)
8. You needn't harp on it, needn't rub it in. (358)

**VI. Form synonymic groups.**

A squabble, convalescent, to stroll, to sparkle, reluctant.

**VII. Express your opinion in response to the following statements.**

1. We've only got to live once and we've only got to die once, and for heaven's sake let's enjoy ourselves while we can. (331)
2. We live and learn, don't we? (340)
3. Easy to get yourself a bad name, even if you don't do anything wrong yourself. (355)

**VIII. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.**

1. Describe the domestic hostilities at Mr Smeeth's. Give the real reason for their quarrel and prove that it was no ordinary squabble.
2. Mr Smeeth's opinion of his daughter's behaviour.
3. Describe a series of shocks that treacherous Saturday gave Mr Smeeth. Show the aptness of the proverb «*It never rains but it pours*».
4. Characterize Mr Golspie and Mr Dersingham as they are presented in § 4. Comment on the means employed by the author.
5. The stylistic function of the image of snow (p.p. 369 - 370). Reproduce the passage in detail.

**IX. Entitle each paragraph of the chapter and prove your point of view.**

**X. Give a brief summary of each paragraph of the chapter.**

**SECTION XI**

**CHAPTER X *The Last Arabian Night* (P.P. 371 - 408 )**

**I. Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.**

- |                                       |                              |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. to bolt one's breakfast (371)      | 6. to sink into stupor (387) |
| 2. to fling away the resentment (372) | 7. to choke over (390)       |
| 3. a call box (373)                   | 8. to talk sense (390)       |
| 4. to count on sb for sth (380)       | 9. to delude oneself (395)   |
| 5. to wobble (384)                    | 10. to enthrall (405)        |

**II. Transcribe and pronounce the following words.**

Miraculous, escort, creased, finance, to seize, divan, cognac, syren.

**III. Make up a situation of your own using the active words and expressions.**

**IV. Interpret the following sentences.**

1. ... so he was free for a few days to make what he could of life by himself. (372)
2. All these things... were only on the dream-like fringe of life. (376)
3. He ought to knock off for a day or two, even if we are short-handed. (380)
1. Carrington Villas was one great gloomy drip-drip. (381)
2. You give me a start, mate. (389)
6. He couldn't even commit suicide, couldn't afford it. (398)
3. ... he was beginning to feel that he was there on sufferance. (401)
4. She doesn't tell me much – bit stand-offish. (403)
9. ... he was not a man to be trifled with (405)

**V. Translate in writing.**

P.P. 375, 376. «That first phase of unusual smartness... a tender hollowness, in his head.»

**VI. Give synonyms.**

Perilous, to jeer at, jocular, sullen, to sack sb.

**VII. Comment on the figures of speech.**

1. «... an unusual sound, a most strange sound, a fantastic and incredible sound, came from the side of the bed.»
5. «... he poured it all out in a wild unbroken rush of short phrases...»
6. What had he, Harold Turgis, been fancying himself for? What was he? What could he do? What had he got?
7. «... the same deep soft thing, the same gramophone, records, books, magazines, bottles, fancy boxes, fruit and glasses all over the place...»

**YIII. *Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.***

8. How did it happen that Turgis «suddenly turned into a master shadower''?
9. What devices does J. B. Priestley use to describe Turgis' sufferings? Why does the author dwell upon his pain, jealousy, plans, hopelessness in detail?
10. Prove that Turgis was frightened out of his wits by what he had done. Comment on his thoughts and dreams.
11. How does Mr Golspie's behaviour in a stress situation characterise him?
12. Why didn't Turgis commit suicide?
13. Point out peculiarities of spoken English in the speech of Poppy and Turgis. Act out their conversation (p.p. 402-407).
14. Tell Turgis' story of what had happened to him as it might have been told to Poppy.

**15. *Entitle each paragraph of the chapter and prove your point of view.***

**16. *Give a brief summary of each paragraph of the chapter.***

## **SECTION XII**

### **CHAPTER XI *They Go Home – EPILOGUE* (P.P. 409 – 454)**

**17. *Reproduce the situation in which the words and expressions appear. Use them in sentences of your own.***

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. to give sb a thrill (411)      | 7. To snatch at an opportunity (433)   |
| 2. to do sth underhand (414)      | 8. A moment of revelation (439)        |
| 3. to get nipped (416)            | 9. Gingerly (441)                      |
| 4. in utter dejection (419)       | 10. To grope about with the hand (445) |
| 5. harassed (424)                 | 11. To see to sth (447)                |
| 6. to nose things out of sb (427) |  |

**18. Transcribe and pronounce the following words.**

Query, qualm, cocoon, exhilarating, premium, chaos, lugubrious.

**19. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.**

20. Не в его характере медлить в подобной ситуации. Он с готовностью ухватится за малейшую возможность получить повышение.
21. Она молча смотрела на сцену в полном унынии. Одна и та же мысль преследовала ее.
22. Такое внезапное решение было для Миссис Дэрсингем моментом откровения.
23. Он и не надеялся выведать столько подробностей. Его охватило глубокое волнение.
24. Миссис Смит выглядела встревоженной, но была полна решимости позаботиться обо всем сама.

**IV. Paraphrase the underlined parts of the sentences.**

25. As it's turned out, everything was done underhand.

26. He was staring at the opposite wall in utter dejection.

27. I made no attempt to nose things out of you.

28. He made his way rather gingerly.

5 She'll get some job pretty soon. I'll see to that.

**Interpret the following sentences.**

29. Golspie's cleared out ... and he's done us in. (413)

30. I thought he might have been bluffing, just out of devilish spite. (414)

31. I shall have a shot at it. (421)

32. She was by no means single-minded about this adventure. (422)

33. I think – I've been feeling rotten too, all strung up, you know. (429)

34.... I felt played out ... I've had a hell of a day. (438)

8. The minute he finds I'm serious, he'll pull a long face. (439)

8. ... it was a world that could play all manner of tricks with ... Smeeth but could never capture, swallow, and digest the whole of him. (448)

9. This port of London's a bit of an eye-opener to me. (451)

10. Haven't been on one of those big ships for donkey's years. (451)

**VI. Give synonyms.**

Doleful, to loiter, austerity, to impell, to haunt, swindler.

***VII. Translate into Russian. Make up dialogues to reveal the meanings of the phraseological units.***

1. I always thought he had a few more irons in the fire besides his work here. (413)
2. . . . it's enough to make any man shout his head off. (414)
3. But I don't quite get the hang of it yet. (414)
4. As it's turned out, it was a bad move. (414)
5. We've been let down by sheer rotten trickery. (416)
6. I was trying to be the smart City bounder, with an eye for a tricky bit of business. (421)
7. ...if I had't wept buckets last night at that play. (429)
8. ... you do look a sight. (447)

***VIII. Speak on the following points. Make use of the active words and word combinations.***

1. Copy out words on «Railway Station ». What is their stylistic function?
2. Copy out words on «Playing Cards». What is their stylistic function?  
Describe the state of affairs in the firm on Friday. What traits of Mr Dersingham's character are revealed in § I?
3. Miss Matfield's reaction to the betrayal of Mr Golspie. Find out figures of speech which characterize her disappointment, disillusion.
4. What stylistic devices are used to describe Miss Matfield's state of mind?
5. Comment on Miss Matfield's plans to make a successful business woman. (430)
6. How do you account for Mr Smeeth's wild explosion of wrath?
7. Compare the way Mr Dersingham, his wife and Mr, Mrs Smeeth took the news.
8. Think of another title for this chapter.
9. What might have happened to Miss Matfield, the Smeeths, the Dersinghams, Turgis after Mr Golspie's departure, to your mind?
10. Make up 1-2 questions on the epilogue worthy being discussed.

***IX. Entitle each paragraph of the chapter and prove your point of view.***

***X. Give a brief summary of each paragraph of the chapter.***

***XI. Get ready for a test on sections VIII – XII and a round-table talk.***

***Suggested topics  
for a round-table talk***

1. J. B. Priestley and his novel "Angel Pavement".
2. The problem of "a little man" as treated in the novel.
3. The composition of the novel.
4. London as described in the book
5. Tragic and comic in the novel.
6. Character sketches of a) Mr Golspie; b) Mr Dersingham;

- c) Mr Smeeth; d) Turgis; e) Miss Matfield.
- 7. The supporting characters. Their role in the book.
- 8. Irony and satire in the novel and their role in Priestley's character creating.
- 9. The language and style of "Angel Pavement".
- 10. Your impressions of the book.

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# **Angel Pavement**

John Boynton Priestley

CAMAPA  
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