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УЧЕБНО-МЕТОДИЧЕСКАЯ РАЗРАБОТКА ПО КУРСУ «Практический курс иностранного языка (Домашнее чтение (Дж. Голсуорси. Сдается внаем)»

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John Galsworthy was born at Kingston Hill in Surrey, England, the son of John and Blanche Bailey Galsworthy. His family was wealthy and well established, with a large estate in Kingston upon the Thames that is now the site of three schools: Marymount International School, Rokeby **Preparatory** School, and Holy Cross Preparatory School. He attended Harrow and New College, training as a barrister, and was called to the bar in 1890. However, he was not keen to begin practicing law and instead travelled abroad to

look after the family's shipping business. During these travels he met Joseph Conrad, then the first mate of a sailing-ship moored in the harbor of Adelaide, Australia, and the two future novelists became close friends. In 1895 Galsworthy began an affair with Ada Nemesis Pearson Cooper (1864–1956), the wife of his cousin Major Arthur Galsworthy. After her divorce ten years later, they married 23 September 1905 and stayed together until his death in 1933. He won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1932.

John Galsworthy an English novelist and playwright created The Forsyte Saga (1906–1921) and its sequels, A Modern Comedy and End of the Chapter. These books, as with many of his other works, deal with social class, upper-middle class lives in particular. Although sympathetic to his characters, he highlights their insular, snobbish, and acquisitive attitudes and their suffocating moral codes. He is viewed as one of the first writers of the Edwardian era who challenged some of the ideals of society depicted in the preceding literature of Victorian England. The depiction of a woman in an unhappy marriage furnishes another recurring theme in his work. The character of Irene in The Forsyte Saga is drawn from Ada Pearson, though her previous marriage was not as miserable as that of the character.

The Forsyte Saga, first published under that name in 1922, is a series of three novels and two interludes published between 1906 and 1921 by Nobel Prize-winning English author John Galsworthy. They chronicle the vicissitudes of the leading members of a large commercial upper middle-class English family, similar to Galsworthy's own.<sup>[1]</sup> Only a few generations removed from their farmer ancestors, the family members are keenly aware

of their status as "new money". The main character, Soames Forsyte, sees himself as a "man of property" by virtue of his ability to accumulate material possessions—but this does not succeed in bringing him pleasure. (Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\_Galsworthy)

# ASSIGNMENT 1 PART ONE.

# Chapters I-III (p.p. 9-37)

#### 1. Vocabulary:

- 1. a tenacious nature (p.9), tenacity
- 2. to dote on somebody (p. 10)
- 3. to lose morals (p. 13)
- 4. to sow one's wild oats (p. 13)
- 5. a connoisseur (p.17)
- 6. to grudge somebody something (p. 17)
- 7. to take advantage of something (p. 21)
- 8. to let sleeping dogs lie (p. 24)
- 9. to pride oneself on doing something (p. 25)
- 10. a family feud (p. 26)
- 11. to be lost in a dream (p. 30)
- 12. to be under sentence of death (p. 33)
- 13. to take precautions (p. 36)
- 14. to love at first sight (p. 36)

- 1. Comment on Soames's thoughts as he was on his way to a collection of pictures in a Gallery off Cork Street. Soames's thought of the changes that had taken place in England since 1860.
- 2. Account for Soames's reaction to what he had seen at the exhibition of modern art. Write out the words and expressions constituting the semantic field of surprise and indignation.
- 3. In what way did the Boer War World War I affect the Forsytes?
- 4. Compare Soames's meditations of his feeling to Irene, his divorced wife, and his partnership with Annette which was necessary in the world of property.
- 5. Throughout the first two chapters sum up what to your opinion may be most typical features of the Forsytes?
- 6. Soames's opinion of the new generation.
- 7. The encounter at the gallery. Connect the behavior of the characters involved in it with the old family feud.

- 8. Compare the family relations of Soames Fleur and Jolyon Irene. Can love for children in both families be characterized as requited?
- 9. What facts, do you think, give rise to the forthcoming conflict in the novel?

# ASSIGNMENT 2 Chapters IV-IX (p.p. 37-76)

#### 1. Vocabulary:

- 1. to do something once in a blue moon (p.38)
- 2. to see somebody in the flesh (p. 38)
- 3. to resume one's babyhood (p. 44)
- 4. to be somebody's superior (p. 46)
- 5. to know one's way about (p.47)
- 6. to be a queer fish (p. 48)
- 7. to be an easy-going man (p. 51)
- 8. to set one's heart on a thing (p. 53)
- 9. the family skeleton (to have skeleton in a cupboard) (p. 53)
- 10. to let cat out of the bag (p. 55)
- 11. the apple of one's eye (p. 56)
- 12. to be reticent about oneself (p. 57)
- 13. to use subterfuge (p. 63)
- 14. to hang on one's property (p. 73)

- 1. What to your mind are the advantages of giving the impressions of visiting "Timothy's" on the Bayswater Road through Soames's perception?
- 2. Val Dartie in the fourteenth year of his age: what was common between George Forsyte and Prosper Profond? Why is it that Val thought that the devil himself was not more disillusioned that those two?
- 3. Sum up Prosper Profond. Is this character any different from the Forsytes? Why is he introduced into the narration?
- 4. Through whose perception is Chapter VII given? Dwell on the relations between Holly and her father. In what meaning is the idiom "he had let the cat out of the bag" used in the chapter? Holly's opinion of John.
- 5. Compare the ways Jon and Fleur responded to the same circumstances (when they were introduced by Holly; at dinner; during the walk before

breakfast). What new details of Fleur's personality do we come to know from her letter to Cherry?

- 6. What's the value of life for Monsieur Profond ("Life's awful like a lot of monkeys scrambling for empty nuts"). What's ownership for him and for Soames?
- 7. Sum up Michael Mont. Comment on his speech manner. Soames's opinion of him.

# ASSIGNMENT 3 Chapters IV-X (p.p. 76-100)

# 1. Vocabulary:

- 1. tenacity (p.78)
- 2. a dread of showing one's feelings (p. 78)
- 3. to keep something dark (p. 78)
- 4. to be frank (p. 78)
- 5. remorse (p.79)
- 6. to release one's soul (p. 79)

#### **Questions:**

- 1. Speak about Jon in love. Say a few words about Jon's suffering because of his being unable to release his soul to his mother. Is Jon shown as a Forsyte in this chapter?
- 2. Comment on the family's decision to keep Jon from Fleur.
  - 7. Self-possession (p. 82)
  - 8. to pump somebody=to get information from somebody (p. 83)
  - 9. a glimpse f one's nature (p. 85)

# **Questions:**

- 1. Pick up the instances of Fleur's self-possession. In what way did Fleur differ from Jon in love?
- 2. How does the first glimpse of Jon and Fleur's natures characterize them?
  - 10. really and truly (p. 89)
  - 11. to set one's heart on somebody (p. 90)
  - 12. to keep somebody on tenterhook (p. 91)

#### **Questions:**

- 1. Characterize Michael Mont.
- 2. Dwell on the family relations of the Forsytes (Soames's family)

- 3. Comment on the sentence: "In a disturbed domestic atmosphere the heart she had set on Jon would have a better chance" (p. 90)
  - 13. subtle (p. 96)
  - 14. day in, day out (p. 98)

#### **Questions:**

- 1. What new details characterize Jon?
- 2. Who was the winner in the waiting game? (Thus did he first learn how better than men women play a waiting game).

#### **ASSIGNMENT 4**

#### Part two. Chapters II-IV (p.p. 100-127)

#### 1. Vocabulary:

- 1. to be out of touch with the times (p.118)
- 2. to enter into somebody's point of view (p. 119)
- 3. to kill one bird with one stone (p. 120)
- 4. to stick to one's point (p. 124)
- 5. feud (p.47)
- 6. the Forsyte's possessive instinct (p. 131)
- 7. to be fits and starts (p. 133)
- 8. pricks of conscience (his conscience pricked him badly) (p. 133)
- 9. desperate (p. 137)
- 10. a mood of disillusionment (p. 144)
- 11. to take something to heart (p.146)
- 12. to get married to somebody (p. 147)

- 1. Dwell on the relations between Jolyon and his daughter June. Why is it that June considered her father to be a "lame duck"? what did June decide to do when she had stumbled on her father's secret? In what ways was Jolyon "cut of touch with the times", as June put it? Was it wise to hide it from Jon, according to June's opinion? Could she bear sleeping dogs? Characterize June as a Forsyte. Is the meaning of the word "to drop" the same in the following sentences?
- I saw you drop your handkerchief.
- Is there anything between you and Jon? If it so, you'd better drop that too. What made June visit Fleur?

- 2. Why is the chapter entitled "Fathers and daughters"? what is the role of the feud in the composition structure of Chapter II?
- 3. Sum up Soames and his daughter Fleur relying on the information in Chapter II.
- 4. Why is it that Chapter III begins with the sentence "Youth only recognizes Age by fits and starts"? Does it give the clue to the things that follow?
- 5. Give a brief summary of Chapter III. Specify through whose perception is the chapter written and why. Make a list of words describing Jon's state at seeing his mother when she and Fleur came on her sitting on an old log seat (up to the end of the chapter).
- 6. Sum up Prosper Profond. Why did he arouse the Forsyte's suspicion?
- 7. In what way did Fleur stumble on the family secret? Comment on Fleur's behavior while she had a talk with Monsieur Profond.
- 8. Specify the climax of Chapter IV.
- 9. Characterize Winifred Dartie.

#### **ASSIGNMENT 5**

#### Part two. Chapters V-VII (p.p. 127-147)

#### 1. Vocabulary:

- 1. annuity (p.130)
- 2. to set the Thames on fire (p. 131)
- 3. to put somebody in the trust (p. 132)
- 4. to take one's mind off (p. 135)
- 5. to matter rests with somebody (p.137)
- 6. to put all eggs in one basket (p. )
- 7. to cut somebody off one's will (p. 133)
- 8. to put an end to something (p. 171)
- 9. humiliating, to humiliate (p. 171)

- 1. Characterize Soames as a man of property and a businessman on the basis of Chapter V. what is the way Soames thought of "English common sense"? What common features are between Soames and his old clerk Gradman? Speak on Soames's will. What did he do to insure the conduct of Fleur's mother?
- 2. Give the summary of Chapter VI. Characterize Michael Mont's manner of speech. What is Soames's attitude to Mickael? Pick out the words relating t

Saoames's ans Annette's feelings in the scene of their talk about the anonymous letter. Compare their connotations.

- 3. What do you think of June's "lame ducks"? is June shown as a Forsyte in Chapter VII?
- 4. Comment upon Fleur's behavior when she had a talk with June. Is she here shown as her father's daughter?

# ASSIGNMENT 6

# Part two. Chapters VIII-XII (p.p. 147-173)

#### 1. Vocabulary:

- 1. to take a bit between one's teeth (to be after something, to get something/somebody for good and all, to get somebody/something by hook and crock) (p.169)
- 2. to break with somebody (p. 170)
- 3. to be married for live (p. 171)
- 4. turmoil = trouble, agitation, disturbance (p. 182)
- 5. to lay by for the future (p.193)
- 6. to take the air (p.195)
- 7. to hold on (p. 197)
- 8. to know which side of one's bread is buttered (p. 199)
- 9. to eat one's tidbit first (p. 199)
- 10. to prophesy = to foretell (p. 188)

- 1. How can you account for the title of the Chapter "The Bit between the Teeth"? What lexical, syntactical and lexical-syntactical devices create the emotional background of the chapter? Pick out the words relating to Fleur and Jon's state as described in the chapter?
- 2. How can you account for the title of the Chapter "The fat in the fire"? What words form the climax in revealing Soames's emotions (his talk with Fleur)? In what way is Fleur presented in Chapter XII?
- 3. What traits in Austrian speech testify to her being a foreigner in England? Pick up the sentence in which the climax of Chapter X is expressed? What prevented Jon from having pluck, going and telling his parents about his decision?
- 4. Comment upon Soames's visit to Timoty connected with his observations at "Lord's" and at the Bedouin Club tent (the club of the "cock and hen"

type)? Is Timothy's eating his tidbit first symbolic? In what way? What did Timothy prophesy?

#### **ASSIGNMENT 7**

#### Part three. Chapters I-III (p.p. 173-191)

#### 1. Vocabulary:

- 1. natural fastidiousness and balance (p.201)
- 2. to tackle something (p. 203)
- 3. to funk something (p. 203)
- 4. at all events (p. 204)
- 5. revelation (p.205)
- 6. proverb: "If you make your bed, you must lie on it" (p.205)
- 7. to divorce somebody, a divorce, to bring a divorce suit(p. 207)
- 8. the reticence of the Forsyte soul (p. 208)
- 9. the murder is cut (p. 209)
- 10. confession (p. 211)
- 11. to give somebody up (p, 212)
- 12. consciousness (p. 220)

# 2. Questions for discussions:

- 1. Speak on the role of traditions in the family life of the Forsytes.
- 2. Sum up Jolyon's letter. What generalizations are there in the letter? Write out such sentences and comment upon them. What were the most important things Jolyon wanted his son to see about "the feud"? What the emotional tone of the letter and trough what expressive devices is it sustained?
- 3. Throughout Chapter II "Confession" there are words and phrases used to form the growing alarm and anxiety with Jolyon's death. What are they? Comment on Jon's behavior as it is described in Chapter II.
- 4. Why is Chapter III entitled "Irene"? In what way do Jon's feelings change throughout the chapter?

#### **ASSIGNMENT 8**

# Part three. Chapters IV-VII (p.p. 191-215)

# 1. Vocabulary:

- 1. to cogitate (p.225)
- 2. to think better of something (p. 226)
- 3. to be sweet on somebody (p. 227)
- 4. to be out of one's mind about something (p. 228)

- 5. to be an heir to something (p.229)
- 6. to bear somebody no malice (p.230)
- 7. to confide in somebody (p. 231)
- 8. the fixed idea (p. 232)
- 9. to be in the seventh heaven (p. 234
- 10. to be tied to one's wife's apron-strings (p. 240)
- 11. to up with somebody (p. 245)
- 12. she would corkscrew her way into a brick wall (p. 247)
- 13. to be baffled (p. 251)
- 14. to take something for granted (p. 252)
- 15. to leave something in somebody's hands (253)

- 1. What was Soames's reaction to the news of Jolyon's death? What, to his mind, was "a piece of poetic justice"? Why is it that his old clerk Grandman had about him "an aura of regretful congratulations"? In what way did Jolyon's death affect Fleur?
- 2. What new information do you know about Michael Mont? What are his observations concerning human nature? What is the meaning of the phrase: "There's going to be a big change. The possessive principle has got its shutters up .... The house is to let".
- 3. What things described in Chapter V prove the fixity of Fleur's idea, her love to Jon? Comment upon the author's attitude to Fleur's tenacity. Why was Fleur a puzzle to her father? Explain the difference of the viewpoint of Michael Mont's and that of Soames's on what sense of property was.
- 4. Why is Chapter VI entitled "Desperate"? what emotional tone does it have? What expressive means serve to create it?
- 5. Can you say that Jon is a giver and Fleur is a taker judging by the dialogue between the two in Chapter VI?
- 6. Is Fleur shown in Chapter VII as an affectionate daughter? Comment upon Soames's phrase: "It seems to me that you care nothing about what I feel". what made Soames remember about Monsieur Profond's disillusionments?
- 7. What details in Chapter VII testify to Soames's love o Irene and his emotions in connection with his embassy?
- 8. Is Jon's final decision to break with Fleur psychologically justified? Comment upon Jon's words "Tell Fleur that it's no good, please; I must do as my father wished before he died".

#### **ASSIGNMENT 9**

#### Part two. Chapters VII-XI (p.p. 215-239)

#### 1. Vocabulary:

- 1. to do one's best (p.253)
- 2. to cook one's own goose (p. 254)
- 3. to be accustomed to one's own way (p. 255)
- 4. the apple of one's eye (p. 256)
- 5. to roam about (p.257)
- 6. consolation (p.258)
- 7. to hit somebody in the face (p. 259)
- 8. to be within reach of somebody (p. 260)
- 9. to receive confidence from somebody (p. 267)
- 10. to lose touch with somebody (p. 273)
- 11. a pretty penny (p. 276)
- 12. aversion (p. 279)
- 13. a thorn in one's side (p. 282)
- 14. to soil one's hands by doing something (p. 280)

- 1. Why is Chapter VIII entitled "The Dark Tune"? Dwell on the relations of father and daughter as they are presented in the chapter. What is the point of view in it?
- 2. Why is it that Jon said: "I feel England Choky"? What made Jon decide to go away (could he trust himself?)?
- 3. The wedding of Fleur Forsyte to Michael Mont is characterized by the author as having symbolic significance. Why? Mrs. Val Dartie (Holly) is the character through whose eyes the events are given in the second half of Chapter X. Why so?

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