

**МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ И НАУКИ  
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ  
Федеральное агентство по образованию  
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**Кафедра английской филологии**

## **АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК**

**Методические рекомендации по видеопрактикуму  
для студентов 2 курса специальности 031001 «Филология»**

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I. Read and translate the words of the Friends theme song:

So, no one told you life was gonna be this way  
Your job's a joke, you're broke  
Your love life's D.O.A.  
It's like you're always stuck in second gear  
When it hasn't been your day, your week,  
Your month or even your year, but  
Chorus:  
I'll be there for you (When the rain starts to pour)  
I'll be there for you (Like I've been there before)  
I'll be there for you ('Cause you're there for me too)!

- D.O.A. – “dead on arrival”. In your opinion, how can this expression be interpreted?
- Point out peculiar features of the AmE that can be found in this song.

II. While watching the film (all 5 series) write out the words that belong to the American slang.  
Make up a vocabulary of slang words (it will be checked later).

### *The One with the Jellyfish*

I. Look through the words and their translation. While watching the film, remember the episodes where they are used, then retell the episodes:

**get cracking** - начать действовать, взяться за дело

The new director will soon get the firm cracking. — Новый директор скоро заставит фирму заработать. Syn: get going, get moving, get started, get weaving  
*It's already late, so I'd better get cracking on this letter.*

**holocaust** - 1) жертвование, самопожертвование Syn: sacrifice

2) геноцид; массовое уничтожение евреев фашистами, холокост Syn: genocide

3) уничтожение, истребление; бойня; резня Syn: destruction, extermination

*nuclear holocaust*

**sting** - 1. 1) а) жало б) укус (насекомого); ожог (крапивой, колючим растением)

2) а) острая боль б) колкость, язвительность; жгучесть

3) острота; жизненность: to give a sting to one's speech — придать остроту своей речи;

v - stung 1) а) жалить; жечь; кусаться: The hail stung their faces. — Град больно бил их по лицу. б) жечь, гореть от боли

2) а) причинять острую боль б) чувствовать острую боль: He stung with remorse. — Он терзался угрызениями совести.

*Jellyfish sting*

**break up** – расходиться

**gist** - суть, сущность, истинный смысл; главный пункт

the gist of the story — основное содержание рассказа

to get the gist of — ухватить суть Syn: kernel

*it's pretty much the gist*

**hang on** - 1) повиснуть; прицепиться; крепко держаться Syn: stick

2) упорствовать

3) ждать ( особ. у телефона ): I'll hang on here until the others come. — Я подожду здесь, пока подойдут другие.

4) зависеть от чего-л.: The result will hang on whether the secret is discovered. — Результат будет зависеть от того, раскрыт ли этот секрет.

**stage fright** - волнение перед выходом на сцену (особ. страх перед первым появлением перед аудиторией)

**uncanny** - 1) неосторожный, опрометчивый

2) жуткий, зловещий; сверхъестественный: It was uncanny to see how closely they resemble each other. — Жутковато видеть, как они похожи друг на друга.

3) опасный

**ramble** – 1) длительная прогулка, пешее путешествие

2) бродить, блуждать: My thoughts were rambling to distant places. — Мысли мои блуждали в разных местах.

3) говорить много и сбивчиво ( тж. ramble on ): Her letter doesn't contain any news, but it rambles on for pages. — В письме она не сообщает ничего нового, но оно растянуто на много страниц.

II. Make up your own situations using as many words from the list above as possible.

### *The One where Chandler Crosses the Line*

I. Look through the words and their translation. While watching the film, remember the episodes where they are used, then retell the episodes:

**weird** - 1) доля, рок, судьба, жребий, фатум

2) потусторонний, сверхъестественный, таинственный: He was awakened by a weird and unearthly moaning. — Его разбудил таинственный потусторонний звук, напоминающий стон.

•• the weird sisters — богини судьбы, парки; ведьмы

3) странный, непонятный; причудливый, фантастический

*Every time we're in the same room there's weird energy between us*

**bummer** - 1) сленг. наркотический бред

2) сленг. барахло, фуфло; облом.

How can you drink that bummer? — Как ты только можешь пить такую дрянь?

- *Things didn't work out with Kathy? Bummer.*

**lane** - узкая дорога, тропинка ( особ. между живыми изгородями ), тжж. перен.

- *You should pick a lane. — Elaine? Who is it?*

**funky** - 1) чувственный, грубо-материальный; приземленный: Everything he does is so funky. — Все, что он делает, так основательно. Syn: physical, down-to-earth

2) фанки ( о музыкальном (джазовом) стиле - см. funk ): When you put a lot of little blues inflections in the solos, people would say you were really funky. — Когда добавляешь немного блюзовых нот в соло, люди обычно говорят, что ты был по-настоящему фанки.

3) броский, вызывающий ( о поведении, внешнем виде и т.п. ): Your hair is a sort of funky. Comb it. — У тебя дикая прическа. Причешись.

*Come on, play that funky music, white boy!*

**yearn** - 1) томиться, тосковать ( for, after - по ком-л., чем-л. )

2) жаждать, стремиться ( for, to - к чему-л. ).

3) сочувствовать: My heart was yearning over her. — Мое сердце разрывалось от жалости к ней.

*Don't say that! I'm starting to yearn.*

**upbeat** - 1) неударный звук в такте

2) оптимистическое настроение; приятный случай

*I was trying to be really ok and upbeat about it, but...*

**eavesdrop** - подслушивать ( on ): Have you been eavesdropping on your neighbour again? — Ты опять подслушивал разговоры своего соседа?

- *What are you doing? He's cool and he's a doctor. – How d'you know? – Honey, I eavesdrop because I care!*

## II. Give synonyms of the words:

*weird, to yearn, eavesdrop, uncanny, hang on, get cracking*

### ***The One with the Free Porn***

I. Look through the words and their translation. While watching the film, remember the episodes where they are used, then retell the episodes:

**-Cable bill, phone bill**

*We didn't pay our cable bill*

**- to mute**

**- to lug** - 1) волочить, тянуть, тащить 2) некстати вмешивать, приплетать ( in, into )

*I'm getting too pregnant for lugging about that massage table!*

**- to sneak** - 1) подкрадываться; идти крадучись: Syn: slink , skulk

2) увиливать, избегать; ускользать

to sneak responsibility — уклоняться от ответственности

**- cockpit** - 1) кабина 2) партер

*Then you two can sneak into the cockpit*

**- triplet**

**- sweatshop** - любое производство, часто полулегальное, где эксплуатируется тяжелый ручной труд при очень низкой заработной плате по так называемой sweating system

**- fertile** - плодородный; изобилующий, богатый ( fertile in, fertile of ): The plains are fertile in native plants. — На равнинах растет очень много характерных для этой местности растений.

*Frank's super-fertile sister's having three babies!*

**- insider** - 1) свой человек. не посторонний человек ( член общества или организации )

2) хорошо осведомленный человек

- **van** - фургон

- **moron** - идиот, слабоумный

- *She must be staying with that other guy and I am the stupid moron who spent the whole night here!*

- **bugger off** - уходить, смываться: Bugger off, will you? I don't want you here. — Вали отсюда, а? Тебе тут нечего делать.

- *Mrs. Newman, if you're listening, bugger off. This is none of your business!*

## II. Answer the questions:

Why couldn't they turn off the TV?

Why has Frank decided to quit college?

What's a "Relaxi-Taxi"?

## *The One with the Wedding Dresses*

I. Look through the words and their translation. While watching the film, remember the episodes where they are used, then retell the episodes:

- **errand** - поручение; задание, командировка

to do an errand, to go on an errand — поехать, пойти по поручению

to run (on) errands — быть на посылках

*She's got you running errands picking up wedding dresses*

- **hang in** – упорствовать: Hang in there! It'll soon be over! — Поработайте еще немного, скоро это закончится.

*Someday this will happen to you too. You just hang in there.*

- **to handle smth**

*I've heard that you and Joshua are going to dinner with Ross and Emily and you know what? I think you're handling it really well!*

- **squeaky**

*What's up? Your voice sounded squeaky on the phone.*

- **coincidence**

*What are you in for? – I talk in my sleep. – What a coincidence! I listen in my sleep.*

- **cheater**

- **to cheer up**

*You know what might cheer you up?*

- **buddy** - дружище, приятель, товарищ;

bosom buddy — сердечный друг old buddy — старинный друг

- **answering machine** (= voice mail)

*I've just talked to Joshua. His answering machine was very understanding.*

## II. Answer the questions:

What kind of clinic did Joey go to and why?  
How soon will Ross get married?  
How many dates did Rachel and Joshua have?  
What's special about the store called "It's not too late"?  
What for could wedding dresses be used?

### *The One with the Worst Best Friend Ever*

I. Look through the words and their translation. While watching the film, remember the episodes where they are used, then retell the episodes:

**bash** - гулянка, веселое сборище (амер. сленг)  
*bachelor bash*

**geek** - чокнутый, помешанный ( на чем-либо )  
*It's your party, but I'd really like to limit the number of museum geeks that gonna be there.*

**mellow** 1) а) сладкий, сочный, мягкий, нежный ( о спелых фруктах ) б) выдержанный; мягкий, приятный на вкус ( о вине ) 2) а) спокойный, смягчившийся с годами ( о человеке, характере ) б) зрелый; умудренный: *mellow judgment* — зрелое суждение 3) мягкий, сочный, густой ( о голосе, цвете и т. п. ) 4) веселый, разгоряченный; подвыпивший 5) славный, приятный, веселый б) спокойный, неторопливый; расслабленный: *mellow music* — расслабляющая музыка  
*Keep it on the mellow side. (the party)*

**edgy** 1) а) заостренный, острый, режущий б) , имеющий резкий контур 2) раздраженный; раздражительный, несдержанный ( about ), нетерпеливый, нервный

**tad** капелька, чуточка  
*I wanted to apologize if I seemed a tad edgy yesterday.*

**to have a blast** – to have a good time  
*Thanks you once again for last night. You know, the guys from work had a blast! One of them had never been to a bachelor party before. And another one had never been to a party before..*

**to let smb down** – подводить к-л  
*You made me your best man and I totally let you down.*

**false labor (pains)** - ложные родовые схватки  
*How do you know this was false labor? – Well, do you see any babies?*

## II. Answer the questions:

Why were the girls not invited to the party?  
Why did Gunther refuse to be Chandler's best man?  
Why was Phoebe so upset?  
Why did Joey call 911 and why did they yell at him?  
What was the history of Ross's wedding ring?

## BIG FISH

### I. Read and translate the information about Tim Burton:



**Timothy William Burton** (born August 25, 1958) is an American film director, writer and designer known for his off-beat and quirky style. He is known for the exaggerated style of his characters.

His early film career was fueled by almost unbelievable good luck, but it's his talent and originality that have kept him at the top of the Hollywood tree. Tim Burton began drawing at an early age, going on to attend the California Institute of the Arts, studying animation after being awarded a fellowship from Disney, for whom he went on to work.

He first came to note directing the Warner Brothers supernatural comedy *Beetlejuice*, which was followed by the blockbuster success of *Batman* in 1989. Although his least personal film, it was one of the most successful films of all time, and gave him unprecedented power in Hollywood considering the originality and adventurousness of his work. He continued to make blockbusters as well as smaller dramas that study loneliness in a style influenced by Gothic fairy tales.

#### Some facts about Tim Burton:

His films often have a Gothic feel to them, often including Christmas and/or Halloween scenes.

Plot often focuses around a misunderstood outcast.

He often likes to open his films with a quiet night time snowfall.

Many of his films feature townspeople who misunderstand and/or distrust the lead character.

Often shows scarecrows in his movies.

Usually includes fantasy elements in his films.

Often looks into the main character's past through a series of flashbacks (i.e. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory).

Nearly everywhere he goes, he carries a pocket-size sketchbook and a small watercolor kit.

In 2001 he bought the house next to his girlfriend's house in London and now the two buildings are connected by a tunnel.

He once said he never remembers his dreams, apart from five recurring dreams, one of them involving the girl he was in love with when he was a teenager and another involving his parents' bedroom.

*Big Fish* is a 2003 movie loosely based on the 1998 novel *Big Fish: A Novel of Mythic Proportions* by Daniel Wallace.

The film is much less gothic than some of Burton's other works. *Big Fish* received four Golden Globe nominations and one Oscar nomination for Danny Elfman's original score.

The band Yellowcard wrote a song called "How I Go" which was about the movie.

### II. Tell what you got to know about Tim Burton and his style.



III. Make sure you know the following words:

*quirky, unprecedented, off-beat, outcast, flashback, recurring, to be fueled by*  
Use these words in sentences of your own.

IV. Look through the words and their translation. While watching the film, try to remember the episodes where they are used:

**lure** - приманка

**catfish** - сом

**humid** - влажный, мокрый, сырой, отсыревший

*Well, everything tastes better here. Even the water is sweet. It never gets too hot, too cold, too humid.*

**leech** - пиявка

*There're leeches in there!*

**portentous** - предсказывающий дурное; зловещий

*What were you dreaming about?*

*Oh, I don't usually remember... unless the dreams are especially portentous.*

**rattle** - волновать, пугать; смущать, приводить в замешательство

*I finally told about the dream to my father, and he told me not to worry. But I could see he was rattled.*

**involuntary servitude** - принудительный труд

*Tell me, Karl, have you ever heard the term "involuntary servitude"? - No. - "Unconscionable contract"? - Nope. - Great!*

**werewolf** - оборотень

**hitch** - срок службы ( напр., в армии ) to do a hitch — отслужить в армии

*A hitch in the Army was up to three years at that point... and having waited three years just to meet Sandra, I knew I couldn't survive being away from her that long.*

**reconcile** - мирить, помирить, примирить

*My father talked about things he never did... and I'm sure he did a lot of things that he never talked about. I'm just trying to reconcile the two.*

V. Retell in details the following parts of the film:

- the story about the fish and how Edward's son was born
- the story about the witch with a glass eye
- the story about a stay-in-bed for 3 years
- Edward's reputation in Ashton. The story with the giant
- the story about Edward's first visit to the Spectre
- the story with the portentous dreams
- how Edward met the love of his life
- how he got engaged with Sandra

- how Edward served in the army
- Edward's job as a traveling salesman
- how Edward met Norther Winslow for the second time
- how Edward saved the Spectre. Jennifer Hill
- the story that Will told Edward in the hospital

VI. How do you understand these ideas? Do you agree or disagree with them?  
In what situations did they appear in the film?

1. We were like strangers who knew each other very well.
2. "Kept in a small bowl, the goldfish will remain small. With more space...the fish will grow double, triple, or quadruple its size."
3. The biggest fish in the river...gets that way by never being caught.
4. The more difficult something is, the more rewarding it is in the end.
5. They say when you meet the love of your life, time stops.  
What they don't tell you is that once time starts again...it moves extra fast to catch up.
6. Most things you consider evil or wicked are simply lonely and lacking in social niceties.
7. Fate has a way of circling back on a man and taking him by surprise... A man sees things differently at different times in his life.
8. You may be a big fish in a small pond. But this here is the ocean... and you're drowning.

VII. Learn the dialogue between the main character and his son.  
What are the reasons of the conflict between Edward and Will?

- You know about icebergs, Dad?
- Do I? I saw an iceberg once. They were hauling it down to Texas for drinking water. They didn't count on there being an elephant frozen inside. The woolly kind. A mammoth.
- Dad!
- What?
- I'm trying to make a metaphor here.
- Well, you shouldn't have started with a question... because people want to answer questions. You should've started with, "The thing about icebergs is..."
- Okay, okay. The thing about icebergs is you only see 10 percent. The other 90 percent is below the water where you can't see it. And that's.....what it is with you, Dad. I am only seeing this little bit.....that sticks above the water.
- Oh, you're only seeing down to my nose? My chin? My...
- Dad, I have no idea who you are.....because you've never told me a single fact.
- I've told you a thousand facts, Will. That's what I do, I tell stories!
- You tell... lies, Dad. You tell amusing lies. Stories are what you tell a little boy at bedtime. And I believed you. I believed your stories so much longer than I should have. Then when I realized everything you said was impossible.....I felt like a fool to have trusted you. You're like Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. Just as charming and just as fake.
- You think I'm *fake*.
- Only on the surface, Dad. But it's all I've ever seen. Look. I'm about to have.....a kid of my own. It would kill me if he went through his whole life.....never understanding me.

- It would kill you, huh?.. What do you want, Will? Who do you want me to be?
- Just yourself. Good, bad, everything. Just show me who you are for once.
- I've been nothing but myself since the day I was born. And if you can't see that, it's your failing, not mine!

VIII. Translate the following extracts from the film. Make sure you know the meaning of the underlined words:

- Having a kid changes everything. There's the diapers and the burping and the midnight feeding. Then you spend years trying to corrupt and mislead this child... fill its head with nonsense, and still it turns out perfectly fine.

- I told Norther about the vagaries of Texas oil money and its effect on real-estate prices and how lax enforcement of fiduciary process had made savings and loans particularly vulnerable.

- While I took the beating of a lifetime, Don Price was ultimately defeated. All the physical activity had worsened a congenital valve defect.

- I've spent the last three years working to find out who you are. I've been shot, stabbed, and trampled a few times. I broke my ribs twice. But it's all been worth it to see you here now... and to finally get to talk to you. Because I'm destined to marry you.

- You were talking about your wedding. - I didn't forget. I was just working on a tangent. You see, most men, they'll tell you a story straight through. It won't be complicated, but it won't be interesting, either.

- We put together an elaborate plan for escape... involving a whaling ship to Russia... a barge to Cuba, and a small, dirty canoe to Miami.

- After the war, the sons of Alabama returned home, looking for work. Each had the advantage over me. They were alive, while I was officially deceased. With my prospects few, I took a job as a traveling salesman. It suited me.

IX. Speak on the message of the film as you understand it.

X. If you have read the book "Big Fish" by Daniel Wallace, share your impressions of it. Does it differ from the screen version? Which one did you like better and why?

XI. Recollect the information you read about Tim Burton. What features of his style have you noticed in the film?

## LITTLE BLACK BOOK

I. Preliminary task. Look through the words and their translation. While watching the film, try to remember the episodes where they are used, then retell the episodes:

**predicament** — затруднительное положение; затруднение

**over-commit** (overcommitment - 1) принятие чрезмерных обязательств 2) невосполнимое распределение ресурсов)  
*Don't over-commit yourself unless you are absolutely certain.*

**rash** - 1) активный, живой, энергичный 2) стремительный; поспешный; опрометчивый, безрассудный, необдуманный, неосторожный  
*There are moments in life when you hope your decisions were not rash.*

**bulimia** — 1) (ненормально) повышенное чувство голода 2) жадность к чему-л.

**podiatrist** -(врач-ортопед, специализирующийся на лечении заболеваний стоп), **plantar warts** (мозоли на подошвах ног)

**(rating) sweeps** - рейтинг, обзор sweeps period — обзорный период; период, за который составляется обзор monthly sweeps — обзор за месяц rating sweeps — обзор (сравнительной) популярности (телевизионных программ и т. п.)  
*Its nothing we can do. – Except for winning the sweeps. – So let's win the sweeps for Kippie!*

**regurgitate** - хлынуть, извергать  
*Come on, make your daddy laugh! Regurgitate something fresh.*

**outrageous** - скандальный  
*You put your best shows in sweeps. The most outrageous, the most provocative attention-grabbers.*

**on the air** — быть в эфире  
*One should have as many shows on the air as possible to get promoted*

**superficial**  
- *Tell me about one of the early guys. Oh, say, Derek.*  
- *Derek? It was just a casual kind of thing. It was all superficial.*

**bait** - приманка, наживка; искушение  
*Lulu was before me like a bait on a wire. I swallowed it whole...*

**revamp** - 1) поправлять, починять, ремонтировать  
- *Now tell me about the show. I thought it was kind of... "My Wife Slept With My Sister"... Isn't it? - It is, but we're trying to revamp the show right now.*

**taunt** - дразнить  
*He chased the mouse on to the answering machine and it taunted and taunted Bob... And I smashed it with a hockey stick.*

II. Give a précis of the film (20 sentences). The following expressions may be helpful:

to dream of a career in broadcast journalism  
to meet one's life-mate

associate producer  
to win the sweeps  
to leave one's Palm at home  
to invite for the interview  
to be on the air

III. Match the personages and expressions that refer to them. Characterize the personages and tell everything you know about them:

Carly Simon	“I should warn you. I am uncomfortable with touching and sentiment”
Diane Sawyer	He never brings girls home
Kippie Kann	“I didn't date much. I was shy. And ugly. No one invited me to the prom.”
Ira Nachlis	“I never wanted to settle in order to settle down”
Barb	Funny. Talented. But he cares too much what everyone thinks.
Dr. Rachel Keyes	Especially Kippie
Lulu Fritz	“Seconds before opening the metallic case, I envisioned all the evil flowing into the world. I was Pandora.”
Joyce	She is nuts on hockey and works at Kaleidoscope Kitchen
Derek	“I am the only victim here! No one notices me”
	The grande dame of daytime talk, a famous television personality whose ratings are coming down
	“A self-obsessed prodigy, publishing books, practicing medicine. And having a zillion pictures of her in her office”
	“Something about her voice, or her lyrics, or her music... helped Mom clear the chaos.”
	<i>... it took a lot of time to find the person I most wanted to work with. - Chic, smart, intelligent... - And she married well. – Good point!</i>
	“I've had really bad experiences talking about past relationships, no matter how casual.”

IV. Share your opinion on the following ideas and prove your point of view:

- Luck is when preparation meets opportunity. You gotta prepare for the life you want.
- Life's about certainty. It's about being in control.
- Omissions are betrayals

- Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice... Shame on me
- Life happens while you're busy making other plans

V. Act out the main scene of the film: the live show where all the characters face each other. (You may wish to watch the scene once again to get prepared). Choose your part:

- Kippie
- Barb
- Stacy
- Lulu
- Joyce
- Rachel
- Derek
- Ira
- Carl

VI. Prepare good reading and translation of the monologue. Learn it by heart:

By fall, I was ready to try again. A little bruised. A little humbled. And, hopefully, a little smarter.

I believe we write our own stories. And each time we think we know the end... we don't.

Perhaps luck exists somewhere between the world of planning, the world of chance and in the peace that comes from knowing that you just can't know it all.

You know, life's funny that way. Once you let go of the wheel, you might end up right where you belong.

VII. What reasons did Barb have for what she did? Prove your opinion.

## ARIZONA DREAM

### 1. Read and translate the information about Emir Kusturica:

Cosmopolite Kusturica stubbornly calls himself Yugoslav. He was born in not practicing Muslim's family, but has the Serbian origin. He studied in Prague and later taught at Columbian University. Now he is living in Paris but prefers to speak English.

Emir Kusturica has in his career experienced the extremes of adulation and moral outrage.

The star of Emir Kusturica appeared in the sky in 1981. The film "Do you remember Dolly Bell?" was given the prize for the debut; the director showed immoral life full of cruel humor and poetry. He represented the film "Time of the gypsies" in 1989 in Cannes. The film is long slightly but not boring. He used exotics and erotic – "for satisfaction", but "within reasonable limits". With the release of this film, Kusturica's reputation increased. "Time of the Gypsies" allowed him to vent his imagination more fully.

Some audiences, however, started to sense an increasing loss of control over the overall story, with too much attention paid to imagistic detail. This trend was confirmed in *Arizona Dream* (1993), the first (and so far the only) Kusturica film to be directed and set in the United States. This work gained very controversial feedbacks.



*"Made while teaching at Columbia University, Arizona Dream was Kusturica's own interpretation of what the American dream has become. Although he was able to draw on big names such as Johnny Depp, Jerry Lewis and Faye Dunaway in the cast list, the film was a critical flop. Overly long, rambling, pretentious and failing to analyse the American in any meaningful way, the film was felt by many to illustrate that Kusturica was now a director with an ego out of control."* (one of the feedbacks of the American critics).

*Annotation:*

USA/France, 1993, 142 min., color, 35 mm. English lang.

**Silver bear (Berlin 1993)**

**Golden camera 300 (IFF Brothers Manaki 1993)**

**Audience Award (Warsaw IFF 1994)**



*An Innuït (эскимос) hunter races his sled home with a fresh-caught halibut (налимь). This fish pervades the entire film, in real and imaginary form. Meanwhile, Axel tags fish in New York. He's happy there, but a messenger arrives to bring him to Arizona for his uncle's wedding. It's a pretext to get Axel into the family business. In Arizona, Axel meets two odd women: vivacious, needy, and plagued by neuroses and familial discord. He gets romantically involved with one, while the other, rich but depressed, plays accordion tunes to a gaggle of pet turtles.*

The dreams were amazingly romantic – with flying fishes and Eskimo with narrow eyes, with marvelous arctic landscapes. The reality of Arizona, populated with three Hollywood odd fellows is forced and realistic. Kusturica won the special prize for this film in 1993 in Berlin.

The director commenting on the film himself confessed that faced with a decision to make films in his style or yield to the pressure to make marketable hits he reacted by becoming even more personal than in his previous films.

But the controversy around the director really heated up with his next film, the notorious *Podzemlje*, his attempt to portray the tragic history of his country. He was accused of being “political” and supporting dangerous ideas. Following the row over *Podzemlje*, Kusturica swore never to make a film again. However, a few years later he was back with *Crna mačka, beli macor* (Black Cat, White Cat, 1998). More than any other film made by Kusturica, this is a film out for laughs. Kusturica does not abandon his love of the absurd, though.

## 2. Translate and transcribe the words:

Cosmopolite, Yugoslav, debut, Muslim, Inuit, halibut, to pervade, adulation, pretext, neuroses, discord, vivacious, to plague, row, pretentious, marvelous, notorious, yield, absurd

## 3. Translate the sentences:

- Emir Kusturica has in his career experienced the extremes of adulation and moral outrage.
- With the release of this film, Kusturica's reputation increased.
- “Time of the Gypsies” allowed him to vent his imagination more fully.
- This work gained very controversial feedbacks.
- The film was a critical flop.
- The director commenting on the film himself confessed that faced with a decision to make films in his style or yield to the pressure to make marketable hits he reacted by becoming even more personal than in his previous films.

## 4. Retell the information about Kusturica and “Arizona Dream”.

Share your impressions about other films directed by Kusturica you might have watched.



## Arizona Dream – TASKS\_PART 1

1. Learn the opening monologue by heart.  
How does it help to characterize the main personage?

"Good morning, Columbus."

These are my mother's eternal words, reminding me America was already discovered, and that day-dreaming was a long way from life's truths.

Why tell me the difference between an apple and a bicycle?

If I bite a bicycle and ride an apple, I'll know the difference.

But thinking about what to do made me more tired than the actual doing.

I remember my father said: "If you want to look at someone's soul, you have to look at their dreams.

Then you'd have mercy for those who swim in bigger shit than your own."

My name is Axel Blackmar, and I work for the Department of Fish and Game.

Most people think I count fish, but I don't.

I look at their souls, their dreams and then I let them into my dreams.

People think fish are stupid, but they aren't. They know when to be quiet.

It's people that are stupid. Fish know everything, and don't need to think.

See, fish start out in small streams, then I prepare them for the ocean.

When they're ready to die, they return to where they came from.

That's my connection, that's why I swam away to the city.

...

Sometimes I look into fish eyes and I see my whole life.

It's something only fish can show us, and I love them for it.

If they want to talk, I always listen.

That's the job of a Fish God.

I've never caught a fish in a lie, and I've never seen a fish swim in the shit that human people do.

That's why I love my work, and I love New York.

Not because my mother said it was a place with real magnetic pull,

but because you can see everybody, and nobody can see you.

2. Tell about Uncle Leo, his dream and how Axel felt about him.  
The following expressions might be helpful to remind you of the details:

- to achieve success
- the first Cadillac dealership in Arizona
- magnificent dream
- the hero of one's childhood
- the smell of cheap cologne
- to believe in miracles
- weird earache
- "the moment my parents died my childhood was lost forever"

3. Tell about:

- Axel and the two women getting acquainted
- Conversation at the table
- The beginning of the love affair
- Uncle Leo and Paul coming to take Axel back to work

4. How do you understand the following statements? Do you agree or disagree with these ideas?  
Make a speech to share your opinion with the audience.

- Dreams of houses, cars, and lawns aren't dreams when they become real.
- History is all dreams. No rules or books. It's just there, waiting to be discovered like when Columbus found this place.
- "I always knew I could fly, but I never told them. Once someone knows, they can make you fall."

### **Arizona Dream – TASKS\_PART 2**

1. Retell in details the following episodes from the film:

- Being caught in the dream of two women is the craziest storm of all.
- Sometimes you have to crash into a tree to know what to do.
- Never did I think I'd be an Eskimo in the desert, knowing I had to kill something to put it out of its misery.
- "I have a game for you."
- "I got to start climbing. It's a long way, Axel. It's a long way to the moon."
- "Here's a present for you"
- "What you did is beautiful"

2. Act out the dialogue:

- I was thinking about what you said.
- What did I say?
- That I was supposed to be with you. When I first met her I felt something, kind of strong. I didn't know what it was. I didn't know what to call it. Now everything's turned around, and she's like... She's like this cloud that I can see through, and on the other side I see you. And I feel something very strong. I think I know what to call it. What do you think?
- About what?
- About us, kind of... belonging together.
- Will Paul like this lamp?
- He'll love it. But... What do you think?
- I think two wrongs don't make a right.
- Meaning what?
- Meaning us. Two wrongs.
- What if we're two rights, and everybody else is wrong?
- I wish I could take you with me.
- Let's go right now! No trains, no planes, no doors. We'll go right out the window!
- I have to take care of some business.
- The house?
- Yes. Last night I dreamt I'm in the desert, and my house is tied around my neck, and my body's breaking under its weight, and it's in flames. The flames are climbing the rope, and they almost reach my neck, and before they do, I wake up, and I know that I have to get rid of this house.
- I want you to promise me something.
- What?
- When you're done with the house, we can go away. Come on!
- I promise.
- You promise?
- Yeah. I promise.

- Good.

3. Speak about the characters of the film. What were they dreaming about? Did their dreams come true?

4. Share your impression about the film. Is it pessimistic or inspiring?  
What scenes impressed you most? Prepare list of words describing the style of the film.

5. Read the final dialogue. How does it help to understand the message of the film?  
Explain the message of the film as you see it.

- What a wonderful fish!
- Yes, wonderful.
- Do the eyes start on either side of the head?
- Yes, it's a very strange fish. When it becomes an adult, one eye moves across, joins the other.
- Why do they do that?
- Maybe it's like a... A badge of maturity. They passed through the nightmare.
- Nightmare?
- The nightmare that separates children from adults.
- Come! Quickly! We got it! We got it!
- Slowly. Slowly! Slowly! Don't move! Don't move!
- Look, its color changes to match the ocean floor.
- If one of these fish sinks on top of the head of another, the bottom one doesn't make a fuss, but waits until the other one moves.
- I wouldn't like anyone to sit on my head.
- You are still young. One eye begins to move to the other side.
- Isn't it better to have both eyes on the same side?
- No. It's different.
- What do you lose?
- Your other side. You lose something, but you also gain something.

6. Choose one of the topics given (or suggest your own topic) and write an essay using the tips from the *Essay-writing guide*:

To dream is dangerous. You never know where your dream will take you  
Reality is too boring and sad without dreams. One should use imagination to be happier  
Dreams should never come true. If they can they are not dreams actually  
Progress and success are both fueled by dreams. Those who don't dare to dream achieve nothing  
Maturity comes when people abandon their dreams.

*Essay-writing guide*

- a. You might agree or disagree with the issue given in the topic. But whatever position you take you must prove it with examples (either from the film or other sources or your personal experience)
- b. Your essay should have a clear-cut composition. It should consist of the introduction, the main body of the essay divided into several passages, and the conclusion.
- c. In the first passage (the introduction) tell what you are going to write about: state the position you take on the issue. The introduction shouldn't be very long.
- d. Then try to prove your point of view or consider the issue from different angles. Each passage should contain a separate independent idea (an example for each passage, or 'on the one hand' - 'on the other hand' considerations)

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