

## SPECIAL DAYS

### B. READING AND SPEAKING

#### 1. Read the text and give it a title.

Puddleton is a small village (деревня). There are some houses in Puddleton. They are not large. There aren't any cinemas, theatres, museums or amusement parks in the village. There's one shop (магазин). There's a church (церковь) and a school. There are some farm-houses, too. They stand in the fields (в полях) near the village.

There aren't any people in the street. It's early in the morning. It's six o'clock.

The people of Puddleton are sleeping and the village is very quiet.

The houses in the village have similar (похожие) doors and similar windows.

There are gardens in front of the houses, and there are hedges (живые изгороди) in front of the gardens. The gardens and hedges are similar, too.

The people of Puddleton are sleeping, but one man isn't sleeping. He is working in the garden. His name is Joe Selby.

Joe has a farm (ферма), but today he is not working on the farm. He is digging a hole (копает яму) in his garden.

Today is April 1<sup>st</sup>. It is April Fool's Day, and Joe is going to play a joke on the village people.

A man is walking in the street. It is 'Nosey'<sup>1</sup> Parker. Joe has some news for Nosey. Joe smiles. He wants to talk to Nosey.

'Good morning, Joe. What are you doing?' asks Parker. 'I'm digging a hole.' 'I can see that, but why?' 'Oil (нефть), Nosey. There's oil in the ground in our village. I can be a rich man. But don't tell your friends, Nosey!' 'OK,' says Nosey.

In the afternoon all the men are digging holes in their gardens. They want to be rich. Joe laughs (смеется): 'Ha-ha-ha! Fools! It's April Fool's Day! I like to play jokes on people!' says Joe. Now all the people are laughing.

---

<sup>1</sup>'Nosey' – 'любопытный'

#### 2. Are the following sentences true or false?

1. The houses and the gardens in the village are very similar.
2. There are a lot of houses, but no cinemas, theatres, museums or amusement parks in the village.
3. Puddleton is a little village.
4. In the evening all the men are digging holes in their gardens because they want to be rich.
5. Joe says he is digging for oil, because he wants to be rich.
6. It's 6 o'clock in the morning, and all the people are in the garden.
7. Joe Selby is working in the street.

#### 3. Answer the following questions about the story (speak to your teacher).

1. Who isn't sleeping at six o'clock in the morning?
2. What does Joe Selby tell 'Nosey' Parker?
3. Why are all the men digging holes in their gardens in the afternoon?

#### 4. Answer the following questions about you (speak to your teacher).

1. What do you think of Joe and his joke?
2. Do you like playing jokes on other people on April Fool's Day?
3. What's your favourite joke?