

## MY HOBBY

I am very busy now, I don't have much time to spare. But I have a hobby which I can't give up.

A few years ago I started to collect badges. When my father was a boy he was fond of collecting them. Then he had no time to do it. He got interested in his studies, and then his work occupied all his time and mind.

Once I found a box with old badges in the wardrobe under the piles of clothes. Mother told me about father's hobby and said that I could take the box if I wanted. In the evening when father came he was greatly surprised to see his collection of badges. He explained to me that he had collected symbols of different countries and cities. He told me how this or that badge appeared in his collection. He said that he was sorry that he had given up his hobby.

There are people who collect stamps, photos of favourite actors, posters, videocassettes. I am sure that it is very good when you have some hobby. It makes your life more interesting and emotional. You widen your knowledge in the field you are interested in. I admire those who are fond of repairing radio sets or computers. It's my wish to find a wife who will enjoy knitting or embroidering.

My best friend Boris has a wonderful collection of old records. When we listen to them, the sound is not so clear as it may be when you listen to compact discs, but there is something in these old strange sounds... I often imagine ladies in long dresses walking along the parks and noble officers in white gloves. Boris wants to know everything about old singers, and so he often goes to the library. We often go there together. I look for interesting information about old and new badges, symbols of various countries, while he looks through old magazines. When we find something important we always discuss it.

We write to some fan-clubs in different countries. This is one of the reasons why I want to know English better. It will be easier for us to find friends who are ready to share our hobbies.

### **Read and memorize the following words and expressions:**

- time to spare
- badge
- to occupy
- piles of clothes
- symbol
- to widen
- to knit
- to embroider
- old records
- to look through
- reason
- to share

### **Give the Russian for:**

To give up, to be fond of, to be greatly surprised, to enjoy, to look for, he was sorry, I am very busy, you are interested in, to appear.

### **Give the English for:**

Иметь много свободного времени; отказаться от хобби; собирать значки (марки, пластинки, фотографии любимых актеров); слушать музыку; играть на пианино; играть в футбол; драматический кружок; прекрасная коллекция; просматривать журналы; искать информацию; находить что-либо интересное; переписываться с любительскими клубами; разделять интересы.

### **Answer the following questions:**

1. Have you much time to spare? 2. Are you fond of collecting anything? 3. Do you go in for sports? 4. Can you play any musical instrument? 5. Is there any hobby you can't give up? 6. How did it happen that you got interested in it? 7. What is your parents' attitude towards your hobby? 8. Do you have friends to share your interests? 9. Do you write to any fan-clubs? 10. Does your hobby take much time?

### **Complete the sentences using the combinations of words from the right column.**

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|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. His work ...         | 1. when you have some hobby          |
| 2. It is very good ...  | 2. I found a box with old badges     |
| 3. When father came ... | 3. of different countries and cities |

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|----|-----------------------------------|----|---|
| 4. | I look for ...                    | 4. | in long dresses walking along the parks |
| 5. | I found a box with old badges ... | 5. | occupied all his time and mind          |
| 6. | I often imagine ladies ...        | 6. | everything about old singers            |
| 7. | He had collected symbols ...      | 7. | he was greatly surprised                |
| 8. | Boris wants to know ...           | 8. | interesting information                 |