



*“A translator in prose is a slave; a translator in verse is a rival”  
«Переводчик в прозе – раб, переводчик в стихах – соперник»*

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## ***British Romanticism and Russian Poet***

### **Before you read.**

1. Use the most descriptive words possible to create a mind-picture (mind-map) of the British Romanticism in poetry.
2. What is important for a good translator by the opinion of Vasily Zhykovsky?

### **Reading**

#### **3. Find these words and expressions in the text and translate them.**

1. an artistic and intellectual movement
2. to put imagination before reason
3. abandoning the ideas of clarity
4. rebellion against established rules
5. to have a great influence on the cultural life
6. peculiarities
7. the wisdom of the heart/ the wisdom of the Universe
8. the most outstanding representatives

### **Romanticism**

**Romanticism** is an artistic and intellectual movement originated in Europe in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Romanticism puts imagination before reason. A romantic artist gives expression to his feelings about some subject, abandoning the ideas of clarity, reality and perfection of form. Romanticism is characterized by a deep interest in nature, emphasis on the individual's expression of emotion and imagination, and rebellion against established social rules and conventions.



The Industrial Revolution in England had a great influence on the cultural life of the country. Therefore, the period of Romanticism in England had its peculiarities. The Romantic writers and poets based their theories on the intuition and the wisdom of the heart. They hoped to find a way of changing the social order by their writing.

The most outstanding representatives of Romanticism in England were William Blake, William Wordsworth, Samuel Coleridge, George Byron, John Keats and Walter Scott. They believed in literature being a sort of Mission to be carried out in order to reach the wisdom of the Universe.

#### **4. Write the missing headings for each paragraph.**

<b>Romanticism in Britain</b>	<b>Great British Romantics</b>	<b>Artistic movement</b>
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#### **5. Read the text again and answer the questions.**

1. What is the Romantic Period?
2. Who were the most outstanding poets of the Romantic Period?
3. What inspired the poetry of the Romantic period?

**Plan your own report about one of the outstanding British romantic poet – George Gordon Byron, whose poetry was translated by Vasily Zhukovsky, a great Russian poet and translator.**

**6. Research your topic.**

You can find out useful information on any topic by using reference books and searching the Internet. You should remember that information on the web-sites is not always reliable. To avoid unreliable information always use well-known or official sites. If you are not sure about the facts you have found, check the information in an encyclopedia or other reference books. You should always list the sites and books you have used for your research.

**Web-quest. Find more information about Romanticism. Make your mind-map of the Romantic Poetry of the UK.**

[www.poetry.org](http://www.poetry.org)  
[www.shadowpoetry](http://www.shadowpoetry)

Find more information about George Byron. Research the poet's life.

<https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poet/george-gordon-byron>  
<http://www.enotes.com/topics/lord-byron>



**Writing.** Compare the original text (the images of stanzas) of Byron's poem to the translation done by V. Zhukovsky.

<i>Stanzas for Music</i> by George Byron ***	Песня В.А. Жуковский ***
<p>“...Then the few whose spirits float about the wreck  of happiness  Are driven o’er the shoals of quilt or ocean of excess:  The magnet of their course is gone, or only points in vain  The shore to which their shiver’d sail shall never stretch  again.”</p>	<p>«Наше счастье разбитое  Видим мы игрушкой волн,  И в далекий мрак сердитое  Море мчит наш бедный челн;  Стрелки нет путеводительной,  Иль вотще ее магнит  В бурю к пристани спасительной  Челн беспарусный манит».</p>

**Speaking/ Your mind-map of Romanticism**

**Work in pairs. Describe your mind-map of the British Romanticism. Use the information from your research on the web.**

Find cultural material, via a search engine, related to the socio-political milieu from which the poet comes.

<http://www.wnorton.com/college/english/nael/romantic/welcome.htm>

<http://www.infoplease.com/encyclopedia/entertainment/english-literature-the-romantic-period.html>

<http://www.world-shake.ru/ru/Encyclopaedia/4189.html>

**Add the sites you have found while doing your research.**