**Муниципальное бюджетное общеобразовательное учреждение «Гимназия № 152»**

**КИМ по читательской грамотности в формате PISA**

**Текст: The stone flower** (Каменный цветок)

5 класс

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THE STONE FLOWER

A long time ago in one Urals village there lived a famous craftsman named Prokopyich. He made jewelry and other things from malachite and was known as the best gem carver in the Urals. The rulers ordered him to teach some boys his profession, but none of them was talented enough.

At the same time an orphan named Danila lived in the village. He was weak and couldn't work at the factory. The manager of the factory sent him to Prokopyich to study gem carving. He was surprisingly gifted. Prokopyich was a widow without children, and he loved the boy as if he were his own son. Several years passed. Danila became a strong, handsome young man.

One day the owner of the factory sent him a task to make a vase from malachite, along with a drawing of what he wanted. Danila began the difficult task, but he was unsatisfied with the idea on the drawing. Every day he went to the woods looking for inspiration and observed many flowers and plants. He worked for a long time and at last completed a vase like the one in the drawing. When he showed it to the other craftsmen, they liked it and praised it. But Danila said, "This vase is made precisely according to the drawing, but there is no living beauty in it. When you look at the simplest flower, joy fills your heart because of its beauty. Where is there such beauty in the stone?"

One very old craftsman warned him, "Don't even think that way. Otherwise you could become a servant of the Mistress of Copper Mountain. Her workers live and work in the Mountain and nobody ever sees them. Once I was lucky enough to see their work. Magnificent! Our work can't compare with theirs, because they have seen the Stone Flower and understand the beauty of the stone".

After this conversation Danila went to the woods more often looking for a block of stone for his own vase. Prokopyich was worried about him and urged him to marry the nice girl named Katya to whom Danila was engaged. But Danila said, "I want to wait! First I need to make my own vase and then we will think about marriage".

One day he was in the woods looking for stone and suddenly heard a whisper saying, "Danila-Craftsman, look for stone on Serpent Hill." He turned around and saw the dim outline of a woman, which vanished in a second. He thought, "Perhaps it was the Mistress of Copper Mountain!" So he went to Serpent Hill and found a huge block of malachite. He was very glad, took the stone home and started to carve the vase.

But soon again he was disappointed with the result and said sadly, "Maybe I am just not able to understand the power and the beauty of the stone." So he and Katya announced the date of their wedding. The day before the wedding he went for a walk to Serpent Hill again, sat down and thought about the Stone Flower. "How I desire to see that Flower!" he mused.

All of a sudden the Mistress of Copper Mountain appeared before his eyes. Danila began to implore her: "There is no life for me without seeing that Flower!"  
She replied, "I could show it to you, but afterwards you will regret it. Those who saw my Flower left their family and came to live in my mountain. Think about Prokopyich and Katya who love you".

"I know", shouted Danila, "but I must see it." "All right", she said. "Let's go then to my garden." So she took him and showed him the wonderful Stone Flower.

In the evening Danila came to the village. His fiancee Katya had a party the day before the wedding. At first he had fun, danced, and sang songs, but then he became sadder and sadder. To Katya's questions he replied that he had a headache. After the party he returned home, broke his vase and ran away. The village was full of rumors after he disappeared, but no one knew whether he was alive.

Three years passed. Katya did not get married. After her parents died she came to live with old Prokopyich and helped him in his work. But soon Prokopyich died, too, and Katya lived on her own. She did not have any money, so she decided to try making some brooches.

She went to Serpent Hill hoping to find good pieces of stone. But at the hill she remembered her beloved Danila and wept. Suddenly she saw a beautiful piece of malachite. Katya took it home and tried to carve several brooches. She worked hard and well and her carving beautifully set off the natural patterns in the stone. Katya was happy when she sold her works to a merchant in the village. She thought, "My brooches are the best in his store. I was lucky finding that malachite. Maybe it was Danila who helped me?"

She went to Serpent Hill hoping to find good pieces of stone. But she thought of Danila and burst into tears, sobbing, "Where are you, my beloved friend? Why did you leave me?" When Katya looked around it seemed to her she stood in an unfamiliar woods, and the mountain opened before her eyes. "Here is the magic mountain," she thought. "Maybe I could see my Danila". Then suddenly the Mistress of Copper Mountain appeared and demanded, "Why did you come to my garden? If you need the stones, take what you wish and go away".

Brave Katya replied, "I don't need your dead stones. Give me my Danila back. You don't have the right to take another's fiance". The Mistress laughed. "Do you have any idea whom you are speaking to?" Katya cried out, "I am not blind, I know who you are. I am not afraid of you! Not at all! And I know that Danila wants to come back to me". The Mistress said, "All right, let him speak then".

At the same moment Katya saw Danila. The Mistress said, "You have to choose, Danila-Craftsman. If you go with her, you will forget everything you saw and learned in the mountain. If you want to stay here, you have to forget the rest of the world".

Danila sighed, "I am sorry. I can't forget the people I love. I think about Katya every minute of my life". The Mistress smiled and said, "All right, Danila. Go back home. And for your honesty and loyalty I will give you a present. You will not lose your knowledge that you have learned here. But do not tell people about the mountain. If somebody asks you where have you been, just say that you went away to improve your skill".

Katya and Danila returned home, filled with joy. Katya and Danila lived happily together for many years. Danila became known far and wide as the greatest carver in the Ural Mountains".

**Question 1: THE FLOWER STONE**

*Question intent: Access and retrieve*

*Text format: Continuous*

What did Danila want to show in his vase and why did he fail?

**Question 2: THE FLOWER STONE**

*Question intent*: *Reflect and evaluate*

*Text format: Continuous*

Here is part of a conversation between two people who read the story

“The Stone Flower”:

**Speaker 1**: *I think the Mistress of Copper Mountain is heartless and cruel. She’s a negative character in this story.*

**Speaker 2**: *You are not right! I believe she’s wise and kind-hearted and plays a positive role in Danila’s fate.*

Give evidence from the story to show how each of these speakers could justify their point of view.

**Speaker 1**

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**Speaker 2**

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**Question 3: THE FLOWER STONE**

*Question intent*: *Integrate and interpret*

*Text format: Continuous*

Think what traits of character make Danila and Katya similar in the story?

1. Talent and diligence
2. Persistence and determination
3. Smartness and wisdom

Explain how these traits of character help them in the story?

**Question 4: THE FLOWER STONE**

*Question intent*: *Integrate and interpret*

*Text format: Continuous*

Who is the main character of the story? Choose and explain your answer.

1. Danila
2. The Mistress of the Copper Mountain
3. Katya

**Question 5: THE FLOWER STONE**

*Question intent*: *Integrate and interpret*

*Text format: Continuous*

Think in what other stories you can meet a character like Katya and explain what make these stories similar?

**Keys**

**Question 1:** The FLOWER STONE

*Question intent: Access and retrieve*

*Text format: Continuous*

What did Danila want to show in his vase and why did he fail?

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| --- |
| 2 - correct |
| He wanted to show living beauty of a flower in his vase. He failed because he couldn’t understand the beauty of the Stone Flower and convey it in the vase. |
| 1 – partially correct |
| The answer which is not fully explained. The pupil answers what Danila wanted to show in his vase but doesn’t explain why he failed. |
| 0 - incorrect |
| Answers which show inaccurate comprehension of the material or are implausible or irrelevant. |

**Question 2: THE FLOWER STONE**

*Question intent*: *Reflect and evaluate*

*Text format: Continuous*

Here is part of a conversation between two people who read the story

“The Stone Flower”:

**Speaker 1**: *I think the Mistress of Copper Mountain is heartless and cruel.*

**Speaker 2**: *You are not right! I believe she’s just and kind-hearted.*

Give evidence from the story to show how each of these speakers could justify their point of view.

|  |
| --- |
| 2 - correct |
| The pupil justifies two points of view. The first one - the mistress of the Copper Mountain is heartless and cruel because she makes the best craftsmen of the Urals leave their families and become her servants in the Copper Mountain. The second one – She is just and kind-hearted because she warns Danila about the danger of seeing the Stone Flower. She gives Danila freedom for his honesty and loyalty and leaves him the knowledge he got in the Copper Mountain |
| 1 – partially correct |
| The answer which is not fully explained. The pupil justifies only one of the two points of view. |
| 0 - incorrect |
| Answers which show inaccurate comprehension of the material or are implausible or irrelevant. |

**Question 3: THE FLOWER STONE**

*Question intent*: *Integrate and interpret*

*Text format: Continuous*

Think what traits of character make Danila and Katya similar in the story?

a)Talent and diligence

1. Persistence and determination
2. Smartness and wisdom

Explain how these traits of character help them in the story?

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| --- |
| 2 - correct |
| B -Persistence and determination. They are both determined to achieve their goals despite any difficulties. Danila wants to create “living beauty” in stone while Katya stays faithful to her bridegroom for three years and manages to face the Mistress of Copper Mountain and return her Danila back. |
| 1 – partially correct |
| The answer which is not fully explained. The pupil names traits of character but doesn’t explain how these characteristics help Danila and Katya in the story. |
| 0 - incorrect |
| Answers which show inaccurate comprehension of the material or are implausible or irrelevant. |

**Question 4: THE FLOWER STONE**

*Question intent*: *Integrate and interpret*

*Text format: Continuous*

Who is the main character of the story? Choose and explain your answer.

a)Danila

1. The Mistress of the Copper Mountain
2. Katya

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| --- |
| 2 - correct |
| C – Katya. She is the most determined and persistent character of the story. She has the only gift – the gift of love. This gift helps her to stay faithful to Danila for three years, though she doesn’t know whether he ever comes back or not. Moreover, she manages to return him back facing the Mistress of Copper Mountain. |
| 1 – partially correct |
| The answer which is not fully explained. The pupil names the main character of the story but can’t explain his point of view. |
| 0 - incorrect |
| Answers which show inaccurate comprehension of the material or are implausible or irrelevant. |

**Question 5: THE FLOWER STONE**

*Question intent*: *Integrate and interpret*

*Text format: Continuous*

Think in what other stories you can meet a character like Katya and explain what make these stories similar?

|  |
| --- |
| 2 - correct |
| The snow queen by Andersen. Katya acts like Gerda who has to overcome difficulties to take Kai back from the Snow Queen.One can compare the Mistress of the Copper Mountain with the Snow queen too but the first one is a more positive character. |
| 1 – partially correct |
| The answer which is not fully explained. The pupil names a similar story but doesn’t give details how these stories can be compared. |
| 0 - incorrect |
| Answers which show inaccurate comprehension of the material or are implausible or irrelevant. |