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Б51 A Little Princess. A1 / Ф.Х. Бернетт; адапт. текста, словарь и упражнения А. Смирновой. — Москва : Издательство АСТ, 2024. — 80 с. — (English Classics: Graded Readers).

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Роман «Маленькая принцесса» Фрэнсис Ходжсон Бернетт повествует о судьбе маленькой девочки Сары Крю, которая сталкивается с невероятной жестокостью судьбы. Но даже в самый темный период жизни Сара остается собой: благородной и доброй девочкой с богатым воображением, отнюдь не детской выдержкой и силой духа.

«Маленькая принцесса» — это история о надежде, самоотверженности и вере в чудеса, доступная теперь и для тех, кто только начинает учить английский язык.

Текст произведения сокращен и адаптирован для уровня А1. Все самые нужные слова вы найдете в словариках, расположенных после каждой главы. В конце книги даны упражнения на проверку понимания прочитанного, закрепление новых слов, работу с текстом и грамматику английского языка. Ключи к упражнениям расположены в последнем разделе пособия.

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BEFORE-READING QUESTIONS:

1. What character traits do you think can help a person get through the dark times of their lives?
2. Reflecting on the title “Little Princess,” what do you think defines true nobility and royalty?
3. What initial impressions do you have of the main character, Sara Crewe, based on the title and cover of the book?

CHAPTER 1

SARA

It was a dark winter's day in London. A yellow, **thick** fog hung over the streets. A **cab** was driving **slowly**. In that **cab**, an **odd**-looking little girl **sat** with her father.

The girl was looking out of the window at the people with a strange **thoughtfulness** in her big eyes. Such look was unusual for such a small child. In fact, Sara Crewe was only seven. And she could not **remember** any time she was not thinking about grown-ups and the world around her. She **felt** much older than she actually was.

"Papa," she said in a low, mysterious little voice, "papa."

"What is it, darling?" Captain Crewe **answered** and looked down into her face. "What is Sara thinking of?"

"Is this the **place**?" Sara **whispered** and moved closer to him. "Is it, papa?"

"Yes, little Sara, it is. Here we are at last." She was only seven years old, but she knew that he **felt** sad when he said it.

She was born in India, and "the **place**," as she always called it, was a boarding **school** in England. She saw other children being **sent** there. She saw their **parents** get letters from them. And she knew that one day she will **go** there, too.

She never knew her mother, because she died when Sara was born. Her only family in the world was her father.



A young, good-looking, **rich** man. He loved his daughter very much and did everything for her. And Sara was very sad that her father could not stay with her in the **school**.

“Couldn’t you **go** to that **place** with me, papa?” she **asked** when she was five years old. “Couldn’t you **go** to **school**, too? I would help you with your lessons.”

“But you will not have to stay for a very **long** time, little Sara,” he used to **answer** her. “You will **go** to a nice house where there will be a lot of little girls, and you will play together. I will **send** you many books, and you will grow so fast that it will **seem** less than a year before you are big **enough** and can take care of papa.”

They got out of the cabin and saw a row of big, **boring**, brick houses. One of the houses had a plate that said:

**MISS MINCHIN,
Select Seminary for Young Ladies.**

They **came** to the door and rang the bell. The door opened and they **entered** a well-furnished but quiet **ugly** room. Just right then Miss Minchin **entered** the room. She was very like her house, Sara **felt**: tall and **boring**, and respectable and **ugly**. She smiled, but her smile was cold.

“It will be a great privilege to have charge of such a beautiful and promising child, Captain Crewe,” she said, as she said to each papa and mamma who **brought** a child to her **school**.



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“Just make **sure** she doesn’t spend too much time with books. Make her **ride** her pony or **go** out and buy a new doll. She should play more with dolls.”

He **explained** to Miss Minchin that his lawyer Mr. Barrow would pay for everything. He would **write** to Sara twice a week. The last rule was simple too: Sara gets anything she wants.

When he left, Sara was **sitting** on the floor of her sitting room. Not every girl at the **school** had her own room, but Sara did. When Miss Minchin **sent** her sister, Miss Amelia, to see what the child was doing, she found the door **locked**.

“What a weird child!” she said to her sister when she **went downstairs again**.

“She is a spoiled child, that’s for **sure**,” **answered** Miss Minchin. “**Sitting** in her room in her ridiculously expensive clothes. Her father treats her like a little princess. Well, she will look like a princess at the head of the line when we take the schoolchildren to church on Sunday.”



Glossary

again [ə'gen] — *adv* опять; вновь

answer ['ɑ:nsə] — *n* ответ; *v* отвечать

ask [ɑ:sk] — *v* спрашивать; просить

bring (brought, brought) [brɪŋ] — *v* приносить;
приводить

cab ['kæb] — *n* такси

come (came, come) [kʌm] — *v* приходить

downstairs [daun'steəz] — *adv* вниз

enough [ɪ'nʌf] — *adv* достаточно

enter ['entə] — *v* входить

explain [ɪk'spleɪn] — *v* объяснять

feel (felt, felt) [fi:l] — *v* чувствовать, ощущать

go (went, gone) [gəʊ] — *v* идти; ходить; становиться

lock [lɒk] — *n* замок; *v* запирать на замок; закрывать

long [lɒŋ] — *adj* длинный; долгий

odd [ɒd] — *adj* странный

parent ['peər(ə)nt] — *n* родитель



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place [pleis] — *n* место; *v* помещать

remember [rɪ'membə] — *v* вспоминать, запоминать, помнить

rich [rɪtʃ] — *adj* богатый

ride (rode, ridden) [raɪd] — *v* ездить (верхом); кататься; скользить; мчаться

school [sku:l] — *n* школа

seem [si:m] — *v* казаться

send (sent, sent) [send] — *v* посылать; отправлять

sit (sat, sat) [sɪt] — *v* садиться, сесть

slowly ['sləuli] — *adv* медленно

sure ['ʃʊə] — *adj* уверенный, убеждённый

thick [θɪk] — *adj* толстый; густой; тяжёлый

thoughtfulness ['θɔ:tfʊlnɪs] — *n* задумчивость; внимательность

ugly ['ʌgli] — *adj* некрасивый, уродливый, безобразный

whisper ['wɪspə] — *n* шёпот; *v* шептать

write (wrote, written) [raɪt] — *v* писать