



*The Research of Characteristic
Peculiarities of Limericks*

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- **Why is it necessary to research limericks?** It's necessary because nobody knows everything about them.
- The objects of the work are limericks as one of the funny children poems.
- The main task is to find out phonetic, lexical, syntax means of limericks.
- **Why is this work special?**
- I tried to analyze some limericks myself.
- I translated some of limericks.

Amusing Genre of Limericks.

Limericks are certainly not a modern invention. In fact, they are so old; nobody is quite sure how they started. It was about 800 AD. In fact, a good limerick is not an easy thing to write. A limerick consists of five lines, with lines one, two and five being longer than the third and fourth lines. That seems easy enough. There are strict rules that must be followed in the construction of these lines. The keyword is meter. They contain hyperbole, onomatopoeia, idioms, puns and other figurative devices. The last line of a good limerick contains the punch line or *heart of a joke*. Limericks should generally follow proper rules of grammar and usage, with word orders as natural as possible.

British people are very fond of limericks – short humorous poems full of absurdity and wit. It usually begins by introducing a person and a place and often has a surprise in the last line. Here is an example :

*There was a young lady of Niger
Who smiled as she rode on a tiger.
They returned from the ride
With the lady inside
And the smile of the face of the tiger.*

Learning limericks I was interested to know about the author of the limericks. I have found some facts about Lear's biography.

Edward Lear

Edward Lear was born in 1812 in London. He was the twentieth child of the family and had to earn his own living at the age of 15. When he was 19 he began to work as an artist at the zoo. The next year he published a book of coloured drawings of parrots. The Earl of Derby liked Lear's work and invited him to stay with his family and paint the collection of his birds. Lear worked for him for four years, and it was during that period that he wrote his first limericks to amuse the Earl's grandchildren. These nonsense verses were illustrated by charming pen drawings.



Edward Lear About Himself

The Self-Portrait of the Laureate of Nonsense

How pleasant to know Mr. Lear!
Who has written such volumes of stuff!
Some think him ill-tempered and queer,
But a few think him pleasant enough.

His mind is concrete and fastidious,
His nose is remarkably big;
His visage is more or less hideous,
His beard it resembles a wig.

He has ears, and two eyes, and ten
fingers,

Leastways if you reckon two thumbs;
Long ago he was one of the singers,
But now he is one of the dumbs.

He sits in a beautiful parlour, With
hundreds of books on the wall; He
drinks a great deal of Marsala, But
never gets tipsy at all.

He has many friends, laymen and clerical;
Old Foss is the name of his cat;
His body is perfectly spherical,
He weareth a runcible hat.

When he walks in a waterproof white,
The children run after him so!
Calling out, 'He's come out in his
night-

Gown, that crazy old Englishman, oh!'
He weeps by the side of the ocean,
He weeps on the top of the hill;
He purchases pancakes and lotion,
And chocolate shrimps from the mill.
He reads but he cannot speak Spanish,
He cannot abide ginger-beer:
Ere the days of his pilgrimage vanish,
How pleasant to know Mr. Lear!

Эдвард Лир о самом себе

(перевод Маршака)



Мы в восторге от мистера Лира,
Исписал он стихами тома.
Для одних он – ворчун и придира,
А другим он приятен весьма.
Десять пальцев, два глаза, два уха,
Подарила природа ему. Не
лишен он известного слуха И в
гостях не поет потому. Книг у
Лира на полках немало. Он
привез их из множества стран.
Пьет вино он с наклейкой
"Марсана",
И совсем не бывает он пьян.
Есть у Лира знакомые разные.
Кот его называется Фосс.

Тело автора – шарообразное,
И совсем нет под шляпой волос.
Если ходит он, тростью стуча,
В белоснежном плаще за границей,
Все мальчишки кричат:
"Англичанин
В халате бежал из больницы!"
Он рыдает, бродя в одиночку
По горам, среди каменных глыб,
Покупает в аптеке примочку, А
в ларьке – марципановых рыб.
По-испански не пишет он, дети,
И не любит он пить рыбий жир...
Как приятно нам знать, что на
свете
Есть такой человек – мистер Лир!

Limericks About Old Persons



*There was an old man with a
beard*

*Who said, "It is just as I
feared! –*

Two owls and a hen,

Four larks and a wren,

*Have all built their nests in
my beard!"*

Жил на свете старик в
бороде.

Говорил он: «Я знал, быть
беде,

Две совы, три чижа

И четыре стрижа

Свили гнезда в моей
бороде!»



There was an old man on a
hill
Who seldom, if ever, stood
still
He ran up and down
In his grandmother's gown,
Which adorned that old man
on a hill

Жил старик на пригорочке
мирном
Очень редко он хаживал
смирно
Вверх и вниз он бежал,
Держа дедов кинжал,
Старик грозный в селении
мирном

Analysis of Limericks.



*There was an old man with a
beard Who said, “It
is just as I feared! —*

*Two owls and a hen,
Four larks and a wren,
Have all built their nests in
my beard!”*

*There was a young lady
whose chin, Resembled
the points of a pin,*

*So she had it made
sharp, And purchased a
harp, And played several
tunes with her chin*

5 lines rhymes -

Beard-feared-my beard

A hen-a wren Homonym

rhymes—*Hen-wren*

Beard- feared

Framing - *A beard is repeated twice (the 1st , the 5th lines)*

Polysindeton – *who*

Hyperbole - *Have all built their nests in my beard*

(Борода слишком большая)

5 lines rhymes - *Chin-pin-her*

chin

A sharp- a

harp

Homonym rhymes

- *Chin-pin Sharp –harp*

Framing - *Chin is repeated twice (the 1st , the 5th lines)*

Polysindeton – *whose*

Hyperbole - *whose chin,*

Resembled the points of a

pin, (Острым подбородком играла на арфе)



Limericks With My Pictures

There was an old man
names MacGuire
Lost his footing and fell in
the mire
Said a bland passer-by,
“Cheer up, never say die!”
“But I must, he replied,
I’m a dyer!”

Раз МакГуайр, наш старик,
Упал в болото, поднял крик.
Сказал добрый прохожий ему:
«Думать о смерти тебе ни к
чему»,
Но сказал ему старик: «Я
маляр, я привык».

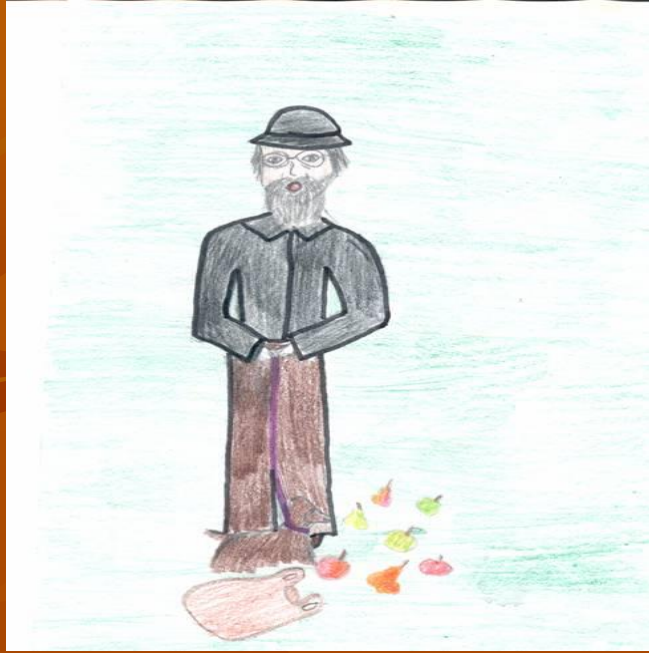


There was an old man
on a hill
Who seldom, if
ever, stood still;
He ran up and
down, In his
grandmother gown,
Which adorned that
old man on a hill.





There was an old man in a
tree, Who was
horribly bored by a Bee;
 When they said, “
Does it buzz?”
He replied, “Yes, it
does!” “‘It’s
a regular brute of a
bee!”



There was an old person of
Chili,
Whose conduct was
painful and silly
He sat on the straits
Eating apples and pears,
That imprudent old
person of Chili.

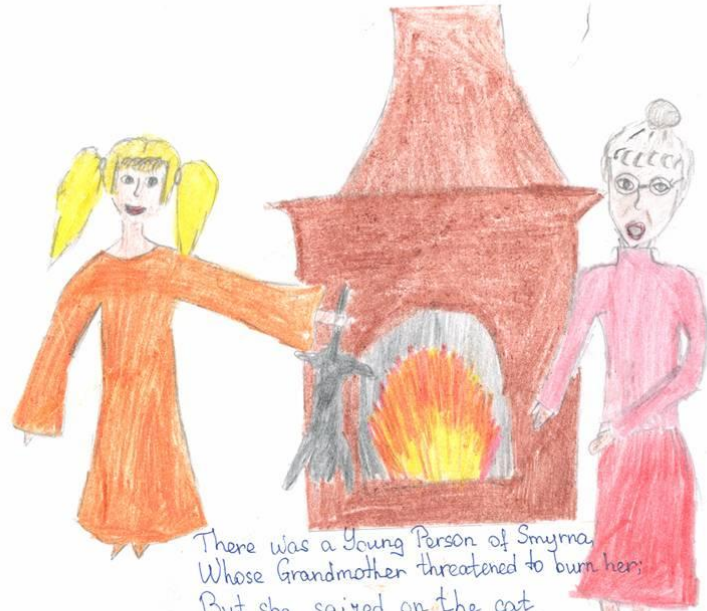




There was a young lady
whose chin,
Resembled the points of
a pin; So she
had it made sharp,
And purchased a harp,
And played several
tunes with her chin.



There was an old with a
beard Who said ,
” It is just as I feared! —
 Two owls and a hen
Four larks and a wren,
Have all built their nests
in my beard!”



There was a Young Person of Smyrna,
Whose Grandmother threatened to burn her;
But she seized on the cat
And said, "Granny burn that!
You incongruous Old Woman of Smyrna!"

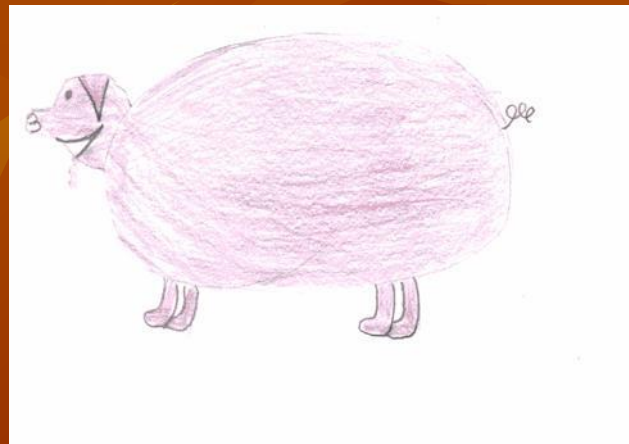
There was a young
person of Smyrna,
Whose grandmother
threatened to burn her;
But she seized on the
cat,

And said, "Granny, burn
that! You
incongruous old woman
of Smyrna!"

Children's Poems And Pictures of Kem School №2.



There was a woman
called Nanny
She was happy and
funny
Her smile was always
big Like a
big pig That was a
happy woman called
Nanny.





There was a fat girl
Sewsy ,
She liked dancing and
music.

When she listened to the
song

She was fat and long
And that was a fat girl
called Sewsy.



There was a strange
lady of Cox,
Who wanted to live in a
box; But the
lady was old, And she
got very cold, Oh, poor,
strange lady of Cox.

Limerick Day

May the 12th is Limerick day. It celebrates the birthday of one of the world's greatest limerick-writers, Edward Lear (1812 – 1888). And, of course, it also celebrates limerick poems.



Summary

Analyzing limericks I have:

- Learned the main peculiarities of these poems;
- Learned their structure
- Learned lexis
- Learned syntax
- Learned to translate the poems
- Learned to analyze other poems
- Enlarged my vocabulary

Made great contributions into the writing of the poems:

Authors:

- Edward Lear;
- Lewis Carroll
- Rudyard Kipling

Translators:

- Marshak
- Nabokov

Thank you for your attention