

## **PALINDROMES AT THE PROSSES OF STUDYING**

12/02/2021 is a great palindrome of this year. Such a mirror magic date occurs once a century. I was really interested in this numeric phenomenon so I decided to find out whether such words exist in the English language. While studying English dictionaries and books I faced with such words as “level”, “refer” and they attracted my attention because I could read them in the same way forward and backward. So the aim of our work focuses on studying English palindromes and creation the exercises that can help to insert English palindromes in the process of studying.

Palindromes are words, phrases or sequences that can be read in the same way backward and forward, letter by letter, number by number, or word by word with the same meanings. Punctuation and spaces between the words or lettering are allowed. They have long history and long way of development starting from music and poetry and finishing entertaining sectors but, nevertheless, they are an appealing field for study because of their immediacy and originality.

Palindromes are divided into accurate and inaccurate. An accurate palindrome is totally read in the same way backward as forward, e.g. Able was I ere I saw Elba, inaccurate palindrome occurs at least one discrepancy, e.g. Madam I'm Adam.

Palindromes are of many categories, depending upon the requirements of the subject [1, p. 42]. The most commonly used categories of palindrome are:

1. Character by Character Palindromes - it means that each character of the word matches, and the word can be spelled the same forwards or backwards, e.g. noon, civic, radar, level, refer.

2. Word-unit Palindromes in which the unit of reversal is the word. The whole words are used rather than letters. There, instead of each character matching, the whole sentence can be read backwards and forwards, e.g. So patient a doctor to doctor a patient so.

3. Line-unit Palindromes are more often used in poetry. These Palindrome Poems are read from the first line to the last as it is done from the last line to the first. This type of poetry is also called “mirrored poetry.

4. Numbers are numbers whose digits are the same read backward, for example, 5885, 181, 252.

5. Phrase or Sentence Palindromes. Punctuation, capitalization, and spaces are usually ignored: “Mr. Owl ate my metal worm”.

Before starting my research work we decided to conduct a survey to realize what modern schoolchildren know about palindromes. We gave a questionnaire to the pupils from 5th to 11th forms. Firstly, they were asked if they know what palindromes were. Secondly, they were given some variants to suggest what palindromes were: a) parts of words; b) words with lots of many meanings; c) some mathematic formulae; d) words reading the same forward and backward; e) chemical substance.

We have asked 355 students of 5-11 forms. Only 16 (4.5%) pupils answered that they knew what palindromes were but from these 16 pupils only 50 % (8 people) were right and the other 8 people chose the wrong variant.

When pupils chose the possible definition for the term “palindrome” the variants differed but the most popular among pupils was – palindromes are chemical substances.

As we see the results of our survey, palindromes are not really learned by schoolchildren and they are eager to know the real definition of the term “palindromes” so it proves the relevance of our topic.

I have studied the most interesting palindromic units and tried to make interesting and amusing exercises We created a brochure that can be used by teachers at English lessons and extra or after class activities and can enliven the lessons and attract pupils’ attention and interest to the English language. Our exercises can help to arouse pupils’ interest to the subject and to learning in general because they show the diversity and amusement of the language; to motivate pupils to learn something new themselves; to develop logical and even creative thinking; to train pupils’ memory; to enrich their vocabulary. There are some exercises that can be used as a phonetic or speech warming-up, as physical warming-up, a minute of rest during a lesson, as exercises in extra classes or some optional classes. We also made the vocabulary of the palindromes that can be used in the lessons.

To make a conclusion I’d like to point out that the results of this research work can be used in the study of the English language, in further research of the palindromic units, as well as in the process of teaching English and Stylistics and Lexicology of the English, some optional classes, extra and after class activities. The results of this research can be useful for the pupils and students to broad knowledge about the English language, enrich the vocabulary, and arouse the interest to the English language and studying in general.