

**KAPITEL 9 / CHAPTER 9⁹****THE PLACE OF RUSSIAN WRITERS IN THE EDUCATIONAL STANDARD OF AZERBAIJAN****DOI: 10.30890/2709-2313.2024-33-00-012****Introduction**

Russian literature teaching in Azerbaijani schools with Russian as the language of instruction is an important component of the educational system aimed at preserving and developing the cultural diversity of the country. In Azerbaijan, curricula for such schools are developed by the Ministry of Education, taking into account the requirements for the level of training of students and their age characteristics. Russian literature study in these schools helps students not only to master the language, but also to get acquainted with the rich heritage of Russian culture, which significantly affects the development of artistic taste and worldview of students. The curriculum covers a wide period — from the classics of the XIX century, such as Alexander Pushkin, Leo Tolstoy, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Anton Chekhov and others, to the authors of the XX and XXI centuries, such as Mikhail Bulgakov, Anna Akhmatova, Boris Pasternak, Alexander Solzhenitsyn. This diversity allows students to trace the evolution of the literary process in Russia, understand the main cultural and historical events reflected in the works, and learn to perceive literature as a means of cognition and comprehension of reality. Special attention is paid to Russian poetry as a form that allows you to convey the depth and emotional richness of a literary text. For example, the works of Sergei Yesenin, Vladimir Mayakovsky and Anna Akhmatova become a starting point for analyzing literary trends and understanding the uniqueness of the Russian poetic tradition. As part of their studies in literature lessons, students acquire skills in analyzing and interpreting texts, which helps them develop critical thinking. Teachers strive to make the learning process more exciting by using modern teaching methods such as group discussions, role-playing games, and creative tasks that help to better understand the meaning of works. Literature lessons are also integrated with other academic disciplines, such as history and art. This helps students to see the works

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in a broader context and understand their social and cultural significance. For example, as part of studying the works of Leo Tolstoy or Fyodor Dostoevsky, students learn about the realities of the XIX century, and the works of poets of the Silver Age help them understand the socio-political processes of the early XX century. An important part of the educational process is to introduce students to modern literature. The program provides an introduction to the work of authors of the XXI century, which helps to expand the understanding of how the Russian language is changing and its reflection in art, what topics concern modern writers and poets. It also gives students the opportunity to see Russian literature as a living and developing field of art, which addresses topical issues related to their own interests and worldview. As a result of such an educational policy, students not only master the skill of reading and analyzing literary works, but also get the opportunity to form their own opinion, improve their argumentation skills and learn to express their thoughts clearly and logically.

The main part

In the Azerbaijani school curriculum, literature lessons begin in the fifth grade, and this acquaintance with the artistic word opens up a fascinating world of literary works for schoolchildren. In literature lessons, children get the opportunity to touch the history, culture and philosophy of life of different peoples through their literary heritage.

Russian literary works, even if there are not so many of them in the curriculum, help students better understand the versatility of human feelings and motives. These works contribute to the development of thinking and imagination, teach you to reflect on the most important issues of life. Russian literature the curriculum presented in the 5th grade literature textbook contains several works by Russian authors that introduce students to the richness of Russian literature and help develop cultural and aesthetic perception.

Let's take a closer look at which works of Russian writers are included in the content:

"The Tale of the priest and his employee Balda" by Alexander Sergeevich Pushkin is a work that carries folk wisdom and ridicules the vices of human character. Written



in verse form, this tale is one of the most striking examples of Russian literature, where the author, using light language and witty poems, talks about cunning, greed and punishment for unseemly deeds.

The tale touches on several important topics:

Greed and its consequences. Pushkin shows that greed always leads to trouble. A priest who seeks to get a lot of work for a meager fee ends up being punished himself. *Fairness and honesty.* Balda does his job honestly and conscientiously, and in the end justly demands his own, as agreed.

Wisdom and resourcefulness. The image of Balda symbolizes folk wisdom and ingenuity, which allow an ordinary person to stand up for himself even in front of those who are higher in social status. Literary features the fairy tale is written in an easy and accessible form, which makes it attractive to children. Pushkin uses rhythmic poems and simple phrases, so that the text is easy to remember and well perceived by ear.

There are many vivid expressions and sayings in the fairy tale that help to create a lively, folk atmosphere, for example, "work tirelessly", "click on the forehead" and others.

Importance for children

This fairy tale teaches children important life lessons: the values of honest work, fairness and the importance of keeping your word. Balda, despite his apparent simplicity, shows resourcefulness and ingenuity, clearly demonstrating that hard work and honesty are always rewarded, and greed and deception lead to negative consequences. Due to its lightness and humor, the fairy tale remains a favorite among schoolchildren, and studying it in the fifth grade helps children get acquainted with the classics of Russian literature, which teaches not only to laugh at shortcomings, but also to draw the right conclusions.

Rozhdestvensky's work "*If You Haven't Seen Baku*" is a poem that addresses the themes of patriotism, love for your hometown and pride in your culture and history. The poem is of particular importance for schoolchildren, especially for those who live in Azerbaijan, as it celebrates the beauty and uniqueness of their hometown, Baku. Main themes and ideas in this poem, the author creates an image of Baku as a symbol



of beauty, strength and greatness.

Baku appears to the reader not just as a city, but as a special place filled with history, culture and a unique atmosphere. Rozhdestvensky speaks about the city with love and warmth, showing that Baku is not only a geographical point on the map, but also a place that has a soul and character. The poem helps students develop a sense of respect for their homeland and pride in their people. Through the lines of the poem, children can feel a special connection with their hometown, feel its value and significance. This work awakens interest in the study of native history and culture, inspires to learn more about your country and be proud of its achievements and rich cultural heritage. Artistic features the poem "If you haven't seen Baku" is characterized by expressiveness and vivid poetic images. The author uses colorful descriptions and metaphors to convey the uniqueness of Baku, as well as the rhythmicity of the poem, which gives it a special musicality and makes it memorable. Every word in the poem is carefully chosen, and this helps to create an atmosphere that immerses the reader in the world of Baku. The description of the city is filled with warmth and love, and the reader can feel how much the author values this place. Rozhdestvensky skillfully uses repetitions and rhetorical questions to emphasize the importance of the city and evoke emotions associated with patriotism and love for his land in the reader.

Importance for schoolchildren

For schoolchildren, this poem is an important element of patriotic education. It helps to develop love for the native land, respect for its culture and history. Studying this work helps children realize the importance of their identity and feel connected to their native land. In the literature textbook for the 6th grade, children are invited to go on an amazing journey into the world of myths, legends and fairy tales. In the section "Heroes in myths and legends" students will get acquainted with amazing stories about the origin of the world and about the exploits of heroes from different nations. Here you can learn about Turkic myths that tell about the wisdom and power of ancient warriors. The myths of the ancient Slavs and Greece will open up to the children the world of legendary gods and heroes, such as Odysseus, who made an incredible journey and met the cyclops Polyphemus.



One of the interesting works is "*The Legend of the Death of Prince Oleg*", a Russian legend that talks about a glorious prince whose fate was linked to a prophecy. There is also an Azerbaijani legend about how Lake Jeyranbatan appeared, revealing the rich culture and history of Azerbaijan. The fairy tale is a lie, but there is a hint in it... In this section, students will learn that fairy tales are not just made—up stories. They always contain hidden lessons and wisdom.

The Azerbaijani fairy tale "The Fox and the Woodcutter" and the Russian folk tale "The Wise Maiden" teach us honesty, resourcefulness and respect for elders. Fairy tales convey folk values and help to better understand the culture of different peoples. The Bulgarian fairy tale "Why the elderly are honored" talks about the importance of respect for the elderly and family traditions.

Literary fairy tales.

In the section of literary fairy tales, the children will find the work of V. A. Zhukovsky "*The Sleeping Princess*" — an amazing story about good and evil, loyalty and the power of love. Zhukovsky, one of the outstanding Russian writers, recreates a magical world in which magic is closely intertwined with wise lessons. So, the textbook for the 6th grade contains the following Russian works and legends: "*The Legend of the death of Prince Oleg*" is an ancient Russian legend that talks about the fate of the legendary prince Oleg, also known as "Prophetic Oleg". This work is included in the "Tale of Bygone Years", an ancient Russian chronicle that contains stories about the rulers of Kievan Rus, legends and traditions of that time. The legend of the death of prince Oleg is one of the most famous stories that convey the atmosphere of pagan Russia, where predictions and faith in fate played an important role. The legend of the death of prince Oleg touches on important topics that were significant for ancient Russian society:

- *Fate and predestination.* The main theme of the work is the inevitability of fate. Despite all attempts to avoid the prediction, Oleg eventually dies as predicted. This story reflects the belief of the ancient Slavs that predestination cannot be changed

- *The power of predictions and faith in prophecies.* Oleg, like many people of that era, believes in the power of the Magi and prophecies. He is so afraid of the predicted



that he is ready to give up his beloved horse in order to avoid death. This highlights the importance of prophecies in ancient Russian society and the role of the Magi, who were considered intermediaries between people and higher powers.

- *The irony of fate.* The story also shows the ironic side of fate: Oleg, trying to avoid the prediction, actually brings his death closer. This makes the story instructive and shows that often our fears can lead to what we are trying to avoid. The legend of Prince Oleg's death is written in the form of a folk tale, close to a poetic narrative. It includes vivid images such as a snake crawling out of a horse's skull and the prediction of the Magi, which gives the story mystery and drama. This work conveys the atmosphere of ancient Russia and reveals to the reader a world full of mysticism and faith in higher powers.

For schoolchildren, this tradition has great cognitive and educational significance. It helps them to touch the culture and worldview of the ancient Russian people, to understand how our ancestors perceived fate and believed in predestination. Tradition also teaches children wisdom: fear of the future may be in vain, and attempts to deceive fate are useless. In addition, through the image of Prince Oleg, children can see how even strong and powerful people, such as rulers, cannot escape their fate. The story of Prince Oleg's death is part of the cultural heritage that helps schoolchildren to better understand Russian history, folklore and the beliefs of our ancestors.

"The Wise Maiden" is a Russian folk tale in which the main character, a simple girl, demonstrates wit and resourcefulness. This fairy tale teaches children the value of wisdom, ingenuity and the ability to find a way out of difficult situations using not strength, but intelligence. Similar plots were popular in Russian folk tales, where wit often acts as the main weapon against injustice. The main idea of the fairy tale is the value of intelligence and ingenuity. The heroine wins not with the help of strength or position, but thanks to her intelligence and resourcefulness. This teaches children that even in the most difficult situations, you can find a way out if you do not lose your presence of mind and use your knowledge.

Despite the fact that the heroine is a simple girl, her abilities allow her to communicate on an equal basis with the king and other high—ranking characters.



The fairy tale demonstrates that people of any social status can have intelligence and talent. In many versions of this tale, the wise maiden not only solves the problem, but also restores justice. For example, she helps punish unfair people or resolve a dispute by acting honestly and wisely. The fairy tale has a simple but vivid structure, which makes it easy to perceive and understand for children. The language of the fairy tale is lively and imaginative, which helps to create images of the characters and convey their characters. The heroine is presented as a brave, confident and very smart girl, which makes her a role model for young readers. The folk style of narration includes sayings and apt expressions, giving the tale a special flavor. For schoolchildren, The Wise Maiden is not just an entertaining story, but an important lesson. This fairy tale teaches them that the ability to think is one of the most valuable qualities that can help in life. The story inspires children to be curious, to look for answers to difficult questions and not to be afraid of difficulties.

"The Sleeping Princess" is a literary fairy tale by Vasily Andreevich Zhukovsky, one of the founders of romanticism in Russian literature. This fairy tale, inspired by the Western European story of the Sleeping Beauty, immerses the reader in a magical world where good fights evil, and sincere love and devotion turn out to be stronger than any curses.

"The Sleeping Princess" reveals several key themes:

- *The struggle of good and evil.* As in many fairy tales, two opposing forces are represented here — good and evil. The evil witch who is trying to destroy an innocent princess symbolizes the dark forces, while the good fairies and the loving prince represent the power of good.

- *The power of love and devotion.* One of the central themes of the fairy tale is the power of true love, which is able to overcome any evil. The prince, who awakens the princess with his kiss, symbolizes loyalty and devotion, showing that sincere love can destroy the most powerful charms.

- *Moral values.* The fairy tale teaches children important moral lessons — loyalty, courage, kindness and the ability to sacrifice oneself for the sake of a loved one. Zhukovsky uses a poetic and sublime style, which gives the fairy tale a special charm



and romantic atmosphere. Descriptions of nature and the castle, poetic dialogues and vivid images create an atmosphere of magic and miracles. The fairy tale is built on the contrast between evil and good, and its characters represent the ideals of nobility, bravery and purity.

For schoolchildren, "The Sleeping Princess" is not just a fairy tale about magical events, but also a story with a deep moral meaning. She helps children understand the power of love, which is able to overcome any obstacles, and also shows that good always wins over evil, even if difficulties are encountered on the way. Zhukovsky's tale introduces students to important moral values such as loyalty, bravery and kindness. This work helps to develop children's empathy, empathy and the desire for self-improvement. Through the story of the princess who goes through trials and the prince who saves her, the children understand that true love and loyalty have great power.

The section "*Man and Nature*" for the 7th grade presents works that help students understand the deep connection between man and the world around them, reveal the beauty of nature and its influence on the human state of mind.

Let's consider the Russian works presented in this section:

Alexander Sergeevich Pushkin's poem "*Autumn*" is one of the most famous works in which the poet describes this time of the year with special love. In this poem, Pushkin reveals not only the beauty of autumn landscapes, but also his attitude to autumn, conveying through images and metaphors his inner world, emotions and reflections.

"Autumn" is a detailed poem consisting of several parts, each of which conveys different aspects of the autumn season. The poem begins with a description of early autumn, when nature is just beginning to fade and become covered with gold. Pushkin draws attention to the golden and crimson shades of forests, to the transparent and cool air, to the fading, but still beautiful leaves. These images create an atmosphere of peace and tranquility, showing how autumn gradually colors the world in warm tones. In the second part of the poem, Pushkin proceeds to describe a later autumn, when the cold weather is already coming and nature is preparing for winter sleep. The author describes the gray sky, bare trees and empty fields, creating a more melancholic mood. There is a special philosophy in these lines: the poet understands that everything in



nature is cyclical and inevitable, and this causes him a feeling of calm and acceptance.

The poem touches on several important themes that were close to Pushkin and characteristic of romantic poetry:

- *Nature as a source of inspiration.* Autumn is presented not just as a season, but as a period when the poet feels a special connection with nature and receives inspiration for creativity. Pushkin, through the description of autumn beauties, shares his admiration for nature and shows how much it affects his inner world.

- *The cyclicity and inevitability of nature.* In the poem, Pushkin notes that autumn is a time of withering, but this withering does not cause him sadness. On the contrary, he perceives it as part of a natural cycle that repeats every year. This awareness gives the poet peace of mind and a sense of harmony with the world around him.

- *Melancholy and philosophy of life.* Describing autumn landscapes, Pushkin conveys a mood of mild sadness and melancholy. However, this is not sadness in the traditional sense, but rather a calm acceptance of life and its patterns. The poet creates an atmosphere that allows the reader to reflect on the transience of time and the inevitability of change.

For schoolchildren, the poem "Autumn" opens the world of Russian nature through the eyes of a great poet. It helps them understand how nature can be perceived not only as an external environment, but also as a source of inspiration, peace and philosophical reflection. By reading this work, students learn to see something more in nature than just trees and landscapes. They begin to understand it as a part of life that can influence their emotions and thoughts. The poem "Autumn" also helps students realize the value of every moment in life, teaches them to accept changes and see beauty even in what would seem to bring with it withering. Pushkin shows that every season, like every season of life, has its own special beauty and importance.

Mikhail Yuryevich Lermontov's poem "*When the yellowing field is worried ...*" is one of the vivid works in which the poet conveys his deep connection with nature, a sense of harmony and peace that it gives. This poem immerses the reader in the world of natural beauty, showing how nature becomes a source of inspiration and peace for the poet.



Main themes and ideas

1. *The harmony of man and nature.* Lermontov describes nature as a place where a person can find peace and inner harmony. He depicts nature not just as the world around him, but as a space in which the soul finds peace. This emphasizes that man and nature are closely related, and nature is able to positively influence the inner state of a person.

2. *The purity and sublimity of nature.* For Lermontov, nature is not just beautiful landscapes, but also a symbol of purity, innocence and sublimity. The poem conveys a feeling of bright joy and reverence for nature, which helps a person feel better, cleaner and more sublime.

3. *Merging with the divine.* In the finale of the poem, Lermontov mentions prayer. Nature, its beauty and peace make him feel close to God, to something bigger and greater. This emphasizes the spiritual significance of nature for the poet. He feels himself a part of this harmonious world and through contemplation of nature comes to a state of sublime calm and reverence.

Lermontov uses many poetic means to create an atmosphere of tranquility and admiration for nature:

- *Epithets* ("yellowing field", "clear sky") help to convey the beauty of autumn nature more accurately and vividly.

- *Metaphors and personifications* give vivacity to nature, making it an active participant in the poem. Lermontov describes how "the field is agitated", "the foliage is trembling", which creates the feeling that nature breathes and moves.

- *Repetitions* emphasize the rhythm and smoothness of the poem, creating the effect of calm, meditative contemplation. The poem is based on the alternation of pictures of nature and the experiences of the author himself, which creates a harmonious unity between nature and the inner world of man. For schoolchildren, Lermontov's poem opens up a new facet of the perception of nature. It teaches them to see not only the external appearance of nature, but also to feel its inner essence, to capture its mood and get joy from it.

The poem "When the yellowing field is worried ..." helps children understand that



nature is not just a background, but an active force that can affect our feelings and condition. In addition, the poem teaches children to appreciate the silence, tranquility and beauty of the surrounding world, to find in this a source of inner peace. It develops the ability to notice the beauty in ordinary things and to see the reflection of one's feelings in nature. Through Lermontov's lyrical experience, children learn to understand how contemplation of nature can become a form of spiritual development and help to find harmony and peace in life.

Yuri Nagibin's short story "*Winter Oak*" is a work that reveals the strength and resilience of nature through the image of a mighty oak that remains majestic and unshakable even in winter, in harsh conditions of cold and snow. Through this image, Nagibin shows how nature, despite external adversities, retains its strength, resilience and beauty. This story teaches readers important life lessons, demonstrating that in nature a person can find role models and inspiration. The main theme of the story is fortitude and endurance, which the author symbolizes through the image of an oak tree. This powerful image makes it clear to the reader that resilience does not depend on circumstances and that real strength manifests itself in difficult times. Nagibin shows that nature is not only a human habitat, but also a source of wisdom. Oak, which withstands frost and cold, becomes an example for a person of how to overcome life's difficulties and remain strong and unshakable. The winter nature described by Nagibin has a special beauty. The author emphasizes that even in the coldest and darkest periods in nature, one can see greatness and power that inspire and inspire admiration.

For schoolchildren, the story "*Winter Oak*" is an opportunity to reflect on how nature can be an example to follow. The young reader can see in the oak a symbol of strength and perseverance, which are important in every person's life. The story teaches children that, like the oak tree, you need to endure hardships, stay true to your principles and maintain your strength in all circumstances.

Russian works are presented in the content for the 8th grade: Mikhail Yuryevich Lermontov's poem "*Mtsyri*" is one of the most significant works of Russian literature, which deeply reveals the themes of freedom, loneliness, internal struggle and striving for the motherland. Written in a romantic spirit, this poem is a vivid example of how



Lermontov conveyed the inner feelings of his characters, reflecting their attraction to independence and harmony with nature. The central theme of the poem is Mtsyri's desire for freedom.

He dreams of escaping from captivity and finding his true self. Mtsyri does not want to accept life in captivity, which takes away his right to choose and the opportunity to be himself. This desire makes his image strong and romantic, as the hero is ready to give his life for a short moment of freedom. Although Mtsyri hardly remembers his homeland, his desire for it remains unshakeable. This feeling symbolizes a deep attachment to the roots, culture and nature of the native land. For Mtsyri, his homeland is not just a geographical place, but a part of his identity, his soul, to which he strives with all his being. Mtsyri is going through a serious internal struggle, reflecting on his fate and the meaning of life. He realizes that living in a monastery is not his way, and this awareness pushes him to take decisive action. The inner conflict of the hero expresses his search for meaning and the pursuit of spiritual perfection. Outside, surrounded by nature, Mtsyri feels a deep unity with the world around him. For him, nature is the embodiment of freedom and beauty, which he craves so much. This image highlights the contrast between the cold monastery walls and the living, wild nature, where the hero feels truly free. For schoolchildren, the poem "Mtsyri" is not only a fascinating story, but also an important lesson about freedom, self-determination and the power of the spirit. She teaches them to strive for their dreams, not to be afraid to fight for their ideals and to remain faithful to their beliefs. For schoolchildren, Mtsyri becomes an example of a person who does not agree to a life in captivity and longs for freedom even at the cost of his life. Lermontov's poem helps students understand the value of personal freedom and the importance of their roots, their homeland. It develops in them respect for those who fight for their ideals, and shows how important it is to have your own opinion and inner core. The story of Mtsyri also helps children think about how nature affects their lives and why it is important to maintain harmony with the world around them. Anton Pavlovich Chekhov's short stories "*The Walnut Tree*" and "*Longing*" are works that allow readers to look into the depths of the human soul, understand people's inner experiences and



feel the subtleties of their characters. Chekhov masterfully depicts everyday situations in which the characters face various life difficulties, their emotional experiences and problems, which makes his works close and understandable to readers.

In the short story "*Longing* " Chekhov depicts the tragedy of loneliness and heartache through the story of the cabman Jonah Potapov, who lost his son. Jonah is experiencing deep mental pain and longing, but no one around him is ready to listen and understand him. He tries to share his grief with the passengers, but people are busy with their own affairs and remain indifferent to his feelings. In despair, Jonah, not finding understanding among people, begins to talk about his grief to his horse.

The main theme of the story is the loneliness of a person who has lost a loved one. Chekhov shows how much a person who is left alone with his grief suffers, and how difficult it is to find sympathy among indifferent people.

Through the image of passengers and passers-by, Chekhov emphasizes the indifference of society to other people's experiences. People are absorbed in their own affairs and do not notice the suffering of others, which increases the feeling of loneliness in the hero. Jonah wants to speak out, share his pain, and this underlines how important it is for a person to be heard. When people refuse to understand him, he turns to his horse, which symbolizes extreme despair and lack of emotional support. Tosca helps students realize the importance of being attentive and kind to people who can hide inner pain behind external calm.

The story teaches empathy and understanding, and also shows how important it is to be attentive to others, not to remain indifferent to their problems.

The story "*The Walnut Tree*".

In the story "The Walnut Tree" Chekhov describes human relationships through the prism of minor conflicts and experiences. The plot centers on a man who planted a walnut tree next to his house and is faced with neighborhood grievances and difficulties. The story reveals the characters of the characters, their petty actions and reactions to the conflict, through which Chekhov depicts the multilayered nature of human nature and the complexity of human relations. Main themes and ideas - The complexity of human relationships. Chekhov shows that even such simple situations



as planting a tree can cause discontent and misunderstanding among people.

This highlights how difficult it is to maintain a harmonious relationship when everyone has their own interests and point of view.

- *Selfishness and pettiness*. The author depicts how people often pay attention to small things and are ready to argue over minor things. This highlights that human selfishness and pettiness often interfere with reaching agreement and understanding. - *Search for a compromise*. The plot prompts us to reflect on how important it is to be able to find compromises in relationships with other people in order not to aggravate conflicts and maintain goodwill. The Walnut Tree teaches students to understand that conflicts often arise over small things, and that it is important to try to avoid quarrels over trifles. The story helps them see how important it is to be tolerant of other people's shortcomings, to be able to forgive and strive for a harmonious relationship. Both works by Chekhov reveal to schoolchildren the world of complex human feelings and experiences, help them understand how important empathy, respect and the ability to find a common language with others are. Chekhov teaches readers not to remain indifferent to other people's problems, but also to be tolerant and kind, even if difficulties and misunderstandings arise in communication. These works help students to think about how important it is to keep warm and not to lock themselves into their experiences. Chekhov, through his stories, encourages readers to be attentive to people around them, to show kindness and compassion, which is especially important for the formation of a humane attitude towards the world and others among schoolchildren.

The curriculum for the 9th grade includes works of Russian literature that cover various genres and directions. They help students to get acquainted with the richness of Russian classics and immerse them in a world of deep reflection and emotional experiences.

Civic Lyrics

The lyrical nature of works, especially civic lyrics, is important for schoolchildren, as it touches on topics relevant to personal development, the formation of a civic position and spiritual values. These works teach not only to feel, but also to reflect on the meaning of life, justice, duty to society and responsible attitude to the



motherland.

G.R. Derzhavin — *"Rulers and Judges"*

In the poem "To the Rulers and Judges", Gabriel Derzhavin reminds the powerful of their duty to the people, calling for honesty and justice. For schoolchildren, this work is a lesson in morality and responsibility. It helps to realize that true power should serve people, not its own interests. This lesson is important for young people, forming their understanding of public duty and the importance of moral principles that remain relevant at all times.

A.S. Pushkin — *"To Chaadaev"*

Alexander Pushkin in his poem "To Chaadaev" expresses the desire for freedom and hope for change. For schoolchildren, this work provides inspiration for the search for truth and the struggle for their ideals. Pushkin shows that everyone can be an active participant in changes in society and that personal position is of great importance. The poem teaches young readers courage, commitment to their beliefs and faith in a better future, forming a sense of civic duty.

M.Y. Lermontov — *"Homeland"*

In the poem "Homeland" Mikhail Lermontov expresses his complex, sincere love for Russia, contrasting it with official patriotism. For schoolchildren, this work reveals that patriotism is not big words, but deep personal feelings for the motherland, which can be simple and inconspicuous. Lermontov shows that sincere love for the country is manifested in acceptance of its peculiarities and respect for the people. It teaches schoolchildren to respect their native culture and people, helps to understand the meaning of true, deep patriotism.

E.A. Yevtushenko — *"White snows are coming..."* In the poem "White snows are falling" Yevgeny Yevtushenko immerses the reader in thoughts about life and its transience. For schoolchildren, it serves as a reminder that life is fleeting and it is important to use it for good. Yevtushenko encourages awareness of the value of time, self-knowledge and the search for one's own path. This is especially important for young people who are in search of the meaning of life and their role in the world.



The epic genus.

These works play a special role in the school curriculum, as they not only enrich the inner world of students, but also help them better understand the surrounding reality, their emotions and actions.

Through images and plots created by masters of literature, students learn to analyze life and realize their own values and aspirations.

A.I. Kuprin — "Lilac Bush"

In this story, Kuprin shows how a simple sprig of lilac can become a symbol of sincere love and affection. The heroine of the story makes this gesture not for the sake of ostentatious romanticism, but out of an inner need to take care of her husband. For schoolchildren, this work is important because it teaches them to see the meaning in small actions that express real feelings. "Lilac bush" helps to understand that caring and attention to the little things in a relationship speak about the depth and sincerity of feelings.

I.A. Bunin — "Caucasus"

In the story "Caucasus" I.A. Bunin conveys the beauty and grandeur of the nature of the Caucasus, immersing the reader in an atmosphere of peace and harmony with the world. Bunin uses picturesque images of nature to show the power and eternity of the surrounding world. For schoolchildren, this work helps to see how nature can influence a person's feelings, awakening the best qualities in him. Plunging into the beauty of the Caucasus, the reader thinks about the need to take care of nature and its importance for the inner world of man.

A.P. Chekhov — "About Love"

Chekhov reveals the complex nature of love, describing it as a feeling subject to doubts and contradictions. This work is relevant for schoolchildren, because it allows them to see that love is not always an easy and happy feeling. The story teaches that sometimes people can miss their happiness due to internal contradictions, fear of confessing their feelings or the timidity to take an important step. Chekhov shows that true love requires sincerity and courage, and it is important to understand this at the stage of growing up.



The lyrical genus.

Love lyrics Pushkin's love lyrics are permeated with the finest shades of feelings and emotional saturation, conveying reverence for the beauty and spiritual purity of a loved one. In his poems, love is revealed as a sublime feeling, in which there is a place not only for passion, but also for sincere respect and admiration.

For schoolchildren, Pushkin's lyrics are an example of how words can express the deepest feelings while remaining respectful and tactful. This work reminds us that true love is not only joy, but also inspiration, giving meaning to all life. Pushkin's love is sometimes tinged with sadness, but always expresses sincerity, warmth and purity of intentions, encouraging the young reader to be sensitive and attentive to others.

M.Y. Lermontov — "I will not humble myself before you..."

In this poem, Lermontov shows the complex nature of love, where a strong feeling collides with pride and self-respect. The author touches on the theme of love, which is hampered by self-abasement and emotional contradictions. This work teaches schoolchildren that love can be painful, especially if it is unrequited or causes an internal struggle between feelings and self-esteem.

Lermontov shows that love does not always elevate, but requires strength to maintain dignity and self-respect, even if suffering is inevitable. This poem helps teenagers realize that in love, not only devotion is important, but also the ability to remain true to their principles and not sacrifice personal dignity.

A.A. Fet — "The night was shining.

The garden was full of moon..." Fet's poem takes the reader into the magical atmosphere of a warm summer night, when nature seems to merge with human emotions, creating a romantic mood. With her poem, Fet teaches schoolchildren to see beauty in everyday things, in simple and quiet moments, when the light of the moon and the silence of the garden allow them to immerse themselves in the world of romance and dreams. This image helps young readers to feel the importance of moments of silence and harmony, to understand that happiness can be found in contemplation and unity with nature. The work reveals to young readers the value of inner experiences, teaches them to grasp and appreciate the little things that fill life



with a special charm.

The section "The roads we choose" by L. Tolstoy — "How people are alive"

In this story Tolstoy reveals deep themes of mercy, kindness and love through a simple but touching story. For schoolchildren, the work carries an important lesson that the real value in life lies in sincerely caring for others and understanding their needs. The story teaches that even the smallest good deeds can make a big difference, showing that kindness and love can change the world.

Section "To live means to feel, to think, to suffer..." F. Dostoevsky — "Crime and punishment"

This novel is one of the most profound stories about the struggle between conscience and guilt. For schoolchildren who are in search of moral guidelines, this work helps to understand that one cannot go against one's moral beliefs, and shows how important repentance and awareness of one's actions are. Raskolnikov, trying to justify his actions, shows young readers that even the most difficult mistakes can be overcome, but only through awareness and repentance.

A. Pushkin — "Elegy" ("The faded fun of the Mad years ...")

This poem by Pushkin immerses readers in the world of philosophical reflections on the transience of life. The work is filled with feelings of sadness and humility before the passage of time. For schoolchildren, it becomes an opportunity to reflect on how important it is to appreciate every moment and be aware of your life, giving importance to even small things.

M. Lermontov — "Demon"

The poem about a demon who strives for love and understanding opens for schoolchildren the theme of the eternal struggle of good and evil, loneliness and thirst to be understood. This work helps teenagers understand that even in negative characters there is suffering and longing, that everyone strives for love and understanding. The poem teaches compassion and the ability to see the depth of others' feelings, even if they are not always expressed directly.

S. Yesenin — "I do not regret, I do not call, I do not cry..."

In this work, Yesenin reflects on his life and the passing joys filled with



philosophical calm. For schoolchildren, it becomes an important example of accepting change and realizing the finiteness of everything. The poem teaches that life should not be feared, but should be perceived with gratitude and without unnecessary regret.

The section *"A man among people"* by A. Chekhov — *"Ionich"* Chekhov in the story *"Ionich"* shows how a person, having lost interest in life, becomes indifferent and withdrawn. For schoolchildren, this work reminds of the importance of spiritual development and the pursuit of new knowledge, that one should not lock oneself in and lose touch with the world. The story teaches that lack of interest in others leads to mental emptiness.

The section *"Man cannot be defeated"* by R. Rozhdestvensky — *"If you are there, be the first"* Rozhdestvensky's poem about determination, perseverance and self-belief helps schoolchildren understand that in life it is always important to strive for more, achieve their goals and not be afraid of difficulties. This work motivates young people to move forward despite obstacles, to become better, to develop their abilities and not to give up in the face of difficulties. These works, being at the junction of philosophy, psychology and art, form students' deep, moral and spiritual guidelines necessary for the formation of a harmonious personality. Russian literary heritage works give students the opportunity to delve into the world of human feelings and reflections, to appreciate the skill of Russian writers and to feel the full versatility of human nature. The curriculum for 11th grade includes works that help high school students reflect on life, time, honor, memory and the beauty of the earth. These themes are revealed through the works of classics and contemporaries, immersing students in philosophical issues, moral issues and the place of man in the world Section I: *"Man and Time"* by A. P. Chekhov — *"The Cherry Orchard"* Anton Pavlovich Chekhov's play *"The Cherry Orchard"* is a work about the inevitability of change and the transience of time, symbolizing the passing era of the aristocracy and the advent of a new era with its different values and views. The cherry orchard, which is to be cut down, embodies the memory of the past, the attachment of the characters to the old days and the unwillingness to part with the past, although a new generation is already replacing the old one.



For schoolchildren, this work is an important lesson that time changes everything around, and although changes can cause fear and sadness, you need to be prepared for them. The play encourages us to think about the fact that clinging to the past, refusing to move forward, can be disastrous, and accepting change opens up new ways and opportunities.

A. Blok — *"Oh, spring without end and without edge ..."*, "About valor, about exploits, about glory ..." Alexander Blok's poems convey philosophical reflections on time, the change of times and the place of man in the eternal cycle of life. In the poem "Oh, spring without end and without edge..." Blok sings of eternal renewal, beauty and mystery of spring, which symbolizes hope and youth. Spring is an image filled with both joy and sadness, awakening at the same time a sense of expectation of the future and awareness of transience. The poem helps students to think about the fact that every season, like every life period, has its own beauty and significance. In the poem "About valor, about exploits, about glory..." Blok addresses the theme of heroism and memory, praising the image of a hero who has passed into the past. In this work, the poet talks about valor, glory and heroism, which remain in the memory of generations and fill life with meaning. These lines remind young readers of the importance of remembering and honoring the past, the exploits and traditions on which the present is built.

Both works teach students to respect history, to see its impact on modernity and to realize their own place in the flow of time, filling their lives with meaning and striving for great goals. These works are united by the theme of time, which invariably changes people and circumstances. They help students understand that the past, present and future are inextricably linked and that each period of life has its own important lessons and values.

Section III: *"... To preserve memories"*

S. Yesenin — *"Now we are leaving a little..."*

In the poem, Sergei Yesenin says goodbye to the past, reflecting on life, memories and a premonition of departure. The poet is sadly aware of the transience of time and the inevitability of change, recognizing that every person has moments that he would like to preserve forever. Saying goodbye to past joys and meetings, to familiar places



helps to understand how important it is to cherish memories, because they make up our inner strength and give meaning to life. For schoolchildren, this poem becomes a reminder that you need to appreciate every moment, the people who are nearby, and the places that shape their personality.

I. Bunin — *"Chang's Dreams"*

In Ivan Bunin's short story "Chang's Dreams", events are shown through the eyes of an old dog who remembers his departed owners. Through Chang's memories and dreams, Bunin shows the importance of memory connecting us to past events, people and experiences. This story helps students to think about eternal values, that memory preserves warmth and love in us, even when physical presence is no longer possible. Bunin, with his unique ability to depict fleeting but precious moments, helps us understand that memories connect us to those we love and make us stronger in the present. These works help schoolchildren to become more aware of the value of memory, the continuity of generations and the beauty of human life, encourage them to cherish memories, respect the past and see the dignity and strength of the human spirit in simple but significant moments.

Section IV: "Man — it sounds proud!"

A. Chekhov — *"About love" In the story "*

About Love" Anton Chekhov, through the story of the main character suffering from unfulfilled love, reveals the versatility and strength of this feeling. Chekhov shows that love is not only a joy, but also a source of the deepest feelings that can change a person forever.

The main character remains faithful to his feelings, despite the fact that his love remains unreciprocated and brings him suffering. This story helps students understand that feelings can be complex and sometimes incomprehensible, but they enrich the inner world, form a personality and make them think more deeply about the meaning of life. Chekhov teaches that love is a part of human nature, and the real strength of a person is shown in the ability to accept it and remain sincere despite all the trials. These works inspire students to reflect on dignity, inner potential and the role of love in human life. They help to understand that everyone has the right to develop, respect and



acquire their individuality, and also emphasize that love and the pursuit of self-improvement make a person stronger and nobler.

Conclusion

Russian literature, revered as a cornerstone of world cultural heritage, plays a pivotal role in the educational standards of Azerbaijan. It enriches students' spiritual and cultural perspectives, helping to build the moral and ethical foundations of the younger generation. By studying Russian literature, students are introduced to timeless human values, historical insights, and cultural nuances, which collectively nurture a sense of respect for both national and global cultures, broaden their worldviews, and encourage mutual understanding between different peoples and traditions.

In Azerbaijan, the curriculum for Russian literature is thoughtfully structured and introduced gradually, beginning in the fifth grade and continuing through to the eleventh grade. This exposure is not only about learning a foreign language or appreciating literary aesthetics; it is a profound exploration into the cultural, social, and moral fabric that these works embody. The curriculum intentionally includes seminal works by Russian writers who have left an indelible mark on literature, capturing the essence of humanity and addressing themes that transcend time and geography. Themes of honor, love, personal growth, resilience in the face of hardship, memory, and the intricacies of inner emotional life are interwoven throughout the works studied.

From an early age, students encounter stories that portray the struggle between good and evil, the search for truth, and the development of character. These themes are universal, and by exploring them in the context of Russian literature, Azerbaijani students develop empathy and insight into complex moral choices. Russian classics, such as the poetry of Alexander Pushkin and Mikhail Lermontov, or the philosophical depth found in Fyodor Dostoevsky's **Crime and Punishment**, challenge students to question their understanding of human nature, justice, and personal responsibility.

The study of Russian literature also introduces young minds to significant life concepts like perseverance and loyalty, as exemplified by works such as **The Master and Margarita** by Mikhail Bulgakov, which delves into moral ambiguity, the human



quest for truth, and the courage to remain true to oneself. Similarly, *The Cherry Orchard* by Anton Chekhov provides a window into societal changes and individual adaptability, helping students reflect on their role in a transforming world. These works teach resilience, encourage a commitment to personal values, and inspire students to seek out their true calling while nurturing inner strength and integrity.

One of the principal aims of integrating Russian literature into the educational system is to cultivate critical and analytical thinking skills. Through literary analysis, students learn to interpret, question, and challenge what they read, gaining the ability to engage in philosophical reasoning. They develop a more profound emotional awareness and responsiveness, learning to empathize with others, appreciate diversity, and see the world through multiple lenses. The literature encourages students to consider moral values such as kindness, honesty, and tolerance, which are invaluable in fostering interpersonal respect and understanding in today's interconnected society.

Russian literature classes in Azerbaijani schools frequently involve discussions and group activities that enhance students' engagement with texts. By analyzing characters' actions and motivations, students refine their ability to think independently and make well-considered judgments. They are encouraged to express personal interpretations and support them with examples, thus cultivating a sense of intellectual curiosity and self-confidence. Educators often integrate literature with lessons in history and art, allowing students to appreciate literary works within their broader socio-historical context. This interdisciplinary approach further deepens their understanding and allows them to see literature as a mirror of cultural and societal values.

The moral and ethical lessons embedded in Russian literature have a unique and enduring relevance. By reading stories about self-sacrifice, loyalty, and the quest for truth, students develop a foundation of values that prepare them to become responsible, conscientious citizens. The education they receive through these texts equips them with the emotional intelligence and moral clarity necessary to navigate the complexities of modern life. Russian literature, thus, plays a critical role in shaping a well-rounded, ethically grounded individual, capable of making positive contributions to society and



remaining true to their convictions.

The decision to include Russian literature in the educational standard of Azerbaijan underscores a commitment to fostering a generation that values both local and global cultural heritages. It allows Azerbaijani students to develop a richer, more nuanced perspective on the world around them. Moreover, as they read about characters who struggle with universal issues, they learn to connect on a human level with people from different cultures and times. This cultural and moral education through literature is invaluable in a globalizing world where mutual respect and understanding are paramount.

In essence, the Russian literature curriculum in Azerbaijani schools does more than introduce students to a foreign literary tradition. It provides them with essential life lessons, helping them grow into insightful, respectful, and globally-minded individuals. By instilling an appreciation for moral principles and cultural diversity, the curriculum prepares students to engage thoughtfully with the world, valuing both their heritage and the shared human experience reflected in the works of Russian literary giants.