**Card 5**

**A new pupil who is fond of reading has come to your class. Tell him:**

* about the role of books in people’s life;
* what books you prefer;
* what your favourite book is.

It is a well-known fact that reading is a wonderful way to spend your spare time in a useful way. It is often claimed that it’s a good way to relax and at the same time gain knowledge or even experience while reading.

It seems to me that I can’t imagine my life without reading too. Though I’m not a bookworm ['bukwɜːm] ( книжный червь, любитель книг), I like to spend my free time reading a good book. There is a great variety of genres: novels, short stories, detective stories, encyclopedias, adventures, science fiction and others. I have to admit that I like reading different genres. For example, I enjoy reading encyclopedias because they clearly explain what the surrounding world is like. Besides, when I am tired or bored, it’s a brilliant idea to read an adventure story or a detective story and to try to solve a mystery myself. As for me, Thomas Mayne Reid created a wonderful novel, which is called The Headless Horseman. It was written in 1866 and I have to confess that it is my favourite book.

"The Headless Horseman" was set in Texas and based on a south Texas folk tale. This is a story about an Irish adventurer Maurice Gerald- a brave and a noble man who falls in love with Louise Poindexter- a daughter of a rich planter. It is also a story about jealous and malicious [mə'lɪʃəs] (злобный, злой) Captain Cassius Calhoun, who is in love with Louise Poindexter too.

Talking about the content of the book I am absolutely convinced that the novel is very interesting because it is first of all a detective story. The headless horseman appears as nonsense to a reader. Nobody knows who it is and there is a big mystery. In my opinion, the end of the novel is quite interesting too- we finally understand who the headless horseman is and who killed Henry Poindexter.

I strongly recommend you to read this novel because I am convinced that it is not only a work of fiction and an adventurous story, but it is also a great work where the author tries to teach and explain people what is good and what is bad showing different characters and their behavior and actions.

In conclusion you can safely say that though we are living in the world full of computers and modern technologies, books will never disappear because they are a great source of wisdom and reading is essential for everyone because it infuses us with a knowledge that goes beyond what we can learn from the Internet or different textbooks.