

course in Moscow. Literature became his main occupation. His first published work was a poem which appeared in 1951, and was later followed by three collections of verse. V. Korotkevich also wrote a number of novels, including *The Dark Castle Olshansky* and *The Wild Hunt of King Stakh* («Дзікае паляванне караля Стаха», 1964), as well as plays, essays, articles, screenplays for films, and some very interesting detective and adventure stories. He is a winner of several national literary awards.

This is how Andrei Khadanovich, a modern Belarusian poet, describes his first experience of reading Korotkevich: “It was 1989. I was 16 years old. I unfolded the book by Uladzimir Karatkevich with the first part of *The Ears of Rye under Thy Sickles* («Каласы пад сярпом тваім»). It was an unbelievable experience. I lost track of time and came back to reality only when I had finished the book. When you have opened the book it’s difficult to close it. I was looking forward to reading its continuation like today’s children look forward to reading another Harry Potter book.”


Korotkevich has a lot to offer. His literary works are full of romanticism, rich imagination and emotions. They encourage love and respect to our motherland.

2c. In groups of four exchange the information about the authors. Have you read any books by these authors? Which books would you like to read? Why?

3.  Write 10–15 sentences about your favourite author.

Lesson 5. An interview with an author

1. What modern writers do you know?

2a.  Listen and read the fact file about a modern British author of books for children and answer: What facts impress you? What fact is the most interesting?

Fact file

Jacqueline Wilson is a British best-selling children’s novelist. Only in the UK, her books sold more than 40 million copies.



Since her first published book in 1969, she had written 112 of them by March 2021. Her books are about children and the problems they face in their families, with friends and at school.

Jacqueline Wilson has numerous awards in literature. From 2002 to 2008, she was the most borrowed author in British libraries. From 2005 to 2007, she was the fourth Children's Laureate – a position given once every two years to writers and illustrators of children's books for their great achievements (достижения) in this field.

In 2017, Jacqueline Wilson was given a BAFTA¹ Special Award for her contribution to the development of children's television. A number of her books were adapted for television series, e.g. *The Story of Tracy Beaker* (2002–2005), *Best Friends* (2004), *Tracy Beaker Returns* (2010–2013), *Hetty Feather* (2015–2020). In 2020 the first feature film² *Four Kids and It*, based on her book *Four Children and IT* (2012) was released. The book *My Mum Tracy Beaker* (2018) was adapted for a television series with the same title in 2021.

In 2002, Jacqueline Wilson was appointed an OBE – Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire [’emпaɪə] for services to literacy in schools, and in 2008 she was appointed a DBE – Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire. It means that the title *Dame* should be used before her name.

Jacqueline Aitken was born on 17 December 1945 in Bath, 156 km west of London. Though her parents stayed together, they were not happy, and Jacqueline herself did not feel happy in her childhood either. She describes her mother as a person who always thought she knew best and who never liked any of her friends.

Jacqueline left school at the age of 16 and began training as a secretary, but chose to work on a girl's magazine *Jackie* instead³ for a Scottish publishing and television company DC Thomson.

¹ **BAFTA** – the British Academy of Film and Television Arts; ² **feature** [’fi:tʃə] **film** – художественный фильм; ³ **instead** [in’sted] – вместо этого

Jacqueline married a policeman Millar Wilson at 19 in 1965, had a baby girl Emma at 21, but the marriage finally broke up in 2004. By the way, when Emma was 9, she asked her mum never to write about her in her books. And Jacqueline does her best to keep the promise.

At the moment, Jacqueline Wilson lives happily in a large country house in Sussex with beautiful opening views, a library and floor-to-ceiling bookshelves, and a special room where there is a collection of toys. And she keeps to her rule – never to get up until she has written at least 500 words to follow her usual regime [reɪ'ʒi:m] – two books a year.


On 18 March 2021, her latest book *The Runaway Girls* was released. The book is about the events in Victorian London of 1851.

2b. Listen to everybody in the class and chose three most impressive facts and one most interesting fact about Jacqueline Wilson.

3a.  Write the questions which Jacqueline Wilson was asked by her fans some time ago. Check with the whole class.

1. were / Where / born / you / ?
2. family / What / of / sort / you / have / do / ?
3. sort / you / music / of / do / What / like / ?
4. favourite / your / film / What's / ?
5. was / your / What / subject / at / school / favourite / ?
6. subject / was / at / your / What / worst / school / ?
7. you / Did / any / have / job / from / apart / writing / ?
8. you / books / How / published / many / have / ?
9. do / Where / get / you / your / from / ideas / ?
10. ever / you / any / Have / books / for / written / adults / ?
11. write / do / Where / you / ?
12. long / it / How / take / to / write / does / a / book / you / ?
13. much / travel / you / Do / ?
14. lots / you / get / Do / of / mail / fan / ?
15. got / you / special / any / Have / ambitions / ?
16. it / being / like / What's / a / writer / famous / ?


3b.  Answer the questions that you can (use ex. 2a).

- 3c.  Look through the Help box and listen to the interview with Jacqueline Wilson. Compare with your answers in ex. 3b. Whose answers were correct?

HELP BOX


Kingston in Surrey (= Kingston upon Thames) – a town in Greater London; **independent** – независимый; **Queen** – a rock band, formed in London in 1970; **Freddie Mercury** – a singer, songwriter and lead vocalist of **Queen**; **magazine** [ˈmæɡəˈziːn] – журнал; **I've lost count!** – Я потеряла счет! **They just seem to pop into my head!** – Кажется, они просто приходят мне в голову! **adults** ['ædʌlt] – взрослые; **pretty notebooks** – красивые блокноты; **I zoom all over Great Britain!** – Я ношусь по всей Великобритании! **I wish I could clone myself** – Хотела бы я клонировать себя

- 3d.  Listen again and take down notes to answer all the questions (ex. 3a).

- 3e.  Answer all the questions, and then compare with the rest of the class.

- 4a.  Act out the interview with Jacqueline Wilson.

- 4b. Listen to 2–3 interviews with the whole class. Which interview sounds more / most interesting?

5.  Role-play. You become a celebrity in twenty years' time after school (decide in what sphere [sfɪə]). You meet a journalist. Answer her / his questions (use your own questions and the questions from ex. 3a).

6.  Write 10 questions you would like to ask a modern writer.

Lesson 6. Celebrating books

1. With your class brainstorm the ideas to answer the questions: Why are books and reading important? How many people in the world can and can't read? What's the difference between their lives?