

Прочитайте текст. Определите, какие из приведённых утверждений 13–19 соответствуют содержанию текста (1 — True), какие не соответствуют (2 — False) и о чём в тексте не сказано, то есть на основании текста нельзя дать ни положительного, ни отрицательного ответа (3 — Not stated). Запишите в поле ответа цифру 1, 2 или 3, соответствующую номеру выбранного Вами ответа.

### Leo Tolstoy's comedy

Leo Tolstoy, a famous Russian writer of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, is known for his psychological novels. The writer had a special talent for observing people's habits and behaviour. He had a habit of taking notes about his observations and used them in his books. That is why his characters are presented with all their strengths and weaknesses, and look very true to life.

Besides being a good psychologist, Leo Tolstoy could boast a good sense of humour. He often told jokes to his family, and once started to write a comedy. It looked like he didn't take it seriously: the first draft was left unfinished and forgotten for three years. The family did not know about it until Tolstoy's daughter Maria found that piece of writing.

After reading the draft aloud, the family insisted on finishing the play. The writer agreed on the condition that it would be only for family use. This is how his first comedy appeared. It was named *The Fruits of Enlightenment*<sup>1</sup>, and it was performed in the home theatre.

At first, Tolstoy felt pessimistic about staging the comedy for the public. However, he could not ignore his children's enthusiasm about the play. After he watched them acting, he started feeling interested. With every next rehearsal, he edited the lines. A lot was changed, and the text became more natural and impressive. The last edition of the comedy was staged in 1890. The actors were family members and close friends.

The first official performance of the comedy attracted a lot of spectators. They were Tolstoy's relatives, neighbours and servants. The audience gave the play a very warm welcome. They enjoyed the comedy and laughed a lot. The comedy was about the relations between the peasants and the landowners, a topic familiar to everyone. Some spectators even recognised themselves in the characters.

The second performance was arranged in Tula. Naturally, the author, Leo Tolstoy, was invited to watch it. When he arrived at the theatre, he went straight to the entrance. As the writer looked quite ordinary in his plain clothes, the guard did not let him in. Soon, a local official arrived and saw Tolstoy sitting on a bench outside. He recognised the writer at once and asked what he was doing there. "They didn't let me in", Leo Tolstoy smiled.

The theatre officials were confused. They apologised and offered Leo Tolstoy the best seat. Fortunately, on that day, a legendary Moscow director V. Nemirovich-Danchenko was among the spectators. He was deeply impressed by the performance and soon brought the comedy to the big stage of Maly Theatre. *The Fruits of Enlightenment* went successfully. It was highly praised in the press and was published later on. It should be mentioned, however, that Leo Tolstoy did not like the way the actors of Maly Theatre played the peasants.

- 13 In his novels, Leo Tolstoy wanted to make life more exciting than it really was.  
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated  
Ответ: ☐
- 14 Leo Tolstoy wrote his comedy *The Fruits of Enlightenment* in one year.  
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated  
Ответ: ☐
- 15 The name of the comedy was suggested by a member of Tolstoy's family.  
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated  
Ответ: ☐
- 16 Leo Tolstoy improved the text of the comedy during the rehearsals.  
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated  
Ответ: ☐
- 17 The first performance of the comedy was successful.  
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated  
Ответ: ☐
- 18 Leo Tolstoy **did not** manage to watch his play in Tula.  
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated  
Ответ: ☐
- 19 V. Nemirovich-Danchenko discussed the stage costumes and decorations for *The Fruits of Enlightenment* with Leo Tolstoy.  
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated  
Ответ: ☐