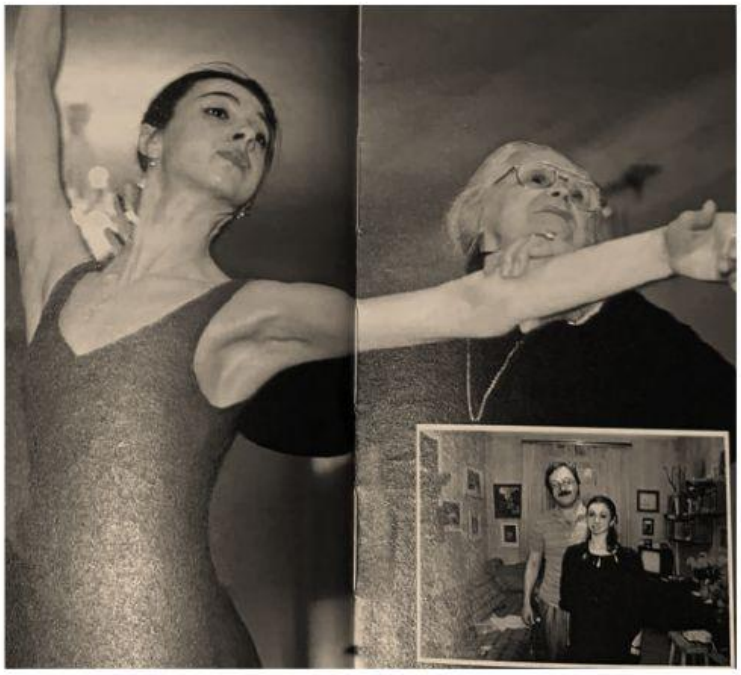
BORN TO DANCE

This week the great Bolshoi Ballet comes to Britain. HELEN THOMAS talks to on of their new ballerinas, Nina Ananiashvili.



Nina Ananiashvili is a prima ballerina at the Bolshoi Ballet, the greatest ballet company in the world. She lives with her husband Guya, a diplomat, in a flat in Moscow. The flat is very small. The bedroom and the sitting room are in one room and there is only a very small bathroom and kitchen.

Every morning Guya and Nina have breakfast at half past seven. Then Nina prepares her ballet shoes. She uses three new pairs of ballet shoes for every performance.

Nina usually walks to her classes at the theatre. 'I love the city,' she says, 'It opens my eyes.'

But on performance days, she takes a taxi to class and back. I like to save my energy,' she says. She arrives at the theatre at about five o'clock in the evening. The performance starts at seven thirty.

Dancing is very tiring and some ballerinas lose three kilos during a performance. Nina is always very thirsty after a performance. I drink and drink: water, tea, lemonade, anything. I usually can't sleep until three or four o'clock in the morning.

Bolshoi dancers earn quite a lot of money and there are other rewards. Girls stand in shopping queues to buy food for her. Men just leave flowers outside my flat and then run away!' says Nina, and laughs.

Read the text and write which paragraph is about:

Nina's morning routine. ___

Nina's routine on performance days. ___

What Nina does after a performance. ___

Who Nina is and where she lives. ___

The rewords of being a ballerina. ___

Answer these questions

What's her name? _____

Is she from Czech Republic? _____

Does she live in Samara? _____

Where does she live? _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Does she live in a house or a flat? _____

Who does she live with? _____

What does she do in the morning? _____

How does she usually go to her ballet classes? _____

How does she go to the theatre on performance days? _____

Why does she take a taxi on performance day?

What time does she arrive at the theatre? _____

What does she do on performance days? _____

What time does the performance start? _____

What does she do after the performance? _____

Why does she drink water, tea or lemonade? _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS