**Form VII**

**Reading-Comprehension Test**

***The Duck with Gold Feathers.***

There was once a duck. She had feathers of gold. One day she was flying past a village. She stopped for a little rest near a small house. A poor woman lived there. Her husband died some years ago. She didn’t have a son to take care of her. She had two daughters and they had to work hard. The old woman said:”Why we are so poor? We work hard the whole day. And all our work brings a little money.”

The Duck heard this and became sorry for them. She wanted to help this family. So she took one of her gold feathers with her beak, dropped it in front of the old woman and flew away. The poor woman was very happy to see the gold feather. Now she had enough money to buy food and clothes. After that the Duck came to the house again and again to give them a gold feather. In this way the Duck helped the poor woman and her two daughters.

Now they had enough food to eat and good clothes to wear and lived happily. But the old woman became very greedy. One day she said to her daughters :

”Maybe one day the Duck will go away and never come back. What shall we do then? We must catch her and take all her gold feathers. We’ll have enough money for a long time.” The daughters cried:”Oh! No! We must not do harm to this kind bird!” The old woman asked :”Do you want to be poor again? Do you like to work hard and get no money?”

In a few days the Duck came again. The greedy old woman caught the bird and began to pull out her feathers. Then she suddenly stopped. She looked at the feathers on the ground. They werе not gold. They had become white, brown, black, like feathers of any other bird, but not gold. The bird flew away and never came back.

feather-перо

beak-клюв

drop-ронять

do harm-причинять вред

pull out-вытягивать, тащить

**I. Underline who this text is about.**

Duck, old man, old woman, gold feather, two sons, two daughters, gold egg,

town, village.

**II. Underline the sentences that you’ve read in the text.**

1. There was once a duck with gold feathers.

2. The duck had five little ducklings.

3. The woman’s husband died some years ago.

4. The duck wanted to help the woman’s family.

5. She gave the family a gold egg.

6. One of her daughters got married.

7. The woman caught the duck and pulled out some feathers.

8. The bird flew to the south.

9. The feathers were not gold.

**III. Fill in the sentences with the expressions from the text.**

1. She had two daughters and they had to ……………………………. .

2. Now she had …………………………………… to buу clothes and food.

3. ……………………………………. do harm to this kind bird.

4. She didn’t have a son ………………………………………… of her.

5. ………………………………………… for a long time.

**IV. Answer the questions.**

1. Did the duck stop near a small house?

2. Did the house belong to a young woman?

3. Was the family rich?

4. Did the woman think of a plan how to catch the duck?

5. Did the duck continue to come?

**V. Explain.**

1. Why is this woman called “poor”?

2. Why did the duck want to help the woman?

3. How did the duck help the family?

4. Why did the daughters pity the duck?

5. How did the duck teаch the woman a lesson?