

ГОУ ВО МО «ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ СОЦИАЛЬНО-ГУМАНИТАРНЫЙ  
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ»

Индивидуальный конкурс эссе

**“Unity in Diversity: Russia and the English-Speaking World.  
Time for Equal Opportunities”**

Исследовательская работа (эссе)

**«Мир иллюзий Самуила Маршака и Льюиса Кэрролла»**



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“THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL STUDIES”

Individual essay contest

**“Unity in Diversity: Russia and the English-Speaking World.**

**Time for Equal Opportunities”**

Research work (essay)

**“World of illusions: Samuel Marshak and Lewis Carroll”**



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## **The plan**

### **1. Introduction.**

We all live on the same planet which name is Earth. The Sun shines equally for all of us, but we are all different. On the way of life, everyone often has difficulties that prevent a person from moving on. Severities suppress him or her, deprive him or her of strength. The only thing a person wants in these moments is to forget about problems for a while and immerse himself in the world of illusions. In my opinion, picking up a book and enjoying fantasies is one of the best solutions, especially if the works of Samuel Marshak and Lewis Carroll accompany a person.

### **2. What is the world of illusions?**

The world of illusions is a special space in which a person is able to interpret reality through fictional images.

### **3. The main goal.**

The main purpose of the study is to use the comparison of the works of Samuel Marshak and Lewis Carroll to try to consider the "world of illusions" of these writers and identify their similarities and differences.

### **4. What is the world of illusions of Samuel Marshak?**

The world of Marshak's illusion is a spiritual, lively, wise world of nature that surrounds us every day.

### **5. What is the world of Lewis Carroll's illusions?**

The world of Carroll's illusions is the immersion of a person into completely new realities of the universe so unknown but so inviting to a person.

**6. The importance of people's ability to immerse themselves in the fantasy world.** Diving into the fantasy world, see yourself there, correct your mistakes here in the real world.

## **“World of illusions: Samuel Marshak and Lewis Carroll”**

People often try to find a way of salvation in moments of despair. It is no secret that many people find help in books. It is known that everyone's priorities are different: someone starts reading romance novels fascinated by the beauty and the power of love. Someone reads detective stories plunging into the world of mysteries and riddles, and someone picks up fantasy novels and rediscovers the universe. They are helped in this discovery by unusual, colorful, illusory images of the magical world that appears from the pen of the writer. He truly enchants, bewitches. He makes you realize anew everything that happens on earth. And a lot is happening on our planet: both good and evil.

Now when I feel sad, I remember how my grandmother and mother taught me to overcome this sadness. They observing my bad mood and understood that it was necessary to raise it and invited me to read. And my relatives read special works with elements of fiction because they knew that the ability to dream can dispel sadness. I see some secret meaning in this, but my grandmother's favorite work was a fairy tale by Samuel Marshak "The Twelve Months", and my mother's one was a fairy tale by Lewis Carroll "Alice's Adventures in the Wonderland".

The works of these two writers have always amazed me with their special uniqueness, some kind of lightness, a flight of dreams. Reading these books I was completely immersed in the world of illusions, I forgot about my problems, and I could not tear myself away from them until the last lines. Of course, it helped me, a child, to understand everything I read because the works of Marshak and Carroll were written in a simple and uncomplicated language. I tried to speculate, why? The answer is obvious: this is done so that every reader can relax and enjoy the extraordinary content through the word... The syllable does not leave anyone indifferent: it can be said that Marshak and Carroll were able to write works that, like true friends, accompany people throughout their lives.

Readers are not partial to the world of illusions created by the authors, which everyone has their own, a special one. What is this feature expressed in?

Samuel Marshak often addresses his works to young inhabitants of the Earth-children. We can say that with the help of his works he tells his little friends what the world is, how interesting it can be. Moreover, Samuel Marshak tries to convey to them the idea that everything surrounding a person is alive. That is why you need to be able to appreciate and cherish everything around you... Samuel Marshak is like a kind, wise father who gives advice, and does it unobtrusively, in a kind way.

So in the work "The Twelve Months", the author wanting to show that nature is ready to help a kind person in a difficult moment presented to the readers twelve brothers-months. They live as a friendly family, replacing each other at the right time. They keep order on earth. In the fairy tale, Samuel Marshak does not give an exact description of each of the months but despite this, each of them has its own individual features, its own character. I noticed that the only months the writer made small characteristics for were January, February and March.

The winter months in human form looked like harsh and grumpy old men. I realized that the author wanted to show with the help of such a comparison that winter, as the season of the year, does not spoil people with its cordiality. It is cold and frosty.

Life goes on... Everything old is always replaced by something new. It is not surprising that February is changed by March. I was struck by how the author showed readers that spring is the time of hope, the beginning of life with a clean slate. It is the cheerful and open-armed, March who begins to beg his brothers to help the girl. As a result, they performed a miracle - they helped the main heroine find snowdrops, thereby not allowing arrogance and rudeness to rule on earth, protected the poor girl and punished evil.

I am sure that Samuel Marshak in the form of twelve months personifies all nature, which watches over people, trying to preserve harmony in our world. With this work the author showed that everything in our world is endowed with a soul. It is only important to be able to keep your soul clean and then a miracle will happen...

So the world of Marshak's illusion is a spiritualized, lively and wise realm of nature that surrounds us every day. But Carroll's world of illusions is the immersion of a person into completely new realities of the universe so unknown but so inviting to a person. Lewis Carroll tried to show this mysterious world. He helped a person to touch it. This is precisely the peculiarity of his works.

I noticed that the characters of the books and the situations in which they find themselves, at first glance, seem abstract and ridiculous. But in reality everything is subject to logic, despite the fact that logic itself is abstract. In my opinion, it is also surprising that the author used an unusual form, with the help of which he very subtly illuminated many philosophical issues, human life, the structure of the world and the place of man or woman in this world.

The heroes of his fairy tale "Alice's Adventures in the Wonderland" are like bright lights that show that in the world you need to look for only positive things in everything. You need to believe that everything will work out. I was surprised that each of the characters seems to live in their own world but they are all different from each other, their images are finished.

Since childhood, the Blue Caterpillar has been associated with my governess who constantly grumbles and tells the main character what to do, although often her sayings are devoid of meaning and completeness.

One of the most famous heroes of the fairy tale can be confidently called the Cheshire cat, who immediately falls in love with readers with his wide smile. Despite his innocent appearance, this character is very smart and cunning. He is good at deceiving other people.

In my opinion, the most unforgettable hero can be called a Mad Hatter who behaves ill-mannered, communicating with the main character. He is very picky, strange but I believe and know that he has a big and kind heart beating in his chest.

It can be noted that Lewis Carroll in the form of the heroes of his fairy tale embodies various human traits of character. The Blue Caterpillar - the desire to know everything, the Cheshire Cat - cunning, the Hatter - curiosity, the Red Queen - harmfulness. What does it mean? But only one thing: the world is created fantastic, illusory, but the passions and vices of our world are clearly visible behind it. The author informs readers that the universe is filled with diverse lives, and that everyone living in the universe has desires and flaws, just like on earth. Only with these passions and vices, you need to fight, overcome them. You require reaching out with all your might to the pure, kind world of nature, which like a gentle mother watches over her sinful children inhabiting the universe, loves them, helps them but can get angry. And then what?

Do not make mistakes! I think that the authors warn us be pure, do good then life on the planet and in the whole universe will become much cleaner! I am convinced this is the similarity of the world of illusions of Lewis Carroll and Samuel Marshak. Live in harmony with nature – that is the letter, they sent to everyone living on earth.

## Illustrations



1.

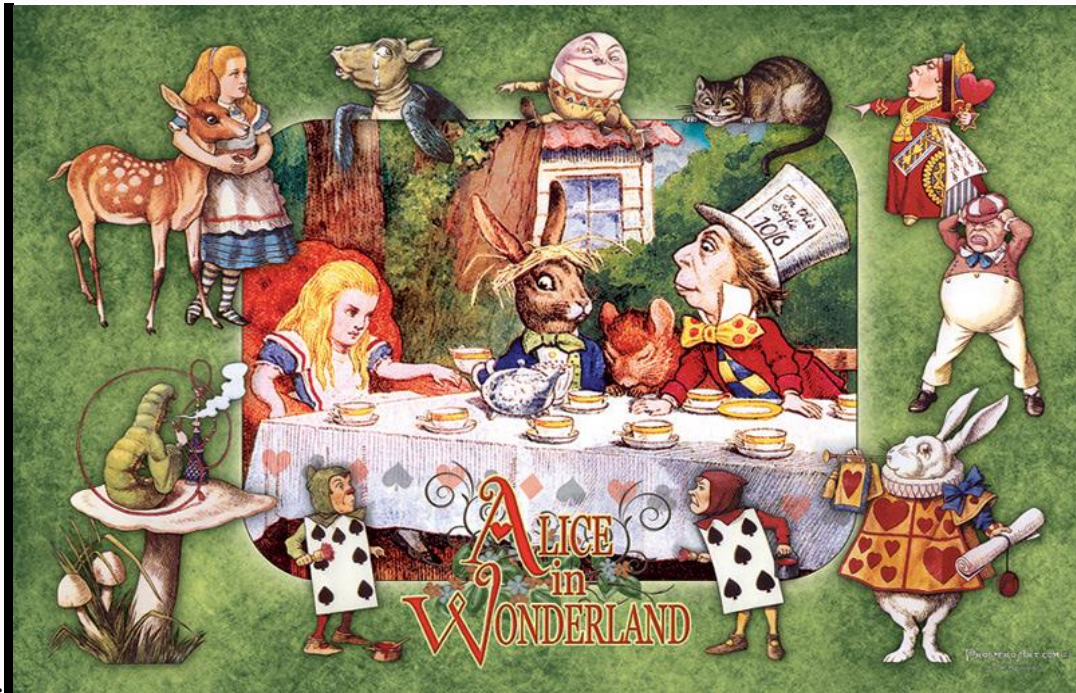
Illustration for Samuel Marshak's book "The Twelve Moths"



2.

Samuel Yakovlevich Marshak (1887-1964)





3.

Illustration for Lewis Carroll's book "Alice's Adventures in the Wonderland"



4.

Lewis Carroll (1832-1898)

### **The List of Literature used:**

- 1. The Biography of Samuel Marshak***
- 2. S. Marshak “The Twelve Months”***
- 3. The Biography of Lewis Carroll***
- 4. L. Carroll “Alice’s Adventures in the Wonderland”***
- 5. Cambridge International Dictionary of English. London, 1995.***
- 6. Anglo-Russian dictionary of synonyms. / Yu. D. Apresyan, V. V. Botyakova and others; Pod ruk. Rosenman A. I. and Apresyan Yu. D. M., 2000.***