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CONSIDERING THE INFLUENCE OF EARLY MAXIM GORKY'S PAPERS ON STUDENT'S PERSONALITY

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Abstract. The paper is dedicated to the influence of early Maxim Gorky's papers on student's personality. The research summarizes the main problems analyzed in M. Gorky's early papers. It gives the examples of papers raising different moral problems. The paper also reveals the modern students knowledge of M. Gorky's literature. The research also develops the questionnaire for considering the student's skills in analyzing the scientific literature. It also compares the character traits that are of importance for a modern young person with the ones that were of value for M. Gorky.

Keywords: character trait; freedom; man of the crowd; Maxim Gorky; personality trait.

Introduction. Our research topic is relevant, as the firstly, problems posed in early Maxim Gorky's papers remain vital nowadays. The writer reveals the problems concerning both "the man of the crowd" and "the man of freedom" in his early papers. The problems concerning individual freedom become urgent in the modern democracy development era. The problems is being solved in the form of legislative acts concerning the individual's rights as well as freedoms that are being laid down as any civilized state policy cornerstone. The policy is usually protected by them. Secondly, M. Gorky was young at the time period when he wrote these stories. Therefore, his age was close to the one of modern students who are young as well. That's why there is some similarity existing in the opinions expressed by young people living in different time periods.

The research aim, objectives, subject and object. The research aim is to determine the ways in which early M. Gorky's papers as our research subject affect human character traits as the object. In order to achieve this aim, we have to solve several tasks. The first task is to define the concepts of «problem» and «problematics» as well as determine their role in the paper ideological context. The second objective

is to analyze the ideological context of M. Gorky's early papers. The third task is to identify the modern person's characteristics according to M. Gorky's papers. The fourth objective is to identify the modern person's character traits. The fifth objective is to compare the modern man's characteristics with the ones discussed in M. Gorky's early papers.

The research methods. We have applied the research methods at two levels. Firstly, we have analyzed the literary sources, scientific literature, Internet materials at the theoretical level. Secondly, we have applied some research methods at the empirical level. We have conducted a survey. After that we have compared the data obtained with the scientific literature.

The theoretical review. Being of Greek origin, the term «a problem» can be considered both literary and figurative. The former means «something thrown forward». The latter denotes something isolated from other aspects of life. Any paper can be considered as the combination of problems discussed. Being narrower than a problem, the term “problematic” is viewed as selection as well as strengthening the most significant aspects from social, ideological, moral and psychological viewpoints in the author's papers. Problems are usually both posed and revealed in the figurative form in the pieces of art. It means that writers highlight and reinforce what seem the most significant to them. This is especially clearly seen in the choice of characters, in the characterization of their relationships. However, the range of problems that writers are interested in is very different. Each of them interprets the topic in its own way, highlighting different sides and the most important problems in it.

We can see that M. Gorky's early papers reveals the problems that have been relevant in the Russian Empire at that time. The first problem is the freedom problem. «Makar Chudra» is evaluated as the story dedicated to the problem of freedom. Being an old gypsy, Makar Chudra considers freedom as one of the most essential values [1]. He believes a peasant to be the slave digging the ground all his life. He tells the beautiful love story about Loiko and Radda. Having been too proud and independent, they even considered their love to be an obstacle to their independence.

The second problem concerns false and true life values. For example, on the one hand, Chelkash considers himself to be a free man [2]. However his concept of being independent cannot be considered as ideal in the modern society. He does not work, because he thinks work to be like a chain shackling our independence. He steals in order to get money for both food and drink. On the other hand, Gavril is an ordinary peasant who wants to get a job, get married, build his own house, get a farm. We would evaluate him as an ideal person nowadays, however the author characterizes him as a "man of the crowd", that is, the man who wants to match his life and behavior to some norms established. M. Gorky criticizes him for being as everyone else having got no personal opinion that differs from the one of majority.

The third problem is the problem of overcoming selfishness in the relationship with other people. This problem is discussed in the story entitled «The old woman Izergil» [3]. M. Gorky condemns the selfishness characterizing the proud and self-loving son of the eagle and the woman Lara. People sentenced him to both loneliness and immortality as the punishment for cruelty. As a result, Lara has been wandering like a restless shadow for thousand years, reminding people of the human communication, friendship values.

The fourth problem is the relationship between fathers and children, in general and generation gap, in particular. This is reflected in the novel «Childhood» [4]. The only person who is spiritually close to little boy Alyosha is his grandmother. She took a significant place in his soul after his father had died. When his mother had left, only grandmother gave the boy love. She gave him good advice that he had always followed to. Alyosha noticed that his relatives had been sullen, greedy, and self-loving since the first day he lived at his grandfather's place. The boy immediately dislikes his grandfather, who seems to him too angry and even a little cruel. And in the end, his grandfather throws him out of the house so that he can start earning his own living.

The empirical review. We conducted the survey in which 50 first-year students of the Russian State Agrarian University–Moscow Timiryazev Agricultural Academy had participated. The first exercise given to students is to encircle a letter with the story that you have read: a) «Chelkash», b) «Makar Chudra», c) «Old woman Izergil», d) «Song about stormy petrel», e) «Song about stormy petrel», «Childhood», «Girl and death». The second task presented to students is to write the summary of the main problem you have encircled. The third task is to identify the main personality traits characterizing the superman.

Table 1 demonstrates the outcomes concerning the stories that are most often read by students (see table 1).

Table 1 – M Gorky's most often read stories

The title	A number of students
«Chelkash»	44
«Makar Chudra»	4
«Old woman Isergil»	20
«Song about stormy petrel»	4
«Childhood»	31
«Girl and death»	3

Table 2 demonstrates the character traits that students name of importance for a modern person (see table 2).

Table 2 – The traits of importance for a modern person

A number of students	The character traits
20	bravery
15	kindness; honesty; cleverness; justice; living in the past but thinking about the future
14	responsiveness
13	authoritativeness
12	one`s own opinion
10	unselfishness
9	confidence
6	humanism in all situations

Having analyzed the research data, we can confess that according to Maxim Gorky's opinion, the most essential traits characterizing a person include both freedom and selflessness. Therefore, M. Gorky describes the image belonging to the ideal person who is able to survive under the pre-revolutionary situation conditions. On the contrary, our modern person may not be independent, but he is certain to be brave, kind, honest, wise. We have ranged the modern person's traits in their importance. Our analysis reveals that the most important trait is bravery. The next group of traits that are of slightly less importance includes kindness, honesty, wisdom and purposefulness.

Conclusion. Our research appears to be both of theoretical and practical importance. The former is due to the fact that it is grounded on the ideas of several scientific disciplines, including literature studies, sociology, history and psychology. The latter is due to the fact that it founds the ways to draw students' attention to several aspects including reading classical literature as well as the profound literature analysis in contrast with entertainment reading.

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