**School in the Slums**

**Словник:**

* Slums – нетрі
* Locks – замки
* Guards — охоронці
* Permission — дозвіл

Mellish school is in the **slums** of Brooklyn for pupils between twelve and fifteen years of age. There are about 1500 pupils there, and 90 teachers. It’s a problem school, perhaps one of the most difficult schools in America. The white teachers cannot walk to the school because they may be attacked. They all drive to school, and their cars have special **locks**. There is always a black policeman at the door of the school. He has a radio contact with the school **guards**. Pupils must have a written **permission** from the teacher if they want to go to the toilet. There is a guard outside the washroom. Only one child can go into the washroom at a time, and he cannot stay there long.The children who live in that district go to school that. They are all black children. However, why do the teachers work there? “It’s very hard of course,” Jane says Flinch, a forty – five-year-old teacher. Most children have problems at home. Their parents beat some of them. Some of them sleep at the lessons because they had to work at night. Some of the children get sick at the lessons because they did not have breakfast or even a meal for a day or two.

It’s the love of the job that keeps the teachers in that school. They teach and do social work. They feel that they are doing something good for the children who need help.

“There’s also the problem of violence,” says one of the teachers. “Sometimes when I go into a class, I can feel that some of the children are like a dynamite. However, I feel quite safe. I am sure that other pupils will help me.” There is very little money for teaching in that school. There is no money to buy food for the children.

The principal of the school has been there for many years. A lot of his happy optimism has gone. “No, i’m not optimistic about the future. Look around you,” he says and points out of the window at the high wall round the school. “It’s not a very bright sight: buildings have holes instead of the windows, shops are closed, and groups of people are sitting on the steps of the houses. They have nowhere to go and nothing to do.”

“We need money,” he says, “money is the only way to help this school and these people, and, of course, jobs for the people.”

**Завдання до тексту.**

**Exercise 1.** Підберіть правильну відповідь.

Mellish school is for

a) small children.

b) older children.

c) small and older children.

The white teachers can’t walk to school because

a) they live far from the school.

b) they don’t like to walk.

c) it’s dangerous for them.

There’s a policeman

a) at the door of the school.

b) near the toilet.

c) outside the washroom.

The white teachers work there because

a) they can’t find a better job.

b) they love their job.

c) they get a lot of money there.

The school needs

a) more money

b) more teachers.

c) more policemen.

**Exercise 2.** Say if the statements are true, false or not mentioned.

Mellish school is in the **slums** of Mexico.

Most children have problems at home.

Mellish a problem school.

The principal of the school has 5 children in his family.

The school needs money.

It’s good salary that keeps the teachers in that school.