

1. 1st task

- a. she stroked him
- b. patting my cheek
- c. peeling
- d. inserting her little finger into her ear and vibrating it very rapidly
- e. gave me a fresh copybook
- f. make a margin in it
- g. imprint a vertical line with her thumbnail
- h. fold in the edge of the page
- i. press
- j. release
- k. smooth it out with the heel of her hand
- l. moisten the glistening nib (with lips)
- m. dipping it into the baptismal ink font
- n. hunted through her collection of spelling tests

2. 2nd task

- a. take aback: When I told him that I was leaving, he was taken aback. Bad for him, I had warned him before. (surprised, shocked)
- b. affection: My dad had a deep affection for my/his dog. This was the first and only time I saw by dad sad.
- c. stupendous: The Lord of the Ring from Tolkien is stupendous. What an epic story!
- d. pant: In the course for the future mums they teach them panting. / nice!
- e. emit: The world without emitting of carbon dioxide seems like utopia nowadays.
- f. puff: Then Joker puffed and disappeared. Batman was really confused. (not certain what he did here)
- g. moisten: We need to moisten the chicken, so it will not be dry.
- h. dip: I dipped accidentally my jumper in the puding. / pudding.
- i. sloppy: My roommate is so sloppy, she leaves the clothes everywhere!
- j. exquisite: This assignment is exquisite! (joke :))
 - i. The Silmarillion from Tolkien is exquisite! Is so deep, full of / nice! wisdom and it really inspires you.

word order!
adverbs before
main verb

3. 3rd task

a. Why does Nabokov focus on Mademoiselles' hands ?

Perfect!

i. Because in his childhood the hands lived and hovered at the level of his stature.

b. How old is Mademoiselle? Give evidence for your speculations from text.

* i. I think she is around 30, since she has brown ecchymotic spots, her mouth was emitting asthmatic puffs, but she also has tight skin on her hands.

(?)

c. How would you characterize her? Is she a good teacher? Bad ? Or.... ?

Why?

i. I think she was very strict demanding, but also kind and understanding, therefore the best teacher, since she was "patting my cheek in sign of spontaneous affection", but also "hunted for a good, hard spelling test".

nice!

* ecchymosis (see websters) ~~is~~ meaning "bruising" can happen to everyone... but is often more common to older ~~adults~~ adults; her skin also is "glossy, dry, tight"... similar to aging.
| though Nabokov never says her age... my feeling is that she was older...
- Asthma says nothing about age -
- This, of course, is all subjective -

Good work!
Good sentences.

Thanks, P-