

Materiały do lekcji : Our Local Hero – Stanisław Pojasek

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Exercise 1.

Match the dates to the events

3 rd May 1791	30 th November 1830	1 st September 1939	1 st August 1944	8 th May 1945

- a) The beginning of World War II
- b) The end of World War II
- c) The first written constitution in Europe
- d) The November Uprising
- e) The Warsaw Uprising

Exercise 2

Read the text and decide whether the following sentences are true or false

		True/False
1.	Stanisław Pojasek had nine other siblings.	
2.	He went to Rostov-on-Don to study and work there	
3.	While studying at Lviv University he became a singer in the Lviv Opera	
4.	He kept the promise that he gave together with his friends at the end of university education.	
5.	He was well-known due to his positive personal features	
6.	During World War II he refused to help Germans as he thought they were responsible for the war.	
7.	After the war the number of doctors in Biłgoraj rose as a result of Doctor Pojasek's devotion to his work	



Stanisław Pojasek was born on 28 August 1898 as the ninth child of a poor peasant's family. He was noticed by the Lachowski family, a married couple who devoted their time to travelling around local villages in search of talented children who could develop their skills and abilities in secondary schools thanks to their financial support.

When he was still a teenage boy, the Great War made him stop learning at the secondary school and he joined the army. He was captured by the Russians and held captive. He ended up in Rostov-on-Don, where he continued his education and worked at the same time.

After the war, he returned to Poland and studied medicine at Lviv University. During his studies he had to work to support himself. He worked as a railway man, as a bank office boy, as an extra in the Lviv Opera.

At the end of his studies, with a group of fellow ex-soldier students, he took a vow to work in small, forgotten places, where the conditions were hard and where there was a shortage of doctors. He remained faithful to his vow till the end of life. This brought him to Biłgoraj in 1934.



He was immediately given the position of the director of the hospital, which was in a very poor condition at that time.

He became widely popular thanks to his kindness, politeness and a sense of humour while his medical skills earned him respect and trust.

Together with his wife, Jadwiga, he lived in the hospital.

In September 1939 he was drawn up as the head of a sanitary company. In November 1939 he returned to Biłgoraj, which was destroyed and full of German soldiers. He helped not only suffering Poles, Jews, Ukrainians but also Germans, because he would say they were people, too.

Risking his life, he helped people who were sought by the Gestapo. He also treated refugees, hiding Jews, Soviet prisoners of war and partisans.

From the very beginning of the war he was part of the underground resistance movement, eventually the Home Army. His military nickname was 'Dr Adam' and he took part in the organization of an in-field hospital where, among others, Konrad Bartoszewski 'Wir' was treated.

In 1944, in recognition of his resistance work, the Home Army awarded him with the Gold Cross of Merit with Swords.

After the end of war, not much changed in his life as he still had to help people who were hiding from the authorities, this time from the pro-Soviet government. He was also harassed at that time as he was suspected of supporting anti-government conspirators.

As times improved, he devoted more and more of his energy to improving the hospital. The number of beds increased from a few dozen to a few hundred. The number of doctors increased as they were drawn to Biłgoraj by his name and renown.

Despite being offered employment in Lublin, he remained in Biłgoraj, faithful to his vow.

He died on 26 January 1967. Ten years after his death the street in which Biłgoraj's hospital is located was named after him.

(text based on R. Złamański „Ludzie Biłgoraja – Stanisław Pojasek”, Tanew nr 3 (117), R. Złamański „Ludzie Biłgoraja – Stanisław Pojasek cz.II” Tanew nr 4 (118))

Exercise 3

Work in pairs. Find the English equivalents of the following words.:

English	Polski
	Chłop
	W poszukiwaniu
	Wsparcie
	Złapać
	Przetrzymywać w niewoli
	Statysta
	Złożyć przysięgę
	Niedostatek
	Wierny
	Uprzejmość
	Uchodźca
	Powołać do wojska
	Poszukiwać
	Leczyć
	Ruch oporu
	Szpital polowy
	Armia Krajowa
	Miecz
	Zasługa
	Władze
	Nękać
	Renoma

Exercise 4.

Answer the following questions:

1. When was Stanisław Pojasek born?
2. Why did he stop learning at secondary school?
3. What did he study after the Great War?
4. How did he support himself during studies?
5. What vow did he take together with his friends?
6. Why did he come to Biłgoraj?
7. What was he like? Why did people admire him?
8. Who did he treat during the war?

9. Why was he awarded the Gold Cross of Merit with Swords?
10. Why did the hospital develop after the war?
11. Is Doctor Pojasek worth remembering in your opinion? Why?
12. Do you think Stanisław Pojasek could be a role model for teenagers nowadays?

Exercise 4 – zadanie maturalne

Dzisiaj rano mieliście w szkole lekcję na temat osób zasłużonych w waszym regionie. Napisz wpis na prowadzonym przez siebie blogu na temat osoby, która twoim zdaniem zasługuje na pamięć:

- Poinformuj kim była ta osoba i w jakich czasach żyła
- Wyraź swoją opinię dlaczego ta osoba zasługuje na pamięć
- Opisz co najbardziej zafascynowało cię w tej postaci
- Zaproponuj czytelnikom sposoby zachowywania pamięci o lokalnych bohaterach