

OPINION ON THE HOMEREADING

PYGMALION

Bernard Shaw

In this essay I am going to give an opinion of the book called *Pygmalion* written by Bernard Shaw.

Through all the book, we are observing the transformation of a poor and motherless girl called Eliza Doolittle. She transforms from a common flower girl into a lady. But she doesn't do it by herself. It is true that Eliza comes to Mr. Higgins and offers him a shilling per hour if he is willing to teach her proper English. But Mr. Higgins gets a bit carried away with that idea. He wants to change her into a lady and test her skills at the Buckingham Palace. So he makes a bet with Mr. Pickering about his success of her transformation.

For the first time I actually liked the story I read for the home reading. Although I think there should be less description of what people do, beside the text, which they are saying, because this puts you out of the story.

Shaw wanted in real life to change the spelling of the English language. So this play is a proof of how you can change your pronunciation, and so enter the higher social class. In fact, the whole book shows us the social structure in Great Britain at the time. Personally, I find the whole system of dividing people by their wealth and looks totally repulsive. I cannot imagine being treated as less worthy than others simply because I do not wear the right clothes.

I also liked Eliza, because she stood up to Mr. Higgins at the end of the story, refusing to be treated only as the object of his bet.

On the whole, the book was very interesting. It showed me what life at the beginning of the twentieth century was like, especially the position of women in society. I think the book was good and I would not mind having to read it again.