

## The Duck Fountain

The bronze Duck Fountain is located in the middle of a small park on Šafárikovo Square in Bratislava. It was built in 1914.



Once upon a time there were little sheperds who were going to the River Danube with their ducks. A water goblin lived in the Danube. The boys were fooling and playing various games and the goblin wanted to join them. Boys made friends with the water goblin.

He had a green algae hair, frog toes and a green skin, but the boys didn't know it, because he was wearing a long coat and a green hat on his head.

On one warm and sunny day, the boys decided to take off their shirts. The goblin couldn't do it too. The boys started to laugh at him.



The water goblin got angry and turned the boys and their ducks into stone.

### **1. Now answer the questions:**

a) In which city is the Duck Fountain located? .....

b) What river is in the city? .....

c) Who lived in the river? .....

d) What did the creature look like? .....

.....

e) What animals did the little sheperds have? .....

f) Why the water goblin became angry? .....

.....

g) The river in the legend – D.....

## 2. Find opposites for these words in the text:

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| a) big - .....    | d) similar - ..... |
| b) short - .....  | e) cold - .....    |
| c) night - .....  | f) happy - .....   |
| d) put on - ..... | g) wasn't - .....  |

## 3. Find the words in the text:

- a) To become friends with someone – f.....
- b) A small jumping animal, without a tail, that lives on land and in water – f .....
- c) A covering for the head – h .....
- d) Material of which rocks are composed – s.....
- e) A period from sunrise to sunset – d .....
- f) On the Šafárikovo square in – B.....

## 4. The water goblin:

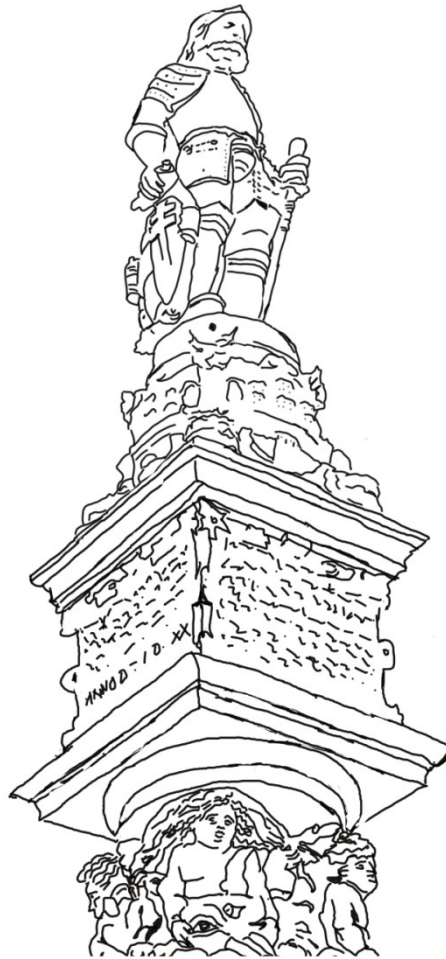


## *Roland Fountain*

The fountain in Bratislava's Main square is officially named after Maximilian II, the Hungarian king. But it is better known as the Roland Fountain after a knight Roland.

Roland was a brave knight, who had a wonderful sword named Durandal. He also used to sing a love song, dedicated to his love Olifanta, while sitting in the square.

The children of the city loved Roland's song, however once the knight had to return back to France, taking his wonderful song with him. The children could not sleep without the song, so the mayor of the city built a fountain with Roland's statue at its centre and whose trickling water would sound like the song and lull the children



to sleep.

Legend has it that the fountain is magic, and that on December 31 every year, the statue of Roland turns his head to the town hall and bows to the lords who fought for the city.

The knight also comes to life on Good Friday, when he waves his sword to all four sides of the world.

This miracle can see only a person who is born in Bratislava but who has never hurt anyone.

### **1. Now answer the questions:**

- a) Where is the Roland Fountain located ?.....
- b) Who was Roland? .....
- c) Whom did Roland sing? .....
- d) Where did Roland go? .....
- e) What did the mayor build in the centre of the city? .....
- f) Whom can Roland see when he turns around?

.....

## 2. Find synonyms for these words in the text:

- a) monarch - ..... f) myth - .....  
b) kids - ..... g) human - .....  
c) amazing - ..... h) heroic - .....  
d) aqua - ..... i) no way - .....  
e) arrive - ..... j) look - .....

## 3. Find the words, write them and then find them in the wordsearch. The rest of the letters is the result.

- a) A husband of the queen - .....  
b) A weapon with a long blade that is sharp on one or both edges - .....  
c) A sculptured figure of a person, animal in bronze, stone - .....  
d) The top part of human body - .....  
e) A large town - .....  
f) A myth or traditional story - .....

- g) A day before Saturday - .....  
h) Singular of people - .....  
i) The middle point - .....  
j) 365 or 366 days - .....  
k) Synonym of wonder, marvel - .....

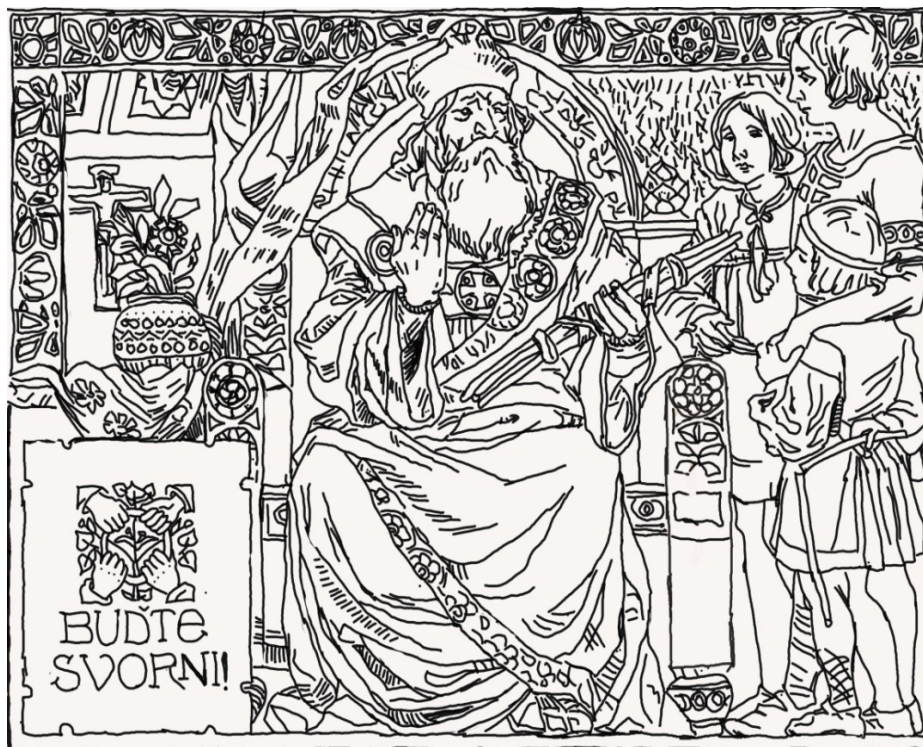
K	M	I	R	A	C	L	E
R	I	E	R	T	N	E	C
O	L	N	S	W	O	R	D
A	N	D	G	D	A	E	H
S	T	A	T	U	E	C	Y
L	E	G	E	N	D	I	E
P	E	R	S	O	N	T	A
Y	A	D	I	R	F	Y	R

Result: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

## The legend of Svätopluk and three rods.

Once King Svätopluk lived in the Great Moravia. Svätopluk had grown old and while he was lying on his deathbed, he called his three sons – Mojmír, Svätopluk the Younger and Preslav.

When they arrived, their father asked them to tie three rods together and break them. The sons couldn't do it, the rods were very solid. Then Svätopluk handed the rods – one to each of his sons and he asked them to break them. This time they broke them easily.



Svätopluk told them: „My dear sons, you are like these rods. If you live together and help each other, no one will overwhelm you. But if you quarell and divide the country into single parts, the enemy will defeat you.

Three sons did not obey father's legacy, and the Great Moravia collapsed.

### **1. Now answer the questions:**

a) What was the name of the Great Moravia king?

.....

b) How many sons did the king have? .....

c) What were their names? .....

.....

d) What did the sons have to do? .....

.....

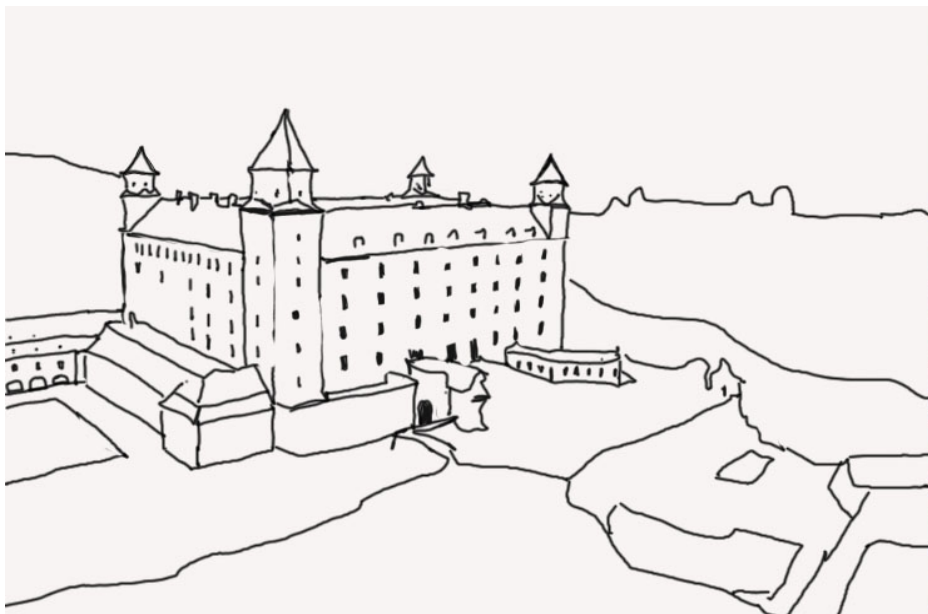
e) What did the king tell to his sons? .....

.....

f) Did the three sons obey? .....

## *The Giant's Stool*

The symbol of Bratislava is the Bratislava Castle. It looks like the table turned upside down, its four towers like legs in each of its corners.



At the Bratislava Castle sometimes used to happen that people woke up as if they were not sleeping in beds but beds on them. Water was spilled from the buckets, all the castle's paintings were on the floor and the lamps were destroyed.

This happened three times a three years. No one knew what had happened during these nights and the queen became angry.

She sent for the witch, called Strigana. Strigana took the crystal scraps, put them to ashes, then by looking, listening and thinking she finally said: "It's Klingsor, a giant-wizard, who live in Transylvania, but sometimes goes to Germany and then back to Transylvania. When he flies above this castle, which is on the halfway down, he takes the castle with his big hand, turning it on the four towers like a stool and rests on that stool. Then he turns the castle back and flies further."

Strigana proposed, that she can sent him a message.

As yet he has not returned. Since then, painings and crystal lamps were no longer falling down at the Bratislava Castle.

### **1. Read the legend and write true or false:**

- a) The Bratislava Castle has two towers .....
- b) The king in the Bratislava Castle was angry .....
- c) The witch is called Strigana .....
- d) The giant-wizard is called Klinger .....



e) He lived in Slovakia .....

f) He put the castle to the other place .....

## 2. Match the words:

castle

way

crystal

destroyed

half

scraps

lamps

towers

## 3. Use the correct words from the text:

a) The symbol of Bratislava is .....

b) It looks like the table with .....

c) At the Castle sometimes used to happen that people woke up as if they were not sleeping in beds but .....

d) It was Klingsor, a .....

e) This happened ..... times a ..... years.

