

# "I wanted to be a teacher, and I became them"

On photos in social networks a serious young man holding a sign:

"I'm studying to be a primary school teacher. There is nothing to be ashamed of. Feel free to implement your wishes".

This is Anton, the son of a famous Belarusian teachers, Anatoly and Svetlana Gin (you've probably seen, maybe even participated in online courses Anatoly Hin of TRIZ-pedagogy), during his studies at the pedagogical College.

Now Anton Gin works by profession he was a teacher of initial classes Malakowsky high school. The village of Malaki located in the Chernobyl zone, 6 km from the urban village of Bragin, from which the regional center — the city of Gomel, 100 kilometres.

Anton is 21 and he with an enviable vigor talks about his teaching days. And now you can once again rejoice, as the love for the profession wins system overhead.

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Hello friends!

I will describe to You my day briefly and in detail.

Briefly:

1. Drove a tractor.
2. Earned time off..

From the online notes of rural teachers

When I was in College, I was constantly asked: "And do not you afraid? You know, then that would be a small salary, there will be many problems with the documentation? You now go to practice and see how you get tired". Yes, it is, but it's empty. Because the happiness I get from working with children, far outweigh these difficulties.

And I made this sign to show people: I wanted to be a teacher, and I became one because I like this business.

Now that the school is having some problems, when given a hard day, and I tell friends and family, I often hear: "You are to blame. You know where you're going. Why are you complaining". I said, "Guys, I'm not complaining, just a rough day." Yeah, it's hard, but I'm happy, I'm very happy this work.

My father is a former physics teacher, he is now involved in such projects as "the Sharpener of the mind," the mother is a former primary school teacher. I'm with your fifth grade she always helped with her "educated" zero group. And in the ninth grade I was in a very decent school, but didn't want to stay there — do not believe it, I'm sick of the teachers, tortured-taught. And I began to think, where to go — in the culinary or teaching. And as with kids I was good (I have experience as a volunteer was in a therapeutic community Kitez near Smolensk), I decided to go to College.

In College I participated regularly in scientific conferences and seminars, and invited me to work even in high school. But one day I said, look, there is a village school, there will be few people in the class, budget accommodation — you can get away from home, and there will be surcharges as a young professional, working in the Chernobyl zone.

## More on this topic:

"Pay a dollar, but sing a thousand": a monologue of the teacher unvarnished

(As in Russia, in Belarus, the doctors and teachers receive not deserved enough. My salary is \$ 180, and that includes all surcharges).

At first I was worried about having to Malaikah and in Bragin nowhere to go. But I really like the people here — they are sincere. Very popular with the children — they absolutely did not blinkered eyes.

I work at the school for the second year, and I give second year in fourth grade. When it comes to the teacher with their requirements of the students with their habits — the first time there is some opposition, of course. And here, we just think of each other — they are produced from primary school. For the heart it's terribly, you know.

Excursion to nearby village

I have a class of 10 children, but don't immediately say, "Oh, God, how I envy you, it's not 30!" This class is assembled from several villages. For rural children a lot of their problems. For example, parents work in farms and are unable to give children enough attention. In addition, we have the Chernobyl zone, there are a lot of hyperactive children and children with mental disabilities.

A couple of days ago with kids shared recipes that you can make a simple house. Decided how to make scrambled eggs, muffins, potatoes, and after the girls in the class started to tell me how to make pancakes: "Take flour, sugar, water, eggs, yeast..."  
The boy's voice from the last row: "What yeast? You mash doing or pancakes?"

From the online notes of rural teachers

In fourth grade there are three children who still read the syllables — and it is their peculiarity. For comparison, in the same class studying man for forty minutes to learn a poem of four columns. Not all depends on the school, a lot — from parents and innate characteristics. Sorry, we have no school psychologist — we do not put the number of children. We have, therefore, no paramedic.

But the guys who read by syllables — where will they go? I'm with them, on the advice of my mother, I decided to do according to the method of Kushnir's "Learning to read". Going further with them to work or in the classroom to give them other tasks.

To one boy I said, "Listen, buddy, you read very bad. But you really learn poems by heart. If you read the poem, you'll get four (we have a decimal system), and the heart will tell it to the seven". And he actually memorized the poem had to do was read, and received their deserved rating.

Yes, he spends a lot of time, but he tries, and I'm very happy for him.

Open a small secret, which carefully concealed our teachers in primary schools and kindergartens: they are manuals developed in Russia. Though it is officially impossible to do, but they are often better than Belarus. Therefore, we use the official manuals of the Belarusian artists in different experiments of the Russian.

Both here and in Israel, and in Africa in front of the elementary school are facing the same challenges: to teach children to write, to read, to count. And if someone develop lessons better, why not use them?

When I came to work in the school, I had many ideas about what can be changed. But it is very difficult to do in our school with our Ministry of education, which believes that it is not necessary to invent anything new — only to preserve the best of the Soviet system. And in terms of bureaucracy, I think, the Russian and Belarusian education is very similar.

Taped children on notebooks in math the multiplication table, because they do not believe, and all the time peeping. Yesterday I received from girls like this cry from the heart written in her notebook: "table... where's the multiplication table, Anton Anatolyevich?!"

From the online notes of rural teachers

The lessons we have to work within the framework of the textbook. I make comments when I'm trying to study some topics longer than the program. But I think it is very important that each child understand, for example, what is the perimeter of the square! And don't just decide all the tasks from the paragraph.

I just want to be clear with children that they understand and could explain it for me. I don't see this as a problem, but for reporting purposes it is necessary that more were recorded in notebooks.

The first year I have had a difficult relationship with everyone, and all because of youthful maximalism.

Last August, when children weren't in school, I -- my God, I now look back and realize! — I came to work in shorts. Because after College because it is summer. I thought it would be okay. But now I realize that it is unbecoming to walk.

There was another time. Children who went to day care, always bring your homework with errors. I correct them and they offend me and say that it is the teacher in detention said so. I went to this teacher to find out what was the matter, and I still remember this sentence: "Anton A., don't claim to me! Kids will tell you anything!" Now I realize that was wrong. Since then, I have often found errors that made the children working directly with me on the lesson.

I was recently in our district education Department and asked how I was doing. I said, "you, no complaints". To be honest, I didn't even know what they were! But very happy that is no longer a problem

Of course, sometimes I can paroxitine. For example, we have to write certain papers, I understand that I will have to write, but can't do it without a grimace.

We have Patriotic education. In the school curriculum has two subjects — the Belarusian literature and the Belarusian language, which we learn to speak our native move. In music lessons we learn too many songs in the Belarusian language. All children should know the national anthem, we were taught in the beginning of the year. As in any normal country, children need for their country to survive.

Belarusian rural teachers sometimes participate in the economic works. For the half year Anton in the composition of the teaching staff managed to plant forest and disassemble the fence. And this jar of honey went for voluntary help in the construction of greenhouses.

I work in the Belarusian-language school. We have children bilinguals, so we shouldn't reduce the score because they confuse writing letters. If in the Russian language the children write "I" Belarusian, the assessment to reduce not recommended.

Yesterday I replaced the math 8-9 grade, and biology today in the sixth.

The Pythagorean theorem, I remember well, the addition of engines barely matter, but about mushrooms with plants and I, thank you Dawkins, know a lot of things :)

From the online notes of rural teachers

The state assumes the responsibility of all Belarusian children once a year send for rehabilitation in a sanatorium for a period of one month. I worked for several years in the camps, and this year he was in a sanatorium with "their" children from our school. I gave the team a group from second to fifth grade. It was 11 hyperactive children, it was very fun.

A happy childhood without an interactive whiteboard

I managed to pick a fight with the administration because of his views. For example, I allow children to be on different grounds, because I didn't want them all the time to control, wanted to teach them independence. After all, they have what kind of life: school monitor, house monitor, and then the sanatorium — boom! — freedom strikes to the head! The teacher let you go to another Playground! I myself was such. I understand these children.

One of the biggest conflict was whether to get children to eat if they don't want, and ahead of a long tour. I am sure that this can not be done, the administration was convinced that it was necessary. As we tried to find a compromise, forced the kids have not wanted.

On the other hand, the camp was rather the fact that I made a constructive detailed algorithm for children how to walk to the dining room and doing other organizational things. Children were simple and fun to follow it.

It turns out that I somehow constantly find themselves between the living children and strict administrative requirements.

I treat this as my father says: "Formal employment do formally". For example, all this documentation I'm doing it well, but I'm not going to waste precious time to make it perfect.

I hope that future administrations, with whom I still have work to do, we do without conflict, because I am very loving.

Lesson of labor training

Hear from baby: "Between the first and second gap is small". I asked him if he knows what it is. I answered, "say that when you drink vodka". I said, surprised that his speech, like don't use and that don't want to hear this in class, what I heard: "So this is 21st century, so now everything they say you're just old FASHIONED".

From the online notes of rural teachers

We have a relationship with them friendly. I know the child can tell me something interesting. It is sometimes very difficult, but I'm sure they're listening. They like to talk about themselves. And since they are in the village, they have almost every farm house, and almost everyone can tell a story about how they are someone fed, stroked and so on.

**It might be interesting:**

Education as a way of liberation: lessons Babinskoe school

It was very funny when I deliberately told the child that decides an example is correct: "are you sure that's right?" — the child is immediately crossed out and searched the error. But I teach them that the teacher too, can make mistakes, anyone can make mistakes, and if you see the error, we need to speak boldly.

Children, if you believe that it is right — and do it! If you see that the teacher made a mistake, don't be afraid to fix it!

Tanya was ill, because he wrote to me to say Hello. In response, the children were asked to send a picture of us waving to her and supported her.

From the online notes of rural teachers

In that year my first children said: "the City we came from." Even then I couldn't find a key, we had a lot of conflicts. But now we talk, they give me apples to share that they give out in the dining [math homework](#) room.

This year I for the first time with their children went camping. Last week, we played with them in the snow. (They told me so much fired, what did they hate me so much!.. Just kidding, just kidding). We made a huge battle. And I really liked it.

It has its own romance. All last year I drove to work by bike 6 miles each way. I have thousands of photos, as I greet the dawn, as I meet the sunset. Every morning at school the lesson of the sunrise hits the Windows of our class. And every morning I see a huge sun, and sometimes I say to them: look out the window, see how beautiful.

*The article used photos from the personal archive of Gina Anton*