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## **ИНОСТРАННЫЙ ЯЗЫК**

Учебно-методическое пособие

Часть 2

Лексические темы

Рязань  
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Тематика учебно-методического пособия для студентов первого курса всех направлений подготовки в двух частях соответствует требованиям Федерального государственного образовательного стандарта и рабочей программы, служит развитию у студентов навыков работы с текстами разных стилей на иностранном (английском) языке с использованием основных видов чтения (ознакомительное, изучающее, просмотровое и поисковое) в зависимости от коммуникативной задачи.

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## **Введение**

Данное учебно-методическое пособие по-иностранному (английскому) языку является продолжением учебного комплекса по изучению иностранного языка (английского) у студентов первого курса всех специальностей и направлений подготовки.

Лексические темы – это англоязычные тексты, словарь и тренировочные упражнения. Разнообразная тематика, предложенная в учебно-методическом пособии, позволяет студентам не только углубить и закрепить знания, полученные в средней школе, но и научиться вести беседу на иностранном языке на бытовые и специальные темы. Тренировочные упражнения направлены на усвоение студентами основных норм лексики и грамматики и ставят целью развитие навыков опознавания грамматических форм и конструкций в процессе чтения англоязычного текста.

Цель данного учебно-методического пособия – обогатить, закрепить и активизировать словарный запас студентов. Особенность данного учебно-методического пособия состоит в том, что в нем представлены наиболее актуальные и употребительные в современном английском языке темы.

Для закрепления и отработки изученного материала после каждой темы представлены лексические упражнения на закрепление необходимых для понимания слов и выражений.

Студенты могут использовать учебно-методическое пособие как на практических занятиях, так и для самостоятельного изучения.

# **1 About myself**

## **Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

Let me introduce myself. My full name is Victor Andreevich Ivanov. Victor is my first name and Ivanov is my surname. I was born on April, 7, 1990 in Ryazan. I am 17 years old. I am a student of the Ryazan Politecnic Institute (branch) Moscow Politecnic University. This year I finished school number 122.

Certainly I am not married, but I've got a mother and a father. I live in Pusnkin Street with my parents.

My father's name is Andrei Petrovich. He works at a big plant. He is an engineer. He is 47 years old. He is always busy. He has very little free time. My mother's name is Irina Olegovna. She is two years his junior. She is an office worker at the same plant.

I am not the only child in the family. I have got a sister and brother. My sister Kate is 6 years my senior. She doesn't work now. She runs the house and looks after the children. My sister is 23 years old. She is married. She has two daughters- baby twins. I adore my lovely nieces.

My elder brother Oleg is single. But he is engaged. His fiancée Ann (my future sister-in-law) is a student. She is in her final year.

We have a grandmother and a grandfather. They live in the country. I love them very much and often go to see them. My grandmother is retired (from service) and receives an old-age pension. But she is still in good health.

My grandfather has not retired yet. When he has free time he likes to work in the garden. I visit my grandparents from time to time.

We have many relatives. My aunts, uncles and cousins live in different parts of Tatarstan. On holidays they often come to our place. We have a very good time together.

I am always very busy, but when I am free I like to read books. I like to go to the museums and art galleries. I have a lot of friends, but my best friend is Nick. I like to travel. I am on friendly terms with my parents, we are deeply attached to each other and we get on very well.

## **My weekday**

On my weekdays I usually wake up at 7 o'clock in the morning. The alarm-clock rings and I get out of bed. I go to the bathroom. Then I do my morning exercises and get dressed. My breakfast is on the table. Mother has already made it. She gets up earlier and cooks breakfast. After it I leave for school. It takes me ten minutes to get there. My classes start at half past eight. I usually have five or six lessons every day except Saturday and Sunday. By two o'clock I'm free. I go home and have dinner. Usually my friends give me a call and we go for a walk. I like these walks, because we can chat about different things and enjoy the weather. At these moments I feel happy and come home in good spirits. I'm ready to do my homework. I spend about two hours on it. After that I go to the kitchen to make the meal for my

parents. They like it. After work they feel tired and the table on which their meal is ready makes them smile. I like such pleasant moments.

### **Spare time**

Every day I go to university. I get up early, do homework, and have piano lessons twice a week.

But on weekdays I like to do something different. I like to relax. I watch T.V. or videos. If it rains, I prefer indoor activities: to read books or newspapers, to play chess, draughts or table-tennis, to write some letters, to draw, to clean the house.

In winter I like to watch Winter Olympics on T.V. I like to watch ski jumping, hokey and figure skating.

In spring and summer I prefer outdoor activities: to ride a bike, to play volleyball and badminton. I like to go swimming. I like to go boating too. I go fishing and do a lot of photography. Of all outdoor games I prefer tennis. Playing tennis relaxes me.

In autumn I like to go to the cinema, to the theatre, to the concerts, to the library and art exhibitions.

### **My day off**

Most people in our country work five days a week and have two days off but students have only one day off. It is Sunday. I like these days very much. You needn't hurry anywhere. On this day I wake up later than usual. I read morning newspapers or listen to music. As soon as I get up I air the room, make my bed. Then I have breakfast.

Two more hours for getting ready with my homework and I am free. I meet my friends and we discuss our plans together. We may go to the cinema or theatre, to museums or a park. In fine weather we also like to go to the country. We find a nice place somewhere in the forest or on the bank of the river. In winter my friends and I often go to the skating-ring. Skating is my favourite kind of sport, but I like to ski, too.

### **My summer holidays**

I like summer holidays because I have a lot of free time. I never stay in bed long on a bright summer morning. Sometimes my friend and I go to the cinema or to a concert. Sometimes we just play football or badminton in the yard.

Every summer I go to the country to stay with my grandmother for a week or two. I help Granny to work in the kitchen garden or to look after chickens and ducks. I like to go to the beach in the morning when it is not too hot. I swim and play with my friends on the bank of the river. Summer holidays are never too long for me.

### **Exercise 2. Vocabulary:**

- 1) full name – полное имя;
- 2) to be ... years senior/junior – быть на ... лет старше/моложе;
- 3) office worker – служащий;

- 4) to run the house – вести хозяйство;
- 5) to look after the children – смотреть за детьми;
- 6) twin-daughters – близнецы/дочери-близнецы;
- 7) niece – племянница;
- 8) nephew – племянник;
- 9) elder brother – старший брат;
- 10) to be engaged – быть помолвленным;
- 11) fiancé (e) – жених, невеста;
- 12) to be retired – быть на пенсии;
- 13) to receive = to get – получать;
- 14) old-age pension – пенсия по старости;
- 15) to be in good health – хорошо себя чувствовать;
- 16) relative – родственник;
- 17) friendly terms – дружеские отношения.

**Exercise 3. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. What is your name? Your surname?
2. How old are you?
3. Have you got a family?
4. Is your family large?
5. Do you have parents?
6. When do they live?
7. What are they?
8. Where do they work?
9. What year student are you?
10. Why did you decide to study at our Institute?
11. When will you graduate from the Institute?
12. Do you have sisters and brothers?
13. Do you have grandparents?
14. Are they old?
15. Where do they live?
16. Do they get an old-age pension?
17. Do you have any other relatives?
18. Do you spend a lot of time with your family?

**Exercise 4. Read the dialogue and fill the gaps with words:** responsible, positive traits, reliable, extrovert, characteristics, appearance, judge, personality, introvert, remind, demerits, sense of humor, impatient, improve.

Natali: Ok, Leslie. So, what can you say about yourself?

Leslie: About my appearance or character?

Natali: Let's start with your .... What could you say about your outer look?

Leslie: I'm rather tall and thin. People say that I'm slim and attractive. I've got long dark straight hair, light complexion and big brown eyes. I guess that's it.

Natali: Ok. And, how would you describe your ...? Are you extroverted or introverted?

Leslie: Should I describe myself the way I see it or how others see me?

Natali: You can describe your personal traits from both angles.

Leslie: I think that I'm a mixture of ... and .... I see myself as an introvert, my friends think that I'm an extrovert. I like socializing, going to parties, meeting new people. At the same time, I like being alone. My friends think I'm an easy-going and friendly person. I think I'm sometimes difficult to be around, because I'm a rather independent person.

Natali: I see. How about some other ...? How else could you describe yourself? Натали: Понятно.

Leslie: I think I'm ... a and ... person. I'm almost never late. If I promise something I try to keep my promises. Some of friends trust me to babysit their little children which is a good sign.

Natali: What other ... do you have?

Leslie: I have a good ... and I can sometimes make my friends laugh. I'm also a good interlocutor. People can talk to me about different topics.

Natali: Do you have any...? If yes, could you please list them?

Leslie: I think all humans have some good and bad traits and I'm no exception. I can be ... sometimes. I get very excited at first but it's very hard for me to finish things that I start. I also have high expectations. I sometimes expect too much from other people and I want them to be perfect, which is impossible, of course.

Natali: I see. It's good that you realize that. How do you try to ... your demerits?

Leslie: I just ... myself about them from time to time and try to finish what I've started. I also try to ... people less strictly.

## **Exercise 5. Make up a summary and go on speaking about yourself.**

### **2 Hobby. Holiday**

#### **Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

#### **My hobby**

A hobby is an activity that someone does for pleasure when they are not working. Moreover, a hobby is the person's interest and preference that reflects his inner world. Through hobbies people realize the need for development and creativity.

There are many interesting things that can be people's hobbies. Some people discover their talent in playing musical instruments, singing or painting. People

fascinated by sports find it in football, tennis or ice-skating etc. There are also some options for calm people e.g. collecting things or making models.

As for me I have always been a very energetic person and have always had plenty of hobbies. I was interested in sports, especially volleyball and tennis. I collected stickers, toys and coins, had painting and language lessons, took part in a choir. Nevertheless, my deepest passion was always dancing. When I first came to the training I was so charmed by my coach and got so inspired that I started spending two hours three times a week there. I think it was the perfect hobby for my body and my soul. I have learned how to express myself through the body movements.

At the current moment, I suppose that my hobby is English. It's not only the process of learning the language for me. I like listening to English songs, watching videos and movies in original, visiting speaking clubs and communicating with native speakers. I admire the culture of English-speaking countries and I'm interested in everything that is connected with it. I have lessons three times a week and I love my group and the teacher. She makes the process of studying so exciting.

Thus, I believe that the keyword in a hobby definition is "pleasure". My hobby brings me a lot of pleasure and satisfaction. I feel my progress and it's the best motivation to go ahead.

### **At the cinema**

I like to go to the cinema. When I have free time I always go to see some new film. When I want to go to the cinema I usually look in the programme what films are on. Then I phone my friends and we discuss what films to see. We prefer feature films but also enjoy cartoons and popular science films. To see a good love story, musical or detective film is a very pleasant way of spending free time.

There are many talented actors and actresses in our country. They play different parts in many films and I enjoy it. I also like to watch foreign films. My mother and my grandparents prefer to see old films which are still enjoy great popularity.

### **Exercise 2. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. Do you have enough free time?
2. Do you like to watch movies?
3. How do you spend your free time?
4. What did you do last summer vacation?
5. If you had more free time, what would you do with it?
6. Tell me about some good places to hang out.
7. What are your hobbies?
8. How long have you had your hobby?
9. Did you have any hobbies when you were a child?
10. How long have you had your hobby?

### **Exercise 3. Read and translate.**

#### **Holiday**

Different people do different things during their holiday. In summer some people, mostly women, will want to take a cottage near a river or at the seaside and

spend many hours on the beach. Others prefer to stay at a hotel because they don't want to have anything to do with<sup>1</sup> landlords or have to do the cooking<sup>2</sup> during a holiday.

But many men and women say this isn't good enough for them. They have their own idea of how best to spend a holiday – hiking for some, riding on a bicycle or in a car for others. Camping has become a popular way of spending a holiday.

This is what three Englishmen say about their idea of a good holiday.

**Peter:** The best holiday I've ever had was a camping holiday. I've always had a love of the countryside and nature. Life in most towns gets more and more noisy and unpleasant<sup>3</sup> but even near such big cities as London there are large areas of beautiful and quiet countryside. You can always put up your tent<sup>4</sup> in some place where there are few people. The weather, of course, is a problem. Nobody likes camping in heavy rain<sup>5</sup>. But when the weather is good there's nothing like it<sup>6</sup>.

**John:** I believe that many people miss a lot because they have wrong ideas about cycling. Riding a cycle you can cover great distances and enjoy the nature around you. Unlike a car a bicycle is silent<sup>7</sup>, and that makes it possible for you to enjoy the many sounds of nature. Don't you believe people who say that cycling is hard work? For every uphill there is a downhill<sup>8</sup>. Cycling is certainly one of the easiest ways of becoming fit in the shortest possible time<sup>9</sup> and you can do it from seven to seventy<sup>10</sup>.

**Marry:** My first skiing holiday was the best holiday I've ever had. Some people think skiing is very expensive. But they are wrong. You needn't spend more than you usually spend on a holiday in summer. The peace and full rest from noise, from the usual routine of everyday life<sup>11</sup> are there for all who want to enjoy it. The countryside is lovely in winter and on sunny days the snow on the mountains and hills is very beautiful and the air is very fresh. A skiing holiday is a very healthy holiday<sup>12</sup>.

#### **Exercise 4. Read and translate. Pay attention to the highlighted words.**

1 Do you often wear your **holiday clothes**? 2 Open all the windows and **air** the rooms. 3 He says he doesn't like to travel by **air**. 4 He must be in Tokyo on Monday and **air** is the only way to do it in time. 5 Would you like a cup of **fresh tea**? 6 That day is still **fresh** in my memory. 7 It's difficult to understand the **nature** of his illness. 8 We give a guest **the freedom of the house**. 9 The city **covered** twenty square miles. 10 This book needs a new **cover**. 11 There is a **possibility** that the train may be late. 12 I'm sure he'll never do anything **behind your back**.

#### **Exercise 5. Read the dialogue and answer the questions after it.**

Stephan: Nadya, do you have any plans for the weekend?

Nadya: Yes, I'm going to walk in the central park and to take pictures of surrounding nature.

Stephan: Is that how you like spending your free time?

Nadya: Yes, photography is one of my recent hobbies. I especially like taking pictures of trees and flowers, animals and birds. Apart from that, I like spending my weekends watching my favorite sitcom and reading some detective stories.

Stephan: Sounds interesting. I also like detective stories. Who is your favorite author?

Nadya: Agatha Christie. Most of all I like reading her stories about Miss Marple.

Stephan: I see. You've also mentioned watching some soaps. Which ones do you like most?

Nadya: When I have free time, I enjoy watching the sitcom called «Friends».

Stephan: If I'm not mistaken, my sister also watches it. Her favorite character is Ross. I should watch this film sometimes too.

Nadya: Yes, you should. You'll simply love it. By the way, what are your hobbies?

Stephan: Well, one of my favorite activities is playing tennis. Twice a week I go to the local court to play with my trainer. So, I can say that tennis is my regular hobby. Usually, at weekends I listen to good music and read fantastic stories.

Nadya: Which fantastic stories do you read?

Stephan: Most of the time I read Stephen King's books.

Nadya: I see. I tried to read one of his books, but to be honest I didn't like it.

Stephan: It depends, you know. Perhaps, it was a horror story. I also don't like them, but his fantasy is quite good. I especially like The Dark Tower series.

1. Do you have any plans for the weekend? 2. How do you like spending your free time? 3. Do you like reading books? 4. What are your favorite authors and genres? 5. Do you like watching films and serials? 6. What are your favorite films? 7. Are you going in for sport? 8. What kind of sport do you prefer?

**Exercise 6. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Hobby. Holiday»**

### **3 Healthy way of life. Sport**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

#### **Healthy way of life**

It is widely known that life expectancy is increasing. But the reason why the average figures are higher than they used to be, say, hundred years ago is not that all people live longer than before. One reason is that, due to medical research, many illnesses were eliminated; the second one is that fewer people die in wars. Generally, the life of modern man is endangered by many factors. One is the increasing pollution of the environment by industry and transport; another one is sedentary lifestyle of people living in cities and towns, that is, the majority of the population of the planet. The third one is the quality of food we eat and water we drink which results in a lot of diseases. The fourth one is that living in big cities leads to epidemics. Unhealthy life results in the fact that many people are overweight.

The only possible way of preserving your health is, therefore, healthy way of life which includes keeping fit, balanced meals, and giving up unhealthy habits like smoking, drinking alcohol, and, of course, drugs.

Physical fitness is a general state of good physical health. For anyone who really wants to be healthy, fitness has become an integral part of their lives. The fitness boom resulted in a rise in the numbers of people participating in sports and sports activities. It is a well-known fact that even moderate physical activity can protect you from heart diseases and strokes, obesity and influenza.

There are many ways of keeping fit. Firstly, you could visit health and fitness clubs. A lot of health and fitness clubs, public leisure centers, huge indoor water parks are very popular among people of all ages. Secondly, regular exercise is necessary. People of different ages can choose or design exercises that will fit them. Some people do aerobics or yoga; others prefer weight training in a gym. Many people prefer walking or jogging which are the cheapest and most accessible sports. Doing some sport or other on a regular basis is the best way of keeping fit. In Russia a number of sports activities are popular among the old and the young: football, swimming, cycling, skiing, skating, fishing, hunting, roller-skating, etc. Mass running competitions gain popularity with Russians. City marathons have become sporting events reported on the radio, television and in the press.

A healthy diet is an important part of staying healthy, too. This diet contains reduced amounts of cholesterol, fat, sugar and salt. It helps protect our body from a wide range of diseases; the most dangerous are heart diseases, liver diseases, and cancer.

To stay healthy one must, of course, abstain from smoking. Everybody knows smoking is hazardous for your health and can lead to fatal diseases like cancer. Smoking should undoubtedly be banned in all public places.

### **Exercise 2. Find words and expressions in the text:**

- 1) средняя продолжительность жизни;
- 2) устранять;
- 3) угрожать;
- 4) загрязнение окружающей среды;
- 5) сидячий образ жизни;
- 6) большинство;
- 7) качество;
- 8) болезни;
- 9) избыточный вес;
- 10) сохранить здоровье;
- 11) поддержание физической формы;
- 12) сбалансированная еда;
- 13) неотъемлемая часть;
- 14) умеренная физическая активность;
- 15) ожирение;
- 16) физические упражнения;
- 17) бег трусцой;
- 18) завоевывать популярность;
- 19) воздерживаться;
- 20) опасный;
- 21) запрещать.

### **Exercise 3. Restore the correct order in the sentences:**

1. (is endangered by many factors), (the increasing pollution of the environment), (the life of modern man) (such as), (the quality of food), (sedative lifestyle), (and so on).

2. (keeping fit), (balanced meals), (healthy way of life), (and giving up unhealthy habits), (includes).

3. (physical fitness), (an integral part), (has become), (of many people's lives).

4. (to keep fit), (health and fitness clubs), (you may visit), (indoor water parks), (or just do regular exercise), (public leisure centers).

5. (reduced amounts of cholesterol), (and protects our body from), (fat, sugar and salt), (a wide range of diseases), (a healthy diet contains), (including heart diseases, liver disease and cancer).

#### **Exercise 4. Read and translate.**

### **Sport**

People all over the world are fond of sports and games. Sport makes people healthy, keeps them fit, more organized and better disciplined. It unites people of different classes and nationalities. Many people do sports on their personal initiative. They go in for skiing, skating, table tennis, swimming, volley-ball, football, body-building, etc. All necessary facilities are provided for them: stadiums, sports grounds, swimming pools, skating rinks, skiing stations, football fields. Sport is paid much attention to in our educational establishments. Gymnastics is a part of children's daily activities in the kindergartens. Physical culture is a compulsory subject at schools and colleges. Professional sport is also paid much attention to in our country. In city, where I live, there are different sporting societies, clubs and complexes. Practically all kinds of sports are popular in our country, but football, gymnastics and tennis enjoy the greatest popularity. As for me, I go in for table tennis (ping-pong). It needs mobility, liveliness and much energy. It keeps a person in a good form. I have been playing tennis for five years, but the more I play, the more I like it. I get a real Joy taking part in competitions or simply playing with my friends. Sometimes, I go to tennis courts. Certainly, there's a great distance between my manner of playing and such favorites as Jim Courier, Stephan Edberg, Pete Sampras, Boris Becker, Per Korda, but I do my training with great pleasure and hope to play as well as our best players do.

#### **Exercise 5. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. Why are people all over the world fond of sports and games?
2. What necessary facilities are provided for people?
3. What kinds of sports are popular in our country?
4. What is your favourite kind of sport? Why?

#### **Exercise 6. Restore the order of the sentences in the dialogue and read it.**

George: I used to go to the gym as well two years ago. I did mainly weight training. It helped me to build up the muscles.

George: Hi, Nika. How are you? I haven't seen you for ages.

George: I didn't have a good company and it felt boring to go there every day all alone.

George: With pleasure. Tomorrow morning, I will go with you. It isn't difficult when you have a partner like you.

George: I'm also well. By the way, you look great.

George: Sounds interesting. What do you do at the gym?

Nika: Well, every day is different. For example, on Mondays and Wednesdays I attend the aerobics class. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, I do yoga. On Friday I do just a few simple exercises. At weekend I relax.

Nika: Hi, George. I'm fine, thank you. And you?

Nika: Thanks. I've started attending the gym recently and it feels great.

Nika: I see. You can join me if you want. I think there is a special room at this gym for weight training.

Nika: Why did you give up then?

Nika: I'm also happy to have someone who will accompany me to the gym.

**Exercise 7. Fill in the gaps in the sentences with the following words:** swimming, probably, develop, jogging, sports and games, walking, regular, health, suffer, sportsman.

Sport is ... as old as the humanity itself. All over the world people of different ages are very fond of .... Sport not only helps people to become strong and to ... physically but also makes them more organized and better disciplined in their daily life. Sport helps people to keep in good .... We all need do exercises. Even if you don't plan to become a famous ..., you still have to practice. ... exercises give you more energy. That is why many people who ... from illnesses should take more exercises. The best ones are ..., ... or ... .

**Exercise 8. Find 13 words on the topic "Sport". Words are arranged vertically (you can read from above and below) and horizontally (you can read from right to left and left to right):**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G | N | I | W | O | R | O | M | Y | P |
| V | S | D | C | R | I | C | K | E | T |
| O | G | O | L | F | H | U | T | K | E |
| A | S | A | I | L | I | N | G | C | N |
| S | W | I | M | M | I | G | Y | O | N |
| L | L | A | B | T | O | O | F | H | I |
| E | S | K | I | I | N | G | J | W | S |
| Q | I | Z | N | G | N | I | X | O | B |
| G | Y | B | G | U | R | A | K | R | L |
| A | T | H | L | E | T | I | C | S | V |

**Exercise 9. Complete the sentences with the words:** captain, coach, draw, fair, football ground (or pitch), footballer, fouls, free (or penalty) kick, goal, kick-off, league, opponents, referee, score, soccer, gate.

1. What Europeans call "football", Americans call \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The instructor of the team is the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. When you play in a football team you are a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The games take place on a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The leader of the team is the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The man in the \_\_\_\_\_ is the goal-keeper.
7. The beginning of the match is the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. During the match each team tries to \_\_\_\_\_ as many goals as possible.
9. When the teams have scored the same number of goals we say it's a \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The players of the other team are the \_\_\_\_\_.
11. The man who enforces the rules during the game is the \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Playing correctly is called \_\_\_\_\_ play.
13. Unfair moves are called \_\_\_\_\_.
14. When a player breaks the rules the other team may get a \_\_\_\_\_.
15. A federation of football clubs is called a football \_\_\_\_\_.

**Exercise 10. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Healthy way of life. Sport».**

#### **4 Learning foreign languages**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate. Paraphrase the underlined expressions in English.**

The problem of learning languages is very important today. Foreign languages are socially demanded especially at the present time when the progress in science and technology has led to an explosion of knowledge and has contributed to an overflow of information. The total knowledge of mankind is known to double every seven years. Foreign languages are needed as the main and the most efficient means of information exchange of the people of our planet.

Today English is the language of the world. Over 300 million people speak it as a mother tongue. The native speakers of English live in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America. English is one of the official languages in the Irish Republic, Canada and the South African Republic. As a second language it is used in the former British and US colonies.

English is not only the national or official language of some thirty states, which represent different cultures, but it is also the major international language of communication in such areas as science, technology, business and mass entertainment. English is one of the official languages of the United Nations Organization and other political organizations. It is the language of literature, education, modern music, and international tourism.

Russia is integrating into the world community and the problem of learning English for the purpose of communication is especially urgent today.

So far there is no universal or ideal method of learning languages. Everybody has his own way. Sometimes it is boring to study grammar or to learn new words. But it is well known that reading books in the original, listening to the BBC news, communicating with the English-speaking people will help a lot. When learning a foreign language, you learn the culture and history of the native speakers. One must work hard to learn any foreign language.

For example, if you go to England you'll be able to speak English there. If you go to the USA, you'll speak English too. English is used not only in England, but also in other parts of the world.

Knowing English, you can read foreign literature in the original, such English and American writers as Charles Dickens, Mark Twain, Lewis Carroll and others.

It is difficult to visit countries, when you don't know the language of these countries. If you know the language of the country, where you are going to it will be easy to travel there. If you want to ask something, you can do it in English. Knowing English, you'll be able to read English newspapers and magazines. Knowledge of foreign languages helps young people of different countries to understand each other, to develop friendship among them.

You can see a lot of advertisements, signboards, and names in the streets. They are in foreign languages. Very often they are in English. If you know English, you can read and understand them. Now we buy many clothes from other countries. If you know English well, you can read something about the size of this or that thing. It is clear for you what it is made of. There are a lot of films in foreign languages. If you know them, you can understand films without any help.

There are international friendship camps in the world. If you can speak foreign languages, it will be easy for you to visit such camps and speak with the boys, girls, men, women who do not know Russian.

On the other hand, we should not forget the cultural value of our native language. It's a pity that many young people in order to make a fortune choose a foreign language for communication and leave their identity behind. That results in language extinction and this process takes place nearly everywhere in the world.

According to various linguists, half of the world's languages will die out during the next century. On the one hand, it's not bad as people's communication will become easier, but on the other hand, language extinction is a disaster because it reduces the diversity of our planet which is the key to our survival.

Nowadays English is the most popular foreign language in Russia. If you know English, you can get a better job, more money and people will respect you more. Some students think that being able to communicate is the most important in learning a language and they do not care that they make many mistakes in speaking. Language learner should be concerned with both communicating and accuracy.

To sum up, I believe that knowledge of foreign languages helps to make a person educated and well-rounded. It is not only the language that counts but also the fact that it is a way of getting to know different cultures. You can't broaden your mind if you see the world only from the perspective of your own culture.

**Exercise 2. Choose the right sentences.**

1.

Besides learning foreign languages helps us to gains a better appreciation of our own language.

Besides learning foreign languages helps us to gain a better appreciation of our own language.

Besides learning foreign languages help us to gain a better appreciation of our own language.

2.

If you know English, you can get a better job, more money and people will not respect you more.

If you know English, you can get a better job, more money and people will respect you more.

If you know English, you cannot get a better job, more money and people will respect you more.

3.

English is also very useful when you travel abroad.

English was also very useful when you travel abroad.

English is also very useful when you travel abroad.

**Exercise 3. Choose the phrases so that you get a dialogue between Diana and Julia. Diana's responses are in the correct order.**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Diana: Hi, Julia. How are you?  | a. Julia: Yes, we are. We are going to live in our pen friends' houses. The good thing is that we get to have lots of speaking practice while we stay in French families. Apart from that, we will go to the French school every day. I hope such training will help me to improve my poor pronunciation. |
| 2. Diana: I'm also well, thanks. How is your foreign languages' learning going?                                  | b. Julia: You can join me at my foreign languages' classes anytime.   |
| 3. Diana: What languages do you study?   | c. Julia: I study English and French. English is for my career development and French is for pleasure.  |
| 4. Diana: I remember that you had certain difficulties with French grammar and French pronunciation. How is your | d. Julia: Hi, Diana. I'm fine, thank you. And you?  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| progress?  |   |
| 5. Diana: Are you going to attend the lessons of French there? | e. Julia: The teacher of French is rather experienced. I understand everything he explains. However, the problem with my pronunciation still exists. He says I will do much better if I visit France and chat with native speakers. |
| 6. Diana: Sounds interesting. I'd like to join you.            | f. Julia: Great. I really like the classes. Our teachers tell us lots of interesting things every day.  |

**Exercise 4. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Learning foreign languages».**

## **5 Computer and Internet in our life**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate. Fill in the gaps in the text with the following words:** world, write, security, owners, games computers, controlled by computers, unfriendly, communicate, saving money, technology, predict, ordinary life, addicts, Network, solving, e-mail, control.

When Charles Babbage, a professor of Mathematics at Cambridge university, invented the first calculating machine in 1812 he couldn't imagine the situation we find ourselves in today. Nearly everything we do in the world is helped, or even..., the complicated descendants of his simple machine. Computers are used more and more often in the ...today. They have much better memories and they can store much information. No man alive can do 500000 sums in one second, but a computer can. In fact, computers can do many of the things we do, but faster and better. They can .....weather, and ever play chess, ...poetry or compose music.

About one in three hundred computer ... spend almost all their time using... . Ninety-six per cent of them are males of all ages. All of them spend an average of twenty hours per week on home computers. The majority of the adults also use computers at work. All the computer ... are very intelligent. They have been interested in science and ... from a very early age and they are usually very shy people who like being alone. Using computers gives them confidence. They love debugging and ... problems, develop programs and love learning programming languages. They learnt to ... with other users through computer networks and the people they met in school and work think of them as experts who could help and advise when they had problems with their machines. Very few computer addicts play computer games, but many people use a computer exclusively for games. Some parents worry about computer ... because they think their children won't be able to communicate with real people in the real world. But parents do not need to worry.

According to research computer addicts usually do well after they have left school. Parents also do not need to worry that computer addiction will make their children become ... and unable to communicate with people.

The Internet has already entered our... . Everybody knows that the Internet is a global computer..., which embraces hundred of millions of users all over the world and helps us to communicate with each other.

Nowadays one of the most popular Internet service is... . Most of the people use the network only for sending and receiving e-mail messages. They can do it either they are at home or in the internet clubs or at work.

In many countries, the Internet could provide businessmen with a reliable, alternative to the expensive and unreliable telecommunications systems its own system of communications. Commercial users can communicate cheaply over the Internet with the rest of the world. When they send e-mail messages, they only have to pay for phone calls to their local service providers, not for international calls around the world, when you pay a good deal of money. But ... is only the first step and not the last one. There is a commercial use of this network and it is drastically increasing. Now you can work through the internet, gambling and playing through the net.

However, there are some problems. The most important problem is... . When you send an e-mail, your message can travel through many different networks and computers. The data is constantly being directed towards its destination by special computers called routers. Because of this, it is possible to get into any of the computers along the route, intercept and even change the data being sent over the Internet. There are many encoding programs available. But these programs are not perfect and can easily be cracked.

Another big and serious problem of the net is... . Yes, there is no effective control in the Internet, because a huge amount of information circulating through the net. It is like a tremendous library and market together. In the future, the situation might change, but now we have what we have. It could be expressed in two words – an anarchist's dream.

**Exercise 2. Find the words in the text:** предсказывать, владелец, мужчина, наука, уверенность, устранять ошибки, давать совет, общаться, повседневная жизнь, глобальная сеть, охватывать, обеспечивать, надежный, платить, безопасность, расстояние, маршрут, доступный, рынок.

**Exercise 3. Read the dialogue by role. Make up a similar dialogue on the topic.**

Andy: Tell me Ross, how often do you use the Internet?

Ross: Rather often, I'd say. I use it every day, because I need to check my e-mail, to read the news, to chat with friends. Why are you asking anyway?

Andy: I'm trying to make a survey with answers about the Internet and its frequency of use. Do you mind being one of my respondents?

Ross: No, not at all. What other questions are on your list?

Andy: What type of information do you usually search for?

Ross: I search for anything that's concerned my studies. I need lots of new information for doing my homework.

Andy: How about music? Do you use the Internet to listen to music?

Ross: Yes, of course. I always listen to online radio. Moreover, I sometimes surf the Internet for song lyrics.

Andy: Do you read books or magazines online?

Ross: I don't read magazines that much, but e-books are definitely useful.

Andy: Do you use social networks or chats? If yes, then what for?

Ross: Of course. I have lots of friends in social networks. I like chatting with them, exchanging music, postcards and simply interesting or funny information. I don't use various chat. In my opinion, social networks are handier for that. Sometimes I use skype, when I want to talk to friends or relatives, who currently live in other countries.

Andy: Do you use online dictionaries?

Ross: Yes, I sometimes do. Online dictionaries save lots of time and effort.

Andy: Could you live a day without the Internet?

Ross: My answer is no. I think that nowadays nearly everyone is addicted to this computer tool. All people have computers or laptops in their houses and they definitely use the Internet every day. I am not an exception.

Andy: I see. Thanks for helping me. Now I have enough information for my survey.

Ross: You're welcome!

**Exercise 4. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Computer and Internet in our life».**

## **6 Youth problems**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate. Fill in the gaps in the text with the following words:** adults, money, preferences, misunderstanding, future, fashionable, society, soul, drugs, independence, mutual, murders.

What are the main youth problems? Everyone knows and at the same time none knows. As sand through fingers – youth problems are always changing. All our failures depend on us. Imagine your life without money, can you do that? No fancy clothes, no fashionable clubs, no entertainments, no troubles. Americans say «No mass – no fuss» in such case. Don't you think teenagers depend on money greatly? They are obsessed on their appearance, they need to be clothed ... and in modern style. Some of them, who are lacking ... prefer to wear jeans and plain clothes, this is their way out. The fashion industry is based on some youth ..., there is a kind of business in producing special clothes and accessories for teens, Kira Plastinina, for example. Young try to do their best in getting labeled and fancy stuff; they are really crazy about such things. External life may force out their spiritual life, and that are dangerous circumstances. May be young should pay more attention to their inside world, to develop their selves.

Another youth problem is ... understanding in their families. It's hardly believable situation when a teen feel comfortable with his relatives, even in a tight-bonded family. Parents want them to be serious, to study hard and to think about their ..., but rare senior could understand teen's ... . In past life grown-ups were the same teens, but they don't remember that state. Our parents were hippies, and they struggled for their personal ..., just like us! But things change, tastes grow differ and differ, and we can't understand each other, we lose the connection.

We all know the moral disaster of being misunderstood. Try harder – and you'll make friends with your relatives. Sometimes young fall apart with their families and begin to take ..., alcohol. That is not the reaction on the emotional environment, that is the reflection of tortured inside world. Drug addicts are spread all over the world, but in their majority they are young people. Junkies had to steal money or jewelry from their houses, to get the drug. It is obviously damaged way. Normally up-brought youth avoid junkies.

Today it is fashionable to speak about teenage problems. A few years ago alcohol, fights,... and other kinds of violence were more problems of adults rather than young people. But now, as official reports admit, violence, AIDS, drugs and alcohol are more and more associated with youngest. For many children from poor families violence, drinking problems and all that is associated with poverty becomes more and more real. The Government surveys show that every fifth teenager who was arrested for criminal actions, was younger than 14 and couldn't be sent to prison. Almost half of teenagers have an experience with drugs, alcohol and sex under age of 16. A lot of teenagers who have drug or alcohol addiction almost never believe that they are dependent. These things are often combined with family and school problems.

What has gone wrong? Some specialists explain that the changes of our ..., the system of our life force young people to choose their own lifestyle. On the one hand, our society agrees that 15-17-years old people are old enough to be responsible for what they do and gives them quite a lot of freedom and rights. On the other hand, most ... think that teenagers are too young to be taken seriously. This ... has produced many problems. Actually, a lot of teenagers say that their parents let them do anything they want and are quite indifferent to their problems. Many teenagers get upset or depressed when they can't solve their problems. As a result, it makes them believe that there is only one way out – to stop living and commit suicide. No doubt, the teens' problems will increase. And young people should feel that they are cared about.

**Exercise 2. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. What do you think about these problems?
2. In what ways can we change the situation?
3. Do you have your own experience in dealing with difficult teenagers?
4. How do you think to raise a child to avoid drug, alcohol and many other such problems in the future?

**Exercise 3. Read and translate these phrases. Make up your dialogue with your partner using these words.**

Urgent, important, serious, awful, shocking, difficult to solve, family problems, personal problems, school problems, violence, cruelty, drug addiction, drinking problems, poverty, discrimination, loneliness.

**Exercise 4. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Youth problems».**

## **7 Ecological problems**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

Since ancient times Nature has served Man, being the source of his life. For thousands of years people lived in harmony with environment and it seemed to them that natural riches were unlimited. But with the development of civilization man's interference in nature began to increase.

Large cities with thousands of smoky industrial enterprises appear all over the world today. The by-products of their activity pollute the air we breathe, the water we drink, the land we grow grain and vegetables. Every year world industry pollutes the atmosphere with about 1000 million tons of dust and other harmful substances. Many cities suffer from smog. Vast forests are cut and burn in fire. Their disappearance upsets the oxygen balance. As a result, some rare species of animals, birds, fish and plants disappear forever, a number of rivers and lakes dry up.

The pollution of air and the world's ocean, destruction of the ozone layer is the result of man's careless interaction with nature, a sign of ecological crises.

The most horrible ecological disaster befell Belarus and its people in the result of the Chernobyl tragedy in April 1986. About 18 per cent of the territory of Belarus was polluted with radioactive substances. A great damage has been done to the republic's agriculture, forests and people's health. The consequences of this explosion at the atomic power-station are tragic for the Belarusian nation.

Environmental protection is a universal concern. That is why serious measures to create a system of ecological security should be taken.

Some progress has been already made in this direction. As many as 159 countries – members of the UNO – have set up environmental protection agencies. Numerous conferences have been held by these agencies to discuss questions of ecologically poor regions including the Aral Sea, the South Urals, Kuzbass, Donbass, Semipalatinsk and Chernobyl. The international environmental research centre has been set up on Lake Baikal. The international organization Greenpeace is also doing much to preserve the environment. But these are only the initial steps and they must be carried forward to protect nature, to save life on the planet not only the sake of the present but also for the future generations.

**Exercise 2. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. Is nature the source of people's life?
2. For thousands of years people lived in harmony with nature, didn't they?
3. Has man's interference in nature increased with the development of civilization? What has it led to?
4. Why did some species of animals, birds, plants disappear from the Earth?
5. What is the result of man's careless interaction with nature?
6. What do you know about the Chernobyl ecological disaster?
7. What are the consequences of this tragedy?
8. Environmental protection is a universal concern of everyone, isn't it?

### **Exercise 3. Read and translate.**

## **Pollution Solutions**

### **Air Care**

Worldwide, the stinky problem of pollution has grown. More and more factories, cars and trucks add their bad breath to the air. But the battle against air pollution is also growing. Many countries are making laws against air pollution. And scientists are looking for ways to make factories and cars run cleaner.

### **Cleaner Rain?**

Chemicals called sulfates puff out of coal-burning factories around the world. When the sulfates mix with clouds, acid rain falls and harms lakes, rivers and plants – and the creatures that need them. Also, the wind blows the air around. So, sulfates can fall as acid rain many miles away. The good news is that many countries are working to end acid rain. Scientists are figuring out ways to make coal burn more cleanly.

### **Dirty Water?**

Nearly half of the lakes in our land are polluted. Often, companies dump chemical wastes into water. But scientists are finding a solution to this problem, too. Some rivers have been made much cleaner. And there are big plans to clean up different bodies of water.

### **Poisons in Food**

Farmers often spray chemicals on crops to protect them against pests. These chemicals are called pesticides. Scientists have found that pesticides often end up in our food. Pesticides can cause health problems – especially for kids.

### **Cleaner Cars**

Cars are the world's biggest air polluters. But scientists are trying to invent cars that pollute less. Farmers in Illinois are trying a fuel in their tractors made from soybeans. And there are electric minivans being used in at least six U.S. cities.

### Trash

Each person in our world throw away about four pounds (1.8 kg) of trash daily. About 1/3 of this waste comes from packaging. Today some companies have begun to use less packaging. And a lot of cities have started recycling projects. In these ways we've begun making less trash. Everyone should look at what they throw away and try to throw away less.

#### Exercise 4. Match the words from column A with the words from column

**B:**

| Column A    | Column B                     |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| 1 stinky    | a) to throw down, unload.    |
| 2 sulfate   | b) insect, bug               |
| 3 acid rain | c) bad smell                 |
| 4 pest      | d) sulfate mixed with clouds |
| 5 single    | e) one                       |
| 6 dump      | f) a chemical                |

#### Exercise 5. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.

1. What causes air pollution?
2. What does acid rain harm?
3. Where do some companies dump their chemical waste?
4. Why do farmers spray chemicals on crops?
5. Where does about 1/3 of the trash come from?
6. Why do you think recycling programs are important?
7. Is there a lot of trash in our town?
8. What do you think you should do to protect the environment?

#### Exercise 6. Read the dialogue by role. Pay special attention to the highlighted words.

Sibylla: What are you reading so absorbedly, Glenn?

Glenn: It's a booklet about environmental protection and the use of recycling. You should read it too. There is lots of useful information.

Sibylla: I see. That's an interesting issue. I'm used to recycling plastic bottles, but what else can we recycle?

Glenn: Nearly everything. All items can be recycled for further creation of new products. Basically, the old and unwanted materials are put into new use instead of just throwing away.

Sibylla: I didn't know about that. For me, recycling simply meant the reduction in the size of landfills.

Glenn: For example, paper recycling alone saves millions of trees. As we save trees from chopping, we save lots of wild animals, whose habitat is the forest or jungle.

Sibylla: Now, I understand. In that sense I fully support recycling. I don't like that many animals become extinct. Last month I even participated in a campaign against animal testing.

Glenn: Unfortunately, most people don't care about nature problems. I found an article in the magazine about various types of pollution, their harm and ways of avoidance. I can speak for hours about this topic. When it comes to pollution, the main source of harm is technological progress and factory tests. Modern factories throw into the environment so much waste that many sea animals die, people get sick, wildlife suffers.

Sibylla: What other types of environmental pollution do you know, except the air and water pollution?

Glenn: I know there exist noise and light pollution. There are also visual and thermal types of pollution. We speak about visual pollution, when numerous skyscrapers block the natural view. They make the cities look dull without enough sunlight in the streets. Excessive billboards are also considered to cause visual pollution. Thermal pollution can be caused by nearby manufacturers, when they pump warm and dirty water into natural water bodies.

Sibylla: That's a rather complex topic. I'm sure that many people in the town are just like me – illiterate in terms of environmental problems. So, they'd interested to learn something new.

Glenn: I am agreed with you. It will be an interesting lecture.

### **Exercise 7. What is the Russian for.**

environmental protection, use of recycling, landfills, paper recycling, chopping, habitat, extinct, campaign against animal testing, types of pollution, harm, ways of avoidance, the main source of harm, technological progress, factory tests, throw into the environment so much waste, wildlife suffers, the air and water pollution, noise and light pollution, visual and thermal types of pollution, illiterate.

**Exercise 8. Make up your dialogue with your partner using the words above.**

**Exercise 9. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Ecological problems».**

## 8 Choosing a carrier

**Exercise 1. Read and translate. Choose one of the titles for each paragraph.**

1. Employment.
2. Body Language.
3. Why is it so difficult to choose future profession?
4. Choosing a Career.

When we go for an interview, most of us think carefully about what to wear and what to say but hardly ever about how to act – in other words, what our body language is telling the interviewer. According to experts, body language accounts for 55 % of the effect we have when communicating. Tone of voice accounts for 33% and words just 7 % – so what you say matters much less than how you behave. Employers nowadays are cautious about the fast-talking interviewee but they look increasingly for their signs which will show a person's character and ability – such as body language. You should always smile when you enter the interview room and when the interview has finished because first and last impressions count. Moreover, you should also try to maintain eye-contact with the interviewer but not for too long.

Choosing a career is like any other activity; it is best to work to a plan. Too many people start looking for a specific job before thinking over their occupational aims. It is a good idea to begin by attempting to define in clear terms what your requirements for the career are. This involves taking a realistic view of your strengths and weaknesses. You should remember that training will allow you to do new things. A further point to consider is whether you can do things which you do not like but know that they are necessary to achieve your longer-term objectives. Having thought carefully about the sort of person you are, try to work out a realistic set of occupational requirements. You must answer some important questions. First: what sort of life do you want to live? For example, do you want to live in the country or in the town? Is leisure time of great importance to you? Is the size of your salary important? Do you want to put down roots or travel widely? Second: what sort of work do you want to do? For example, do you like working alone or with others? Does teaching people appeal to you? Do you want to be an organizer of other people's activities? Do you want to develop new ideas and initiate changes?

Getting a job is a very hard period in the life of most people. Companies choose an employee from hundreds of candidates according to special rules, that's why there're special 'typical' factors, influencing on employer's choice. Among such factors are: age, sex, experience, family background and marital status, personality and references. If you're to go to an interview tomorrow, sleep well before it and don't forget your CV at home – is the basic rule. Moreover, there're some recommendations, which can help you, for example, to read annual report, or company newspaper of the company to show your understanding of the corporate strategy on the interview. What's more, you should choose corresponding dress code for the interview. To conclude, it is sometimes hard not only to get a job, but also to

work in the staff, and if you don't want to be laid off, you should follow company rules, it is a must.

There are over 2000 professions in the world. All of them have their own special features. So, every person has to choose a profession that will be interesting, and help to get well-paid job. In school children study many different subjects and point out most interesting of them for their further study. Then they usually enter the Institute or to the University to get future profession and professional skills. Some of them go to work. And, of course, it is better in any way, when pupils think about it in school. But it is not always possible in practice, because very often pupils don't think about their future. Also, their preferences changing greatly during school life. So, all pupils and students must take into consideration all this fact. Each man makes own choice or follows advices of parents, teachers or friends. But making right decision is very difficult. So, everybody must think about their future because in my own opinion every man is the maker of his own fortune.

**Exercise 2. Read the dialogue and role play it.**

Alina: Hi, Daria. How are you? It's so nice to see you.

Daria: Hi, Alina. I'm well, thank you. I'm also happy to see you. Where have you been all this time?

Alina: I had to prepare for the future exams. That's why I wasn't around much.

Daria: I see. Where are you going to study?

Alina: At the Law School. That's my parents' decision.

Daria: Why? Don't you want to become a professional lawyer?

Alina: Of course, I do. But I had another talent which I wanted to develop.

Daria: What do you mean?

Alina: I'm very good at drawing, so I wanted to become an artist. My dad says it's only a hobby. He also says that one needs a serious profession for personal growth.

Daria: Perhaps, he is right. You can always return to drawing when you graduate from the Law School.

Alina: That's what I'm planning to do.

Daria: How about the exams? Were they easy or difficult?

Alina: They were rather difficult. I had to pass an exam in History and Social Studies. The first one was especially hard for me.

Daria: So, now we can officially call you «a student».

Alina: Yes, you can say so. I'm a fresher.

Daria: That's not bad I should say. The profession of a lawyer is rather demanded nowadays. If you continue to develop in this field, you might become a noble person.

Alina: I'm also interested in professional growth.

Daria: Well, I'm glad you are going to study at such a prestigious school. I wish you good luck with all your future plans and projects.

Alina: Thank you.

**Exercise 3. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Choosing a career».**

## **9 Travelling**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

The best way to break the monotony of our life and learn a lot about different places and cultures in the world is travelling. I think that our modern life is impossible without travelling. People get tired of their daily routine, they need to change the surroundings. So, they go to a travel agency, buy tickets to some nice place, pack their suitcases and set off on a journey.

Travelling has a great educational value because it is a chance to meet new people, visit museums and ancient sights, discover different ways of life, taste national cuisines and practice foreign languages. It makes us more appreciative of other cultures. The best way to study geography is to go to distant countries and cities.

Thousands of people spend their holidays traveling. They travel by train, their own cars and motorcycles. They travel by ship up and down many rivers. They hike in the forest, they climb mountains. They admire the beauty of snowcovered mountains, of sunny valleys and vast forests.

A lot of people travel in their own cars. Beautiful pine forests, picturesque rivers and numerous lakes attract lovers of nature. They travel to enjoy picturesque places and also to see historical places of the country and on business.

Hiking is becoming very popular; people like to spend their days in the country. It is pleasant to spend a day chatting, joking and singing with friends on the bank of a river or a lake, or at bonfire in the forest. They return home cheerful and well-rested.

Travelling by air has some advantages of course. It is more convenient and much faster than any other means of traveling before you board the plane you hand your luggage. You do not take it with you. When the passengers are invited to get into the plane you board it. The stewardess greets the passengers and shows them to their seats. She asks the passengers to fasten their seat belts and not to smoke when the plane takes off. Then she brings some mineral water, lemonade and sweets. During the flight some of the passengers read, others chat or look out of the windows. Your plane lands in one or two hours and you realize all the advantages of traveling by air, that's why all busy people prefer to go on business trip by plane.

Travelling is great! It can give you a great deal of pleasant emotions and memories. It's the time for relaxation and thinking. People often return home with a fresh outlook on life and a fantastic zeal to do something good. And they usually say: "East or West – home is best."

**Exercise 2. Find English equivalents for the following expressions.**

1) путешествовать на поездах и собственных машинах; 2) ехать вверх и вниз по реке; 3) взбираться на горы; 4) на берегу озера; 5) у костра; 6) сдавать багаж; 7) любое другое средство передвижения; 8) удобнее; 9) во время полета; 10) преимущество; 11) возьмите багаж с собой; 12) стюардесса здоровается с пассажирами; 13) самолет взлетает.

### **Exercise 3. Read and act the dialogue.**

Mary: When are you flying to Barcelona, Kevin?

Kevin: I'm leaving on Tuesday and coming back on Friday.

Mary: So, you are going to have three relaxing days there.

Kevin: I wouldn't say so. It's a business trip on the first place. But if I have a free time I will visit some sights of the city.

Mary: I see. Have you prepared your swimming trunks and sunscreen? You know, it's really hot in Barcelona at this time of the year. And there are wonderful beaches.

Kevin: I heard so. But I'm not a fan of swimming and sunbathing. I prefer to spend my time seeing places of interest. And I know that Barcelona is full of such places.

Mary: For example, which sight would you like to visit?

Kevin: Let's say, La Sagrada Familia. It's a The Temple of the Holly Family in Barcelona. This building is famous as one of the best projects of Antonio Gaudi. Gaudi is the most famous Spanish architect.

Mary: I would love to visit Spain someday. And I'm a bit jealous that you are flying there. Will you bring me a small present from there?

Kevin: Yes, of course. What do you want?

Mary: Something really small, like a postcard or a magnet with a nice view of Barcelona.

Kevin: No problem. I will bring you something nice.

Mary: Oh well. All I have to say is have a good trip and take care of yourself.

Kevin: Thank you, Mary.

### **Exercise 4. Read the dialogue and answer the questions after it.**

Luke: Is it your first time in Barcelona?

Rose: Yes, it is. I'm so excited about coming here! But unfortunately, I don't have much time.

Luke: So what are you going to do while you are here?

Rose: Well, I don't know almost anything about Barcelona. Just Sagrada Familia and the Gaudi House.

Luke: You have three days, right? Well, it's enough to see the main sights.

Rose: I'm going to start tomorrow morning. Where should I go first?

Luke: Well, I think you should start with Sagrada Familia. It's just awesome. You have to see it.

Rose: It sounds great. I'll definitely go there.

1. Has Rose been to Barcelona before?

- a) No, it's her first time there;
  - b) Yes, she has been there once;
  - c) Yes, she has been there twice.
2. What is her problem?
- a) She has a lot of time;
  - b) She doesn't have much time;
  - c) She doesn't know what to do.
3. How many days is she going to be in Barcelona?
- a) 2 days;
  - b) 1 day;
  - c) 3 days.
4. When is she going to start sightseeing?
- a) Tonight;
  - b) Tomorrow morning;
  - c) Soon.
5. Where should she go first?
- a) Sagrada Familia;
  - b) Gaudy House;
  - c) Gothic Quarter.

**Exercise 5. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Travelling».**

## **10 The Russian Federation**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

### **Geographical position**

The Russian Federation is the largest country in the world. The country is situated in Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia. It occupies over 17 million square km.

Our land is washed by 12 seas, most of which are the seas of three oceans: the Arctic, the Atlantic and the Pacific. In the south and in the west the country borders on fourteen countries. It also has a sea border with the USA.

There is hardly a country in the world where such a great variety of flora and fauna can be found as in our country. Our country has numerous forests, plains and steppes, taiga and tundra, highlands and deserts. There are over two thousand rivers in our country. Our land is rich in various lakes with the deepest lake in the world, the Baikal.

There are 11 time zones. The climate conditions are rather different: from arctic and moderate to continental and subtropical. Our country is one of the richest in natural resources countries in the world. There is oil, natural gas, coal, different ores, ferrous and non-ferrous metals and other minerals.

The Russian Federation is a multinational state. It comprises many national districts, several autonomous republics and regions. The population of the country is over 140 million people. The official language is Russian. Our country is a constitutional republic headed by the President. Moscow is the capital of our Motherland.

### **The political system**

The Constitution of the Russian Federation establishes the principle of separation of powers. Article 10 of the Constitution provides that state power in Russia is exercised on the basis of separation into legislative, executive and judicial branches, which are independent of each other.

State power is exercised by the following bodies: the President, the Federal Assembly (the State Duma and the Federation Council), the Government and the courts. State power in the regions of the Russian Federation is exercised by regional state authorities.

Local self-government is not part of the system of state authorities, they are independent within their powers.

### **President of the Russian Federation**

The President of the Russian Federation is the Head of State. He (she) is the guarantor of the Constitution of the Russian Federation and of human and civil rights and freedoms, he (she) adopts measures to protect the sovereignty of the Russian Federation, its independence and State integrity, and ensures the coordinated functioning and interaction of State government bodies. The President of the Russian Federation determines the basic objectives of the internal and foreign policy of the State and represents the Russian Federation within the country and in international relations. The President is the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation.

The President is elected for six years by citizens of the Russian Federation. Any Russian citizen not younger than 35 years who has resided in the Russian Federation on a permanent basis for not less than 10 years may be elected President.

The President may be impeached by the Federation Council only on the basis of charges of high treason or of another grave crime brought by the State Duma.

### **Federal districts**

In order to increase the effectiveness of the activities of the federal government bodies and to improve the system of control over the execution of their decisions, federal districts, to which the President appoints his (her) Plenipotentiaries, were created in 2000.

Federal districts are not regions or another constitutional part of the administrative-territorial division of the Russian Federation.

Plenipotentiaries of the President are not district's governors or chiefs of the heads of constituent entities (regions) of the district and they are just representatives of the President and members of the Presidential Administration. Plenipotentiaries of the President have no constitutional powers.

### **Executive power**

Executive power is exercised by the Government of the Russian Federation. The Chairman (Prime Minister) is appointed by the President with the consent of the State Duma. In the event that the State Duma rejects the candidates for the post of Chairman of the Government three times, the President appoints the Chairman of the Government, dissolves the State Duma and announces new elections.

The Government consists of the Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation, deputy chairmen and federal ministers. The Government heads the system of federal executive bodies: ministries, federal services and federal agencies. However, there are ministries, federal agencies and services that report directly to the President, for example, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Emergency Situations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, etc.

### **Local Self-government**

Local self-government in the Russian Federation provides for the independent resolution by the population of issues of local importance, and the possession, use and management of municipal property. It is exercised by citizens by means of referendum, elections and other forms of direct expression of their will, and through elected and other bodies of local self-government.

#### **Exercise 2. Vocabulary:**

- 1) to occupy – занимать;
- 2) to comprise – состоять;
- 3) to be headed by – возглавляться.

#### **Exercise 3. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. What is the total area of the Russian Federation?
2. What can you say about its geographical position?
3. What can you say about our flora and fauna?
4. What is the climate in Russia?
5. What natural resources can be found in Russia?

#### **Exercise 4. Read the dialogue and fill the gaps with words: cities, occupy, country, industries, Motherland, curriculum, border, culture.**

Mary: What area does the Russian Federation...?

Jane: It occupies the area of some 17,000,000 square kilometers.

Mary: What ocean is the country washed by?

Jane: The country is washed by the Pacific Ocean, the Arctic Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean.

Mary: What countries does the state border on by sea and by land?

Jane: Russia has a land ... with China, Mongolia, Korea, Kazakhstan, Georgia and Azerbaijan in the south, Norway, Finland, the Baltic States (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia), Poland, Byelorussia and the Ukraine in the West. Russia has a sea-border with the USA and Japan.

Mary: What is the most important river in Russia?

Jane: The Volga is the longest and the most important river of Russia. It flows into the Caspian Sea. Many rich and significant industrial ... stand on Volga.

Mary: What resources is Russia rich in?

Jane: Russia is rich in gas, oil, coal, non-ferrous metals such as aluminum, nickel and lead, in iron ores. Russia is also rich in natural resources such as timber, fish and fresh water.

Mary: What kind of state is Russia?

Jane: Russia is now a parliamentary republic.

Mary: What is political structure of the ...?

Jane: There are three branches of power: the legislative branch, the executive branch and the juridical branch. The legislative power is executed by the President and the Federal Assembly, the executive power is executed by the President and the Cabinet of ministers, and the juridical power is executed by the Constitutional Court and lower courts.

Mary: Are there many political parties in Russia?

Jane: Yes, there are. We have many parties. That helps democracy. Everyone can find a party to his/her taste or organize his/her own party. The parties struggle for power and in order to win they attract voters promising to improve our life and increase salaries, to solve different vital issues and so on. Not to lose voters, they really have to do so.

Mary: What are national symbols of our ... ?

Jane: The flag has three equal stripes: white, blue and red. The state anthem is "The Anthem of Russia" by Mikhalkov. The state coat of arms represents the two-headed eagle.

Mary: How can you characterize the climate of the state? - The country lies in several different zones that's why there are several types of climate, including the monsoon climate of the Far East, the continental climate of Siberia and the subtropical climate of the south.

Jane: What are the main ... of Russia?

Mary: Oil, gas and coal extracting industries are developing now. The food industry supplies the population with food and drinks in abundance. The machine-building industry produces modern machinery.

Jane: What can you say about Russian... ?

Mary: Russian culture is famous for its masterpieces. Nowadays composers, dancers and artists continue the traditions of their ancestors.

Jane: Is Russian school system different from that of the USA and the UK?

Mary: Yes, it differs a lot. The main distinctions are the age of entering the school, the national ..., the number of years spent at school and the way of getting higher education.

**Exercise 5. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «The Russian Federation».**

## **11 Great Britain**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

Great Britain (official name – the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) is situated on two large islands, the largest of which is Great Britain, the smaller is Ireland. In addition to these two islands Great Britain includes over five hundred small islands. The total area of Great Britain is 240,000 sq. kms, its population is over 56,000,000 people.

In the north-west and west the country is washed by the Atlantic Ocean and the Irish Sea, in the east by the North Sea. The island of Great Britain is separated from France by the English Channel. Northern Ireland, which is a part of Great Britain and which is situated on the island of Ireland, is separated from Great Britain by the North Channel.

The island of Great Britain is divided into two parts: mountainous (in the north and west of the island) and lowland (in the south and east) There are no very long rivers in Great Britain. The most important rivers are the Thames (the deepest) and the Severn (the longest). The rivers seldom freeze in winter. Due to the moderating influence of the sea Great Britain has an insular climate, rather humid and mild, but striking discrepancy between seasons.

Great Britain consists of four main parts: England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Administratively Great Britain is divided into 55 counties. The biggest cities of Great Britain are London, Birmingham, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, and Cardiff. England is the largest part of Great Britain (it occupies over 50 % of the territory and its population amounts to 83 % of the total population of Great Britain). Wales is a peninsula in the south-west of the island of Great Britain. It occupies about 9 % of its territory with the population of 4, 8 % of the total population. Scotland is the most northern part of Great Britain with a territory of 32 % of the total territory and with a population of 9 % of the total population of Great Britain. Northern Ireland occupies the north-east part of the island of Ireland. Its territory amounts to 5,2 % of the total territory of Great Britain. The main cities of Northern Ireland are Belfast and Londonderry.

The Welsh have their own language. However, many Welsh people do not know Welsh, and English is spoken by everyone in Wales. Scotland and Ireland also have their own languages, but these are rarely spoken and English is known by everyone there.

Great Britain is a parliamentary monarchy; officially the head of state is the Queen (or the King). However, the power of the Queen in Great Britain is not

absolute. She acts only on the advice of the ministers and Parliament. There is no written constitution in Great Britain. The main principles of British legislation are expressed in other documents, like «Magna Charta», «Habeas Corpus Act», «Bill of Rights», the Parliamentary Act which decided the position of the House of Lords, and the Judicature Act. British legislation does not provide written guarantees of individual political rights.

Parliament in Great Britain has existed since 1265 and is the eldest Parliament in the world. It consists of two Houses – the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The House of Lords consists of 1000 peers who are not elected by the people. The House of Commons is a nation-wide representative body which is elected by the people at a general election, within 5 years of the last election. After the general election the Queen appoints the head of the government – the Prime Minister. As a rule, the Prime Minister is the leader of the party that has won the election. The Prime Minister appoints the ministers to make up the government.

There are two main political parties in Great Britain: the Conservative party and the Labour party. The Conservative party came into being in the 19th century as a result of the evolution of the Tory party. The Labour party was founded in 1900 since 1906 it has borne the name of the Labour Party. The Labour Party won the election for the first time in 1945.

Great Britain is a highly-developed industrial country. The main fields of British industry are machine-building, ship-building, metallurgy, and electronics.

**Exercise 2. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. What is the total area of Great Britain?
2. What is its population?
3. Where is Great Britain situated?
4. What are the main parts of Great Britain?
5. How many islands is Great Britain situated on?
6. Which are the largest islands?
7. Are there long rivers in Great Britain?
8. Why is climate humid and mild?
9. What are the biggest cities of Great Britain?
10. When was the British constitution adopted?
11. Who is the head of state in Great Britain?
12. What are the Houses of Parliament?
13. What are the main fields of British industry?
14. What is the official name of Great Britain?

**Exercise 3. Restore the order of the sentences in the dialogue and read it.**

Ben: Is it far away from here? My friends are waiting for me there.

Ben: Excuse me. I'm looking for St. Paul's Cathedral. Can you tell me where it is, please?

Passer by: No, it will take you 10 minutes to get there.

Passer by: Oh, it's very easy. Go along this street; take the second turning on the left.

Passer by: Not at all. Don't worry. You won't miss it.

Passer by: Yes, you're right. When you turn you'll see St. Paul's Cathedral.

Ben: Thanks a lot.

Ben: OK. The second turning on the left.

**Exercise 4. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Great Britain».**

## **12 The United States of America**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

### **Geography, climate and general information**

The USA is a large country. Its total area is about 10 million square miles. Except the state of Alaska and the Hawaii islands the country is situated in the central part of the continent of North America.

The USA is washed by the Atlantic Ocean in the east and by the Pacific Ocean in the west. In the north it borders on Canada and in the south on Mexico.

The climate in the USA varies from the tropical to the sub-arctic. The average temperatures are also very different across the country. In summer it is warm and humid on the eastern coast, it is hot and dry in the continental areas and rather cool along the western coast. The west and east coasts winter is mild and rainy. In central regions the weather in winter is very changeable. It may rain in the morning and snow in the evening.

The surface of America is as different as its climate. In the west there are high mountains the middle areas are called the prairies and in the east there are lowlands. The system of the Five Great Lakes is the biggest in the world. The largest rivers are the Mississippi and the Missouri. The Niagara Falls is one of the most beautiful falls in the world.

The USA has rich natural resources. The country has enough of them to meet all its own needs and to export to other countries as well.

The population of the USA is about 240 million people. It is a nation of immigrants. Many different cultures, traditions, races and religions are present here. The USA is one of the few countries that has no "official" language. English is the common language by use, but it's not the national language by law.

**Exercise 2. Find words and expressions in the text.**

Граничить с, низменность, теплый и влажный климат, прохладный, обычный, жаркий и сухой климат, естественные ресурсы, изменчивая погода, средняя температура, мягкий и дождливый.

**Exercise 3. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. What is the total area of the USA?

2. Where is the USA situated?
3. What oceans is the country washed by?
4. What countries does the USA borders on?
5. What is the climate of the country?
6. What can be said about its surface?
7. What can you say about the rivers, lakes and falls.
8. Is the USA rich in natural resources?
9. What can you say about the population of the USA?

**Exercise 4. Read and translate.**

**The structure of the government**

The USA consists of 50 states and District of Columbia. Washington is the capital of the country. The federal government is divided into three branches: legislative, executive and judicial.

The legislative branch consists of Congress. It has two parts the House of Representatives and Senate. The function of Congress is to make laws and to finance the operations of the Government.

The head of the executive branch and the country is the President. The President and his Cabinet are responsible for administering and executing the laws. The President is elected for a period of 4 years.

The judicial branch interprets the laws and that new laws are in keeping with the Constitution. Each state has its own constitution, governor and state court system. The USA has two main political parties the Democratic and Republican.

**Exercise 5. Vocabulary:**

1. to make laws – создавать законы;
2. to interpret the laws – толковать законы;
3. to be in keeping with – соответствовать;
4. a branch (legislative, executive, judicial) – ветвь власти (законодательная, исполнительная, судебная).

**Exercise 6. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. What are the branches of the federal government in the USA?
2. What is the function of the legislative branch?
3. Who is the head of the executive branch?
4. What is it responsible for?
5. What is the judicial branch responsible for?

**Exercise 7. Choose the phrases so that you get a dialogue between Ann and Tom. Anya's responses are in the correct order.**

| Ann            | Tom                                |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) Hello, Tom! | a) You know, I am fond of research |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | work. I have won a scholarship to complete my research in the USA.   |
| 2) Where have you spent your summer holidays this year?   | b) I am going to work further on my project. I think I will apply for a stipend next year as well.                                   |
| 3) Really? How did you manage to do that?   | c) I fully agree with you.   |
| 4) I am very glad for you! Did you manage to find new friends there?                                  | d) Hello, Ann!   |
| 5) What are you going to do next?   | e) Of course, I had an excellent opportunity to improve my English with native speakers and learn something new about their country. |
| 6) If you know a foreign language, it is easier to travel and to work on a scientific project abroad. | f) Well, I have visited some of my relatives and have been to the USA.   |

**Exercise 8. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «The United States of America».**

## **13 Education in Russia**

### **Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

Every student has to choose what to do after finishing school. 20% of pupils go to work, someone goes to college, but most of us want to have a good profession in future. That's why we go to university. Higher education in Russia is pretty good and developed.

In big towns you can have any profession you like. Pupils from small towns and villages can move here and go to any university. Of course, for this you need to have good results at school and desire to continue education.

Today our students are welcome in European countries as well. Our doctors, programmers, engineers can go any country and find a job there.

Higher education plays an important part in the life of our country as it provides the country with highly-qualified specialists. Higher education in this country is accessible to all. The greater part of students studies free of charge, some – on a commercial basis.

The academic year usually lasts 9 months and is divided into two terms. At the end of each semester students take exams. If the results are good students get grants. Twice a year student has vacations – two weeks in winter and two months in summer.

The first and second-year students obtain thorough information in the fundamental sciences. The curriculum is enriched and broadened by such subjects as foreign languages, history and economics.

At the third-year students get more advanced knowledge and begin to concentrate on their “major” subjects.

In senior years theory is accompanied by practical training.

After four years they will get a Bachelor’s degree. Then the students may go on with their studies and in a year or two of further study and research get a Master’s degree. After graduating they may continue research and get a still higher degree.

Also, our students like to have second education. It’s convenient if you are not sure about your profession.

Today higher education is important, but more important if you really have skills, patience and experience. Everything depends only on us and our desires.

As for me, I study at the Ryazan Politechnic university. The structure of our university includes different departments. I study at the faculty of . . . I’m a full time student. My university has several buildings, old and new ones. There are many various laboratories, a good library and a computer center in the main building.

### **Exercise 2. Vocabulary:**

- 1) to study free of charge/on a commercial basis – бесплатно/платно;
- 2) to take exams – сдавать экзамены;
- 3) to get a grant – получать стипендию;
- 4) to obtain thorough information in – получать подробную информацию;
- 5) to be enriched – быть обогащенным;
- 6) to be broadened – быть расширенным;
- 7) to be accessible – быть доступным;
- 8) to get advanced knowledge – получать углубленные знания;
- 9) to graduate – закончить вуз;
- 10) to continue research – продолжить исследование;
- 11) a full time/correspondence department – дневное/заочное;
- 12) a curriculum – расписание.

### **Exercise 3. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. What is the aim of higher education in our country?
2. Is it accessible for all?
3. Do the students study all free of charge?
4. What can be said about the academic year?
5. What are the stages of education?
6. What university do you study at?
7. When was it founded?
8. What was it called at first?
9. When was it given the Russian status?
10. What is the structure of our university?
11. What faculty do you study at?
13. Do you enjoy studying at this university?

### **Exercise 4. Translate from Russian into English.**

1. Сейчас есть институты, где все учатся на коммерческой основе.

2. Многие студенты не получают стипендию, так как они учатся плохо.
3. В конце каждого семестра мы сдаем экзамены.
4. На первом и втором курсах они получают подробные сведения из области фундаментальных наук.
5. Наша еда должна быть обогащена минералами.
6. Эта дорога должна быть расширена.
7. На старших курсах они получают углубленные знания по предметам.

**Exercise 5. Read the dialogue by role. Make up a similar dialogue on the topic.**

Helena: Hello, Kate. Have you got a minute?

Kate: Sure, yes. What can I do for you?

Helena: I've read a number of books about the Russian system of teacher's training education but I can't make a head of it.

Kate: Mm ... no wonder. What's the problem?

Helena: A lot of problems. Please, tell me about the difference between a university and a college where the future teachers study.

Kate: It's like this... The programme is different. At a university it is much wider. Great attention is paid to scientific subjects.

Helena: It sounds as though most people prefer a university. Did you study at university?

Kate: Yes...

Helena: What was it like?

Kate: Well, a big grey building surrounded by trees. There were lecture halls, classrooms and a number of laboratories.

Helena: Any facilities for sport?

Kate: Yes. A gymnasium with changing rooms and showers, a tennis court... What else... A playing field for netball and football...

Helena: Well, Kate. Thank you very much. You've been most helpful.

**Exercise 6. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Education in Russia».**

## **14 Education in England**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

In England and Wales compulsory school begins at the age of five, but before that age children can go to a nursery school, also called play school. School is compulsory till the children are 16 years old.

In Primary School and First School children learn to read and write and the basis of arithmetic. In the higher classes of Primary School (or in Middle School) children learn geography, history, religion and, in some schools, a foreign language. Then children go to the Secondary School.

When students are 16 years old they may take an exam in various subjects in order to have a qualification. These qualifications can be either G.C.S.E. (General Certificate of Secondary Education) or "O level" (Ordinary level). After that students can either leave school and start working or continue their studies in the same school as before. If they continue, when they are 18, they have to take further examinations which are necessary for getting into university or college.

Some parents choose private schools for their children. They are very expensive but considered to provide a better education and good job opportunities.

In England there are 47 universities, including the Open University which teaches TV and radio, about 400 colleges and institutes of higher education. The oldest universities in England are Oxford and Cambridge. Generally, universities award two kinds of degrees: the Bachelor's degree and the Master's degree.

There is a considerable choice of post-school education in Britain. In addition to universities, there are also polytechnics and a series of different types of assisted colleges, such as colleges of technology, art, etc., which tend to provide more work-orientated courses than universities. Some of these courses are part-time, with the students being released by their employers for one day a week or longer periods. Virtually all students on full-time courses receive grants or loans from the Government which cover their tuition fees and everyday expenses (accommodation, food, books, etc.).

Students who obtain their Bachelor degree (graduates) can apply to take a further degree course, usually involving a mixture of exam courses and research. There are two different types of postgraduate courses – the Master's degree (MA or MSc) and higher degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

For seven hundred years Oxford and Cambridge universities dominated the British education. The first English university after Oxford and Cambridge (sometimes referred to as Oxbridge) was Durham, in the North of England, founded in 1832. The University of London was founded a few years later in 1836.

During the nineteenth century institutions of higher education were founded in most of the biggest industrial towns, like Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield (sometimes called the Redbrick Universities). At first, they did not have full university status but were known as university colleges; since 1945, however, all have become independent universities, and in recent years a number of other universities have been founded: Sussex, Essex, Warwick, and others. When we add all these together we find that the number of universities in England increased within ten years from nineteen to thirty-six.

Oxford University is a federation of colleges. Oxford has twenty-three ordinary colleges for men, five for women. All these are parallel institutions, and none of them is connected with any particular field of study. No matter what subject a student proposes to study he may study at any of the men's colleges.

Each college has a physical existence in the shape of a dining-hall, chapel, and residential rooms (enough to accommodate about half the student membership, the rest living in lodgings in the town). It is governed by its Fellows (commonly called "dons"), of whom there are usually about twenty or thirty. The dons are also

responsible for teaching the students of the college through the tutorial system. The Fellows elect the Head of the college (whose title varies from college to college).

The university teachers are mostly Fellows of colleges. Part of the teaching is by means of lectures and any student may attend any university lecture. At the beginning of each term (there are three terms in the Oxford academic year) a list is published showing all the lectures being given during the term within each faculty, and every student can choose which lectures he will attend, though his own college tutor will advise him which lectures seem likely to be more useful. Attendance at lectures is not compulsory, and no records of attendance are kept.

Apart from lectures, teaching is by means of the "tutorial" system, which is a system of individual tuition organized by the colleges. Each Fellow in a college is tutor in his own subject to the undergraduates who are studying it. Each student goes to his tutors' room once every week to read out an essay which he has written, and for an hour he and the tutor discuss the essay. A student does not necessarily go only to his own tutor but may be assigned to another don in his own college or in another college when he is studying some particular topic which is outside the special interest of his own tutor.

### **Exercise 2. Find the translation of words in the text.**

1) обязательное образование; 2) детский сад; 3) общая начальная школа; 4) средняя школа; 5) поступить в университет; 6) частные школы; 7) обеспечивать; 8) работодатель; 9) фактически; 10) плата за обучение; 11) ежедневные расходы; 12) исследование; 13) основывать; 14) независимый; 15) увеличивать; 16) отдельная область обучения; 17) часовня; 18) жилые комнаты; 19) квартира; 20) член совета колледжа; 21) университетская система обучения под контролем наставника; 22) посещать лекции; 23) в пределах факультета; 24) руководитель, преподаватель; 25) обсуждать.

### **Exercise 3. Read the dialogue by role. Pay special attention to the highlighted words.**

Mark Dawson: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen! My name is Mark Dawson. I'm going to answer your questions.

Students: Good morning, Mark. Please, tell us about nurseries in England, your country.

Mark Dawson: There is no law which **provides for** education of the **under fives**. About 47 per cent of three- and four-year-olds receive their education in nursery schools or classes. In most of the cases parents or **voluntary bodies** organize such groups.

Students: Thank you, Mr. Dawson. And what can you say about primary education?

Mark Dawson: Well, **primary education** in my country consists of infant and junior schools. The children do not have **academic subjects**, but they are taught to read, write and do some simple mathematics.

Students: It is clear, thank you. Your **system of secondary education** has changed a lot since 1970. Earlier the children took **the eleven-plus**

**examinations** after the primary school and those who did it well went to grammar schools, the rest of the children went to some other types. Now it is different. The children can choose any nearest school to study. Do you like such a situation?

Mark Dawson: Yes, of course. Our children are free now to choose any school they want. Besides it is very important to send your child to the school which is near your house. Parents don't **waste** their **time on** a long way to school as it used to be.

Students: We are thankful to you, Mr. Dawson. It is always pleasure to speak to a **native-English speaker** and get information **out of the first hands**.

#### **Exercise 4. What is the Russian for.**

To send a child to school, an elementary school, a nursery school, a junior school, a primary school, a secondary (high) school, a compulsory school, a comprehensive school, a boarding school, a public school, state-supported, a private (fee-paying, independent) school, mixed (co-educational), to receive financing, to divide children into groups according to their mental abilities, to look like a workshop, to measure the inborn abilities, streaming (grouping), the least gifted children, the brightest children, to improve the quality, the National Curriculum, educationalists, an IQ test, to take assessment tests, to leave school, to take A-levels, traditional subjects.

**Exercise 5. Make up your dialogue with your partner using the words above.**

**Exercise 6. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Education in England».**

## **15 Education in the USA**

### **Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

#### **The main types of higher institutions**

Higher education in the USA is the most extensive and versatile in the world. Now almost 10 million students study in American colleges and universities.

The universities are usually divided into state (or public) and private. The main difference between the two is a financial one. Private universities have very limited financial help from the State authorities.

There are four categories of higher educational establishments in the USA. Technical institutions offer two- or three-year courses. They prepare students for employment in different technical specialties.

Junior colleges provide two-year courses. They help the students to prepare for the further education at the universities.

Art colleges, state and independent colleges award the Bachelor's degree and sometimes the Master's degree in technology, art and teaching.

Universities award all degrees. Often, they offer postgraduate courses for the highest degree – the Doctor's degree.

### **Exercise 2. Vocabulary:**

- 1) an extensive and versatile system – обширная и разнообразная система;
- 2) a specialty – специальность;
- 3) to offer – предлагать;
- 4) to provide – обеспечивать;
- 5) to prepare – готовить;
- 6) to award – присуждать;
- 7) a course of study – курс обучения;
- 8) the Bachelor's degree – степень бакалавра;
- 9) the Master's degree – степень магистра;
- 10) the Doctor's degree – степень доктора.

### **Exercise 3. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. What two main types of institutions are there in the USA?
2. What is the difference between them?
3. What are the main categories?

### **Exercise 4. Translate from Russian into English.**

1. Система высшего образования в США отличается большой разносторонностью.
2. Это образовательное учреждение предлагает обучение по всем специальностям.
3. Эта кампания обеспечивает доступ в Интернет.
4. Он подготовился к экзамену очень хорошо.
5. После курса обучения университет присуждает степень магистра.

### **Exercise 5. Read and translate.**

#### **College and University admission and entrance requirements**

Access to higher education usually takes place after 18 years of age and after 12 years of primary and secondary studies.

First, the universities require an application including personal information.

Second, it is a high school report. It includes a school-leaving certificate with the list of all courses taken and all grades received, with courses failed and repeated, test results (SAT, ACT and Achievement test) and general assessment of the applicant's character such as motivation, creativity, self-discipline, leadership, self-confidence and warmth of personality.

Third, it is recommendations by school teachers.

Fourth, personal commentary such as hobbies, special awards and prizes, work and travel experience, career goals and the reasons for the choice of this university.

Finally, it is an entrance examination or personal interview.

SAT – the Scholastic Aptitude Test is taken in maths and verbal activity.

ACT – the American College Testing is taken in social and natural studies.

Achievement Test – special tests in a discipline required by some colleges for admission.

### **Exercise 6. Vocabulary:**

- 1) to take place – иметь место;
- 2) to require – требовать;
- 3) to apply – подавать заявление;
- 4) to take, to fail, to repeat a course – учить, провалить, повторно учить;
- 5) to receive a grade – получить оценку;
- 6) an access to education – доступ к образованию;
- 7) a school-leaving certificate – аттестат о среднем образовании;
- 8) a general assessment of character – общая оценка.

### **Exercise 7. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. When does the person have the right to study at the university?
2. What are the main entrance requirements?

### **Exercise 8. Read and translate.**

#### **Academic year and stages of education**

The duration of academic year in American universities is usually nine months. They study from September to the end of June. Students have three semesters (terms) and holidays: Christmas, Easter and summer.

At the beginning of each term student can choose which lectures he will attend. Attendance is not compulsory, and no records of attendance are kept. Apart from lectures a system of individual tuition is organized. A tutor gives instructions in his subject at least once a week and requires him to write essays and papers.

During the term students study 5 or 6 different subjects. The progress is often assessed by quizzes, term papers and final exam in each course.

The first stage is devoted to a profound study in humanities, sciences and arts. It is aimed at providing general education. It lasts 3 or 4 years and leads to a Bachelor's degree.

The Master's degree requires 1 or 2 years of advanced studies and ends in a final examination or presentation of a thesis.

The Doctor's degree is the highest academic degree. It requires minimum of two years of personal research, success in qualifying exam, proficiency in one or two foreign languages and completion of doctoral dissertation.

### **Exercise 9. Vocabulary:**

1. to attend lectures, attendance – посещать;
2. to be devoted – быть посвященным чему-либо;
3. to be aimed at – быть направленным на что-либо;
4. to write an essay, term paper, a quiz – сочинение, курсовая, тест;
5. to assess the progress – оценивать успеваемость;
6. to require – требовать;
7. to complete, a completion – заканчивать;
8. an individual tuition – индивидуальные занятия;
9. compulsory/optional subjects – обязательные/необязательные предметы;
10. profound studies – глубокое изучение;
11. advanced studies – углубленное изучение;
12. a presentation of a thesis – написание диссертации;
13. a proficiency – знание.

**Exercise 10. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. How much does the academic year last?
2. How many terms and holidays are there?
3. What do the students choose at the beginning of each semester?
4. What is tutorial system?
5. How is the progress assessed?
6. What are the main stages of education?

**Exercise 11. Translate from Russian into English.**

1. В США посещать лекции не обязательно.
2. Этот курс предназначен для получения общих знаний.
3. Второй этап обучения направлен на глубокое изучение предмета.
4. Прогресс оценивается посредством сочинений, курсовых и тестов.
5. Получение степени магистра требует двух лет дальнейшего обучения.
6. Присуждение степени доктора требует от кандидата знания одного или двух иностранных языков.

**Exercise 12. Compare the educational systems of Russia and the USA. Answer the questions and complete the table.**

| Questions   | Russia | The USA |
|---|--------|---------|
| Who is responsible for organizing the educational system?           |        |         |
| What stages is formal education divided into?                       |        |         |
| What stages of formal education are compulsory?                     |        |         |
| Are there private schools in the country?                           |        |         |
| In what types of schools can children get general education?        |        |         |
| In what types of educational institutions can people get vocational |        |         |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| education?   |  |  |
| In what types of educational institutions can people get higher education? |  |  |
| What are the specific features of the educational system in the country?   |  |  |

**Exercise 13. Read and translate the dialogue.**

Alex, a Russian student, is again talking with James Mitchell, an American from Las Vegas, Nevada. This time their conversation is about the education in the USA.

Alex: Mr. Mitchell, what is the education system in your country?

James Mitchell: You see, the US has no national education system. Instead, each state is responsible for organizing and regulating its own system of education. There are common elements in the separate state systems, however.

Alex: And what are these common elements?

James Mitchell: Well, formal education is divided into the following stages: elementary, secondary and higher education. School attendance is compulsory in every state.

Alex: Are there private schools in the US?

James Mitchell: The state provides schooling at all stages of education, but parents can send their children to private schools.

Alex: Mr Mitchell, do you have children? What school do they attend?

James Mitchell: Oh, Alex. I have a daughter, a nice girl, Chelsea by name. She attends a private school.

Alex: Mr Mitchell, what's the difference between "high schools" and "higher schools"?

James Mitchell: A great one. High schools, junior and senior, provide secondary education. Most of them offer both general and vocational courses of study. And higher schools provide higher learning...

Alex: Mr Mitchell, I'm sorry to interrupt you. What educational institutions offer higher education?

James Mitchell: Places of higher learning include community and junior colleges, technical institutes, universities, and separate professional schools.

Alex: Thanks a lot. I really want to visit your country.

James Mitchell: You are welcome.

**Exercise 14. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Education in the USA».**

## 16 Moscow attractions

### Exercise 1. Read and translate.

Moscow, the capital of Russia, draws people from all over the world like a magnet. Moscow's past, present and future makes it a city of unique interests.

The Kremlin is the top sightseeing in Moscow. It is as old as Moscow itself. Its earliest wooden walls and towers were built in the 12th century. The red brick walls and towers that we see today date back to the 15th century. All in all, there are twenty towers in the Kremlin, but only five have ruby stars atop. The Spasskaya Tower, with its world-famous clock, is regarded as the main Kremlin tower.

The Cathedral Square inside the Kremlin is the most beautiful sight in Moscow. It is surrounded by such remarkable architectural monuments as the Cathedral of the Dormition, the Annunciation and Archangel Michael, the superb Palace of Facets and Terem Palace, and the magnificent Bell Tower of Ivan the Great, with its 18 richly decorated bells. All these buildings were created by the best architects from Novgorod, Suzdal, Vladimir and Pskov under the supervision of the Italian masters Fioravanti, Ruffo and Solari.

The Armoury, Russia's oldest museum, is also situated in the Kremlin. Besides weaponry it has a splendid collection of various works of art from gold and silver ware to royal thrones and costumes. The Armoury also houses the Diamond Collection, featuring jewelry, unique specimens of sapphires, emeralds, diamonds, gold nuggets and other treasures.

The Grand Kremlin Palace is another beautiful sight. Important state assemblies and diplomatic meetings are held there.

Red Square is the geographical and historical center of Moscow. It makes a harmonious whole with the Kremlin's architectural ensemble. The square is adorned by St. Basil's Cathedral, which was built in the 16th century by two Russian architects Posnik and Barma. The building was erected as a monument of Russian military glory. In front of the Cathedral is the monument to Minin and Pozharsky. This is the first sculptural monument in Moscow. On the opposite side of the square there is the State History Museum. It was built in the 19th century. Its more than 300 thousand exhibits tell of Russia's history.

The city's cultural life is so rich that it may be difficult to choose something to your liking. There are more than 120 museums, which display millions of interesting things.

The Tretyakov Gallery is considered to be one of the most popular. The Gallery displays the remarkable works of art from early paintings and icons to the 19th century. The Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts can boast a fine collection of West European painting, including the works of French Impressionists.

The country's leading musical theatre is the Bolshoi with about 50 operas and ballets. This theatre is famous for its traditions, school and artistic standards.

While in Moscow, the visitors admire its architecture. More than a thousand architectural ensembles and monuments have been taken under state protection in

Moscow. The magnificent ensemble of the Novodevichy Monastery, founded in 1524, the graceful 16th century church at Kolomenskoe, the ornate Church of Intercession in Fili and the open-air museums of Arkhangelskoe, Abramtsevo and Kuskovo are included in the list of major monuments of the world's culture.

**Exercise 2. Vocabulary:**

- 1) to be regarded – считаться;
- 2) to be surrounded – быть окруженным;
- 3) to be adorned – быть украшенным;
- 4) to be erected – быть возведенным;
- 5) to draw – притягивать;
- 6) to house – вмещать;
- 7) graceful – грациозный.

**Exercise 3. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. Is Moscow the capital of Russia?
2. When was Moscow founded?
3. Who is the founder?
4. What can you say about the Kremlin?
5. What can you say about the Cathedral Square inside the Kremlin?
6. What is the most beautiful square in Moscow?
7. What can you see there?
8. What can you learn from visiting the History Museum?
9. What can be said about the Tretyakov Gallery and the Museum of Fine Arts?
10. Have you ever been to Moscow?
11. What places did you visit or would like to visit?

**Exercise 4. Fill in the gaps in the text according to the grammar rules of the English language.**

Moscow... the capital of Russia. It is the main political, economic, educational and cultural centre of this country. Moscow is situated on... Moskva River. The city was founded more than 800 years ago by Yuri Dolgoruki.

Moscow is one of .... most beautiful cities ... the world. The heart of Moscow is Red Square. It has more historic associations than any other place in Moscow. The Kremlin and St Basil's Cathedral (Vasily Blazheny) are masterpieces of ancient Russian architecture. On the territory ...the Kremlin you can see old cathedrals, the Palace of Congresses, the Tzar-Cannon and the Tzar-Bell, ...biggest cannon and the bell in the world.

There are a lot of beautiful palaces, old mansions, cathedrals, churches and monuments in Moscow. There are more than 80 museums in Moscow. The largest museums ... the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts and the State Tretyakov Gallery. The Gallery contains hundreds of masterpieces not only of Russian art but also of many other countries. Moscow is also famous for its theatres. The best-known of them is the Bolshoi Opera House. Drama theatres are also very popular.

Four airports connect Moscow with other parts of our country and many other countries of the world. There are lots of railway stations in Moscow. People from all parts of the world want to visit this beautiful city.

**Exercise 5. Translate from Russian into English.**

1. Москва – один из древнейших городов мира. Она была основана в 1147 году.
2. Удивительные здания и великолепные соборы производят огромное впечатление на туристов.
3. Этот замечательный монумент был воздвигнут в 19 веке.
4. Он считается выдающимся художником.
5. Тысячи туристов приезжают в Москву и восхищаются ее достопримечательностями.

**Exercise 6. Fill in the gaps with prepositions: with, before, about, in, of, into, for, near. Read the dialogue by roles and translate into Russian.**

Lewis: Well, the business part ... my visit to Russia is over, and I still have a whole day ... I leave. Do you think I could see something of Moscow within that time?

Igor: Of course you can, but you will have to hurry. A day of sightseeing ... Moscow is next to nothing.

L: And yet, can you tell me anything ... Moscow? As far as I know, it's a very old city, isn't it?

I: History first mentions Moscow in 1147, when Prince Yuri Dolgoruki built a fortress on top of a hill ... the Moskva River.

L: And that fortress was the Kremlin, the centre of Moscow, wasn't it? May I have a look at the Kremlin? I've heard a lot about it.

I: Well, here we are, in the heart of the city, the Kremlin, which is the work of many minds in the 14th - 16th centuries. Within the Kremlin walls, you can see three splendid cathedrals and a high belfry in Cathedral Square.

L: I should be much obliged if we could step ... one of these beautiful cathedrals.

I: Why, certainly. By all means. Here we are, in the Cathedral of Assumption, the main Cathedral of Russia. Russian tsars and emperors were crowned here.

L: Oh, these picturesque decorations and the wonderful Throne of Monomach decorated ... an icon like carvings just take my breath away. May I have a look at the Armory museum? It is considered to be the richest in Europe, isn't it?

I: Yes, that's quite right. This museum has a collection of exhibits of great historical value. Here you can see articles made of ivory, gold, silver, porcelain, amber, precious stones, jewels and filigree work.

L: Oh, it's the most interesting museum I have ever visited. Thank you very much ... such a wonderful excursion. Now I see, that I must come to Moscow once more and take my wife with me. The city is worth seeing.

**Exercise 7. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «Moscow attractions».**

## **17 London attractions**

**Exercise 1. Read and translate.**

### **Parks of London**

There are more than 80 parks in London and you may walk for hours from one to another. One of the biggest is Hyde Park. In the sixteenth century King Henry VIII hunted wild animals there. Today Hyde Park is the place for all sorts of national parades and mass meetings. In Speaker's Corner you can listen to people giving their points of view on all kinds of subjects. Hyde Park is very popular with Londoners. They like to spend their free time there. In summer they enjoy bathing or boating at the Lido, an artificial lake running the whole length of the park.

Kensington Gardens is a favorite playground of children. Children and adults enjoy sailing model boats on the Round Pond here.

The Royal Botanic Gardens is probably the largest botanic garden in the world. Almost all the exotic plants and flowers can be found here. Richmond Park is famous for a herd of deer. In St. James's Park one can admire a beautiful lake and pelicans. And the London Zoo can boast a fascinating collection of different animals, birds and reptiles.

**Exercise 2. Vocabulary:**

- 1) to give one's point of view on smth. – высказывать свое мнение;
- 2) to be famous for – быть знаменитым чем-либо;
- 3) to admire – восхищаться;
- 4) a fascinating collection – захватывающая коллекция.

**Exercise 3. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. How many parks are there in London?
2. What is the biggest park?
3. What is it famous for?
4. How do the people like to spend their free time there?
5. What other parks would you like to visit? Why?

**Exercise 4. Translate from Russian into English.**

1. Гайд Парк знаменит озером Лидо. Это искусственное озеро, проходящее по всей длине парка.
2. Я хочу выразить свою точку зрения по поводу этой идеи.
3. Мы восхищались красотой природы.
4. Она рассказала нам захватывающую историю о своей поездке.

**Exercise 5. Read and translate.**

## Museums of London

There are many quite different museums in London. The British Museum is the most famous in the world. Its library contains about six million books. The reference section has 30 thousand volumes on open shelves. The museum has a priceless collection of rare books, manuscripts, books printed in the XV century and the earliest editions of Shakespeare. There is a wonderful art gallery. It possesses a unique collection of sculpture, ceramics and paintings from ancient time up today. The most outstanding departments there are: the Assyrian, the Egyptian, the Greek and Roman Antiquities.

One of the newest museums is the Museum of London. Its aim is to show the history of London from the founding by Romans to nowadays.

In South Kensington there are several large museums. The Victoria and Albert Museum with a magnificent collection of fine and applied arts also includes Constable's masterpieces, which are worth seeing.

The Natural History Museum contains plants, animals and minerals. The Hall of Human Biology tells the visitors everything about their body.

Exhibits in the Science Museum display the discovery and development of such inventions as the steam engine, photography, glass-making and atomic physics. There is a gallery where children can experiment with working models.

The Museum of British Transport tells the story of public transport in Britain.

Realism of figures and accuracy of costumes made the Wax Museum of Madame Tussaud quite famous. You may see here life-size wax portraits of kings, queens, statesmen, well-known writers, singers and even notorious criminals.

### Exercise 6. Vocabulary:

1. to contain – содержать, состоять;
2. to possess – обладать, располагать;
3. to display – выставлять;
4. to be worth seeing – быть достойным внимания;
5. a reference book – справочник;
6. a rare book – редкая книга;
7. a priceless collection – бесценная коллекция;
8. a unique exhibit – уникальная выставка;
9. a magnificent masterpiece – великолепный шедевр;
10. a discovery – открытие;
11. an invention – изобретение;
12. an accuracy, accurate – точность, точный;
13. a notorious criminal – знаменитый преступник.

### Exercise 7. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.

1. What is the most famous museum in London?
2. What do the visitors can see there?
3. What are the largest museums in South Kensington?
4. What do these museums display in their halls?

5. What is the Wax Museum of Madam Tussaud famous for?
6. What museum would you like to visit, if you were in London?

### **Exercise 8. Translate from Russian into English.**

1. Сигаретный дым содержит много вредных веществ. 2. Он обладал огромной коллекцией редких книг. 3. Музей представил бесценную выставку картин, на которые стоит посмотреть. 4. Уникальная выставка великолепных шедевров искусства была открыта вчера. 5. Ученые сделали важное открытие. 6. Изобретение телефона изменило мир. 7. Он дал точное описание преступника. 8. В музее Мадам Тюссо можно увидеть восковые фигуры известных преступников.

### **Exercise 9. Read and translate.**

#### **Places of interest**

The historic buildings of London represent a rich variety of types, styles and periods than anywhere else in the world. Its great monuments, medieval castles and abbeys, palaces and bridges are famous throughout the world.

Westminster Abbey is one of the most distinguished of all buildings in London. It was first mentioned in the documents of the tenth century. Originally it was a church but nothing of it remained today. The present-day building was made in the gothic style. For nearly a century all the kings and queens have been crowned here. Many of them are buried there too. There are many statues, monuments and tombs here.

The Palace of Westminster was built by Edward the Confessor in about 1050 and was used as a royal residence. But in 1547 it became the meeting place for Parliament. The fire of 1834 destroyed most of the original building. The new building was created in the gothic style. The clock tower, called Big Ben, is well known to everybody. Its clock is said to be the most accurate in the world.

The Tower Bridge is a characteristic part of the London cityscape. It was built in the early nineteenth century. The bridge is 240 meters long with two massive towers in neo-gothic style and it has a mechanism that is still remarkable today. It can raise and lower the bridge in about two minutes. The Tower Bridge takes its name from the Tower of London that stands near it.

The Tower of London plays an important role in the history of the city. This outstanding castle has been a palace, prison, mint, treasury and observatory. Nowadays the Tower is a museum housing the National Collection of Armour and the Crown Jewels and Royal Regalia. The Tower is still guarded by the Yeomen, who wear the traditional sixteenth century uniform.

One of the finest Renaissance cathedrals in Europe is St. Paul's Cathedral. It was built in 1710. The architect was Sir Christopher Wren. The church can boast of some superb carving, frescoes and drawings. The famous Whispering Gallery is a masterpiece of acoustics.

Buckingham Palace is the Royal residence. The house is comparatively new

and is built in the neoclassical style. Its luxurious interior and gardens are not open to the public. But here you can see one of the most colorful ceremonies in London, the Changing of the Guard.

To all the lovers of arts it's recommended to visit the National Gallery. It exhibits all schools of European painting from the thirteenth to the nineteenth century.

### **Exercise 10. Vocabulary:**

1. to represent – представлять;
2. to be mentioned in the documents – упоминаться;
3. to remain – оставаться;
4. to crown the king, to be crowned – короновать;
5. to bury the dead, to be buried – похоронить;
6. to destroy the original building – разрушить первоначальное здание;
7. to create a new building – возвести новое здание;
8. to guard the residence, to be guarded by – охранять;
9. to wear a uniform – носить;
10. a rich variety – богатое разнообразие;
11. a castle – замок;
12. a palace – дворец;
13. a mansion – особняк;
14. a bridge – мост;
15. a tower – башня;
16. a cathedral – собор;
17. a mint – монетный двор;
18. a treasury – сокровищница;
19. a tomb – могила;
20. distinguished, remarkable, outstanding, superb – замечательный, восхитительный.

### **Exercise 11. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. Why is London so popular among the tourists?
2. What is the oldest building in London?
3. What can you say about this building?
4. What is the meeting place for Parliament?
5. What is situated not far from Westminster Palace?
6. What is the most characteristic feature of London's cityscape? Say a few words about it
7. What is so peculiar about the Tower of London?
8. When was St. Paul's Cathedral built?
9. What is it famous for?
10. Where does the Queen live?
11. What can you see in the National Gallery?

### **Exercise 12. Translate from Russian into English.**

1. Новые звезды будут представлять команду на Олимпийских Играх.
2. Они не упомянули об этом факте.
3. Лондон остается одним из красивейших городов мира.
4. Этот выдающийся дворец был создан в 18 веке.
5. Его превосходный особняк охранялся тремя огромными собаками.
6. Он любит носить темные очки.
7. В нашей стране богатое разнообразие диких животных.
8. Этот собор был построен выдающимся архитектором.
9. Мост через реку был сломан.
10. Ибица – самое замечательное место на земле.

### **Exercise 13. Read the dialogues and role play them.**

#### **Dialogue 1. Trafalgar Square.**

Jenny: I think Trafalgar Square is the most beautiful place in London.

Clare: It's only your second day here. You haven't seen a lot.

Jenny: These two fountains decorate Trafalgar Square very well, don't they?

Clare: Yes, you are right. As for me I like everything that we've seen in London. I've fallen in love with London.

Jenny: So have I. It's a fantastic city. By the way, today we'll be able to go to the National Gallery. Let's go and buy tickets.

Clare: Tickets? No, it's free. OK. Let's go. I've rested and can go on sightseeing.

#### **Dialogue 2. London galleries.**

Tim: By the way, are you interested in painting?

Peter: Of course, I am. I liked our visit to the National Gallery yesterday.

Tim: What do you think about going to the Tate Gallery.

Peter: The Tate Gallery? To tell you the truth. I wanted to go to the London Eye. But if you want, of course, I'll join you.

Tim: Thank you very much. You always understand me. It's my dream to see a collection of British Art.

Peter: OK. How can we get there?

Tim: It isn't far away from here. We'll get to the Houses of Parliament and walk along the embankment.

Peter: OK. I like walking near the River Thames.

### **Exercise 14. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «London attractions».**

## 18 The USA attractions

### Exercise 1. Read and translate.

Washington is the capital of the country. It is a unique city, because its only industry is government. Its population is only 1 million people. Washington abounds in national monuments and historic buildings. The Capitol, the White House and the Lincoln Memorial are known throughout the world. The National Gallery of Art is famous for its collection of paintings and sculpture by the greatest masters from the thirteenth to the nineteenth century. The Library of Congress contains more than 13 million books in various languages.

Another biggest city is New York. It is a financial center of the country. New York has an ocean of theatres, restaurants, movies and night clubs; it has a very flourishing hotel industry. The architecture of the city with its skyscrapers, bridges and broad highways can impress anyone. The Statue of Liberty is a symbol of New York. It is made of bronze and was given as a present to America by France in 1886 to the 100th anniversary of American Independence. The University of New York is situated at Washington Square. It is the largest educational establishment in the city. The Metropolitan Museum of Art has rich collections, which cover the history of world art from ancient civilizations to the present day, and include hundreds of world-famous masterpieces. New York's famous Empire State Building is the tallest in the city. It is 500 meters high. Visibility on a clear day is more than 80 miles. The place that attracts the attention of all in Manhattan is Central Park. There are lots of recreation grounds, greenery and beautiful ponds.

Los-Angeles and Hollywood are world-known for its film-making industry. There are about 600 firms directly involved in movie-making. Hollywood Boulevard is the main street of the city decorated with the actors' stars.

San-Francisco is one of the most beautiful cities in America. It lies on the hills. It is the largest and the most important port on the Pacific coast. San-Francisco is famous for its bridges. The Oakland Bay Bridge – the largest in the world – is 8 km. long and has two stories. The lower is for the heavy transport and the upper – for cars. The Golden Gate Bridge is painted in orange color and looks like a giant sunbeam over the blue ocean.

### Exercise 2. Vocabulary:

- 1) to abound in – изобилловать;
- 2) to impress – производить впечатление;
- 3) to cover the history of – охватывать историю чего-л.;
- 4) to involve – вовлекать;
- 5) to flourish – процветать;
- 6) to celebrate the anniversary – праздновать годовщину;
- 7) to decorate – украшать;
- 8) an ancient civilization – древняя цивилизация;
- 9) an educational establishment – образовательное учреждение;
- 10) a giant skyscraper – гигантский небоскреб;

- 11) a broad highway – широкое шоссе;
- 12) a main street – главная улица;
- 13) a recreation ground – площадка для игр;
- 14) greenery – зелень;
- 15) a beautiful pond – красивый пруд.

**Exercise 3. Be ready to answer the questions after the text.**

1. What is the capital of the USA?
2. Why is it a unique city?
3. What are the most famous buildings there?
4. Why do the tourists enjoy visiting New York?
5. What are the most famous sights there?
6. Would you like to visit Los-Angeles or San Francisco? Why?

**Exercise 4. Translate from Russian into English.**

1. Нью Йорк изобилует гигантскими небоскребами и широкими магистралями.
2. Достопримечательности Сан-Франциско произвели на нас сильное впечатление.
3. Эта выставка охватывает историю древней цивилизации.
4. В Голливуде множество фирм, которые непосредственно вовлечены в кинобизнес.
5. Оксфорд знаменит своим старинным университетом.
6. Сад расцвел после дождя. Их кампания процветает.
7. Мосты Сан-Франциско известны по всему миру.
8. Фильмы Спилберга всемирно знамениты.
9. В этом парке есть площадки для отдыха, много зелени и красивый пруд.
10. Это учебное заведение находится на главной улице.

**Exercise 5. Read and act the dialogue.**

Ben: Yeah! So you said you went to New York there. How did you find New York?

Tom: Oh, it was great. It was cool.

Ben: So what did you do there?

Tom: Well, we went to see the Empire State building, the Statue of Liberty. Took a boat around Manhattan and went to a show on Broadway.

Ben: That must have been exciting.

Tom: Oh, it was great. It was brilliant. It was so professional.

Ben: Yeah. What was the show?

Tom: It was really good. It was called, it was called "Wonderful Town!" I had never heard of it before but we just queued and got tickets during the day and whatever we could get we just went to see it. Yeah, but it was really, it was a comedy as well. It was really funny, and there was dance. It was very good.

Ben: Mm, yeah, so would you go back to New York?

Tom: Yeah, I would, definitely. Um, it's funny though, like after I spent a week there, and after the week I feel I really know it very well, you know, we did a lot of walking, went to all the different districts, Chinatown, So-Ho, Grenich Village, and Central Park kind of, it's very easy to find your way around as well.

Ben: All right.

Tom: Yeah, that's good. With the grid system, which Dublin doesn't have. You know Dublin for a tourists it's probably harder to find their way around. It's not as sign posted or well signaled. Not as well laid out kind of thing.

Ben: Yeah! Which of the kind of the areas did you prefer in New York. Did you have, like, one favorite?

Tom: Um, I really liked Chinatown. Chinatown was lovely. We went into lots of little small shops and it was lovely, like, you know, really quaint little places. We ate in a few, we ate in one place there as well. It was nice.

Ben: Yeah, real Chinese food.

Tom: Yeah, exactly and like all Chinese people walking around. It's funny. You walk around Chinatown and you just see Chinese people and you walk into the Italian district, you know, Little Italy, and you just, people are speaking Italian. It's fun, you know, when you're in one city.

Ben: And the kind of change from one to the other, obvious as well.

Tom: Yeah, exactly, yeah! See you kind of forget you're in New York, almost.

Ben: Cool. Thanks.

**Exercise 6. Make up a summary and go on speaking about «The USA attractions».**

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Часть 2

Лексические темы

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