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дополнительного профессионального образования
«НИЖЕГОРОДСКИЙ ИНСТИТУТ РАЗВИТИЯ ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ»

Добро
пожаловать!
Welcome!



Учебное пособие
для учащихся старших классов

Нижний Новгород
Нижегородский институт развития образования
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общеобразовательных школ, лицеев и гимназий и состоит
из двух частей – «Welcome to Britain» и «Welcome to Russia».
Задания и тексты, представленные в учебном пособии, при-
званы способствовать развитию у школьников познаватель-
ной, ценностно-ориентационной коммуникативной иноязыч-
ной деятельности.

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Пояснительная записка

Учебное пособие «Welcome!» предназначено для
учащихся старших классов средних общеобра-
зовательных школ, лицеев и гимназий. Пособие
нацелено на развитие социокультурной компетен-
ции, формирование универсальных (метапредмет-
ных) учебных действий, обеспечивающих школь-
никам, осваивающим иностранный язык, развитие
умения учиться и способности к самостоятельной
работе над языком. Метапредметный характер про-
цесса обучения, заложенный в пособии, предпола-
гает саморазвитие и самосовершенствование школь-
ников, что полностью отвечает требованиям ФГОС
нового поколения.

Пособие состоит из двух частей – «Welcome to
Britain» и «Welcome to Russia», – которые знакомят
школьников с культурными особенностями Вели-
кобритании и России. Материалы пособия наце-
лены на развитие познавательной и ценностно-
ориентационной коммуникативной иноязычной
деятельности обучающихся.

Каждая часть содержит тексты для чтения и
комплексы упражнений, направленных на совер-
шенствование устной речи и разных видов чтения
(поискового, просмотрового, изучающего). Одни за-
дания представляют собой вопросы для обсужде-
ния и интерпретации прочитанного с целью фор-
мирования целостной картины мира, национальной

и гражданской идентичности личности, расширения лингвистического кругозора и представления о мире как о многоязычном и поликультурном сообществе. Такие задания способствуют совершенствованию лексико-грамматических навыков и более глубокому изучению тем. Другие упражнения носят творческий характер и развивают воображение, речевые способности, критическое, аналитическое и логическое типы мышления.

В конце каждого параграфа представлен обобщающий практический материал, цель которого – измерение и оценка степени усвоения учащимися прочитанного.

Пособие может быть рекомендовано как для самостоятельной работы, так и для внеурочной деятельности в качестве факультативного или элективного курса, а также широкому кругу читателей. Приведенные в пособии тексты для чтения, а также предложенные упражнения призваны способствовать более глубокому осознанию родной культуры.

Part I

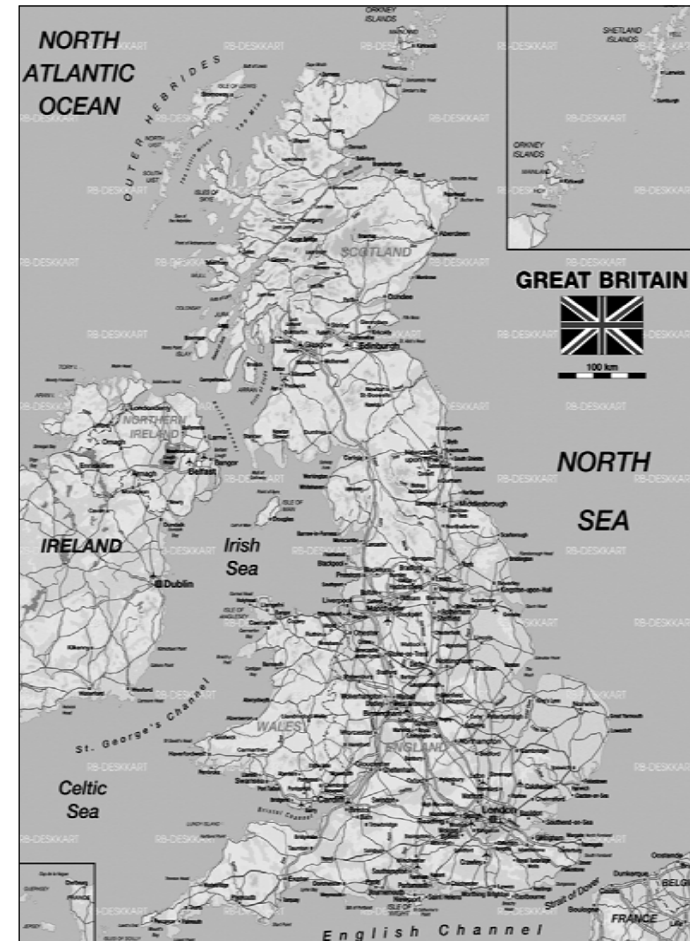
Welcome to Britain



1. GEOGRAPHY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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⇒ PRE-READING TASK

I. Look at the map of the UK and find:

- ◆ the seas the UK is washed by
- ◆ the mountainous areas
- ◆ the largest rivers
- ◆ the countries the UK consists of and their capitals

II. Read the information about the UK.

Great Britain (official name – the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) occupies the territory of the British Isles. They are separated from the continent by the Irish Sea. The larger island, called Great Britain, includes 3 countries: England, Scotland and Wales. Their capitals are London, Edinburgh and Cardiff, respectively. The smaller island, called Ireland, includes Northern Ireland as a part of the UK and the independent Irish Republic. The capitals are Belfast and Dublin. In addition to these two islands, the British Isles include over five hundred small islands.

The UK is situated off the northwest coast of Europe between the Atlantic ocean in the north and northwest, and the North Sea in the East and is separated from the European continent by the English Channel (or La Manche) and the Strait of Dover (or Pas de Calais). Northern Ireland is separated from Great Britain by the North Channel. The St. George's Channel separates Great Britain from Ireland.

Geographically, the island of Great Britain is subdivided into two main regions – Lowland Britain (in the south and east) and Highland Britain (in the north and west). The mountains in Great Britain are not very high; the highest is Ben Nevis, 1,343 m, in Scotland.

There are no very long rivers in Great Britain. The longest river in Great Britain is the Severn, flowing along the border between England and Wales. Its tributaries include the Avon, made famous by Shakespeare, the Thames, the deepest one, which flows eastward to the port of London through rich agricultural districts into the North Sea. It's the busiest and the most important river in England.

Due to the moderating influence of the sea and the Gulf Stream, Great Britain has an insular climate, rather humid, cool and mild temperate, without striking differences between

seasons. This humid and mild climate is good for plants. The trees and flowers begin to blossom early in spring. The southwest winds carry the warmth and moisture into Britain. The British climate has 3 main features: it is mild, humid and changeable. It is never too hot or too cold. The weather is so changeable that the English often say that they have no climate, only weather. Rainfall is more or less even throughout the year. The driest period is from March to June and the wettest months are from October to January. The average range of temperature (from winter to summer) is from 15 to 23 degrees above zero. Winter temperatures below 10 degrees are rare. Winters are extremely mild. There may be snow but it melts quickly. January and February are usually the coldest months, July and August the warmest. Still the wind may bring winter cold in spring or summer days. Sometimes it brings the whirlwinds or hurricanes. Droughts are rare.

The population of the UK is over 57 mln people. About 80 % live in towns and cities and their suburbs. Over 46 mln people live in England, over 3 mln in Wales, a little over 5 mln in Scotland and about 1.5 mln in Northern Ireland.

The UK is one of the most densely populated countries in the world: about 220 people per square kilometer. The greater part of the population lives in Greater London, the South and the Southeast.

The UK is inhabited by the English, the Scots, the Welsh and the Irish who constitute the British nation. The British are the descendants of different peoples who settled in the British Isles at different times.

English is the official language of the UK. Besides standard literary English there are several regional and social dialects. A well-known example is the cockney of East Londoners. The Scottish and Irish forms of Gaelic survive in some parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland. Wales is officially bilingual and formally has the same status as English.

⇒ COMPREHENSION CHECK

I. Answer the following questions:

1. Where is the UK situated?
2. What two islands does the UK consist of?
3. What seas, oceans, straits and channels is the UK surrounded by?

2. POLITICAL SYSTEM OF GREAT BRITAIN

4. What is the busiest river in the UK?
5. The Severn is the longest river in Great Britain, isn't it?
6. What is the highest mountain in Great Britain?
7. What is the most characteristic feature of the weather in Britain?
8. Is the UK one of the most densely populated countries in the world? What is the density of the population in the UK?

II. Are the sentences true or false?

1. The UK consists of 3 countries.
2. The UK is separated from the continent by the Irish Sea.
3. England has the highest mountains in the world.
4. The climate of the UK has rather striking differences between seasons.
5. The population in the UK mostly lives in Scotland.

III. Complete the following sentences:

1. Great Britain occupies the territory of...
2. They are separated by...
3. The larger island, called...
4. In the northwest and west the country is surrounded by...
5. Ireland is separated from Great Britain by...
6. The mountains in Great Britain...
7. The British climate has...
8. The UK is inhabited...

⇒ VOCABULARY

Give the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations:

занимать территорию; состоять из; быть в два раза меньше чем; быть отделенным от; на 40 км южнее от; самая загруженная и важная река; мягкое (умеренное) влияние; резкое различие; изменчивая погода; средний уровень температуры; плотность населения.

⇒ SPEAKING TASK

Work in pairs. You want to spend summer holidays in the UK with your classmates. Decide with your partner what place suits you best. Prove your opinion.



⇒ PRE-READING TASK

- ◆ What kind of state is the UK?
- ◆ Who is the head of the state in the UK?
- ◆ What are the Houses of the British Parliament?

I. Read the text and check your answers. Fill in the gaps.

- ◆ In the UK there is no president, the Queen is... of the....
- ◆ There are two Houses in the Parliament: ... and... .
- ◆ People who sit in the... Commons are called....
- ◆ People who sit in the... Lords are called... .
- ◆ British people... for Members of Parliament at a general... .
- ◆ The party which wins a general... forms the... and their leader becomes....
- ◆ After the Queen approves the bill, it becomes... .

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is a constitutional monarchy. It means that the sovereign reigns but does not rule. Britain does not have a written constitution, but a set of laws. The Parliament is the most important authority in Britain. It is responsible for the British national policy.

Technically the Parliament is made up of three parts: the Monarch, the House of Lords, and the House of Commons. In reality the House of Commons is the only one of the three which has true power. The monarch serves formally as the head of the state – the Crown in the Parliament. But the monarch is expected to be politically neutral and should not make political decisions. The present sovereign is Queen Elizabeth II. She was crowned in Westminster Abbey in 1953.

The House of Commons consists of Members of Parliament (MP). There are 650 of them in the House of Commons. They are elected by secret ballot. General elections are held every five years. The country is divided into 650 constituencies. All citizens aged 18 and registered in a constituency, have the right to vote. But voting is not compulsory in Britain. Only people convicted of corruption and certain mentally sick patients do not take part in voting. There are few political parties in Britain thanks to the British electoral system. The main ones are: the Conservative Party, the Labour Party and the Liberal/Social Democratic Alliance. Each political party puts up one candidate for each constituency. The one who wins the most votes is elected MP for that area. The party which wins the most seats in the Parliament forms the Government. Its leader becomes the Prime Minister. His first job is to choose his Cabinet. The Prime Minister usually takes political decisions with the agreement of the Cabinet. The functions of the House of Commons are legislation and scrutiny of government activities. The House of Commons is presided over by the Speaker. The Speaker is appointed by the Government.

The House of Lords comprises about 1,200 peers. It is presided by the Lord Chancellor. The House of Lords has no real power. It acts rather as an advisory council. It is in the House of Commons that new bills are introduced and debated. If the majority of the members are in favour of a bill, it goes to the House of Lords to be debated. The House of Lords has

the right to reject a new bill twice. But after two rejections they are obliged to accept it. And finally a bill goes to the monarch to be signed. Only then it becomes law.

II. Read the text again and fill in the gaps:

1. In the UK there is no president, the Queen is... of the... .
2. There are two Houses in the Parliament: ... and... .
3. People who sit in the... Commons are called... .
4. People who sit in the... Lords are called... .
5. British people... for MPs at a general... .
6. The party which wins a general... forms the... and their leader becomes... .
7. After the Queen approves the bill, it becomes... .

III. Decide if the sentences are true, false or not stated:

1. The Constitution of the UK is one of the oldest in the world.
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated
2. The House of Commons has a real power in the country.
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated
3. The Monarch was responsible for political decisions till the 20th century.
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated
4. The present Monarch was crowned in Buckingham Palace.
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated
5. The Members of the House of Commons are elected every five years.
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated
6. Citizens have the right to vote at the age of 18.
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated
7. The Conservative Party has the majority in the Parliament.
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated
8. The Prime Minister is the leader of the party which wins the most seats in the Parliament.
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated
9. The Speaker is chosen by the Members of the Parliament.
1) True 2) False 3) Not stated

10. The House of Lords acts as an advisory council.

- 1) True 2) False 3) Not stated

11. A bill becomes law after it is accepted in the House of Lords.

- 1) True 2) False 3) Not stated

IV. "The political numbers". Find this numbers in the text and answer the questions:

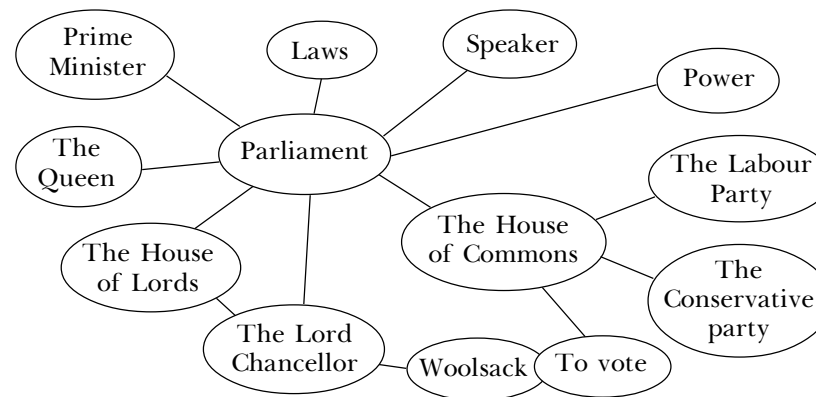
- ◆ What period are the Members of the House of Commons elected for?
- ◆ When did Elizabeth II come to the throne?
- ◆ How many constituencies is the country divided into?
- ◆ How many members are there in the House of Lords?



⇒ SPEAKING TASK

Speak about the political system of the UK using the cluster. Compare the British and Russian political systems. Who has more power the Queen of Great Britain or the President of the Russian Federation?

3. BRITISH MONARCHY TODAY



⇒ PRE-READING TASK

You are going to read the text about the British monarchy. Before reading the text fill in the 1st and the 2nd columns of the table.

What I know about the British monarchy	What I want to know	What new things I've learned from the text

I. Now read the text and fill in the last column.

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy. This means that it has a monarch (a king or a queen) as its Head of State. The monarch reigns with the support of the Parliament. The powers of the monarch are not defined precisely. Everything today is done in the Queen's name. It is her government, her



Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh

armed forces, her law courts and so on. She appoints all the Ministers, including the Prime Minister. Everything is done, however, on the advice of the elected Government, and the monarch takes no part in the decision-making process.

Once the British Empire included a large number of countries all over the world, ruled by Britain. The process of decolonization began in 1947 with the independence of India, Pakistan and Ceylon. Now there is no longer an empire. But the British ruling classes tried not to lose their influence over the former colonies of the British Empire. An association of former members of the British Empire and Britain was founded in 1949. It is called the Commonwealth. It includes many countries such as Ireland, Myanmar, the Sudan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and others. The Queen of Great Britain is also the Head of the Commonwealth, and so the Queen of Canada, Australia, New Zealand...



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Although the Queen is considered to be one of the richest women in the world, the government pays for her expenses as Head of State, for a royal yacht, train and aircraft as well as

for keeping up of several palaces. The Queen's image appears on stamps, notes and coins.

The Parliament consists of two chambers known as the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The Parliament and the monarch have different roles in governing of the country, and they only meet together on some symbolic occasions such as the Coronation of a new monarch or the Opening of the Parliament. In reality, the House of Commons is the only one of the three which has true power. It is here that new bills are introduced and debated. If the majority of the members are in favour of a bill it goes to the House of Lords to be debated and finally to the monarch to be signed. Only then does it become law.

⇒ **VOCABULARY**

The Commonwealth – Содружество, политическое и экономическое объединение. Центром Содружества является Великобритания. Оно включает 54 независимых государства. В Содружество входят также зависимые территории Великобритании, Австралии и Новой Зеландии.

Chamber – палата парламента.

The House of Commons – палата общин, нижняя палата парламента; играет главную роль в осуществлении его законодательных функций.

The House of Lords – палата лордов, верхняя палата парламента; невыборный орган; участвует в осуществлении законодательных функций парламента; является высшей апелляционной инстанцией.

Bill – билль, законопроект.

⇒ **COMPREHENSION CHECK**

I. Are the following statements true or false, according to the text? (T/F)

1. The monarch takes an active part in the government's decision-making process.

2. Canada, Australia and New Zealand are constitutional monarchies and the Queen of Great Britain is the head of these states.

3. India, Pakistan and Ceylon are the former members of the British Empire.

4. The powers of the monarch, the House of Commons and the House of Lords are defined precisely.

5. Her majesty Queen Elisabeth II appoints all the Ministers except the Prime Minister.

6. The Parliament and the monarch meet once a month.

II. Vocabulary

Match these words from the texts (1–10) to their meanings (a–j).

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. to reign | a) exactly, clearly |
| 2. precisely | b) relating to a queen or king or the members of their family |
| 3. to appoint | c) to rule officially a country (about a king or queen) |
| 4. expenses | d) to not give someone what they ask, or not let someone do what they ask to do |
| 5. to define | e) to support an idea |
| 6. the majority | f) to write your name on something in your own personal way |
| 7. to sign | g) most of the people or things in a group |
| 8. to be in favour of | h) to choose someone to do a job or have a position |
| 9. to refuse | i) to describe clearly and exactly what something is |
| 10. royal | j) money you spend as part of your job that your employer later gives back to you |

⇒ GRAMMAR PRACTICE

A. Find sentences with the verbs in the Passive forms and translate them into Russian.

B. Make the necessary changes to transform these sentences from the Active into Passive Voice:

1. No one can define the powers of the monarch precisely.
2. The Government does everything in the Queen's name.

3. They formed an association of the former members of the British Empire.

4. The Queen signs a bill.

5. The Government pays for the Queen's expenses as Head of State.

6. The Queen appoints the Prime Minister.

⇒ SPEAKING TASK

A. Discuss in pairs what the term “a constitutional monarchy” means.

B. Summarize the text by answering these questions. You should talk for 1–2 minutes.

- 1) Which are the powers of the monarch?
- 2) How did the British Empire change after 1947?
- 3) Who pays for the queen's expenses as Head of State?
- 4) Which of the three bodies (the monarch, the House of Commons and the House of Lords) has true power?

C. Project

The Royal family life is always interesting to people. Find information about one of the members of the Royal family and present it to your classmates.



4. NATIONAL STEREOTYPES

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

Look at the photos. Which of them are typical for the British way of life?



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

⇒ COMPREHENSION CHECK

I. Read the text. What new facts have you learned about the British?

There are certain stereotypes of national character which are well-known in Britain. For instance, the Irish are supposed to be great talkers, the Scots have a reputation for being careful with money, the Welsh are renowned for their singing abilities, and the English are considered to be reserved. These characteristics are, of course, only caricatures and are not reliable descriptions of individual people from these countries.

British people give a relatively high value to everyday personal contacts. Some writers on Britain have talked about the British desire “to belong”, and it is certainly true that a pub, or a working man’s club, or numerous other clubs devoted to various sports and pastimes play a very important part in many people’s lives. Many people make their social contacts through work and, partly as a result of this; a profession is also an important aspect of their sense of identity. British people try to appear as if they belong to as high class as possible, though nobody wants to be thought of as “snobbish”.

The British have few living traditions and are too individualistic to have the same everyday habits as each other. They are rather proud of being different. However, this does not mean that they like changes. They don’t. They may not behave in traditional ways, but they like symbols of tradition and stability. The British are rather conservative and their conservatism can combine with their individualism. Why should they change just to be like everyone else? Indeed, as far as they are concerned, not being like everyone else is a good reason not to change. Their driving on the left-hand side of the road is a good example of this. Systems of measurement are another example. The British government has been trying for many years to get British people to use the same scales that are used nearly everywhere else in the world. But everybody in Britain still shops in pounds and ounces.

The modern British are not really chauvinistic. Open hostility to people from other countries is very rare. If there is any chauvinism at all, it expresses itself through ignorance. Most British people know remarkably little about Europe and who lives there. The popular image of Europe seems to be that it is something to do with the French.

It is probably true that the British, especially the English, are more reserved than the people of many other countries.



They find it comparatively difficult to indicate friendship by open displays of affection. For example, it is not the convention to kiss when meeting a friend. Instead, friendship is symbolized by behaving as casually as possible.

The British are comparatively uninterested in clothes. They spend a lower proportion of their income on clothing than people in most European countries do. Many people buy second-hand clothes and are not at all embarrassed to admit this. Of course, when people are “on duty”, they have to obey some quite rigid rules. A male bank employee, for example, is expected to wear a suit with a tie at work. But on Sundays the British like to “dress down”. They can’t wait to take off their respectable working clothes and slip into something really scruffy. In fact, the British are probably more tolerant of “strange” clothing than people in most other countries.

The English are great pet lovers. Practically every family has a dog or a cat, or both. They have special dog shops selling food, clothes and other things for dogs. There are dog hairdressing saloons and dog cemeteries. Millions of families have “bird-tables” in their gardens. Perhaps, this overall concern for animals is part of the British love for nature.

The British are always talking about the weather. Unlike many others, this stereotype is actually true to life. But constant remarks about the weather at chance meetings are not the result of polite conventions. They are not obligatory. Rather, they are the result of the fact that, on the one hand, to ask personal questions would be rude while, at the same time, silence would also be rude. The weather is a very convenient topic with which to “fill the gap”.

II. Read the text again and choose the correct answer A, B or C.

1. It is believed that...
 - A. the Irish are famous for their humour.
 - B. the Irish are supposed to work hard.
 - C. the Irish are very talkative people.

2. According to some writers the British desire “to belong” means:
 - A. British people try to find their roots in the Queen’s family.
 - B. British people try to appear as if they belong to a sports team.
 - C. British people try to appear as if they belong to as high class as possible.
3. The British try to be...
 - A. funny.
 - B. snobbish.
 - C. different.
4. Friendship is symbolized by...
 - A. kissing with friends in the street.
 - B. behaving as casually as possible.
 - C. writing love poems.
5. The British don’t spend much on clothes because...
 - A. they are indifferent to clothes.
 - B. clothes are very cheap in Britain.
 - C. there is lack of trendy clothes in Britain.
6. The British talk about the weather...
 - A. to fill gaps during the conversation.
 - B. to learn the forecast.
 - C. to play tricks.

III. Read the text again and answer the questions:

- 1) Which nation is considered to be great talkers?
- 2) What reputation do the Scots have?
- 3) What are the Welsh famous for?
- 4) The English are emotional people, aren’t they?
- 5) What does the British desire “to belong” mean?
- 6) What things prove the British individualism?
- 7) Most British people know remarkably little about Europe, don’t they?
- 8) What is the British attitude to clothes?
- 9) Are the British great pet lovers?
- 10) Why do the British talk about the weather a lot?

5. BRITISH NATIONAL PARKS

The Lake District

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

Are there many places of natural beauty in your country? What are they? Which of them would you recommend to visit?

⇒ COMPREHENSION CHECK

I. Read the text and complete it by putting the correct form of the word into each gap.



The Lake District is a ___1___ area in the north-west of England. And it has some of England's ___2___ scenery. Some admiring ___3___ called it "A paradise of mountain scenery and magical life". ___4___ lakes lie in deep hollows dug out

by the glacier which covered Britain during the Ice Age. Green hills, herds of ___5___, and solitary farms scattered here and there are typical of this remote and ___6___ beautiful part of England.

The Lake District is a ___7___ Park, which means that special care is taken to make sure that the beauty of the countryside is not spoiled. The people who are responsible for preserving the Lake District's natural beauty are members of the National Trust.

The National Trust is a public ___8___ which is financed by ordinary people who pay to become members. The Trust was set up in 1895 by three people who thought that industrialization could spoil the countryside and ancient buildings of England and Wales. The National Trust members keep an eye on ___9___ gardens, whole villages, lakes and hills, abbeys, ___10___ and Roman antiquities.

II. Vocabulary

1. mountain
2. beautiful
3. visit
4. picture
5. sheep
6. surprise
7. nation
8. organize
9. fame
10. history

⇒ GRAMMAR PRACTICE

A. Ask four questions of different types to each sentence:

- ◆ The Lake District is a mountainous area in the north-west of England.
- ◆ National Trust was set up in 1895.

B. Put the following sentences into the active voice:

- ◆ Special care is taken to make sure that the beauty of the countryside is not spoiled.
- ◆ The National Trust is financed by ordinary people.
- ◆ The Trust was set up in 1895 by three people.

Snowdonia National Park



⇒ COMPREHENSION CHECK

1. Read the text quickly and match headings A–I to paragraphs 1–8. There is one heading you will not need to use.

2. Chose the most suitable activity for your family members.

1. Snowdonia National Park is one of the biggest in Britain. It's certainly considered to be the highest peak in England and Wales. But there's far more to Snowdonia National Park than Mount Snowdon. The Park covers 823 square miles; nine mountain ranges lie within its boundaries, containing over 90 peaks and 100 lakes – plenty of space for fantastic outdoor activities for every age and ability.

2. For those who prefer their outdoor fun on 2 wheels, we've got you covered. Our forests are full of exciting man-made single tracks – including Coed-y-Brenin Forest Park, the largest dedicated trail centre in the UK with around 90 miles of routes. There are off-road grassy tracks, rocky trails and ancient paths that lattice our natural landscapes. We have countless miles of dedicated cycle paths and plenty of gentle, family-friendly lake and riverside routes too. Discover seriously steep challenges and gentle off-road recreational cruises, long-distance trails and short trips along the coast. We've even got world-class mountain biking in our forests and rocky mountains. These super fast flowing trails have rollers, jumps, drops and

rock features. Whatever your skill level you will find the perfect path in Snowdonia.

3. Horse riders and pony trekkers have an inspiring choice of bridle paths and routes that take them along wooded vales and up into our glorious high country. Absolute beginners and accomplished expert riders are equally welcome at equine centres in coast and country locations. One of our classic rides is half-day trek through rugged terrain and open mountains, with the Snowdon range on one side and the Irish Sea on the other.

4. We have around 200 miles of coastline, big beaches, tiny coves, slipways, harbours and marinas. Outstandingly beautiful estuaries, open seas, sheltered waters, lakes and rivers. We have locations and facilities that make all kinds of watersports enthusiasts very happy indeed, from hardcore surfers and sailors to those who fancy a pleasant paddle on the lake. Sailing is superb all along the coast, from the sheltered waters of the Menai Strait to the open seas. There are charming little sailing centres, attractive harbours at places like Porthmadog and Caernarfon, and a world-class marina at Pwllheli.

5. North Wales is home to fabulous sea fishing from sand and shingles beaches to estuaries and rocky shorelines. Fish from big beaches like Dinas Dinlle, or go deep and charter a boat from places like Conwy, the Menai Strait, Abersoch or Pwllheli. There are many mountain torrents and lazy lowland rivers for game fishermen too, and there's also great coarse fishing at locations like Trawsfynydd Lake.

6. North Wales is home to 2 nature reserves: Conwy Nature Reserve and Bardsey Island National Nature Reserve. Go there not just for the scenery but for the teeming populations of Manx shearwaters, oystercatchers, razorbills and kittiwakes. The birdlife here is amazing. But the bird that all true twitchers really want to spot is the rare osprey. The RSPB's Glaslyn Osprey Project near Porthmadog, is one of the few places in Britain where you may catch sight of them in the skies or by nest-cam.

7. We have around 20 courses, including one of the UK's finest – Royal St. David's at Harlech, and the iconic link at Nefyn, perched on cliffs along the Llyn Peninsula. Courses at Aberdyfi, Porthmadog, Pwllheli and Bangor are part of the James Braid North Wales Golf Trail. With characteristics such

as hilly terrain, rocky outcrops, gorse, elevated greens and a long par 4, out of reach to most golfers; it's the perfect recipe to test your game.

8. For more information on all of Snowdonia's many outdoor activities, please visit <http://www.visitsnowdonia.info>.

- A. Birdwatching
- B. General information
- C. Golf as it should be
- D. In the saddle
- E. Extreme sport in Snowdonia
- F. Bike it
- G. Gone fishing
- H. On the water
- I. Contact us

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

Invite your friend to spend holidays in Snowdonia National Park. Describe the activities using the pictures.



6. BRITISH SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

⇒ **Pre-reading task**

Work in pairs. You have 3 minutes. Try to write as many ideas as you can about the system of education in Britain.

⇒ **COMPREHENSION CHECK**

1. Read the text quickly and check your answers.
2. Read the text for the second time and fill in the table.

Age	Event
5 years old	
From 7 to 11 years old	
11 years old	
From 14 to 16 years old	
From 16 to 18 years old	

The basic features of the British educational system are the following:

- 1) education is compulsory from 5 to 16;
- 2) the academic year usually begins in September and runs to early July; it has 3 terms, divided by the Christmas and Easter holidays. In addition, all schools have a "half-term holiday", lasting a few days or a week, in the middle of each term;
- 3) compulsory education is free of charge, but parents may spend money on educating their children if they want to;





4) there are three stages of education.

Children move from the first stage (primary) to the second stage (secondary) at around the age of 11 or 12. The third stage is “further” education at university or college.

In 1988, for the first time in British history, the National Curriculum was introduced. The National Curriculum tells pupils which subjects they have to study, what they must learn and when they have to take assessment tests.

At the age of 5 children go to an infant school which is the first stage of primary education. From 7 to 11 they attend junior schools, the second stage of primary education. In the primary school children are taught the so-called 3R's: reading, writing and arithmetic.

At the age of 11 children enter a secondary school. There are three types of state secondary schools in Britain. They are: grammar schools (for the most intelligent children), modern schools (for the less intelligent children) and comprehensive schools (for children of all abilities). Grammar schools lead towards higher education, and the others give general or vocational education to prepare students for employment or for further technical education. Regular secondary schools offer 7 years of schooling, with students from 11 to 18 years of age. The last two years (16–18) may be spent in a separate sixth form college, which concentrates on career training.

Between the ages of 14 and 16, pupils study for their GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) exams. Pupils must take the English Language, Maths, and Science for GCSE, as well as half GCSE in a foreign language and Technology. In addition, they must also be taught Physical Education, Religious Education and Sex Education, although they do not take exams in these subjects.

Those who get good GCSE grades can stay at their school for another two years, if it has a sixth form and teaches the desired subjects, and then take A level (Advanced Level) exams. Otherwise they have to leave their school and go to a sixth

form college or college of further education. Further education colleges have strong ties with commerce and industry and offer courses in engineering, cooking or hairdressing.

The GCE Advanced (A level) is normally taken after a further two years of studies. Good A level results in at least 2 subjects are necessary to get a place at a university. Universities choose their students after interviews. There are about 100 universities in Britain. The most famous of them are Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

About 7 % of students go to private schools, where parents have to pay for their children. The most expensive private schools are called public schools. Most of these are single-sex boarding schools and students can live there during term-time.

⇒ SPEAKING TASK

Analyze the systems of education in Britain and in Russia and try to find the differences and similarities between them.

⇒ WRITING TASK

This is a part of a letter from an English-speaking friend.

...I'd like to find out more about the system of education in your country. Is education in Russia free? Are there a lot of private schools in your country? Is there the National Curriculum in Russia? I'd like to know everything!

*Best wishes,
Tom*

Write a letter to Tom. In your letter answer his questions, write 100–120 words, remember the rules of letter writing.

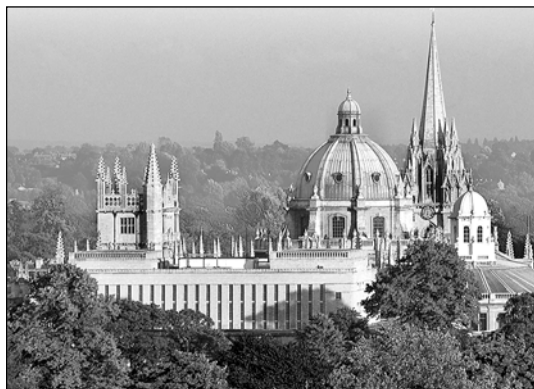
Oxford

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

1. Why are Oxford and Cambridge Universities famous all over the world?

2. Find information in the Internet:

◆ About famous people who studied at Oxford University.



- ◆ What professions you can get in Oxford?
- ◆ Whether education is expensive there?

⇒ **COMPREHENSION CHECK**

Vocabulary

A. Read the text. For each of the gaps 1–8, choose the best option: a, b, c or d.

There are about ninety Universities in Great Britain, the biggest one being London University, and the oldest ones Oxford and Cambridge.

Oxford ___1___ in the 12th century as an aristocratic University and retains its aristocratic character to the present day: the cost of studies is ___2___. Students have to pay for using libraries and laboratories as well as for taking ___3___.

Oxford's organization is very complicated. In fact, the University is a collection of 35 ___4___: two for women only, the rest taking both men and women. Each college is a world of its own which gives its students a specialized training in arts, law, medicine and science. The largest college has over 500 students; the smallest college has 100 students.

The University is an administrative centre which arranges lectures for all students of the colleges, holds examinations and gives ___5___. The tutorial system of education used both in Oxford and Cambridge is one of the ways in which Oxford differs ___6___ other English Universities. Every student has ___7___ in charge of planning his work and discussing its results with the

student; the student's duty is to see his tutor regularly and submit papers and essays. The tutorial system of education brings the student into personal contact with his tutor, the latter trying to ___8___ the social and political life of the student.

The academic year in England has three terms; each term lasts from eight to ten weeks. Terminal examinations take place at the end of autumn, spring and summer terms. Final examinations take place at the end of the course of studies. If a student fails in an examination, he may be allowed to take the exam again, only two re-examinations being usually allowed.

1. a) was opened b) was built c) was founded d) was presented
2. a) expensive b) high c) well-paid d) shocking
3. a) examinations b) prizes c) scholarship d) lectures
4. a) classes b) faculties c) colleges d) scientists
5. a) degrees b) jobs c) position d) new ideas
6. a) of b) from c) with d) about
7. a) an assistant b) a professor c) a friend d) a tutor
8. a) to influence b) to avoid c) to keep d) to provide

B. Read the text again and answer the questions:

1. How many universities are there in Great Britain?
2. What is the biggest university?
3. When was Oxford University founded? Is it the oldest one in Britain?
4. Is the cost of studies high?
5. What do students have to pay for?
6. Why is Oxford's organization very complicated?
7. What does each college give students?
8. What does the University arrange for all students?
9. Where is the tutorial system of education used?
10. Why does every student have a tutor?
11. How many terms does the academic year have in England?
12. When do terminal exams take place?
13. How many re-examinations are allowed?

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

- A. Speak on the most successful universities in your country?**
- B. Project "Higher Education in Russia".**

7. FAMOUS EVENTS IN BRITISH HISTORY

The Great Fire of London



⇒ PRE-READING TASK

1. Look at the pictures and try to guess what they depict.
2. Think of the reasons why the fire spread so quickly in the streets of London.

⇒ COMPREHENSION CHECK

I. Read the text and put the following headings that summarize each paragraph in the correct order:

- 1) The day of greatest destruction.
- 2) Wren's masterpiece on fire.
- 3) A terrible esteem.

- 4) A forgetful baker.
- 5) A positive fact about the fire.
- 6) The day when the fire stopped.
- 7) A monument to the fire.
- 8) A danger for the Tower.
- 9) A fear of London rebellion.

1. The Great Fire of London was a major conflagration ___1___ the central parts of the English city of London, from Sunday, 2 September to Wednesday, 5 September 1666. The fire gutted the medieval City of London inside the old ___2___. It threatened, but did not reach, the aristocratic district of Westminster, Charles II's Palace of Whitehall, and most of the suburban slums. It consumed 13,200 houses, 87 parish churches, St. Paul's Cathedral and most of the buildings of the City authorities. It is estimated to have destroyed the homes of 70,000 of the City's 80,000 inhabitants.

2. The Great Fire started at the bakery of Thomas Farriner (or Farynor) on Pudding Lane, ___3___ on Sunday, 2 September 1666. Mr Farriner forgot to put the fire out in an oven on the Saturday evening. A spark of fire dropped out of a baking oven. The spark ___4___ and bundles of sticks. The straw started to burn and then the sticks caught fire. Then the bakehouse was set on fire.

3. The fire spread rapidly ___5___. The fire pushed north on Monday into the heart of the City. Tuesday, 4 September, was the day of greatest destruction. The Duke of York's command post at Temple Bar, where Strand meets Fleet Street, was supposed to stop the fire's westward advance towards the



Palace of Whitehall. Making a stand with his firemen from the Fleet Bridge and down to the Thames, James hoped that the River Fleet ___6___. However, early on Tuesday morning, the flames jumped over the Fleet, driven by the unabated easterly gale, and outflanked them, forcing them to run for it. There was consternation at the palace as the fire continued implacably westward. On Tuesday, the fire spread over most of the City, destroying St. Paul's Cathedral and leaping the River Fleet to threaten.

4. Everybody had thought St. Paul's Cathedral a safe refuge, with its thick stone walls and natural firebreak in the form of a wide, empty surrounding plaza. However an enormous stroke of bad luck meant that the building ___7___, undergoing piecemeal restoration by a relatively unknown Christopher Wren. The scaffolding caught fire on Tuesday night. Leaving school, young William Taswell stood on Westminster Stairs a mile away and watched as the flames crept round the cathedral and the burning scaffolding ignited the timbered roof beams. Within half an hour, the lead roof was melting, and the books and papers in the crypt caught with a roar. "The stones of Paul's flew like grenades, the melting lead running down the streets in a stream, and the very pavements glowing with fiery redness, so as no horse, nor man, was able to tread on them", reported Evelyn in his diary. The cathedral ___8___.

5. During the day, the flames began to move eastward from the neighbourhood of Pudding Lane, straight against the prevailing east wind towards the Tower of London ___9___. After waiting all day for requested help from James's official firemen, who were busy in the west, the garrison at the Tower took matters into their own hands and created firebreaks by blowing up houses in the vicinity on a large scale, halting the advance of the fire.

6. The fire did not spread significantly on Wednesday, 5 September. The wind dropped on Tuesday evening, and the firebreaks created by the garrison ___10___. There were many separate fires still burning themselves out, but the Great Fire was over.

7. In the chaos and unrest after the fire, Charles II ___11___. He encouraged the homeless to move away from London and settle elsewhere, immediately issuing a proclamation that "all

Cities and Towns whatsoever shall without any contradiction receive the said distressed persons and permit them the free exercise of their manual trades."

8. On Charles' initiative, a Monument ___12___, designed by Christopher Wren and Robert Hooke, was erected near Pudding Lane. Standing 61 metres (200 ft) tall and known simply as "The Monument", it is a familiar London landmark which has given its name to a tube station.

9. The Great Plague epidemic of 1665 is believed to have killed ___13___ or 80,000 people, and it is sometimes suggested, as plague epidemics did not recur in London after the fire, that the fire saved lives in the long run by burning down so much unsanitary housing with their rats and their fleas which transmitted the plague. Historians disagree as to whether the fire played a part in preventing subsequent major outbreaks.

II. Read the text again and fill in the gaps with 1–13.

1. feared London rebellion
2. was quickly a ruin
3. with its gunpowder stores
4. fell on to straw
5. shortly after midnight
6. to the Great Fire of London
7. was covered in wooden scaffolding
8. that swept through
9. west across the City of London
10. Roman city wall
11. would form a natural firebreak
12. finally began to take effect
13. a sixth of London's inhabitants

⇒ SPEAKING TASK

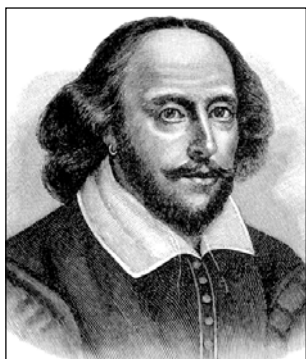
A. What do you think about the influence of the Great Fire of London on the further development of the city? Share your ideas with your classmates.

B. Project

Choose one of the most important events in the history of the UK? Find information about it and present it in the class.

8. FAMOUS PEOPLE OF BRITAIN

William Shakespeare (1564–1616)



⇒ PRE-READING TASK

1. Look at the photo. What can you say about the man in the photo? Why is he famous? Is he popular nowadays?

2. Name the plays by Shakespeare in the photos:



3. What other plays by Shakespeare can you name? Why are they still popular?

⇒ COMPREHENSION CHECK

I. Read the article and say what new information about the famous playwright you have learnt?

Shakespeare is the most famous English language playwright and the world's greatest dramatist. He wrote to appeal to the broadest range of London society, people who came from all backgrounds to the theatre for relaxation and to escape. In spite of his fame we know very little about his life.

Born on the 23d of April, 1564, in Stratford-upon-Avon, Shakespeare was the eldest son in the family. His childhood was spent entirely in Stratford. At the age of six he was sent to school, but had to leave it at the age of 13. His father, John Shakespeare, was a glove-maker, and when he fell into debt, William had to help him in the trade. Groups of travelling actors attracted his attention and the boy enjoyed their plays. Theatre became his dream.

At the age of eighteen, he married Anne Hathaway. Ann was eight years older than her husband and the marriage wasn't a happy one. When Shakespeare was twenty-one, he went to London. There is a story that Shakespeare's first job in London was holding rich men's horses at the theatre door. But nobody can be sure that this story is true. Later, Shakespeare became an actor and a member of a very successful acting company. It's highly probable that The Comedy of Errors, Romeo and Juliet and some other plays by Shakespeare were performed for the first time on this stage.

Very soon, however, the actors were told that they could no longer use the land that their theatre was built on and the company had nowhere else to perform. There is a story that in the dead of night the whole acting troop took down their theatre, timber by timber, brick by brick. They carried it across the river and rebuilt it. The new theatre was called the Globe. Shakespeare's Globe was rather different from modern theatres. The plays were performed in the open air and the audience got wet if it rained. There was no scenery, very few props, and the only lighting was the daylight that came from the open roof above. Women in those days weren't allowed to act in public and all the parts (even Juliet!) were played by men. Much of the audience stood to watch the performance and

moved around, talking with each other and throwing fruit at the stage if they didn't like something.

Shakespeare wrote 37 plays: 10 tragedies (such as Hamlet, King Lear, Othello, Macbeth), 17 comedies (such as As You Like It, Twelfth Night, Much Ado About Nothing), 10 historical plays (such as Henry IV, Richard III). He also left 7 books of poems. Most of Shakespeare's plays were not published in his lifetime. So some of them may have been lost in the fire when the Globe burnt down in 1613.

Shakespeare spent the last years of his life at Stratford, where he died, ironically, on the same date as his birthday, the 23d of April, 1616. He was buried in the church of Stratford. A monument was erected to the memory of the great playwright in the Poet's Corner in Westminster Abbey. In 1997, Shakespeare's Globe was restored.

II. Correct the sentences:

1. Shakespeare's novels are world famous nowadays.
2. He wrote to appeal to a higher society.
3. Shakespeare was born in Oxford.
4. Shakespeare's father was a famous actor.
5. Shakespeare married in an old age.
6. He went to London to start his own business.
7. The Globe was an ordinary theatre.
8. Most of Shakespeare's plays were published in his lifetime.

III. What do this numbers mean?

- | | |
|-------|---------|
| 1) 23 | 6) 37 |
| 2) 6 | 7) 7 |
| 3) 18 | 8) 1616 |
| 4) 8 | 9) 1997 |
| 5) 21 | |

⇒ SPEAKING TASK

Prepare a presentation about one of the world famous playwrights and show it to your classmates.

Margaret Thatcher (1925—2013)

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

Look at the photos. Do you know these women? Why are they famous? Do you believe these women can lead the country?



⇒ COMPREHENSION CHECK

I. Read the text and say what features of character are important for a politician? Why was Margaret Thatcher called the "Iron Lady"? What were the results of her activity for the development of Great Britain? Why was her political carrier over?



Margaret Thatcher, the former British prime minister who was known as the "Iron Lady" for her uncompromising style,

died on the 8 of April, 2013. She was 87. She was the longest continuously serving prime minister since 1827.

When Margaret Thatcher came to power in 1979, Britain was a dump and on the brink of total economic collapse. When she left power in 1990, it was one of the greatest financial countries of the world. She is associated with the political philosophy of Thatcherism, based on low taxation, low public spending, free markets and mass privatization. A lot of people love Margaret Thatcher for her honesty, bluntness and strength of character. Many others hate her and believe that she destroyed workers' rights and slashed public spending. During her tenure she had to deal with mass unemployment, inflation, endless strikes and a war with the Falklands. In February 2007, she became the first British Prime Minister to be honoured with a statue in the House of Commons while still alive.

After winning three elections, Thatcher was forced out of office by her own party after she refused to compromise either on her policies towards Europe or on a property tax that had led to mass non-payment and violent riots. Her rise from a grocer's daughter to prime minister was dramatised in the 2011 film "The Iron Lady".

Margaret Hilda Roberts was born on October 13, 1925, in Grantham, a town in the east of England. She said her father's small business was a seminal influence on her views, including her emphasis on prudent economic management. During World War II, she graduated with a chemistry degree from Somerville College at the University of Oxford and worked as a research chemist. In 1951, she married businessman Denis Thatcher and gave birth to twins, Carol and Mark, two years later. During the decade she trained as a tax lawyer while looking for a chance to get into the Parliament. Denis Thatcher died in 2003, at the age of 88. She predicted in the early 1970s that no woman would lead the country in her lifetime. Before the decade ended, she had become the country's first – and so far only – female prime minister.

Margaret Thatcher is to receive a ceremonial funeral at St. Paul's Cathedral – the same level given to the Queen Mother and Princess Diana.

II. Read famous quotes by Margaret Thatcher and match them with Russian equivalents.

Any woman who understands the problems of running a home will be nearer to understanding the problems of running a country	Быть руководителем — то же, что быть леди. Если ты напоминаешь людям о том, кто ты, значит, ты этим не являешься
Being powerful is like being a lady. If you have to tell people you are, you aren't	Если вы хотите что-либо услышать, спросите мужчину. Если вы хотите что-либо сделать, попросите женщину
If you just set out to be liked, you would be prepared to compromise on anything at any time, and you would achieve nothing	Я обладаю способностью женщины вгрызаться в работу и выполнять ее тогда, когда все другие расходятся и бросают ее
If you want something said, ask a man. If you want something done, ask a woman	Делать все с открытым сердцем — не самая хорошая идея. Сердце должно оставаться закрытым, так оно лучше функционирует
It may be the cock that crows, but it is the hen that lays the eggs	Любая женщина, понимающая проблемы, которые возникают при управлении домом, может понять проблемы, которые возникают при управлении страной
I've got a woman's ability to stick to a job and get on with it when everyone else walks off and leaves it	Что такое успех? Я думаю — это смесь чувства о том, что вы делаете, со знанием того, что этого недостаточно. Вы должны усердно работать и иметь определенную цель
To wear your heart on your sleeve isn't a very good plan; you should wear it inside, where it functions best	Петух, может быть, хорошо кукарекает, но яйца все-таки несет курица
What is success? I think it is a mixture of having a flair for the thing that you are doing; knowing that it is not enough, that you have got to have hard work and a certain sense of purpose	Если вы настроены только на то, чтобы кому-то нравиться, вы должны быть готовы идти на компромисс по любому поводу в любое время — и вы никогда ничего не достигнете

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

Watch the film “The Iron Lady” and discuss it with your partner.

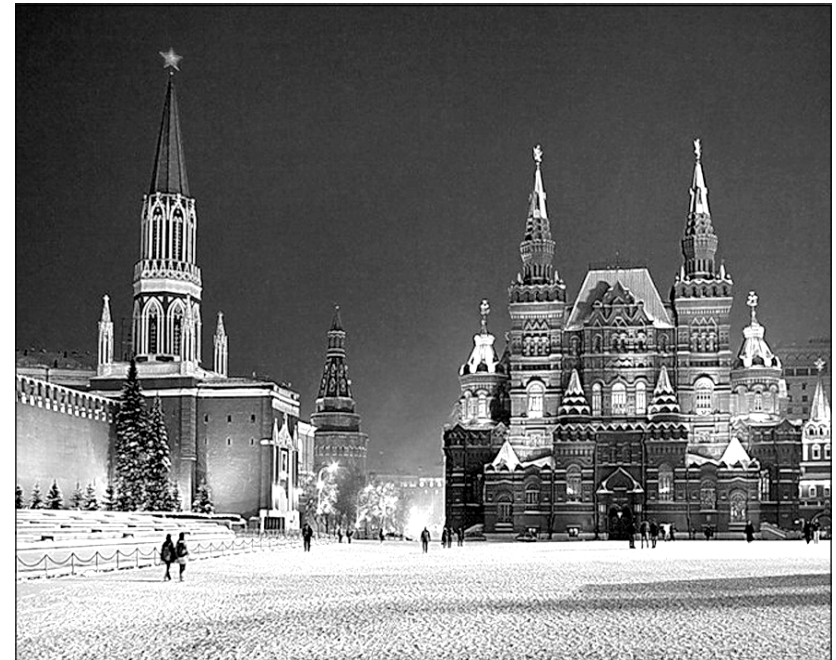
⇒ **WRITING TASK**

Write a film review according to the following plan:

- ◆ Overall Impression
- ◆ Plot Summary
- ◆ Acting
- ◆ Technical Aspects (direction, filming techniques, background music, costumes, set design etc.)

Part II

Welcome to Russia



1. RUSSIA, THE LARGEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

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⇒ PRE-READING TASK

- I. Look at the map of Russia and answer the questions.**
- a) Which seas and oceans enclose Russia?
 - b) What are the longest river/deepest lake/highest mountain?



II. Look at the title of the text and write down two facts you expect to find.

Russia

Russia is the largest country in the world. It takes 1) _____ hours to cross it by plane!

A train journey from Moscow to Vladivostok on the Tran Siberian Express takes six days!

Russia has 10 **time zones**. When people in Kaliningrad are having 2) _____ people in Vladivostok are going to bed!

Russia **stretches** from the Baltic Sea in the West to the Pacific Ocean in the East and from the Northern Arctic Ocean to the **deserts** of Central Asia.

Russian rivers are very long. The Volga is the longest river in Europe.

Russia has a wide range of **scenery** and climates, too. It has harsh winters with lots of 3) _____, but the summers are quite warm. The temperature varies from +20° to -25° C.

Lake Baikal is 636 km 4) _____ and 80 km wide. It is the world's biggest **fresh water** reservoir. The water is very 5) _____. You can see the bottom of the lake through 30-40 m of water.

Mount Elbrus (18,481 ft/5,633 m), in the Caucasus 6) _____ range, is the highest peak in the country.

Steppes cover all of the south of Russia, from the Black Sea to the Altai Mountains on the Chinese border. Some of the steppes have rich 7) _____ soil.

Almost 8) _____ per cent of Russia is tundra. There aren't any trees there. It is frozen for most of the year. Reindeer live there.

Taiga is a thick forest with a lot of dark **pine, fir, and cedar** 9) _____. Many **species** of **wildlife** live there.

⇒ READING AND LISTENING TASK

1. Read and try to complete the gaps.
2. Listen and check your answers.

3. Explain the words in bold. Then, in pairs, ask and answer questions based on the text.

⇒ SPEAKING



Use the pictures to present Russia to your classmates.

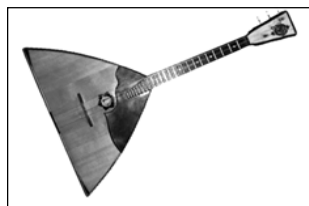
2. TRAVEL TO RUSSIA

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

I. Answer the question:

Do many tourists visit our country? Why?

II. Look at the pictures and tell the classmates what foreigners think about Russia/what problems they can face visiting Russia.



⇒ READING TASK

I. Read the article and match the following headings to each of the paragraphs.

- A. Money
- B. Planning your visit
- C. Language problems

- D. Food
- E. Weather
- F. Visa

1. Russia is a beautiful country and you will definitely enjoy your trip. At the same time it's quite different from any other tourist destinations you could have visited and you should plan your visit carefully and well in advance.

2. The first issue that you will face when planning your trip concerns the best season to come to Russia. There are no doubts you'd better come in summer. Summer in Russia lasts from June to August. If you are going to Siberia or the Far East, the most beautiful weather one can enjoy is in September. Winter jennies have their special charm, but you'd better not try it if you are not used to subzero. Rains in Russia are common for any season, except winter, so make sure to take an umbrella with you. If the purpose of your visit is leisure, take jeans rather than shorts – shorts are not the best wear for such important things as courting.

3. Although during the last years traveling to Russia has become easier, you still have to obtain a visa. You can apply for a private, tourist or business visa. Tourist visas are the least complicated to obtain. When you choose a travel agency, make sure that they have a reliable Russian partner in the city you are going to visit; otherwise you can be lodged in a low class hotel somewhere in the outskirts. You must register with Russian authorities upon arrival at your destination. If you are staying at a hotel, the administration will be happy to assist and do it for you.

4. In case this is your first trip to Russia, you are sure to experience language problems. If you do not know the Russian alphabet, you won't be able to read signboards and signposts to find your way around. Even the hotel staff may not speak English. The situation in provincial towns and rural areas may even be worse. You will rarely find a restaurant, with an English menu. It is recommended to carry your hotel card at all times. Ask your interpreter or a friend to write down a list of necessary basic phrases in Russian that you can give people to describe what you would like to do or where you are going to. If you can't get right to the hotel or any other place, ask

for a person who can speak English. As a rule Russians tend to help you even if they understand little of what you are saying.

5. Another issue is currency. US dollars or euros or any other currency are officially not allowed as payment means but can be freely converted at banks. You must produce your passport for the exchange. Never exchange money anywhere but the designated official places. It will be wise to have money with you in cash and travelers checks as well as a credit card. You will be safe as long as you don't show around big amounts of money or walk alone at night along dark lonely streets. However, you can easily become a victim of pocket thefts; so take care of your wallet and do not keep big amounts with you.

6. Restaurants and cafes offer a wide range of dishes, and you will find something to your taste. Russians are very fond of soups (which include meat, vegetables and broth), pies and pelmeny (similar to ravioli). The portions are sometimes smaller than you are used to.

II. Read the text again, fill in the gaps:

A. You can visit any place and peacefully walk in the streets.

B. It is a good idea to arrange being picked up at the airport by somebody who speaks English.

C. Even in summer the temperature sometimes is only +3 ... +5 degrees C, and warm clothes (jacket and sweaters) are necessary.

D. Russian cuisine is not spicy.

E. Not only it is illegal, you stand a great chance to be scammed.

F. If you are looking for some particular place, it is recommended to have the address with you written in Russian.

III. Use of English

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words:

You'll enjoy one of the _____ countries in the world	Beautiful
You should be _____ travelling in a foreign country	Care
People come to Russia either on business or for _____	Pleasant

If you visit Russia for the _____ time don't forget about the weather	One
Ask your _____ or friend to write down a list of necessary phrases that you can give people to read what you want	Translate
Never exchange money _____ but the designated official places	Any

⇒ WRITING TASK

Write a letter to your pen-friend using the following information.

You have received a letter from your English pen-friend who writes:

Dear...

Thanks for inviting me to stay with you during my visit to your country next month.

I'm not sure how to get to your apartment from the airport. Could you write back giving me some basic instructions? What would be the best means of transport for me? I'd prefer one that isn't too expensive.

Just one other thing – what will the weather be like when I get there? I need this to bring the right clothes.

*Looking forward to seeing you soon,
Jill*

Write back to Jill. In your letter answer her questions, ask three questions about her plans, write 100–140 words, remember the rules of letter-writing.

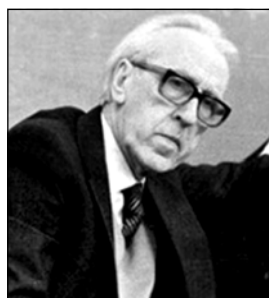
⇒ SPEAKING TASK

Role play the situation between you and your foreign friend about Russian manners and character.

3. RUSSIAN OUTSTANDING PEOPLE

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

I. Look at the photos. What are these people famous for?



⇒ READING TASK

I. Read the information about famous people and fill in the table.

Name	Dates of life	Famous for

1) **Kabalevsky Dmitry Borisovich** (1904–1987) was a Russian composer, national artist of the USSR (1963), an academician of the Academy of Science (1971), the author of operas (“Kola Brunion”, “Taras Family”) and a professor of Moscow Conservatoire. His work was rewarded by State prizes (1946, 1949, 1951, 1972, and 1980). Kabalevsky wrote many songs, romances, many pieces of music for films and plays, was the editor-in-chief of the journal “Music at School”.

2) **Kony Anatoly Fedorovich** (1944–1927) was a Russian lawyer and public figure, an academician of honour of St. Petersburg Academy of Science, a professor of Petrograd University (1918–1922).

3) **Dashkova Ekaterina Romanovna** (1743–1810) – a princess, the leader of St. Petersburg Academy of Science and the president of the Russian Academy. As a public figure she established several periodicals. On her initiative Russian explanatory dictionary was published.

4) **Rodnina Irina Konstantinovna** (born 1949) – an outstanding figure skater, an Olympic champion (1972, 1976, 1980), a champion of the World (1969–1978), a champion of Europe and the USSR.

II. Explain why all Russians are proud of these people. Say what Russian books can be recommended to read to learn more about them (Encyclopedias/Biographical books/Fiction)?

⇒ SPEAKING TASK

Think of a famous Russian person. Find information about him or her. Make a presentation to class and say why we are proud of him or her.



⇒ **READING TASK**

I. Look at the man in the picture.

- ◆ Do you know him?
- ◆ Are you familiar with this mans heroic activities?

II. Read the text and fill in the gaps.

A. That is why he was offered a choice of military colleges of which he chose St.Petersburg military engineering college.

B. During World War I he was wounded and awarded the Order of St. Anna with a sword.

C. As a scientist Karbyshev wrote several textbooks and guidebooks for the army.

D. Though the brave officer was several times offered life in exchange to his collaboration with the Nazi, he always refused.

His name is a symbol of courage and devotion to his Motherland and people. Karbyshev was a military engineer, professor and an officer. He was a Doctor of Science and delivered lectures at several Russian Academies. Brest fortress was built and reinforced under his guidance (1914). He wrote works on military engineering and war history.

Dmitry was the last child in the family. His father died when the boy was only 12. The financial position was very bad. The boy entered military school in Omsk and finished it in 1898 as the best among fellows. _____ By the end of the studies he was considered one of the most industrious and gifted students. He had the best grade – 12 – in several subjects.

After the graduation the young officer was sent to the Far East. There he took part in the war between Russia and Japan in 1904–1905 and was awarded 5 Orders and a medal. After the war he moved to Vladivostok, where he prepared to enter Nikolai Military Engineering Academy. The entrants had to pass 23 examinations in 25 days. Only 30 of 100 passed them. Karbyshev graduated with the best grades and was awarded a prize for his diploma work.

The newly appointed military' engineer was sent to Sevastopol and then to Warsaw where he played an important

role in preparing Brest Fortress for defense. _____. In 1917 Karbyshev decided to join the Red Army where he was both an officer and an engineer. For that reason he was offered the post of a professor at the Military Engineering Academy and at the same time was the leader of Military Courses. Later he changed his job and worked at Air Forces Engineering Academy with the best military laboratories in Moscow. In 1924–1925 Karbyshev was the chairman of the Military Technology Committee and the leader of all Military Academies in the question of military engineering. It was believed he easily found and taught the most gifted engineers. As a teacher he was strict but democratic. For his scientific and pedagogical work this outstanding man was made Doctor of Science, awarded the Order of the Red Star. _____

On the 21st of June, 1941, Dmitry Mikhailovich was in Grodno where the first blows of Nazi troops aimed at. The Russian troops' losses in killed and wounded were huge. But Karbyshev refused being rescued alone and chose to stay with his soldiers. While building a crossing over the Dnieper, he was badly wounded and captured with other officers and soldiers. _____

In 1943 the engineer was sent to Flossenburg (concentration camp) with the recommendation "for the hardest work", then to Majdanek, Oswiencim and finally to Zaksenhausen (death camp) where he was executed. The Nazi took him outside in February and poured water on him until the man froze to death. In two years a monument of white marble was erected at the place of the execution with ill message to the next generations: "To Dmitry Karbyshev, a scientist, warrior, a communist. His life and death were heroic deeds for the sake of life". His daughter studied at the Military Engineering Academy during the Great Patriotic War was also an engineer in the Russian army.

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

Discuss with one of your classmates if you are of the opinion that:

- ◆ D. M. Karbyshev can be a good example to follow.
- ◆ His traits of character (which ones) helped him to become a hero.
- ◆ He can be compared with somebody.

4. VICTORY DAY



⇒ PRE-READING TASK

I. What are the monuments in the pictures? What do you know about them?

The greatest *national* holiday in Russia is *Victory Day* – 9th May. The *Great Patriotic War* ended on this day in 1945. On that day, we celebrate the end of the war and remember the people who died for Russia.

The war lasted for four years. Soldiers *fought* all over the country: from the White Sea in the North to the Black Sea in the South.

The Brest Fortress was the first to *fight* the Nazis on 22nd June, 1941. The Germans attacked Moscow many times. Leningrad – now St. Petersburg – was *under siege* for 900 days. The battle of Stalingrad of the most important battles in this war.

There are a lot of monuments to the *heroes* of this war everywhere best known are the Brest Fortress, Mamayev Hill, Piskarev Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier where an eternal flame burns.

Every year on 9th May, *veterans* who fought in the war take part in a *parade*. People give them flowers and then they all go to the monuments. There is a special ceremony – a minute's silence all over the country at 7 pm. This is when people *pay tribute* to those who died in this war. Victory Day is a holiday that unites all Russian people.

⇒ READING AND LISTENING TASK

1. In pairs, try to match the following information. Then, read or listen and check your answers.

- 1) 9th May, 1945
 - 2) 4 years
 - 3) 22nd June, 1941
 - 4) 900 days
-
- a) the siege of Leningrad
 - b) the beginning of the war
 - c) the Great Patriotic War
 - d) the end of the war

2. Replace the pronouns in *bold* with the correct word(s) from the text. Then, explain the words in bold.

- 1) **They** fought all over Russia _____ *Soldiers* _____ .
- 2) **It** was the first city to take part _____ .
- 3) **It** is now called St. Petersburg _____ .
- 4) There are many monuments for **them** _____ .
- 5) People see **them** in parades _____ .

⇒ SPEAKING TASK

Discuss the following questions in groups of 2–4.

- ◆ How do you celebrate Victory Day at your school?
- ◆ What do people in your region do on that day?
- ◆ Imagine you are a TV reporter talking live to the viewers. Describe the parade.

5. TRADITIONAL RUSSIAN WEDDING

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

Look at the photo. What ceremony is it? Is a wedding ceremony one of the happiest celebrations in life?

⇒ READING TASK

Read the text and find similarities between wedding ceremonies in Russia and in other countries. What are the differences?



Russian weddings are celebrated on a grand scale. The extent of celebration and thoroughness of preparation are only limited by the financial situation of the family. Some couples choose to adopt western traditions, including the priest, marriage vows, staged shows and special tents for guests. Famous performers may be invited and celebration scripts may be written by professional directors. However, such celebrations are more

of an exception in modern Russia. The traditional Russian wedding is, on the contrary, affordable to most newlyweds.

In order to get married on a set date, couples should submit an advance application to the registry office. Known as ZAGS, the registry office is the official body for marriage registration in Russia. The future husbands and wives usually file an application several months in advance to allow some time to think over their decision. When the wedding day arrives, the young couple visits ZAGS to receive an official marriage certificate. Apart from the official civil ceremony, couples who wish to get married in church will arrange a special meeting with the priest. It is important that the meeting with the priest does not collide with the period of religious fasting as weddings are not performed on these days. Russian church weddings are not considered official.

A bridal dress and groom's suit can be purchased or rented. Apparel and accessories – purse, veil, necklace and earrings for the bride, and tiara, tie clip and cufflinks – for the groom can be obtained in a special bridal salon. Many other issues are arranged in advance, including renting a vehicle (often a limo) for the newlyweds to travel around the city on a wedding day, hiring a restaurant where the celebration will take place, and choosing a photographer and a cameraman who will shoot the wedding ceremony. It is also common to hire or invite a toastmaster to manage many aspects of the wedding. A toastmaster announces performances, gives the floor to guests who want to make a toast, and holds fun contests for guests and newlyweds.

In Russia very much alike as in the Western world, it is a tradition for newlyweds to exchange wedding rings. Usually, the groom provides for the wedding rings, although that might vary depending on specific circumstances and material possibilities. The most popular wedding rings in Russia are made of gold and might be decorated with precious stones or platinum and silver stripes. Russians traditionally wear the wedding ring on the ring finger of the right hand.

So, you might be wondering how do Russian people celebrate a traditional wedding day? Well, we have a quick answer! From the start of the day, the bride usually gets some help from her friends and relatives with her looks and style. The festive

makeover is often delegated to professional hairdressers and make-up artists who take care of every aspect of her looks. Fast forward a few hours, the bride arrives approximately an hour and half before the official ceremony of the registration.



That's about the time when a comical wedding tradition takes place. The parents of the bride pretend to steal the bride and ask the groom to pay a ransom. The groom usually ends up paying some symbolic monetary value or jewellery to get his beloved back. Of course, the entire event is played out only for amusement of the guests. After the ransom is paid and parents return the bride to the groom, the young couple heads straight to ZAGS to officially register their relationship.

The next destination for the wedding ceremony is a picturesque location of any sort where newlyweds can make memorable pictures, including city parks, places of historical interest, the romantic sea coast or any other places of interest. Finally the newlyweds head to the restaurant to meet with the guests they have invited.

⇒ COMPREHENSION CHECK

I. Vocabulary:

молодожены – *newlyweds*

тамада – *entertainer, toastmaster*

выкуп невесты – *paying ransom for the bride*

II. Match the titles with the paragraphs:

The Wedding Day

Preparations for The Wedding: Wedding Dress and Toastmaster

Official Registration and Civil Ceremony

The Wedding Ring – A Symbol of Love and Commitment
Western Traditions

III. Chose the correct answer for the following questions:

1. What is the extent of celebration and thoroughness of preparation limited by?

A. the nationality of the young couple

- B. the level of education of the young couple
- C. the family budget of their parents
- D. the tastes of a bride

2. Who can be invited to entertain guests at a wedding ceremony?

- A. circus animals
- B. famous actors and musicians
- C. well-known politicians
- D. a lot of children

3. What do the newlyweds receive in ZAGS?

- A. a new passport
- B. a nice present
- C. a marriage certificate
- D. a lot of congratulations

4. What is the duty of a toastmaster?

- A. to entertain guests
- B. to cook festive dinner
- C. to sell tickets for the party
- D. to make speeches

5. What does the groom pay ransom for?

- A. for marriage registration
- B. for the hidden bride
- C. for a special meeting with the priest
- D. for wedding rings

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

Discuss in pairs if you have ever visited a wedding ceremony.

6. RUSSIAN LEADERS

⇒ **PRE-READING TASK**

1. Who are the great leaders in your country's history? Discuss your ideas in class.

2. Look at the picture. What do you know about the tsar Ivan the Fourth? Do you know any positive things that happened in his lifetime?

The Reign of Ivan The Terrible (1533—1584)

⇒ **READING TASK**

I. Read the text quickly and check your understanding.

Ivan Vasilievich had a violent personality. As a tsar, Ivan IV definitely earned the name "Terrible". He was very cruel to anyone who argued with him. He killed thousands of ordinary people.

However, that is not all there is to say about Ivan Vasilievich. Think about these questions:

◆ When did the Volga become a great Russian river, all the way from its beginning in the Valdai hills to the Caspian Sea?

◆ When did the Russians move into Siberia?



- ◆ When did Russia have its first regular army?
- ◆ When did they print the first book in Russian?

Ivan Vasilievich also started a friendly and positive relationship between Russia and England. This is how it happened. In 1553, an English sea captain, Richard Chancellor, wanted to find a way to China through the northern seas. He got as far as the White Sea but bad weather stopped him. He landed at the Russian port of Archangel. Ivan IV invited Chancellor to Moscow.

Two years later, Ivan IV allowed the English to start a company in Russia – it was called The Muscovy Trading Company. He gave them a piece of land for their company. It was in Varvarka Street in Moscow and got the name the English Yard. In the 1560s, Ivan and the English queen, Elizabeth I, wrote several letters to each other. More than 400 years later, in 1994, Elizabeth II made the first ever royal visit from England to Russia.

II. Read the text again and do the following tasks.

1. Are these statements true or false? Underline the evidence for your answers in the text.

- ◆ People felt safe when Ivan IV was the tsar.
- ◆ Russia was bigger in 1584 than in 1533.
- ◆ An important cultural event happened at this time.
- ◆ Richard Chancellor planned to visit Moscow.
- ◆ Ivan Vasilievich was not interested in England.
- ◆ Elizabeth II was the first English queen to visit Russia.

2. Find one negative and one positive point about Ivan's personality.

3. Find nouns for these verbs and adjectives: *argue*, *invite*, *friendly*, *violent*.

4. Could he change Russia if he were another kind from British history?

5. What other personality could you compare Ivan IV to?

The Reign of Peter I (1682–1725)

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

I. Look at the picture and read about Peter. Why is he known as Peter the Great?



The reign of Peter I, the son of Alexey, was a turning point in Russian history. At the end of the 17th century, Russia was a backward land that _____. Superstition, distrust of foreigners, and conservatism characterized most of the society.

The economy was based on _____ was sorely out of date. Peter carried forward the westernizing policies of his father, but in a much more radical and uncompromising manner. He remodelled the armed forces and bureaucracy along European lines, and imposed new _____, he also fostered the military and metallurgical industries, whose main center became the Urals region.

Peter's policy of territorial expansion resulted in almost constant war. He created Russia's first navy, which took an Ottoman fortress on the Sea of Azov in 1696.

Peter then turned his attention to Sweden. Early in the Great Northern War (1700–1721) between Sweden and a coalition of Russia, Poland, and Denmark, Peter conquered the northeastern coast of the Baltic Sea from Sweden, _____, which he called Saint Petersburg, on the Baltic coast. The war, which officially ended with the Treaty of Nystad in 1721, established Russia as the dominant power in the Baltic region. After the war Peter took the title *emperor*, _____, and for his military accomplishments he became known as Peter the Great.

II. Read the text again. Find equivalents for the following:

- ◆ primitive agriculture and the military organization
- ◆ taxes dramatically increased the state's revenues
- ◆ stood outside the political affairs of Europe
- ◆ making the official inauguration of Russian Empire
- ◆ and in 1703 began building a new capital city

Catherine of Russian Lands (1729–1796)

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

I. Look at the picture. How is this woman related to the title?



II. Read or listen and check.

A recent survey held in Russia asked: “Who do you think is, or was, the most *outstanding* woman in Russia?” Amazingly, the most popular answer was Catherine the Great. Now that more than 200 years have passed since she *reigned* (1762–1796) many myths and *rumours* about her have been dismissed thanks to the democratic *freedom of the press*. At last we can clearly see who she was, what she did for Russia and why she is still admired and well-remembered.

The title “Great” speaks volumes about the *bearer*. Catherine, who was also called Catherine of Russian Lands, added 200,000 square miles to Russia’s territory. In two wars against Turkey, Russia gained the Crimea and the coast around the Black Sea. In fact, Catherine gave Russia the right of free trade there. After Peter the Great’s “Window into Europe” in the Baltic Sea, this was a huge achievement. Catherine made Russia the largest and most powerful state to confront Turkey for their *domination* of the former Byzantium countries (Greece, Serbia, Romania) in Europe.

⇒ READING AND LISTENING

1. Listen and list the Russian rulers mentioned. What names was Catherine called?

2. Read and match the people (A–E) with their relationship to Catherine (1–5). Then put them in the order in which they first appear in Catherine’s biography. Explain the words in bold.

A. Peter III



D. Peter I



B. Potemkin



E. Voltaire



C. Catherine



- | |
|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. mother-in-law 2. friend 3. husband 4. grandfather-in-law 5. commander of her army |
|--|

1729 – Princess Sophie Fredericke Auguste was born Stettin, Germany.

1744 – Sophie arrived in Moscow to meet Elizabeth I of Russia, daughter of Peter the Great, as bride to the *heir* of the future Russian throne, Peter III. She *adopted* the Orthodox religion and became Yekaterina Alekseyevna.

1745 – Catherine married Peter III. She worked extremely hard to master the Russian language, customs and traditions. Throughout her life she kept saying: “I’m more Russian than

some who say they are". She also studied philosophy, law and sciences and made friends with *intellectuals* in Russia and abroad.

1761 – Empress Elizabeth died and Peter was crowned Emperor of Russia.

1762 – Peter III proved to be an unintelligent and inefficient ruler. Catherine, supported by the Imperial Guards, *overthrew* Peter and became Catherine II.

1763 – She began to collect works of art from all over Europe for the newly built Hermitage and started her life-long drive for a European-style education.

1768–1774 – War with Turkey ended with treaty.

1778 – Voltaire left his entire library to her after his death.

1783 – Gregory Potemkin *annexed* Crimea from Turkey.

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

A. In pairs, ask and answer questions about the main dates in Catherine's life.

B. Project

Find the information in the Internet about the most outstanding English woman. Tell the class about her. Make a poster.

Putin Vladimir Vladimirovich

⇒ **PRE-READING TASK**

What famous Russian politicians can you name? Do they do a lot for our country and it's citizens? Who was the first president of Russia?

⇒ **READING TASK**

Read the text and choose the correct option.

Putin, Vladimir Vladimirovich (born 07.10.1952) – the second President of Russia.

Vladimir Putin was born in St. Petersburg and finished a regular secondary school there. For a long time he lived and worked in St. Petersburg. He graduated from the Leningrad State University named after Zhdanov in 1975. For 15 years (1975–1990) he served in the intelligence department of KGB, for a long time worked in Germany. After he had returned to Leningrad, Putin was appointed assistant pro-rector of his alma mater.



In 1990 he became Sobchak's councillor, in 1991 Putin was appointed the chairman of Foreign Contacts Committee of St. Petersburg. After Sobchak had lost the election, Vladimir Putin resigned. We should remember that Putin helped many large German firms to start their branches in St. Petersburg, including Drezdner Bank (which was one of the foreign banks cooperating with Russia). Many politicians mentioned that he would make an ideal head of the government because he conducted the sessions in a very clear-cut, business-like and effective style.

Since 1996 Putin had worked in Moscow. On December, 31st, 1999, Boris Yeltsyn announced his retirement and in the same speech named Vladimir Putin his successor. For some time Putin performed the duties of the President, and in 2000 he was elected and inaugurated the President of Russia.

Putin goes in for sports (judo is his favourite). Every morning he runs and does his morning exercises for 45 minutes. The President speaks fluent German. The President is married and has 2 children.

⇒ **COMPREHENSION CHECK**

1. Putin was born in:

a) 1948; b) 1952; c) 1960.

2. He graduated from:

a) Moscow State University; b) Leningrad State University.

3. Many politicians mentioned that Putin would make an ideal head of the government because:

- a) he was Sobchak's councilor;
- b) helped large German firms start their branches in Saint Petersburg;
- c) conducted the sessions in a very effective style.

4. Putin became the President of Russia in:

- a) 1996; b) 1999; c) 2000.

5. He speaks fluent:

- a) English; b) German; c) Spanish.

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

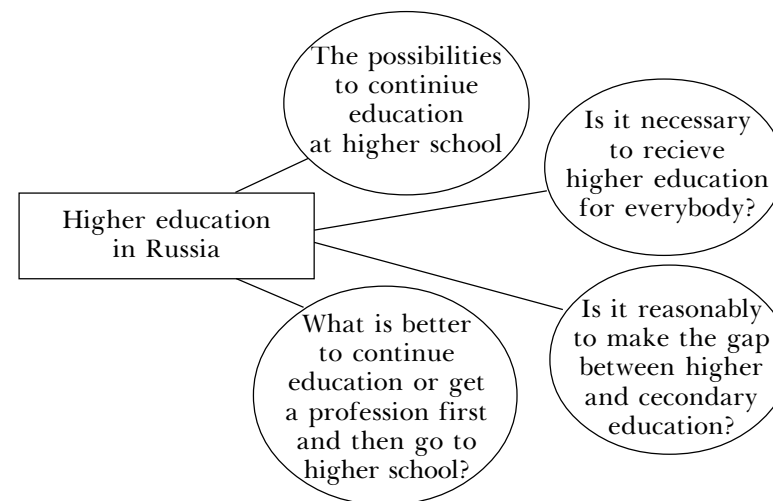
Discuss in pairs:

Being a president is great honor and responsibility. Would you like to become a president? If yes/no say why?

7. HIGHER EDUCATION

⇒ **PRE-READING TASK**

I. Using the spider graph speak in groups about advantages and disadvantages of higher education.



II. Look at the photo on the p. 74 and answer the questions:

- ◆ Where are the people?
- ◆ What are they doing?
- ◆ How do you think they feel?

⇒ **READING TASK**

I. Read the text and be ready to describe the higher education system in Russia.



Higher education plays an important role in the life of any country as it provides the country' with highly qualified specialists. It trains people to become teachers, engineers, doctors and other professional workers.

There are many colleges and universities in our country. It's not easy to enter a university or a college as the competition is rather high. Most of the universities and colleges are public and students don't have to pay for their education. Students who do well in all subjects receive state grants.

The academic year usually lasts nine months and is divided into two terms. Students take exams at the end of each term. Twice a year they have vacations – two weeks in winter and two months in summer.

As a rule, the first- and second-year students get thorough instruction in the fundamental sciences. In the third year students begin to study specialized subjects. Specialized courses and practical training help students to become specialists and prepare them for future work.

After four years of study students can pass examinations and get a bachelor's degree. Then the students can go on with their studies and get the qualification of an engineer at the end of the fifth year or a master's degree at the end of the sixth year. After graduating students can take a postgraduate course and get a still higher degree.

Universities and colleges have their own students' hostels and some of them have large and excellent sports facilities. Most higher educational institutions have modern computer centres.

At present a new system of education is being introduced in Russia. It's a distance education system which helps working professionals to continue their education while remaining at their jobs. Education is a way to success.

II. Read the text again. Are the statements true or false? Underline the evidence for your answer in the text.

- 1) It is difficult to enter the university with a scholarship.
- 2) Most of the universities are free.

- 3) Students begin to study specialized subjects in the second year.
- 4) Students can continue their education after four years of study.
- 5) There is not a distance education system in Russia now.

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

They say that "Education is a way to success". Do you agree? Discuss this statement in groups of 3–4. Prove your opinion.

Moscow University

⇒ **PRE-READING TASK**

I. Look at the photo. What is this building famous for? Who was the founder of Moscow University?



II. Read the text and fill in the gaps with word combinations from A to G.

Moscow University is one of the oldest Russian institutions of higher education. It was named after Academician Mikhail Lomonosov, 1 _____.

Mikhail Lomonosov was a person of formidable willpower and keen scientific mind, 2 _____. Lomonosov's interests ranged from history, art and poetry to mechanics and chemistry. His activity was a manifestation of the enormous potential of Russia, 3 _____.

Peter I had reformed Russia, 4 _____.

Great importance was placed on education. In 1724 the St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences established a university and a grammar school to educate intellectuals and researchers the country needed.

However, these educational establishments did not fulfill the task they had taken on. It was Michail Lomonosov who invested the idea of establishing a university in Moscow. According to Lomonosov's plan, there were originally three faculties. First all the students acquired a comprehensive knowledge in the field of science and humanities at the Faculty of Philosophy. Then they could specialize and continue the Faculty of Philosophy or join either the Law Faculty the Faculty of Medicine. The best students were sent to continue their education abroad, establishing contacts with lie international scientific community.

From the very beginning elitism was alien to the very spirit of the University community, 5 _____.

The Decree stated that the university was to educate commoners. Originally tuition at Moscow University was free for IE students; later only poor students were exempt from tuition fees. The state funding did not cover all the University expenses and it was partly funded by its patrons, 6 _____. University alumni supported their alma mater through hard times raising money by public subscriptions.

Moscow University played an outstanding role in popularizing science and learning in Russia. Professors of Moscow University greatly contributed to establishing new cultural centres in Moscow and Russia.

- A. that was highly respected by foreign scientists
- B. which determined long-standing democratic tradition
- C. which allowed the country' to reach high standards in many spheres
- D. whose scientists occupied the leading positions in the world
- E. whose lifelong passion was learning
- F. who donated equipment and established scholarships for University students
- G. who greatly contributed to its establishment

Nizhny Novgorod Linguistics University

⇒ PRE-READING TASK

Think of five things that you consider to be if you wish to study at the University.

⇒ READING TASK

I. Read the text and answer the question: what prospects for your future do you think LUNN could open up?

Linguistics University of Nizhny Novgorod (LUNN) is a state academic institution accredited by the Ministry of Education of Russian Federation. It ranks among the top Russian universities of its kind. LUNN provides education for students who come from all regions of Russia, NIS, Europe and the USA. The total number of students at the University is about 5,000.

Established in 1937, LUNN is composed of five departments or faculties: Faculty of English, Faculty of Roman German languages, Faculty of Translation and Interpreting and Faculty of International Relations, Economics and Management. LUNN provided academic programs in languages, linguistics, international studies, humanities, economics, management, information security at bachelors and masters levels.

Academic mobility is part of LUNN education and students have their internship at the partner universities abroad for one or two semesters.



LUNN is an excellent place for both Russian and international students where they value the supportive atmosphere for study and safe location in the historical part of the city within the walking distance to the downtown area. LUNN is dedicated to cross-cultural awareness, understanding and diversity.

Every year the University hosts visiting professors from Western and Central Europe, Asia and the USA.

II. Read the text again. Discuss the following statements in groups of 3–4.

- a) Traditions in education of LUNN.
- b) Studying at the partner university is great.

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

Discuss in pairs the following questions:

1. What is LUNN today?
2. How is it different from other universities?
3. How do students study?
4. What professions can students get?

8. NIZHNY NOVGOROD — A COMMERCIAL HUB OF RUSSIA



⇒ **PRE-READING TASK**

Look at the title. What does “A commercial hub of Russia” mean?

⇒ **READING TASK**

I. Read the text. In pairs, think of four questions you would like to ask about Nizhny Novgorod.

Nizhny Novgorod is one of the largest cities in Russia with the population of 1,350 mln people. It is situated about 250 miles east of Moscow and offers insights into life in Russia’s heartland.

Historically, Nizhny Novgorod was a commercial hub of Russia, located at the strategic confluence of the Oka and the

Volga rivers. This favorable geographic location promoted Nizhny Novgorod as one of the trade and historical center of Russia. UNESCO has added the city to the world's Top-100 list of cities having international significance.

The total area of N. Novgorod exceeds 200 square miles. The city is divided into two parts by the Oka river.

The historical center of the city lies on the eastern bank of the Oka river, while the newer, industrial side lies to the west. Over its eight-century history the city has joined together a wide variety of architectural styles. At present, Nizhny Novgorod is a welcoming modern large city with a well developed infrastructure and profound recreation facilities.



The Kremlin

The Kremlin Ensemble is the central part of the ancient city which occupies a relatively small territory on the dominating hill at the confluence of the Oka and the Volga rivers.

The first wooden fortress was built here in 1221 – this is meant to be the city foundation year. The walls that now exist date as far back as 1500–1511. Construction of the Kremlin wall on the steep hillside was initiated by the Italian architect Peter Friazin. During the XVI century the Kremlin endured 4 sieges. Eleven of the original thirteen towers have survived.

The empty place in the front of the Kremlin Wall is the city's central square, where the city special events and festivities



Minin and Pozharsky Square

take place. There are monuments in honor of past and present heroes and the main streets are coming off the square.

The Fair's Main Building, an example of the Russian Style, dates back to 1896, when an All-Russian Trade and Industry Exhibition was held in Nizhny Novgorod.

The Main House is an architectural landmark of the city. The majority Russian and International forums and exhibitions are held there.

Thus it is promoting N. Novgorod business and industry not only within Russia but all around the world. Today it houses about 20 exhibitions and forums per year.



Nizhny Novgorod Fair

Contents

II. Read the text for the second time and correct the sentences.

◆ Nizhny Novgorod is a small town on the eastern bank of the Oka River.

◆ The newer industrial side lies on the western bank of the Volga River.

◆ The first wooden fortress was built in 1221 – but this is not meant to be the city foundation year.

◆ Eleven of original fifteen towers have survived.

◆ The Fair's Main Building is promoting N. Novgorod only within Russia.

⇒ **SPEAKING TASK**

Use the information in the text to talk about N. Novgorod and its sights.

⇒ **WRITING TASK**

1. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend Sam who writes:

...At school we are doing projects on the greatest cities of the world.

I have decided to write about Nizhny Novgorod. Could you tell me about your city? What is special about it?

As for the family news, my sister got married last week...

Write a letter to Sam. In your letter tell him about Nizhny Novgorod, ask three questions about his city, write 100–140 words, remember the rules of writing.

2. Project

Choose your favourite place in N. Novgorod. Find some interesting facts from its history. Make photos of this place. Tell your classmates about it.

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**Добро
пожаловать!
Welcome!**



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