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**Новомосковский институт (филиал)**

**Английский язык**

**Учебное пособие**

**Сборник устных тем по английскому языку для итогового контроля**

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Учебное пособие предназначено для студентов всех форм обучения, изучающих английский язык в качестве общей дисциплины. Основной целью пособия является обеспечить обучающихся необходимым компактным руководством при подготовке к сдаче экзамена по английскому языку.

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1. **About My Family. About Myself**

**1.1 About Myself**

First of all, let me introduce myself. My name is Taras. I'm eighteen years old. I'm a first-year-student. There are two more kids in the family besides me — my elder brother Oleg and my younger sister Maria. Oleg is twenty-one, he attends a University too, he will be a dentist. Maria is only twelve, she is a schoolgirl. I forgot to mention one more member of our family. It's our favourite poodle Tim. My parents are not old at all. My Mum is forty, she works for a newspaper. My Dad is forty-four, he is an engineer in computers. My parents love their jobs very much. I'm doing quite well at Institute. My parents are proud of my marks. I go in for sports. I play basket-ball. In summer time I like yachting and windsurfing. I take part in different basket-ball competitions. A year ago I finished my school and I had to decide what occupation to choose. I have been studying English for seven years. I want to be a military interpreter. My grandparents are already retired. They like gardening and spend all their time growing tomatoes, potatoes, onions, strawberries, raspberries.

**Questions:**

1. Do you go to Institute?

2. What course are you at?

3. How old are your parents?

4. Are you the only child in the family?

5. Do you have a pet?

6. Are your grandparents still alive?

7. Do you go in for sports?

8. Do you like reading?

**1.2 About My Family**

My family is not very big, just a typical family: Dad, Mom, me, my brother and sister and our cat. My Mummy is forty-one, she is a teacher of Spanish at the University. She is a born teacher. She has teaching abilities. My Dad is forty-two, he is a professional painter, he works for a design company. My parents both like their work very much. My elder sister Natasha is nineteen, she goes to the University, she wants to be a teacher of history. She is fond of reading books on history and fiction. My younger brother Igor is only six years old, he goes to the kindergarten. He is very funny. I like to spend my free time teaching him something. Igor likes to play with our cat. My grandparents are retired. They like gardening. They spend a lot of their time in the garden. They grow vegetables and fruits. We enjoy having fresh vegetables and green on our dinner table. I love my family very much. We always help each other. Everyone in my family is my best friend.

**Questions:**

1. How many members are there in the family?

2. Do you have a brother or a sister?

3. Where do your parents work?

4. Do your parents understand you?

5. In what way do you help your parents?

6. How old are your grandparents?

7. How do you get along with your family?

8. Which of the parents do you want to be like?

**Vocabulary:**

to introduce — представлять

let me introduce myself — разрешите представиться

to attend university — ходить в университет

kid — ребенок

favourite — любимец, любимый

poodle — пудель

to forget — забывать

job — работа

proud — гордый

to be proud of smth — гордиться чем-то

to go in for sports — увлекаться спортом

occupation — занятие, род занятий, профессия

military — военный

interpreter — переводчик

to retire — быть на пенсии

**2. My Study. My Institute**

**2.1 Novomoskovsk Institute**

We study at the Novomoskovsk Institute of Russian Chemico-Technological University named after D.I.Mendeleyev. It was organized in 1959 to train specialists for our chemical industry. In 2014 we celebrated the 55-th anniversary of the Institute.

At present there are four departments at the Institute: Day, Evening, Extra-Mural and Preparatory where more than 2000 students study various subjects.

The Technological, the Energetico-Mechanical, the Cybernetical, the Economical

Departments are in our Institute.

The academic year begins in September and ends in June. It is divided into 2 terms. In the course of studying students attend lectures and classes, have seminars, do laboratory work. At the end of each term they take their tests and examinations. After a winter session students are given a fortnight vacation, in summer they have a holiday for a month.

Our Institute is housed in 3 buildings. There are many study-rooms, modern lecture-halls in them. Numerous laboratories, more than 90, are equipped with new devices and instruments to provide a high level of training. Here students make experiments, carry out research work.

There is a large library containing over 230 thousand volumes and three reading-rooms at the disposal of students to provide them with text-books, magazines and special literature.

Students studying at our Institute are paid stipend, have free medical care, live in 3 hostels. Every year more than 500 young specialists graduate from the Institute and go working to chemical plants, research institutes and various industrial enterprises of our country. 

**Questions:**

When was the Institute organized?

How many departments are there at the Institute?

When does the academic year begin?

When do the students have holydays?

Where is our Institute housed?

Do we have a library?

How many young specialists graduate from the Institute every year?

Where will they work?

**Vocabulary:**

celebrate - праздновать

anniversary - годовщина

department - отделение

extra-mural - заочный

preparatory - подготовительный

term - семестр

fortnight vocation – двухнедельные каникулы

holiday - каникулы

to be housed – быть размещенным

to be equipped – быть оснащенным

to carry out research work – проводить исследовательскую работу

to be at the disposal of – быть в распоряжении

**3. My Working Day. My Profession**

**3.1 My Working Day**

I study at the Institute and my everyday activities are quite routine. They do not differ much from those of any other student of our country. On weekdays the alarm clock wakes me up at 7 o’clock in the morning. I am not an earlier riser. That is why it is always very difficult for me to get out of bed, especially in winter. I switch on my tape-recorder and do my morning exercises. Then I go to the bathroom, take a warm shower, brush my teeth and comb my hair. After that I go to my bedroom to get dressed.

Usually my mother makes breakfast for me. But when she is away on business or just does not have to get up early, I make breakfast myself. For breakfast I usually have toasts, fried eggs, corn flakes, tea or coffee and some jam.

Luckily my Institute is just a few minutes’ walk from our block of flats. I leave at a quarter past eight and walk to the Institute. I meet some of my friends on my way there.

My classes begin at half past eight. I usually have six or eight lessons. Sometimes there are lectures, sometimes-labs. The classes are usually over at four o clock, but I often stay at the Institute for some time: to talk to my friends or to go to the library. I come back home about half past four. Then I have my lunch and take a rest. Sometimes I go for a walk. If the weather is bad I stay at home and read a book. There are some days, when I need to do my homework. It takes two or three hours to do it.

My parents usually return home at seven o’clock. When I am at home we have dinner at half past seven. After dinner we usually go to the sitting room. There we read books, watch TV, chat with friends on the phone. At ten o clock I take a shower, brush my teeth and go to bed.

**Questions:**

When do you wake up on weekdays?

What do you do in the bathroom?

Who makes breakfast for you?

What do you have for breakfast?

When do your classes begin?

What do you do after the Institute?

When do your parents return home?

When do you go to bed?

**Vocabulary:**

routine - рутина

an earlier riser – ранняя пташка

to switch on - включать

to comb - причесываться

to be away on business – быть в командировке

fried eggs - яичница

It takes – это занимает…

sitting room - гостиная

to brush teeth – чистить зубы

**3.2 My Profession**

Sooner or later every young man and woman must finally decide what trade or profession they would choose as the main line of their lifetime, a trade or profession that is really close to their hearts and interests, something they are really good at some line following which they could realize themselves in the best possible way.

When they leave school, millions of young people begin an independent life. They can start a working career, go into business or continue schooling to receive a higher education. There is one institute or a few institutes in nearly every Russian city. There are dozens of them in Moscow and St. Petersburg. If you want to get a professional training you can enter a technical college. They say that there are over 2000 professions in the world so it is quite difficult to choose and make a decision. Some follow their own choice and some follow their parents’ advice.

I have asked myself a lot of times:’’ What do I want to be when I leave school?’’ A few years ago it was difficult for me to give a definite answer. As the years passed I changed my mind a lot of times about which science or sphere of industry to specialize in. It was difficult to make up my mind and choose one of the hundreds of jobs to which I might be better suited.

What are the main reasons for choosing your future profession? First of all, it should seem interesting to you. An exciting job that you really like is an important component of happiness in life. Then you should consider the problem of earning a living. The most fascinating job will bring no satisfaction if you starve. And there is the very up-to-date problem of unemployment: you should choose a profession which will produce a job.

**Questions:**

Why do every young man or woman decide about profession as the main line of their lifetime?

What do young people after school?

Do all young people go to the Institute?

Do all people follow their own choice?

Is it simple to choose one job which you might be better suited?

What are the main reasons for choosing your future profession?

**Vocabulary:**

trade - торговля

the main line – основная линия

in the best possible way – в лучшем виде (лучшим образом)

to go into business – заниматься бизнесом

dozen - десяток

to make a decision – принять решение

a definite answer – определенный ответ

to change smb’s mind - передумать

to make up smb’s mind - решиться

to starve - голодать

up-to-date – актуальный

**3.3 I want to be an engineer**

It is not a secret that general public recognizes the importance of today’s success in modern technology in the field of innovative inventions. Whether it is making new electrical devices, improvement of oil refinement industry, or any other branch of engineering, one is hardly able to find a person who would consider those scientific advances as somewhat negative.

From an early age, I was willing to be among the vast majority of people who are changing the world. There are many ways to affect the future of mankind, but personally I am prone to find myself in the realm of engineering. There are many examples that show how engineers are making life change in a beneficial for society way. Most of all, it is connected to making life more comfortable by inventing anything artificial.

I remember how after the first time that I used a computer, I wondered who those people were that made that outstanding product of an ingenious human mind.

Later on, I realized how much effort was put into one single computer. It included cohesive cooperation of perhaps hundreds of engineers that worked in different fields of sciences.

This example of encountering a computer revealed to me my main aspiration. I decided to plunge myself into a highly educated group of people whose innovations amaze people.

I made a decision to become an engineer regardless of anything because I truly believe that one day I will be remembered by people as somebody who invented a very useful device.

**Vocabulary:**

invention - изобретение

oil refinement industry – нефтяная перерабатывающая промышленность

the vast majority – подавляющее большинство

to be prone to – быть подверженным

beneficial - выгодный

artificial - искусственный

an ingenious human mind – изобретательный человеческий разум

cohesive - связный

encountering - столкновение

to reveal - показать

aspiration - стремление

plunge - погружение

regardless – независимо

**3.4 I want to be an economist**

Looking at the pundits of financial operations of the world, I once realized that what those people do is exactly what I would want to be preoccupied with for the rest of my life. Just the idea of being able to be involved in economic affairs makes me feel enthusiastic and ready to study all sciences that are related to economics: math, statistics, political science, computer science, and many others.

With much introspection, I tried to make an attempt to analyze my desire to dedicate my life to economics. I came into conclusion that unlike many people who want to become economists because they are simply attracted to money, I tend to want that way in my life for a completely different reason.

The thing is that I am very excited to implement the rules of numbers and make them work in real life in order to gain benefits. It takes an entirely special way of thinking that most people do not have. Since I found it in me, I feel lucky and also being obliged to use my talent.

Being an economist is supposedly very hard. After all, it is not one of those jobs in which people are always happy. On the contrary, after doing some brief research I found out that there is a high incidence of depression disorders among economists.

I believe that happens due to people’s wrong choice of their profession. Many want to revolve in the realm of economics for the purpose of financial gain. I am different which is why I hope to find myself being a happy economist in the future.

**Vocabulary:**

the pundits of financial operations – эксперты финансовых операций

to be preoccupied with – быть озабоченным

to be involved in – быть вовлеченным в, быть связанным с

affair - дело

introspection - самоанализ

to make an attempt - предпринять попытку

desire - желание

to come into conclusion – прийти к заключению

to implement the rules of numbers – осуществить правила чисел

to gain benefits – получать выгоду

to be being obliged to use one’s talent – быть обязанным использовать талант

supposedly - предположительно

incidence - уровень

to revolve – вращаться

**4. My Days Off. Holidays**

**4.1 My Days Off**

I go to the Institute five days a week, so I have two days off— Saturday and Sunday. During the week I am very busy, so I like to have a rest on weekend.

I am not an early riser and it is a rare Saturday or Sunday when I get up before 9 o’clock. I enjoy staying in bed, when I don’t have to hurry anywhere.

We have late breakfast at 10 and watch TV. Usually we have something tasty: meat salad, fried potatoes, chicken, cake or pie.

If the weather is fine, I usually do not stay indoors, I and my dog go outside. Often we go to the park and play there. If the weather is rainy and gloomy, I stay at home and watch TV, listen to the music, read the books.

After dinner we go to visit our grandparents or relatives, or just simply take a nap. Sometimes when my friends call me we go roller -blading. I like roller - blading very much, I think it is a lot of fun.

In the evenings I like to watch video and music programs. There is a big armchair in my room right beside the lamp with blue shade. If it is cold, I like to sit there with cup of coffee and read.

Sometimes I do something special on weekends: go to an' art exhibition, to the theatre, to the concert.

I always go to bed late on Sundays, and Monday morning is the nastiest thing through all the week.

I like weekends very much, because I can rest and gain some energy for the next week.

**Questions:**

When do you have a rest?

When do you get up on weekend?

What do you have for breakfast?

What do you do before dinner?

What do you like to do in the evenings?

Do you do anything special on weekends?

When do you go to bed?

Do you like weekends?

**Vocabulary:**

lucky — удачливый

early riser – человек, встающий рано

to enjoy - наслаждаться

to hurry - торопиться

tasty - вкусный

pie — пирог

gloomy - мрачный

relative - родственник

take a nap - вздремнуть

exhibition - выставка

nasty - противный

to gain — npuобретать

**5. Business Trip**

**5.1 Business Trips**

Never before in the history of the world have businessmen travelled as much as they do today. It is not surprising because we are living in a world of growing international trade and expanding economic and technical cooperation. Though it is fascinating for tourist travelling, it has become the most tiring of all occupations for many businessmen and experts. Therefore, choosing a comfortable hotel to stay at is a matter of big importance. There are plenty of good hotels, motels and guest houses in the world, which are conveniently located in major business centers.

Many developing countries, such as India, Egypt, Nigeria, Libya, etc. have excellent hotels. Their numerous facilities include both large and small cocktail bars, barber's shops and conference halls equipped with simultaneous, multilingual translation systems. There are parking areas which can accommodate a lot of cars. It might be useful for travelling businessmen and tourists to know that tailor shops, shoe repair shops, laundry and dry cleaning services are available for guests. People in the office help guests to book train or steamer tickets and rent a car. They are also ready to give all necessary information. Nowadays people who go on business mostly travel by air as it is the fastest means of travelling. Passengers are requested to arrive at the airport 2 hours before the departure time on international flights and an hour on domestic flights, as there must be enough time to complete the necessary airport formalities. Passengers must register their tickets, weigh and register the luggage.

Most airlines have at least 2 classes of travel: first class and economy class which is cheaper. Each passenger of more than 2 years of age has a free luggage allowance. Generally, this limit is 20kg for economic class passenger and 30kg for first class passenger. Excess luggage must be paid for except for some articles that can be carried free of charge. Each passenger is given a boarding card to show at departure gate and again to the stewardess when boarding the plane. Watch the electric sign flashes when you are on board, when the "Fasten Seat Belts" sign goes on do it promptly and also obey the "No Smoking" signal. Do not forget your personal effects when leaving the plane.

**Questions:**

Why is it not surprising that businessmen have travelled as much as they do today?

Why is choosing a comfortable hotel so important?

What facilities does every good hotel include?

How can people in the office to help the guests?

How much time does it take to complete the necessary airport formalities?

How many classes of travel do we have?

What must the passenger do before and after boarding?

**Vocabulary:**

trade - торговля

expanding economic and technical cooperation – расширение экономического и технического сотрудничества

facility – средство

barber's shop - парикмахерская

simultaneous - одновременный

accommodate – приспособить, снять, вместить

tailor shop - ателье

laundry - прачечная

to be available – быть доступным

to book - заказывать

steamer - пароход

luggage - багаж

allowance - пособие

**6. Travelling. Hotels**

**6.1 Travelling/Holidays**

Modern life is impossible without travelling. Thousands of people travel every day either on business or for pleasure. They can travel by air, by rail, by sea or by road. Of course, travelling by air is the fastest and the most convenient way, but it is the most expensive too. Travelling by train is slower than by plane, but it has its advantages. You can see much more interesting places of the country you are travelling through. Modern trains have very comfortable seats. There are also sleeping cars and dining cars which make even the longest journey enjoyable. Speed, comfort and safety are the main advantages of trains and planes. That is why many people prefer them to all other means. Travelling by sea is very popular. Large ships and small river boats can visit foreign countries and different places of interest within their own country.

As for me, I prefer travelling by air think it's very convenient. You needn't reserve tour tickets. You needn't carry heavy suitcases. You can stop wherever you wish, and spend at any place as much time as you like.

Every year my friend and I go somewhere to the South for holidays. The Black Sea is one of the most wonderful places which attracts holiday-makers all over the world. There are many rest-homes, sanatoriums and tourist camps there. But it is also possible to rent a room or a furnished house for a couple of weeks there. Sometimes, we can place ourselves in a tent on the sea shore enjoying fresh air and the sun all day long.

As a rule, I make new friends there. In the day-time we play volleyball, tennis, swim in the warm water of the sea and sunbathe. In the evening I like to sit on the beach watching the sea and enjoying the sunset. I'm fond of mountaineering. So I do a lot of climbing together with my friends. Time passes quickly and soon we have to make our way back. We return home sunburnt and full of impressions.

**Questions:**

How can we travel?

What is it the most convenient way to travel?

What advantages do travelling by train have?

Is travelling by sea popular? Why?

How do you like to travel?

Do you prefer to go to the Black Sea or go abroad?

What impressions do you have after holidays?

**Vocabulary:**

on business - по работе (в командировку)

for pleasure – для удовольствия

to travel by air, by rail, by sea or by road – путешествовать на самолете, поездом, морем, на машине

the most convenient way – самый удобный способ

advantage – преимущество

sleeping car - спальный вагон

dining car – вагон-ресторан

sunbathe - загорать

mountaineering – альпинизм

**7. Shopping. Meals**

**7.1 At the Restaurant**

People usually have dinner at home. But sometimes in order to have rest with your friends, for special occasion or business contact with some partners you go to a restaurant.

When you come there, you take off your coat and leave it in the cloakroom. The head-waiter shows you to the table that perhaps was reserved in advance. A waiter who is standing nearby comes up to take your order. He puts the menu on the table in front of each of you. There is a large choice of dishes at every restaurant and if it is difficult for you to decide what to choose, you should ask the waiter to recommend some.

For the first course you may take cabbage soup, fish soup, mushroom soup or soup-noodle for a change. For the main course you have roast-beef, beefsteak, mixed grill, chicken or fish with chips, mashed potatoes or spaghetti. And vegetables, of course: tomato and cucumber salad or mixed salad. For dessert you may have some fruit, fruit salad, fruit juice or fruit cocktails. And you will finish your dinner with black coffee or ice-cream. If you want to start with drinks, you can order a bottle of red or white semi-dry wine, brandy, semi-sweet Champagne, gin and tonic with lemon, mineral water.

The choice is made. The waiter serves everything. When the dinner is over, you pay the bill, put on your coat and leave the restaurant, of course, it is rather expensive to go there very often, but from time to time you can afford it to yourself.

**Questions:**

When do we go to the restaurant?

What do we do at first at the restaurant?

How do you make an order?

What can you take for the first course?

What can you take for the main course?

What can you take for dessert?

What do you make after dinner?

**Vocabulary:**

for special occasion – для особого случая

take off - раздеться

head-waiter - метрдотель

reserve in advance – заказать заранее

dish - блюдо

cottage soup - щи

fish soup – рыбный суп

mushroom soup – грибной суп

soup-noodle – суп-лапша

mixed grill – жаркое ассорти

chicken - курица

fish with chips – рыба с жареным картофелем

mashed potatoes – пюре

**7.2 Shopping**

When we want to buy something, we go to a shop. There are many kinds of shops in every town or city, but most of them have a food supermarket, a department store, men's and women's clothing stores, grocery, a bakery and a butchery. I like to do my shopping at big department stores and supermarkets. They sell various goods under one roof and this is very convenient. A department store, for example, true to its name, is composed of many departments: readymade clothes, fabrics, shoes, sports goods, toys, china and glass, electric appliances, cosmetics, linen, curtains, cameras, records, etc. You can buy everything you like there. There are also escalators in big stores which take customers to different floors. The things for sale are on the counters so that they can be easily seen. In the women's clothing department, you can find dresses, costumes, blouses, skirts, coats, beautiful underwear and many other things. In the men's clothing department, you can choose suits, trousers, overcoats, ties, etc. In the knitwear department one can buy sweaters, cardigans, short-sleeved and long-sleeved pullovers, woolen jackets. In the perfumery they sell face cream and powder, lipstick, lotions and shampoos. In a food supermarket we can also buy many different things at once: sausages, fish, sugar, macaroni, flour, cereals, tea. At the butcher's there is a wide choice of meat and poultry. At the bakery you buy brown and white bread, rolls, biscuits. Another shop we frequently go to is the greengrocery which is stocked by cabbage, potatoes, onions, cucumbers, carrots, beetroots, green peas and what not. Everything is sold here ready-weighed and packed. If you call round at a dairy you can buy milk, cream, cheese, butter and many other products. The methods of shopping may vary. It may be a self-service shop where the customer goes from counter to counter selecting and putting into a basket what he wishes to buy. Then he takes the basket to the check-out counter, where the prices of the purchases are added up. If it is not a self-service shop, and most small shops are not, the shop-assistant helps the customer in finding what he wants. You pay money to the cashier and he gives you back the change.

**Questions:**

1. What do we do when we want to buy something?

2. What kinds of shops are there in every town?

3. Where do you like to do your shopping?

4. What departments is a department store composed of?

5. Where are the things for sale?

6. What can we buy in the knitwear department?

7. What can we buy in a food supermarket?

8. What methods of shopping are there?

**Vocabulary:**

supermarket — супермаркет

store — магазин, отдел

various — разнообразный

under one roof — под одной крышей

to be composed of... — состоять (из чего-то)

ready-weighed and packed — в расфасованном и упакованном виде

fabrics — ткани

escalator — эскалатор

customer — покупатель

**8. Health**

**8.1 Being Ill**

I think almost everyone has been ill at least once in his life and even those lucky few who are never ill sometimes have to visit a doctor. So everyone shares this experience.

When you are not well, you go to the doctor. For example, you do not sleep very well or you have a cough. You may have a pain in your chest, a headache, a stomach-ache, a sore throat, a cold, or something more serious. The doctor usually says that you need an examination. He looks at your tongue. Doctors can see at once if something is wrong by your tongue. Then the doctor examines your throat. The doctor feels your pulse. If your pulse is faster than normal it is another sign or, as doctors say, symptom that you are unwell. Sometimes the doctor wants to know your temperature. The normal temperature is 36, 6. A higher temperature indicates some disorder in your body. Then the doctor listens to your heart and chest and he is ready to say what the matter with you is.

In some cases, there is nothing really serious wrong with you. Then the doctor just tells you to rest and stay at home for a day or two. In case of real trouble doctor prescribes some medicine.

Usually you take the prescription to a chemist’s. You buy what has been prescribed by your doctor and the chemist usually tells you how to take your medicine. It can be a tablet or some tablets two or three times a day. Some medicines are taken before and some after meals. With liquid medicines we usually take a spoonful before having a meal.

Sometimes you do not feel well enough to go to the surgery. For example, people call a doctor when they have a very high temperature. In this case the doctor comes to your house and examines you there. He leaves some prescriptions for you and your relative or friend goes to the chemist’s to buy the necessary medicines.

If it is serious, for example a heart attack, or an accident, then it needs urgent medical assistance and you call an ambulance. The ambulance arrives with a doctor who examines the person and gives him the aid he needs. In most cases the person is taken to hospital for a more intensive examination and therapy. When an operation is required it is performed by a surgeon.

**Questions:**

Why do we go to the doctor?

How does the examination begin?

What can your pulse say?

What does the doctor prescribe?

Where do you buy medicines?

How must we take tablets?

In what cases does the doctor come to your house?

**Vocabulary:**

to have a cough - кашлять

to have a pain in the chest – страдать отболи в груди

headache – головная боль

stomach-ache – боль в желудке

sore throat - ангина

to have a cold – простудиться

tongue - язык

throat - горло

to prescribe - выписывать

chemist - фармацевт

heart attack – сердечный приступ

accident – несчастный случай

surgeon - хирург

**9. Environmental Pollution**

**9.1 Environmental Pollution**

People have always polluted their surroundings. But until now pollution was not such a serious problem. With the development of crowded industrial cities which put huge amounts of pollutants into small areas, the problem has become more important. Automobiles and other new inventions make pollution steadily worse. Since the late 1960's people have become alarmed with the danger of pollution.

Air, water, and soil are necessary for existence of all living things. But polluted air can cause illness, and even death. Polluted water kills fish and other marine life. On polluted soil food cannot be grown. In addition, environmental pollution spoils the natural beauty of our planet.

Pollution is as complicated as serious problem. Automobiles are polluting the air but they provide transportation for the people. Factories pollute the air and the water but they provide jobs for people and produce necessary goods. Fertilizers and pesticides are important for growing crops but they can ruin soil.

Thus, people would have to stop using many useful things if they wanted to end pollution immediately. Most people do not want that of course. But pollution can be reduced gradually. Scientists and engineers can find the ways to reduce pollution from automobiles and factories. Government can pass the laws that would make enterprises take measures for reducing of pollution. Individuals and groups of people can work together to persuade enterprises to stop polluting activities.

**Questions:**

1. Why has the problem of pollution become so important?
2. Since what date have people become alarmed with the danger

of pollution?

1. What problems does the pollution cause?
2. What must people do to end the pollution?
3. Can we find the way to reduce the pollution?

**Vocabulary:**

environment pollution - загрязнение окружающей среды

uncrowded — слабонаселенный

rural — сельскохозяйственный

pollution-causing — вызывающий загрязнение

crowded — густонаселенный

pollutants — отходы

invention — изображение

soil — грунт, земля

existance — существование

goods — товары

fertilizer — удобрение

pesticide — пестицид

to grow — выращивать

crops — сельскохозяйственные культуры

to ruin — портить

immediately — сразу, немедленно

to reduce — уменьшить

gradually — постепенно

to pass a law — принять закон

enterprise — предприятие

to take measures — принять меры

to persuade — убедить

**10. Outstanding People of the English-Speaking Countries**

**10.1 Charlotte Bronte**

Charlotte Bronte was born in a small town in England in 1816. Charlotte and her sisters, Emily and Ann had a very hard life, from early childhood they knew poverty and very hard work.

Charlotte received her education at an orphanage (which she described in her novel "Jane Eyre"). After that she worked as a governess and a teacher. The works of Charlotte Bronte, together with Charles Dickens, William Thackeray and Elisabeth Gaskell are considered

to belong to the fine school of English realism of the first half of the 19th century. In her works she wrote about the society she lived in and criticized it. Her first novel "The Professor" was published only after Charlotte's death. The best novel "Jane Eyre", published in 1847, is partly

biographical. In 1849 the novel "Shirley" was published. The story is about the Luddits, workers who did not understand that the real enemy of the working class were the capitalists

and aristocrats. They thought that machinery, which they destroyed, was their enemy. The last novel "Vilette" came out in 1853. Charlotte Bronte died from tuberculosis in 1855. The three Bronte sisters are well known writers and their books are published in many countries.

**Questions:**

1. When was Charlotte Bronte born?

2. Where did Charlotte Bronte receive her education?

3. What did she describe in her works?

4. When was the best novel "Jane Eyre" published?

5. What is the novel "Shirley" about?

6. When did Ch. Bronte die?

**Vocabulary:**

to be born — быть рожденным

childhood - детство

poverty — бедность

orphanage — приют для сирот

to receive — получать

to destroy — уничтожать, разрушать

to criticize — критиковать

death — смерть

to 'die from — умирать от

**10.2 O'Henry**

O'Henry was born in Greensboro, a little town in North Carolina in 1862. His real name was William Sydney Porter. The works of this writer reflect a specific period in American

literature — the turn of the century. His credo was — art should be true, democratic and it should address contemporary life and embrace all aspects of life. O'Henry was an outstanding humorist. He worked out and enriched all the types of the short story: the anecdote, the adventure story, tales and sketches. The best of his works were published in books: "Cabbages and Kings", "The Four Million", "Heart of the West", "The Voice of the City" and others. He was most famous for his stories of city Me. O'Henry wrote nearly 150 stories with a New York background. His works have considerable influence on American literature. His love for humanity, for the common people, his critical attitude towards injustice attract readers to this day. O'Henry could work out a plot that would keep the reader in suspense up to

the surprising end. He was a born writer of great talent. The conversation is witty, humorous and often exact and precise. O'Henry is one of the most widely published American authors. His works have been translated into nearly every language. He has been called "The American Maupassant" and is ranked among the world's outstanding short-story writers.

**Questions:**

1. When was O'Henry born?

2. What was his real name?

3. What was O'Henry's credo?

4. Was O'Henry a born writer of great talent?

5. Can you name the best of his published books?

**Vocabulary:**

contemporary — современный

sketch — очерк

witty — остроумный

precise — точный

to be ranked — состоять

injustice — несправедливость

suspense — ожидание

**10.3 John Galsworthy**

Popular American writer John Galsworthy was born in 1853. He attended a big school because his father wanted John to be a lawyer. So John went to the Oxford University. But some time later he told his father about his wish to become a writer. His favourite writer was Turgenev and also he liked all books by Tolstoy. His literally career began at the age of seventeen while he studied at the Oxford University. His works established him as one of American's leading author. John Galsworthy wrote some scientific books and articles as "All about writer" 1908, "Thinking about art" 1911, "The art and the war" 1915. All of them are about art in our life.

"The Forsyte Saga" was published in 1922 in May. It is the most famous work by John Galsworthy. From this novel we get to know about the Forsyte family. The main character is Miss Forsyte. When she was a little girl her mother died and her father had run away with foreign girl. The Forsyte family wasn't very friendly but they tried to help each other

with problems. “The Forsyte Saga" was the best work by John Galsworthy. "It was the happiest day in my life", said John to his friends some time later. But it was very difficult for him to write this novel because he was from "Forsyte" family. "Old Jolyon", for example, was his father.

**Questions:**

1. Was John Galsworthy popular American or English

writer?

2. What university did he attend?

3. Who was John's favourite writer?

4. What is the most famous work by John Galsworthy?

5. Why was it difficult for him to write this novel?

**Vocabulary:**

to attend — посещать

lawyer — адвокат

career — карьера

**10.4 Conan Doyle**

Many years ago a young doctor began to write stories about a man who was a detective. Readers liked his stories because they were very interesting and the doctor decided to become a writer. The doctor was Conan Doyle and he wrote about Sherlock Holmes. Conan Doyle wrote his first story about Sherlock Holmes in 1887. In this story the detective meets his friend Dr. Watson. Holmes and Watson lived at 221 В Baker Street in London. Many discussions take place about where 221 В was. There is no house there now. But a large company has its office near the place. This company answers twenty or so letters which still come every week to Sherlock Holmes, 221 В Baker Street. Most come from the United States and many people ask if Mr. Holmes can help them with some problem. The company answers saying that, "Mr. Sherlock Holmes is no longer working as a detective". There is a pub in London called Sherlock Holmes. One of the rooms in the pub is Sherlock Holmes room. It has many things the room in Conan Doyle's stories had — Holmes' hat, some letters written to Sherlock Holmes, chairs and tables like those described in the stories. Besides, there are some pictures

of Holmes and Conan Doyle, of actors who played Holmes and Watson in films, on television and radio. In 1961 lovers of Sherlock Holmes formed the Sherlock Holmes Society. They meet three or four times a year to talk about Sherlock Holmes. The members of the Society know the stories about Sherlock Holmes very well, and they discuss these stories at their meetings.

**Questions:**

1. Why did readers like Conan Doyle's stories?

2. When did Conan Doyle first write about Sherlock Holmes?

3. What did lovers of Sherlock Holmes form?

4. What do the lovers of Sherlock Holmes do at their meetings?

**Vocabulary:**

discussions — обсуждения

to take place — происходить

**10.5 Isaac Newton**

Newton, one of the greatest scientists of all times was born in 1642 in the little village in Lincolnshire, England. His father was a farmer and died before Newton was born. His mother was a clever woman whom he always loved. After the school, Newton studied mathematics at Cambridge university and received his degree in 1665. Then the university was closed because of the danger of plague and Newton went home for eighteen months. It was most important

period in his life when he made his three great discoveries — the discoveries of the differential calculuses, of the nature of white light, and of the law of gravitation. These discoveries are still important for the modern science. Newton had always been interested in the problems of

light. Many people saw colours of a rainbow but only Newton showed, by his experiments, that white light consists of these colours. It is interesting how he discovered the law gravitation.

Once, as he sat at the garden, his attention was drawn by the fall of an apple. Many people saw such a usual thing before. But it was Newton who sked himself a question: "Why does that apple fall perpendicularly to the ground? Why doesn't it go side wards or upwards?" The answer to this question was the theory of gravitation, discovered by Newton. Newton died at the age of 84, and was buried in Westminster Abbey, where his monument stands today.

**Questions:**

1. When and where was Newton born?

2. Where did he study?

3. What three major discoveries did Newton make?

4. When did Newton make these discoveries?

5. How did the idea which led to the discovery of the law of gravitation first come to him?

6. When did Newton die and where is he buried?

**Vocabulary:**

degree — ученая степень

plague — чума

discovery — открытие

differential calculuses — дифференциальное исчисление

law of gravitation — закон всемирного тяготения

rainbow — радуга

to draw — привлекать

perpendicularly — перпендикулярно

sidewards — в сторону

upwards — вверх

abbey — аббатство

**10.6 Michael Faraday**

Michael Faraday is one of the great scientists in the history of man's work in electricity. He was born in a small village near London on September 11, 1791, in a poor family. His family lived from hand to mouth. At the age of thirteen Michael went to work in a bookbinder's shop, because he didn't have much schooling. Some of the scientific works and articles which passed through his hands aroused his interest in science and he started to read. Sometime later Michael became a pupil of great scientist of that time, Sir Humphry Davy. The boy accompanied Davy in his trips to Europe. The educational value of such trips was great. Among great men of science Faraday met Ampere, who had already made a name for himself in the history of electricity. Today almost all the electricity we use is generated by great machines with magnets in them, but in those days’ no one knew how to do it. That's why the English scientist danced with delight on his table when he got what he wanted by moving the magnet near wire. This was a great moment in the history of man's electrical experiments. But Faraday didn't stop at this. Faraday's scientific interests were varied. He made new kind of glass and a new kind of steel. Faraday made about two thousand difficult experiments and made countless discoveries in chemistry and physics. He made a wonderful machine which was the father of all the great machines that make electricity today. They light and heat our houses and they make our radio-sets work. Michael Faraday was the creator of the electric motor, who ushered us in the electrical age which had changed the face of the earth.

**Questions:**

1. Who is the creator of the electric motor?

2. Why did Michael have to work in a bookbinder's shop?

3. Was he a pupil of Humphry Davy or Ampere?

4. What was the greatest discovery of Faraday?

5. Faraday made about two thousand difficult experiments, didn't he?

**Vocabulary:**

to live from hand to mouth — жить впроголодь

to arouse — возбуждать, пробуждать

bookbinder — переплетчик

value — ценность

creator -— создатель

to usher — вводить

**10.7 Thomas Edison**

Thomas Edison was born in 1847. He first went to school at the age of eight and a half. But after only three months his teacher called him "stupid" and he came home crying. From that time his mother taught him at home and he read science books by himself. He got a job sending telegraph messages. Then he started inventing things. At the age of 12 he had a job selling newspapers. He made money in a clever but simple way. He checked the news stories first. When the news was interesting he took a lot of papers; when it was boring he took only few.

In 1877 he made a "phonograph" — the first ever sound recorder. The following year he invented the light bulb. In 1882 New York was the first city in the world with electric lights. In 1889 he made a "kinetoscope". He also made films for his new machine. In 1903 he made the world's longest film (It was ten minutes long!) After more than one thousand inventions, Edison died at the age of eighty-four. In his honour they switched off the lights all over America.

**Questions:**

1. Thomas Edison was born in 1847, wasn't he?

2. Why did mother teach him at home?

3. What were his inventions?

4. When did Edison die?

5. What did Americans do in his honour?

**Vocabulary:**

to check — проверять

phonograph — фонограф

kinetoscope — кинескоп

to switch off — выключать

**10.8 Franklin and Jefferson**

Benjamin Franklin was self-educated, which means that he was too poor to go to school and therefore got a good education. As a boy he helped his father to make candles, which were thought to look more romantic that electric lights. When he was twelve Benjamin was so interested in reading that he gave up eating in order to buy books. Franklin was a plump, well-rounded man who invented almost as many things as Jefferson, including silkworms, the Franklin stove, and bifocals. He also made it possible for congressmen to send their letters free, which later became as the Franklin Privilege. When Franklin was seventy, he was sent to Paris to see what he could do to improve relations with the French, and he is said to have done extremely well despite his age. Thomas Jefferson is best known as the author of Declaration of Independence, which is responsible for two holidays: July Fourth and Declaration Day. Although he was the author of this important document, he failed to secure a copyright. Jefferson was not only a statesman but an inventor. His many inventions include dumb-waiter. An extremely versatile person, he was also an architect. Jefferson made a great contribution to American political philosophy. He believed that all men are created equal. Deeply religious, Jefferson was for a time a minister to France. In his spare time, he was a farmer and an aristocrat.

**Questions:**

1. Why didn't Franklin go to school?

2. What did he do for congressmen?

3. Who is the author of Declaration of Independence?

4. Did Thomas Jefferson fail to secure a copyright of Declaration?

5. What other American Presidents do you know?

**Vocabulary:**

self- educated — само образованный

candle — свеча

bifocals — двухфокусные очки

silkworm — парашют

to improve — улучшать

to secure — сохранять

contribution — вклад

**11. Mendeleyev - the great Russian chemist**

**11.1 Mendeleyev**

D.I. Mendeleyev, the great Russian chemist, was born in Siberia on February 8, 1834. When seven years old he went to gymnasium at Tobolsk. He studied very hard, he especially liked mathematics, physics and history. At the age of 16 he entered the Pedagogical Institute in St. Petersburg, physio-mathematical department. He graduated from the Institute in 1855 and began to teach chemistry at the Technological Institute and then at the University. In 1865 Mendeleyev was granted the Doctor of Science degree for the thesis on the combination of alcohol with water. This work was both of great theoretical and practical significance. Soon after that D.I. Mendeleyev was appointed Professor of General Chemistry of St. Petersburg University. Despite lectures and supervision of the laboratory, D.I. Mendeleyev carried on great research work.

Mendeleyev's greatest discovery was the Periodic Law. The Periodic Law suggested by Mendeleyev stated that the properties of the elements were a periodic function of their atomic masses. He presented this work to the Russian Chemical Society. Mendeleyev's Periodic Law opened a new era in the history of chemistry.

Mendeleyev was interested in many branches of science, indeed there is hardly any field of science that was not enriched by his contribution. His numerous works dealt with many subjects: properties of liquids, theories of solutions, the development of the gas law, the use of oil and many others.

D.I. Mendeleyev was a great patriot. He did everything for the development and progress of his country.

D. I. Mendeleyev continued his research work to the very last day of his life. He died in 1907.

The world is thankful to Mendeleyev for his great contribution to the world science. At present there is hardly anybody who doesn't know this Russian scientist and his Periodic Law. We are proud of D.I. Mendeleyev who did so much for his country, for the development of the world science.

**Questions:**

1. When was D. I. Mendeleyev born?
2. What subjects did he like?
3. When was he granted the Doctor of Science degree?
4. What was Mendeleyev’s greatest discovery?
5. What other problems was Mendeleyev interested in?
6. What subjects did his numerous works deal with?

**Vocabulary:**

to enter the Institute – поступить в институт

society - общество

significance - значение

to be appointed – быть назначенным

to be proud of - гордиться

to be interested in - интересоваться

degree - степень

thesis - диссертация

supervision – наблюдение, руководство

contribution - вклад

liquid - жидкость

**12. The Russian Federation**

**12.1 The Russian Federation**

The Russian Federation is the largest country in the world. It occupies about one seventh of the earth's surface. It covers the eastern part of Europe and the northern part of Asia. Its total area is about 17 million square kilometers. The country is washed by 12 seas of 3 oceans: The Pacific, the Arctic and the Atlantic. In the South Russia borders on China, Mongolia, Korea, Kazakhstan, Georgia and Azerbaijan. In the west it borders on Norway, Finland, the Baltic States, Belorussia, and the Ukraine. It also has a sea border with the USA.

There is hardly a country in the world where such a variety of scenery and vegetation can be found. We have steppes in the south, plains, and forests in the midlands, tundra and taiga in the North, highlands and deserts in the East.

There are two Great Plains in Russia: The Great Russian Plain and the West Siberian Lowland. There are several mountains chains on the territory of the country: The Urals, the Caucasus, the Altai and others. The largest mountain chain, the Urals, separates Europe from Asia.

There are over million rivers in Russia. Europe's biggest river, the Volga, flows into the Caspian Sea. The main Siberian Rivers - the Ob, the Yenisei and the Lena - flow from the south to the north. The Amur in the Far East flows into the Pacific Ocean.

Russia is rich in beautiful lakes. The world's deepest lake (1,600 meters) is Lake Baikal. It is much smaller than the Baltic Sea, but there is much more water in it than in than in the Baltic Sea. The water in the lake is so clear that if you look down you can count the stones on the bottom.

Russia has one - sixth of the world's forests. They are concentrated in the European north of the country, in Siberia and in the Far East.

On the vast territory of the country there are various types of climate from arctic in the north to subtropical in the south. In the middle of the country the climate is temperate and continental.

Russia is very rich in oil, coal, iron ore, natural gas, copper, nickel and other mineral resources.

Russia is a presidential republic. The Head of State is the President. The legislative powers are exercised by the Duma.

The capital of Russia is Moscow. It is its largest, political, scientific, cultural and industrial center. It is one of the oldest Russian cities.

At present, political and economic situation in the country is rather complicated. The industrial production is decreasing. The prices are constantly rising; the rate of inflation is very high. People are losing their jobs because many factories and plants are going bankrupt.

**Questions:**

1. What territory does Russia occupy?
2. What countries does Russia border on?
3. What sceneries has Russia got?
4. What is the biggest river in Russia?
5. Where is the water so clean that you can count the stones on the bottom?
6. What can you say about the climate?

**Vocabulary:**

to be washed by - омываться

scenery - пейзаж

vegetation - растительность

desert - пустыня

mountains chain – горная цепь

vast – обширный

temperate - умеренный

legislative - законодательный

**13. Moscow**

**13.1 Moscow**

Moscow, the capital of Russia, is one of the largest cities in the world. It stands on the bank of the Moskva River. About 10 million people live in the city. Moscow is famous for its historical and architectural monuments that were built by outstanding architects and sculptors: Kazakov, Bazhenov, Martos and others.

The best starting point of the tour around the city is Red Square, the central and the most beautiful square in Moscow. It is the place of parades, meeting and demonstrations. Here one can see the Cathedral of St. Basil the Blessed, or St. Basil’s cathedral, erected by architects Postnik and Barma to commemorate Russia's conquest of the Kazan Kingdom in 1552. It is a masterpiece of Russian architecture. Tourists can see the monument to Minin and Pozharsky designed by Ivan Martos in 1818 in memory of the Russian victory over the Polish invaders and the History Museum.

The heart of Moscow is the Kremlin, a wonderful architectural ensemble with 3 magnificent cathedrals, the Bell Tower of Ivan the Great palaces, fortress walls and 20 towers. The most famous of the towers is the Spas kaya Tower with a big clock. The Kremlin with golden domes and tower makes a strong impression on tourists. The Alexander Garden with the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is the place of memory.

Some skyscrapers decorate Moscow including Moscow University, a palace of knowledge and students. Moscow is a scientific and cultural center where there are a lot of institutes, universities, libraries, museums. The city leads a varied cultural life. It has a lot of cinemas, clubs, concert halls, more than 40 drama and musical theatres, including the Bolshoi Theatre, the Art Theatre, the Maly Theatre, the Vakhtangov Theatre.

Moscovites are proud of their museums: The Tretyakov Gallery, Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, literary museums.

Crowds of people visit the Tretiakov Gallery admiring beautiful pictures of Russian painters.

Moscovites are fond of going in for sports so, there are a lot of stadiums, swimming-pools, courts and sports grounds.

The citizens of Moscow enjoy spending their weekends in parks and gardens - Park of Culture and Rest, Izmailovo, Sokolniki.

Moscovites do their best to create the atmosphere of the old Moscow with its unique monuments. Before the 850th anniversary of Moscow the Cathedral of Christ the Savior was completed.

Moscow is the place where things are happening in all spheres of life.

**Questions:**

1. Where is Moscow situated?
2. What is Moscow famous for?
3. What can you see on Red Square?
4. What is the heart of Moscow?
5. Why is Moscow a scientific and cultural center?
6. What parks can you call?
7. What cathedral was completed before the 850th anniversary of Moscow?

**Vocabulary:**

the Cathedral of St. Basil the Blessed – Собор Василия Блаженного

to commemorate - ознаменовать

conquest - завоевание

invader - захватчик

ensemble - ансамбль

to admire - восхищаться

the Cathedral of Christ the Savior – Храм Христа Спасителя

**14. My Native Town**

**14.1 My Native Town**

I live in Novomoskovsk. It is a small modern town. It was founded in 1930 with the construction of the Chemical plant. It had a name Stalinogorsk. My native town is situated in Tula region not far from Moscow. The Great Russian river Don begins in Children Park. The population of Novomoskovsk is about 145 thousand people.

My town is famous for its chemical enterprises all over the country. These are Eurochem company plant and P&G plant. They produce various chemical goods. All plants are located in the Northern part of the town.

The Southern part is a cultural center. Most of institutions, banks and firms are situated there. There are many secondary and technical schools, libraries, colleges, institutes in our town. We have a wonderful theatre named after Kachalin. There is a beautiful cinema in the central square of our town. When people have free time they can walk along main streets full of trees and flowers and go to the cafés. Sometimes we have brilliant concerts in the concert hall. You may go to the historical museum or the exhibition hall and learn many interesting things there.

There are many attractive and very popular sights in our town. You can see children railway in Children Park. It’s unique railway in our region. There are some parks in the town where people like to rest at their weekend. In winter those who go in for sports, have the Palace of Sports and Sport Complex Olymp at their disposal. Our town has a modern stadium.

Our citizens are proud of the Memorial to Dead Soldiers in the Great Patriotic War. It is situated in the beautiful wood in the eastern part of the town.

The administration of our town pays much attention to the health of the inhabitants. We have two large hospital complexes with modern equipment, for grown-ups and children.

Sadovskogo street is becoming very convenient for shopping because of many shops near central two-storied market.

Our town is constantly changing from year to year. It’s becoming more beautiful and modern.

**Questions:**

1. Where is our town situated?
2. What is it famous for?
3. Why is the Southern part a cultural center?
4. Where do our people like to rest?
5. Do we have a convenient place for shopping?

**Vocabulary:**

to be situated in - располагаться

to be famous for – быть известным

chemical goods – химические товары

sight – вид (достопримечательность

to be proud of - гордиться

inhabitant - житель

equipment – оборудование

15. Great Britain

15.1 Great Britain

Great Britain is an island country. It is separated from the continent of Europe by the English Channel and the North Sea.

The greater part of Britain is level. The highest mountains, which rise to a Height of about three thousand feet, are in the North-West.

There are many rivers in Britain, but they are not long, the longest being the Thames. Many canals are known to have been built to connect the inland water ways.

Some parts of Great Britain are very beautiful and picturesque. In the mountainous North­west there are many fine lakes, this part being called the Lake District. There is a great deal of rain there. In general, the rainfall in Great Britain is greater than in the rest of Europe. Due to the Gulf Stream the climate of Britain is mild and damp. The weather is very changeable.

Great Britain is the oldest capitalist country. In the 19th century it did become the most advanced industrial country in the world. Britain is no longer the world power that it was. Today it has a highly developed industry, the textile industry being the most important one. After it comes the metal-working industry.

Britain is known to be rich in coal, and iron ores. As for raw materials it has to import most of them from other countries. Britain does not grow enough food to feed its population; it has to import the food. The people of Great Britain are said to eat home-grown food only on one day of the week.

The majority of the working population of Great Britain is engaged in industry. Eighty per cent of its population lives in towns.

Britain is a parliamentary monarchy, but in practice it is governed by Parliament that consists of the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

London is the capital of Great Britain.

There are many other big cities in Great Britain, most of them being ports, such as Liverpool which is the second largest port, Manchester, which is an inland port, Bristol, Glasgow and many others.

**Questions:**

1. Where is the highest mountains in Great Britain?
2. What is the longest river of Great Britain?
3. Where is the Lake District situated?
4. Why is the weather of Great Britain very changeable?
5. Is Great Britain rich in mineral resources?
6. What political system is in Great Britain?
7. What is the capital of the country?

**Vocabulary:**

island - остров

in general – в целом

to separate - отделять

majority - большинство

to be engaged in - быть занятым

to stretch - простираться

to be rich in - быть богатым

mountain - гора

raw materials - сырье

**16. London**

**16.1 London**

London is the capital of the United Kingdom. Its economic, political and cultural center. It is one of the world's most important ports and one of the largest cities in the world. London with its suburbs has a population of about 11 million people.

London has been a capital for nearly a thousand years. Many of its ancient buildings still stand. The most famous of them are the Tower of London, where the crown jewels are kept, Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral. Most visitors also want to see the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace (the Queen's home with its Changing of the Guards) and the many magnificent museums.

Once London was a small Roman town on the north bank of the Thames. Slowly it grew into one of the world's major cities.

Different areas of London seem like different cities. The West End is a rich man's world of shops, offices and theatres. The City of London is the district where most offices and banks are concentrated; the Royal Exchange and the Bank of England are here, too. The East End is the district where mostly working people live. The old port area is now called «Docklands». There are now new office buildings in Docklands, and thousands of new flats and houses.

By the day the whole of London is busy. At night, offices are quiet and empty, but the West End stays alive, because this is where Londoners come to enjoy themselves. There are two opera houses here, several concert halls and many theatres, as well as cinemas. In nearby Soho the pubs, restaurants and night clubs are busy half the night.

Like all big cities, London has streets and concrete buildings, but it also has many big parks, full of trees, flowers and grass. In the middle of Hyde Park or Kensington Gardens you will think that you are in the country, miles away.

Many people live outside the center of London in the suburbs, and they travel to work in shops and offices by train, bus or underground.

**Questions:**

1. What population has London?
2. What are the most famous ancient buildings?
3. What names have different areas of London?
4. How is now called the old port area?
5. Where do Londoners like to rest?
6. Where do many people live?

**Vocabulary:**

suburb - пригород

ancient - древний

the Tower of London – Лондонский Тауэр

the crown jewels – королевские регалии

Westminster Abbey – Вестминстерское аббатство

St. Paul's Cathedral – Собор Св. Павла

the Houses of Parliament – Здания парламента

Buckingham Palace – Букингемский дворец

the Royal Exchange – Королевская биржа

Hyde Park – Гайд - парк

Kensington Gardens – Кенсингтон – гарденз (Кенсингтонский сад)

**17. The United States of America**

**17.1 The United States of America**

The USA is the richest and one of the largest countries in the world. It is situated in the cen­tral part of the North American Continent. It occupies the territory of over nine million square kilometers. The population of the country is about 325 mln people. The official language is English.

The USA borders on Canada in the North and Mexico in the South. In the East it is washed by the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean in the West.

The continental part of the USA consists of several surface divisions which are determined by the mountain ranges from the north to the south. The main highlands are the Appalachian Mountains in the East and the Rocky Mountains and the Cordillera in the West.

Between the mountain ranges are the Central Lowlands, called the prairie, and the Eastern Lowlands called the Mississippi Valley.

The greatest rivers of the USA are the Colorado, the Columbia, the Mississippi with its tributary Missouri, the St Lawrence River and the Hudson River

In the North of the country, on the border between the USA and Canada there are five Great Lakes — Lake Superior, Lake Huron, lake Michi­gan, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario. They are joined toge­ther by short rivers and canals and cut by rapids the greatest of these rapids is the Niagara Falls.

There are great climatic variations on the vast territory of the USA. The coldest regions are in the North. The South has a subtropical climate. The climate of the prairie lands is droughty. On the whole the climate of the country is conti­nental.

The climate is favorable for agriculture on more than a half of the country.

The USA is rich in mineral resources. There are deposits of oil, gas, coal, iron ores, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, etc. The USA is one of the greatest industrial powers in the world. It is one of the greatest producers and exporters of industrial and agricultural output.

The economy of the USA is mixed. Production is controlled by both the government and private producers.

The USA is a Federal Republic. It consists of 50 states. The President is the Head of the state.

The Congress, the legislative body, consists of 2 chambers: The Senate and the House of Representative.

The flag of the USA consists of 13 stripes (seven red and six white) and 50 stars. The stripes represent the 13 original states and the stars repre­sent the present number of the states in the Union.

**Questions:**

1. Where is the USA situated?
2. What is the population of the USA?
3. What surface divisions does the continental part of the country consist of?
4. What is the greatest fall of the USA?
5. What is the climate of the USA?
6. Who is the Head of the state?
7. How many states has the USA?

**Vocabulary:**

to consist of – состоять из

the Appalachian Mountains - Аппалачи

the Rocky Mountains – Скалистые горы

the Cordillera - Кордильеры

droughty - засушливый

deposits - залежи

legislative - законодательный

the House of Representative – Палата Представителей

**18. Washington, DC**

**18.1 Washington, DC**

Washington is the capital of the United States of America. It is situated in the Dis­trict of Columbia and is like no other city of the USA. It's the world's largest one-industry city. And that industry is government. The White House, where the US Presi­dent lives and works, the Capitol, the home of the US Congress, and the Supreme Court, are all in Washington.

Washington was named after the first US President George Washington. He selected the place for the capital and Pierre L’Enfant, a French engineer, designed the city. Washington was first settled in 1790 and since 1800 it has been the Federal capital. Washington is one of the most beautiful and unusual cities in the United States. In the very center of it rises the huge dome of the Capitol — a big white dome standing on a circle of pillars. The 535 members of the Congress meet here to discuss the nation's af­fairs. It's easy to get lost in this huge building, full of paintings and statues.

Not far from the Capitol is the Library of Congress, the largest library in the States. It contains more than 13 million books, more than 19 million manuscripts, including the personal papers of the US presidents.

The White House is the official residence of the US President. He works in the Oval Office.

One can hardly find a park, a square or an open area in Washington without a monument or a memorial. The most impressive and the best-known ones are the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument.

There are some important museums in Washington where you can see all kinds of things: famous paintings and sculptures, the dresses of Presidents' Wives, the original of the Declaration of Independence, the largest blue diamond in the world, etc.

There are 5 universities in Washington.

There are no skyscrapers in Washington, because they would hide the city's many monuments from view. No building in the city may be more than 40 meters tall.

Thousands of tourists visit Washington every day. People from all parts of the United States come to see their capital.

**Questions:**

1. Why is Washington the one-industry city?
2. Who selected the place for the capital?
3. Where is the meeting place of the Congress?
4. Where does the US president live and work?
5. Are there monuments and memorials in Washington?
6. Why are there no skyscrapers in the capital?

**Vocabulary:**

the Dis­trict of Columbia – округ Колумбия (Федеральный округ Колумбия является самостоятельной территорией, не входящей ни в один из штатов)

the Capitol - Капитолий

the Supreme Court – Верховный суд

pillar - колонна

af­fair - дело

the Lincoln Memorial – Мемориал Линкольна

the Washington Monument – Монумент Вашингтона

the Declaration of Independence – декларация независимости

to hide - прятать

**19. The Internet**

**19.1 Internet**

Modern life is easy and fun. We have all the amenities. We do not need to go to the movies, because we have big TVs at home. The children have cell phones with large displays. Modern technology is useful and convenient. In my opinion, Internet is the most comfortable thing. Computers are also an important invention, but Internet is better than any other type of information. Originally, Internet was a military experiment in the USA of 60-s. But soon it became clear that everyone in the world can use it.

Everybody knows that the Internet is a global computer network, which embraces hundreds of millions of users all over the world. The Internet has already entered our ordinary life. It's hard to imagine our lives without Internet nowadays. It has become an important part of every person's life. It is clear that the accurate number of users can be counted fairly approximately, nobody knows exactly how many people use the Internet today, because there are hundreds of millions of users and their number is growing.

Nowadays, no one can deny the importance of the Internet. Sitting in front of a computer, clicking a mouse, you can shop, download many interesting films, books, read news about subject which is interesting for you, play computer games with other players, chat and send mails to your friends. Internet has drastically changed everything. Since the time of Internet appearance, many other media sources became unnecessary. You can find the information you're looking for in 5 seconds. It is very convenient for students, professionals, experts and all other people. From one side, it's great to have everything right here online, from the other side, it's a shame that people have stopped reading paper books and newspapers.

Nowadays the most popular Internet service is e-mail. Most of the people use the network only for sending and receiving e-mail messages. They can do it either they are at home or in the internet clubs or at work. With the help of the internet people from different parts of the planet can communicate with each other and share information without leaving their home. It has become easier to meet like-minded people from all over the world and become friends with them.

There are many different Internet competitions for different subjects which give students the opportunity to participate even in international competitions. Thanks to the Internet, people can quickly sell, advertise and share knowledge, idea, and personal feelings.

**Questions:**

1. What is the origin of the Internet?
2. How many users does the Internet embrace?
3. What can you do clicking a mouse?
4. What can you tell about e-mail service?

**20. Why Do We Study a Foreign Language?**

**20.1 Learning Foreign Language**

The great German poet Goethe once said: who know no foreign language does not know his own one. Learning foreign languages is especially important nowadays. Some people learn foreign languages because they need them in their work, others travel abroad, for the third studying languages is a hobby.

Every year thousands of people from Russia go to different countries as tourists or to work. They cannot go without knowing the language of the country they are going to. A modern engineer or even a worker cannot work with an imported instrument or a machine if he is not able to read the instruction how to do it. Ordinary people need language to translation the instruction or the manual to the washing-machine or a vacuum-cleaner, medicine or even food-products.

Some people are as a rule polyglots. Historians, diplomats need some languages for their work. If you want to be a classified specialist you must learn English, the language of international communication.

English is one of the world languages. It is the language of progressive science and technology, trade and cultural relations, commerce and business. It is the universal language of international aviation, shipping and sports. It is also the major language of diplomacy. Hundreds and hundreds of books, magazines and newspapers are printed in English, most of the world's mail and telephone calls are in English. Half of the world's scientific literature is written in English. English is spoken by more than 350 million people. Geographically, it is the most widespread language on earth, second after Chinese. It is the official language of the UK, the USA, of Australia and New Zealand, it is used as one of the official languages in Canada, the South Africa. Millions of people study and use English as a foreign language. In our country English is very popular. It is studied at schools, colleges and universities.

Learning English is not an easy thing. It is a long process and takes a lot of time-and-patience. But to know English today is absolutely necessary for every educated person. I want to know English because it's interesting for me to know foreign countries, their cultures and tradition. English will be of great use in my future profession connected economy, trade relations or may be with the world market.

**Questions:**

1. What did Goethe once say?
2. Why must we know a foreign language?
3. Why must we know English?
4. Is it easy to learn English?

**Vocabulary:**

manual - руководство

trade - торговля

cultural relations – культурные связи

commerce – торговля

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