

МИНИСТЕРСТВО СЕЛЬСКОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА  
И ПРОДОВОЛЬСТВИЯ РЕСПУБЛИКИ БЕЛАРУСЬ

Учреждение образования  
«БЕЛОРУССКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ  
АГРАРНЫЙ ТЕХНИЧЕСКИЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ»

Кафедра иностранных языков № 2

## Английский язык

**Межличностное, социокультурное,  
социально-политическое общение**

Учебно-методическое пособие

Минск  
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Учебно-методическое пособие предназначено для обучения студентов аграрных учреждений высшего образования различным видам речевой деятельности на базе материалов современного английского языка.

Разделы учебно-методического пособия включают в себя аутентичные тексты, комплекс упражнений, нацеленных на формирование умений и навыков иноязычного межличностного, социокультурного, социально-политического общения будущих специалистов агропромышленного комплекса. В конце каждого раздела даны рекомендации по выполнению самостоятельной работы.

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## ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

На современном этапе главной целью обучения иностранному языку является формирование иноязычной коммуникативной компетенции специалиста, позволяющей использовать иностранный язык как средство межличностного и профессионального общения.

Данное учебно-методическое пособие направлено на формирование у студентов аграрных специальностей языковых умений и навыков межличностного, социокультурного, социально-политического общения на базе современных материалов в процессе обучения английскому языку.

Учебно-методическое пособие включает следующие разделы:

- межличностное общение;
- социокультурное общение;
- социально-политическое общение.

Все разделы сопровождаются иллюстративным материалом и содержат комплекс упражнений, способствующих активному усвоению лексики, правильному употреблению терминов, обогащению словарного запаса, формированию умений и навыков межличностного, социокультурного, социально-политического общения.

Учебно-методическое пособие предназначено для студентов БГАТУ, а также может использоваться студентами других аграрных специальностей и специалистами в сфере АПК при самостоятельном изучении языка.

## МЕЖЛИЧНОСТНОЕ ОБЩЕНИЕ

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### 1. Study the following terms.

1. **Interpersonal communication** is an exchange of information between two or more people.
2. **A biography** is a detailed description of a person's life.
3. **A family** is a group of people affiliated by consanguinity (by recognized birth), affinity (by marriage), or co-residence and/or shared consumption.
4. **Working day** is any day of the week except Sunday, public holidays, and, in some cases, Saturday.
5. **Hobby** is an activity or interest pursued outside one's regular occupation and engaged in primarily for pleasure.
6. **Travelling** is the activity of moving or journeying from one place to another, especially to places far from home.
7. **Hotel** is a place that has rooms in which people can stay especially when they are travelling; a place that provides food, lodging, and other services for paying guests.
8. **A meal** is an eating occasion that takes place at a certain time and includes specific, prepared food, or the food eaten on that occasion.

9. **Shopping** is the process of browsing and/or purchasing items in exchange for money.
10. **Banking** is the business activity of accepting and safe guarding money owned by other individuals and entities, and then lending out this money in order to earn a profit.

### 2. Match the words to their definitions.

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. <i>Interpersonal communication</i> | a) a group consisting of parents and children living together in a household  |
| 2. <i>A family</i>                    | b) a story written about someone's life   |
| 3. <i>Shopping</i>                    | c) a regular activity that is done for enjoyment, typically during one's leisure time   |
| 4. <i>Working day</i>                 | d) the movement of people between relatively distant geographical locations, and can involve travelling by automobile, train, boat, airplane      |
| 5. <i>Hobby</i>                       | e) a day on which work is done, esp. for an agreed or stipulated number of hours in return for a salary or wage                                   |
| 6. <i>Travelling</i>                  | f) an establishment that provides lodging and usually meals, entertainment, and various personal services for the public                          |
| 7. <i>Hotel</i>                       | g) the process that takes place between people who are interdependent and have some knowledge of each other                                       |
| 8. <i>A biography</i>                 | h) the business engaged in by a bank  |
| 9. <i>A meal</i>                      | i) the food served and eaten especially at one of the customary, regular occasions for taking food during the day, as breakfast, lunch, or supper |
| 10. <i>Banking</i>                    | j) the activity of buying things from shops   |

## Introducing Myself

### 1. Answer the following questions.

1. What's your name?
2. What's your surname?
3. Where are you from?
4. When and where were you born?
5. Can you describe yourself?
6. What are the strong and the weak traits of your character?
7. There are things that you like and dislike, aren't there?  
What are they?

### 2. Introduce yourself to some other students.

First name .....

Surname .....

Age .....

Married .....

Job .....

Hair .....

Build .....

Address .....

Telephone number .....

Hobbies .....

Favourite sports .....

### 3. Read the text and do the exercises that follow it.

Hello! Let me introduce myself. My name is Kate. I am 18. I am a student now. I was born May 21, 1998 in Minsk under the zodiac sign of Aries. I believe that stars influence our fate and character. They say that Aries is full of energy, a leader, a straight talker, ambitious and frank, likes sport, stubborn, hot tempered but

quick to apologize. Partially it is true. I can't admit I am stubborn. Actually, I'm persistent. It is different, I think.

As to my appearance, I'm rather tall and slim. I think that I'm even-tempered, rather reserved, calm and modest. But sometimes I can lose my temper and become either angry or sad. I like staying alone and sometimes I retire into my shell. But at the same time I like my friends, I like to laugh and to joke. I have got a sense of humor. It means I understand humor and appreciate it. But unfortunately, I'm not often witty myself. I think I am able to keep my head when all about me are losing theirs and to stand up to difficulties when things are not going my way. Besides, I am sincere and tolerant, friendly and faithful, hard-working and serious.

There are many things in our life which I like and some I dislike. I like when everything is OK. Being happy is one way of being wise. I like to study, because knowledge is always useful. I am fond of reading as it gives not only knowledge but also wonderful moments of joy and pleasure. Sometimes I enjoy watching TV or listening to the radio. I like music. It makes people better. It awakens the best feelings and high emotions. I dislike overcrowded buses. And I hate getting up early. I am happy I have got more things I like than I dislike.

### Vocabulary

awaken – пробуждать  
fate – судьба  
frank – откровенный  
modest – скромный  
overcrowded – переполненный  
persistent – настойчивый  
retire into – уединяться, уходить в  
shell – оболочка  
sincere – искренний  
stubborn – упрямый

**4. Choose the correct Russian equivalents of the following word combinations.**

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. When things are not going my way | a) Быть счастливым                        |
| 2. I'm not often witty myself       | b) Я не теряю головы                      |
| 3. Being happy                      | c) Когда все складывается не в мою пользу |
| 4. I am able to keep my head        | d) Сводит меня с ума                      |
| 5. Makes me crazy                   | e) Сама я нечасто бываю остроумной        |

**5. Answer the following questions about your family.**

1. Will you introduce yourself?
2. How many members are there in your family?
3. Who does your family consist of?
4. What are your parents?
5. Where do they work?
6. Are all members of your family close friends?
7. Do you like to spend your time with your parents?
8. Do you go out with your parents?
9. Do you follow your parents' advice?
10. Who keeps your house?
11. What are your parents' hobbies?
12. Will you describe your mother and father?
13. Have you got any other relatives?

**6. Speak about:**

- Your ideas of the role the family plays in our life.
- Your parents.
- Your relatives.



**7. Read and translate these texts. Speak about Rob and Maggie using the words and word expressions in bold.**

***The student Rob Fellows***

Hello! My name's Rob Fellows. I **come from** Dundee, a town on the east coast of Scotland, but **I'm a student at** Durham University, in the north of England. **I'm studying French and German**, and I can speak the languages quite well. I also know a little Spanish, so **I can speak four languages**. I'm **enjoying the course** a lot, but it's very hard work! I live in Durham Castle, because the Castle is part of the University, with about thirty other students. The course started two years ago, and **I'm in my third year**. After the course **I'm going to work** in France, but I don't know where yet.

***The student Maggie Wood***

My name's Maggie Wood. You spell that W-O-O-D. I **come from** Australia. I'm studying art, but I don't go to university. I **work at home**. I **watch special programmes** on television. I'm **reading about** Italian painters at the moment in Italian, which is difficult because I only **speak a little Italian**. The course is really interesting, but it isn't easy having a part-time job and studying! I live near London. I **came to England** fifteen years ago. **I'm married**, and my husband's name is Dave. He's a taxi-driver. We have three children, two boys and a girl. My course started a year ago, and it is three years long. After the course I'm **going to look for a job as a librarian** in a museum.



## Student's Working Day

### 1. Read the text and do the exercises that follow it.

I'm in the first year at the university. My elder sister, Betty, is studying at the same university. Betty can organize her time wisely, whereas I don't know what order I should do things in. I find it hard to get up on time, and usually I don't get enough sleep. I have to wind two alarm-clocks to make sure I don't oversleep.

My sister, an early riser, is awake by 7 o'clock, refreshed and full of energy. While I'm wandering round the kitchen, fighting the urge to go back to bed, my sister manages to have a quick shower, make her bed, put on make-up, do her hair, eat a full breakfast and set off to the university. It takes me an hour and a half to get ready. I rush out of the house and even if I catch a bus at once I still arrive at the university 15 minutes late, which always makes me feel guilty.

My studies keep me busy all day long. I have 4 classes a day. I have got lectures and seminars. At lunchtime I meet up with my sister and we have a snack at the university cafe. After classes I make myself go to the library where I spend about six hours a week reading for my seminars.

My sister and I come home tired. I always find excuses to put my homework off. Unlike me, my sister manages to do the housework and get down to homework. I like the idea of going to bed early, but quite often I have to sit up late. My sister says that keeping late hours ruins one's health. Of course, I agree.

Every Monday when I awaken I think I should start a new life. I honestly think that I must become well-organized and correct my daily routine. I make plans to go to keep-fit classes, to do shopping with my sister, to do the cleaning and to do a hundred other good things. But then I remember that I have to call on my friend in the evening, and I put off my plans till next Monday. It is always better to start a new life in a week.

## Vocabulary

alarm-clock – будильник  
excuse – оправдание  
guilty – виноватый  
manage – управиться  
oversleep – проспать  
rush out of – выбегать из  
set off – отправляться  
wander – блуждать  
wind – заводить  
unlike smb. – в отличие от кого-то  
urge – сильное желание

### 2. Match the sentence beginnings to the correct endings.

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. I don't know what order     | a) I should start a new life. |
| 2. After classes I make myself | b) ruins one's health.        |
| 3. I like the idea of          | c) going to bed early.        |
| 4. Keeping late hours          | d) go to the library.         |
| 5. Every Monday I think        | e) I should do things in.     |

### 3. Pair work. Talk about your busiest day.

1. What's your busiest day?
2. What do you usually do?
3. What time do you get up?
4. Where do you usually have breakfast, lunch?
5. What do you usually do after classes?
6. What time do you usually go home?
7. What do you do at the end of the day?
8. What do you do in your spare time?
9. What time do you usually go to bed?
10. What activities do you enjoy? Which do you dislike?

#### 4. Read and translate the conversation.

##### ***What a busy day!***

**Alex:** So, Susan, do you have anything planned for this Saturday?

**Linda:** Uh, I'm kind of busy. Why do you ask?

**Alex:** Oh, I was wondering if you'd like to get together and do something, like catch a movie or take a walk down by the lake.

**Linda:** I'd love to, but I'm really going to be busy all day on Saturday.

**Alex:** What do you have going on that day?

**Linda:** First, my mom asked me to help clean the house in the morning, and then I have a dentist appointment at 12:30. I can't miss that 'cause I've canceled twice before.

**Alex:** Well, what about after that?

**Linda:** Well, I'm going to be running around all day. After the dentist appointment, I need to meet Julie at 2:00 to help her with her science project that's due on Monday morning at university.

**Alex:** Okay, but are you free after that?

**Linda:** Hardly. Then I have to pick up my brother from soccer practice at 4:30, and my mom asked me to cook dinner for the family at 5:30. I feel like a slave sometimes. Then, I have to clean the dishes and finish reading my history assignment. Who knows how long that'll take.

**Alex:** Wow, sounds like you're going to have a full day. Hey listen, why don't I come over later in the evening, and we can make some popcorn and watch a movie.

**Linda:** Oh, that'd be great, but our video machine is broken.

**Alex:** Huh. Well, let's just play a game or something.

**Linda:** Sounds good, but give me a call before you come. My mom might try to come up with something else for me to do.

#### **Day Off, Hobbies**

**1. Here are some people talking about their hobbies. Can you guess what the hobby is in each case?**

- a. I usually use colour, but sometimes you get a better effect with black and white. It really depends on the subject.
- b. I really enjoy going round the shops and markets looking for a bargain.
- c. I try to practice every day, but sometimes it's difficult because I don't like to disturb my neighbours too much. And one neighbour gets very angry if I play the same thing over and over again.
- d. The great thing is you can do it when you like. I usually do it three times a week – either early in the morning, or after the university. I only go for about 25 minutes but it really keeps me fit.
- e. Obviously it saves me a lot of money; and in any case, I hate buying things in boutiques because so many things are badly made.
- f. I joined a club because I wanted to get better, and I now play twice a week in the evenings. It has helped me a lot and I have a much better memory for all the different moves and strategies.
- g. I think this is a very common hobby for people like me, who have a house but don't have much money. That's why I started, but now I think I do a better job than many professionals.

**2. Read, translate the following texts describing different kinds of hobbies and answer the questions that follow them.**

1. I really enjoy reading in my free, but my mood often determines what I read. I enjoy comic books; it is usually light reading, and the stories aren't very long, but some comics really reflect daily life in my culture. I also like to skim the newspaper every day to

find out what's happening in the world. This keeps me up to date on current local and international events. Because I don't have much time to read, I generally skip over the editorial section of the newspaper and read the business and sports sections. Every once in a while, I take the time to read a good novel if time permits. Overall, reading helps me not only stay in touch with the world but it also gives me a chance to relax.

***What kind of books do you enjoy reading for pleasure? Do you enjoy reading in English? Why or why not? What things can you do to improve your reading skills?***

2. One of my hobbies is photography, and I have several cameras I use to take pictures. I have a traditional film camera that takes great pictures. Film isn't too expensive for the camera, and I can get rolls of film developed almost anywhere. These types of cameras are generally easy to use. Just point and shoot. Recently, I bought a digital camera, and it has made taking pictures even easier. I just insert the memory card in to the camera, adjust the settings on the camera and shoot away. When I finish taking pictures, I can either attach a USB cable to a computer and download them, or I can insert the memory card into a computer and download them that way. I also can easily share my digital pictures by emailing them as attachments to family or friends, or I can upload them to my Website. Printing digital pictures is also very easy to do.

***Do you think there is still a market for regular film cameras? Do you think digital cameras replace them completely? Is the quality of digital photography as good as traditional film?***

3. I like to play video games in my free time. Sometimes, I play video games by myself, but I also invite friends over to play. I really like games that deal with sports, role-playing, adventure, but I don't buy games that contain certain types of content. Playing video games helps me burn off stress and kill some time, but it also can be addictive. A lot of people are concerned that people

waste too much time playing games and do not get enough exercise because they sit in front of a computer or TV too much. Also, some people say that children as well as adults tend to isolate themselves and fail to develop relationships with others. I think if you regulate how much you use it – I mean, using it in moderation – then playing video games isn't a bad way to spend some of your time.

***How often do you play video or computer games? What are the pros and cons of playing these types of games? Do you know anyone who has become addicted to playing them?***



### **3. Answer the questions.**

1. Have you got a hobby? If so, what is it?
2. How long have you had this hobby?
3. Is it an expensive hobby?
4. Why do you like it?
5. How much time do you spend on your hobby?
6. Is it a common hobby in your country?
7. Do you agree that learning is the most exciting aspect of a hobby? Why?

### **4. Replace the words in bold with others from the list.**

*colourful, perfect, delicious, gorgeous, tiny, delightful, huge, fantastic*

Last winter I went on a skiing holiday to the Alps. We stayed in a **1) small** chalet which had a **2) big** fireplace in every room. The weather was **3) good** so we were able to go skiing every day. In the evenings we had dinner at **4) nice** restaurants in

the village. The food was really **5) good**. There were some **6) nice** shops so I bought a **7) nice** jumper. We stayed there for a week. We had a **8) good** time.

## 5. Read the text and do the exercises that follow it.

### *My Day Off*

I'm a student and I have two days off: Saturday and Sunday. I'm lucky, because most of the students have the only one. I always look forward to these days, because during the week I am very busy and very tired by its end. As I don't get enough time off on my weekdays, I try to relax on the weekends. One of my greatest pleasures is to lie on the sofa and read an exciting book.

So I like to rest on my days off. There is even an English proverb: «All work and no play make Jack a dull boy». It means that every person needs a rest after hard work on weekdays. As a rule, I wake up later than usual. I enjoy staying in bed, as I don't have to hurry anywhere.

Usually, my days off don't differ very much from each other. Most often I spend them watching TV, reading books, walking, visiting or meeting up with my friends and so on. But sometimes I do something special on weekends: go to an art exhibition, to the theatre or to the cinema, to a party or to a disco. I always go to bed late on Sundays, and Monday morning is the nastiest thing through all the week.

Actually, the way of spending my days off much depends upon the season. In winter my family or my friends and I go on skiing or sledging or playing snowballs. In summer we can go swimming or boating or hiking. In autumn we take long walks during which we enjoy beautiful golden autumn or go picking mushrooms and berries. In the forest we gather brushwood for a fire, make it and cook barbeque. We enjoy spending our days off this way.

I don't want to be so pessimistic, but it seems to me that my days off finish very quickly. I like to be an optimist who will say:

“The cup is half full”, while the pessimist will say: “The cup is half empty”. But I am happy to live my busy life day by day and enjoy the weekends. I like weekends very much, because I can rest and gain some energy for the next week.

### Vocabulary

actually – фактически, на самом деле  
brushwood – хворост  
dull – унылый, скучный  
exciting – захватывающий  
gain – получать, набирать  
hurry – торопиться  
look forward to – ожидать, ждать с нетерпением  
nasty – противный, скверный, неприятный  
pleasure – удовольствие, наслаждение

## 6. Match the sentence beginnings to the correct endings.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. During the week I am                     | a) after hard work on weekdays.                 |
| 2. I like weekends very much, because I can | b) go swimming or boating or hiking.            |
| 3. Every person needs a rest                | c) rest and gain some energy for the next week. |
| 4. In winter my family or my friends and I  | d) very busy and very tired by its end.         |
| 5. In summer we can                         | e) go on skiing or sledging.                    |

## 7. Tell about your day off.



## Travelling, Hotel

### 1. Read the text and do the exercises that follow it.

Nowadays businessmen go on business trips by train, by plane, by boat and by car. All means of travelling have their advantages and disadvantages. And people choose one according to their plans and destinations. Most businessmen are interested in speed, comfort and safety.

When I go on business, I decide what kind of transport to choose and make all travel arrangements. It's rather difficult to get tickets on the day of departure and I book a ticket at least a week in advance. As I prefer travelling by train I get to Minsk railway terminal. There are crowds of people there: at the timetable, at the inquiry-office, at the booking-office, waiting for trains at the platforms, having a snack at a cafeteria, seeing off their friends and relatives. They are in a hurry not to miss their trains. I get all the necessary information at the inquiry office before buying or booking tickets. Usually I prefer a return ticket to a single one, a lower berth to an upper one. I like to travel by an express train as it's more comfortable than a passenger train. The fares are reasonable and the trains are always in time. They leave and arrive without delay. When I get on the train I go to my compartment. Here I put my luggage on the luggage-track and make myself comfortable. I always have a nice trip by train.

Very often I go on business to London by air as it is the fastest way of travelling. I ask my secretary to check flights to London as I want to take the earliest flight I can. She finds out the time of flights to London and reserves me a seat. Usually it's a direct non-stop flight, business class, non-smoking. The secretary arranges everything for me (makes all necessary reservations for the flight) and I go home to pack a bag. I can't waste my time because passengers must arrive at the airport two hours before departure time on international flights and an hour on domestic flights. There must be enough time for them to complete all

necessary airport formalities. Passengers must check in for flights: register tickets, weigh and register their luggage. My secretary also arranges for a car to take me to the Airport Terminal and phones me to inform about the latest check-in time. At the check-in desk I put my luggage on the scales and pay an extra charge if it's necessary. Together with other passengers I wait at the departure lounge and on hearing the announcement about the flight I collect my hand luggage and go to gate. I show my boarding pass to the stewardess and get on the plane.

As I'm an engineer of the company I often go on business trips to visit our trade partner's manufacturing plants in London. When the plane lands at Heathrow airport I go through passport control and check my luggage at the Customs house. A representative of our Trade Delegation meets me at the airport and takes me to the Embassy Hotel. It's a comfortable hotel in the centre of London near the Hyde Park. Prices for the rooms are reasonable and the hotel is usually full, so the rooms are reserved in advance.

It takes us about half an hour to get to the hotel. At the reception desk we address the receptionist and say that we have reserved accommodation for Mr. Petrov at the hotel. The receptionist checks the reservation and informs us that one single room with private bath is reserved for Mr. Petrov from this day. The room is on the third floor, number 301. We thank the receptionist and I fill in the following form:

Surname \_\_\_\_\_  
First name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of arrival \_\_\_\_\_  
Length of stay \_\_\_\_\_

The receptionist thanks us and gives me the key to my room. He calls the porter and asks him to take me up to my room in the lift. The receptionist asks me not to miss breakfast served from

7.30 to 8.30. He also warns me that the hotel charges include breakfast and maid-service and I don't have to give any tips to the maids. The receptionist wishes me to enjoy my stay at the hotel.

### Vocabulary

inquiry-office – справочная  
extra charge – дополнительная оплата  
departure lounge – зал ожидания  
boarding-pass – посадочный талон  
check in – проверять, регистрировать  
reserve accommodation – заказать номер  
reasonable – приемлемый  
tip – чаевые  
receptionist – служащий отеля  
charges – плата  
porter – портье, носильщик  
maid – горничная  
miss – пропустить  
include – включать  
key – ключ  
single – единственный

### 2. Answer the following questions on the text.

1. What kinds of transport do people use for going on business?
2. Why do travellers often make reservations for flights in advance?
3. Why must passengers arrive at the airport two hours before departure time on international flights and an hour on domestic flights?
4. Where do passengers wait for the announcement about the flight?
5. What must be shown to the stewardess before getting on the plane?

6. Do businessmen often stay at hotels?
7. Why is it necessary to reserve accommodation in advance?
8. Who makes arrangements for a businessman's stay at a hotel?
9. What is included into hotel charges?
10. What are visitors asked to fill in at the hotel?



### 3. Learn the information to know more about types of hotels and hotel accommodation.

#### A. Types of hotels

Hotels in Britain are graded with stars from one-star to five-star (five-star hotels are the best and most expensive). You can also stay in a Bed & Breakfast (B&B) (also called Guest Houses) where you pay for a bedroom, possibly an ensuite (=room with private bathroom) and breakfast.

#### B. Types of hotel accommodation

A single room: for one person with a single bed

A double room: for two people with one large double bed

A twin room: for two people with two single beds

Full board: includes breakfast, lunch and dinner

Half board: includes breakfast and dinner

B&B: just the room and the breakfast

#### 4. Put these sentences in a logical order.

1. I paid my bill.
2. I checked in at reception.
3. I left the hotel.
4. I went up to my room.
5. I spent the night in the hotel.
6. I had an early morning call at seven o'clock.
7. I booked a room at the hotel.
8. I went out for dinner in a local restaurant.
9. I arrived at the hotel.
10. I got up and had a shower.
11. I had breakfast.
12. I tipped the porter who carried my luggage upstairs.

#### 5. Fill in the words correctly.

*advance, bunk beds, dormitory, double room, family room,  
key, reception, single room, twin room, vacancies*

1. If you book a room for one person, you usually book a single room.
2. If you want a room with a double bed, you book a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. If you want a room with two separated beds, you book a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. For families there are usually special offers if they take a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. In youth hostels rooms are often shared by 10 or more people. This kind of room is called \_\_\_\_\_.
6. To get 10 people into one room, two beds are usually placed on top of each other. They are called \_\_\_\_\_.
7. No matter where you're staying, you usually have to fill in a form at the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Then the receptionist tells you your room number and gives you the \_\_\_\_\_ for your room.
9. During high season it's advisable to book a room in \_\_\_\_\_.

10. If a B&B is fully booked, they usually have a sign in the window saying "No \_\_\_\_\_".

#### 6. Read the conversation and role-play it.

##### **Hotel reservation**

**Hotel Clerk:** Hello. Sunnyside Inn. May I help you?

**Man:** Yes, I'd like to reserve a room for two on March 21.

**Hotel Clerk:** Okay. Let me check our computer here for a moment. The 21st of May, right?

**Man:** No. March, not May.

**Hotel Clerk:** Oh, sorry. Let me see here. Hmm.

**Man:** Are you all booked that night?

**Hotel Clerk:** Well, we have one suite available, complete with a kitchenette and a sauna bath. And the view of the city is great, too.

**Man:** How much is that?

**Hotel Clerk:** It's only \$200 dollars, plus a 10% room tax.

**Man:** Oh, that's a little too expensive for me. Do you have a cheaper room available either on the 20th or the 22nd?

**Hotel Clerk:** Well, would you like a smoking or a non-smoking room?

**Man:** Non-smoking, please.

**Hotel Clerk:** Okay, we do have a few rooms available on the 20th; we're full on the 22nd, unless you want a smoking room.

**Man:** Well, how much is the non-smoking room on the 20th?

**Hotel Clerk:** \$80 dollars, plus the 10% room tax.

**Man:** Okay, that'll be fine.

**Hotel Clerk:** All right. Could I have your name, please?

**Man:** Yes. Bob Harryson.

**Hotel Clerk:** How do you spell your last name, Mr. Harryson?

**Man:** H-A-R-R-Y-S-O-N.

**Hotel Clerk:** Okay, Mr. Harryson, we look forward to seeing you on March 20th.

**Man:** Okay. Goodbye.

## Vocabulary

**suite** (noun): a group of connected rooms at a hotel  
- I decided to reserve a suite for our honeymoon.

7. Learn this information to know more about different ways of travelling and choose the correct word in the sentences that follow it.

### Types of Transport

<i>Bus</i>	<i>Train</i>	<i>Plane</i>	<i>Taxi</i>	<i>Bicycle</i>	<i>Car</i>
driver	driver	pilot	driver	cyclist	driver
drives	drives	flies	drives	rides	drives
fare	fare	air fare	fare	-	-
catch/take	catch/take	take	take	go on (my)	go by
get on/off	get on/off	get on/off	get in/out	get on/off	get in/out
bus station	railway station	airport	taxi rank	-	-

1. You mustn't ride/drive a motorbike without a crash helmet.
2. She told him to get in/get on the car and fasten his belt.
3. Bus fares/tickets are getting more expensive.
4. Trains to the airport travel/run every 30 minutes.
5. The pilot couldn't drive/fly the plane in such bad weather.
6. Have a look at the train schedule/timetable to find out when the next one arrives.
7. We were late, so we had to take/catch a taxi.
8. I left my house a bit late and I lost/missed the bus.

8. Read and translate the text paying attention to the words and word expressions in bold. Make up a summary of it.

### Travelling by Air

When you get to the airport you go to the **check-in desk** where they **weigh your luggage**. Usually you are permitted 20 kilos, but

if your bags weigh more, you may pay **excess baggage** (=you pay extra). The airline representative checks your ticket and gives you a **boarding card** for the plane with your seat number on it. Then you go through **passport control** where an official **checks** your passport, and go into the **departure lounge**. Here, you can also buy things in the **duty-free**, e.g. perfume, alcohol and cigarettes. About half an hour or forty minutes before **take-off**, you are told to go to a gate number, e.g. gate 14, where you wait before you **get on** the plane. When you **board** (=get on) the plane, you find your seat. If you have **hand luggage**, you can put it under your seat or in the **overhead locker** above your seat. The plane then **taxis** (=moves slowly) towards the **runway**, and when it has permission to **take off**, it accelerates along the runway and takes off.

You need to understand certain **announcements**; these come from the **captain** (=the pilot) or from an **air steward** or **stewardess / cabin crew / flight attendants** (=people who look after the passengers):

- *Please **fasten your seat belt** and put your seat in the **upright position**.*
- *We are now **cruising** (=flying comfortably) at an **altitude** (=height) of 10,000 metres.*

When the plane **lands** (=arrives on the ground), you have to wait for it to stop/come to a halt. When the doors are open, you **get off** the plane and walk through the **terminal building** and go to the **baggage reclaim** where you collect your luggage. You then **pass through customs** (green=nothing to declare; red=goods to declare; blue=European Union citizen). If you are lucky, you can then get a bus, taxi or train to the centre of town without waiting too long. You can also **hire** a car (=rent a car) at most airports.



9. Read the article and choose the correct words in bold, then replace them with synonyms from the list.

- *In addition* • *Furthermore* • *To start with*
- *However* • *What is more* • *In conclusion*

### ***Trains are the best!***

Why do thousands of people every day let the train take the strain? Because travelling by train is, in my opinion, the best way to travel.

1) ***Also/Firstly***, travelling by train is safe, you don't have to worry about traffic jams or other problems that you find on the roads.

2) ***Furthermore/However***, because there is no other traffic there is less chance of having an accident.

3) ***Secondly/In addition***, travelling by train is far more pleasant than, for example, travelling by bus. Trains are faster, and what is more the seats are far more comfortable. You can also sit back and enjoy watching the countryside, instead of having to stare at other cars and buses on the motorway.

4) ***On the other hand/Furthermore***, although trains are fast and comfortable, some people say that train fares are too expensive. Tickets cost a lot of money. As far as I'm concerned, though, you get what you pay for, and the extra speed, convenience, safety and comfort of a train is worth a little extra cost.

5) ***All in all/Despite***, I think that although rail travel can be expensive it is worth it. There are no traffic jams to cope with and you can relax and enjoy the scenery in comfort and safety. So, next time you have to make a journey, why not try travelling by train and see what a difference it makes?

10. Read the microdialogues (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) and match them with the different types of transport (A, B, C, D, E).

A – *by air*

B – *by train*

C – *by underground*

D – *by bus*

E – *by taxi*

### ***Microdialogue 1***

A: Picadilly, please. I have an appointment at 10.30.

B: We should be OK if the lights are with us.

A: You've still got five minutes to spare. 3 euros, please.

B: Many thanks. Here you are. It couldn't be better.

### ***Microdialogue 2***

A: Am I OK for St. Paul's Cathedral?

B: No you are going the wrong way. You want a 105 from the church.

A: Can you tell me where to get off?

B: It's three stops after this one.

### ***Microdialogue 3***

A: Which line do I take for Marble Arch, please?

B: You want the Victoria to Oxford Circus and then change on the Central.

A: How do I get to the train?

B: Follow these signs. You can't go wrong.

### ***Microdialogue 4***

A: Which train do I take for Victoria, please?

B: 9.25. Platform 3.

A: What time does it reach London?

B: It takes roughly two hours, so you'll arrive just before 11.30.

A: Is it necessary to change?

B: No, it's a through train.

### *Microdialogue 5*

**A:** What flights are there from London to Paris on Sunday?

**B:** I'll just see what there is.

**A:** I want to go economy, and I'd prefer the morning.

**B:** There's one leaving at 9.25.

**A:** What time do I have to be there?

**B:** You'll have to be at the Heathrow Terminal by 8.35 at the latest.

### **11. Complete the dialogues and act out similar ones.**

\*\*\*

— Excuse me, what bus can I take ...?

— I'm sorry, I'm afraid...

— ... Can you tell me where to get ...?

— Yes. Cross over ... . The bus stop ... .

— Do you know the number ...?

— I think, ... .

— Thank ... .

\*\*\*

— Is this the stop for ...?

— That's right. It's number ... . It stops at ... and goes on to ...  
Therefore ask the driver ...

### **12. Write two advantages and two disadvantages for each of the four forms of travelling (by air, by train, by bus, by car).**

### **13. Read and smile.**

#### *A Story Too Terrible To Tell*

Three men came to New York for the first time. They took a room in a hotel. In the evening they went sight-seeing and did not come back till nearly three in the morning. The room they had taken was on the 43<sup>rd</sup> floor. "I am sorry, gentlemen", said the porter, "but the elevator does not work, there is something wrong

with it. You will have to walk up to your room". This was too bad, but the men agreed to tell stories on the way up in order to kill the time.

By the time the first one had told his story, they had climbed up to the 11<sup>th</sup> floor. The next story kept them amused till they had reached the 31<sup>st</sup> floor. At last it was time for the third man to tell his story, but he refused. He said the story he had in mind was too terrible, he simply couldn't tell it. They continued climbing and all the time the two asked him to begin. At last they stopped and refused to go on unless he told them his terrible story. "The story I have to tell you is a short one", he said at last, "we have left the key to our room downstairs with the porter".

#### *On the Bus*

It was during the rush-hour. As usual, all the seats in the bus were occupied. When a good-looking young lady got in, an elderly man sitting near the door wanted to rise, but the lady at once pressed him to keep his seat. "Thank you", she said, "I don't mind standing". "But, madam, permit me...". "I insist upon your sitting down," she stopped him, and putting her hands on his shoulders she almost forced him back into his seat.

The man tried again to stand up and said, "Madam, will you allow me to...". But once more the lady said, "I don't wish to take your seat, sir!" and forced him back with another push.

With a great effort the man finally pushed her aside. "Madam", he called out, "I don't care whether you take my seat or not. The bus has already taken me two stops beyond my destination, and now I wish to get out."



14. Find the words below in the grid. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally. When you have finished, some of the unused letters in the grid will form a proverb. Pick them out from left to right, top line to bottom line.

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

boarding  
bus  
car  
check-in  
coach

customs  
flight  
hotel  
jetlag  
luggage

one way  
overnight  
passport  
reservation

return  
ticket  
train

## Meals

1. Answer the following questions.

1. What are the usual meals of the day?
2. What do people usually have for breakfast?
3. What do people usually have for dinner?
4. How many courses do people normally have for dinner?
5. Why do the businessmen often find it impossible to come home for dinner?
6. Why is supper the smallest meal of the day?
7. What do people usually have for supper?

2. Study the words and read the text that follows them.

waiter – официант

self-service – самообслуживание

rare exception – редкое исключение

order – заказ

hungry – голодный

course – блюдо

confidence – доверие

lunch-hour – обеденное время

closing time – время закрытия

study the menu – изучать меню

### ***Business Dinner at a Restaurant***

Usually after the talks our engineer invites representatives of other companies to have dinner at some of the restaurants in our city. There are many kinds of restaurants in Minsk. Most of them are traditional restaurants where a waiter serves customers, self-service restaurants are very rare exception. There are many small restaurants and cafes which are very popular and crowded especially during the lunch-hour, but it is getting more and more

expensive to have meals there. At self-service cafeterias a customer serves himself and he can get a meal more quickly and less expensive.

When the manager of our company invites an English businessman to a restaurant, he chooses among different types of Minsk restaurants a place similar to the famous English pub with its cosy and friendly atmosphere. English people go there not only for some beer or whisky, but to meet their friends and spend the whole evening there till closing time.

So after the talks the two businessmen come into the restaurant, take their seats at a table near the window and order cocktails. They study the menu to see what's on it. The waiter comes to their table and asks if they are ready to order. As a rule, businessmen are rather hungry after the talks and the choice of dishes on the menu is rich. They order mushroom soup for the first course and meat with vegetables for the second course. The vegetables are very good but the meat is a bit dry. The engineer likes fried chicken. The chicken is delicious. The English businessman doesn't like fish and roast beef is not his idea of a good meal. His favorite dish is steak. They start with sausages with new potatoes and green salad. They ask the waiter to bring a bottle of red wine. Later they order dessert: fruit or ice-cream. They finish with black coffee and cheese. The prices on the menu are not very expensive. The engineer pays the bill. During the dinner the two businessmen don't talk about their business, they prefer to have an informal chat (talk). They enjoy their dinner at the restaurant and come to better understanding, feel more confidence to each other.

### 3. Make up a summary of the text.



### 4. Cross out the word in each group which cannot follow the verb.

- |          |          |         |          |            |
|----------|----------|---------|----------|------------|
| 1. FRY   | onion    | potato  | water    | fish       |
| 2. BAKE  | potato   | bread   | cake     | milk       |
| 3. GRILL | sausages | egg     | bacon    | hamburger  |
| 4. BOIL  | steak    | egg     | milk     | potato     |
| 5. GRIN  | coffee   | salt    | pepper   | cheese     |
| 6. GRATE | cabbage  | carrot  | potato   | salt       |
| 7. SLICE | flour    | onion   | bread    | cheese     |
| 8. STEAM | rice     | fish    | biscuits | vegetables |
| 9. ROAST | beef     | tomato  | lamb     | potato     |
| 10. CHOP | onion    | parsley | nuts     | milk       |

### 5. Learn the information to know more about cafes and restaurants.

In Britain you often have three **courses**: a **starter** (e.g. soup), a **main course** (e.g. steak or chicken), and a **dessert** (e.g. strawberries or ice cream). You may also have an **aperitif** (= a drink before the meal, e.g. gin and tonic), and coffee after the meal. When you pay the **bill** (= the money for the meal; AmEng = **check**), you sometimes also leave a **tip** (= money) for the waiter if **service is not included** in the price. (10% is a normal tip). If it is a popular restaurant, you may also need to **book** (=reserve) a table **in advance** (= before you go.)

### 6. Read the dialogue and choose the correct word or expression.

*Waiter:* Hello, can I (**help/show**) you?

*Kim:* Yes, I (**like / would like**) to have some lunch.

*Waiter:* Would you like a starter?

*Kim:* Yes, I'd like a (**cup/bowl**) of chicken soup, please.

*Waiter:* And what would you like for a (**main course/dessert**)?

Kim: I'd like a grilled cheese sandwich.  
 Waiter: Would you like (*some/anything*) to drink?  
 Kim: Yes, I'd like a (*jug/glass*) of Coke, please.  
 Waiter...After Kim has her lunch.: Can I bring you anything else?  
 Kim: No thank you, just the (*bill/tip*).  
 Waiter: Certainly.  
 Kim: I don't have my glasses. (*How many/How much*) is the lunch?  
 Waiter: That's \$6.75.  
 Kim: Here you are. Thank you very much.  
 Waiter: You are (*good bye/welcome*). Have a good day.  
 Kim: Thank you, the same to you.

**7. Read out the dialogues in pairs. Explain the words in bold. Role-play them.**

***In a restaurant***

1

Waiter: Good evening, sir. May I take your **order**?  
 Tim: Yes, please. I'll have the vegetable soup to start with.  
 Waiter: And for the **main course**?  
 Tim: I'm not sure. What's today's **special**?  
 Waiter: It's grilled fish with carrots.  
 Tim: That sounds nice. I'll have that, please.  
 Waiter: Would you like anything to drink?  
 Tim: A **large** glass of **mineral water**, please.  
 Waiter: Thank you.

2

Ann: Did you have a nice **meal**?  
 Bill: Yes, I did. The fish was **wonderful**, wasn't it?  
 Ann: Yes, it was. There was so much, but we finished it, didn't we?  
 Bill: Mm. I do like it here. We haven't been here **for ages**, have we?

Ann: No, we haven't. It has a nice atmosphere, and it's very **reasonable**, isn't it?  
 Bill: Yes, it is. And the waiters really look after you, don't they?  
 Ann: Yes, they do. Shall we go home now?  
 Bill: OK. Let's go.

**8. Discuss with your partner.**

- How often do you eat out?
- Where do you usually go when you eat out?
- Who do you usually go with when you eat out?
- Do you normally need to book a restaurant in advance?
- Do you like western food? (Japanese? Thai? Italian?)
- Do you know how to order food in English?
- Have you ever done so?
- Is it common to give the waiter a tip? If so, how much?
- Do you normally eat three courses in a restaurant? If not, how many courses do you normally have?
- Do you add more salt to your food when you eat in restaurants?
- Would you say that food in your country is very spicy?
- Would you say that food in your country is generally quite fattening?

**Shopping and Banking**

**1. Read the text and do the exercises that follow it.**

When on a business trip abroad I often go shopping. I need to make some purchases before leaving the country because I want to buy presents for my wife and children.

I prefer supermarkets for shopping. They have become very popular with the shoppers because you can buy everything you need under one roof and they are self-service shops and have

parking possibility. I can also make a purchase at clothes shops, shoe shops, book shops, etc. But I call at a department store as it has many departments and I can buy everything I need in one building. I don't like expensive department stores; I prefer to go to cheaper ones. Shops and department stores are open every day till 7 o'clock. Almost all the shops are closed on Sundays.

I ask the nearest way to the Central Department Store and get there by bus. It takes me 10 minutes. A lot of people move along the counters of the shop and look at the shop-windows choosing what they need. I'd like to buy a suit for me, a pair of gloves for my wife and some toys for my children. There's a very good choice of ready-made clothes at the men's and women's departments of the store. I ask the shop-assistant (the sales-girl) to help me choose a summer suit of the right size for everyday (office, better) wear. I try on a few suits in the fitting room. The suit I choose fits me perfectly, it's in grey and matches my eyes, it's not expensive. At least, it costs no more than I can spend. I'm sure that it's my style and it'll wear for ages. I pay for the suit in cash. The cashier gives me a change. I also buy a pair of nice gloves at the women's department for my wife. If the gloves are tight, I'll get a refund. And the toys I buy for my children will be a good present and make them happy.

### Vocabulary

purchase – покупка  
 department – отдел  
 counter – прилавок  
 store – магазин  
 spend – тратить  
 expensive – дорогой  
 fitting room – примерочная  
 size – размер  
 refund – возврат денег  
 tight – тесный

### 2. Match the sentence beginnings to the correct endings.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. I need to make some purchases before leaving the country because | a) at the women's department for my wife.             |
| 2. I call at a department store as it has many departments and      | b) at the men's and women's departments of the store. |
| 3. A lot of people move along the counters of the shop and          | c) I can buy everything I need in one building.       |
| 4. There's a very good choice of ready-made clothes                 | d) I want to buy presents for my wife and children.   |
| 5. I also buy a pair of nice gloves                                 | e) look at the shop-windows choosing what they need.  |

### 3. Answer the questions.

1. When and why do businessmen go shopping?
2. What kinds of shops can they make purchases at?
3. What are advantages of supermarkets?
4. Is there a great choice of ready-made clothes at the men's and women's departments of the store?
5. How can you pay for your purchases?

### 4. Read the dialogue and fill in: *match* – *go with suit* – *fit*. Act out a similar dialogue.

A: Good morning, madam. May I help you?  
 B: I hope so! I'm looking for something really special to wear to my cousin's wedding. Something in red, I think.  
 A: What about this lovely dress? It has a jacket in the same colour to **1)** ..... it.  
 B: Yes, it's beautiful, but it looks a bit small. Do you think it will **2)** ..... me?  
 A: Why don't you try it on? ... (*after some minutes*)  
 B: There! How does it look?

A: It's perfect! The colour **3**) ..... you.  
B: Do you think so? Now all I need is a pair of shoes to **4**) .....

### 5. Read and translate useful words and expressions.

*Assistant:* Can I help you?

*Customer:* Yes, **I'm looking for** (=I want) a blue jumper.

*Assistant:* Can I help you?

*Customer:* No, **I'm just looking**, thanks. (=I don't need help)

*Assistant:* Can I help you?

*Customer:* **I'm being served**, thanks. (=another assistant is already serving/helping me)

*Assistant:* What **size** are you looking for? (e.g. big? small? medium? 12?)

*Customer:* Where's the **changing room**? (=the room where you try on clothes; also called the **fitting room**)

*Assistant:* It's down there on the right.

*Customer:* Yes, **I'll take** this one/these. (=Yes, I want to buy this one/these)

*Customer:* No, **I'll leave** it thanks. (=No, I don't want to buy it/them)

*Customer:* Excuse me. Where do I pay for these?

*Assistant:* Over there at the **cash desk/till**.

*Customer:* And can I **pay by** cheque/credit card?

*Assistant:* Yes, of course.

### 6. Complete this shopping dialogue.

*Assistant 1:* Can I help you?

*Customer:* Yes. I'm (1)..... a blouse like this, but in blue.

*Assistant 1:* I see. And what (2)..... are you looking for?

*Customer:* Uh, 14 usually.

*Assistant 1:* Ok, I'll just go and see if we've got any.

*Customer:* Thank you.

*Assistant 2:* Can I help you?

*Customer:* No, it's OK. I'm (3)..... thanks.

*Assistant 1:* Here we are. The last one in stock.

*Customer:* Great. Can I try it on?

*Assistant 1:* Yes, of course. The (4)..... is just over there.

*Assistant 1:* How was it?

*Customer:* Fine. I'll (5).....

*Assistant:* Right. Would you like to pay over there at the (6).....?

### 7. Read and translate the text "Changing money", do the test.

#### Changing money

If you need to change some dollars into pounds you can go to an exchange office. In London money can be changed either at banks, at exchange offices or at customers' services desks in big department stores.

Banks are usually open from 9.30 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Some are open on Saturday, but never on Sunday. They accept plastic cards Visa, Access as well as Eurocheques, traveller's cheques and, of course, cash. Many banks have cash dispensing machine services.

Exchange offices are usually open for longer hours and every day. They often charge a bigger commission than banks. The exchange rates are often shown in the running lines placed in the windows or on the walls of the exchange offices for everybody to see. Now Sergei comes up to the counter of the exchange office:

*Sergei:* Good evening.

*Cashier:* Good evening, sir. Can I help you?

*Sergei:* Could I change two hundred dollars into pounds, please?

*Cashier:* Yes, certainly.

*Sergei:* How much will it be?

*Cashier:* About one hundred and twenty pounds.

*Sergei:* Good. Here you are.

*Cashier:* Thank you. And how would you like it, in twenties, tens or smaller notes?

*Sergei:* In tens, please.

*Cashier:* Fine. Here is the money and your receipt, please.

*Sergei:* Thanks. Excuse me, will you be open tomorrow, on Sunday?

*Cashier:* Yes. We work shorter hours on Sundays. We'll close at 7 p. m.

*Sergei:* Thank you. Can I change these coins of fifty cents each.

*Cashier:* I'm afraid I can't take small change. We change only notes.

*Sergei:* Do you believe I can change them somewhere else?

*Cashier:* I'm afraid you can't. This is a rule with banks and exchange offices.

*Sergei:* I see. Thank you.

*Cashier:* You are welcome.

### Vocabulary

exchange office – обменный пункт, пункт обмена валюты

change – сдача, обменивать

cash dispensing machine – автомат, выдающий наличные (деньги)

charge a commission – взимать комиссию

exchange rate – курс обмена валюты

in the running lines – бегущей строкой



### Test

A. 1. If you need to change some dollars into pounds you can go to an exchange office.

- a) продать

- b) сдача  
c) обменять

2. In London money can be changed either at banks, at exchange offices or at customers' services desks in big department stores.

- a) в отделе самообслуживания  
b) в отделе обслуживания  
c) потребительские услуги

3. Exchange offices are usually open for longer hours and every day.

- a) больше часов  
b) дольше  
c) длиннее

4. The exchange rates are often shown in the running lines placed in the windows or on the walls of the exchange offices for everybody to see.

- a) обмен валюты  
b) курс валюты  
c) курс обмена валюты

5. Here is the money and your receipt.

- a) квитанция  
b) рецепт  
c) расписка

B. 1. I need to \_\_\_\_\_ at the bank because I'm going overseas on business, and I want to take some of the local currency with me.

- a) withdraw money  
b) exchange money  
c) buy traveler's checks

2. You ought to \_\_\_\_\_ to store your valuables and important documents in a secure location.

- a) rent a safety deposit box
- b) open a savings account
- c) pay your bills online

3. My father is trying to \_\_\_\_\_ to pay for the construction of a new room to our house.

- a) take out a loan
- b) pay off a loan
- c) review his bank statement

### 8. Read the conversations and role-play them.

1

- You are welcome, madam.
- I'd like to change these dollars, please.
- Yes, madam. How many dollars have you got?
- 250 dollars. What's the rate of exchange, please?
- The current rates are on the notice board, madam.

2

- Good morning. Can I help you?
- Yes. My name is Brown. I'm expecting money from my bank in Montreal.
- By post, cable or telex, sir?
- By telex.
- Just a moment. I'll check it. Are you Jack Brown?
- Quite right.
- Yes. There's 800 dollars from the Royal Bank of Canada, Montreal. Have you got any identification, sir?
- Yes, I've got my passport. Here you are.
- Thank you, sir.

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3

- Hello.
- Hello. I'd like to cash a traveler's cheque, please.
- Right. How much is it for?
- One hundred euros.
- Right, can you sign here, please? Do you have your passport?
- Yes, just a moment.

4

- Hello. I'm from Germany and I'm staying in England for a year. I want to open an account here. What documents do I need, please?
- Right. We need to see your passport and a letter from your employer or your place of study if you are a student.
- Right. Is that all?
- That's all, yes.
- Thank you.

### 9. Make a project work:

- “Making purchases”.
- “A visit to the bank”.



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## РЕКОМЕНДАЦИИ ПО ВЫПОЛНЕНИЮ УСРС

### УПРАВЛЯЕМАЯ САМОСТОЯТЕЛЬНАЯ РАБОТА

на тему:

#### «СОВРЕМЕННЫЙ СТУДЕНТ: НОВЫЕ РОЛИ, НОВЫЕ ЖИЗНЕННЫЕ ТРАЕКТОРИИ»

Рекомендуемая форма контроля: эссе.

Рекомендуемые инициативные темы для подготовки эссе:

1. Student's social image.
2. Student's moral, cultural and leisure trends.
3. Student's material values.
4. The opportunities of a big city for leisure time.
5. Student's formative years.
6. Trajectories of youth.
7. Foreign students' life.

**Перечень интернет ресурсов,  
рекомендуемых студентам при подготовке к УСРС:**

1. <http://www.britanica.org>;
2. <http://www.globalenvision.org>;
3. <http://www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com>;
4. <http://www.wikipedia.org>.



## СОЦИОКУЛЬТУРНОЕ ОБЩЕНИЕ



**1. Study the following terms.**

1. ***Intercultural communication*** is a process that comprises an open and respectful exchange between individuals, groups and organisations with different cultural backgrounds or world views.
2. ***Communication*** is the act or process of using words, sounds, signs to express or exchange information, ideas, thoughts, feelings, etc. by speaking, writing, or using some other medium to someone else.
3. ***Geographic position*** is the position of a point on the surface of the earth expressed in terms of geographical coordinates either geodetic or astronomical.
4. ***State system*** is a system involving government and its politics which includes the members who are in power within a country.
5. ***Sightseeing*** is the activity of visiting interesting places, especially by people on holiday.
6. ***Kingdom*** is a country ruled by a king or queen.

7. **Sovereignty** is a sovereign or independent state, community, or political unit.
8. **Independence** is a condition of a nation, country, or state in which its residents and population exercise self-government, and usually sovereignty, over the territory.
9. **Nature protection** is policies and procedures aimed at conserving the natural resources, preserving the current state of natural environment and, where possible, reversing its degradation.
10. **Pollution** is making water, air, atmosphere dirty and dangerous for people and animals to live in.
11. **Ecology** is a natural balance between plants, animals, people and their environment.
12. **Technological progress** is an improvement in the ability to use the factors in the production of goods and services.
13. **Information technology** is the technology involving the development, maintenance, and use of computer systems, software, and networks for the processing and distribution of data.
14. **Tradition** is a mode of thought or behavior followed by a people continuously from generation to generation.

## 2. Match the words to their definitions.

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. <i>Intercultural communication</i> | a) an economic measure of innovation  |
| 2. <i>Communication</i>               | b) the time when a country or region gains political freedom from outside control   |
| 3. <i>Kingdom</i>                     | c) the use of any computers, storage, networking and other physical devices, infrastructure and processes to create, process, store, secure and exchange all forms of electronic data |

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 4. <i>Sovereignty</i>            | d) the scientific analysis and study of interactions among organisms and their environment  |
| 5. <i>Independence</i>           | e) the protection, preservation, management, or restoration of wildlife and of natural resources such as forests, soil, and water                 |
| 6. <i>Nature protection</i>      | f) a territory or group of people ruled by the same monarch   |
| 7. <i>Technological progress</i> | g) a way of thinking, behaving, or doing something that has been used by the people in a particular group, family, society, etc., for a long time |
| 8. <i>Ecology</i>                | h) a form of communication that aims to share information across different cultures and social groups   |
| 9. <i>Information technology</i> | i) the purposeful activity of information exchange between two or more participants   |
| 10. <i>Tradition</i>             | k) the full right and power of a governing body to govern itself without any interference from outside sources or bodies                          |



## Great Britain, British Agriculture

### 1. Study the following words.

surface – поверхность  
monarchy – монархия  
mountainous – горный  
temperate – умеренный  
constitute – составлять  
inhabit – населять  
influence – влиять

### 2. Choose the correct definitions of the given words.

#### 1. *Surface*

- a) the upper layer of an area of land or water
- b) occurring or experienced in the mind
- c) having or showing a kind and quiet nature

#### 2. *Kingdom*

- a) any of a number of large sporting fish, many of which are edible
- b) a country, state, or territory ruled by a king or queen
- c) blood relationship

#### 3. *Monarchy*

- a) a form of government with a monarch at the head
- b) the group of people with the authority to govern a country or state
- c) the state or condition of being superior to all others in authority, power, or status

#### 4. *Island*

- a) a town or city with a harbour or access to navigable water where ships load or unload
- b) a place on the coast where ships may moor in shelter
- c) a piece of land surrounded by water

#### 5. *To inhabit*

- a) to take control by military conquest or settlement

- b) to live or dwell in; occupy
- c) to worship; venerate

### 3. Read the text and do the exercises that follow it.

#### Great Britain

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is the official name of the state. It is situated on the British Isles; the largest of them are Great Britain and Ireland. The population lives mostly in towns and cities and their suburbs. The United Kingdom is inhabited by the English, the Scots, the Welsh and the Irish.

The United Kingdom consists of 4 countries: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Their capitals are London, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast. The British Isles are washed by the Atlantic Ocean, the North Sea, the Strait of Dover, the English Channel and the Irish Sea.

The surface of Great Britain varies greatly. The northern and the western parts of the country are mountainous and called the Highlands. All the rest is called the Lowlands. The highest mountain is Ben Nevis in Scotland (1,343 m).

There are many rivers on the British Isles. The Severn is the longest of them. The Thames is the deepest river in the country. London, the capital of Great Britain, stands on the river Thames.

The climate of the British Isles is mild due to the influence of the Gulf Stream. Britain has much rain in all seasons. The British climate has three main features: it is mild, humid and changeable. This type of climate is good for plants. Winters are mild, summers are cool.

Great Britain is a highly industrialized country. Britain is known as one of the world's largest producers and exporters of iron and steel products, machinery and electronics, chemicals and textile, aircraft and navigation equipment.

Great Britain is a country with a highly developed agriculture. British farmers grow wheat and other grain crops, all kinds of vegetables and fruit.

Great Britain is a constitutional monarchy. The Queen's power is limited by the Parliament. There are two Chambers in the British Parliament: the House of Lords and the House of Commons. There are two main political parties in Great Britain – the Conservative Party and the Labour Party. Great Britain is a country with old cultural traditions and customs. Artistic and cultural life in Britain is rather rich. The most famous educational centers are Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

#### 4. Give English equivalents to the following words and word combinations.

Объединенное Королевство; Британские острова; официальное название государства; состоять из четырех частей; омываться морем; гористый; изменчивая погода; влажный климат; важный промышленный центр; ведущая отрасль; крупнейший производитель; текстильная промышленность; культурный центр; конституционная монархия.

#### 5. Match the sentence beginnings to the correct endings.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is | a) limited by the Parliament.                                    |
| 2. The United Kingdom is                                       | b) mild due to the influence of the Gulf Stream.                 |
| 3. The climate of the British Isles is                         | c) inhabited by the English, the Scots, the Welsh and the Irish. |
| 4. Great Britain is a country                                  | d) the official name of the state.                               |
| 5. The Queen's power is  | e) with a highly developed agriculture.                          |

#### 6. Answer the questions to discuss the details of the text.

1. What is the official name of Great Britain?
2. Where is the United Kingdom situated?
3. What countries does the UK consist of?
4. What are the most important rivers of Great Britain?
5. What influences the climate of Great Britain?
6. What can you say about mountains, rivers and lakes in Great Britain?
7. What are the capital cities of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland?
8. What are the most important industrial centres of Great Britain?
9. What are Britain's chief industries?

#### 7. Read the following dialogues and supply the missing words. Act them out.

A.

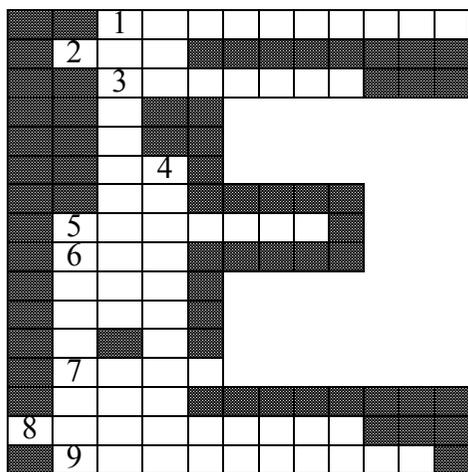
- Is England the name of that country?
- No, it isn't. It's called ... , or simply Britain. ... is a part of it.
- Really? So, I'm sorry, I'm mistaken.
- In my opinion you simply mix the names.
- And what about the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or ... ? That sounds more official, doesn't it?
- Yes, it's the official name of that country. But you shouldn't forget that though in everyday speech ... is used to mean the United Kingdom, it's the name of the island which is made up of England, Scotland and ... .
- Thanks, I've guessed at last.

B.

- Oh, I'm tired with the Customs formalities. Let's take a short rest now. Shall we sit here?
- It's a good idea and the armchairs look cosy. Let's enjoy fresh air.
- Certainly. Well, that's what La Manche looks like.

- You mean the ... .
- Why? What's the difference?
- Oh, no difference between us, because you are Belarusian and I'm German, but when you speak to a Frenchman, call it ... . On the other hand, British people prefer the English Channel.
- Then I think it should be called the British Channel, shouldn't it?
- That's history, traditions and all that.
- Thanks a lot, because it's very good to know the “likes and dislikes” of the country you are going to visit for the first time.

### Crossword Puzzle



*All the answers to this alphabet crossword begin with the letter E.*

#### Across:

- 1) a festival of Welsh culture
- 2) one of the commonest trees in Scotland
- 3) a branch of biology which deals with relations of living things to their surroundings
- 5) one of the countries of Great Britain
- 7) another name of the Irish Republic
- 8) the capital city of Scotland
- 9) citizens of England

- Down:**
- 1) one of the major industries in South Wales
  - 4) one of the most important industries in Glasgow
  - 6) one of the three parts of London

## 8. Read the text “British Agriculture” and answer the questions that follow it.

### British Agriculture

Agriculture is one of Britain's most important industries; it supplies nearly two-thirds of the country's food. British agriculture is efficient, for it is based on modern technology and research.

Nearly 80 % of the land is used for agriculture. Soils vary from the poor ones of highland Britain to the rich fertile soils in the eastern and south-eastern parts of England. Britain is self-sufficient in milk, eggs, to a very great extent in meat, potatoes, wheat. However, it needs to import butter, cheese, sugar and some other agricultural products.

There are lots of farms in Britain. They are not large. There are three main types of farming in Great Britain: pastoral, arable and mixed. 60% of farms are devoted mainly to dairy or beef cattle and sheep. Sheep and cattle are reared in the hilly and moorland areas of Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and south-western England. Milk production is of the first importance in the structure of British agriculture.

Pig breeding is carried on in most areas but is particularly important in southern England, north-eastern Scotland and Northern Ireland. Arable farms are mainly in the eastern part of the country. The main cereal crops in Great Britain are wheat, barley and oats. Rye is grown in small quantities to be used as cattle fodder.

Great Britain produces different kinds of fruit: apples, pears, cherries, gooseberries, strawberries, raspberries and others. Potatoes are grown for sale, for fodder and for seed.

Modern machines: tractors, combines and other equipment are used on British farms. Today the main tendency in British agriculture is that small traditional farms are gradually disappearing because they cannot compete with big industrial farms.

1. Why is agriculture one of the most important industries in Britain?

2. What are the main types of farming in Great Britain?

3. What is of the first importance in the structure of British agriculture?

4. What machines are used on British farms?

5. Why are small traditional farms gradually disappearing in British agriculture?

### 9. Make a project work "Great Britain".

### 10. Test yourself.



### ARE YOU GOOD AT GREAT BRITAIN?

*Choose the correct answer for each question.*

1. The capital of Northern Ireland is

- a) Dublin
- b) Cardiff
- c) Belfast

2. The mysterious Loch Ness Monster is from

- a) Wales
- b) Ireland
- c) Scotland

3. The British flag is often called

- a) the Union Jack
- b) the Stars and Stripes
- c) the Maple Leaf

4. The kilt is

- a) a shirt
- b) a skirt
- c) a pair of trousers

5. Ben Nevis is

- a) a famous footballer
- b) a sort of whiskey
- c) a mountain

6. The Beatles started their career in

- a) London
- b) Liverpool
- c) Birmingham

7. The national currency of the UK is

- a) the euro
- b) the dollar
- c) the pound

8. The famous British newspaper which is printed on pink paper is

- a) The Times
- b) The Guardian
- c) The Financial Times

9. The most popular sport in Britain is

- a) ice hockey
- b) baseball
- c) football

10. The colour that represents Ireland is

- a) green
- b) red
- c) yellow

11. Britain's national drink is

- a) tea
- b) Coca-Cola
- c) coffee

## Belarus, Agriculture of Belarus

### 1. Study the words.

anthem – гимн

meadow – луг

plain – равнина

flax – лен

independent – независимый

picturesque – живописный

sovereign – суверенный

border on – граничить с

participate – принимать участие

### 2. Choose the correct definitions of the given words.

#### 1. Anthem

- an economic activity concerned with the processing of raw materials and manufacture of goods at factories
- a solemn patriotic song officially adopted by a country as an expression of national identity
- the science or occupation of cultivating land and rearing crops and livestock

#### 2. Picturesque

- attractive and interesting
- ugly and dangerous
- boring and slow

#### 3. Sovereign

- acting or done independently and without outside interference
- visually attractive, especially in a quaint or charming way
- not decorated or elaborate; simple or basic in character

#### 4. To border on

- to place or spread something over so as to protect or conceal
- to be adjacent to another country or area
- to make or manufacture from components or raw materials

#### 5. To participate

- to take part, be or become actively involved
- to deal with somebody
- to overcome a problem

### 3. Translate the sentences containing the words of your active vocabulary.

- The Republic of Belarus **borders on** five countries.
- There are no mountains in the country, it's a broad **plain**.
- Every **independent** state has its **anthem**.
- The largest **forests** in Belarus are called pushchas.
- The climate of the country is rather favourable for **agriculture**.
- The national crops of our republic are potato, **flax** and sugar-beet.

### 4. Read the text and do the exercises that follow it.

#### **The Republic of Belarus**

The Republic of Belarus is the official name of a sovereign independent state with its own government, constitution, state emblem, flag and anthem. It is situated in the eastern part of Europe. The republic borders on Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Russia and Poland.

Belarus is a land of vast plains and picturesque hills, thick forests and green meadows, deep blue lakes and flowing rivers. Broad plains and marshy lowlands occupy a lot of the territory. They are called Belarusian Polesye. The Dnieper, Pripjat, Berezina, Sozh, Western Dvina, Neman are the biggest rivers. The largest lake in Belarus is Lake Naroch. It is a very popular recreation area in our country.

Belarus has a moderately continental climate with a comparatively mild winter and warm summer.

Belarus is a developed industrial state. The main industries are engineering, chemical industry, wood-making industry, light and food industries. The major industrial centers in Belarus are Minsk,

Gomel, Vitebsk, Mogilev, Soligorsk, Zhodino, Brest. Belarusian goods are exported to many countries and are known all over the world.

Agriculture of Belarus specializes in milk and meat production, flax, vegetables (especially potatoes) and fruit (especially apples).

The Republic of Belarus has well-developed science and education system. The National Academy of Sciences founded in 1929 is one of the largest centers of science in the country. Its research institutes work on various important problems in such fields as mathematics, optics, genetics, biology, etc. The demand for higher education remains high. State institutions are the centers for both education and scientific research. Nowadays in Belarus there are a lot of universities, academies and institutes which provide training in various spheres of science and humanities.

At present Belarus actively participates in an effective international partnership with the governments of different states and international organizations.

### 5. Match the sentence beginnings to the correct endings.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. The Republic of Belarus is the official name of        | a) centers of science in the country.   |
| 2. The republic borders on                                | b) a sovereign independent state with its own government, constitution, state emblem, flag and anthem.              |
| 3. The major industrial centers in Belarus are            | c) an effective international partnership with the governments of different states and international organizations. |
| 4. The National Academy of Sciences is one of the largest | d) Minsk, Gomel, Vitebsk, Mogilev, Soligorsk, Zhodino, Brest.   |
| 5. Belarus actively participates in                       | e) Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Russia and Poland.   |

### 6. Work in groups. Find out from your partners:

- where Belarus is situated and what its area is;
- what countries Belarus borders on;
- why Belarus is sometimes called «blue-eyed»;
- what consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe are.

### 7. Read and translate the following dialogue. Act it out.

- Steve, my cousin is coming tomorrow. Where shall I take him, I wonder?
- Well, the problem is what you want him to see.
- Look, he's already been here several times. And what if I take him to Brest.
- But where will you stay?
- A friend of mine lives there. She'll show us around the city.
- Don't forget to go to the Brest Fortress. The memorial there is really impressive. There are always a lot of people there. I'm sure you'll remember your excursion there for a long time.
- Agreed. So, I'll go and buy the tickets for a train to Brest for the day after tomorrow.



**8. Read the text “Agriculture of Belarus” and answer the questions that follow it.**

***Agriculture of Belarus***

Agriculture is one of the main branches of the Belarusian economy for it supplies the population with foodstuffs. Agriculture is also one of the most important activities in the republic for it employs lots of the workforce.

Nearly 60 % of the total land area is cultivated. Arable lands account for about 30 % of the cultivated land area, and meadows and pastures account for 15 %.

Belarus belongs to the area of so-called unstable farming. A short growing season, the lack of fertile soils and other factors make farming difficult. The main plowed lands have low natural fertility. Much of the land can be productive only with fertilizer application. Marshy lowlands cover the southern region of Polesye in the basin of the Pripyat River. Many of the lowlands have been drained. They are used for producing fodder crops.

The Belarusian agrarian business is represented by large agricultural enterprises and private farms. Most of the farms have mixed crop and livestock farming. The main species of livestock are cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and poultry. Broiler chickens are other major livestock. They are raised at special mass-production plants.

The country's chief crops are cereal grains (mainly rye, barley and oats) and sugar beet. A large percentage of them is used to feed animals. Flax is also important. The republic is one of the main producers of flax in the world. The fact that potatoes are Belarusians «second bread» is known far beyond the republic. No wonder that Belarus is the second producer of potatoes in Europe. Additional crops grown on Belarusian farms are cabbages, tomatoes, carrots, cucumbers, onions. Fruit crops include apples, cherries, pears, plums.

Belarusian agriculture doesn't only produce farm products to meet domestic needs but the republic is also a traditional exporter of agricultural products. Among them are pork, beef, chicken, animal oil, cheese, eggs, flax, vegetables. Today Belarusian agricultural products are supplied to twenty-three countries. The Russian Federation is our main customer.

1. Why is agriculture one of the main branches of the Belarusian economy?
2. Why is agriculture one of the most important activities in the republic?
3. What are the country's chief crops?
4. What makes farming difficult?
5. What crop is known far beyond the republic?

**9. Make a project work “The Republic of Belarus”.**



**Customs and Traditions of Great Britain**

**1. Study the following words.**

- amateur – любитель  
bonfire – костер  
bowler hat – шляпа-котелок  
particularity – характерная черта  
superstition – суеверие  
be renowned for – известный  
blow up – взрывать  
celebration – празднование  
deal with – иметь дело с

## 2. Choose the correct definitions of the given words.

### 1. *Generation*

- a) a general or broad statement by inferring from specific cases
- b) all of the people born and living at about the same time, regarded collectively
- c) the branch of medicine or social science dealing with the health and care of old people

### 2. *Custom*

- a) a traditional and widely accepted way of behaving or doing something that is specific to a particular society, place, or time
- b) the protective care or guardianship of someone or something
- c) the action or process of taking something

### 3. *To deal with*

- a) to break promises
- b) to punish severally
- c) to give your attention to something, and often solve a problem

### 4. *Superstition*

- a) excessively credulous belief in and reverence for the supernatural
- b) provision with something needed or wanted
- c) observation and direction of somebody's work

### 5. *To blow up*

- a) to gain happiness or satisfaction by achieving one's potential
- b) to explode or cause to explode
- c) to break free from confinement or control

## 3. Read the text and answer the questions that follow it.

Every nation and every country has its own customs and traditions. Britain is different from our own country. This is natural. In Britain traditions play a more important part in people's life than in other countries. Englishmen are proud of their traditions and carefully keep them up.

The combination of the words tradition and custom means a usual manner of doing something, a belief of principal, of conduct passed on from generation to generation. Traditions can be subdivided into the traditions dealing with private life, religious holidays, public celebrations, traditional ceremonies and traditional sporting events.

Here are some of the holidays celebrated in Britain during a year.

St. Valentine is the saint of people in love, and St. Valentine's Day is February 14th. On that day, people send Valentine cards and presents to their husbands, wives, boyfriends and girlfriends.

April 1st is April Fool's Day in Britain. This is a very old tradition from the Middle Ages. At that time the servants were masters for one day of the year. They gave orders to their masters, and their masters had to obey. Now April Fool's Day is different. It's a day for jokes and tricks.

October 31st is Halloween; you can expect to meet witches and ghosts that night. Halloween is an old word for "Hallows Evening", the night before "All Hallows" or "All Saints' Day". On that one night of the year, ghosts and witches are free. It's time for fun. There are always a lot of parties on October 31st. At these parties people wear masks and dress as ghosts and witches. Some people make special Halloween lamps from a pumpkin. They take out the middle of the pumpkin, cut holes for the eyes, nose and mouth and put a candle inside the pumpkin.

There are lots of Christmas and New Year traditions in Britain. For example, it's Christmas Day. In Britain the most important meal on December 25th is Christmas dinner. A 21st-century British Christmas dinner is a roast turkey with carrots, potatoes, peas, Brussels sprouts and gravy. There are sausages and bacon too. Then, after the turkey, there's Christmas pudding.

December 26th is Boxing Day. Traditionally boys from the shops in each town asked for money at Christmas. They went from house to house on December 26th and took boxes made of wood with them. At each house people gave them money. This was a

Christmas present. So the name of December 26th comes from the boys' wooden boxes. Now, Boxing Day is an extra holiday after Christmas Day.

1. What does the combination of the words tradition and custom mean?
2. What do people do on St. Valentine's Day?
3. What is a 21st-century British Christmas dinner?
4. Who went from house to house on December 26th and took boxes made of wood with them?
5. What does the name of December 26th come from?

#### **4. Give English equivalents to the following word combinations.**

Обычаи и традиции, отправлять открытку, отдавать приказы, шутки и розыгрыши, умываться росой, майское дерево, ведьмы и привидения, День Всех Святых, вырезать сердцевину тыквы, поставить внутрь свечку, жареная индейка с подливкой, деревянные коробки.

#### **5. Make up a summary of the text.**

#### **6. Read and translate the text.**

### ***English Character***

Englishmen are naturally polite and are never tired in saying "Thank you", "I'm sorry".

Queuing is a national habit and it is considered polite or good manners to wait your turn. They will become very angry, and even rude, if you 'jump' the queue.

The British have a reputation for being conservative; have a strong sense of being different from others. They keep up the left side of the road and use double-deckers. They stick to their own

measurement system and continue to measure distances in miles and yards. They buy cheese in pounds and ounces, milk in pints, petrol in gallons.

English people don't like displaying their emotions even in dangerous and tragic situations. The Englishman prefers his own house to an apartment in a block of flats, because he doesn't wish his doing to be overlooked by his neighbours. They say "An Englishman's house is his castle". The average British family lives in a semi-detached house with a garden in the south of England. They own their house, which is situated in the suburbs of a large town. The house has three bedrooms. On average they have two children and a pet.

They are rather conservative in many ways. They love familiar things. They keep old traditions.

English people show great love for animals. Pet dogs, cats, hens, canaries and many other animals have a good life in Britain.

The typical Englishman works in a London bank but lives in the countryside, in a house with a lovely garden. Every day he reads the Times and does the crossword on the way to work. He never speaks to anybody on the train, but will talk to you about the weather or cricket if you meet him in the pub at lunchtime. He always wears a dark suit to work and always carries an umbrella. At the weekend, he wears an old tweed jacket and a pair of gardening trousers. He likes plain, simple food and drinks tea at every opportunity. In his free time, he works in his garden, plays golf or takes his dog for a walk. He is suspicious of all foreigners. He is kind and polite to his wife but does not show her a lot of affection. They both admire members of the Royal Family and copy their accents. He is proud of his son, who is at Cambridge University, (but would rather die than tell him). He is rather worried about his daughter, who is currently living with a punk, but hopes that she will eventually marry a doctor or an accountant.

The most popular hobby is gardening and the most popular sports are fishing, football and tennis.

**7. Make a project work: “A character sketch of the typical Englishman”.**

**Belarusian Customs and Traditions**

**1. Study the following words from.**

depiction – изображение  
destiny – судьба  
fern – папоротник  
folk – фольклор, народное искусство  
junction – соединение  
wreath – венок  
distinguishing – отличительный  
miraculous – волшебный  
picturesque – живописный

**2. Choose the correct definitions of the given words.**

*1. Destiny*

- a) a person or thing that destroys something
- b) a cause of great and irreparable damage
- c) the events that will necessarily happen to a particular person or thing in the future

*2. Folk*

- a) a kind of pale yellow Italian cheese
- b) a logical consequence of something
- c) relating to or originating from the beliefs and opinions of ordinary people

*3. Miraculous*

- a) capable of mixing
- b) remarkable and bringing very welcome consequences
- c) delivered to the wrong person or at the wrong time

*4. Picturesque*

- a) deserving or arousing pity

- b) visually attractive, especially in a quaint or charming way
- c) arousing feelings of sympathy or gratitude

*5. Marital*

- a) eye-catching a mark or pattern of marks on an animal's fur, feathers
- b) relating to marriage or the relations between husband and wife
- c) inspiring great affection or delight

**3. Give Russian equivalents to the following words and word combinations.**

Popular legends, romantic hope, to bind wreaths, marital future, ancient pagan festival, fiction creatures, folk music, pancakes.

**4. Read the text and answer the questions that follow it.**

Kupalie is the most mysterious of all Belarusian festivals. It is celebrated on the night from the 6th to 7th of July. According to popular legends existing for thousands of years, a flower of a fern unfolds on Kupalie midnight and the one who finds it will be eternally young and happy. And that person will know the future.

On that night young people set off to the forest with a naive, yet romantic hope to pick up such a miraculous flower. In the meantime girls bind wreaths and let them drift down the river trying to find out their destiny and marital future. At the same time it is the celebration of the power of nature through the marking of the summer solstice. It would be difficult to find a more picturesque holiday. The essential part of it is the great fire, which according to the belief has a purifying power. Young couples hand in hand must jump over it. Sometimes young people clear themselves in water of rivers and lakes. Besides, they move on a round dance. It's an amazingly wonderful and ancient pagan festival. The Kupalie night is the darkest one in the year. One step away from the fire and you plunge into absolute night and stars.

**Youth and Society, The Belarusian State Agrarian and  
Technical University**

**1. Study the words.**

branch – отделение, филиал

headquarters – штаб-квартира, головной офис

equal – равный, ровня, сверстник

implementation – выполнение

issue – спорный вопрос

assist – помогать

estimate – оценивать; приблизительно подсчитывать

involve – вовлекать

handicapped – физически или умственно неполноценный

authoritative – авторитетный, влиятельный

**2. Choose the correct definitions of the given words.**

1. *Authoritative*

- a) showing anger or annoyance at what is perceived as unfair treatment
- b) feeling or characterized by resentment
- c) commanding and self-confident; likely to be respected and obeyed

2. *Implementation*

- a) realization of something
- b) a particular year in an indiction period
- c) not directly caused by or resulting from something

3. *Headquarters*

- a) the amount of space below a roof or bridge
- b) any centre or building from which operations are directed
- c) a room in a house for the special use of young children

4. *To estimate*

- a) to demonstrate the truth or existence of something by evidence or argument

Kolyady is actually the celebration of the New Year as per the old calendar (prior to 1917) on the night of January 13-14. Traditionally some people dress in the images of animals or fiction creatures. Then noisy companies, holding the depiction of the sun and a nanny-goat's head, begin to visit houses one after another singing original Kolyady songs. In response people treat them with the food from their tables and sometimes give them money. Nowadays this old holiday is celebrated mostly for fun.

One more folk festive of pagan origin is Maslenitsa. It is a ceremony at the junction of two seasons; it sees off winter and meets spring. Popular festivals of folk music are organized at the time of Maslenitsa. People sing traditional songs and dance in the streets wearing national costumes. The distinguishing feature of Maslenitsa is pancakes!

1. When is the most mysterious of all Belarusian festivals celebrated?

2. What happens to a flower of a fern according to popular legends existing for thousands of years?

3. What do girls do on Kupalie?

4. What happens on Kolyady?

5. What is Maslenitsa?

**5. Make a project work: “A character sketch of the typical Belarusian”.**



- b) to accept the statement of someone as true
- c) roughly calculate or judge the value, number, quantity, or extent of something

#### 5. *Handicapped*

- a) having a condition that markedly restricts one's ability to function physically, mentally, or socially
- b) the mark left by the impression of a hand
- c) an electronic device designed to be operated without using the hands

### 3. Read the text and do the exercises that follow it.

Today young people take an active part in the social life of the country. It's quite natural that they want to socialize with their equals so as to express their views on several political and social issues. They join youth organizations and societies. The main aim of these organizations is to involve young people into socially useful activities such as sporting events, volunteering at hospitals, taking care of war veterans, assisting the old and the handicapped, carrying out some ecological projects and doing other things.

There are a lot of youth organizations in Belarus. The most authoritative of them are the Belarusian Republican Youth Union (BRSM), the Belarusian Republican Pioneer Organization. The BRSM national headquarters is located in Minsk, the national capital of Belarus. Each region of Belarus has its own branches of the BRSM. The BRSM has estimated that it has 6803 branches located inside Belarus. Both these organizations take an active part in the formation of the basis and implementation of the state policy in respect of youth. The activities are managed and directed by the State Committee on the Affairs of Youth.

At the same time there are a lot of informal youth movements that want to express themselves in different ways. Usually they are organized on the base of common interests or preferences in music styles or in arts priorities. Some try to express their political views others are searching for their own answers to universal problems:

ecological, religious or philosophical. Anyway all young people want to express themselves and find their place in this world.

### 4. Match the sentence beginnings with the correct endings.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Today young people take an active part                         | a) Minsk, the national capital of Belarus.   |
| 2. The main aim of these organizations is to involve young people | b) are the Belarusian Republican Youth Union (BRSM), the Belarusian Republican Pioneer Organization. |
| 3. The most authoritative of them                                 | c) the formation of the basis and implementation of the state policy in respect of youth.            |
| 4. The BRSM national headquarters is located in                   | d) into socially useful activities.  |
| 5. Both these organizations take an active part in                | e) in the social life of the country.  |

### 5. Answer the questions.

1. Why do young people take an active part in the social life of the country?
2. What is the main aim of the youth organizations and societies?
3. What are the most authoritative organizations?
4. Where is the BRSM national headquarters located?
5. What do the Belarusian Republican Youth Union (BRSM), the Belarusian Republican Pioneer Organization do?
6. Who manages and directs the activities of the Belarusian Republican Youth Union and the Belarusian Republican Pioneer Organization?
7. What are informal youth movements organized on?

## 6. Read the text and say how students' life is organized at British Universities.

to be concerned – зд. заботиться  
to rest in the hands – находиться в руках  
decision-making – принятие решений  
overseeing – зд. наблюдение  
fresher – первокурсник  
the abovementioned – вышеупомянутый

British Universities and colleges have Students' Unions which are concerned with students' life and studies. Unions have their Presidents; their role is basically to represent the interests of the students. Almost all power rests in the hands of the whole membership as expressed at General Meetings. For practical purposes the decision-making is delegated to Union Council.

Each Union Council has sub-committees each of which has the job of overseeing a small area of the Union's work. For example the Union Council of the University of Leeds has the Cultural Affairs Committee, Executive Committee, Fresher's Committee, General Athletics Committee, House Committee, Women's Affairs Committee, etc. They help to settle various students' problems in the academic year – with grants, accommodation, rents. They are also responsible for the coordination and organization of extra-curricular activities. If at any time a student needs advice, members of the Union Council will be glad to be of assistance. All these committees are open – any student may take part in the election to them.

There are numerous societies working with university and college Unions covering a wide range of interests and activities. The above mentioned Leeds University Union has 150 Societies of the following categories: political, religious, national, cultural, recreational. There is Agricultural Society, Archeology, Arts, Ballet, and Biological, Law, Music, Vegetarian and other societies among them.

## Smoking

### 1. Conversation Questions. Discuss them in pairs.

- Do you smoke? If you smoke, how much do you smoke a day? When did you start doing it? Why did you start?
- What are the reasons for smoking?
- What are the disadvantages of smoking, in your opinion?
- What are some health problems that smoking can cause?
- Can people smoke anywhere in your country?
  - Are there any restrictions?
  - Do you know what the laws are here about smoking in public places?
- Where can people smoke in your university?
  - What happens to students who smoke at your university?
  - Do you think students should be allowed to smoke at university?
- Is it easy to quit smoking?
  - What is the best way to quit?
  - Have you, your family or friends ever tried to quit smoking?
  - Do you know anyone who has successfully quit smoking? How did they do it?

### 2. Read and translate the text with the help of a dictionary.

#### ***Try to Give Up Smoking***

*If you've ever watched an adult try to give up smoking, you know how hard it can be. It's easier, healthier and cheaper never to start.*

So you've decided not to be a smoker. That's great! You'll live longer, breathe fresher air and save yourself a bunch of money. Some young people think that it can make them look grown-up and cool. They may think it's a way of joining the crowd. Most

young people smoke because their friends pressure them to do so. They may be copying their parents who smoke, or other adults they respect. At one time this would have been accepted as normal. But in the past 30 years attitudes about smoking have changed. Smoking is now banned in many places so that other people don't have to breathe in smokers' shocking tobacco smoke.

Passive smoking, when you are breathing someone else's smoke, can damage your health just like smoking can. Smoking becomes addictive very quickly, and it's one of the hardest habits to break.

Take 1000 young people who smoke 20 cigarettes a day. A quarter of them will die from a disease caused by smoking. That's 250 lives wasted! Only six of those 1000 teenagers will die in road accidents. So what is it in cigarette smoke that is harmful? A chemical called nicotine is a substance that causes addiction. It is a stimulant that increases the pulse rate and a rise in the blood pressure. Cigarette smoke also contains tar – a major factor for causing cancer.

Chronic bronchitis occurs when tar and mucus damage the air sacks in the lungs. The sufferer has a bad cough which is worse in the mornings, and may get breathless easily.

Emphysema is an illness in which the air sacks in the lungs become over-inflated as they lose their elasticity and are no longer able to push out all the carbone dioxide gas in the lungs. This makes the sufferer feel unwell, tight in the chest and always short of breath.

Gases in cigarette smoke increase your blood pressure and pulse rate. This can contribute to heart disease. Smokers as twice as non-smokers are likely to have heart trouble.

Smokeless tobacco that is chewed rather than smoked is also harmful, causing mouth sores, damage to teeth and cancer.

If you already smoke, decide to stop it, and stop today – even if you are halfway through a pack. Of course, this will be difficult, but your doctor can help you to quit smoking, and stay

smoke-free. You are in control of your own life and can do what you want today.

#### *Facts about smoking*

- *The smell of smoke on your breath and clothes will put people off.*
- *Someone who smokes 15 cigarettes a day can forget six to nine years of their life.*
- *You're burning a great deal of money. In many countries cigarettes are heavily taxed.*
- *Your skin will wrinkle faster and deeper than that of a non-smoker.*
- *Females who smoke heavily may wrinkle like a woman 20 years older in age.*
- *Pregnant women who smoke run a risk of damage to their unborn babies, as it makes them smaller.*

#### **3. Answer the questions.**

1. Smoking is started to copy one's friends or the sort, isn't it?
2. Is passive smoking as harmful as actual having a cigarette?
3. What is in cigarette smoke that is harmful?
4. Do you know any diseases caused by smoking and how they run?
5. Is chewing tobacco an alternative to this bad habit?
6. What facts about smoking do you know?
7. Do you know any effective way to quit smoking?
8. Does smoking bite your personal budget?

#### **4. Put each of the following words in its correct place in the passage below.**

#### *Smoking*

<i>craving</i>	<i>packet</i>	<i>chain-smoke</i>	<i>stained</i>	<i>put out</i>
<i>antisocial</i>	<i>fatal</i>	<i>ash tray</i>	<i>harmful</i>	<i>addiction</i>

To many people smoking is not just a pleasure, it is an 1) \_\_\_\_\_. They need it, depend on it, can't stop it. If they haven't smoked for some hours, they feel a 2) \_\_\_\_\_ for a cigarette. They often 3) \_\_\_\_\_, which means they light another cigarette immediately they have 4) \_\_\_\_\_ the one before. Smoking is often considered 5) \_\_\_\_\_ since many people don't like the smell of cigarettes or the sight of the smoker's 6) \_\_\_\_\_ fingers or 7) \_\_\_\_\_ full of cigarette-ends. Above all, smoking is 8) \_\_\_\_\_ to health and in many countries a warning is printed on every 9) \_\_\_\_\_ of cigarettes. Scientists have proved that there is a link between smoking and a disease which can be 10) \_\_\_\_\_, cancer.

### ***Education/ University***

#### **1. Conversation Questions. Discuss them in pairs.**

- What does your education mean to you?
- Does education guarantee a good job?
- Where can people get higher education in our country?
- What are some important factors in determining which university to attend? Who selects the university you will attend – you or your parents?
- What are the qualities of a good student?
- How much free time does a higher school student in your country have?
- Do you live in a dormitory while you go to university? Who are your roommates?
- Would you consider studying abroad?
- What's the best advice you would tell a brother/sister or friend who is now entering university?
- How has your life changed since beginning university?
- What is the biggest difficulty in being a university student?
- Why is a university education important? What does a university education provide?

#### **2. Read the information and give a brief account of the text.**

### ***Higher education in Great Britain***

There is a considerable choice of post-school education in Britain. In addition to universities, there are also polytechnics and a series of different types of assisted colleges, such as colleges of technology, art, etc., which tend to provide more work-orientated courses than universities.

English universities greatly differ from each other. They differ in date of foundation, size, history, traditions, general organization, methods of instruction and way of student life.

There are more than forty universities in Britain, of which 36 are in England, eight in Scotland, two in Northern Ireland and one in Wales. The two oldest and best-known universities in England are Oxford and Cambridge.

In 19th and the early part of 20th centuries the so-called Redbrick universities were founded. These include London, Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool, Sheffield, Birmingham, etc. The University of London is the largest of them. The division between Oxford and Redbrick is sharp. Redbrick universities were built to provide a liberal education for the poorer boys and to give technological training.

The universities which were founded after World War II are called "the new universities". Among them are the universities of Sussex, York, Kent and some others. Some of them quickly became popular because of their modern approach to university courses.

All British universities are private institutions. Good A-level results in at least 2 subjects are necessary to get a place at a university. However, good exam passes alone are not enough. Universities choose their students after interviews. The students receive grants. They have to pay fees and living costs. Every student may obtain a personal grant from local authorities unless his parents are rich.

The academic year in Britain's universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of education is divided into 3 terms, which usually run from the beginning of October to the middle of December, the middle of January to the end of March, from the middle of April to the end of June or the beginning of July.

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

Apart from lectures, teaching is by means of the "tutorial" system, which is a system of individual tuition organized by the colleges. Each student goes to his tutors room once every week to read out an essay which he has written, and for an hour he and the tutor discuss the essay.

After three years of study a university graduate will leave with the Degree of Bachelor of Arts, Science, Engineering, Medicine, etc. Some courses, such as languages and medicine, may be one or two years longer. The degrees are awarded at public degree ceremonies. Later he/she may continue to take Master's Degree conferred for a thesis based on at least one year's fulltime work. Universities are centres of research and many postgraduates are engaged in research for a higher degree, usually a Doctor's Degree.

### 3. Make a project work: "Universities of the UK".



### 4. Read the text "The Belarusian State Agrarian and Technical University" and answer the questions that follow it.

#### ***The Belarusian State Agrarian and Technical University***

The Belarusian State Agrarian and Technical University was founded in 1954. Young people from Belarus and other countries enter the University. The teaching staff consists of academicians, Corresponding Members of the Belarusian Academy of Sciences, professors, associate professors and experienced teachers.

The University has nine departments. Full-time students get education at 5 departments: agromechanical, agro-power, farm machinery service, business and management and engineering and technology ones. There are 2 extramural departments: the agromechanical and the department of electrification. The preparatory one is for those who are going to enter the University. The ninth department is that of social professions for the first-year students.

All the departments provide the students with capital knowledge of technical, economic, social and agricultural sciences during 4, 5 or 6 years of studying at the University. The University trains economists, managers and engineers.

The academic year is divided into two terms. At the end of each term the students have exams. The teaching process is based on lectures, practical classes, seminars, laboratory works.

Advanced students can join the Students' Scientific Society and carry out their research works under the guidance of supervisors. Annually the Students' Scientific Conference is held where the students present their scientific works. Research results obtained by the students are used in practical work.

Every summer the students have their industrial practice activities.

Today the University has good facilities for studying. The nine University buildings provide the students with well-equipped scientific laboratories, workshops, classrooms, a library and a

computer centre. The majority of the students live in 9 University dormitories.

Special attention is given to sport at the University. Most of the students are fond of sport and spend much time at the University sporting centre. Also the university can boast of having a modern stadium with artificial covering where the students can play football, run, etc.

BSATU provides a good engineering education. For its almost 60 years period of existence the University has already trained thousands of qualified specialists. The graduates of the University work not only at the farms of our republic but also at different plants, factories, industrial enterprises, research laboratories and institutes, joint ventures and banks.

### **Vocabulary**

extramural department – заочный факультет

graduate – выпускник

term – семестр

carry out – проводить

1. When was the university founded?
2. Who does the teaching staff of the University consist of?
3. How many departments are there at the university? What are they?
4. What is the teaching process based on?
5. Who can join the Students' Scientific Society and carry out research works under the guidance of supervisors?
6. What kinds of facilities does the University have?
7. Where can the graduates of the University work?

**5. Make a logical plan of the text. Retell the text.**

**6. Make a project work: “Universities of Belarus”.**

### **1. Study the words.**

environment – окружающая среда

consequence – последствия

contamination – загрязнение, заражение

depletion – истощение

deforestation – вырубка леса

diversity – разнообразие

recycle – перерабатывать

### **2. Choose the Russian equivalents for the following word combinations.**

*1. To stand at the crossroads of something*

- a) находиться на перепутье чего-л.
- b) стоять на перекрестке
- c) стоять на дороге

*2. To be at a crucial turning point*

- a) быть в критическом положении
- b) находиться в раздумье
- c) быть в раздумье

*3. To release harmful substances*

- a) получать вредные вещества
- b) выбрасывать вредные вещества
- c) удалять вредные вещества

*4. The most diverse ecosystem*

- a) самая важная экосистема
- b) самая разнообразная экосистема
- c) самая богатая экосистема

*5. To penetrate to the Earth*

- a) проникать в Землю
- b) впитываться в Землю
- c) исчезать с Земли

### 3. Choose the best way to define these.

*Pollution:* 1) dirty water, air and atmosphere;  
2) making water, air, atmosphere dirty and dangerous for people and animals to live in;  
3) people who make water, air and atmosphere dirty and dangerous.

*Environment:* 1) air, water and land, in which people, animals and plants live;  
2) an organization that wants to protect the natural world;  
3) something that we do to prevent air and water pollution.

*Ecology:* 1) natural balance between plants, animals, people and their environment;  
2) plants growing in some area;  
3) part of medicine that helps people to lead a healthy life.

*Greenhouse effect:* 1) a building in a garden or park which has glass walls and a glass roof in which you grow plants;  
2) a salad made mainly with green vegetables;  
3) the problem of temperature rise in the Earth's atmosphere.

### 4. Read the text and do the exercises that follow it.

#### ***Nature Protection***

Ecology, a vital philosophical issue, stands at the crossroads of politics, science and economics. The relationship between man and nature has become one of the major problems facing civilization today.

For hundreds of thousands of years the human race has thrived in Earth's environment. But now we are at a crucial turning point. We have upset nature's sensitive equilibrium releasing harmful substances into the air, polluting rivers and oceans with industrial waste and tearing up the countryside to accommodate our rubbish. These are the consequences of the development of civilization.

The matters of people's great concern nowadays are atmosphere and climate changes, depletion of the ozone layer, freshwater resources, oceans and coastal areas, deforestation and desertification, biological diversity, biotechnology, health and chemical safety.

One of the most alarming forms of air pollution is acid rain. Acid rain is killing forests and animals. It has acidified lakes and streams and they can't support fish, wildlife, plants or insects.

The protective layer of the Earth, the ozone layer is being damaged by chlorofluorocarbons. They are released by the daily use of industrial and household products. In the ozone layer they attack the ozone molecules making a "hole". This "hole" allows more UV rays to penetrate to the Earth. It increases the risk of skin cancer, weakens the immune system of people.

The tropical rain forest is natural recycler, provider and protector for our planet. It helps to determine temperature, rainfall and other climatic conditions, supports the most diverse ecosystem in the world. Nowadays it has been cut down to provide land, paper, wood, medicines, minerals, fuel. Deforestation could cause one fourth of all species on earth to vanish in the next 25 years.

Humans have only a few years to attempt to turn things around. They are obliged to remove factories and plants from cities, use modern technologies, redesign and modify purifying systems for cleaning and trapping harmful substances, protect and increase the greenery and broaden ecological education. It's important to remember that everyone should protect nature not only for the sake of the present but also for the future generations.

## 5. Match the sentence beginnings to the correct endings.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Ecology is a vital philosophical issue that            | a) forests and animals.  |
| 2. We have upset nature's sensitive equilibrium releasing | b) helps to determine temperature, rainfall and other climatic conditions, supports the most diverse ecosystem in the world.                     |
| 3. Acid rain is killing                                   | c) one fourth of all species on earth to vanish in the next 25 years.  |
| 4. The tropical rain forest                               | d) stands at the crossroads of politics, science and economics.  |
| 5. Deforestation could cause                              | e) harmful substances into the air, polluting rivers and oceans with industrial waste and tearing up the countryside to accommodate our rubbish. |

## 6. Answer the questions.

1. What are the matters of people's great concern nowadays?
2. What damage does acid rain bring?
3. What supports the most diverse ecosystem in the world?
4. Why has tropical rain forest been cut down nowadays?
5. What are humans obliged to do to turn things around?

## 7. Read the dialogues and role-play them.

1

**Frank:** We had an ecology conference yesterday. We discussed different environmental problems.

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**Chris:** No wonder. They are the most important problems these days.

**Frank:** I think many people understand that they should protect the environment.

**Chris:** Do they really understand that? I'm not quite sure, because factories dump waste into rivers; air pollution is getting worse too.

**Frank:** That's true. And yet more and more people fight against nuclear tests, nuclear weapons and other things.

**Chris:** But will they win? And when will they win these battles?

**Frank:** Don't lose hope. Let's hope for the best.

2

**Tom:** Don't you just love it here? Forest as far as you can see, fresh air, silence...

**Matt:** Yes, it's great. I'm getting hungry, though, so let's take a snake break.

**Tom:** All right – but not for long. We've still got plenty to see!

**Matt:** OK.

**Tom:** What are you doing?

**Matt:** Throwing my rubbish away. What's wrong with that?

**Tom:** Pick up your rubbish! We were just admiring nature, and you decide to drop litter in the forest!

**Matt:** Sorry – I didn't think of that. Anyway it's not like there is a rubbish bin here!

**Tom:** That's no excuse. You're polluting the forest! Animals live here. People camp here. They deserve a clean environment.

**Matt:** Well, I suppose you're right. I'll pick it up.

**Tom:** That's more like it!

3

**Reporter:** How do you think what does the greatest harm to nature?

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**Student 1:** I think industry does the greatest harm to nature. They've created a lot of machines and cars that poison the air.

**Student 2:** In my opinion it's nuclear power. There is a threat of nuclear war, or nuclear stations may explode anywhere.

**Student 3:** And I think it's throwing waste into oceans, seas and rivers. Clean water is the most important and life necessary thing on the Earth.

**Student 4:** I'm sure it's extinction of rare animals and plants. All this ruins the balance of nature.

**Reporter:** What should be done to protect nature?

**Student 1:** A lot depends on us. People should take measures (соблюдать меру) in exploring nature.

**Student 2:** Those who do harm to nature must be punished.

**Student 3:** We should do something but not just speak about it. How can we have comfortable life with cars, planes, electricity without destroying?

**Student 4:** Let's stop talking about the black side of things. Look, the weather is wonderful and it's a good day for a picnic in the forest.

## 8. Make up a project work "Environmental Protection in Belarus" using the questions as a plan.

1. What are the main priorities of the state policy of the Republic of Belarus?
2. What are the basic ecological problems of the Republic of Belarus?
3. Who carries out state control in the field of environmental protection?
4. Who carries out radiological control?
5. Is the Republic of Belarus a member of any organizations?

## 9. Read the text and say if the sentences are true or false. Then explain the words in bold.

1. Pesticides are chemicals.
2. Pesticides harm crops.
3. Pesticides protect wildlife.
4. Pesticides are dangerous.

### **Pesticides**

A 'pest' is a living thing that **harms** crop growth, carries **diseases** or cause damage. Some methods of pest control are natural, but other methods use chemicals called pesticides. Fly spray, rat **poison** and similar things you may use in everyday life are all pesticides.

Farmers use pesticides to protect crops from insects, diseases and **weeds** while they are growing. They also prevent rats and mice, flies and other insects from **contaminating** foods when they are stored.

Pesticides help us control ants and **cockroaches** in our homes and destroy **mites** and **ticks**. Pesticides in wood and wool make our furniture and clothes last longer.

Pesticides can be useful, but they can also harm people, wildlife and the environment. This is why there are strict controls over their sale and use. Many people **object** to their use because pesticides can contaminate our drinking water and cause health problems.

Some of the mostly used pesticides are **toxic** to animals and humans and large amounts make us ill. They can give us headaches and stomach ache, damage our skin, hair, nails and lead to weight loss. Experts believe that some of them can even cause **cancer**.

## 10. Answer the questions.

1. What are pesticides?
2. Why do we need pesticides?

3. Why are people concerned about the use of pesticides?

**11. Fill in the gaps with the numbers below.**

37    500    400    31,000

**Did you know?**

1) ... tones of pesticides are sprayed on UK land each year. 2) ... pesticides have been banned in the UK. Europe has stopped using 3) ... different pesticides in the last 10 years. 6 pesticides are approved for use in organic farming, but non-organic farmers can use about 4) ...

**12. Read the text. Then explain the words in bold.**

**3 Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**

*Helping the environment doesn't really require much effort. Let's the 3 Rs be your guide...*

**REDUCE**

Every time we turn on the tap or the light switch, we're **wasting** valuable **resources**! Here's how to reduce your use of these resources:

Electricity: Use **energy-sufficient** products. Turn off lights and electrical **appliances** when you are not using them.

Paper, etc: Buy in **bulk** – this helps avoid **excess** packaging.

Fuel: Use public transport – this helps reduce air pollution.

Water: Use water efficiently – don't leave taps running when you aren't using them.

**REUSE**

By reusing materials we can **cut down on** the amount of rubbish we have to **get rid of**.

Share books, magazines and newspapers. Give away old items you don't need (such as CDs, clothes, games, etc.) to **charity**. Use **rechargeable** batteries. Use canvas or cloth bags when you go shopping instead of plastic ones. Set the printer to print on both sides of a sheet of paper.

**RECYCLE**

In a lifetime, the **average** person throws away 600 times their weight in waste! We can reduce our waste **output** by recycling. As well as glass, aluminium, plastic and paper you can also recycle mobile phones, computers, motor oil, **fluorescent** light bulbs, printer ink **cartridges**.

**13. Say if the sentences are true or false.**

1. Taking the bus helps reduce the pollution.
2. Using rechargeable batteries helps the environment.
3. Always use plastic bags when you go shopping.
4. Reuse glass, aluminium, etc instead of recycling.
5. You can't recycle mobile phones.

**14. Choose the correct word.**

1. My neighbours are going to **raise/start** a campaign against the cutting down of the big tree outside their house.
2. We are trying to **raise/recycle** money to build a wildlife pond in the local park.
3. On Sunday, students from our school are going to **plant/protect** trees on top of that hill.
4. At home, we try to **use/recycle** as much rubbish as possible.
5. We **use/start** public transport a lot: this way we help reduce air pollution.

**15. Make a project work. Speak about your ways of helping the environment.**

## Technological Progress and Mankind Problems

### 1. Study the following words from the topic “Technological Progress and Mankind Problems”.

accelerate – ускорять

arouse – вызывать

beyond recognition – до неузнаваемости

conquest – покорение

disclose – обнаруживать, раскрывать

embrace – охватывать

rapid – быстрый, скорый

reverse – обратная сторона

trivial – обыденный

Universe – вселенная, мир

### 2. Choose the correct definitions of the given words.

#### 1. Civilization

- a) a stage of human social development and organization
- b) people united by common descent, history, culture, or language
- c) human beings in general or considered collectively

#### 2. Conquest

- a) control of or dominion over an area or people
- b) the act of conquering or the state of having been conquered
- c) achieve permanent acceptance or recognition

#### 3. To accelerate

- a) to leave without intending to return
- b) to go extremely slowly
- c) to go, occur, or cause to go or occur more quickly; speed up

#### 4. To overestimate

- a) to be no value
- b) to value or estimate too highly
- c) to think badly

#### 5. To investigate

- a) to preserve peace
- b) to carry out an inquiry to discover and examine the facts of something
- c) to improve the situation

### 3. Read the text “Technological Progress and Mankind Problems” and make up a summary using the questions as a plan.

It is difficult to overestimate the role of science and technology in our life. They accelerate the development of civilization and help us in our co-operation with nature. Scientists investigate the laws of the universe, discover the secrets of nature, and apply their knowledge in practice improving the life of people.

Let's compare our life nowadays with the life of people at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It has changed beyond recognition. Our ancestors didn't have the slightest idea of the trivial things created by the scientific progress that we use in our every day life: refrigerators, TVsets, computers, microwave ovens, radio telephones and so on. They would seem a miracle to them that made our life easy, comfortable and pleasant. On the other hand, the great inventions of the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (radio, aeroplanes, combustion and jet engines) have become usual things and we can't imagine our life without them.

A century is a long period for scientific and technological progress, as it is rapid. Millions of investigations, the endless number of outstanding discoveries have been made. Our century has had several names that were connected with a certain era in science and technology. At first it was called the atomic age due to the discovery of the splitting of the atom. Then it became the age of the conquest of space when for the first time in the history of mankind a man overcame the gravity and entered the Universe. And now we live in the information era when the computer network embraces the globe and connects not only the countries and space stations but a lot of people all over the world. All these

things prove the power and the greatest progressive role of science in our life.

But every medal has its reverse. And the rapid scientific progress has aroused a number of mankind problems that are a matter of our great concern. These are ecological problems, the safety of nuclear power stations, the nuclear war threat, and the responsibility of a scientist. Thus achievements in different branches of science are used not only to help people but cause damages. It is known that laser can be used for destruction and at the same time medical men use it to cure and investigate diseases.

It is impossible to stop technological progress, people's investigating and exploring the world. But people ought to care it wouldn't be led in wrong directions and cause global problems. Politicians should be influenced and warned of possible effects of using new discoveries, have a new much broader way of thinking than before. Scientists and politicians have to think that it's their responsibility for not using scientific developments to be harmful to people's health and destroy their lives, to cause destruction. There is a lot of work to be done in this direction because technological developments and progress can't be stopped or banned.

But still we are grateful to the outstanding men of the past and the present who have courage and patience to disclose the secrets of the Universe.

1. What do science and technology do in our life?
2. What do scientists do?
3. Did our ancestors know about refrigerators, TV sets, computers, microwave ovens, radio telephones?
4. What names has our century had?
5. Why do we live in the information era?

#### 4. Express the same in English.

1. Трудно переоценить роль науки и техники в нашей жизни.

2. Наши предки не имели ни малейшего представления об обыденных вещах, созданных прогрессом науки, которыми мы пользуемся каждый день.

3. Были проведены миллионы исследований и сделано бесконечное число выдающихся открытий.

4. Но у любой медали есть обратная сторона.

5. Таким образом, достижения в различных отраслях науки используются не только, чтобы помочь людям, но и причиняют им вред.

6. И все же мы благодарны великим ученым прошлого и настоящего, у которых есть мужество и терпение раскрывать секреты Вселенной.

#### 5. Alice and Paul are talking in the University coffee-bar. Read their conversation and name the advantages of computers.

**Alice:** Paul, what are you going to do at your laboratory classes today?

**Paul:** I'm going to work on computer.

**Alice:** And do you often work at the computer centre?

**Paul:** Not very often. But I like to work on computer. It does the work of many human beings at fantastically high speeds.

**Alice:** Well, if I'm not mistaken it's primarily a calculating machine.

**Paul:** Oh, I believe that it's almost a human machine with "brains". A computer usually replaces people in dull, routine tasks. It works according to the instructions.

**Alice:** Well, I see. In my opinion, it's a fascinating machine.

**Paul:** Exactly.

#### 6. Express your attitude.

- a) The global problems caused by technological progress.
- b) The necessity of further technological advancement.

**7. Fill in the gaps with one of the following words.**

*Invented, discovered, changed, improved, developed, changed*

1. The Wright brothers ... the world when they flew the first plane in 1903.
2. The invention of radar has ... navigation and safety at sea.
3. Alexander Fleming ... penicillin by accident.
4. In 1838, Louis Daguerre ... the first practical process of photography.
5. The TV was ... by John Logie Baird in 1926.

**8. Match column A to column B, then make sentences about satellites.**

- | A           | B                                      |
|-------------|--|
| 1. receive  | a) the weather every day               |
| 2. send     | b) TV pictures in our houses           |
| 3. forecast | c) international phone calls           |
| 4. connect  | d) messages around the world           |
| 5. map      | e) aeroplanes and ships find their way |
| 6. study    | f) the earth and other planets         |
| 7. make     | g) weather patterns                    |
| 8. help     | h) to the Internet                     |

*Example: If we didn't have satellites, we couldn't/wouldn't be able to receive TV pictures in our houses.*

**9. Put the words into the text.**

*Antenna, satellite dishes, space shuttle, telescope, computer, solar cells.*

Hundreds of satellites orbit the earth and transmit information that makes our lives better. There are special instruments on all satellites which help them to work properly.

All satellites have a (an) 1) ... which receives signals and sends them back to 2) ... on earth. Satellites also have 3) ... that collect

energy from the sun as well as a 4) ... to run everything. Satellites which study the planets have a 5) ... and weather satellites have cameras. Some satellites are launched into space by rockets and others are carried by the 6) ...

**10. Replace the words in bold in the text above with their synonyms.**

*Sent off, go around, tools, power, send.*

**11. Read the articles. Use a dictionary if necessary. Retell one of the articles.**

**Steve Jobs**

In 1975, Steve Jobs founded Apple Computer, a company that revolutionised the personal computer. Born in 1955, Steve grew up in Silicon Valley, California. He dropped out of college after the first term and took a job as a video game designer. Here he met up with an old friend, Steve Wozniak, and together they founded Apple.

The pair built their first computer in Jobs' parents' garage. A local electronics shop bought fifty of these computers and the company was on its way to success. The company's second model, Apple II, changed the computer industry forever by making computers smaller and more user-friendly, so they could be used by ordinary people. Both charming and demanding, Jobs managed to push Apple Computer to the head of the computer revolution. Steve Jobs' visionary designs changed people's idea of computers. "We started out to get a computer in the hands of everyday people, and we succeeded beyond our wildest dreams," he once said. He now has plans to lead another revolution, this time in software, by making it quicker and cheaper to develop.

## *Albert Einstein*

Albert Einstein is one of the most gifted scientists of all time. He is best known for his theory of relativity, which he developed when he was only twenty-six and which changed the way scientists looked at space and time.

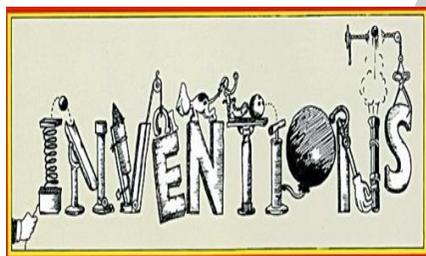
Einstein was born on 14 March 1874, in Ulm, Württemberg, Germany. He studied Mathematics and Physics at Zurich University and continued to live in Switzerland after finishing his studies. He worked in an office, but spent his spare time doing scientific research and experiments.

He became professor at Zurich University in 1909, but even before that his research had made him an important force in the world of physics. In 1921, he won the Nobel Prize in Physics.

Einstein's genius changed the course of history, since it was central to the development of atomic energy. Einstein was an outspoken believer in world peace, however, and he was deeply saddened when he realised the outcome of his research would be an atom bomb. He said at the time, "If only I had known, I'd have become a watchmaker."

In 1933, Einstein accepted a position for life as a professor at Princeton University. He lived there, dedicated to the study of physics, until his death in 1955.

**12. Make a project work. Speak about inventors and inventions that have changed our life.**



## РЕКОМЕНДАЦИИ ПО ВЫПОЛНЕНИЮ УСРС

### УПРАВЛЯЕМАЯ САМОСТОЯТЕЛЬНАЯ РАБОТА № 1 на тему:

#### «МЕСТО И РОЛЬ НАЦИОНАЛЬНЫХ ТРАДИЦИЙ В УСЛОВИЯХ МИРОВОЙ ГЛОБАЛИЗАЦИИ»

**Рекомендуемая форма контроля:** доклад, мультимедийный проект.

#### **Рекомендуемые инициативные темы для подготовки доклада:**

1. Peoples saving authenticity in a globalizing world.
2. The role of foreign languages in the international cooperation.
3. Intercultural interaction at the present stage.
4. Tolerance as a basic condition of interethnic communication.
5. The notion of national identity.
6. Multicultural education in the era of globalization.
7. National economy and globalization.

### УПРАВЛЯЕМАЯ САМОСТОЯТЕЛЬНАЯ РАБОТА № 2 на тему:

#### «МОЛОДЕЖЬ В СОВРЕМЕННОМ МИРЕ: ГРАЖДАНСКИЙ, ТВОРЧЕСКИЙ И ИННОВАЦИОННЫЙ ПОТЕНЦИАЛ»

**Рекомендуемая форма контроля:** доклад, мультимедийный проект.

**Рекомендуемые инициативные темы для подготовки  
доклада:**

1. Youth policy in Belarus.
2. Talented youth as the key to a successful society.
3. Modern problems of youth.
4. Youth movements in Belarus.
5. The role of education in the modern world.
6. Peculiarities of youth policy in foreign countries.
7. Youth leisure time: its types and features.

**Перечень интернет ресурсов,  
рекомендуемых студентам при подготовке к УСРС:**

1. <http://www.britanica.org>;
2. <http://www.globalenvision.org>;
3. <http://www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com>;
4. <http://www.wikipedia.org>.



**СОЦИАЛЬНО-ПОЛИТИЧЕСКОЕ ОБЩЕНИЕ**



**1. Study the following terms.**

1. **Socio-political communication** is the production, dissemination, procession and effects of information, both through media and interpersonally, within a political context.
2. **World language** is a language known or spoken in many countries.
3. **Politics** is the activity of the government, members of law-making organizations, or people who try to influence the way a country is governed.
4. **International** is involving more than one country.
5. **English-speaking countries** are a group of countries that share common roots in British culture and history.
6. **Government** is the group of people who officially control a country and make decisions for a country, state.
7. **Parliament** is the group of people who are responsible for making the laws in some kinds of government.
8. **Electoral system** is a legal system for making democratic choices.
9. **Constitution** is the set of political principles by which a state or organization is governed, especially in relation to the rights of the people it governs.

10. **Press** is newspapers and magazines, and those parts of television and radio that broadcast news, or reporters and photographers who work for them.

## 2. Match the words to their definitions.

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. <i>World language</i>             | a) newspapers and magazines, or journalists who work for them   |
| 2. <i>Politics</i>                   | b) countries that share common roots in British culture and history   |
| 3. <i>International</i>              | c) the group of people who make or change the laws  |
| 4. <i>English-speaking countries</i> | d) the system of laws which formally states people's rights and duties  |
| 5. <i>Government</i>                 | e) a legal system connected with an election  |
| 6. <i>Parliament</i>                 | f) the group of people who are responsible for governing a country or state   |
| 7. <i>Electoral system</i>           | g) involving different countries  |
| 8. <i>Constitution</i>               | h) a language known or spoken in many countries   |
| 9. <i>Press</i>                      | i) the actions or activities which people which people choose to achieve power in the country   |
| 10. <i>Policy</i>                    | j) a set of ideas or a plan of what to do in particular situations that has been agreed to officially by a group of people, a business organization, a government, or a political party |

## Belarus today

### It's interesting to know...

- ✓ Belarus was named 'Byelorussia' until 1991, when the Supreme Soviet of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic decreed by law that the new independent republic should be called 'Belarus' in Russian and in all other language transcriptions of its name.
- ✓ Until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Belarusians lacked the opportunity to create a distinctive national identity, since the lands of modern-day Belarus belonged to several countries, including the Principality of Polotsk, the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union.
- ✓ Belarus is twice as small as France, Spain, and Sweden. It is twice as large as Greece and Bulgaria; three times as large as Ireland and the Czech Republic; five times as large as Estonia and Denmark.
- ✓ Belarus occupies some 2% of the territory of Europe and ranks 85<sup>th</sup> in area in the world.
- ✓ On 31 May 2008 a memorial sign was put up in the city of Polotsk, Vitebsk region to mark the geographical centre of Europe.
- ✓ Minsk has been the nation's capital since 1919, and at present it is home to 1,860,400 of Belarus' residents.
- ✓ There are about 0.88 male per female in Belarus. The average life expectancy is 63 years for males and 74.9 years for females.
- ✓ Belarus is the only nation in Europe that retains the death penalty for certain crimes during times of peace and war.
- ✓ Belarus has four World Heritage Sites: the Mir Castle Complex, the Nesvizh Castle, the Belavezhskaya Pushcha (shared with Poland), and the Struve Geodetic Arc (shared with nine other countries).

✓ In 1945 Belarus was one of the 50 member countries that formed the United Nations Organisation to promote peace and international cooperation and security.

✓ In December 1991 Belarus was one of the three Slavic republics of the former USSR to set up the Commonwealth of Independent States with the purpose of economic, financial and monetary cooperation. The headquarters of the CIS is in Minsk.

✓ Almost two thirds (61.5%) of the Belarusians do not support any political party.

### 1. Study the following words.

law – закон

legal – законный

basis – основа

activity – деятельность

publish – печатать

available – доступный

broadcasting – радиовещание

private – частный

viewers – зрители

### 2. Give the Russian equivalents for the following words.

1. The Constitution of the Republic of Belarus and the Law “On Mass Media” constitute the legal basis of the media activity in Belarus.

a) звонкий согласный

b) средства массовой информации

c) журнал

2. The most influential newspapers include Belarus Segodnya and the Respublika.

a) крупные

b) влиятельные

c) частные

3. The programs are aired in the Russian and Belarusian languages.

a) передаются

b) воздушные

c) распыляются

4. The target audience of the Belarus radio station are foreigners interested in local events.

a) сигнал

b) мишень

c) целевая

5. Nowadays a lot of newspapers and magazines were published in Belarus.

a) журнал

b) магазин

c) газета

### 3. Make sure you know all the words in the box. Then read their definitions and match the words with their definitions.

constitution, denounce, ratify, submit, renounce,  
conviction, rally, pronounce, substitute

- the act of bringing certainty to the mind;
- laws and principles according to which a state is governed;
- give notice that one intends to end (a treaty or agreement);
- confirm (an agreement) by signature or other formality;
- declare, announce (especially formally, solemnly or officially);
- replace, stand in;
- gathering or assembly, especially to encourage fresh effort;

- put (oneself) under the control of another;
- consent formally to give up (a claim, right, possession).

**4. Consult a dictionary to fill in the missing parts of speech in the table below.**

Noun	Verb	Adjective
		supervising
	constitute	
declaration		
	prevent	
government		
		independent
	preside	
legislature		
	authorize	
union		

**5. Read the text “Mass media in Belarus” and make a list of international words used in the text. Pronounce them correctly and learn their meanings.**

***Mass media in Belarus***

The Constitution of the Republic of Belarus and the Law “On Mass Media” constitute the legal basis of the media activity in Belarus.

The Constitution of the Republic of Belarus guarantees the freedom of thought, belief and expression, prohibits the monopolization of the media and censorship.

The Law “On Mass Media” formalizes the basic principles of mass media’s activity: accuracy, equality, respect for human rights

and freedoms, diversity of views; protection of morals; observance of the norms of journalist’s professional ethics.

Nowadays more than one thousand newspapers and magazines are being published in Belarus. More than two thirds of them are private.

Printed press is available mainly in the Belarusian and Russian languages, though there are some newspapers in English, Polish, Ukrainian and German.

The most influential newspapers include Belarus Segodnya and the Respublika. Local editions of major Russian newspapers Komsomolskaya Pravda and Argumenty i Fakty are very popular in Belarus, too.

All in all, more than 4,000 print media outlets are distributed throughout the country, including those from Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, the USA, the UK, Germany, Italy, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Lithuania, and Latvia.

The target audience of the Belarus radio stations is foreigners interested in local events. The radio stations air programs not only in Belarusian and Russian, but also in English, German, Polish, French, Spanish and Chinese.

Today telecasting covers more than 60 countries. The channels are available to viewers from Europe, Middle East, Central Asia, Africa and North America. The programs are aired in the Russian and Belarusian languages. Over 100 international channels, including Euronews, BBC, and Eurosport are broadcasted via cable TV in Belarus.

**6. Use the text for reference and match the sentence beginnings to the correct endings.**

- 1) More than two thirds of a) Europe, Middle East, magazines and newspapers Central Asia, Africa and North America.
- 2) Printed press is available mainly b) are very popular in Belarus, too.

- 3) Local editions of major Russian newspapers c) are distributed throughout the country.
- 4) All in all, more than 4,000 print media outlets d) are private.
- 5) The channel is available to viewers from e) in the Belarusian and Russian languages.

### 7. Answer the questions.

- 1) What does the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus guarantee?
- 2) What are the basic principles of mass media's activity?
- 3) How many newspapers and magazines are being published in Belarus?
- 4) What are the most influential newspapers?
- 5) How many countries does telecasting cover?

### 8. Read the text more carefully and retell it using the questions as a plan.

### 9. Match the words in English with their Russian equivalents.

1. domestic policy	a. двусторонний
2. foreign policy	b. судебный
3. legislative	c. получить признание
4. executive	d. целостность
5. judicial	e. внутренняя политика
6. bilateral	f. законодательный
7. constitutional amendment	g. внешняя политика
8. electoral suffrage	h. исполнительная власть
9. gain recognition	i. поправка к конституции
10. integrity	j. избирательное право

### 10. Read and translate the text. Use a dictionary if necessary.

#### *The Republic of Belarus today: General Outlook*

Belarus declared its independence on 25 August 1991. According to the Constitution, adopted in March 1994, the Republic of Belarus is a unitary democratic social state based on the rule of law, which exercises supreme control and absolute authority over its entire territory, and pursues an independent internal and foreign policy. Currently the Republic of Belarus is a sovereign independent state.

The politics of Belarus takes place in a framework of a presidential republic, whereby the President of Belarus is the Head of State, the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, the guarantor of the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, the rights and liberties of man and citizen.

Under the Constitution, the President is elected directly by the people of the Republic of Belarus for a term of office of five years by universal, free, equal, direct electoral suffrage and by secret ballot.

State power in the Republic is exercised on the principle of division of powers between the legislature, executive and judiciary. State bodies, within the confines of their powers, are independent: they cooperate among themselves acting on the principle of checks and balances.

The country's supreme legislative authority is the National Assembly, however the President may enact decrees that are executed the same way as laws. The National Assembly is a bicameral Parliament comprising the 110-seat House of Representatives (the lower house) and the 64-seat Council of the Republic (the upper house). The House of Representatives has the power to appoint the Prime Minister, make constitutional amendments, call for a vote of confidence on the Prime Minister, and make suggestions on foreign and domestic policy. The Council of the Republic has the power to select various

government officials, conduct an impeachment trial of the President, and accept or reject the bills passed by the House of Representatives. Each chamber has the ability to veto any law passed by local officials if it is contrary to the Constitution of Belarus.

Executive power in the Republic of Belarus is exercised by the Government – the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus – the central body of state administration. The Government in its activity is accountable to the President and responsible to Parliament. The head of the Council is the Prime Minister, appointed by the President with the consent of the House of Representatives. The Prime Minister manages the activities of the Government and informs the President on its basic guidelines and on all the most important decisions.

The judicial power in the Republic is performed by the Supreme Court and specialized courts such as the Constitutional Court, which deals with specific issues related to constitutional and business law. The judges of national courts are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Council of the Republic. Supervision of the exact and uniform execution of laws by all bodies of state management, local councils and other legal and physical persons is carried out by the General Public Prosecutor of the Republic of Belarus.

Control over the fulfilment of the republican budget, the utilization of state property, the execution of parliamentary acts, regulating the relations with state property, economic, financial and tax relations, is carried out by the State Control Committee.

**11. Check your understanding of the text by marking these statements as *True* or *False*. Provide evidence from the text to support your answers.**

1. The Republic of Belarus as a sovereign country was formed in 1990, following the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

2. Our national Constitution was adopted in March 1994 in which the functions of the Prime Minister were given to the President.

3. According to the Constitution, the Republic of Belarus is a presidential republic, governed by the President and the National Assembly.

4. Alexander Lukashenko has been the President of Belarus since 1992.

5. The unicameral Parliament consists of the Council of the Republic and the House of Representatives.

6. The Council of Ministers is the legislative branch of state power, and is appointed by the President of Belarus.

7. Control over the constitutional compliance of normative acts in the country is fulfilled by the Supreme Court.

**12. Complete the suggested statements.**

1. State power is formed and realized through ...
2. Executive power is exercised by ...
3. Legislative power is vested in ...
4. The judicial power is performed by ...
5. In accordance with the Constitution, the President...

**13. Give extensive answers to the following questions.**

1. What are the country's supreme legislative, executive and judicial authorities?
2. What is the official name of the Belarusian Parliament?
3. What chambers does it consist of?
4. Who is the country's President at the moment?
5. Who is the head of the Government nowadays?
6. What is the function of State Control Committee?
7. Who appoints the Prime Minister?

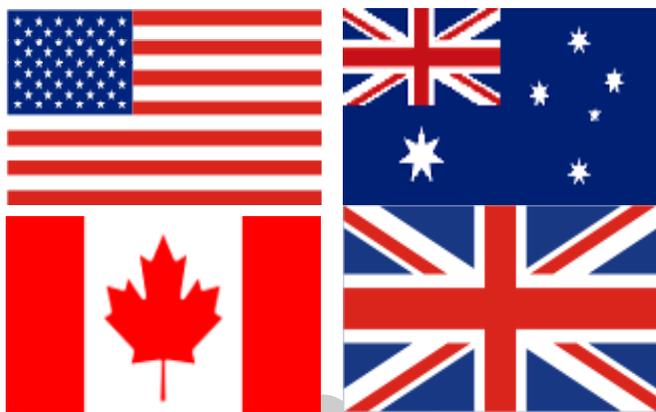
14. Give a brief account of the text.

**English-Speaking Countries**

**1. Are you good at the UK? Test yourself.**

1. Where is the United Kingdom situated?
2. What is the area of the United Kingdom?
3. What countries does it consist of?
4. What is the highest mountain on the British Isles?
5. What is the longest river?
6. What is the highest mountain in Wales?
7. What is the population of the United Kingdom?
8. What is the population of London?
9. What industry is developed in South Wales?
10. What kind of state is the United Kingdom?
11. What houses does the British Parliament consist of?
12. How is the flag of the United Kingdom called?

**2. Here you can see five flags of the English-speaking countries. Name these countries and match each flag with the proper country.**



**3. Read the texts about some of English-speaking countries and answer the questions.**

**Canada**

Canada is situated on the North American continent. In size Canada is the second in the world after Russia. Its area is almost 10 million square kilometers.

The capital of Canada is Ottawa, which is situated on the bank of the Ottawa River. It is famous for its beautiful parks. It is also known as the city of bridges.

Now Canada is a federal state consisting of 10 provinces and 2 territories. In the east, the four maritime (Atlantic) provinces are Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. Quebec and Ontario are Canada's two largest provinces, situated in central Canada. The three prairie provinces of western Canada are Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Canada's Pacific province is British Columbia. The territories are the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territory.

The population of 27 mln lives only in 1/3 of Canada, besides it's very thinly spread – 2 people per sq km. Most Canadians live close to the USA, within 160 km of the USA border.

Canada is an independent constitutional monarchy and a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. The monarch of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is also the monarch of Canada and is represented in the country by the office of governor-general. Power on the federal level is exercised by the Canadian Parliament

and the cabinet of ministers, headed by the Prime Minister. The Parliament has two houses: the Senate and the House of Commons. There are generally 105 senators, apportioned among the provinces and appointed by the governor-general upon the advice of the Prime Minister.

Canada's current flag was proclaimed in 1965, in the centre there is a red sugar maple leaf, the side bars represent the ocean boundaries, the colour is not blue, meaning independence from Great Britain and France.

Canada is very rich in forest, minerals and fur-bearing animals. It holds the first place in the world in the amount of forests. It is rich in the following natural resources: non-ferrous metals, uranium, oil, natural gas, coal. Canadian industries produce cars, airliners, locomotives, sea vessels, snow-removal machines, and agricultural equipment. The most developed industries are timber, mining, chemical, meat and milk and food industries. Canada grows wheat, barley, flax, potatoes, vegetables and fruit. Fishing is also one of the prosperous industries.

Canada is a good example of the way peoples of different ways of life and different languages can live side by side under one government. There are many Indians, Pakistanis and Chinese, and also blacks from the USA, among the immigrants who are pouring into Canada now.

Canada's culture draws influences from its broad range of constituent nationalities, and policies that promote multiculturalism are constitutionally protected.

The official languages of Canada are English and French. Nearly 60 percent of the population speaks English and 27 percent speak French. The rest speaks Eskimo, Indian, German, Ukrainian and Italian.

1. What is the area of Canada?
2. What is the capital of Canada?
3. What place does the country hold in the world in the amount of forests?

4. What is one of the prosperous industries?
5. How many percent of the population speak English?

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

The United States of America is the fourth largest country in the world after Russia, Canada and China. It is situated in North America and is bordered with Canada and Mexico.

The USA consists of 50 states and the District of Columbia which is home to the capital of the country – Washington District of Columbia. Two states – Alaska and Hawaii – are separated from the mainland. The total area of the USA is about 9.5 million square kilometers. The population of the United States of America is about 250 million people, who are called Americans. Most of the people live in towns and the population of the countryside is becoming smaller and smaller.

The American flag is known as 'The Stars and Stripes'. The 13 stripes represent the original number of states in 1776. The 50 stars represent today's total. The national symbol is the bald headed eagle.

For many decades the USA has been the place where lots of people sought refuge from persecution for political or religious beliefs. That's why in America there are representatives of practically all racial and national groups. There are about 25 million Afro-americans in the country and a little over half a million Indians. The US is one of the few countries in the world that has no "official" national language. Major languages are American English and Spanish.

Due to the fact that the territory of the USA spreads from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean the climate of the country varies greatly depending on the geographical position.

The territory of the USA is crossed by the Mississippi river which is the longest in the world. 5 Great lakes in the north of the country on the border with Canada are a popular tourist attraction.

Western part of the country is bound by the Rocky Mountains or the Rockies. Central states are situated on the Great Plains.

A wide variety of landscape and climatic zones has determined the country's industry and agriculture. In the USA farming is devoted to raising such plants as corn, sunflowers, tomatoes and many others. The major industrial fields are automobiles, oil and gas extraction and sustainable energy.

The United States of America is a democratic country with two ruling parties – the Democrats and the Republicans. Both parties propose a candidate for presidency. A president is elected once in four years and can serve no more than two subsequent terms. According to the US Constitution the powers of the government are divided into 3 branches: the executive, headed by the President, the legislative, exercised by the Congress, and the judicial. The Congress consists of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

1. Is the USA the fifth largest country in the World?
2. What is the total area of the USA?
3. What is the national language of the USA?
4. What are the main industries of the country?
5. What houses does the Congress consist of?

### **Australia**

Australia, or the Commonwealth of Australia, as it is officially called, is situated on the island continent. It also occupies the Island of Tasmania and some minor islands round the coast of the continent. Australia has six states – New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia – and two major mainland territories – the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. The capital of Australia is Canberra, which became the capital only in 1927.

Its area is about 8 million square kilometers and it is the only state in the world that occupies the territory of a whole continent.

From 1787 to 1867 Australia was a place where criminals were sent from Britain. That is why the official language of Australia is English.

Australia is the least populated of the world's continents, its population is about 19 mln people. More than 80 per cent of the people live in the six capitals on the coastal strip (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart) and less than 15 per cent actually live in the rural areas. Now there are many nations in Australia speaking different languages, English being the official language.

Almost one half of Australian territory is occupied by deserts and semi-deserts. For quite a long period of time it was thought to be useless for economic development. But it is rich in coal, iron ore, bauxites, uranium, lead and many other mineral resources.

Nowadays Australia is a wealthy country with a market economy, a relatively high Gross Domestic Product per capita, and a relatively low rate of poverty. The most important industries are oil, chemical, ore mining, radioelectronics, and food industry. The country exports agricultural products and raw materials.

As for the nature, the commonest trees of Australia are the eucalyptus and the wattle, the national emblem of the country. Such unusual animals as a kangaroo or a koala-bear originate from Australia.

The Commonwealth of Australia is a federal state and a member of the British Commonwealth. The Head of the state is the British Monarch represented by the Governor-General. It has a Parliament in each state for local affairs and the Federal Parliament of the Commonwealth at Canberra. The federal government is separated into three branches: the legislature, the executive, the judiciary. The government is headed by the Prime Minister. The main parties are the Australian Liberal Party and the National Party.

The Australian flag has the British flag in the top left-hand corner and shows the stars of the Southern Cross in white and a blue field.

1. What is the area of Australia?
2. Is it an agrarian country?
3. What is the structure of the federal government?
4. What does the country export?
5. What is the official language of Australia?

### ***New Zealand***

New Zealand is an island country in the Pacific Ocean. It lies about 1600 km southeast of Australia and about 10 500 km southwest of California. New Zealand belongs to a large island group called Polynesia. The country is situated on two main islands – the North Island and the South Island – and a number of smaller islands.

The population of New Zealand is approximately 4.4 million. New Zealand is a predominantly urban country, with 72 percent of the population living in 16 main urban areas and 53 percent living in the four largest cities of Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington, and Hamilton.

Wellington is the capital of New Zealand and Auckland is the largest city. The country has three official languages: English, Maori and New Zealand Sign Language. New Zealand adopted sign language (New Zealand Sign Language or NZSL) as an official language on 10 April 2006. It is now legal for use and access in legal proceedings including in court and access to government services.

The country once belonged to the British Empire. Today it is an independent member of the Commonwealth of Nations, an association of Britain and a number of its former colonies. New Zealand is a constitutional monarchy. The British Monarch, Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom, is the monarch of New Zealand. She appoints a governor general to represent her, but the governor-general has little power. The Prime Minister and the Cabinet run the national government.

The New Zealand and Australian flag are very much alike. With the British flag in the top-left corner, the New Zealand shows the stars of the Southern Cross in red on a blue field.

New Zealand has a modern, prosperous and developed market economy. The currency is the New Zealand dollar, informally known as the "Kiw dollar". Historically, extractive industries have contributed strongly to New Zealand's economy, focusing at different times on sealing, whaling, flax, gold, kauri gum, and native timber. For many years, the economy of the country depended largely on agriculture.

Nowadays New Zealand has one of the highest standards of living in the world. Today agriculture, manufacturing, and service industries are all important to the economy. New Zealand's economy depends on trade with many countries – Australia, Britain, Japan and the United States.

1. Where is the country situated?
2. What is the capital of New Zealand?
3. What is the official language of New Zealand?
4. Who is the monarch of New Zealand?
5. What industries are important to the economy today?

#### **4. Guess the country.**

1. Because of a comparatively long coastline of this country no place, like in Britain, is more than 120 kilometres from the sea.
2. What first strikes the traveler is the size of this country.
3. This country is surrounded by water, like an island, but geographers classify it as a continent because of its great size. Sometimes it is referred to as an island continent.
4. This country is about half the size of Russia; about three-tenths the size of Africa; slightly larger than Brazil; slightly smaller than China; about two and a half times the size of Western Europe.

5. In this country there are nearly 105 females to every 100 males. The average life expectancy is 72 years for men and 78 – for women.

**5. Make a project work: “An English-Speaking Country I would like to visit”.**

**Test yourself**  
**English-speaking countries in questions**

**CANADA**

1. What is the area of Canada?
2. Where is Canada situated?
3. What is Canada rich in?
4. What are the most important cities?
5. What are Canada’s largest ports?
6. What are the largest lakes in Canada?
7. What mountains are there in Canada?
8. What are the longest rivers?
9. What is the largest island in the north of Canada?
10. What kind of state is Canada?
11. What houses does the Federal Parliament consist of?

**THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

1. Where is the USA situated?
2. What mountains are there in the country?
3. What is situated between the Cordilleras and the Appalachian mountains?
4. What are the main rivers?
5. What kind of climate is there in the USA?
6. What is the population of the USA?
7. How many states are there in the USA?
8. What kind of state is the USA?

9. Who is the head of the state?
10. What is the capital of the USA?
11. What is the financial & business centre of the country?
12. When is Independence Day celebrated?

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

1. What is the official name of Australia?
2. What territories are there in the Commonwealth of Australia?
3. What is the capital of Australia?
4. In what hemisphere is Australia situated?
5. What is the population of Australia?
6. What are the biggest cities in Australia?
7. What agricultural product is Australia famous for?
8. What are the longest rivers?
9. What mountains are there in Australia?
10. What houses does the Federal Parliament consist of?
11. Who is formally the head of the state?
12. Who represents the Queen of England?

**NEW ZEALAND**

1. Where is New Zealand situated?
2. On which island are there many lakes?
3. What sea washes the western coast of New Zealand?
4. What is the highest mountainous range?
5. What is the national emblem of New Zealand?
6. What is the capital?
7. What are the main cities?
8. What is the nickname of New Zealand?
9. What is the population of New Zealand?
10. Who are the Maoris?
11. What houses does the Parliament consist of?
12. Who represents the Queen of England?

**6. Read and translate the text. What are the two groups of British newspapers?**

***The British Press***

There are dozens, often hundreds of different newspapers in every country: daily papers, national papers, local papers, evening papers, Sunday papers, free papers, etc.

Papers find stories from their own reporters or from international news agencies. There are two kinds of reporters – general and special. General reporters cover a wide range of news stories, including accidents, conferences, crimes, festivals, local politics, strikes and about one subject, as the arts, the environment, finance, the law, foreign affairs, the media, politics and sport. Journalists are expensive – especially foreign correspondents. Most newspapers can't afford to have their own reporters in every foreign capital. So, they get international news from news agencies. These are large organizations, which have reporters all over the world. Every day they collect information and then sell it to newspapers, TV and radio stations.

One of the biggest agencies is Reuters. It has about 900 reporters, working in 118 cities in 82 countries. Their stories (over 400 per day) are used by more than 1000 newspapers in 5 countries. The Press Association – the organization, which provides news about Britain to newspapers, radio and television stations in other countries and informs industry and the government of the news as it happens. There are other agencies: Agency France Press, United Press International and Associated Press.

Fleet Street in London used to be the home of most national daily and Sunday newspapers. People often said "Fleet Street" to mean "the press". But today the old image of London's Fleet Street as the centre of the newspaper printing and publishing world has changed. More national and regional daily newspapers are sold for every person in Britain than in most other developed countries.

National newspapers have a total circulation of 14.2 mln on weekdays and 16.2 mln on Sundays. There are about 130 daily and Sunday newspapers, over 2000 weekly newspapers and some 7000 periodical publications. There are also more than 750 free distribution newspapers, mostly weekly and financed by advertising, and some 60 newspapers and magazines produced by members of the ethnic minorities.

There are 12 national morning daily papers: 5 qualities and 7 populars. Also there are 11 national Sunday ones.

Qualities and populars differ in style and content. The qualities are newspapers giving serious accounts of the news and report on business matters, industry, culture and society. They are large-sized. The populars, that are called "tabloids" because of their size, don't contain serious news, but has stories about famous people, sport, sex, scandalous aspects of life in Britain with lots of illustrations; political issues are explained in easily understandable language. Many newspapers are printed in colour, and a number of papers produce colour magazines as part of the Saturday and Sunday paper. They provide reading material about fashion, clothes, cooking, diet, the house and home, holidays, articles on travel, food.

Newspapers have an important effect on public opinion. The press is free to comment on matters of public interests, subject to law. There is no state control or censorship of the press, which caters for a variety of political views, interests and levels of education. Newspapers are almost always financially independent of any political parties. All the national newspapers use computer technology. One of the beneficial results of computerized production has been improved graphics and photographs. The tendency has been for newspapers to become smaller but to contain more pages.

## 7. Which of the statements are true? Prove your point of view.

1. “Tabloids” (popular) papers contain sensational stories.
2. Quality papers are more popular than tabloids.
3. Quality press covers national and international news.
4. “Tabloids” have short articles about less important events.
5. Quality papers use large colour headlines and many photographs.

## 8. Answer the questions.

1. Who writes for newspapers?
2. What are the sources of getting information and news?
3. What news agencies do you know?
4. What's the difference between 'qualities' and populars'?
5. Is the British one of the biggest newspaper – reading nations in the world?



## РЕКОМЕНДАЦИИ ПО ВЫПОЛНЕНИЮ УСРС

### УПРАВЛЯЕМАЯ САМОСТОЯТЕЛЬНАЯ РАБОТА № 1 на тему:

#### «ТЕКУЩИЕ СОБЫТИЯ СОЦИАЛЬНО-ПОЛИТИЧЕСКОЙ ЖИЗНИ В РЕСПУБЛИКЕ БЕЛАРУСЬ»

Рекомендуемая форма контроля: эссе.

#### Рекомендуемые инициативные темы для подготовки эссе:

1. The main directions of social and economic development of Belarus.
2. State power in the Republic of Belarus.
3. Public organizations in Belarus at the present stage.
4. The Republic of Belarus in the international arena.
5. Demographic policy in the Republic of Belarus.
6. Policy supporting talented young people in the Republic of Belarus.
7. The role of the mass media in Belarus at the present stage.

#### Перечень интернет ресурсов, рекомендуемых студентам при подготовке к УСРС:

1. <http://www.belarus.by/en/>
2. <http://www.belta.by/econom.nsf>
3. <http://www.eurobelarus.info>
4. <http://www.government.by>

**УПРАВЛЯЕМАЯ САМОСТОЯТЕЛЬНАЯ РАБОТА № 2**  
на тему:

**«ТЕКУЩИЕ СОБЫТИЯ СОЦИАЛЬНО-  
ПОЛИТИЧЕСКОЙ ЖИЗНИ В СТРАНАХ ИЗУЧАЕМОГО  
ЯЗЫКА»**

**Рекомендуемая форма контроля:** письменный отчет.

**Рекомендуемые инициативные темы для подготовки  
письменного отчета:**

1. The main directions of social and economic development of the English-speaking countries.
2. State power in English-speaking countries.
3. Public organizations in English-speaking countries at the present stage.
4. English-speaking countries in the international arena.
5. Demographic policy in English-speaking countries.
6. The role of the mass media in English-speaking countries at the present stage.

**Перечень интернет ресурсов,  
рекомендуемых студентам при подготовке к УСРС:**

1. <http://www.britanica.org>;
2. <http://www.globalenvision.org>;
3. <http://www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com>;
4. <http://www.wikipedia.org>.

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## **АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК**

**Межличностное, социокультурное,  
социально-политическое общение**

*Учебно-методическое пособие*

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