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Методическая разработка
«The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland»
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THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

PART I.

Text 1

The History of Britain

Two thousand years ago the Celts, who were arriving from Europe, mixed with the peoples who had already lived on the territory of the British Isles. The Roman province of Britannia covered most of the territory of present-day England and Wales.

The Romans imposed their own way of living, culture and language. But in spite of their long occupation of Britain, there isn't much they left behind. Even most of temples, roads and cities were later destroyed. But such place-names like Chester, Lancaster, Gloucester remind us of the Romans. The Romans influenced mainly the towns. In the country (where most people lived) Celtic speech dominated. The farming methods remained there unchanged. We can't speak about Roman's occupation as a large-scale settlement.

Later (during the 5-th century) two tribes (the Angles and the Saxons) settled in Britain. They settled on a very vast territory. Only in the west of the country King Arthur and his army halted the tribes. But in the 6-th century the way of life of these tribes predominated in England. The Celtic British culture and language survived in South-West Scotland, Wales and Cornwall.

If the Romans had great influence on towns, the Anglo-Saxons influenced the countryside. New methods of farming were introduced there and a number of villages were founded. The Anglo-Saxons were pagans, when they arrived in Britain. Christianity came from Rome only in 597.

In the 8-th century Britain was invaded by the Vikings, who came from Scandinavia. They settled in the North and West of Scotland and in some regions of Ireland. Later they were defeated by King Alfred.

Normans invaded Britain in the 11-th century (in 1066). But this invasion wasn't a large-scale one. Still this invasion influenced the life of Britain greatly.

At that time a feudal system was imposed. Lords and barons were French-speaking Normans. The peasants were the English-speaking Saxons.

Barons were responsible to the king, lords were responsible to the barons. The peasants were under the lords. That was the beginning of the English class system. The Anglo-Norman kingdom was the most powerful political force at that time.

The Germanic language (Middle English) dominated in England during this period. As Northern and Central Wales was never settled by Saxons and Normans, the Welsh language and culture dominated there.

In the 13-th century Parliament included elected representatives from urban and rural areas. During the 16-th century the power of the English monarch increased. The Tudor dynasty (1485—1603) established a system of government which strongly depended on the monarch. Parliament was split into two Houses. The House of Lords consisted of the aristocracy and the leaders of the Church. The House of Commons consisted of representatives from the towns.

During the 17-th century Parliament established its supremacy over the monarchy in Britain. The conflict between the monarchy and Parliament led to the Civil Wars, which ended with the victory of the Parliament. The leader of the parliamentary army was Oliver Cromwell. But after his death his system of government became unpopular. The son of the executed king was asked to take the throne. In the 18-th century the Scottish Parliament joined the English and the Welsh Parliaments.

In that century the increased trade led to the Industrial Revolution. People from rural areas moved to towns. The population of London was close to a million at that time. In the 19-th century Britain controlled the biggest Empire in the world. The Empire was made up of Ireland, Canada, Australia, India and large parts of Africa. These countries had internal self-government, but recognized the authority of the British government. Britain was the greatest economic power. The British spread their culture and civilization throughout the world.

The beginning of the 20-th century can't be called stable. Women struggled for their rights. The situation in Ulster wasn't stable either. At the beginning of the 20-th century the working class became stronger. In Parliament, the Labour party replaced the Liberals. Trade unions appeared and organized their work. Until 1980s the Trades Union Congress was the most powerful political force outside the institutions of government.

Ex. 1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Province, territory, occupation, to dominate, farming, region, a feudal system, urban, political force, period, culture, monarch, the Tudor dynasty, the Industrial Revolution, leader, parliamentary, army, unpopular, throne, method, situation, trade union, to organize, institution.

Ex. 2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

to arrive - прибывать, приезжать, достичь

to impose - облагать (налогом) , навязывать

in spite of - несмотря на что-то, вопреки, наперекор

a temple - храм

to destroy - разрушать, уничтожать.

to influence - влиять, оказывать воздействие

a settlement - поселение, поселок, населенный пункт

to survive - выживать

countryside - сельская местность, деревня

pagán - языческий, язычник

to invade - вторгаться, оккупировать, захватить

to defeat - одержать победу, разгромить, нанести поражение

responsible - ответственный

a peasant - крестьянин

rural - сельский, деревенский

to increase - увеличиваться, расти, повышаться

supremacy - превосходство, господство, верховенство

Ex. 3 Answer the questions:

1. What reminds people of the Romans?
2. How did the Anglo-Saxons effect the countryside?
3. Who invaded Britain in the 8-th century?
4. When was a feudal system imposed?
5. When was Parliament split into two Houses?
6. Who was the leader of the parliamentary army in the Civil Wars?
7. In what century was Britain the greatest economic power?

Ex. 4 Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions:

1. a large-scale settlement
2. to halt the tribes
3. a pagan
4. to be responsible to the king
5. internal self-government

Ex. 5 Fill in the gaps.

1. The Roman province of Britannia covered the territory of present - day ... and... .
2. During the 5th century the tribes of ... settled in Britain.
3. In the ... century Britain was invaded by the Vikings.
4. Lords were responsible to....
5. The ... dynasty established a system of government, which depended on the....
6. The conflict between the monarchy and Parliament led to.....
7. In the ... century the increased trade led to....
8. The beginning of the 20-th century can't be called....
9. The British empire was made up of....
10. The ... party replaced the Liberals.

Text 2

Location of the Country.

Britain forms the greater part of the British Isles, which lie off the north-west coast of mainland Europe. Great Britain is separated from the Continent by the English Channel. "Great Britain" is a geographical expression, but "The United Kingdom" is a political expression. The full name is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Great Britain consists of England, Wales and Scotland.

Great Britain is in fact the biggest of the group of islands which lies between the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. The total area is 242,534 sq. km. Britain is about 1,000 km. long from the south coast of England to the extreme north of Scotland, and a little less than 500 km. across in the widest part.

The population of the United Kingdom is 57 million people. The British Isles today are shared by two separated and independent states. The smaller of these states is the Republic of Ireland, with its capital in Dublin. The larger one, with London as its capital, is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

This long title is the result of a complicated history. The island of Great Britain contains three "nations" which were separated at earlier stages of their history: England, Scotland and Wales. Wales had become part of the English administrative system by the 16-th century. Scotland was not completely united with England until 1707. The United Kingdom is the name which was introduced in 1801 when Great Britain became united with Ireland.

Text 3

England

The largest and most densely populated part of the United Kingdom is England. The population of England is 47,837 million people. England is washed by the North Sea, the Irish Sea, the English Channel and the Strait of Dover. The name "England" is derived from the Angles. Roman rule lasted for over 300 years from 43 A.D. The last invasion of England took place in 1066 when Duke William of Normandy defeated the English at the Battle of Hastings. At that time the English language was very much transformed.

The capital of England is London, which is the largest city in Britain. It is situated on the River Thames (the most important one). There are many rivers in England, the longest one is the Severn. England is mostly a lowland country. Upland regions are in the north and the south-west. Northern England, Midland and South England are the parts of England, where each part is different but very picturesque. The English like to spend their holiday in Lake District, which is situated in the Northern England.

The main industries in England are the wool industry (with its center in Leeds and Bradford), heavy machinery, shipbuilding and the cotton industry (its center is Manchester).

Text 4

Scotland

Scotland is the most northern part of the island of Great Britain. Its population is over 5 million people. Scotland was inhabited mainly by the Picts.

In the 6-th century, the Scots from Ireland (or Scotia) settled in what is now Argyll, giving their name to the present-day Scotland. During the 9-th century, the various parts of Scotland united in order to defend themselves from the Vikings. The

powerful monarchy which existed in England threatened Scottish independence throughout the Middle Ages. In 1603 James VI of Scotland became also James I of England when Queen Elizabeth I of England died having no children. In 1651 Scotland was united with England, although Scotland kept its own parliament. In 1707, both countries, realizing the benefits of closer political and economic union, agreed to have a single parliament for Great Britain.

The Cheviot Hills mark the boundary between England and Scotland. The greater part of Scotland is surrounded by the sea. Scotland includes the Hebrides off the west coast and the Orkney and Shetland Islands off the north coast. It is bounded by the North Sea in the east. Scotland is divided into three parts: the Highlands, the Lowlands and the Southern Uplands. The Highlands are among the oldest mountains in the world. There are a lot of valleys and lakes in this region, the best known lake is Loch Ness.

Most of the population of Scotland is concentrated in the Lowlands. The biggest city is Glasgow. It is an industrial city and an important port in the United Kingdom. Shipbuilding is the leading industry. But other industries such as iron and steel, engineering and coal-mining are highly developed too. The capital of Scotland is Edinburgh. It is the cultural center of Scotland.

Text 5

Wales

In 1301 after defeating the native princes of Wales, King Edward I of England named his son Prince of Wales. Since then the eldest son of the King or Queen of England has traditionally been given this title. In 1586 Wales was brought into the English system of national and local government by the Act of Union.

Most of Britain was inhabited by Celts until the 4-th century. Welsh and English are both official languages in Wales now. The population of Wales is over 3 million people. About 75% of the people of Wales live in urban districts.

Wales is a highland country of old, hard rocks. North Wales is a country of mountains and deep valleys. South Wales is a land of high hills. The capital of Wales is Cardiff (an industrial city and a port). Cardiff is an administrative and educational center. Such industries as coal-mining, steel production, electronics, electrical engineering are developed in this part of the country. The Welsh are fond of folk music, singing and poetry. Welsh literature is one of the oldest in Europe.

Text 6

Northern Ireland

A number of kingdoms had emerged in Ireland before the Christian era. Ireland didn't escape the invasion of the Vikings, who dominated the country during the 10-th century. In 1169 Henry II of England launched an invasion of Ireland. He was granted the overlordship by the English Pope Adrian IV who wanted to bring the Irish church into full obedience to Rome.

The English Civil Wars (1642-1651) led to uprisings in Ireland which were crushed by Cromwell. During the 18-th century various efforts were made by British Government to achieve stability. In 1800 an Act of Union between Great Britain and Ireland was signed.

The "Irish question" continued to be one of the major problems of British politics during the 19-th and the 20-th centuries. In 1985 the Anglo-Irish Agreement was signed in Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland.

The population of Northern Ireland is about 1.5 million people. It occupies one-sixth of the territory of the United Kingdom. 53% of the population live in urban areas. The largest industry is agriculture. The main industrial center and a large port is Belfast.

Text 7

The Weather

Britain is as far to the north as Canada's Hudson Bay or Siberia. Edinburgh is 56 degrees north of the equator, at the same latitude as Moscow, yet its climate is generally mild and the temperature rarely exceeds 32° C or falls below - 10° C. It happens because of the Gulf Stream which brings warm water and air across the Atlantic Ocean from the Gulf of Mexico. As a result snow falls occasionally and doesn't remain for long (except in the Scottish mountains). Rainfalls are well distributed throughout the year.

The wind brings rain from the Atlantic Ocean to the hills of the west. This means that the western parts of Britain are wetter than the eastern, which are sheltered.

London is much drier than the other continental cities (for example, Hamburg). Its weather may be unpredictable, but not too wet.

Ex. 1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Separate, continent, English Channel, geographical, political, total, area, extreme, title, result, nation, administrative, system, rule, transform, to situate, various, monarchy, unite, parliament, realize, economic, union, to concentrate, prince,

traditionally, system, production, electronics, to dominate, to crush, stability, to occupy, climate, temperature, major, agriculture, equator.

Ex. 2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Mainland Europe - материковая Европа

the north-west - северо - запад

a coast - (морской) берег, побережье

an island - остров

the south - юг

independent - независимый, суверенный

complicated - сложный, замысловатый

densely populated - плотно населенный

an invasion - вторжение, нападение, наступление

to defeat - наносить поражение, одержать победу

a lowland - низменность, долина, равнина

an upland region – горный район, высокогорный

picturesque - живописный, колоритный

heavy machinery - тяжелое машиностроение

shipbuilding - кораблестроение, судостроение

to settle - поселиться, обосноваться

to defend - защищать, обороняться

to threaten - угрожать

independence - независимость, суверенитет

a benefit - выгода, польза, преимущество

to surround - окружать, оцепить, опоясывать

the east - восток

a valley - долина, низина, равнина

coal - mining - угледобывающая промышленность

to inhabit - населять, проживать

a hard rock - твердая скала (порода)

high hills - высокие холмистые горы

to launch an invasion - начать вторжение, нападение

a kingdom - королевство

overlordship - господство

an uprising - восстание, мятеж, бунт

latitude - широта (расстояние от экватора)

to exceed - превышать, превосходить

to shelter - укрывать, приютить

unpredictable - непредсказуемый, неожиданный

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. When did Scotland and Wales start being governed from London?
2. Prince Charles is Prince of Wales. Where does this title come from?
3. What are the main industries in England?
4. What regions is Scotland divided into?
5. When was an Act of Union between Great Britain and Ireland signed?
6. What are the Welsh fond of?
7. Why is Britain warmer than the other countries located at the same latitude?
8. How can you explain that London is drier than continental cities?
9. Why is the south of Great Britain better suited to farming than the west or the north?

Ex. 4 Explain the difference between these expressions.

Great Britain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, the British Isles.

Ex. 5 Fill in the gaps.

1. "Great Britain" is a ... expression.
2. Great Britain is a group of islands which lies between ... and... .
3. The total area of Great Britain is...
4. The capital of the Republic of Ireland is....
5. The name of the United Kingdom was introduced in...
6. Roman rule in England lasted for over ... years.
- 7.... is an administrative and educational center of Wales.
- 8... mark the boundary between England and Scotland.
- 9.... dominated Ireland during the 10-th century.
10. In 1985 the Anglo-Irish Agreement was signed in...

Ex. 6 Choose the correct answer.

1. The longest river is...
 - a) the Thames.
 - b) the Severn.
 - c) the Avon.
2. England is separated from Scotland by....
 - a) the Pennines.
 - b) the Southern Uplands.
 - c) the Cheviot Hills.

System of Government

Britain is a parliamentary democracy with a constitutional monarch - Queen Elizabeth II as the head of the State.

Today the Queen is not only the head of the State but also an important symbol of national unity. Her royal title in Britain is: "Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith." In law the Queen is the head of the executive, an integral part of the legislature, the head of the judiciary, the Commander-in-Chief of all the armed forces of the Crown and the Supreme Governor of the established Church of England.

The Queen and the royal family continue to take part in many traditional ceremonies. They visit different parts of Great Britain, they are involved in the work of many charities.

In practice the monarch has no actual power, they say, "the monarch reigns but doesn't rule". The Queen's power is limited by the Parliament. The Parliament is the supreme legislative authority in Britain and the Prime Minister is the virtual ruler of the country. The Parliament comprises the House of Commons, the House of Lords and the Queen in her constitutional role. The Queen summons, prorogues and dissolves the Parliament. She opens each session with her speech. It is her duty to make appointments to all important state offices. The Queen must see all Cabinet documents. She has the power to conclude the treaties, to declare the war and make peace.

The House of Commons has 651 elected Members of Parliament (MPs). The House of Lords is made up of 1,185 hereditary and life peers, and the two archbishops and the 24 most senior bishops of the established Church of England. The center of the parliamentary power is the House of Commons. The leader of the party that obtains a majority in the House of Commons is the Prime Minister. The party which has majority of the seats in the House of Commons is called the Government, and the other one is the Opposition. The Government may hold office for five years.

All the affairs of the State are conducted in the name of the Queen, but really the Prime Minister is responsible for every measure submitted to the Parliament. As a head of the Government the Prime Minister appoints about 100 ministers, about 20 of them work in the Cabinet (the senior group which takes major policy decisions). The Ministers are responsible for the government decisions and they are individually responsible for their own departments. The Opposition has a duty to challenge government policies and to present an alternative program.

Ex. 1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Parliament, title, democracy, constitution, monarch, symbol, national, territory, traditional, ceremony, practice, actual, limit, authority, virtual, ruler, role,

office, cabinet, document, declare, center, leader, party, majority, opposition, office, affair, minister, senior, policy, alternative, program.

Ex. 2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Royal - королевский, царский, монарший

executive - исполнительный

judiciary - судебная власть

to involve - включать (в себя), предусматривать, затрагивать

charity - благотворительность, милосердие

to reign - царствовать, господствовать, править

legislative - законодательный, правовой

to comprise - состоять (из чего – то), включать в себя

to summon - назначать (парламент), созывать

to prorogue - отложить (на какое –то время)

to dissolve - распускать (парламент)

to make appointments - делать назначения (на должность)

to conclude the treaty - заключать договор

to declare the war - объявлять войну

to make peace - заключать мир

hereditary - наследственный, потомственный

a life peer - пожизненный пэр

an archbishop - архиепископ, архиерей

a bishop - епископ, архиерей, владыка

Church of England - Англиканская церковь

to obtain - получать, приобретать, достигать

responsible - ответственный, обязанный

measure - мера, показатель, степень

to submit - представить, передать

to appoint - назначать (на должность), утверждать

to challenge - подвергать сомнению

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. Is Britain a monarchy?
2. Who is the Commander – in - Chief of all the armed forces of the Crown?
3. What are the duties of the Queen?
4. Who rules the country?
5. What is the supreme legislative authority in Britain?
6. How is the Government formed?

Ex. 4 Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions.

1. The head of the State —
2. The power is limited —
3. The leader of the party—
4. The Majority of the seats —
5. To hold office for five years —
6. To be responsible for —
7. To present an alternative program —

Ex. 5 True or false?

1. Britain is a parliamentary monarchy.
2. The Prime Minister is the head of the State.
3. The Queen only takes part in the traditional ceremonies.

4. The Queen's power is limited by the Parliament.
5. The Parliament is the supreme legislative authority.
6. The Lords are elected members of the Parliament.
7. The center of the parliamentary power is the House of Commons.
8. All affairs of the State are conducted in the name of the Queen.
9. The Prime Minister declares the war and makes peace.
10. The Ministers are responsible for their own departments.

Text 9

Parliament

The British Parliament works in a large building called the Palace of Westminster (The Houses of Parliament). It contains offices, committee rooms, restaurants, libraries and even some places of residence. It also contains two large rooms. One room is the place where the members of the House of Lords meet, the other one is the place where the members of the House of Commons meet. The British Parliament is divided into two Houses and its members belong to them. (Only the members of the House of Commons are known as MPs - Members of Parliament.) The House of Commons is more important of the two Houses.

The person who chairs and controls discussion in the House of Commons is the Speaker. He (or she) decides which MP is going to speak next and makes sure that the rules of procedure are followed. In fact, the Speaker is, officially, the second important "commoner" in the Kingdom after the Prime Minister. In 1992 a woman was appointed the Speaker for the first time, so MPs addressed her "Madam Speaker".

Traditionally, MPs were not supposed to be professional politicians. They were supposed to be ordinary people, using their their experience in their work in the Parliament. They were not even paid until the beginning of the 20-th century. They were supposed to be doing a public service. But that meant that only rich people could be MPs. In the 20-th century politics in Britain became professional. Most MPs are full-time politicians and they do another job (if at all) only part-time.

Traditionally the House doesn't work in the morning. It starts its business at 2.30 p. m. (only on Friday it starts its work in the morning). MP's mornings are devoted to committee work, research, preparing speeches. Weekends are not free for MPs. The House of Commons is made up of 650 elected members. MPs sit on two sides of the hall, one side for the governing party and the other one for the opposition. The first two

rows of seats are occupied by the leading members of both parties (they are called front benches).

Each session lasts for 160-175 days. A proposed law (a bill) has to go through three stages (readings) to become an Act of Parliament. If the majority of MPs vote for the bill, it is sent to the House of Lords. When the Lords agree it is taken to the Queen for Royal assent.

Unlike MPs, members of the House of Lords ("peers") are not elected. They are holders of an inherited aristocratic title. The House of Lords is therefore a relic of earlier times. The House of Lords has more than 1,000 members, but only about 250 take an active part in the work of the House of Lords. The House of Lords has little real power nowadays. Their power to refuse a proposal for a law (which has been agreed by the Commons) is limited.

The modern House of Lords is a forum for public discussions. The division of the Parliament into two Houses goes back to ancient times. Today the elected House of Commons has real political power, although members of the House of Lords occupy important posts.

Ex. 1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Office, committee, restaurant, residence, control, rule, procedure, fact, second, the Prime Minister, to address, traditionally, professional, politician, ordinary, discussion, public, service, business, party, opposition, to occupy, aristocratic, title, front, real, limit.

Ex. 2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

the Palace of Westminster - Вестминстерский дворец

to contain - содержать (в себе), насчитывать, помещаться

a library - библиотека, книгохранилище

a member - член (общества), участник, представитель, сотрудник

to divide into - делить (на что-то), разделить, распределить

important - важный, существенный, знаменательный

to chair - председательствовать (в парламенте), возглавлять

an experience - опыт

a "commoner" - представитель палаты Общин (the House of Commons)

to appoint - назначать, определять (на должность)

a century - век, столетие

to suppose - предполагать, считать, допускать

full - time - полный рабочий день, полная занятость

part - time - частичная занятость, неполный рабочий день

to devote - посвящать, предназначать

to research - исследовать, изучать

a bench - скамья, лавка (место в парламенте)

to vote for the bill - голосовать за билль (законопроект)

Royal assent - королевское санкция (согласие)

a relic - реликвия, пережиток, святыня

to go (went, gone) back - восходить (к древности), возвращаться

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What is the official name of the Houses of Parliament?
2. Who is the second important person in the Kingdom after the Prime Minister?
3. When was a woman appointed the Speaker for the first time?
4. Who has more real power: the House of Lords or the House of Commons?
5. How are the first two rows of seats in the House of Commons called?
6. How many readings has the bill in order to pass?

Ex. 4 Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions.

1. MPs
2. The Speaker
3. The frontbenches
4. Royal assent

5. Full-time politicians
6. A relic of earlier times

Ex. 5 Complete the sentences.

1. The British Parliament works in a large building which is called....
2. The British Parliament is divided into two....
3. The Speaker makes sure that the rules...
4. In ... a woman was appointed....
5. The House of Commons is made up of ... members.
6. When the Lords agree the bill is taken to ... for....
7. The House of Lords has more than ... members.
8. Members of the House of Lords are holders of....
9. The division of the Parliament into two Houses goes back to....
10. Today the ... has real political power.

Text 10

The Press in Great Britain

In Britain newspapers differ greatly from each other in the type of the news they report and the way they report it. On the one hand, there are "quality" newspapers: **The Times**, **The Financial Times**, **The Guardian**, **The Daily Telegraph**. These newspapers report major national and international news stories, with the world of politics and business and with the arts and sport.

On the other hand, there are "populars" or "tabloids", which are called this way because of their small size. Popular papers (**The Daily Mail**, **The Daily Express**, **The Daily Mirror**, **The Sun**, **The Daily Star**) pay much attention to sensational news, extraordinary events, catastrophes, accidents, private lives of royalty and nobility, of people of art, of music and movie stars.

Popular papers use many photographs and cartoons. It is often said that the popular press aims to entertain its readers rather than to inform them. The tabloid press is far more popular than the quality press. The average daily circulation for **The Daily Mirror** is almost 3,200,000 while for **The Times** it is 450,000. The most popular quality paper is **The Daily Telegraph** with a circulation of around 1,100,000 per day,

compared with **The Sun's** circulation of over 4,170,000. It is estimated that two out of every three adults regularly read a national daily newspaper.

In addition to 12 national daily newspapers there are 9 national papers which are published on Sundays. Most of the Sunday papers contain more reading material than the daily papers, and several of them include color supplements — separate color magazines which have special supplements with articles on music, TV, sports and a lot of advertisements of consumer goods. Reading a Sunday paper, like having a big Sunday lunch, is an important tradition in many British families.

Nearly every area in Britain has one or more local newspapers — in England alone there are around 90 daily papers and over 850 which are published once or twice a week. Local newspapers report local news and advertise local business and events.

Newspapers in Britain are privately owned and the editors of the papers are usually allowed considerable freedom of expression. The offices of most papers are situated in Fleet Street in the City of London, which is the center of British journalism. British papers are bought and read not only in the United Kingdom, but also in many other countries.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Type, report, major, politics, tabloid, sensation, extraordinary, catastrophe, private, music, movie, star, popular, photograph, cartoon, to inform, circulation, regular, to publish, material, separate, color, magazine, special, article, music, tradition, local, journalism.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

To differ - отличаться , различаться

news - новости (всегда во мн. числе), известия, информация

quality - качество, добротность

a world - мир, вселенная, планета

a size - размер, объем, величина, формат, диаметр

to pay much attention to - обращать большое внимание (на что-либо)

an event - событие, факт, происшествие

royalty - королевская семья (особа)

nobility - дворянство, аристократия

to aim - быть нацеленным (на что-то), ставить целью

average - средний, обычный

a circulation - тираж, оборот (газеты, журнала)

an adult - взрослый человек, совершеннолетний

daily - ежедневный, каждодневный

in addition - в дополнение (к чему - либо), наряду с (чем -либо)

to contain - содержать (в себе), насчитывать, помещаться

to include - включать (в себя), входить, состоять, содержать (в себе)

supplement - дополнительный материал, приложение

consumer goods - товары народного потребления,

an advertisement - реклама, объявление

an editor - издатель, редактор

considerable - значительный, существенный, важный, внушительный

freedom - свобода, независимость

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. How do newspapers differ from each other?
2. What newspapers present important political news?
3. What news do "populars" pay attention to?
4. Is the "quality" press more popular than the "tabloid" press?
5. Which newspapers include color supplements?
6. What information do local newspapers publish?
7. Are British newspapers privately owned?
8. Where are the offices of most papers situated?

Ex. 4 Choose the correct answer.

1. It is often said that the popular press aims to ... rather than to inform them.
 - a) entertain its readers
 - b) report local news and advertise local business and events.
2. Most color supplements are published on Sundays and are...
 - a) bought with Sunday papers.
 - b) bought separately from the Sunday papers.
3. The most popular "quality" newspaper is...
 - a) The Times.
 - b) The Daily Telegraph.
4. Newspapers in Britain are owned by...
 - a) the Government.
 - b) individuals and publishing companies.

Ex. 5 Fill in the gaps.

1. British newspapers are very much different from each other in the way they ... news.
2. There are.... which pay attention to sensational news and extraordinary events.
3. The popular press aims to ... its readers.
4. There are 9 national papers, which are published on....
5. Reading a Sunday newspaper is an important ... in many British families.
6. Local newspapers are published ... or... a week.
7. The center of British journalism is....

Ex. 6 Find the words and expressions that mean:

1. A newspaper which is published every day.
2. A serious newspaper.
3. A newspaper, which usually entertains its readers.

4. A special color magazine which is published on Sundays.
5. A newspaper which reports local news.

Ex. 7 Match the two halves.

1. to report...
2. to pay attention...
3. entertains its readers rather...
4. newspapers are...
5. the editors are allowed...
 - a) to extraordinary events.
 - b) privately owned.
 - c) the news.
 - d) considerable freedom of expression.
 - e) than inform them.

Text 11

Television in Great Britain

Television is the most popular entertainment in British home life today. In London people have a lot of TV channels, but these four ones are the most important, they are BBC I, BBC II, ITV (Independent Television or Channel III) and Channel IV.

The BBC is known for its objectivity in news reporting. The BBC is financed by payments which are made by all people who have TV sets. People have to pay the license fee. In 1932 the BBC World Service was set up with a license to broadcast first to the Empire (such countries as Canada, India, Australia, New Zealand, some African countries) and then to the other parts of the world. There is no advertising on any BBC program.

Independent Television started its work in 1954. Commercial television gets its money from advertising. The programs on this channel are financed by different companies, which have nothing to do with the content of these programs. ITV news programs are not made by individual television companies. Independent Television

News is owned jointly by all of them. So it has been protected from commercial influence.

There are different types of TV programs in Great Britain. BBC and ITV start early in the morning. One can watch news programs, all kinds of chat shows, quiz shows, soap operas, different children's programs, dramas, comedies and different programs of entertainment on these channels.

News is broadcast at regular intervals and there are panel discussions of current events. Broadcasts for schools are produced on five days a week during school hours. In the afternoon and early evening TV stations show special programs for children.

Operas, music concerts and shows are presented at various time. A large part of TV time is occupied by serials.

Britain has two channels (BBC II and Channel IV) for presenting programs on serious topics, which are watched with great interest by a lot of people. These channels start working on early weekday mornings. But they translate mostly all kinds of education programs. Weekend afternoons are devoted to sport. Sport events are usually broadcast in the evening. These are the main channels in Great Britain. Only about a fifth of households receive satellite or cable.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Television, popular, TV channel, BBC, to finance, individual, company, content, to protect, commercial, type, to chat, show, soap opera, regular, interval, to produce, station, special, serious, topic, to present, sport, interest, satellite, cable, music, concert, various, to occupy, serial, objectivity.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

To devote - посвящать, предназначать

entertainment - развлечение, увеселение

Independent Television - независимое телевидение

a payment - платеж, плата, взнос

license fee - оплата за лицензию (при использовании телевидения).

to broadcast - транслировать, передавать (по радио или телевидению)

advertising - рекламирование

to own jointly - совместно владеть (чем-то)

influence- влияние, воздействие .

current events - текущие(последние) события, новости

household - зд. семья (домашнее хозяйство)

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. Can you describe some characteristics, which give the BBC its special position ?
2. What is the difference between the BBC and ITV?
3. What programs are very popular in Great Britain?
4. When was the BBC World Service set up?
5. Which channels do not have advertising?

Ex. 4 Fill in the gaps.

1. Television is the most popular ... in Great Britain.
2. In London there are ... channels.
3. People have to pay....
4. BBC is famous for its....
5. Commercial television gets its money from....
6. Independent Television started its work in....
7. Weekend afternoons are devoted to....

Ex. 5 True or false?

1. BBC is a commercial television.
2. All TV channels have advertising.
3. Channel IV is famous for its objectivity.
4. Independent Television News is owned by a private company.
5. TV stations show different programs for children.

6. English people are not fond of soap operas.

7. Most people in Britain receive satellite.

PART II

Text 1

LONDON AND ITS PLACES OF INTEREST

London is the capital of Great Britain, its political, economic and commercial center. It is the chief port of the country. It is one of the greatest cities of the world. Its population is about 9 million people.

The origin of the city may be dated as the beginning of the 1-st century A. D., when a tribe of the Celtic family settled near the Thames. The Roman town, Londinium, grew up on the two hillocks near St. Paul's Cathedral and Cornhill, not far from the Tower of London. The English are very proud of the history of their capital. The city became very prosperous during the 16-th century.

Then in 1665-1666 two catastrophes occurred; the first was epidemic of plague which killed 100.000 citizens, and the second was the Great Fire which destroyed the whole of the City, including St. Paul's Cathedral.

London is a real museum of architecture. Most of the finest buildings date back from the second half of the 17-th century. At the beginning of the 19-th century England was at the height of its power. During Queen Victoria's long reign (1837-1901) the construction of the underground began. And the first line between Paddington and Farrington was opened.

At the same time the City became exclusively a commercial center. The City is one part of London. Traditionally London is divided into the City, the West End, Westminster and the East End.

The City is the heart of London, its commercial and business center. The City was described as a "busy emporium for trade and traders" as early as Roman times. The City has within its square mile such famous institutions as the Bank of England, the Stock Exchange, the Royal Courts of Justice and Guildhall. The City has its own Lord Mayor and Corporation as well as its own police force. Few people live in this part of London but over a million come here to work.

There is a lot of famous ancient buildings within the City. The most striking of them is St. Paul's Cathedral, Sir Christopher Wren's masterpiece. It was built between

1675 and 1710 to replace the 13-th century cathedral which had been destroyed by the Great Fire.

Westminster is one of the most famous historic areas in London as it contains both the seat of government and the crowning place of kings and queens. Westminster was the first important inhabited area outside the City.

The Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey face each other across Parliament Square. Westminster Abbey is a beautiful Gothic building. In the 11-th century Edward the Confessor founded a great Norman Abbey. But nothing is left of this church. Henry III wanted a brighter and bigger building. Master Henry, John of Gloucester and Robert of Beverly succeeded in the work constructing Westminster Abbey. The work went on until the 18-th century when Nicholas Hawksmoor altered the facade and added the towers. Almost all the monarchs since William the Conqueror have been crowned in Westminster and many are buried there. There are memorials of many statesmen, scientists and writers in Westminster. Westminster Abbey is not a Cathedral. It is a "Royal Peculiar", royal property. It is depended directly on the monarch.

The Houses of Parliament is the seat of British Parliament, which is officially known as the Palace of Westminster. The first building was constructed as early as the 11 - th century. The magnificent Westminster Hall was built between 1097 and 1099 by William Rufus. Most of the old palace was destroyed in a fire in 1834. The present Houses of Parliament were completed in 1865. The Houses of Parliament comprise the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The division of Parliament into two Houses goes back as 700 years.

The West End is the center of London. There are historical palaces, museums, beautiful parks, large department stores, hotels, restaurants, theatres and concert halls in this part of London. One of the most beautiful palaces is Buckingham Palace, the official residence of the Queen. The Palace takes its name from Buckingham House which was built in 1703 as the home of the Duke of Buckingham and then bought by George III in 1762. Today the Queen lives at the Palace for only part of the year and when she is in her residence the Royal Standard is flown. Although the main palace is not open to the public items from the Royal Collection can be seen at the Queen's Gallery.

The oldest of all the royal residences in London is the Tower of London. The Tower today bears the official title of "Her Majesty's Palace and fortress of the Tower of London". Founded by William the Conqueror in 1078 the fortress was enlarged several times. Now it is a museum, which houses the national collection of armour and the Crown Jewels. For many centuries the Tower has been a fortress, the Royal residence, the Royal Mint, the first Royal Observatory. But it is perhaps most famous for being a prison.

The Yeomen of the Guard (Beefeaters) were originally formed to be a body guard for Henry VII. They still wear the Tudor uniform chosen by the King and now give guided tours of the Tower.

The ravens whose forefathers used to live in the Tower still live there. The Yeomen Raven Master is responsible for feeding and caring for the ravens at the Tower. There is a legend that if the ravens disappear the Tower will fall.

The broad Mall leads from Buckingham Palace to **Trafalgar Square**. Trafalgar Square, named to commemorate Nelson's great naval victory of 1805, is dominated by the Nelson's Column. On its pedestal there are four bronze reliefs cast from captured French cannon, representing scenes from the battles of St. Vincent, the Nile, Copenhagen and Trafalgar. The bronze lions at the corners of the pedestals are the work of Landseer.

From Trafalgar Square it is only a short way to **Piccadilly Circus**. In the center of Piccadilly Circus is a bronze fountain. It was designed by Sir Alfred Gilbert in 1893. **Downing Street, 10** is the official residence of the Prime Minister.

London is very rich in art galleries. The National Gallery is one of the most important picture galleries **in** the world. The Tate Gallery is the right and necessary complement to the National Gallery as it contains modern and contemporary works particularly by English and French masters.

Cultural life of London would be impossible without the Royal Albert Hall, the Royal Festival Hall, the National Theatre and a great number of museums: the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Geological Museum, the Museum of Mankind, the Natural History Museum and others. If you go to the east of the City, you'll find yourself in the East End. This is an industrial part of London. The Port of London is also in the East End.

A great amount of space in London is devoted to parks and gardens. Most of them used to be private gardens or hunting forests of kings and queens. Later they were transformed into their present design. Today nothing could be more relaxing and peaceful than a walk in a beautiful park.

Ex. 1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Capital, political, economic, commercial, center, destroy, chief, port, population, million, catastrophe, epidemic, real, architecture, construction, business, square, institutions, police, cathedral, historic, area, facade, monarch, crown, memorial, directly, museums, restaurant, official, residence, public, collection gallery, national, observatory, guard, uniform, tour, legend, victory, dominate, pedestal, bronze, fountain, complement, design.

Ex. 2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Origin - происхождение, возникновение

a tribe - племя, род

a hillock - бугор

to be proud of - гордиться (чем-то)

prosperous - процветающий, состоятельный

to occur - происходить, случаться

plague - чума, эпидемия

an emporium - торговый центр

trade - торговля

Stock Exchange - фондовая биржа, биржа ценных бумаг

a guildhall - ратуша

ancient - древний, старинный

striking – поразительный

a masterpiece – шедевр, творение, произведение искусства

to destroy - разрушать, уничтожать, истреблять

crowning place - место коронации

an Abbey - аббатство, монастырь

a church - церковь, костел, храм

to succeed - преуспевать (в чем –то), добиться успеха

to bury = захоронить, погresti

a statesman - государственный деятель, политический деятель

magnificent - великолепный, величественный

although - хотя, однако, несмотря на то, что

to bear (bore, born) - носить (титул), терпеть, рождать

to enlarge - увеличить, расширить, дополнить

to found (founded, founded) - основать, учредить

armour - оружие, вооружение, доспехи

Crown Jewels - драгоценности короны (т.е. королевской семьи)

a raven - ворона

a forefather - предок, предшественник, родоначальник

to commemorate - почтить память, вспомнить

naval - морской, военно - морской

to cast (cast, cast) - отливать (литье)

to capture - захватить, овладеть

cannon - пушка, артиллерийское орудие

contemporary - современный, сегодняшний

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What is the population of London?
2. What parts does London consist of?
3. What part of London can be called its center?
4. What masterpieces of architecture in London do you know?
5. Who is the architect of St. Paul's Cathedral?
6. What is the historical value of the Tower of London?
7. What is the residence of the Queen?
8. What does a legend about the ravens in the Tower say?
9. What events does Trafalgar Square commemorate?
10. What gallery has a vast collection of modern and contemporary works by English and French masters?

Ex. 4 Choose the correct answer.

1. London became extremely prosperous during...
 - a) the reign of King Alfred.
 - b) the 16th century.
 - c) the 19th century.
2. The construction of London Underground began...
 - a) in the 18th century.
 - b) in the 20th century.
 - c) during Queen Victoria's reign.
3. The heart of London is...
 - a) Westminster.
 - b) the West End.
 - c) the City.
4. Westminster's construction was completed in...
 - a) the 10th century.
 - b) the 13th century.
 - c) the 18th century.
5. The official residence of the Queen is...
 - a) Kensington Palace.
 - b) Buckingham Palace.
 - c) the Tower of London,
6. The oldest royal residence is...
 - a) Buckingham Palace.
 - b) the Tower of London.

c) Westminster Abbey.

7. The ravens in the Tower of London are taken care of because...

a) they are very old.

b) they are very rare.

c) of a legend.

Ex. 5 Match the two halves.

1. The city became extremely...

2. The Great Fire...

3. In the 19th century England was at...

4. Almost all the monarchs have been crowned...

5. The seat of the British Parliament is...

6. When the Queen is in residence...

7. The Tower of London used to be...

8. The Mall leads to...

9. Downing Street, 10 is the residence of...

a) the height of her power.

b) the Houses of Parliament.

c) the Royal Standard is flown.

d) Trafalgar Square.

e) the Prime Minister.

f) prosperous in the 16th century.

g) destroyed the whole of the City.

h) in Westminster.

i) the first Royal Observatory.

Ex. 6 Complete the sentences.

1. The City of Westminster contains both... and....
2. The early building of Westminster was built....
3. Almost all the monarchs have been ... in Westminster and many are ... there.
4. The residence of the Prime Minister is....

Text 2

The British Museum

The British Museum is the largest and richest museum in the world. This Museum comprises the National Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography, and the National Library. It was built in the middle of the last century. The Museum is situated in London, in Bloomsbury district.

On one of the houses in Bloomsbury there is a plaque, which tells people that for nearly 50 years this was the home of Sir Hans Sloane, the benefactor of the British Museum.

Sir Hans Sloane was an Irishman. He arrived in London nearly 300 years ago with 800 species of plants collected in West India. His particular specialties were natural history specimens and books. All his long life Sir Hans Sloane remained a collector. In his will he offered his vast collection to the people of Britain. Later on the Government bought his collection. Two important libraries were added to the collection of natural history specimens and books.

At first, his collections were on view to the public in a large house not far from the present museum. The present building was built in 1852.

By law a copy of every book, periodical or newspaper published in Britain must be preserved in the British Museum. All printed matter is kept in a separate building in another part of London.

The British Museum is closely connected with the name of an Italian, Anthony Panizzi. Being a lawyer, he occupied the position of principal librarian at the British Museum. He also designed the plans for the construction of the famous circular Reading Room at the British Museum. Visitors to the Museum who want to enter the Reading Room, must have a ticket of admission. Only people over the age of 21, engaged in serious study and who can't obtain the books they require elsewhere, can use the Reading Room.

The Reading Room has an unusual shape. It is a perfect circle. The superintendent and his assistants sit in the center of the room and issue and collect books. The catalogues are kept behind them. Any person who comes into the Reading Room is greatly impressed by the efficiency of the staff there. You just ask for a book and in a moment it is placed in front of you. Today there're millions of volumes in the library. Only a highly qualified specialist can cope with the work in this library.

The British Museum contains books and manuscripts: Greek, Roman, British and oriental antiquities. It has a department of ethnography. This collection is so vast that only a very small percentage is on show to the public. There is also a department of prints and drawings. There are departments devoted to maps, coins, medals and philately. Those who come to the British Museum can see a fascinating array of clocks and watches. Every year the British Museum is visited by 2 million people.

Ex. 1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

The National Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography, to situate, to collect, history, public, present, copy, periodical, preserve, separate, occupy, position, principal, design, construction, circular, ticket, serious, shape, perfect, assistant, impress, specialist, manuscript, print, medal, philately.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

A plaque - мемориальная доска

a benefactor - покровитель, благодетель

species - вид, род, разновидность

particular - конкретный, определенный

a specimen - образец, экземпляр

a will - завещание, воля

to keep (kept, kept) - храниться

a lawyer - юрист, правовец

a ticket of admission - входной билет

to obtain - приобретать, получать

a superintendent - заведующий, начальник (отдела)

to issue - выдавать (книги, журналы)

a staff - персонал , коллектив

a volume - зд. том (книги)

oriental - восточный, востоковедческий

an antiquity - древность, антиквариат, предметы старины

vast - обширный, грандиозный

percentage - процентный состав

a drawing - рисунок, эскиз, чертеж

fascinating - очаровательный , увлекательный

an array - множество, ряд

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. When was the British Museum built?
2. Where is the Museum situated?
3. Who was the benefactor of the Museum?
4. Whom was Sir Hans Sloane's collections offered to?
5. Who can use the Reading Room of the British Museum?

Ex. 4 Match the two halves.

1. The British Museum is situated in....
2. The Museum comprises...
3. The benefactor of the Museum was...
4. Sir Hans Sloane offered his collection to...
5. Anthony Panizzi...
6. The Reading Room has an unusual...
7. The superintendent...
8. There is a fascinating array of...

- a) Sir Hans Sloane.
- b) the British people.
- c) designed the plans for the construction of the Reading Room.
- d) shape.
- e) issues and collects books.
- f) clocks and watches.
- g) the National Museum of Architecture and Ethnography and the National Library.
- h) in London.

Ex. 5 Fill in the gaps.

1. The Museum comprises....
2. Sir Hans Sloane arrived in London....
3. All his life Sir Hans Sloane remained a....
4. The present building was constructed in....
5. The British Museum is connected with the name of...
6. Only people over the age of ... can use the Reading Room.
7. The Reading Room has an unusual shape; it's a....
9. Every year the British Museum is visited by ... people.

Ex. 6 True or false?

1. Sir Hans Sloane was an architect.
2. People over 21 years old may enter the Reading Room.
3. Visitors are greatly impressed by the efficiency of the staff.
4. By Law a copy of every book is preserved in the Parliament Library.
5. A. Panizzi was a lawyer.
6. Every year the British Museum is visited by 200,000 people.

Text 3

Covent Garden

Covent Garden is the biggest market-place in Britain. If you come to Covent Garden in the afternoon, you'll only see enormous buildings and a few tourists. But if you come here early in the morning, you'll see hundreds of people buying and selling vegetables, fruit and flowers. Cars, vans, lorries are everywhere. There are voices everywhere. Some people are carrying heavy boxes of fruit and vegetables. They are crying: "Mind your backs, please". Before the businessmen arrive at their offices, all the cars and vans will have arrived at the shops all over London. They'll have delivered everything for customers. By the afternoon all the farmers, shopkeepers, porters and drivers will have gone home. The market-place will have been cleaned by the dustmen. It'll be ready to meet tourists.

Covent Garden has been the most important market-place in London for 300 years. It was officially established by King Charles II in 1670. It was called Covent Garden because it was the garden of the monks of Westminster Abbey. At that time it was very small and it was used only by Londoners.

Nowadays it serves the whole of Britain. Those who work there say: "If there is any kind of fruit or vegetable which we haven't got - nobody has got it".

Today, Covent Garden has been extensively restored and is now a lively shopping area, with wine bars, restaurants, a theatre and an outdoor Pizza and a covered Central Market.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Market, tourist, vegetable, fruit, car, businessman, office, shop, farmer, porter, officially, to serve, extensively, to restore, wine, bar, restaurant.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Important - важный, существенный

enormous - огромный, обширный, необъятный

a building - здание,помещение

a few - несколько, немного, некоторые

to buy (bought, bought) - покупать

to sell (sold, sold) - продавать

a van - фургон, вагон

a lorry - грузовик, самосвал

a voice - голос

to mind - обращать внимание, помнить

to arrive - прибывать, достигать, прийти

to deliver - доставлять, привезти, передать

a customer - покупатель, клиент, посетитель

a shopkeeper - торговец, хозяин, владелец магазина

a driver- водитель, извозчик

a dustman - мусорщик

to establish - установить, основать

a monk - монах, старец, инок

lively - оживленный, веселый, жизнерадостный

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What is Covent Garden?
2. When was Covent Garden established?
3. What can you buy at Covent Garden?
4. Why was this place originally called "convent garden"?

Ex. 4 Fill in the gaps.

1. Covent Garden is the biggest ... in Britain.
2. In the afternoon you'll see ... there.
3. By the midday everything will be delivered for...
4. The market-place will have been cleaned by...
5. Covent Garden was established by...

6. Covent Garden was ... of... of Westminster Abbey.

7. Nowadays it ... the whole of Britain.

Text 4

The Museum of Transport

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

In 1829, an Irishman (Shillibeer by name) started the first bus-service in London. His bus was very different from those you can see in London today. It was drawn by three horses and looked like a carriage. The first double-decker bus was built in 1851. But the upper deck didn't have a roof until about 1936. When it was raining the passengers were given raincoats.

In 1885, the first buses, driven by a petrol engine were used in London. The speed of the first petrol engine bus was 12 miles per hour.

The first trains, like the first buses, were drawn by horses. But they were not passenger trains. They were used in mines and factories to carry materials from one place to another. The first steam train was used in an iron-works in South Wales. It was built in 1804 by Richard Trevithick.

The first passenger railway in England and also in the world was the Liverpool - Manchester Railway. In 1825, the company offered a prize of 500 pounds for the best steam train. The prize was won by George Stephenson, with his famous train "The Rocket". It could travel at the speed of 29 miles per hour, which was very fast at that time.

Lots of people were afraid of the railways and trains. They tried to stop their construction. But in 1842 people had to accept the railway. Queen Victoria, herself, travelled in a train from Slough to Paddington. A special railway carriage was built for her in 1869.

In 1938 a train called "Mallard" was built. It travelled at the speed of 126 miles per hour, and that was world record speed for a steam train. Nowadays this train can be seen in the Museum of Transport.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning

Museum, public, transport, start ,service, passenger, petrol, speed, mile, to mine, factory, material, company, prize, record.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Bus - service - автобусное сообщение (обслуживание)

different - различный, разнообразный

to draw (drew, drawn) - тянуть, тащить

a double - decker bus - двухэтажный автобус

an upper deck - верхняя палуба, верхний ярус

a roof - крыша, потолок

a raincoat - дождевик, плащ

12 miles per hour - 12 миль в час

to carry - нести, выполнять, перевозить

a petrol engine - бензиновый двигатель

a steam train - паровоз.

iron-works - чугунолитейный завод

to offer - предлагать, предоставлять

a pound - фунт стерлингов (английский фунт)

to be afraid of smth. - бояться, опасаться (чего - либо)

to accept - принять, признать

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. When was the first double-decker bus built?
2. What was the speed of the first petrol engine bus?
3. Where were the first trains used?
4. What was the name of the first steam train?
5. What was world record speed for a steam train?

Ex. 4 Fill in the gaps.

1. The Museum of British Transport is in...
2. An Irishman whose name was Shillibeer started the first ... in London.
3. The first bus was drawn by ... and looked like...
4. The first trains were used in...
5. The first passenger railway in England was...
6. Stephenson's train was called...
7. Queen Victoria travelled from ... to...
8. The world record speed for a steam engine was...

Ex. 5 True or false?

1. The first bus appeared in 1829.
2. The first double-decker didn't have a roof.
3. The speed of the first train was 12 miles per hour.
4. The first trains had to carry passengers.
5. The first train was built by G. Stephenson.
6. A special carriage was built for Queen Victoria.
7. The world record speed for a steam train was 12 miles per hour.
8. In 1842 the construction of the railway from Slough to Paddington was stopped.

Ex. 6 Arrange the sentences in the proper order.

1. "Mallard" travelled at the speed of 126 miles per hour.
2. In 1820 an Irishman started the first bus-service.
3. In 1842 people had to accept the railway.
4. The first double-decker was built in 1851.
5. "The Rocket" could travel at the speed of 29 miles per hour.
6. The prize for the best steam train was won by G. Stephenson.

7. In 1885 the first buses, driven by a petrol engine were used in London.
8. The first trains were drawn by horses.
9. The first railway in England was the Liverpool - Manchester Railway.
10. The first trains were used in mines and factories.

Text 5

The Royal Academy

There is a house of great beauty and colour in London. This is Burlington House. Since 1869 it has been the Royal Academy of Arts.

In 1768 a group of leading painters, sculptors and architects presented a memorial to King George III. The young art-loving monarch declared his patronage, protection and support. All succeeding Sovereigns have accepted the style of "Patron, Protector and Supporter" of the Royal Academy. The monarch formally sanctioned the elections of new Royal Academicians.

The first President of the Academy was Sir Joshua Reynolds, whose statue (palette and brush in hand) surveys the forecourt of Burlington House. He was the President for 24 years and created in the Academy a body of highly skilled professional artists.

In 1771 the Academy established its headquarters at Somerset House and remained there until 1837 when it moved to the east wing of the National Gallery.

The prime purpose of the Academy is the teaching of art to the most talented students. About 100 students attend the Academy School. They're selected by examinations from those who have spent two or more years at London or provincial art schools.

Since 1768 about 7,000 artists and architects have been trained free of charge in the School of Painting and Drawing, Sculpture and Architecture. The students study the main "classic disciplines". Several students in recent years have won major international awards.

The exhibitions of the students' work in June and November attract attention of many people: teachers, art critics and gallery owners.

There are two annual exhibitions, organized by the Academy: the Winter Exhibition and the Summer Exhibition. The Academy also organizes special exhibitions in its Diploma Gallery. The Summer Exhibition has been held since 1769. It is the largest annual open art show in the world. About 10,000 works are judged by

the Royal Academicians. Different styles and traditions are represented at the Exhibition. It is open for 3.5 months. The majority of the works are for sale.

The Academy believes that it is important to give all artists an opportunity to exhibit and sell their works. There are no more such exhibitions.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Sculptor, architect, memorial, patronage, protection, Sovereign, style, sanction, president, academy, statue, palette, professional, artist, talent, student, examination, classic, discipline, international, gallery, organize, special, style, tradition, academician, art, show.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Royal Academy of Arts- Королевская академия художеств

art - loving- любящий искусство

a monarch - монарх

to declare - объявить, заявлять, провозглашать, признавать

patronage - покровительство, патронаж

protection - защита

to succeed - добиться успеха

a sovereign - Суверен, повелитель, монарх

a sanction - санкция, одобрение

elections - выборы

a statue - статуя

to survey the forecourt - обследовать привокзальную площадь

highly - skilled - высоко квалифицированный

to establish - установить, создавать, учреждать, заложить

headquarters - штаб - квартира

free of charge - бесплатно

an exhibition - ВЫСТАВКА

majority - БОЛЬШИНСТВО

an opportunity - ВОЗМОЖНОСТЬ

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. Since what time has Burlington House been the home for the Royal Academy of Arts?
2. Who was the first to declare his support of the Academy?
3. Who was the first President of the Academy?
4. What is the primary purpose of the Academy?
5. How often does the Academy organize the exhibitions?
6. What Exhibition is the largest annual open show in the world?
7. How long does the Summer Exhibition stay open?

Ex. 4 True or false?

1. The Royal Academy of Art was formed in 1869.
2. King George III was the first President of the Academy.
3. In 1837 the Academy moved to the National Gallery.
4. The prime purpose of the Academy is teaching the most talented students.
5. About 7,000 artists and architects have been trained in the Academy,
6. Every year two exhibitions are organized by the Academy.
7. The Winter Exhibition is the largest annual open show in the world.

Text 6

The Channel Tunnel

Great Britain is separated from the Continent by English Channel. On May, 6, 1994 the Channel tunnel between Calais and Folkstone was opened by Queen Elizabeth II of Britain and President Mitteran of France. They were the first to travel under the sea.

That was the biggest project in which Britain took part. The process of the construction was very difficult and not always a successful one. The price of the construction was very high (£ 9 billion), several people were killed during the construction, and the start of service was several times postponed. People didn't reveal great enthusiasm. At first the tunnel was opened only for private cars. The saving of time didn't compensate for the discomfort of travelling. People got used to travelling on comfortable ferries. And besides, they simply were afraid of travelling under the sea. But the authors of the project are rather optimistic, because the direct train services between Paris and London offer a great reduction of travel time. There is a project to use a high-speed train between London and the British end of the Channel tunnel. But that will be later, in the 21-st century.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Separate, tunnel, project, process, start, service, enthusiasm, private, discomfort, comfortable, optimistic, direct, reduction, speed, reduction.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

The Channel Tunnel - Туннель под Ла - Маншем

English Channel - Ла - Манш

Calais - Кале, город во Франции

construction - строительство

to postpone - откладывать

to reveal - раскрывать

enthusiasm- энтузиазм, восторг

to compensate - компенсировать, возмещать

a ferrie - паром,переправа

reduction- сокращение

high-speed- высокоскоростной

Ex. 3 True or false?

1. The first to travel through the tunnel were the workers.
2. The project was a success from the very beginning.

3. The tunnel was opened between London and Paris.
4. People were not enthusiastic about the project.
5. At first the tunnel was opened to private cars.
6. A great reduction of travel time didn't compensate for the discomfort of travelling
7. A high-speed train will take people from Paris to London later in the 21st century.

Ex.4 Complete the sentences.

1. The Channel tunnel was opened in ... by...
2. The tunnel was the biggest...
3. The construction price was...
4. At first the tunnel was opened to...
5. People were afraid of...
6. The direct train services offer....

Text 7

The Thames

The River Thames is one of the sights of London. Tourists come to admire the beauty of Cleopatra's Needle, big Ben and the Houses of Parliament. In fact the river isn't just a part of the scenery. London wouldn't exist without the river. Let's look back into the history. Two thousand years ago, in A. D. 43 a Roman army decided to cross the Thames at a point where a bridge could be built. That was the beginning of the City of London.

The Thames connected the settlements of the Romans at Kent and at Colchester. All foreign traffic and goods had to cross the Roman bridge, that's why the nearby land grew into a key port, thus increasing trade with the Continent.

Over the next five hundred years, London exported the nation's wool, cattle and imported fine clothes from Flanders, wine from France, furs from Scandinavia. The tradesmen formed guilds, which protected their interests and strengthened London's position as a commercial center.

The 16-th century brought new horizons in the exploration of the new lands and their conquest by the sea. But there appeared some problems. The twenty arches

of London Bridge disturbed the river's current, causing "rapids". The ships were forced to stop below the bridge, paying small boats to take their goods upstream.

The first docks were built in the 17-th century at Rotherhithe in order to solve this problem. In the 18-th and 19-th centuries the docks were also built on the Isle of Dogs. In 1908 the Port of London Authority was formed to look after them. The importance of the Thames was great. London has changed greatly over the years.

Two periods of history stand facing each other at Chelsea Bridge. On the North bank is the Royal Hospital. This house was built in the 18-th century by Sir Christopher Wren. On the South bank there is Battersea power station, built to provide electricity for Londoners. If we move downstream, we'll come to Vauxhall Bridge. This area contains factories and offices. Under Lambeth Bridge, the river flows on past the Victoria flower gardens towards Westminster Bridge. Here are the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben, built in the 19-th century in the gothic style.

The Embankment Gardens, with their tramps, memorials and flowers run all along the embankment. At the riverside itself there is a row of charming Victorian lamp-posts decorated with ferocious-looking dolphins. Even the public benches are decorated with winged sphinxes. You can also admire Cleopatra's Needle, a huge obelisk carved in Ancient Egypt and given to Queen Victoria and Great Britain in 1820. It was placed by the river in 1878, and a "time box", containing objects typical of that time was buried beneath it.

There is a group of modern, concrete buildings near Waterloo Bridge, on the South bank of the river. These include the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, and the new National Theatre. Waterloo Bridge is concrete and modern, but it replaces an older bridge built to mark the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo. The lamp standards along the bridge were made from guns captured at the battle.

As you pass the widest of London's bridges — Blackfriars Bridge — you can see the dome of St. Paul's.

The next bridge is Southwark Bridge, which leads to Southwark Cathedral (it is as beautiful as Westminster Abbey). Then you come to London Bridge. Originally it was made of wood. The first stone bridge wasn't built until 1176. A new London Bridge replaced it in 1831, but you wouldn't find this London Bridge now either, as it was sold to America in 1972. It was taken there stone by stone to be reassembled as a tourist attraction. The British have a modern replacement now.

But the bridge that symbolizes London to most people is Tower Bridge.

Much of London's wealth has been generated by the trade and industry brought by the river. The river became badly polluted in Victorian times. Industrial waste flowed freely into it. There was a terrible smell that is why all the fish died.

New laws have controlled industrial waste and sewage levels in the Thames since the 1950s. Now the river is much less polluted. Fish have returned to the cleaner water. Pleasure boats sail from Westminster and Charing Cross piers, taking summer visitors to Greenwich and Hampton Court, Palace.

To protect London from the tide the Greater London Council decided to build a barrier across the river at Woolwich. The floodgates lie on the river bed in normal weather, but can be raised to shut off dangerously high waters.

London could never have lived without the Thames.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Scenery, cross, connect, traffic, key port, continent, to export, nation, to import, protect, position, commercial, center, horizon, boat, dock, port, station, gothic style, memorial, decorate, dolphin, sphinx, object, typical, modern, concrete, building, national, battle, tourist, attraction, symbolize.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Sight - достопримечательность

Cleopatra's Needle - Игла Клеопатры

A. D. (Anno Domini) - нашей эры

a settlement - населенный пункт, поселение

traffic - движение

goods - товар

trade - сделка, торговля

wool - шерсть

cattle - крупный рогатый скот

to disturb - беспокоить, тревожить, нарушать

rapids - пороги (на реке)

fur - мех

guild - гильдия (цех, организация, объединение)

to strengthen - усиливать

an exploration - исследование

a conquest- завоевание

downstream - вниз по течению

upstream - вверх по течению

an embankment - набережная

a lamp-post - фонарный столб

ferocious - looking - свирепый

a bench - скамейка

winged - крылатый

a sphinx - сфинкс

an anniversary - годовщина

to reassemble - собрать заново

a sewage level- уровень сточных вод

polluted- загрязненный

a floodgate – шлюз (спуск воды на реке)

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. Why were the first docks at Rotherhithe built?
2. Who was the architect of the Royal Hospital?
3. What anniversary does Waterloo Bridge mark?
4. Which bridge is the widest?
5. Where can you see London Bridge?
6. Which bridge symbolizes London?

Ex. 4 Fill in the gaps.

1. ... years ago the Romans decided to cross the Thames.

2. In the 18-th and 19-th centuries the ... were built on the Isle of Dogs.
3. The area of Vauxhall Bridge contains ... and...
4. The first Waterloo Bridge was built to mark...
5. In 1972 a new London Bridge was sold to...
6. The bridge that symbolizes London is...
7. To protect London from the tides a ... across the river was built.

PART III.

Text 1

EDUCATION IN GREAT BRITAIN

In England schooling is compulsory for children from 5 to 16 years old. Any child may attend a school without paying fees. Over 90% of children of compulsory school age go to state schools. The most important changes in Britain's educational system were introduced under the Education Reform Act 1988. It led to the compulsory National Curriculum for pupils aged 5 to 16 in state schools. The Act also aims to give parents a wider choice of schools for their children. Local educational authorities finance most school education at the local level. They also employ teachers. Every state school in England and Wales has a governing body, responsible for the school's main policies. Parallel reforms are introduced in both Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Full-time education is compulsory up to the middle teenage years. There are three stages in education. The first stage is primary education; the second stage is secondary education; the third one is further education at university or college.

Before going to a primary school children receive nursery education (some children attend pre-school play-groups). It's the first age of education. About a half of 3—4 years old children receive nursery education. Children of nursery age need care as well as education. Social, emotional and physical needs must be taken into consideration.

Compulsory primary education begins at the age of 5 in England, Wales and Scotland and at the age of 4 in Northern Ireland. Children start their education in an infant school and move to a junior school at 7 years old. Primary schools vary in size and location. Pupils study different subjects (English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Music, Art, Physical education). Over 80% of all primary schools are mixed.

In Britain most children of compulsory secondary school age (11-16) receive free education financed from public funds. The large majority of schools are mixed.

The school year in England and Wales begins in September and continues to July. In Scotland it is from August to June. In Northern Ireland it is from September to June. At this level children start to learn a modern foreign language. The course of study at secondary school may lead to General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) qualifications. At 16 years old children take different examinations and have quite a lot of coursework, only after which they're awarded GCSE.

Those who stay at school after GCSE, study for 2 more years for A (Advanced) level exams in two or three subjects.

A small proportion of children (about 8%) attend private, or independent schools, which are not financed by the state. To understand this phenomenon a little history is needed.

The British government paid little attention to education until the end of the 19-th century. Schools had existed in Britain long before the government took an interest in education. A small group of schools was admitted only the sons of the upper and upper middle classes. At these public schools much more attention was paid to "character-building" and the development of "team spirit" rather than to academic achievements. These were "boarding-schools" (as the pupils lived in them). The pupils wore distinctive clothes and the schools had their own traditions. The aim of those schools was to prepare young men to take up positions in the higher ranks of army, in business, civil service and politics.

A typical public school is for boys from 13 years old. It admits fee-paying pupils. Such schools are boarding ones. Each school is divided into houses with its housemaster. Public schools place great emphasis on team sports. These schools are not at all luxurious or comfortable. A typical example of such a school is Eton. British education has many different faces but one goal. Its aim is to realize the potential of all for the good of the individual and society as a whole.

Text 2

The School Year

The school year is usually divided into three terms. Autumn term lasts from September (or August) till Christmas holiday, which is about 2 weeks. Then spring term — till Easter holiday (also 2 weeks), and summer term, which lasts till June (or July). Summer holiday is about 6 weeks.

In addition all schools have a half-term, which lasts a few days or a week in the middle of each term.

School Life

Nearly all schools work five days a week. They are closed on Saturdays and Sundays. The school day starts at 9 o'clock a.m. and finishes between 3 and 4 o'clock p. m. The lunch break usually lasts an hour and a quarter. Most pupils have lunch provided by the school. The lunch is paid by parents. Other children either go home for lunch or have a snack at school.

Exams

At 15-16 years old school children take public exams. They are not usually set up by the government (rather by independent examining boards). Each school or Local Education Authority decides which exams their pupils are to take. The boards publish syllabus for each subject. There is no single school-leaving exam or school-leaving certificate. Usually a vast range of subjects is offered for school children. Nearly all pupils do exam in English, Mathematics and Science. Most do exams in technology and in a foreign language. Some pupils take exams in 3—4 additional subjects.

Usually exams have nothing to do with school years. Once the examining boards decided to include certain popular television programs on their literature syllabus.

Ex.1 Read the following international words teenage and guess their meaning.

Local, authority, finance, body, policy, parallel, reform, primary, secondary, college, social, emotional, physical, infant, junior, subject, general, certificate, Mathematics, History, Geography, Music, Art, Physics, mix, modern, lead, private, interest, academic, position, army, service, politics, luxurious, syllabus

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Compulsory - обязательный

primary education - начальное образование

secondary education - среднее образование

to pay fees - платить взносы

to aim – иметь целью

a wide choice - широкий выбор

to employ - трудоустроить

responsible - ответственный

to introduce - представить

care - забота

consideration - рассмотрение

to vary - варьироваться

GCSE (The General Certificate of Secondary Education) - Аттестат о среднем образовании

location - расположение

independent - независимый

quite a lot of - довольно много

to admit - признавать

upper class - высший класс (общества)

proportion - пропорция, доля, часть

character - building- формирование характера

team spirit - командный дух

academic achievements - академические достижения

boarding-schools - школа -интернат

distinctive clothes - отличительная одежда

a vast range of subjects - широкий спектр предметов

attention - внимание

a boarding school - школа - интернат

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What is the goal of education in Britain?
2. What types of school do you know in Britain?
3. What school do children at 6 years attend?

4. What exams do children have to take at 16 years old?
5. What subjects do pupils learn at secondary schools?
6. Is there any difference between state and independent schools?
7. What is the aim of private schools?
8. Can you give an example of a private school?
9. Is schooling compulsory for pupils of 17 years old?
10. When does the academic year begin?

Ex. 4 True or false?

1. Schooling is compulsory for children from 5 to 16 years old.
2. Quite a large number of children attend public schools.
3. The first stage of education is secondary education.
4. Children in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland go to school at the same age.
5. Only a small part of schools are mixed.
6. At public schools much attention is paid to character-building.
7. After finishing secondary school children are awarded GCSE.

Ex. 5 Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions.

1. private education —
2. compulsory education —
3. mixed schools —
4. boarding schools —
5. GCSE —
6. academic year —
7. nursery education -

Text 3

Education in Great Britain

(continued)

At the age of 16 pupils can leave school. But quite a lot of them want to continue their education. Only 1/3 of all the young people leave school at 16 years old and look for a job. (The general level of unemployed is high today. Some of them find job immediately and many of the school-leavers take part in training schemes (which means job combined with part-time college courses).

In England and Wales those who stay at school study just three subjects in preparation for taking A-level exams (Advanced Level). These academic exams are set by the same examining boards that set GCSE exams. They're taken by pupils at the age of 18 years old, who wish to continue their education.

Universities usually select students on the basis of A-level results and an interview (students who wish to enter Oxford and Cambridge have to take certain exams). Those who have better A-level results are usually accepted.

Higher education has become more available in the second half of the 20-th century. In 1960 there were less than 25 universities in Britain. By 1980 there were already more than 40, and by 1995 there were over a hundred institutions with university status.

Universities take the best students, that's why nearly all students complete their studies. The normal course of study lasts 3-4 years. Students are not supposed to take a job during the term. Unless their parents are rich, they receive a state grant, which covers most of their expenses, including the cost of accommodation. Quite a lot of students live in the campus (or in the college) or in the rented rooms nearby.

However, nowadays the government reduces the amount of the students and encourages a system of top-up loans. That's why quite a lot of students can't afford to live in college and many more of them are forced to do a part-time job, but this reduces the traditionally high quality of British university education. And, in addition, the number of students from low-income families has been greatly reduced.

There are no great distinctions between different types of universities in Britain. But still there are some categories of them.

First of all, Oxbridge. Oxford and Cambridge were founded in the medieval period. These universities consist of semi-independent colleges, each of them having its own staff ("Fellows"). The "Fellows" teach the college students either one-to one or in very small groups. This system is unique in the world and known as tutorials in Oxford and supervisions in Cambridge.

Then, Scottish Universities. By 1600 Scotland had 4 Universities – Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and St. Andrews. St. Andrews resembles Oxbridge very much. In the other three universities most of the students live at home or find rooms nearby. The process of study at these universities is very close to the continental one. There is less specialization at Oxbridge.

Text 4

Oxbridge.

Oxford and Cambridge are the oldest Universities in Great Britain. They are called Oxbridge to denote elitarian education.

Only rich people send their children to these universities. The main characteristic feature of these universities is the tutorial (that means the individual tuition).

The normal length of the degree course is three years, after which the students take the Degree of Bachelor of Arts. Some courses may be a year or two years longer.

Oxford and Cambridge universities consist of a number of colleges, each self-governing and independent. Before 1970 most of the Oxbridge universities were single-sex (most for men). But now the majority of the Universities admit both sexes. The administrative body of the University consists of the Chancellor (who is elected for life), the vice-chancellor (who is in practice the head of the University, and is appointed annually by the Chancellor) and two proctors, whose job is to maintain discipline and who are appointed annually. Each college has its staff called "Fellows":

The University is merely an administrative body, which organizes lectures, arranges examinations, grants degrees. Each college has its name. Most colleges have their own dining hall, a library and a chapel.

The University has laboratories and research institutes and other educational facilities. All the lectures are organized by the University. There are students of various specialties in every college, but each student follows his own course of study. The largest colleges have more than 400 students, the smallest have less than 30.

Oxford is one of the oldest universities in Europe. It didn't come into being all at once. Oxford had existed as a city for at least 300 years before scholars began to resort to it.

The end of the 12-th century saw the real birth of the University. The first group of scholars at Oxford may have been joined the others from Paris, from other

parts of Britain. A characteristic feature of Oxford is that many traditions of the Middle Ages are still current there. One of them is that the students have to wear gowns.

The earliest college buildings seem to have no definite plan. They expanded as the need for more room arose (the Queen's College). New College had the first regular quadrangle.

Perhaps the most famous colleges are Christ Church, University College and All Souls College. Nowadays there are 29 colleges for men, 5 colleges for women and the other 5 colleges have both men and women members.

Oxford is a place of great beauty, but it is not just a shrine to the past. It is a living entity and its historic buildings are the homes of masters and students whose learning, thinking and ideas have a profound influence on culture, education, science and politics. Many eminent world-known scholars and scientists have been educated at Oxford. All the graduates of Oxford never forget "spirit of Oxford".

Cambridge University dates back as the 13-th century. Today there are more than 30 colleges in it. The University is situated on the River Cam. The colleges line the right bank. The oldest university is Peterhouse which was founded in 1284 and the most recent one is Robins College founded in 1977. But the most famous is the King's College. The building is the real example of English 15-th century architecture. Until 1871 the University was only for men. In 1871 the first women's college was opened. In 1970s Cambridge most colleges admitted both men and women.

Students at Oxbridge have different societies and clubs. Different sports are very popular. But the most popular sports are rowing and punting. A contest between Oxford and Cambridge universities take place on the River Thames every year at the end of March (or in early April). The course is the 4 1/4 mile stretch of river. The race usually starts at midday or at 3 o'clock. By 1966 Cambridge had won 61 times, Oxford — 50 times.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

General, to train, scheme, course, preparation, academic, to select, basis, result, interview, exam, category, period, unique, supervision, process, continental, specialization, characteristic, administrative, discipline, organize, lecture, grant, degree, laboratory, specialty, tradition, resort, real, regular, unique, architecture, race, stretch.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Unemployed - безработный

preparation - подготовка

expenses - затраты, расходы

available - доступный

accommodation – проживание, жилье, размещение

to encourage - поощрять, поддерживать, ободрять

loan – кредит, заимствование

to reduce the amount – сократить количество

a low-income family - семья с низким доходом

medieval - средневековой

to consist of - состоять из

independent- независимый

to resemble – напоминать, быть похожим

degree of Bachelor of Arts – степень бакалавра искусств

to consist of - состоять из

self - governing –самоуправление

independent –независимый

single-sex (most for men) – однополый (только для мужчин)

Vice-chancellor – проректор

Chancellor -Ректор Университета

to appoint – назначать

annually - ежегодно

a proctor – проктор, инспектор

to maintain – поддерживать, сохранять

tutorial - консультация, руководство

tuition – обучение, занятие.

medieval period – средневековой период

a semi - independent college – полуавтономный (полунезависимый) колледж

to resemble - напоминает, походить

elitarian education - элитарное образование

a chapel - часовня

a gown - мантия

a quadrangle – четырехугольник; двор

a shrine - святыня

an entity - организация, объект

profound - глубокий, основательный

eminent - выдающийся, именитый

rowing and punting - гребля и плавание

to admit – признавать, допускать

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What does Oxbridge mean?
2. Which of them is older?
3. What makes these universities quite different from any other?
4. How long is the course of study?
5. What is the function of the University?

Ex. 4 Fill in the gaps.

1. Only ... people send their children to Oxbridge.
2. Each college is ... and...
3. The University is an administrative body, which...

4. Chancellor is elected for...
5. Proctor's job is to...
6. The largest colleges have ... students.
7. Oxford as a city had existed for at least ... years.
8. The first regular quadrangle had ... College.
9. The most popular sports are....
10. All the students have to wear...

PART IV.

THE BRITISH PEOPLE

Text 1

The English Language

Not long ago there were very many native people who lived on the territory of the British Isles, who didn't speak English at all. The western land of Wales spoke Welsh; in the farthest north and the islands of Scotland the language was Gaelic; and a similar language, Irish Gaelic, was spoken in Ireland; Manx was the language of the Isles of Manx and Cornish that of the south-western tip of Britain.

In Scotland the Gaelic Language Society has existed for eighty years. It's dedicated to preserving the traditions of the Gaelic songs, verse and prose. And nowadays more and more people in the Lowland areas of Scotland, as well as the islands, where Gaelic is still spoken, want to learn the language now. Since 1970s many people go to evening classes and learn Gaelic. Gaelic can be chosen for the final exam. In Wales the Welsh Language Society was founded in 1962 and since that time it has been trying to restore Welsh to an equal place with English. In 1967 Welsh was recognized as an equal language for use in law courts. In Wales some of the programs of the IV-th channel are broadcast in Welsh.

English is spoken as a native language by more than 300 million people, most of them living in North America, the British Isles, Australia, New Zealand, the Caribbean and South Africa. In several of these countries English isn't the sole language (for example, in Canada the French language is also spoken; many Irish and Welsh speak the Celtic language). But English is the second language for governmental, commercial, social or educational activities in the countries where English isn't a native language.

In about 25 countries English has been used as an official language (either it is the sole official language there, or it shares that status with other languages). Most of these countries are former British territories. Even more widely English is studied and used as a foreign language. It has already acquired international status. It is used for communication, listening, reading, broadcast, commerce and travel.

Half of the world's scientific literature is written in English. It is the language of automation and computer technology. It is not only the universal language of international aviation, shipping and sport, it is also the universal language of literacy and public communication. It is a major language of diplomacy and it is the most frequently used language in the general conduct of UN business.

Only in the course of the last hundred years English has become a world language. In Shakespeare's time it was "provincial" language of secondary importance. Only 6 million people spoke English. English spread all over the world from the British Isles, but English hasn't always been the language of the people of those islands. When the Romans colonized England in the 1-st century of our era, the country was inhabited by the Celtic tribes. Until the 5-th century only the Celtic languages were spoken by the people of Britain. About the middle of the 5-th century the British Isles began to be invaded by the Angles, Saxons and Jutes, who spoke dialects of the language which was the ancestor of the present-day English. Now we call it Old English. During fifteen hundred years that have passed since the Anglo-Saxon invasion English has changed considerably. It was influenced by the language of the Danish (Viking) invaders (in the 8-th —10-th centuries).

During the 12-th and 14-th centuries English was influenced (in grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation) by Norman French. In the 14-th—16-th centuries quite a number of Latin and Greek words were introduced into English. English belongs to the Germanic branch of the Indo-European family of languages.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Territory, to preserve, to restore, tradition, final, exam, equal, channel, communication, commercial, social, activity, official, status, territory, international, status, literature, automation, computer, technology, universal, aviation, sport, public, diplomacy, general, provincial, secondary, colonize, dialect,

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Welsh - валлийский, уэльский

Gaelic - Гаэльский язык

to dedicate – посвящать, предназначать

law courts - суды

a sole language - единственный язык

to choose (chose, chosen) - выбирать

international aviation - международная авиация

literacy - грамотность

secondary importance - второстепенное значение

Romans - Римляне

to inhabit - заселять, обитать, проживать

to broadcast - транслировать (по телевидению, радио)

to share - делить, разделить, обмениваться

to invade - вторгаться, захватывать, оккупировать

Angles, Saxons and Jutes - Англи, саксы и юты (древнегерманские племена)

an ancestor - предок, родоначальник, предшественник

an invasion - вторжение, нападение, наступление

considerably - значительно, существенно

to introduce - привнести (в иностранный язык), представить (кого – либо)

a branch - ветвь, отделение

Indo-European family of languages - Индоевропейская семья языков

Ex.3. Answer the questions.

1. What languages are spoken on the territory of the British Isles?
2. What language is widely spread in Scotland?
3. Since what time has English become a world language?
4. What branch of languages does English belong to?
5. In what country is English considered to be the official languages?
6. Where is it spoken as the second languages?

7. What languages have influenced English since the 8-th century?
8. **Ex.4. Complete the sentences.**
 1. English is spoken in ...
 2. English has become the language of ...
 3. The Welsh Language Society was formed ...
 4. English is spoken as a native language by more than ...
 5. English is used as an official language in ...
 6. Most of the countries where English is spoken are ...
 7. In Shakespeare's time English was a language of ...
 8. Until the 5-th century only ... languages were spoken by the people of Britain.

Text 2

Holidays and Festivals

There are eight holidays a year in Great Britain. People don't work on these days. These holidays are: Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter, May Day, Spring Bank Holiday, Late Summer Bank Holiday.

Most of these holidays are of religious origin. But nowadays they have lost their religious significance and are simply days on which people relax or visit their friends. All the public holidays (except New Year's Day, Christmas and Boxing Day) are movable. They don't fall on the same day each year.

There are other festivals and anniversaries on which certain traditions are observed besides public holidays. But if they don't fall on Sunday, they are ordinary working days.

Text 3

New Year

New Year is not as widely observed in England as Christmas. Some people just ignore it, but others celebrate it in one way or another.

The most common type of celebration is a New Year party. It may be a family party or a party arranged by a group of young people. The celebration usually begins at about 8 o'clock p.m. and goes on until the early hours of the morning.

At midnight people listen to the chiming of Big Ben and sing a traditional song “Auld Lang Syne”. This song was written by Robert Burns and was called “The Days of Long Ago”.

Another popular way of celebrating New Year is to go to a New Year’s dance. Most hotels and dance halls hold a special dance on the New Year’s Eve.

The most famous celebration is round the statue of Eros in Piccadilly Circus. All people dance, sing songs and welcome the New Year. Someone usually falls into the fountain. January the 1-st is a public holiday. People don’t work on this day, they send congratulations and presents to each other.

Christmas Day is observed on the 25-th of December. This day was a festival in Britain long before the conversion to Christianity. Though religion in Britain has been losing ground Christmas is still the most widely celebrated festival and it is the most colorful and merry holiday.

On Christmas Eve everything is rush. The offices close at one o’clock, but the shops stay open late. Most cities are decorated with colored lights and enormous Christmas trees. People decorate Christmas trees and hang a bunch of mistletoe under which the boys kiss the girls. They also arrange Christmas cards on their shelves, tables, mantelpieces. The housewives are busy cooking delicious dishes with turkeys and Christmas cakes.

There is a good tradition in the English families when people hang stockings over the end of the bed. Little children believe that Father Christmas will come down the chimney and fill their stockings with presents. A carrot for the reindeer is usually left on the mantelpiece.

On Christmas Day a lot of people go to the church. On returning from the church the family gather round the tree and open the parcels. Each member of the family gets his present. Christmas meal is really traditional – stuffed turkey, boiled ham, mashed potatoes which is followed by the plum pudding, mince pies, tea or coffee and cakes. People travel from all parts of the country to be at home for Christmas.

Another popular festival is **Guy Fawkes Night**. It takes place on the 5-th of November. This festival commemorates the discovery of the so-called Gunpowder Plot and is widely celebrated throughout the country. Conspiracy was going to destroy the English Houses of Parliament and the King himself (it was King James I), when the latter opened the work of the parliament on the 5-th of November, 1605.

In May, 1604 the conspirators rented a house adjoining the House of Lords from which they dug a tunnel to a vault below the house. They stored 36 barrels of gunpowder there. It was planned that when the King and the Parliament were destroyed the Roman Catholics should attempt and seize the power. One of the conspirators wrote a letter on the 26-th of October to Lord Monteaule and warned

him to stay away from the House of Lords. On the 4-th of November a search was made and the gunpowder was found together with Guy Fawkes, who was an English Roman Catholic. As Guy Fawkes had been commissioned to set off the explosion, he was hanged later.

According to another theory the plot never existed at all. The Government just wanted to blacken the Catholics and tighten the laws against them. The truth is so deeply buried that we are not likely to discover it. On November, 5 children are allowed to let off fireworks to make a bonfire and burn on it the figure of a "guy" made of old clothes, straw and a hat.

Text 4

St. Valentine's Day

St. Valentine's Day is celebrated on February, 14. Every St. Valentine's Day thousands of people travel to a small village on Scotland's border with England to get married. The village is called Gretna Green. Its romantic reputation began in 1754. In those times marriage for the people under the age of 21 without parents' permission was banned in England. However, in Scotland this permission was not required. Gretna Green was the first stop when you across the border. Many young couples came to Gretna Green to get married there.

Nowadays, at least one couple gets married in this place every day of the year. Weddings for St. Valentine's Day have to be booked 3 months in advance. On this day boys and girls, sweethearts, husbands and wives, friends and neighbours exchange greetings of affection and love. People send each other greeting cards, chocolates and flowers. Valentine's cards are very colorful, with a couple of human hearts on them. Sweethearts spend hours fashioning a home - made card or a present.

There is a version of the first Valentine. It was a bishop, a Christian Martyr who sent a note of friendship to his jailer's blind daughter before he was put to death by the Romans.

Text 5

Easter

Easter is a time when certain traditions are observed. It is celebrated either as the start of spring or a religious festival. In England presents traditionally take the form of an Easter egg. Easter eggs are usually made of chocolate. Nowadays, Easter eggs are often artificial. But they haven't been used before the middle of the last century and they haven't displaced the true Easter eggs.

Easter eggs always grace breakfast tables on Easter Day. Sometimes they are hidden about the house for the children to find them.

There are some Easter games like egg - rolling and egg - shackling. Every year London greets the spring with Easter Parade in Battersea Park on Easter Sunday. The parade begins at 3 p. m.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Religious, origin, relax, visit, public, festival, observe, ordinary, ignore, party, traditional, hotel, special, dance, fountain, present, conversion, Christianity, decorate, conspiracy, parliament, conspirator, rent, Catholic, parade, romantic, reputation, chocolate.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Significance - значение, важность, смысл

movable - подвижный, перемещающийся

besides - кроме того, помимо того, вдобавок

anniversary - юбилей, годовщина

to celebrate - праздновать, отмечать, чествовать

congratulation - поздравление

merry - веселый, радостный

Eros in Piccadilly Circus - Эрос на площади Пикадилли

Christianity - христианство

Rush - порыв, спешка

Enormous - огромный, грандиозный

a bunch of mistletoe - пучок омелы

a mantelpiece - камин, каминная полка

a church - церковь, храм

a chimney - печная труба

a reindeer - олень

a parcel –посылка

a stuffed turkey - фаршированная индейка

to adjoin – примыкать (к чему – либо)

a boiled ham - вареный окорок

a plum pudding - сливовый пудинг

a mince pie - сладкий пирог

Guy Fawkes Night - Ночь Гая Фокса

a vault - подвал, погреб, хранилище

to commemorate - почтить память

an explosion - взрыв

to hang (hung, hung) - вешать, развешивать

a bonfire - костер

a firework - фейерверк, праздничный салют

to burn (burnt -burnt) - гореть, сжигать

straw - солома

permission - разрешение

to ban - запретить

a sweetheart - возлюбленный, любимый человек

a neighbor - сосед

exchange - обмен, замена

a jailer - надзиратель, тюремщик

blind - слепой

a bishop - епископ

artificial - искусственный

Easter - пасха

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What holidays are celebrated on the same date each year?
2. How do people celebrate New Year?
3. How are the homes decorated on Christmas Eve?
4. Where do usually people put their presents on Christmas Eve?
5. What is the usual Christmas meal?
6. What holiday is celebrated on November, 5?
7. When is St. Valentine's Day celebrated?
8. What is Gretna Green famous for?
9. How does London greet spring?
10. What graces breakfast tables on Easter Day?

Ex. 4 Give synonyms to the following words.

1. importance —
2. to pay no attention —
3. very big —
4. all over the country —
5. house next to —
6. to let smb. know about smth. in advance —

Ex. 5 True or false?

1. The most widely observed holiday is New Year's Day.
2. Most hotels hold a special dance on New Year's Eve.
3. Christmas Day became a festival after the conversion to Christianity.
4. On New Year Eve people hang a bunch of mistletoe under which the boys kiss the girls.

5. Father Christmas puts all his presents under the Christmas tree.
6. English people celebrate Christmas at home.
7. On November, 5 the Catholics planned to seize power.

Ex. 6 Fill in the gaps.

1. Most of the holidays in Great Britain are of ... origin.
2. All the public holidays are...
3. There are a lot of festivals on which ... are observed.
4. A New Year party usually begins at ... and goes on until...
5. At midnight people listen to the ... of Big Ben.
6. The most famous celebration of New Year is round the...
7. Christmas Day is observed on....
8. Christmas meal is usually traditional....
9. The Government wanted an excuse to ... the Catholics.

Text 6

The Weekend

Most people in Britain work five days a week from Monday to Friday. Schools, colleges and universities are closed on Saturday and Sunday.

Weekend starts on Friday evening when people leave work and wish each other a nice weekend.

Those who work away from home may go home. Some people go away for the weekend. They stay in a hotel or a boarding house in the country or at the sea.

People who stay at home at the weekend try to relax, enjoy themselves. On Friday night people like to go to a bar for the happy hour, or the theatre. Nowadays it is not "in" to go to all-night parties, they get up early on Saturday morning. Saturday morning is the time for cleaning the house, washing the car, doing the laundry. Women usually do the housework, sewing and gardening.

Saturday morning is a busy time for shopping or weekdays shops close between 5.30 p.m. and 6 p. m., but they're closed on Sundays. The shops in the center of big cities usually close at one o'clock in the afternoon.

At about one o'clock people go out for lunch. After lunch they go for a walk or do some sports. On Saturday afternoon sporting events take place — football, horse racing, rugby, cricket and other sports. People either go and watch the competitions and championships, or sit and watch the sports programs on television.

Saturday evening is the favourite time for going out, people go to the parties, to the cinema or to the theatre. Some people like to go to watch a band.

Church bells are a typical feature of an English Sunday morning. On Sunday morning most people stay in bed till 9 o'clock. Then they have a cup of tea or coffee. They look through the newspapers. Reading Sunday papers is one of numerous traditions in Britain. There are quite a number of papers which are published weekly on Sundays.

After breakfast most people go for a walk or to the local pub. Usually men go to the pubs alone and their wives and children prepare for brunch.

At 1 o'clock or 1.30 people have brunch. It is a good time for all the family, when grandparents, parents and children go out to some restaurant and spend an hour or two having brunch. Brunch is a huge meal. They have all sorts of salads, vegetables, chicken, cold meat, pies, fruit, coffee, puddings.

Sunday evenings are rather quiet. Most people prefer to stay at home and watch television or just get ready for Monday. So they usually go to bed early.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Tradition, college, weekend, relax, center, sport, program, television, favourite, coffee, publish, local, restaurant, salad, vegetable, fruit, coffee.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

To leave (left - left) - оставлять , покидать

to wish - желать, хотеть

a boarding house - пансионат

to enjoy oneself - наслаждаться, получать удовольствие

to do (did - done) the laundry - стирать

sewing - шитье

gardening - работа в саду

numerous - многочисленные

a church bell - церковный колокол

brunch - второй завтрак (breakfast +lunch)

to get ready - готовиться к (чему - либо)

Ex. 3 Answer the questions:

1. How long is a week in Britain?
2. When does the weekend start in Britain?
3. When do the shops close on Saturday in Britain?
4. What do people usually do on Saturday afternoon?
5. What is the favourite time for going out?
6. What does brunch mean?
7. What do people usually have for brunch?

Ex. 4 Match the two halves.

1. People work...
2. Weekend starts on...
3. Some people go away for...
4. Those who stay at home try to...
5. People don't go to all-night parties...
6. Saturday morning is the time for...
7. Saturday evenings is the time for...
8. On Sundays people get up...
9. Church bells are a typical feature of...
10. Brunch is...

11. On Sundays people have...

- a) the weekend.
- b) because they get up early on Saturday.
- c) cleaning the house and doing shopping.
- d) at 9 o'clock.
- e) an English Sunday morning.
- f) days a week.
- g) a huge meal.
- h) going out.
- i) Friday evening.
- j) relax and enjoy themselves.
- k) an early night.

Ex. 5 True or false?

- 1. People work 6 days a week.
- 2. Weekend starts on Saturday.
- 3. Women do housework on Sunday.
- 4. On weekdays shops close at 2 o'clock.
- 5. Saturday morning is a busy time for shopping.
- 6. On Sunday afternoon sporting events take place.
- 7. Saturday evening is the favourite time for going out.
- 8. On Sunday morning people stay in bed till 9 o'clock.
- 9. People have brunch at 5 p. m.
- 10. Brunch is a snack between meals.
- 11. People have tea or coffee for brunch.

12. On Sunday evenings people watch television.

Ex. 6 Arrange the sentences in the proper order.

1. On Sunday people get up at 9 o'clock.

2. At 1 p. m. people go out for lunch.

3. Most men go to the pubs alone.

4. Weekend starts on Friday night.

5. On Friday people like to go to a bar for the happy hour.

6. After lunch they do some sports.

7. On Saturday afternoon people either go and watch or sit and watch the sports programs.

8. On Saturday women usually do the housework.

9. On weekdays shops close at 5.30 or 6 p. m.

10. After breakfast most people go to the local pub.

11. Sunday evenings are usually quiet.

12. On Sunday people have brunch in a restaurant.

13. They have an early night.

14. All the family spends an hour or two having brunch.

15. People get ready for Monday.

16. People read Sunday papers drinking tea or coffee.

Text 7

Holidays in Britain

There are fewer public holidays in Britain than in any other country in Europe. Even New Year's Day wasn't a public holiday in England and Wales until quite recently. Most official holidays occur just before or just after a weekend. There are practically no extra local holidays in particular places.

The word “holiday” means “holy day”. But not all public holidays are connected with religious celebrations. The average employee gets four weeks' paid holiday a year. About 40% of the population do not go away for their holidays.

In the 18-th century the British upper class started the fashion for seaside holidays. In the 20-th century the working class got such an opportunity too. And soon it became popular to spend a week or two at the seaside resort towns. These towns have many hotels.

Food in British hotels and restaurants is reasonably cheap, but rooms are not. Few English people rent houses or flats for their holidays, but one of the traditional ways of spending a holiday is in a boarding house. These houses offer "bed and breakfast" or "full board" (that means that all meals are provided).

If the weather is fine people go to the beach, where children make sandcastles, eat ice-cream or go swimming. Quite a lot of people like just to relax and sunbathe. In the evening and when it's raining, people go to discos, theatres, dance halls, which are usually situated on the pier.

In the 1950s and 1960s camping holidays were very popular. People stayed in chalets and had food and all kinds of entertainment in the holiday camps. Camping holidays are not so popular in England nowadays, but they are very popular in France.

Caravan holidays have become more popular nowadays. A caravan pulled by the family car can provide good opportunity for a holiday. Many people like the friendly atmosphere in an organized caravan site.

Foreign tourism has become extremely popular these days. Millions of people spend their holidays away from home. Most foreign holidays are package holidays. You book transport and accommodation and pay for everything in advance (through a travel agent). Spain is a very popular package-holiday place today. Traditionally people start planning their summer holidays on Boxing Day.

Some holidays in Britain last only three or less days. For example, most people go to the most popular seaside resorts to spend the Bank holiday weekend. Rich people go to their cottages in the countryside where they prefer to spend the weekend.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Public, official, practically, extra, weekend, population, religious, start, fashion, hotel, restaurant, disco, popular, caravan, atmosphere, organize, tourism, extremely, million, cottage.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Particular - определенный, отдельный

holiday - праздник, выходной день, святой день

average - средний

an employee - сотрудник

a seaside - морской берег

a resort - курорт, санаторий, пансионат

an opportunity - возможность, шанс

a sandcastle - замки из песка

a boarding house - пансионат, пансион

a chalet - коттедж, дача

caravan holidays - отдых на колесах

a package holiday - отдых по путевке все включено

a beach - пляж, морской берег

to sunbathe - загорать

an accommodation – проживание, размещение

in advance - заблаговременно, заранее

a pier - пирс, причал, пристань.

an entertainment - развлечение, развлекательная программа

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. How long is an annual holiday for the average employee in Britain?
2. What does the word holiday mean?
3. What was a popular type of holiday in the 18-th century?
4. What are people offered in the boarding houses?

5. What is the difference between the camping holiday and a caravan holiday?
6. How do people spend their Bank holiday weekend?

Ex. 4 Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions.

1. a boarding house
2. a caravan
3. to book in advance
4. a package holiday
5. to book accommodation

Ex. 5 Fill in the gaps.

1. New Year's Day wasn't a ... quite recently.
2. Not all public holidays are connected with...
3. ... of the population do not go away for their holidays.
4. Food in hotels and restaurants is not...
5. Few people ... flats or houses for their holidays.
6. A caravan is ... by the family car.
7. Many people like ... in a caravan site.
8. If the weather is fine people go on ... Day.
9. In a camp people stay in...
10. ... tourism has become very popular.
11. You look ... and ... in advance.
12. People start planning their holidays on ... Day.

Text 8

"An Englishman's Home is his Castle"

Everyone in Britain dream of living in a detached house, which means a separate building. It is usually built of bricks and slate. A detached house is of " non - classical" shape with a lot of little corners, which make the house very cosy. There is always a beautiful garden with a smooth lawn in front of the house. The garage is hidden away so it doesn't spoil the rural feeling.

Every Englishman wants privacy. A large, detached house not only ensures privacy, but it's also a status symbol. Such a house is a dream for most people. But even a detached house with a garden is very dear to the hearts of many people in Britain.

Most people don't like blocks of flats, because they provide the least amount of privacy. Flats are usually cheaper. People who live in them cannot afford to have a house of their own. Their dislike of living in flats is very strong. Many years ago millions of poor people lived in old, cold, uncomfortable houses of the 19-th century, without modern conveniences. But when they were given new blocks of flats to live in, with central heating and bathrooms, more comfortable and cosy, they hated their new homes. They felt lonely without their gardens and neighbours.

In Britain these "tower blocks" (or high - rise blocks, multi - storied buildings) were a complete failure, because they didn't suit British attitudes; while in other countries people are very happy in modern flats. Nowadays only 40% of the population live in high-rises.

Law and custom in Britain support a clear separation between what is public and what is private. To emphasize this division people prefer to live in a house, set back from the road. This way they can have a small garden of their own in front of the house, which separates them from the world even if the outside territory is very small. This area allows people to have a low fence or a hedge around it. Such a fence announces that here the private property begins.

Flats don't give people enough privacy. Not having a separate entrance to the outside world doesn't suit British tastes. People like to choose the color of their own front door or window frames. English people prefer to have small gardens with flower-beds, or just patches of grass to express their individuality.

British houses are thought to be very cold, may be the coldest in Europe. But it is not so. About 94 of houses now have central heating. The most important thing for British people is to feel cosy, that is to create a warm atmosphere (even if it is not warm in the house). Very many people in Britain have a great desire to have a "real fire". A fireplace is a traditional symbol of warmth. Nowadays, it may be an imitation of open fire with plastic coal. Older houses have two living rooms. It allows the front room to be used for **formal visits** while the family spends their time in the back room, hidden from the public view. If there is one living room in the house, then there is a

hall into which the front door opens. Private houses usually have the back door for family or close friends.

In spite of peoples' great desire to have a house of their own they're not so much attached to the house itself. The house can be easily sold, if necessary and if the price is attractive. Most houses are sold on the open market by the "property developers" (they are private companies).

The desire to have a private house is great, but house prices are very high. About 70% of all the houses are occupied by their owners. Usually people borrow 80% of the price and then pay the money back month by month. Normally they pay the money back over the period of 20—25 years.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Separate, classical, shape, garage, privacy, status, symbol, modern, population, separation, central, create, atmosphere, traditional, imitation, plastic, private, company.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

A detached house - частный дом, особняк

a brick - кирпич

a slate - шифер

cosy - уютный, комфортный, удобный

to spoil (spoilt - spoilt) - портить, уродовать (внешний вид), баловать (ребенка)

a smooth lawn - ровный газон

a heart – сердце, центр, душа

a block of flats – многоэтажный дом

to provide – обеспечивать, снабжать

modern conveniences - современные удобства

central heating - центральное отопление

to feel (felt- felt) lonely – чувствовать одиночество

a neighbour – сосед

attitude – отношение, жизненная позиция

plastic coal - пластиковый уголь

a fence - забор, ограда, частокол

a hedge - живая изгородь, плетень

a property developer - застройщик

taste – вкус, склонность, пристрастие.

a frame – рама, корпус, оправа

a patch of grass - газончик

a desire – желание

a fireplace - камин

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What does a "detached house" mean?
2. Why don't English people like blocks of flats?
3. Why is it so important for English people to have a garden in front of the house?
4. How can an Englishman express his individuality?
5. What is a traditional symbol of a cosy home in Britain?
6. Why do British people tend to have two living rooms?

Ex. 4 Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions.

1. a detached house
2. a tower block
3. a property developer

Ex. 5 Fill in the gaps.

1. A detached house means ... for an Englishman.

2. Flats are usually much ... than houses.
3. Only ... % of the population live in high-rises.
4. Flats don't give people...
5. They usually have a ... in front of the house.
6. A... is a symbol of warmth in a British home.
7. Private homes have the ... for family and friends.
8. Usually people ... % of the price.
9. They pay money back during ... years.
10. A detached house is usually built of ... and...

Text 9

Meals

The usual meals are breakfast, lunch, tea and dinner. A traditional English breakfast is a very big one - sausages, bacon, eggs, vegetables. But many people just have cereal with milk, juice or yoghurt, a toast with marmalade, jam or honey. Marmalade is made from oranges and jam is made from other fruit. The traditional breakfast drink is tea which people have with cold milk. Some people have coffee, often instant coffee, which is made with just hot water. Many visitors to Britain find English coffee just horrible.

Lunch isn't small either. At lunch, which is about one o'clock, cold mutton, fish with potatoes, salad and pickles generally grace the table. Lunch is a quick meal. In cities there are a lot of sandwich bars, where office workers can choose the kind of bread they want — brown, white, or a roll — and then all sorts of salad and meat or fish to go in the sandwich. English mutton is a treat, and it is prepared in such a way that you wouldn't know it is mutton. Salad is a little different from ours. You only get the clean green leaves and the so-called "salad dressing", a mixture of oil, vinegar, salt, pepper and mayonnaise, that you may take according to your taste. English pubs often serve good, cheap food, both hot and cold. School children can have a hot meal at school but many of them just take a snack from home - a sandwich, a bottle of drink, some fruit, some crisps.

After lunch most people take coffee, though tea is the favourite beverage in England. That's why there are no "coffee houses", but tea rooms and luncheon rooms are in abundance. There is nothing like an English party, at home or in the open air. Tea means two things. It is a drink and a meal. Some people have afternoon tea, with

sandwiches, cakes, and, of course, a cup of tea. Cream tea is popular. You have scones (a kind of cake) with cream and jam. The evening meal is the main meal of the day for many people. They usually have it quite early, between 6.00 and 8.00, and often the whole family eat together. Dinner begins with some salad, followed by a clear soup, fish, vegetable and dessert. In simpler homes the schedule is somewhat different. In the morning they have breakfast, at midday - dinner, which is considered to be the chief meal, tea in the afternoon and supper in the evening. The supper might consist of an omelette, bacon, sandwich and a cup of tea, coffee or cocoa.

On Sundays many families have a traditional lunch. They have roast meat - either beef, lamb, chicken or pork with potatoes, vegetables and gravy. Gravy is a sauce made from the meat juices. When eating out, that is, on a picnic, the English load their luncheon baskets with all sorts of sandwiches made of thin slices of bread and butter with meat, ham, raw tomatoes or cucumbers. There in the basket you would likely find, besides cakes and biscuits, some bottles of ginger beer.

The British like food from other countries, too, especially Italian, French, Chinese and Indian. People often get takeaway meals — you buy the food at the restaurant and then bring it home.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Tea, traditional, sausage, bacon, egg, vegetable, yoghurt, toast, marmalade, jam, orange, coffee, visitor, mutton, sort, salad, mixture, mayonnaise, serve crisps, fruit, party, sandwich, cream, soup, dessert, cocoa, biscuit, bottle, omelette, picnic,

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Cereal - крупа, зерно, овсяная каша, сухой завтрак

honey - мед ; дорогая , милая (по отношению к человеку)

horrible - ужасный, страшный

a pickle - соленый огурец, маринованные огурчики

to grace the table - украсить стол (вкусным блюдом)

to treat - угощать; угощение, лакомство, удовольствие

vinegar - уксус, уксусная эссенция

pepper - перец

according to your taste - по вашему вкусу

a scone - булочка, коржик, вид пирожного

the schedule - расписание, график работы

beef - мясо (говядина), телятина

lamb - мясо молодого барашка

gravy - мясная подливка, соус

to load - нагружать, заполнять

a cucumber - огурец

ginger beer - имбирное пиво

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What are the usual English meals?
2. Is English breakfast big or small?
3. What do people have for breakfast?
4. Do British people have soup for lunch?
5. What's the difference between English and Russian salad?
6. What does "tea" mean?
7. When do the English have dinner?
8. Sunday lunch is something special, isn't it?
9. What do British people load their luncheon baskets with?
10. What do foreign people think of English coffee?

Ex. 4 True or false?

1. Many British people have a big breakfast.
2. People often have cereal or toast for breakfast.
3. Marmalade is made from any fruit.
4. People drink tea with hot milk.

5. Many foreign visitors love English coffee.
6. All British people have a hot lunch.
7. Pubs are good places to go for lunch.
8. British people eat dinner late in the evening.
9. Sunday lunch is a special meal.
10. When you get a takeaway meal, you eat it at home.

Ex. 5 There are seventeen words connected with food, find them in the text and write them down here.

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. m ... | 6.j... | 11. b... | 16. g... |
| 2. c... | 7.b... | 12.l... | 17. h... |
| 3. b... | 8. r... | 13.c... | |
| 4. p... | 9. v... | 14.f... | |
| 5. s... | 10. e... | 15.y... | |

Ex. 6 Fill in the gaps.

1. English breakfast is a big...
2. People have ... with milk or juice.
3. People have tea with ... milk.
4. Pubs ... good, cheap food.
5. Many children take a ... from home.
6. The English ... their baskets with all sorts of sandwiches.
7. Dinner in some homes is considered to be the ... meal.
8. Tea is the favourite ... in England.
9. At lunch cold mutton, fish, pickles generally ... the table.
10. English mutton is a....

Ex. 7 Choose the right answer.

1. Gravy is...

- a) kind of dessert.
- b) a sauce made from meat juices.
- c) a special beverage.

2. "Salad-dressing" is...

- a) a special dish, consisting of different vegetables.
- b) a salad topping.
- c) a mixture of oil, vinegar, salt, mayonnaise

3. A scone is...

- a) a kind of biscuit
- b) a drink
- c) a sauce

4. People usually drink with...

- a) hot milk
- b) lemon
- c) old milk

Text 10

Pubs in Britain

Most countries have a national drink. In England it is beer, and the "pub" is a peculiar English institution.

The pub is the place where people can meet and talk in a friendly atmosphere. It is quite different from bars or cafés in other countries. In cafés people usually drink coffee and get out. The atmosphere in the cafés is rather formal. But in pubs there is a general atmosphere of warmth and cosiness.

Every pub has a sign outside with its name. ("The Pig and Whistle", "The Bull", "The Duke of Cambridge", etc.). All pubs have one distinctive feature: there is no waiter service there. If you want something you have to go and ask for it at the bar. People usually sit at the tables and chat in a small room, called the "bar", but the same term is used for the great, counter of wood, where people stand and have their drinks.

English people are proud of their traditions, that's why even modern pubs look as if they are several hundred years old. In earlier times people were served only drinks in the pubs. Today you can get wine, coffee and some food in them.

The staff of the bar usually know the regular customers and chat with them. The customers may play different games (the most popular is the game of darts) or they may just watch TV.

Nowadays nearly all the pubs are owned by brewery. The person who runs a pub (he is called "landlord") is employed by the brewery. But in earlier times all the pubs were privately owned (they were called "inns"), and people could stay there for the night.

There are two important peculiarities about the English pubs. One is that they have strictly limited hours of opening. Each local government authority has power to fix its own "licensing hours". The second peculiarity is that most pubs are divided into at least two separated bars: the public bar and the saloon bar. The difference between them is that the saloon bar is less uncomfortable. Children are not allowed inside a pub if the pub has no children's certificate.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

National, atmosphere, bar, café, formal, general, service, chat, tradition, modern, wine, coffee, regular, darts, person, privately, limited, local, authority, fix, separated, saloon, certificate.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Peculiar - особенный, своеобразный

an institution - учреждение, организация

warmth and cosiness - тепло и уют

a distinctive feature - отличительная черта

a counter of wood – прилавок, сделанный из дерева

a staff - персонал, коллектив, штат

a customer - посетитель, покупатель, клиент

a brewery - пивоваренный завод, пивоварня

licensing hour - установленное время (лицензионное)

to allow - позволять, разрешать, допускать

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What is the difference between a pub and a typical café?
2. Are pubs privately owned?
3. Who is the owner of the pub?
4. Are children allowed inside a pub?
5. How do people usually spend time in a pub?

Ex. 4 Match the two halves.

1. A pub is different from...
2. A pub is the place where people...
3. There's no...
4. Each pub has its own...
5. In earlier times the pubs were called...
 - a) meet and talk.
 - b) waiter service in pubs.
 - c) name.
 - d) inns.
 - e) bars and cafés.

Ex. 5 Complete the sentences.

1. A pub means...
2. The pubs used to serve only...

3. Today you can get... and ... in a pub.
4. You must order a drink at...
5. There is a ... outside the pub with its...
6. Nearly all pubs are owned by....

Text 11

Sport in Britain

Sport plays a very important part in people's lives in Britain. About 29 million people over the age of 16 regularly take part in sport or exercise. Walking is the most popular recreation. For many people sport is the main form of entertainment. There are a lot of sport programs on TV. Every newspaper devotes several pages to sport.

The British are one of the best in the world in different sports. The importance of sport is recognized by the Government. Every local authority has a duty to provide and maintain playing fields and other facilities, which are very cheap to use, sometimes they are free.

Such sporting occasions as the Cup Final, the Derby, the Boat Race are regarded as the event, rather than the sport itself. They are watched on television by millions of people. These annual sporting occasions are available to all TV channels. Sometimes such events are accompanied by strong traditions. For example, Wimbledon is not just a tennis tournament. It means summer fashion, strawberry, cream, garden parties. Wimbledon is a middle-class event, and British tennis fans would never allow themselves to be treated like football fans. Every tennis player dreams of playing at Wimbledon, as football player dreams of Wembley, and every cricketer dreams of playing at Lord's.

The game peculiarly associated with England is cricket. Cricket is English in origin and has been extensively accepted in the Commonwealth. It is much more than just a sport; it symbolizes a way of life - a slow and peaceful rural way of life. Cricket is associated with long summer afternoons, the smell of new-mown grass. It is the national English game.

Rugby football has existed in Britain since the beginning of the 19-th century, when a teacher at Rugby school, while playing football, decided it would be better to pick up the ball and run with it. There are two versions of this fast ball game: rugby union and rugby league. They are very similar, but the real difference between them is a matter of social history. Rugby union is older than the rugby league. In the 19-th century it was played by most of Britain's public schools. Rugby league split off from rugby union at the end of the century.

It is played by working class, while rugby union is mainly for the middle class, though in recent years it has become less exclusively a middle class game). Traditionally, the favourite sports of the British upper class are hunting, shooting and fishing. The most widespread form of hunting is fox-hunting.

Shooting in Britain is allowed only during certain specified times of the year. Shooting means killing birds with guns. It is confined largely to the higher social classes. The only kind of hunting which is associated, with the working class is hare-coursing. The one kind of hunting, which is popular among all social classes is fishing.

Horse racing is a very popular sport in Britain. This sport became known as "the sport of kings" in the 17-th century. Some members of the royal family own race horses and attend certain annual race meetings, some are active participants in the sports of polo and show-jumping today.

Almost every sport is played in Britain. Hockey, basketball, netball (for women) are becoming very popular.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Sport, million, regularly, recreation, program, TV channel, accompany, tennis, cream, fan, associate, cricket, symbolize, national, version, union, rugby, league, traditionally, social, popular, meetings, active, polo, hockey, basketball, netball.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

Recreation - отдых, развлечение, досуг

entertainment - развлечение, увеселение, зрелище

local authority - местный орган власти

to provide - обеспечивать, снабжать

to maintain - поддерживать, обслуживать, осуществлять

facility - помещение, объект, условие, возможность

annual - ежегодный

strawberry - клубника

to allow - позволять, разрешать

Cup Final - Финал Кубка

extensively - в значительной степени

rural way of life - сельский образ жизни

new-mown grass - свежескошенная трава

exclusively - исключительно

widespread - широко распространенный

the Derby - Дерби (Ипподромные состязания на главный приз года для четырёхлетних рысистых (1600 м) и трёхлетних скаковых лошадей)

the Boat Race - лодочные гонки

Wimbledon - Уимблдон (международный теннисный турнир)

a tennis tournament - теннисный Турнир

Wembley - Уэмбли (футбольный стадион, расположенный в Лондоне, Англия)

Lord's - Лордс (Lord's Cricket Ground (также известно, как Lord's) — лондонский стадион для крикета, на котором проходят самые важные матчи в данном виде спорта Англии)

Commonwealth - Содружество наций (добровольное объединение суверенных государств, в которое входят Великобритания и почти все её бывшие доминионы, колонии и протектораты)

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. How can you prove that sport is the main form of entertainment?
2. Does the Government pay any attention to sport? (Prove it.)
3. What sporting occasions are regarded as the event, rather than the sport itself?
4. What game was originated in England?
5. What game symbolizes English way of life?
6. What's the difference between rugby union and rugby league?
7. What are favourite English sports?
8. What sport is known as "the sport of kings"?

Ex.4 Complete the sentences.

1. About ... people take part in sport or exercise.
2. Walking is the most popular....
3. Every local authority has a duty to...
4. Wimbledon isn't just a tennis tournament, it means...
5. Every football player dreams of playing at...
6. The game associated with England is...
7. Rugby football has existed in Britain since...
8. The most popular form of hunting is...
9. The difference between rugby union and rugby league is...
10. Some members of the royal family are active participants in ...

Ex. 5 Match the two halves.

1. For many people sport is...
2. There are a lot of sport programs...
3. Every local authority...
4. Annual sporting occasions are...
5. Every cricketer dreams of playing at...
6. Cricket is...
7. Rugby union was played by...
8. Rugby league is played by...
9. The favourite sports of the British upper class are...
10. The one kind of hunting which is popular among all social classes is...
11. Horse-racing became known as "the sport of kings" in...
a) on TV.

- b) available to all TV channels.
- c) the national game.
- d) most public schools.
- e) hunting, shooting, fishing.
- f) Lord's.
- g) the main form of entertainment.
- h) provides playing fields.
- i) working class.
- j) the 17-th century.
- k) fishing.

Text 12

Traditions and Customs

Every nation and every country has its own traditions. In Britain traditions play a more important part in the life of the people than in the other countries.

The English are very proud of their traditions and carefully keep them. When you come to England you're struck at once by quite a number of customs. Some ceremonies are rather formal, such as the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, Trooping the Colour, the State opening of Parliament, the Ceremony of the Keys. Sometimes you will see a group of cavalymen riding on black horses through the streets of London. They wear red uniforms, shining helmets, long black boots and long white gloves. These men are Life Guards. Their special duty is to guard the King or the Queen of Great Britain and very important guests of the country.

One of the most impressive and popular displays of royal pageantry is the Changing of the Guard, which takes place at Buckingham Palace at 11.30 every day including Sunday. The troops who take part are selected from the five regiments of Foot Guards. Their numbers depend on whether the Queen is in residence or not. The men of the duty guard march with a band from either Wellington or Chelsea Barracks to Buckingham Palace.

The guard to be relieved forms at the south end of the forecourt under the command of the Captain of the Queen's Guard. The New Guard enters the forecourt through the north gate. As it approaches, the Old Guard is called to attention. The

New Guard is then halted to be formed into files before it advances to position at a slow march. While this is taking place, the band plays. Later the band leads the Old Guard back to their barracks.

Text 13

Ceremony of the Keys

The Chief Warder of the yeomen warders (Beefeaters) of the Tower of London lights a candle lantern and then makes his way towards the Bloody Tower every night at 9.53 p.m.. His Escort awaits for his arrival in the Archway. The Chief Warder, carrying the keys, moves off with his Escort to the West Gate, which he locks, while the Escort "presents arms". Then the Middle and Byward Towers are locked.

The party then returns to the Bloody Tower Archway, and there they are halted by the challenge of the sentry. "Halt", he commands. "Who goes there?" The Chief Warder answers, "The keys". The sentry demands, "Whose keys?" "Queen Elizabeth's keys", replies the Chief Warder. "Advance Queen Elizabeth's keys, all's well", commands the sentry. The Chief Warder proceeds to the Queen's House, where the keys are given into the custody of the Resident Governor and Major at 10 o'clock p. m..

The Ceremony of the Keys dates back to the 14-th century and has taken place every night from that time. Only a limited number of visitors are admitted to the ceremony each night. Application to see it must be made at least forty-eight hours in advance at the Constable's office in the Tower.

A new tradition has been born in Britain. Every year a large number of ancient motor cars drive from London to Brighton. Some of these cars look very funny. This run from London to Brighton is a colorful demonstration. People are dressed in the clothes of those times. It is not a race, and most of the cars come to Brighton (which is 60 miles from London) only in the evening.

Ex.1 Read the following international words and guess their meaning.

Nation, tradition, formal, uniform, boot, special, guard, guest, popular, select, residence, march, band, command, captain, position, barrack, demonstration, ceremony, escort, period, limit, motor, car, drive, race.

Ex.2 Read the following words correctly and try to memorize them.

A custom - обычай

a guard - стража, охранник

Trooping the Colour - вынос знамён

the Ceremony of the Keys - Церемония ключей (это древний ритуал, который проводится каждый вечер в лондонском Тауэре, когда главные ворота закрыты на ночь)

impressive - впечатляющий

shining - сверкающий, блестящий

a glove - перчатка

royal pageantry - королевское зрелище, пышное зрелище

Chief Warder - Главный надзиратель

regiment - полк

to relieve - сменяться (охрана), уменьшать, облегчать

a forecourt - двор, площадка

a yeoman warder - йомен стражник, охранник (гвардеец)

a candle lantern - фонарь, работающий на свечах

to lock - запирать, закрывать

the Bloody Tower - Кровавая Башня

an archway - арка, подворотня, свод, проход под аркой

a sentry - часовой, сторожевой, караульный

an application - заявка, заявление, использование, назначение

custody - стража, опека, попечительство

Resident Governor - Резидент-губернатор

Constable's office - Офис констебля (коменданта)

ancient - древний, старинный, античный

Ex. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What are the English so proud of?

2. What formal ceremonies do you know?
3. What is the route of the duty guard?
4. How often does the Ceremony of the Keys take place?
5. Are tourists admitted to the Ceremony of the Keys?
6. What new tradition has been born in Britain?
7. How far is Brighton from London?

Ex. 4 Complete the sentences.

1. Great Britain has very many...
2. Foreigners coming to England are struck by...
3. The special duty of Life Guard is....
4. The changing of the Guard takes place at... o'clock.
5. The men of the duty guard march from ... to...
6. The Ceremony of the Keys takes place at...
7. The Ceremony of the Keys dates back...

Ex. 5 Give the opposites.

1. ancient —
2. to be on duty —
3. to open —
4. to reply—

Ex. 6 Find the words and expressions that mean:

1. to be greatly surprised
2. to go along the streets
3. to close the door
4. to answer

5. old (cars)

Ex. 7 Match the two halves.

1. Every nation has...
2. The English are very proud...
3. Cavalrymen wear...
4. Their duty is to...
5. Changing of the Guard takes place...
6. The number of the troops depend on...
7. The Chief Warder of the yeomen warders makes his way towards...
8. The sentry demands: ...
9. The Chief Warder replies: ...
10. Application to see the ceremony must be made...
11. A large number of ancient cars drive...
12. Some of them look...
 - a) of their traditions.
 - b) guard the Queen of Great Britain.
 - c) at Buckingham Palace.
 - d) the Bloody Tower.
 - e) red uniforms and shining helmets.
 - f) its customs and traditions.
 - g) "Whose keys?"
 - h) at least forty-eight hours in advance.
 - i) "Queen Elizabeth's keys".
 - j) whether the Queen is in residence or not.

k) from London to Brighton.

l) funny.

Ex. 8 True or false?

1. The Changing of the Guard takes place every Sunday at 11.30.
2. The men of the duty guard march from Buckingham Palace to the Tower of London.
3. The Chief Warder of the yeomen warders makes his way towards the Bloody Tower every night.
4. The keys are given into the custody of the Resident Governor and Major at 10 o'clock p.m..
5. The Ceremony of the Keys dates back to the 14-th century.
6. Every year a large number of motor cars take part in a race London - Brighton.

Supplementary material.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Test 1

Geography

1. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland consists of

- A) England, Wales and Canada
- B) England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- C) England, Wales and Ireland

2 are parts of Great Britain.

- A) England, Wales and Scotland
- B) England and Ireland
- C) England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland

3. What is the name of the river which Stratford is situated on?

- A) the Thames
- B) the Tweed
- C) the Avon

4. The name Great Britain means

- A) nothing
- B) that the British think Britain is great
- C) that Britain is a large country

5 The population of the UK is

A) over 57 million people

B) about 26 million people

C) about 45 million people

6..... is the capital of Scotland.

A) Aberdeen

B) Glasgow

C) Edinburgh

7. Northern Ireland is also called

A) Albion

B) West Britain

C) Ulster

8. Great Britain is.....

A) an island

B) a peninsula

C) a continent

9. The longest river in Great Britain is.....

- A) The Thames
- B) The Severn
- C) The Avon

10. What is the name of the highest mountain on the British Isles?

- A) Ben Nevis
- B) Snowdon
- C) Scaffel Pike

11. Cardiff is the capital of...

- A) Wales
- B) Scotland
- C) Northern Ireland

12. Which river runs through London?

- A) the Severn
- B) the Thames
- C) the Clyde

13. What is the second name of the English Channel?

(in the French language)

- A) la Manche
- B) Pas-de- Calais
- C) Strait of Dover

14. The capital of Northern Ireland is

- A) Dublin
- B) Cardiff
- C) Belfast

15. The mysterious Loch Ness is in.....

- A) Wales
- B) Scotland
- C) Ireland

16. Administrative territorial unit in the USA is a state, in Kazakhstan it is an oblast, in Great Britain it is

- A) a province
- B) a county
- C) a district

17. How many big and small islands does the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland consist of

- A) 2 big and more than 5 thousand small islands
- B) 3 big and more than 2 thousand small islands
- C) 2 big and more than 3 thousand small islands

18. Where are the British Isles situated?

- A) off the north –west coast of Europe
- B) off the south –west coast of Europe

C) off the north –east coast of Europe

19. What caused some 3.5000-4000 deaths in London in December 1952?

A) a hurricane

B) a smog

C) an earthquake

20. What ocean or sea isn't Great Britain washed by?

A) the North Sea

B) the Pacific Ocean

C) the Atlantic Ocean

21. Where are the gas and the oil English deposits situated?

A) in the Irish Sea

B) in the North Sea

C) in Wales

22. What is one of the main seaports in Great Britain?

A) Liverpool

B) Birmingham

C) Sheffield

23. England is separated from Scotland by.....

A) the Southern Uplands

B) the Pennines

C) the Cheviot Hills

24. Why is the climate in Great Britain mild and raw?

A) because the waters of Gulf Stream bring warmth to the country.

B) because of the greenhouse effect

C) because there are many lakes on the territory of the country.

25. How long is the English Channel?

A) about 500 km.

B) about 600 km

C) about 400 km

Test 2

History

1. The British flag is often called

A) the Union Jack

B) the Stars and Stripes

C) the Maple Leaf

2. The Great Fire of London destroyed

A) three quarters of the city

B) one half of the city

C) the whole city

3. The national symbol of England is.....

A) a shamrock

B) a red rose

C) a thistle

4. What is Stratford-on Avon famous for?

A) William Shakespeare was born there

B) Jack London worked there

C) there is the Queen's castle there

5. Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral are the

A) churches

B) Universities

C) fortresses

6. When was the Channel Tunnel (the Chunnel) which connects England and France opened?

A) in 1973

B) in 1983

C) in 1993

7. When did Julius Caesar come to Britain to conquer it?

A) in 55-54 A.D..

B) in 55-54 B.C.

C) in 100-105 B.C.

8. How many times did Julius Caesar come to Britain to conquer it?

- A) once
- B) twice
- C) three times

9. What is the name of the sightseeing which is connected with the Norman conquest of England in 1066?

- A) the Houses of Parliament
- B) Trafalgar Square
- C) the Tower of London

10. When was the Tower of London built?

- A) in 1078
- B) in 1388
- C) in 1499

11..... was a well known place where Shakespeare's theatre company performed many times.

- A) London Theatre
- B) Shakespeare's Theatre
- C) The Globe Theatre

12. What is the name of the association of former members of the British Empire and Britain founded in 1949?

- A) the Commonwealth
- B) the United States of America
- C) the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

13. What country is not presented on the Flag called “Union Jack” as it has its own flag?

- A) Wales
- B) Ireland
- C) Scotland

14. What is the name of the park which has the Speaker’s Corner?

- A) Kensington Gardens
- B) St. James’s Park
- C) Hyde Park

15. What part of London is considered to be its center?

- A) the City
- B) the West End
- C) the East End

16. When did the first London bus start running?

- A) in 1809
- B) in 1829
- C) in 1849

17. When was the world's first London underground line opened?

A) in 1836

B) in 1854

C) in 1863

18. Westminster Abbey is.....

A) a church in London where traditionally English monarchs

are coronated and buried

B) an art gallery

C) a collection of pieces of art and paintings

19. Christopher Wren designed one of the most famous

buildings in England at the end of the 17-th century and at the

beginning of the 18-th century. It is called.....

A) St. Paul's Cathedral

B) the Globe Theatre

C) Buckingham Palace

20. Buckingham Palace, the official residence of Britain's

sovereigns since 1837, is today.

A) the administrative headquarter of the Monarch

B) an art gallery

C) a museum

21. The Tower of London (the White Tower) built in 1078

by William the Conqueror did not serve as.....

A) a home of the Crown Jewels

B) the Royal Mint

C) a church

22. Which flower is traditionally worn by Welsh people on

St. David's Day?

A) the Daffodil

B) the Bluebell

C) the Shamrock

23. Why is a quiet little Downing Street well-known to all the

Londoners?

A) because it leads to Whitehall

B) because it is close to Trafalgar Square

C) because each Prime Minister of England has been living there

24. What is Cenotaph?

A) the antique museum

B) the Memorial to the members of the British Armed Forces

who died in the two World Wars

C) the picture gallery

25. You can seeat the base of the Nelson's Column

with the statue of Admiral Nelson on the top of it.

- A) 4 warriors
- B) 4 bronze lions
- C) 4 beautiful trees

Test 3

History (continued)

1. For nearly 1000 years all Kings and Queens of England

- 41 in all - have been crowned in.....

- A) the Buckingham Palace
- B) the Tower of London
- C) Westminster Abbey

2. When did the Great Fire of London take place?

- A) in 1666
- B) in 1766
- C) in 1866

3. The patron saint of Ireland is.....

- A) St. Patric
- B) St. Antony
- C) St. Katherine

4. Stonehenge, an ancient monument, is about.....years old.

- A) 40 years old.
- B) 400 years old

C) 4000 years old

5. Madame Tussaud's is a museum of

A) wax figures

B) western paintings

C) ancient coins

6. Nelson's Column is situated in

A) Downing Street

B) Piccadilly Circus

C) Trafalgar Square

7. The London underground is often called.....

A) a box

B) a channel

C) a tube

8. The Tower of London was started by

A) Julius Ceasar

B) William the Conqueror

C) Henry the 8-th

9. When did the tragedy connected with the liner "Titanic" happen?

A) in 1912

B) in 1949

C) in 1966

10. King Henry VIII had wifes.

A) 4

B) 6

C) 8

11. Big Ben is

A) the clock tower of the Houses of Parliament

B) the largest bell at the top of the tower

C) the clock

12. What ancient London landmark was bought by an American, shipped to the USA and rebuilt in Arisona?

A) The tower of London.

B) St. Paul's Cathedral.

C) London Bridge

13. London became extremely prosperous during

A) the 11-th century

B) the 16-th century

C) the 19-th century

14. The ravens in the Tower of London are taken care of because

- A) they are very old
- B) they are very rare
- C) it is an old English tradition

15. Wales has its own flag called.....

- A) the Welsh dragon
- B) the Welsh lion
- C) the Welsh tiger

16. Where is the festival called Eisteddfod held?

- A). in England
- B). in Wales
- C). in Scotland

17. What is the name of the highest place where the visitors can have a magnificent view of London from?

- A) St. Paul's Cathedral
- B) Tower Bridge
- C) London Eye

18. Which of more than 20 London bridges is the oldest one and which is the youngest one?

- A) London Bridge and Millenium Bridge
- B) Tower Bridge and Albert Bridge

C) Waterloo Bridge and Westminster Bridge

19. Americans say a “subway”, Englishmen say.....

A) a railway

B) a metro

C) a tube

20. Which of the English - speaking leaders got the Nobel Prize in Literature?

A) Harry S. Truman

B) Winston. Churchill

C) Dwight D. Eisenhower

21. Where was the largest and the oldest museum in the world,
the British Museum, founded?

A) in Manchester

B) in London

C) in Edinburgh

22.....were united in 1707 to form Great Britain.

A) England and Wales

B) Wales and Scotland

C) Scotland and England

23. The Irish Free State (Southern Ireland) was
recognized by Great Britain in

- A) 1801
- B) 1921
- C) 1916

24.....became one of the parts of the English Kingdom in 1536.

- A) Wales
- B) Northern Ireland
- C) Scotland

25. What are the official languages in Wales?

- A) Welsh and English
- B) Welsh and Irish
- C) English and Scottish

Test 4

Government

1. What kind of state is Great Britain?

- A) Absolute Monarchy
- B) Federative State
- C) Parliamentary Monarchy

2. The present Sovereign is

- A) Queen Elizabeth II

B) Queen Mary

C) Henry VII

3. 10 Downing Street is the address of.....

A) The Prime Minister of Great Britain

B) The Royal family

C) The Government of Great Britain

4. When were the Houses of Parliament built?

A) in 800

B) in 950

C) in 1050

5. How many elected members does the House of Commons have?

A) 600

B) 651

C) 700

6. Who comes to open the work of the British Parliament every November?

A) Her Majesty the Queen

B) the Prime Minister

C) the Lord Chancellor

7. The legislative power in the country belongs to

- A) the Parliament
- B) the Queen
- C) the Parliament and the Queen

8. Who is the House of Commons presided over by?

- A) the Queen
- B) the Speaker
- C) the Prime Minister

9. What does "MP" stand for?

- A) the Prime Minister
- B) the Member of Parliament
- C) it is the name of the Sunday newspaper

10. What is the minimum voting age in the UK?

- A) 17 years old
- B) 18 years old
- C) 19 years old

11. Whose image do we see on British stamps, banknotes and coins?

- A) the Queen's
- B) the members' of the royal family
- C) Lord Nelson's

12. The chairman of the House of Lords is the Lord Chancellor who sits on a special seat called.....

- A) the Armchair
- B) the Woolsack
- C) the Front Bench

13. Which of the Queens reigned for 63 years and 7 months and was called “the grandmother of Europe” as she had 9 children and 42 grandchildren?

- A) Queen Elizabeth I
- B) Queen Elizabeth II
- C) Queen Victoria

14. What part of the Houses of Parliament was seriously damaged during the fascist bombing in 1941?

- A) the House of Lords
- B) Big Ben
- C) the House of Commons

15. How many Houses does the British Parliament consist of?

- A) 5.
- B) 2.
- C) 16

16. Who is the formal head of the state in Great Britain?

- A) Parliament.

- B) Labour Party
- C) The queen or the king.

17). When did the Parliament of Great Britain split into two Houses?

- A) in the 16-th century
- B) in the 17-th century
- C) in the 18-th century

18. What did the British Prime Minister do to increase the feeling of “Britishness”?

- A) changed the British flag
- B) made the Union flag fly above the front entrance of 10 Downing Street
- C) increased its size

19. What signifies that the House of Commons is sitting during the night?

- A) the Union Jack
- B) the light above the clock called Big Ben
- C) open windows

20. They say, “The Monarch reigns, but doesn’t rule”. Explain it, please.

- A) because the Queen’s power is limited by the Parliament
- B) because the Prime Minister is the ruler of the country
- C) because the House of Commons is the centre of the Parliamentary Power

21. Who is the second important person in the country after the Prime Minister?

- A) the Lord Chancellor
- B) the Speaker
- C) the Governor General

22. What is the official name of the Houses of Parliament?

- A) the Buckingham Palace
- B) the Palace of Westminster
- C) Westminster Abbey

23). Who is the Commander-in-Chief of all the armed forces of the Crown?

- A) the Lord Chancellor
- B) the Queen
- C) Prince Edward

24. When does the Union Jack fly from Victoria Tower flag pole?

- A) when the House of Commons is sitting
- B) when the Queen is sitting
- C) it flies every day

25. Why does the Chairman of the House of Lords sit on a special seat called “a woolsack”?

- A) in order not to be cold
- B) because everybody sits on the same seat

C) to show that wool made England rich

Test 5

Famous People. Culture. Traditions.

Newspapers.

1. Gulliver's Travels was written by.....

A) Jonathan Swift

B) Arthur Conan Doyle

C) Lewis Carol

2. London has the following nickname.....

A) "Auld Reekie"

B) "The Grantie City"

C) "The Smoke"

3. What did Guy Fawkes want to do on the 5-th of November 1605?

A) to make an uprising

B) to blow up the Houses of Parliament

C) to celebrate his own birthday

4. Who is the author of "Canterbury Tales"?

A) Geoffrey Chaucer

- B) William Shakespeare
- C) George Gordon Byron

5. What is the name of the town connected with the world famous group “the Beatles”?

- A) Liverpool
- B) Manchester
- C) Glasgow

6. How do the Englishmen celebrate Guy Fawkes’ night?

- A). by burning a dummy and making fireworks
- B). by singing songs about Guy Fawkes
- C). by making a lot of noise and playing games

7. What do the Englishmen say when they want a foreigner to follow their “unwritten rules”?

- A) ”If the man is tired of London, he is tired of life”.
- B) ”My home is my castle”.
- C) ”When in Rome, do as the Romans do”.

8 .Who was called “The Queen of the Hearts”?

- A) the Queen
- B) the Queen’s daughter
- C) Princess Diana

9. In what Scottish city do the world-famous festivals of Music and Drama annually take place?

A) in Aberdeen

B) in Glasgow

C) in Edinburgh

10. Why is Oxford called “The City of Dreaming Spires”?

A) because it is very quiet

B) because of its harmonious architecture

C) because many young people have a dream to study there

11. Who lived at 221B Baker Street?

A) Sherlock Holmes, the detective

B) William Baker, the writer

C) Madame Tussaud, the designer

12. Why do the British prefer going to the pubs to staying at home?

A) to dance and to listen to music

B) to communicate with their neighbours and friends

C) to watch a good film there

13. Who printed the first book in the English language?

A) William Shakespeare

B) William Caxton

C) Daniel Defo

14. When do Englishmen drink their famous tea?

A) at 5 o'clock p.m.

B) at 4 o'clock p.m.

C) at 6 o'clock p.m.

15. The kilt is

A) a shirt.

B) a skirt

C) a pair of trousers

16. Who said, "When the man is tired of London , he is tired of life"

A) Charles Dickens

B) Oscar Wild

C) Samuel Johnson

17. Lewis Carroll is the pen-name of.....

A) Rudyard Kipling.

B) John Reed.

C) Charles Dodgeson.

18. Who was Robin Hood?

- A) an actor.
- B) a legendary hero of English literature
- C) a writer

19. Who wrote "Hamlet"?

- A) Robert Burns
- B) Mark Twain
- C) William Shakespeare

20. Why was Princess Diana loved and respected by millions of people in her country and abroad?

- A) because she was from the Royal family
- B) because she was modest and did a lot of charitable work
- C) because she gave birth to two sons

21. What is Florence Nightingale famous for?

- A) She is the founder of the system of modern nursing.
- B) She is a famous sportsman.
- C) She is famous for her charitable work.

22. What is called "Old Lady of Threadneedle Street"?

- A) the Bank of England situated in Threadneedle Street
- B) the British Government
- C) the old building situated in Threadneedle Street

23. When does the “Ceremony of the Keys”, one of the ancient traditions, take place?

- A) when the Tower of London is opened
- B) when the Governor of the Tower comes to work
- C) when the Tower of London is locked

24. Why do the Londoners call their underground a “tube”?

- A) because the tunnels that carry the trains are round
- B) because the word “tube” is used everywhere to name the underground
- C) because there are a lot of tubes in the tunnels

25. Why do the red London buses make their way very slowly through London streets?

- A) because the traffic is very heavy
- B) because the speed shouldn't be exceeded
- C) because there are very many pigeons in the street

Test 6

Famous People. Culture. Traditions.

Newspapers.

(continued)

1. In 1962 the west front of St. Paul's Cathedral was

A) cleaned and washed

B) rebuilt

C) repaired

2. What language group does English belong to?

A) the Romance group

B) the Germanic group

C) the Indo-European group

3. When was the first railway between Liverpool and Manchester opened by George Stephenson - the builder of a locomotive?

A) in 1800

B) in 1830

C) in 1910

4. What was Margaret Thatcher the first woman Prime Minister in Europe by profession?

A). a journalist

B). a lawyer

C). a chemist

5. English language has the largest vocabulary with approximatelywords.

- A) 300.000
- B) 400.000
- C) 500.000

6. Why was Margaret Thatcher called “The Iron Lady”?

- A) because she was a very highly educated woman
- B) because of her strong personality
- C) because she knew chemistry very well

7. What is one of the most important traditions connected with Christmas?

- A) sending telegrams with congratulations
- B) giving presents to the relatives , friends, colleagues
- C) visiting good friends

8. What famous “afternoon tea” do the Englishmen drink?

- A) strong tea with milk
- B) green tea with milk
- C) strong tea with lemon

9. Guy Fawkes night is celebrated on

- A) the 24-th of December

- B) the 31-st of October
- C) the 5-th of November

10. Who was Alexander Fleming?

- A) the scientist who discovered penicillin
- B) the painter who made the best portrait of the Queen
- C) the doctor who treated famous people

11. James Cook is a famous English navigator who made.....

- A) 1 round-the-world voyage
- B) 2 round-the-world voyages
- C) 3 round-the-world voyages

12. Which word is the most frequent in the English language?

- A) the
- B) a (an)
- C) on

13. "Quality" newspapers try to

- A) entertain
- B) inform
- C) advertise events

14. British newspapers are

- A) private

B) state

C) independent

15. Which TV channels do not have advertising?

A) ITV

B) BBC

C) Channel IV

16. Isaac Newton is famous for.....

A) the theory of gravitation

B) the work connected with electricity

C) his discoveries made in the sphere of chemistry

17 .Why do the Englishmen say “ An Englishmen’s Home is his Castle”?

A) because Englishmen want privacy

B) because Englishmen like castles

C) because Englishmen like to work in the gardens in front of their houses

18. What is the traditional symbol of a “cosy English home”?

A) a bathroom

B) a fireplace

C) a detached house

19. Black holes were discovered by.....

A) Charles Darwin

B) Ernest Stephan Rutherford

C) Steven Hawking

20. Such expressions as ”All is well that ends well”, “All the world is a stage” are taken from.....

A) Shakespeare’s plays

B) Bernard Shaw’s plays

C) Somerset Maugham’s novels

21. Where do the British people read newspapers?

A) at breakfast, on their way home, at home

B) in the libraries, at work, in the gardens

C) in special places, such as reading rooms

22. How many times was Winston Churchill appointed Prime Minister?

A) 1 time

B) 2 times

C) 3 times

23. What is the Scottish chemist Charles Makintosh famous for?

A) He invented waterproof cloth.

B) He invented some new elements.

C) He worked as a teacher of chemistry at the University.

24. Who is known for his invention of an electric light bulb?

A) John Dalton

B) Henry Cavendish

C) Thomas Elva Edison

25. What races do people have in February on Pancake Day?

A) pancake races

B) boat-races

C) horse-races

Answers to the test tasks:

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Test 1	b	A	c	c	a	c	c	a	B	a	a	b	A	c	b	b	a	a	b	b	b	a	c	a	b
Test 2	a	A	b	a	a	c	b	b	C	a	c	a	A	c	a	b	c	a	a	a	c	a	c	b	b
Test 3	c	A	a	c	a	c	c	b	A	b	c	c	C	c	a	b	c	a	c	b	b	c	b	a	a
Test 4	c	A	a	c	b	a	a	b	B	b	a	b	C	c	b	c	a	b	b	a	b	b	b	a	c
Test 5	a	C	b	a	a	a	c	c	C	b	a	b	B	a	b	c	c	b	c	b	a	a	c	a	a
Test 6	a	B	b	c	c	b	b	a	C	a	c	a	B	a	b	a	a	b	c	a	a	b	a	c	a
Test 7	b	A	b	b	c	b	c	a	B	b	b	b	A	b	a	a	a	b	b	c	b	c	c	a	a

CONTENT

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Part I

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Text 2

Text 3

Text 4

Text 5

Text 6

Text 7

Text 8

Text 9

Text 10

Text 11

Part II

Text 1

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Text 3

Text 4

Text 5

Text 6

Text 7

Part III

Text 1

Text 2

Text 3

Text 4

Part IV

Text 1

Text 2

Text 3

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Text 6

- Text 7
- Text 8
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- Text 10
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- Text 12

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL
English-Speaking Countries Tests

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Test 1 (Geography).....

Test
(History.) 2

Test 3 (History).

Test 4 (Government).

Test 5 (Famous people, culture, traditions, newspapers).

Test 6 (Famous people, culture, traditions, newspapers).....

Test 7 (Education, sport, holidays, weather)

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