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Part 1

Text 1 Leonardo Da Vinci

1 Most people know that Leonardo Da Vinci was a great painter. However, he was also a talented sculptor, musician, poet, scientist, architect, and engineer. His work had a strong influence on artists throughout Europe, and his scientific ideas were centuries ahead of their time.

2 Da Vinci was a great inventor too. His scientific research and knowledge of architecture and mathematics helped him to design many new things. For example, he drew a flying machine 400 years before the airplane was invented. He also designed an air conditioner, an alarm clock, a submarine, a bridge, and many other things. In all, da Vinci designed more than 1,000 inventions. Unfortunately, he did not have time to develop many of his ideas.

3 As a matter of fact, da Vinci started many projects that he never finished. He was always more interested in thinking about and planning projects than doing them. He was so brilliant that he quickly lost interest in one project and couldn't wait to start another. Because of this, he completed very few paintings. Sometimes people paid him to do a painting or a sculpture but he never did it. Other times he started the work, but he never finished it. Some people got tired of waiting, so they hired someone else to finish his work.

4 The pieces that da Vinci completed were magnificent and unique. He created a new, more realistic style of painting. At that time, when artists painted people, they looked flat. When da Vinci painted people, they looked real. No other artist of his time painted people or animals as well as da Vinci. His famous painting, the Mona Lisa, is a good example of this style. Da Vinci took four years to paint the Mona Lisa. Unfortunately, the man who ordered the painting didn't like it and refused to pay him. However, ten years later, da Vinci sold it to the King of France for 492-ounces of gold (about \$300000). The King hung it in the Louvre palace in Paris. Today the Mona Lisa still hangs in the Louvre, which is now a museum.

5 Most people liked and admired da Vinci. He was a strong and handsome man. He was also generous to his friends, both rich and poor. Although he never married, he adopted a son and he was a very good father. People invited him to parties because he was very entertaining. He talked about interesting things and people laughed at his clever jokes. He was also a great musician. He sang well and played an instrument that he had invented.

6 During his lifetime, da Vinci travelled to all the great cities of Italy and did many different kinds of work. Once, when he was trying to get a job, he made a list of 36 different jobs he could do. In addition to working as an artist, he had also

worked as an architect and engineer. He designed buildings and canals and he figured out how to change the direction of rivers.

Task 1 Say if the statements are True or False

1 Leonardo Da Vinci was a great painter and he never gave up his interest in other subjects. 2 His scientific research and knowledge of physics helped him to design many new things. 3 He drew a flying machine after the airplane was invented. 4 He was always more interested in doing things than in planning projects. 5 Leonardo Da Vinci completed all his paintings. 6 He was married and had his own son. 7 He didn't understand music. 8 The man who ordered the Mona Lisa paid Leonardo much money.

Task 2 Answer the questions

1 Leonardo Da Vinci was really a talented man, wasn't he?

Give examples from the text.

2 How many inventions did he design ? What are they ?

3 Why didn't he finish all his works ?

4 Why did he sell the Mona Lisa only 10 years later ?

5 How much time did it take him to finish his famous work the Mona Lisa ?

6 What kind of man was he ? Give your reasons.

Text 2 Alexander Graham Bell

1 Alexander Graham Bell was born in Edinburgh in 1847. His father was a world-famous teacher of speech and the inventor of a system which he called "Visible Speech". It helped deaf (глухой) persons to pronounce words they could not hear. Alexander chose the same profession, and as his father became a teacher of the deaf, he moved to the United States and began to teach deaf children to speak. At the same time he worked at improving his father's invention.

2 In 1866, the nineteen-year-old Bell started thinking about sending tones (звуки) by telegraph. It was then that there came to his mind the idea of the "harmonic telegraph", which would send musical tones electrically from one place to another. Bell was not a scientist. So he had to give all his energy and time to one thing only - knowledge of electricity. There was little time for rest and little time to eat. Hour after hour, day and night he and his friend Watson worked at testing and experimenting with the telephone. Sometimes it worked and sometimes it did not.

"We have to do something to make our telephone work better," Bell used to say again and again.

3 At last they decided to try a new kind of transmitter (микрофон). The new

transmitter was set (устанавливать) in Bell's bedroom. Watson was sitting in the laboratory. He put his ear to the receiver (трубка) and was waiting. Suddenly he heard Bell's voice. And not the voice only but the words too.

"Mr. Watson, come here. I want you". It was on the 10th of March, 1876. Alexander Graham Bell had invented the telephone.

4 In a few years there were telephones all over the world. In 1915, the first transcontinental telephone line was opened. Graham Bell, a very old man now, sat in New York at a desk with a telephone before him, while his friend Watson was listening more than three hundred thousand miles away in San Francisco. People were interested what speech Bell had prepared for that great day, on which the telephone invented by him was to carry sound from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific.

5 Bell was sitting in a big hall; there were many people in it. Everyone expected to hear a serious, scientific speech. Suddenly everybody heard his clear voice as he spoke into his old transmitter, "Mr. Watson, come here. I want you." He repeated the words which he had said almost forty years ago. Much to the amusement (удовольствие) of the people Watson answered, "I would be glad (рад) to come, but it would take me a week".

Task 1 Choose the best variant

- 1 Alexander Bell was ...
 - a) an engineer
 - b) a teacher
 - c) a doctor
- 2 He worked at inventing ...
 - a) a radio-set
 - b) alone
 - c) with his friend
 - d) with a group of scientists
- 3 The first transcontinental telephone line was opened between ...
 - a) New York and San Francisco
 - b) Paris and London
 - c) Rome and Berlin
- 4 During the experiment Mr. Watson heard ...
 - a) Bell very badly
 - b) Bell very well
 - c) nothing

Task 2 Answer the questions

- 1 What did Alexander Bell's father invent?
- 2 Whom and where did Alexander Bell teach?
- 3 What did Alexander Bell begin to work at when he was nineteen years old?
- 4 What device did A. Bell use which made his invention work well?
- 5 How many years later was the first transcontinental telephone line opened?
- 6 Who made the first test of the transcontinental telephone line between New York and San Francisco?
- 7 What did Bell say on the opening of this line and what impression did it make on the listeners?

Text 3 Thomas Edison

Read and retell the text

Edison is known as one of the greatest inventors of his time. He invented so much that it is difficult to say which of his achievements is the greatest. He was an experimenter and a practical man more than a theoretician.

Edison did not have any education. He went to school only for three months. Then he left it because the teacher considered him a dull boy. His mother became his teacher. The boy loved books and his mother said that he had a wonderful memory. When he first visited a public library and saw a lot of shelves with books he decided that he would read all the books and then he would know everything in the world. He measured the shelf and decided to read a foot of books every week.

In 1868 Edison built his first patented invention - an electromagnetic device. It is told that he planned to ask three thousand dollars for his invention, though he secretly decided he would sell it for two thousand if necessary. He was invited to a meeting of businessmen who were interested in buying his invention, but when he was asked to name the price he was very nervous and quite unable to speak.

“It is no use asking us a big price,” said one of the businessmen, “we have already decided how much we will pay. Forty thousand dollars is our limit.”

With this money Edison established a workshop and began his career as a professional inventor at the age of twenty-two.

All his inventions were the result of hard work. He sometimes made thousands of experiments. According to his words the idea that a genius works only by inspiration was absurd. “Genius is 2 per cent inspiration and 98 per cent perspiration,” he often said.

Text 4 Ernest Rutherford

1 Ernest Rutherford was born on August 30, 1871, in New Zealand, in the family of English settlers.

In 1861 gold was found in New Zealand and many foreigners came to live there. Industry began to develop, the country began to increase its export. Ernest's father earned his living by bridge-building and other construction work required in the country at that period. At the same time he carried on small-scale farming.

2 Little Ernest was the fourth child in the family. When the boy was five he was sent to primary school. After finishing primary school he went to the secondary school. He liked to read at school very much. His favourite writer was Charles Dickens. He also liked to make models of different machines. He was particularly interested in watches and cameras, he even constructed a camera himself.

At school he was good at physics, mathematics, English, French and Latin. He paid much attention to chemistry too. Ernest became the best pupil at school. At the age of 19 he finished school and entered the New Zealand University.

3 At the University Ernest Rutherford was one of the most talented students. He worked hard and took an active part in the work of the Scientific Society of the University. But he was also fond of sports and took part in the students' sport competitions.

At one of the meetings of the Scientific Society he made His scientific report "The Evolution of Elements". At the same time he began his research work. For his talented scientific research he got a prize. After graduation Rutherford went to Cambridge where he continued his investigations (исследования).

4 Some years later Rutherford moved to Canada to continue his research work at the University in Montreal. Besides his successful researches he also lectured a lot at the leading Universities of the United States and England.

Rutherford's famous work "The Scattering (распространение) of Alpha and Beta Particles of Matter and the Structure of the Atom" proved that in the process of splitting the nucleus matter was converted into energy, which for the scientists of the 19th century seemed unbelievable.

5 The splitting of the atom has opened to Man a new and enormous source of energy. The most important results have been obtained by splitting the atom of uranium.

At present we are only at the beginning of the application of atomic energy and all its possible uses for peaceful purposes in power engineering, medicine and agriculture.

Ernest Rutherford paid much attention to his young pupils. After 1920 he did not make great discoveries in science, but taught young scientists who worked in the field of atomic research work. Among his favourite pupils was Pyotr Kapitsa, a famous Soviet physicist.

Ernest Rutherford died in the autumn of 1937 at the age of 66, and was buried at Westminster Abbey not far from the graves of Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin and Michael Faraday.

Answer the questions

- 1 How did Ernest Rutherford's father earn his living?
- 2 In what subjects did Ernest distinguish himself (отличился)?
- 3 In what activities did Rutherford take part when he was a student?
- 4 What did Rutherford do besides research work?
- 5 In what fields of economy can atomic energy find its peaceful application?

Text 5 Alfred Nobel

Words to the text

- 1 landmine – мина, фугас
- 2 went bankrupt – обанкротился
- 3 interest – зд. процент

1 Alfred Nobel, the great Swedish inventor and industrialist, was a man of many contrasts. He was the son of a bankrupt, but became a millionaire, a scientist who cared for literature, an industrialist who managed to remain an idealist. He made a fortune but lived a simple life, and although cheerful in company he was often sad when remained alone. A lover of mankind, he never had a wife or family to love him; a patriotic son of his native land, he died alone in a foreign country. He invented a new explosive, dynamite, to improve the peacetime industries of mining and road building, but saw it used as a weapon of war to kill and injure people. During his useful life he often felt he was useless. World-famous for his works, he was never personally well-known, for while he lived he avoided publicity. He never expected any reward for what he had done. He once said that he did not see that he had deserved any fame and that he had no taste for it. However, since his death, his name has brought fame and glory to others.

2 He was born in Stockholm on October 21, 1833 but moved to Russia with his parents in 1842, where his father, Emmanuel, made a strong position for himself in the engineering industry. Emmanuel Nobel invented the *landmine* and got plenty of money for it from government orders during the Crimean War, but then, quite suddenly *went bankrupt*. Most of the family went back to Sweden in 1859. Four years later Alfred returned there too, beginning his own study of explosives in his father's laboratory. It so occurred that he had never been to school or University but had studied privately and by the time he was twenty was a skilful chemist and excellent linguist having mastered Swedish, Russian, German, French and English. Like his father, Alfred Nobel was imaginative and inventive, but he had better luck in business and showed more financial sense. He was quick to see industrial openings for his scientific inventions and built up over 80 companies in 20 different countries. Indeed his greatness lay in his outstanding ability to combine the qualities of an original scientist with those of a forward-looking industrialist.

3 But Nobel was never really concerned about making money or even making scientific discoveries. Seldom happy, he was always searching for a meaning to life, and from his youth had taken a serious interest in literature and philosophy. Probably because he could not find ordinary human love - he never married - he began to care deeply about the whole mankind. He took every opportunity to help the poor: he used

to say that he would rather take care of the stomachs of the living than the glory of the dead in the form of stone memorials. His greatest wish, however, was to see an end to wars, and thus peace between nations; and he spent much time and money working for the cause until his death in Italy in 1896.

4 His famous will, in which he left money to provide prizes for outstanding work in physics, chemistry, physiology, medicine, economics, literature and promotion of world peace is a memorial to his interests and ideals. And so the man who often believed that he was useless and had done little to justify his life is remembered and respected long after his death. Nobel's ideals which he expressed long before the threat of nuclear war have become the ideals of all progressive people of the world.

5 According to Nobel's will the capital was to be safely invested to form a fund. The *interest* on this fund is to be distributed annually in the form of prizes to those who, during the previous year did work of the greatest use to mankind within the field of physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, economics, literature and to the person who has done the most for brotherhood between nations, for the abolition or reduction of permanent armies and for the organization and encouragement of peace conferences.

In his will Nobel wrote that it was his firm wish that in choosing the prize winner no consideration should be given to the nationality of the candidates, but that the most worthy should receive the prize, whether he be a Scandinavian or not. This will was written in Paris, on November 27, 1895.

Since Nobel's death many outstanding scientists, writers and public figures from different countries have become Nobel prize winners.

Find in the text passages describing

- 1 The childhood and youth of Alfred Nobel
- 2 The career of Alfred Nobel's father
- 3 The contrasts in the life of Alfred Nobel
- 4 The life ideals of Alfred Nobel
- 5 Alfred Nobel as a scientist
- 6 Alfred Nobel's will
- 7 Nobel prize winners

Text 6 Madame Tussaud

Read and retell the text

1 For over 200 years, Madame Tussaud's exhibition of wax figures has been one of Britain's most popular attractions. The exhibition has constantly developed and now visitors can see the world's public figures, including men and women who

have made a lasting impact on our lives, Kings and Queens, great statesmen, religious leaders, superstars past and present who have become legends.

But the story of Madame Tussaud is as impressive as her exhibition. Two things about her are especially interesting. First, she spent her early years in the turmoil of the French Revolution and came to meet many of its characters, and perhaps more unusually, she succeeded in business at a time when women were seldom involved in the world of commerce.

2 Madame Tussaud whose first name is Marie was born in France in 1761. Her father, a soldier, was killed in battle two months before her birth. She lived with the mother who worked as a housekeeper for the doctor who had a wonderful skill of modelling anatomical subjects in wax. Soon Marie and her mother with the doctor Curtius moved to Paris.

France was approaching the Revolution. Dr. Curtius's house became a meeting place of philosophers, writers and revolutionaries. Marie soon discovered she had a talent for observation and remembering the details of faces.

3 Dr. Curtius acted as a teacher to Marie, schooling her in the techniques of wax portraits. Thanks to him she used a scientific approach in wax portraiture. She was soon allowed to model the great figures of the time. Among them were Francois Voltaire and the American statesman Benjamin Franklin. Dr. Curtius's exhibition was patronized by the French Royal family and Marie was invited to the Royal Court.

At the time of the revolution Marie and her mother were imprisoned for some time. Later Marie was asked to prepare the death masks of French aristocrats who had been executed - among them the King and the Queen.

The time of terror came to an end. In 1794 the doctor died and Marie inherited the business which had grown under her influence.

4 In the following years she married a French engineer, Francois Tussaud and by 1800 had given birth to three children: a daughter who died and two sons. It was difficult for the exhibition to survive in France and in 1802 Marie Tussaud made a monumental decision. She would leave her husband and baby son in Paris while she and her elder son would tour the exhibition round the British Isles.

Marie was to see neither France nor her husband again. She spent the next 33 years travelling in Great Britain. Later her other son joined her. Both of her sons were interested in the business. The travels ended in 1835 when Madame Tussaud's exhibition found a permanent home in London. Since that there have been fires and disasters but many new figures have been added to the collection. This unusual woman died in 1884 at the age of 89.

You can see her remarkable self-portrait in Museum as well.

Text 7 Adam Smith

Words to the text

1	make contribution	вносить вклад во что-либо
2	a customs officer	таможенник
3	duke	герцог
4	income	доход
5	inquiry	исследование
6	security	обеспечение
7	wealth	богатство
8	to be regarded	считаться

Adam Smith was a great scientist who made extraordinary contributions in economics.

He was born in 1723 in Kirkcaldy, a small fishing town near Edinburgh, Scotland. His father was a customs officer. He died before his son was born.

At the age of 28 Adam Smith became a Professor of Logics at the University of Glasgow. It was his first academic appointment. Some time later he became a tutor to a wealthy Scottish duke. Then he received a grant of £300 a year. It was a very big sum, 10 times the average income at that time.

With the financial security of his grant, Smith devoted 10 years to writing his one of the influential books of our time, which founded economic science. Its full title was “An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations”. It was published with great success in 1776 and earned the author the title “The father of economics”.

The Wealth of Nations goes on to describe the principal elements of the economic system. In his famous work, Smith turned to the pin industry to demonstrate how the division of labour and the use of machinery increased output.

Economic term “invisible hand” was also introduced by Adam Smith. It was Smith's name for the economic forces that we today would call *supply and demand*, or the *marketplace*. Although modern technology has improved the methods by which pins are produced, the principles pertaining to the division of labour remain unchanged.

Adam Smith made economics a science. This Scottish economist is often regarded as the founder of political economy too.

Answer the questions

- 1 When and where was Adam Smith born?
- 2 Who was his father?

- 3 What was Adam Smith's first academic appointment?
- 4 Did he become a tutor then?
- 5 How big was the grant he received some time later?
- 6 What work did Adam Smith do with the support of the grant?

Text 8

Read two texts about Andrew Carnegie, George Soros and answer the questions

- 1 Who left his country when he was a teenager?
- 2 Who had a good education?
- 3 Which of them made his money in the US?
- 4 Which of them worked in politics?
- 5 Who created new institutions to help people?
- 6 Who gave money to improve education?
- 7 Who returned to his home country to live?
- 8 Who wrote books?

Andrew Carnegie

Andrew Carnegie was born in Scotland in 1835. His family was very poor. When Carnegie was 13 years old the family moved to Pittsburgh in the US. He didn't finish his education, but a rich man called James Anderson gave Carnegie books from his library.

As a young man, Carnegie worked on the railway. He invested his money in business and made money quickly. In 1873 he started his own steel company. By 1900 the company was producing 25% of the steel in the US.

There were no free public libraries in the US so Carnegie built 2,800 of them. He also gave a lot of money to charity. Finally he returned to Scotland, where he wrote several books. He gave away 90% of his money and died in 1919.

George Soros

George Soros was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1930. An intelligent young man, Soros went to England in 1947 and studied at the London School of Economics. Nine years later he went to the US. Soros started an international investment company and became rich quickly. He understood international financial markets, and was called, 'the man who broke the Bank of England' when, in 1992, he earned \$1.1 billion in one day.

Soros created institutions to solve world problems in health, education, the media and human rights. These institutions cost \$400 million a year. Soros now writes books about politics, economics and society.

Text 9 Bill Gates: the richest man in the world

Read and render the text

Everyone has heard of Bill Gates, the icon of American business and the richest man in the world.

Microsoft, the business he started with a friend in 1975, has become the world's largest computer software company. Although the company is in big trouble today – the US government has broken it up – experts say it will remain successful.

Bill Gates was born on the 28th of October, 1955, in Seattle, USA. Seattle was once famous for producing Boeing aircraft, but is now better known as the home of Microsoft. From his parents Bill got a good business sense and a quick mind. His father is a lawyer and his late mother was a teacher and then a company director.

At school Bill soon showed that he was very intelligent. His favourite subjects were Maths and Science. At 13 he got interested in computers. Bill Gates and his friend Paul Allen were soon spending all their time writing programmes and learning about computers instead of doing their work.

After finishing school in 1973, Bill went to Harvard, America's most famous university. Most of the time he worked on the computers in the university laboratory. The next year, he and Paul Allen wrote an operating programme for the Altair, one of the world's first microcomputers. Bill knew, even then, that he would revolutionise the world of computing and he left Harvard before finishing his studies.

The two friends started Microsoft in 1975, and very soon it became a business success. In 1980, Gates bought a small company which produced an operating system called DOS. He made some changes to it and renamed it MS-DOS. He sold the rights to use this system to IBM. Since 1980 MS-DOS has been the standard operating system for all PCs. Microsoft has also developed such well-known programmes as Windows, Excel and Internet Explorer.

Bill's dream is to computerize everything - TVs, telephones, lights, even the way you cook dinner... One reason for his success is that Bill has always been very ambitious and hard-working.

This hasn't left him much time for a normal personal life, but in 1994 he married Melinda French, a Microsoft employee. The couple has two children a daughter, born in 1996, and a son, born in 1999. Bill Gates has written two books *The Road Ahead* (1995) and *Business and the Speed of Thought* (1999). Both books are best-sellers.

Bill hasn't got much free time, but when he has a chance he likes playing golf and bridge. He is also fond of reading about science.

For such a rich person, his life is simple, and he spends very little on himself. When it comes to helping others, though, Gates is very generous. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has already given \$300 million to charity, and he says he plans to give away almost all of his wealth when he retires.

Text 10 Tim Berners-Lee

Read the text about Tim Berners-Lee and find sentences about his life in the past and sentences about his life now

Tim Berners-Lee looks very ordinary. He's about fifty years old and has brown hair. He was born in England but now lives in Massachusetts in the USA. But in 1989 Tim had a very important idea. He invented the world wide web (www).

Tim went to school in London. Both his parents worked with computers so it isn't surprising that he loved computers from an early age. When he was eighteen, he left school and went to Oxford University where he studied physics. At Oxford, he became more and more interested in computers, and he made his first computer from an old television. He graduated in 1976 and got a job with a computer company in Dorset, England. In 1989, he went to work in Switzerland where he first had the idea of an international information network linked by computer. He decided to call it the world wide web, and he also decided to make his ideas free to everyone - that is why today we do not pay to use the Internet.

In 1994 he went to live in the United States where he now works. In 1995 he wrote an article in the New York Times where he said, 'The web is a universe of information and it is for everyone.' Today his idea of a web, where people from all over the world can exchange information, is real.

Part 2

Text 1 Schooling in England

1 Every child in Great Britain between the ages of five and sixteen years must attend school. There are three main types of educational institutions: primary schools, secondary schools and universities. State schools are free (бесплатный) and attendance is compulsory. Morning school begins at nine o'clock and lasts for three hours until twelve o'clock noon. Afternoon school begins at two o'clock and lasts for two and a half hours until half past four. School is open five days a week. On Saturdays and Sundays there are no lessons.

2 In the primary schools, where children study from five to eleven years, the first two years are mainly taken up with learning to read, write and do simple arithmetic. In addition, the children draw, paint, model and sing. The first two years of the primary school are called the Infant school (школа для малышей).

At seven the pupils are transferred to the Junior school (начальная школа для детей от 7 до 11 лет) which is usually situated in another section of the same building. At this age level the following subjects appear in the study programme: English, history, geography, nature study, music and others. At the age of eleven the

pupils finish the primary school and continue their education at one of the secondary schools.

3 There are different types of secondary schools in England. This system of secondary education has developed since the Act of 1944 according to which on leaving the primary school a pupil may go either to a secondary Modern, Technical, Grammar or Comprehensive school.

The Secondary Modern School (средняя современная школа) is attended by pupils between the ages of eleven and sixteen. It is a state school which has a practical trend. Such courses as secretarial, trade and commerce, agriculture, gardening, cooking are taught there. These schools are usually well equipped with workshops for woodwork, metalwork, cooking, etc.

On leaving this school the pupils who wish to continue their education may attend evening classes which prepare them for entering a college or a university.

4 The Secondary Technical School gives a general technical education. It is attended by those pupils who are more mechanically inclined (склонный). The pupils have the opportunity to try their hand at the machines in the workshops. More time is given to such subjects as mathematics and science (естественные науки). In other words, this school gives a good foundation to work in the fields of industry and agriculture.

5 The Secondary Grammar school (классическая школа) is attended by the pupils between the ages of eleven and sixteen or eighteen. Some of them are state schools and some are private or independent schools. Most of them have two sides: a classical side, specializing in ancient languages (Greek and Latin), history and philosophy; and a modern side, specializing in modern languages, natural science and geography. The leavers of this school receive the General Certificate of Education (аттестат зрелости). On receiving this certificate a pupil may either leave the school or continue his studies for another two years in what is called the "Sixth Form" to receive the same certificate but at the advanced level (продвинутый уровень). In order to enter a university a boy or a girl must pass examinations in five subjects, two of which must at least be at the advanced level.

Among the private schools there are some very old and famous ones, such as Eton, Harrow, Rugby, etc. The fees at these schools are rather high, so usually rich parents send their children there.

6 Comprehensive schools (единая средняя школа) are state schools which combine three types of schools: grammar school, secondary modern school and technical school. The pupils study there according to the general programme till the age of thirteen or fifteen, after that they have special courses depending on their inclination. The number of comprehensive schools is rather great and it is constantly growing.

Answer the questions

- 1 How many days a week is school open?
- 2 What subjects do children learn in the Junior school?
- 3 What kind of secondary schools are there in England?
- 4 In what fields of national economy do the leavers of the Secondary Technical School work?
- 5 What do the pupils receive on finishing the Grammar School?
- 6 Till what age do the pupils study according to the general programme?

Text 2 Education in Britain

Schools in Britain are of two types: free state schools and public schools, which are for money. There are four kinds of state schools: county schools, voluntary schools, special schools and self-governing schools.

About 93 per cent of pupils in Great Britain get free education while the others go to public schools. Compulsory education begins at the age of five in Britain and at the age of four in Northern Ireland, when children go to infant schools. At the age of seven many children go to junior schools. Some pupils attend comprehensive schools or grammar schools, to which they are sent after exams at the age of eleven.

About 7 per cent of schoolchildren attend independent schools. Independent schools range from small kindergartens to large day and boarding schools. Preparatory schools prepare children for going to senior school. Some independent schools are religious.

The National Curriculum consists of major subjects, which are compulsory for 5 to 16-year-olds. In England the major subjects of the Curriculum are English, mathematics and science, and the basic subjects are technology (design, technology and information technology), history, geography, music, art, physical education and, for secondary school pupils, a foreign language.

About 67 per cent of pupils continue to study after the age of 16. Education after 16 is divided into further and higher education. After the state exams pupils can stay at school or study in a further education college. Most post-school education is provided at universities, polytechnics, colleges of further or higher education, adult education centres or specialized colleges. There are about 90 universities in Britain, of which one, Buckingham, is private, and one, the Open University (OU) is open to students of any age. Most of them are employed people who study in their free time. They get education through radio and television, in classes at local centres and at summer schools.

The biggest universities are Cambridge, Oxford and London University. British universities are rather small; the approximate number of students is about 7-8 thousand people. London and Oxford universities are international: people from all

over the world come to study there. A number of well-known scientists and writers, such as Newton, Darwin, Byron studied in Cambridge.

Answer the questions

1 How many types of schools are there in Britain? 2 Do the British get free education? 3 What is the National Curriculum? What does it consist of? 4 Do young people continue to study after the age of 16? What are the possibilities for them? 5 Are there any universities in Britain? What are the biggest ones?

Text 3 Oxbridge

1 Oxford and Cambridge are the oldest universities in Great Britain. They are called Oxbridge to denote an 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 longer.

2 Oxford and Cambridge universities consist of a number of colleges, each self-governing and independent. Before 1970 most of all Oxbridge universities were single-sex (mostly for men). But now the majority admits 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".

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

4 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 12th century saw the real beginning of the University. The first group of scholars at Oxford may have been joined by 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.

5 Perhaps the most famous colleges are Christ Church, University College and All Souls. Nowadays there are 29 colleges for men, 5 for women and another 5 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".

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

7 Students at Oxbridge have different societies and clubs. Different sports are very popular. But the most popular sports are rowing and punting. Every year at the end of March (or in early April) a contest between Oxford and Cambridge universities takes place on the River Thames. The course is the 4 1/4 mile stretch of river. The race usually starts at midday or at 3 o'clock.

Task 1 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?

Task 2 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

Text 4 The Oxford and Cambridge boat race

Sporting activities at Oxford and Cambridge are varied and numerous. There are different competitions (соревнование) between the colleges. One of the most popular sports is rowing (гребля). At the end of the term long, narrow, light boats, rowed by

eight men, compete in the races. Boats start at short intervals one after another and try to knock the boat in front. Those who are able to do it move one place in a table (таблица) and the college at the top of the table is known as the “Head of the River”.

Rowing has a long history in England. Rowing a boat with eight oars (весло) or with four oars was first started in England in the 18th century. At that time the boats took part in festivals and processions on the River Thames.

In the 19th century people started to use the boats for racing, not only in London on the Thames but also in the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The first Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge was held in 1829.

Nearly every year since then there has been a Boat Race between these two Universities. It is held in London on the Thames, during the Easter vacation, at the end of March or the beginning of April.

The course, from Putney to Mortlake, is 4 1/4 miles long. It has many turns, and the crews usually row the 4 1/4 miles in 20 minutes. The crews of the boats, chosen from the members of the college Boat Clubs, train together for twelve weeks before the race, first in Oxford or Cambridge and finally in London. In each boat there are eight oarsmen and a coxswain (рулевой), usually called a “cox”. The cox, who is much lighter than the others, sets the speed and the rhythm, and steers.

On Boat Race Saturday the banks and bridges of the Thames are thick with people who have come to watch. Some wear dark blue ribbons (лента) for Oxford, and some wear pale blue ones for Cambridge.

Choose the statements which correspond to the text

- 1 Students of Oxford and Cambridge compete only in rowing and swimming.
- 2 Boats rowed by eight and four men take part in the competition between the Universities now.
- 3 Two centuries ago people could see boats with eight and four men taking part in festivals.
- 4 The first boat competition was organized in the 19th century.
- 5 The weather is usually very hot at the period of Boat Race.
- 6 The sportsmen prepare for the competition together in Oxford, Cambridge and London.
- 7 On the day of the competition people who come to see the race have ribbons of a special colour to show what University they support.

Text 5 Students' life

Words

- 1 hot buttered toast – нарезанный ломтиками и подрумяненный хлеб с маслом
- 2 a bedder – горничная в университетских общежитиях
- 3 sconcing – наложение штрафа на студентов за нарушение правил
- 4 a Proctor – административное лицо в университете (осуществляет надзор за поведением студентов и наложение дисциплинарных взысканий)

1 In two weeks I shall finish my first year at Cambridge. Let me tell you something about students' life and my impressions of it. The students are mainly English, but there are many others, particularly so in the block of rooms in which I live, for my neighbours include a Chinese studying law, an Indian studying English, a Canadian studying history and a Frenchman studying science.

The rooms have a pleasant outlook over the College gardens. There is a very small gas-stove on which we make coffee or tea. It is a popular tradition here to invite friends in the afternoon for tea and hot buttered toast and jam. To each room there is a man-servant who with a woman-servant, known as a "bedder", keep it clean.

2 In the old days when Colleges were religious institutions the students were clergymen (священник), and their life was much more strict and disciplined than now. Friendship with young ladies was not allowed and the only women inside the college were washerwomen. The legend is that these had to be "old and ugly" (уродливые).

The students eat their meals in the College dining-hall. At some Colleges there is an interesting tradition. It is known as "sconcing". If a student comes late to dinner or he is not correctly dressed, or if he breaks one of the laws (закон) of behaviour, then the senior student orders him to be "sconced".

3 A large silver cup, known as "sconce cup", filled with beer is brought and placed in front of him and he must drink it in one attempt without taking the cup from his lips (it holds two and a half pints, or 1.5 litres). If he can do it, then the senior student pays for it, if not, the cup is passed round and the student who has been "sconced" must pay for it. In general the discipline is not strict.

The students can stay out till twelve o'clock. Each evening a Proctor with two assistants, called "Bulldogs", walks about the town keeping an eye on the students' behaviour. If he sees a student breaking a rule he will come up to him and say, "Are you a member of the University, sir?", and if a student runs away, then the "Bulldogs" run after him, and if they catch him (they are chosen, it is said, because they are good runners), fine (штрафовать) him. Apart from fines a student may be dismissed (исключать) from the University for one term.

4 We attend our lectures in the morning and in the afternoon we are free. I usually work in my room or play some sport. The most popular sport is rowing. There are over a hundred societies and clubs.

There are religious societies and a society for those who don't believe, political, sporting and dramatic societies. There is even one for people with beards. Perhaps the most popular is the Debating Society at which students debate political and other questions with famous politicians and writers.

The walks into the country, the talks, the games and the work, the traditions and the customs - all are part of the students' life which would be poorer if any of them was lost.

Answer the questions

1 What tradition is popular among the students at Cambridge? 2 What are students "sconced" (штрафоваться) for? 3 What do the so-called "Bulldogs" do if a student whom they come up to runs away? 4 What students' societies are there at Cambridge and which is the most popular one?

Text 6 A visit to Oxford

Oxford, first and foremost, is known for its University. The University began itself in the middle of the 12th century, and by 1300 there were already 1,500 students. At this time, Oxford was a wealthy town, but by the middle of the 14th century, it was poorer, because of a decline in trade and because of the terrible plague, which killed many people in England.

Relations between the students and the townspeople were very unfriendly, and there was often fighting in the streets. On the 10th February 1355, the Festival of St. Scholastica, a battle began which lasted two days. Sixty-two students were killed. The townspeople were punished for this in two ways: they had to walk through the town to attend a special service on every St Scholastica's day until 1825. Worse than this, the University was given control of the town for nearly 600 years.

Nowadays there are about 12,000 students in Oxford, and the University and the town live quietly side by side.

When the coach came to Oxford the participants bought some colourful books on Oxford, maps and some souvenirs. Then they went sightseeing and stopped near Trinity College.

Tatjana: The college looks great. I wonder how old it is.

David: I myself am an Oxford graduate but I don't remember when exactly it was founded. Let's look in the guide book. Oh, it was started in 1315.

Tatjana: Is it the oldest college?

David: Oh, no. Jesus College and some others are much older.

Tatjana: It's very beautiful. I'd like to study here. Is the chapel open to the public?

David: Yes, it is. Let's go and look. The choir of this college is famous in England. They sing on TV every year at Christmas.

Text 7 History of Education in Russia

Words

- 1 grammar schools – зд. гимназии
- 2 secondary school teaching no classics –реальные училища
(в дореволюционной России)
- 3 lycee – лицей

1 Ancient Rus was one of the early feudal states and held a leading place in the world history. The Slavonic written language came to Rus from Bulgaria in the 9th century. Towards the end of this century the replacement of religious books in Greek for those in the Slavonic language began.

Between the 10th and 13th centuries Russians developed a high civilization, which formed the foundation of the Russian culture in the following centuries. During this period numerous cultural treasures were accumulated. The written works of the time show that the level of knowledge on most natural phenomena was as high as that of Ancient Greece.

Monasteries were cultural and educational centres. They had large libraries and well-equipped book-making shops, in which not only church manuscripts were copied and translated but original books were written. Today we can confidently say that Ancient Rus was a state of high culture and knowledge.

2 In pre-revolutionary Russia there was a network of primary schools for common people. Nevertheless illiteracy among common people was very high. Well-off people taught their children in grammar schools, commercial schools or secondary schools teaching no classics.

There were also schools for nobles only. Entrance to those schools was limited. For example, at lycee where A.S. Pushkin studied the number of pupils ranged from thirty to one hundred. Only boys at the age of 10 or 12 from noble families of high rank were admitted and studied there for six years. They were taught many different subjects. The most important were Russian literature, history, geography, mathematics, physics, logic, law, rhetoric and such foreign languages as French, English, German and Latin. Great attention was paid to different arts and physical training: riding, swimming, fencing and dancing. The aim of this school was to bring up intelligent people in the broad sense of the word. Those who graduated from such educational institutions usually entered the service of their country to realize their abilities and knowledge to the benefit of their state.

3 The history of higher education in Russia goes back to 1755 when the first University was founded in Moscow on the initiative of M.V. Lomonosov and in

accordance with his plan. Later, universities were opened in many other big cities of the country.

4 After the revolution in 1917, education was guaranteed to the Soviet citizens by the Constitution and was free of charge, including higher education. Teaching at schools was carried out almost in all national languages. The system of education was the same throughout the country. School attendance was compulsory for those between 7 and 15. Those who completed their secondary education and passed entrance examinations to higher education establishments received monthly grants if they did not fail in the examinations that they took at the end of each term. Higher school education lasted five years.

5 In 1991 the former fifteen republics of the Soviet Union became independent states. The Russian Federation began to develop as a democratic state. From the very start democratic reforms began to take place in many fields of life. Changes in political, economic and social conditions required changes in the system of education. Its aim is to prepare the growing generation for independent life and work in new conditions

Tasks

- 1 Find in the text the subjects which were taught at schools before the revolution and translate them into Russian.
- 2 Find in the text and put down 10-12 words or word combinations which can be used to speak about the history of higher education in Russia.

Text 8 Kurgan State University (KSU)

KSU is one of the most popular educational establishments in our town. Every year a lot of applicants come to this University seeking for admission. Early in September those who were lucky to pass entrance exams and to be enrolled in the 1st year get together to be initiated into students. The academic year begins on the 1st of September and ends in June. The academic year has 2 terms: the autumn term and spring term. Each term ends with exams which take place in January and in June. Students have holidays twice a year: in winter and in summer.

Our university has 3 main departments: Extra-mural (or correspondence), Preparatory and Day-time departments. Students of the Extra-mural department get higher education without leaving their jobs. The Preparatory department is for people who want to refresh their knowledge before entering the University. There are ten faculties at the Day-time department: Economic Faculty, Mathematics and Information technologies, Nature Science Faculty, Language and Literature Faculty and many others.

KSU gives the opportunity to get higher education at the Day-time or Extramural departments. The curriculum consists of the subjects the students specialize in, seminars, lectures, practical studies, foreign languages, psychology, physical training, and so on. On graduating the students receive diplomas. Many students pass exams and credits successfully, but some fail to do it.

There are a great number of classrooms and lecture-halls at the University. It has many labs, reading-rooms, gymnasium-halls, a library, an assembly-hall, and so on. There are various circles at the University. For those who are interested in different creative activities there are a lot of possibilities to hone and show their skills.

Students' research societies take part in the scientific conferences, which take place once a year. Students discuss different problems there. Numerous sports competitions are organized between the student-teams.

Our time-table is situated on the 1st (2nd) floor near the dean's office. Our dean gives much attention to students' problems.

Part 3

Text 1 History of London

1 Thousands of visitors come to Great Britain every year. Some come on business, others simply as tourists, but none misses the opportunity to see the capital of Great Britain. London is grand and attractive. It is certainly very old and full of historic associations. It has strong links with the past. Its old customs and traditions have survived and even the types of people. They are a strange mixture of past and present, of old-fashioned and very modern.

London consists of many parts and they are all very different from each other. There is the West End and the East End, Westminster and the City. The City is not only the centre of business, it is the birthplace of London.

2 In 43 A. D. the Romans conquered Britain and for 400 years it remained a Roman province. The Romans built long straight roads along which the Roman soldiers marched. Many of them met at the point where London bridge now stands. The Romans made London, which they called Londinium, a large and rich city with good streets, beautiful palaces, shops and villas Trade was growing. A lot of goods-skins, copper and iron ore, silver and gold were sent to Rome. And many strong blue-eyed boys were sent to Rome, too, to be sold as slaves.

In the fifth century the Romans left Britain, but other invaders came to the British shores. They almost ruined the city and it remained in this poor state for almost 400 years. Only in the 9th century the Saxon kings began to rebuild the city. They started the building of Westminster Abbey.

3 In 1066 came William the Duke of Normandy or William the Conqueror who settled in London which became the capital of Norman Britain.

For 500 years the Normans were masters of Britain. They brought with them Latin and French civilization, the laws and the organization of the land. Many Latin and French words penetrated into the Old English (Germanic) language. They did their best to make the city beautiful. The Westminster Abbey was finished and William was the first king to be crowned there. Since then, all English kings have been crowned in the Abbey. At that time the Tower of London was built on the Thames and it stands there still unchanged. Commerce and trade grew very quickly, but the population grew even faster. London became a busy, rich and crowded city. The old city looked very picturesque with its tall houses of wood and plaster and its narrow streets.

4 But then London suffered two awful tragedies, at first - the Great Plague and then the Great Fire. In a few months nearly 100,000 people, that is 1/5 of the population died because of the Plague. Sorrow and sadness sat upon every Londoner. And only winter and its cold saved the city and the people.

The Great Fire happened through carelessness of a young baker who left a small bundle of wood near a very hot oven. In a few hours all the houses made of wood were burning like paper. This fire destroyed 3000 houses and at least 97 churches. Fortunately the wind soon stopped and then heavy rain fell. Thus London was saved.

5 Bit by bit London was being reconstructed until it has become the city which is now one of the most beautiful and attractive places of the world. The oldest part of it is the City which is the business and financial centre of London. During the day it is full of people, but at the end of the day, businessmen, clerks and secretaries go home and it becomes silent and almost empty.

Besides the City there are many other attractions such as Trafalgar Square with the Nelson column in the centre, the Houses of Parliament with the famous Big Ben, a lot of beautiful parks and gardens among which is Hyde Park well known all over the world. There is a lot more to tell about London. But if you have a chance better visit it and see everything yourself.

Answer the questions

1 What are the main parts of London? 2 What did the Romans do for the development of London? 3 How did the Normans influence Britain's civilization? 4 What were the consequences (последствия) of two great tragedies that London suffered? 5 What is the City notable for?

Text 2 London and the City

London was not built as a city in the same way as Paris or New York. It began life as a Roman fortification at a place where it was possible to cross the River Thames. A wall was built around the town for defence, but during the long period of peace which followed the Norman Conquest, people built outside the walls. This building continued over the years. In 1665 there was a terrible plague in London which killed too many people. In 1666 the Great Fire of London ended the plague, but it also destroyed much of the city. Although many people who had fled London during the plague returned to live in the rebuilt city after the plague and the Great Fire, there were never again so many Londoners living in the city centre.

These days London has spread further outwards into the country, including surrounding villages. Today the metropolis of Greater London covers about 610 square miles (1580 sq. km), and the suburbs of London continue even beyond this area. Some people even commute over 100 miles (over 150 km.) every day to work in London.

The gradual growth of the city helps to explain the fact that London does not have just one centre, it has a number of centres, each with a distinct character: the Government centre in Westminster, the shopping and entertainment centre in the West End, the financial and business centre called the City.

The City is rather a small area east of the centre which includes the site of the original Roman town. It is an area with a long and exciting history, and it is proud of its independence and traditional role as a centre of trade and commerce. The City of London is one of the major banking centres of the world and you can find the banks of many nations in the famous Threadneedle Street and the surrounding area. Here, too, the Bank of England, the central bank of the nation is located. Nearby is the Stock Exchange where shares of commercial companies are bought and sold. A little further is Lloyd's, the most famous insurance company in the world.

During weekdays in the City one can see the City gentlemen with their bowler hats, pin-striped suits and rolled umbrellas. This is the 'uniform' only of those men who involved in banking and business in the City.

Text 3 The Bank of England

Find in the text key words which you can use to speak about the Bank of England

After the session on Banking Sector Mr. Hill suggested that in the afternoon the participants should visit the museum of the Bank of England. It was one of the external visits of the Programme.

The museum of the Bank of England is located practically in the building of the

Bank, in the City of London. The museum has a lot of exhibits showing the history of the Bank from its foundation in 1694 to its role today as the nation's central bank.

Visitors can also see a video on the history of the Bank. To understand the role and importance of the Bank better we should learn first how it emerged.

During the seventeenth century banking in England was in the hands of goldsmiths who held deposits, made loans to the merchants and the Crown. But even the wealthiest goldsmiths could not carry on a deposit and lending business on the scale the Government required. So in sixteen ninety four a joint stock company to raise money for the Government and finance wars was incorporated. It later got to be known under the title "Bank of England".

Although privately owned and financed, the Bank of England developed essentially as a government bank, raising money to finance the needs of the British Government, managing its national debt, printing banknotes and minting coins. In 1946 the Bank was nationalized and it operates today as the UK's central bank executing monetary policy on behalf of the Government and supervising the markets in one of the world's largest and most sophisticated centres. Besides the Bank has always been a repository of gold...

After seeing the video the participants of the Programme made a round of the museum and asked Mr. Hill a few questions.

Participant: Excuse me, Mr. Hill. May I ask you a question?

Mr. Hill: Why, certainly.

Participant: One day I heard the nickname of the Bank. Old Lady. Such a funny name! Where does it come from?

Mr. Hill: Nobody knows exactly. Different explanations are given. Many of us associate this nickname with an old cartoon. This cartoon shows the Prime Minister asking an old lady sitting on the money-chest marked "Bank of England" for gold coins.

Participant: So, that's it! Very fascinating indeed!

Text 4 Barbican Centre

Read the text and speak about Barbican Centre

Barbican is a district of the City of London. It was greatly destroyed by bombing during the Second World War. Great construction has started since the end of the war. Nowadays Barbican is one of the most beautiful districts of London. It is also famous for the Barbican Centre.

The Barbican Centre is an enormous complex which contains two theatres, an art gallery, a library, three cinemas, two restaurants and two exhibition halls.

The building itself is very interesting: it is built on eight levels. Four of these levels are underground. On the fifth level there is a lake, complete with 45 fountains, and air terrace where you can have coffee.

The construction of the Centre was started in 1970. At that time it was expected to cost 190 million. At last on the 3rd of March 1982 the Barbican Centre was opened by the Queen Elizabeth herself. At that time the final cost of the construction was 150 million.

There are two resident companies who are now based in the Barbican Centre. They are the London Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Shakespeare Company. It is these two companies which are providing a good part of the cultural programme for the public. At the same time there is a variety of exhibitions, musical and other entertainment.

Text 5 London airport

1 If you have travelled by plane (we also say “by air”), you will probably agree that travelling by plane is a very exciting experience. An airport is so different from a railway station or a bus stop, the people you meet and the things you see are very interesting and new. What is more, a big airport is like a town - with its own shops, banks and police.

2 London airport is one of the most modern in the world today and is a popular visiting place for both old and young. The airport covers over four square miles, and the road round it is 13 miles long. The airport has five main runways, the longest is 12,000 feet. The total number of people who work at the airport is nearly 36,000.

London airport is one of the busiest in the world - more than 50 airlines operate from it every week. Every day of the week in the summer, over 800 planes land or take off.

London airport is unique in its layout (планировка). All passenger and control buildings are in the centre of the airport. The only way for passengers to approach these buildings is by a tunnel which has been constructed under the main runways.

3 This great airport is famous for the efficiency of its service to the passengers who are continually travelling to all parts of the world. At the airport, all luggage (багаж) is mechanically handled. This is done by a system of conveyor belts, which enables the passengers to pass this great airport with ease.

The cost of making such an airport was approximately 20 millions, but much more will be spent before the work is completed. Each year money is needed for the development of the airport to accommodate great new transatlantic aircraft. Runways have to be lengthened to enable these airplanes to take off with their heavy loads. Air bus system started in 1977.

4 One of the big attractions at London airport is the Roof Gardens which are open to visitors who wish to see how a modern airport operates. The Roof Gardens give a view of the whole of the airport. From the garden you can see all the aircraft landing and taking off: you can see VC-10 - an intercontinental airliner - which has its engines at the back, and has a speed of 600 m.p.h., the Trident, the Boeing 707, the Concord, and many others. While you are watching the planes, a loudspeaker tells you where they are all going to or where they have come from. It also tells you if there are any film-stars, actors or other personalities on board. If you have your own camera you can take a lot of exciting pictures.

5 The English, as you know, like animals very much. You will not be surprised, therefore, when we tell you that London airport has a special animal "hotel". Every year, thousands of animals arrive at London airport. Some stay the night there; others stay several weeks. Some just go to have a drink of water and a rest. The "hotel" looks after birds, insects, fish, elephants, monkeys and spiders.

Answer the questions

- 1 Why is a big airport like a town?
- 2 How do the passengers approach the centre of the airport?
- 3 What helps the passengers to pass London airport easily and quickly?
- 4 From what place can the visitors see how London airport operates?
- 5 What accommodation does London airport have for animals?

Text 6 London as a port

1 The port of London is to the east of the City. Here, today, are miles and miles of docks, and the great industrial areas that depend upon shipping. This is the East End of London, unattractive (непривлекательный) in appearance, but very important to the country's commerce. The East End is a great proletarian area populated by factory workers, and small craftsmen. The East End is the "hands" of London. The hands which have built the palaces, theatres, shops and hotels, the hands which unload the cargoes in the docks, which make furniture (мебель), dresses, motor cars, and a million and one other things which fill the shops.

2 The River Thames, flowing from west to east, divides London into two parts known as the north bank and the south bank. Years ago the Thames used to overflow its banks when the tide (прилив) came up, but now it has been banked up and you see a fine wide roadway called the Embankment. The Thames estuary (устье) offered excellent facilities for shipping. The deep channel and high tide of the lower river enable vessels to pass inland as far as the bridge and unload in waters that were little troubled by heavy storms in the North Sea. In the early days they anchored (бросать

якорь) in the river and unloaded into small boats and barges which carried the goods to landing-places on the banks.

3 As the ships grew larger this became too slow a process, and the river was overcrowded, so docks were constructed, deep-water basins excavated in the banks of the river, where vessels could come alongside and unloaded their cargoes directly on the wharves (пристань) or even into lorries if necessary. Vessels increased rapidly in size during the last century and are still growing, and hence, larger and larger docks have had to be constructed with deeper and deeper basins.

4 The Thames has the benefit (преимущество) of a good tidal range so that the biggest vessels can go up the river and enter docks at high tide. By closing the dock gates and thus shutting off their waters from the river, deep water can be maintained in the dock all the time it is occupied by vessels. On the river there are ocean-going ships, and lines of barges pulled along by tugs (буксир). Ships up to 6,000 tons can come as far as London Bridge below which is the part of the river called the Pool.

5 The ships can pass under Tower Bridge. It was designed by Sir Horace Jones, London architect, and Sir John Wolfe Barry, civil engineer. It took eight years to build it (1886-1894). It has permanent spans (пролет) 270 feet long, suspended on great chains, connecting them with the river bank and smaller towers (башня) at the shore approaches. The two halves of the drawbridge each weighing 100 tons, can be raised for the passage of ships by hydraulic machinery in a minute and a half only.

Answers the questions

1 What are the "hands" of London known for? 2 How were the goods unloaded in the early days? 3 How are the goods unloaded now? 4 When can ocean-going ships go up the Thames? 5 How are the two halves of the drawbridge raised?

Text 7 The Brooklyn Bridge

The Brooklyn Bridge was built in the year 1883. It is still one of the most popular places of interest in New York. The plan for the Brooklyn Bridge was made by a man named John Roebling. This was in the year 1867.

Roebling was a German. He emigrated to the United States when he was twenty-five. In 1867 Roebling was already quite famous. Years before he had invented the steel cable (трос). Using this steel cable he built several bridges, one at Niagara Falls (Ниагарский водопад) and a second across the Monogahela River at Pittsburgh. He was sure he could build this new bridge.

It was decided to give Roebling a chance. A company was organized. Roebling was head engineer. He began to work making the plans for the bridge. He sent his son Washington to Europe to study some new bridges there. Some experiments had been

made with working in a large box under water.

And then the accident happened. Roebling was working near the river. A boat struck the dock on which he was standing. Two weeks later he died. Before he died he asked that his son Washington should continue his work.

W. Roebling began to work with the same interest and energy as his father. The bridge was begun. There were many problems. According to the plans, there were to be two large towers (башни). One of these towers was to be on the Brooklyn side of the river and the other was to be on the Manhattan side. From the towers hung (свешиваться) a system of steel cables. These steel cables were to hold (удерживать) the bridge.

Today engineers know how to do these things. They have had experience. They have special machines. But at that time no one knew exactly how to do this work. The Brooklyn Bridge was the first bridge of its kind in the world. They used the new box that Washington Roebling had studied in Europe. The box was made of wood and was about the size of a house. In this box men could work under water. Air was forced into the box and the water was forced out of it. It was very dangerous. No one understood the problems of this kind of work. Men became sick. There were many accidents. Roebling himself worked with the men in the box. He tried to encourage the men.

One day a worker went down into the box. He felt perfectly well. Within half an hour he began to feel strong pains (боль). Five minutes later he was dead. The same thing happened to other men. One day Roebling himself had a similar attack. He could not talk. He could not hear. He became paralysed. After a week or two he felt better. He went back again to work in the box. He had a second attack, more serious than the first. He could not work again. In fact he was unable to work again during the rest of his life. He remained a cripple (калека). Yet the work had to continue. And Washington Roebling continued to direct the construction of the bridge. His home was near the bridge. He used a telescope. He watched the work every day. His wife helped him. Each day she went to the bridge. She carried her husband's orders to the men. She worked with the men. At night she returned to her husband. She told him about the work of the day. In this way, year after year, the work continued.

In 1876 the first cable was placed from one tower to the other. In 1883 about fifteen years after it was first begun, the bridge was officially opened. Many important people, including the President of the US, took part in the ceremony. Washington Roebling watched the ceremony through his telescope.

The bridge was one of the wonders of the nineteenth century. It is still today. There is more traffic on it today than ever before. The bridge remains very strong. It also remains a monument to the two men who built it, John Roebling and his son Washington.

Task 1 Choose the best variant

- 1 When John Roebling came to the United States ...
 - a) nobody knew him
 - b) he was known for his invention of the steel cable
 - c) only his friends knew him
- 2 Washington Roebling ...
 - a) was only making the plans for the bridge
 - b) was making experiments
 - c) began building the bridge
- 3 During the construction of the bridge the people used the box ...
 - a) which was constructed by John Roebling
 - b) which was used in Europe
 - c) which was invented by Washington Roebling
- 4 Washington Roebling became a cripple after ...
 - a) he had fallen down the bridge
 - b) he had an accident during the construction of the bridge at Niagara Falls
 - c) he had worked in the box
- 5 Washington Roebling ...
 - a) did not live to see the ceremony of the opening the bridge
 - b) could see the ceremony
 - c) was present at the ceremony

Task 2 Find in the text key words which you can use to speak about the history of bridge building

Text 8 Washington, DC

Read the text and speak about Washington

Washington is the capital of the United States of America. It is situated in the District of Columbia. The White House, where the US President lives and works, the Capitol, the home of the US Congress, and die Supreme Court, are all in Washington.

Washington was named after the first US President George Washington. Washington was first settled in 1790 and since 1800 it has been the Federal capital.

Washington is one of the most beautiful and unusual cities in the United States. In the veiy centre of it rises the huge dome of the Capitol - a big white dome standing on a circle of pillars. The 535 members of die Congress meet here to discuss die nation's affairs. Not far from the Capitol is the Library of Congress, the largest libraiy in the States. It contains more than 13 million books, more than 19 million manuscripts, including the personal papers of the US presidents. The White House is the official residence of the US President. He works in the Oval Office.

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

There are some important museums in Washington where you can see all kinds of things: famous paintings and sculptures, the dresses of Presidents's wives, the

original of the Declaration of Independence, the largest blue diamond in the world, etc. There are 5 universities in Washington. There are no skyscrapers in Washington, because they would hide the city's many monuments from view. No building in the city may be more than 40 metres tall.

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

Names

Washington – Вашингтон; the Capitol – Капитолий (здание конгресса США); the Supreme Court – Верховный суд; Oval Office – Овальный кабинет (рабочий кабинет президента США); the Lincoln Memorial – памятник Линкольну; the Washington Monument – обелиск в честь Джорджа Вашингтона; the Declaration of Independence – Декларация независимости

Text 9 White House

Read and translate the text

The White House is the residence of the president of the United States of America. It is situated in Washington. The White House was the first public building which was built in the capital of the USA. Its cornerstone was laid in 1792 nearly one year before George Washington laid the cornerstone for the Capitol Building.

Architect James Hoban submitted plans for the building and received a 500 dollar prize for his work.

In 1800 President John Adams and his wife moved into the building. At the beginning of the 19th century it was a light-grey structure made of sandstone. The construction of the building hadn't been completed by that time. There were almost no conveniences in the house. There were no bathrooms and water was carried by hand into the house from a spring which was five blocks away.

Work continued on the structure when Thomas Jefferson was elected President. In 1814 the building caught on fire. The interior was reduced to ashes, part of outer walls were destroyed and the remaining walls were blackened. Later the building was reconstructed and reopened in 1818. Its light-grey sandstone exterior was painted white to cover the effects of fire. It has been white ever since. Some people think it was from its white walls that the home of the president of the USA got its name. Other people believe that it got its name earlier, when it was still grey. Even then its grey sandstone walls looked white next to the red brick walls of other public buildings. Nevertheless the president's home was officially named the White House in 1902.

Text 10 New York

New York is a city where all the languages of the world are spoken and where people live on the ground, travel under the ground and work in the sky.

New York makes a great impression on all visitors because of its many high buildings, its theatres, museums and hotels, its beautiful bridges, and its expensive shops with their fabulous (баснословный) prices. The first permanent white settlers (поселенцы) came to New York from Holland in 1626. These Dutch settlers bought all of Manhattan Island (остров) from the Indians for the equivalent of twenty-five dollars, while today some of this land costs a million dollars an acre. This island is the heart of the city.

It is on Manhattan Island that most of the skyscrapers are located. This island is connected by six long bridges, as well as by tunnels and ferries (паром), with the other four districts that constitute New York City.

New York is the largest city in the United States. Today there are more people living in the New York City than in Australia, Peru or Sweden.

For transportation New York depends (зависеть) mainly on buses, the subway, taxis and ferries. The buses are slow because of the crowded streets, whereas the subway tram can go as fast as railroad trams, sometimes stopping only at the most important stations. We may go all day by the subway for the same fare, if we only change trains but do not go out of the stations.

New York moves vertically as well as horizontally, taking its people by elevator to their offices on the fortieth, sixtieth, and eightieth floor.

New York is the richest and the poorest, the most modern and the most old-fashioned (старомодный) of cities. It is the home of expensive hotels and cheap boarding houses, the home of symphonies and popular jazz, of cathedrals (собор) and night clubs; the home of the famous Metropolitan Opera and the Metropolitan Museum of Art; the home of most of the largest publishing houses (издательство) of the United States and the biggest newspapers. On the Fifth Avenue there are many expensive stores of international fame, but around the corner one may find little shops where imitation diamonds and cheap souvenirs are sold.

Task 1 Choose the best variant

1 The first permanent white settlers of New York were ...

a) from France b) from England c) from Holland

2 The Manhattan Island is ...

a) in the centre of New York b) in the suburbs (пригород) of New York

c) very far from New York

3 The Island is connected with other parts of New York ...

a) by one long bridge b) by six long bridges c) by six short bridges

4 The largest city in the USA is ...

a) Washington b) Chicago c) New York

5 The subway trains move ...

a) as fast as railroad trains b) slower than railroad trains

c) faster than railroad train

Task 2 Speak about New York

Text 11 Rockefeller Centre

Everyone who visits New York City today wants to see Rockefeller Centre. It is one of the most popular places of interest. But what is Rockefeller Centre? Rockefeller Centre is really a small city with thousands of offices, all kinds of stores, restaurants and small hops. The buildings are very large, very high. The style of the buildings is modern. There is little decoration. The architects who planned them tried to do two things. First they tried to make the buildings look like one group. Second they tried at the same time to make each building a little different in form from the others.

There are many facts and stories about Rockefeller Centre. Here is one of them about John Rockefeller, who together with some other companions began work on Rockefeller Centre in 1930. It took about ten years to complete all of the original buildings

One day he was walking along the street where the construction had just begun. He wanted to see the work which was going on. There was a high fence around the construction site. He tried to look through the fence but could see nothing. Just then a policeman came along. "Move along," said the policeman. "You can't stand here."

"I was just trying to watch the work," said Mr. Rockefeller. "Move along," repeated the policeman. "I am John Rockefeller," said Mr. Rockefeller. "Sure, and I am President Roosevelt," said the policeman. "Now move along, mister. And don't give me any more trouble."

Mr. Rockefeller went to his office and gave an order to cut holes in all the fences at the level of a man's eyes. Today this is the general custom in New York City. These holes are for the convenience of anyone who wants to stop and watch the work as long as he likes.

Text 12 History of Moscow

1 In the early 19th century the prominent Russian historian Nikolay Karamzin said: "If you want to know Russia go to Moscow." By the end of the 20th century we have every reason to repeat these words. It is the city where every stone breathes history.

Moscow was founded in 1147 by the Prince of Suzdal, Jury Dolgoruky. Although there were settlements on the site of modern city long before 1147, this was the year when Moscow was first mentioned in the written records. Moscow has the priority right to be the capital of the Russian State. Its wise founder built it in the middle of a densely populated country. It is protected by rivers and a fortress. In the opinion of many scientists the city will never lose its significance and the leading role in the development of the country. Moscow, like ancient Rome, stands on seven hills. The principle is the Borovitsky, the hill on which the Kremlin stands.

2 Moscow's early architecture was simple but expressive. The larger part of the city was occupied by private houses made of wood. But such city's structures as fortress walls, bridges, churches and cathedrals were made of brick and white stone decorated with ceramic. Eventually these buildings crested Moscow's architectural image of a city of white stone.

Large-scale stone construction was performed during the reign of Catherine the Great. Several first-class foreign architects were invited to build a number of architectural monuments in Western style. Some of them have survived to our days and are carefully preserved by the city authorities.

3 In 1812 during Napoleon's invasion a terrible fire raged in the city for several days. It was calculated that more than 7,000 buildings were destroyed and the city's central area was completely gone. This disaster, however, prompted a real housing boom. Standard projects had to be used to facilitate rapid restoration of the city and preserve the city's architectural uniformity. This task was successfully carried out. As a result a great number of stone houses with much better facilities appeared in the city. They were completely different from those of the previous years.

As the time passed, the city's boundaries expanded considerably. New dwelling districts and industrial enterprises were built on the outskirts of the city.

4 Alongside industrial development much attention is paid by the city administration to the construction of cultural, educational institutions and sports facilities. In recent years the population of Moscow reached 10 million and it is still growing. This resulted in large-scale migration of people. Muscovites move from one district to another, when they get new flats and for other reasons. All that calls for further development and improvement of the city's transport services. The most convenient means of transport in Moscow is, of course, the Metro. Besides it there are buses, trolley-buses and trams. The total length of their routes is constantly increasing.

Having reconstructed many of the existing streets and roads the city authorities started to build new roads which are to link several city districts between the Moscow Circular Highway and the Sadovoye Ring Road.

So instead of the traditional monocentric system the city gets polycentric planning according to which Moscow complex zones are united by a system of general city centre.

5 The territory within Sadovoye Ring Road will retain its significance as a historical, cultural, educational and administrative public centre, the seat of the Government and the Parliament. All the valuable architectural monuments as well as parks and old streets with their unique buildings will remain untouched.

Moscow today is an enormous city whose infrastructure is traditional for every megapolis with first-rate hotels, restaurants, theatres, exhibition halls, shops and gigantic transport arteries. But Moscow remains open, hospitable and festive and consequently has the right to be called the heart of Russia.

Task 1 Find in the text a passage describing Moscow's present development and translate it into Russian

Task 2 Find some key words to speak about Moscow nowadays

Text 13 Kurgan

Words:

foundation – основание	mainly – в основном
quite – совершенно, вполне	to develop – развиваться
exactly – точно	to evacuate – эвакуировать
a settlement – поселение, слобода	agriculture – сельское хозяйство
to appear – появляться, возникать	an inhabitant – житель
a fortress – крепость	to spread – простираться, распространяться
wooden – деревянный	to divide – делить
a peasant – крестьянин	a district – район
to rename – переименовать	the eternal fire – вечный огонь
an enterprise – предприятие	outstanding – выдающийся
to produce – производить	personality – личность
brick – кирпич	
backward – отсталый	
merchant – купеческий	

Kurgan is not a very large town. It is situated on the Tobol River. The date of the foundation of the town is not known quite exactly. A small settlement of Tsarevo Gorodische appeared on the Tobol river more than 300 years ago. It was a fortress with a wooden Kremlin. It was founded by the Tumen peasant Timofey Neveshin, who built his house on the bank of the Tobol river. The settlement grew and became a town. In 1782 it was renamed into Kurgan. The same year the first industrial

enterprise appeared in Kurgan, it produced bricks.

Before the Great October Revolution Kurgan was a backward merchant town. It was built mainly with small wooden houses, there were 4 hospitals and only 1 school and 1 library. After the Revolution Kurgan began to develop. During the Great Patriotic War many enterprises were evacuated into Kurgan. The largest enterprises were the Machne Building Plant and the Wheeled Tractor Plant. Kurgan had highly developed agriculture.

Nowadays Kurgan is one of the regional centers of our country. Kurgan region is the youngest in Siberia and lies in Zauralje. It was founded on the sixth of February, 1943, when it was separated from Chelyabinsk region. It has 23 districts, nine towns and many villages. Kurgan region is traditionally considered as an agricultural region. It is rich in clay, lime stone, gypsum and other resources. The main natural wealth of the region is fertile soil.

Kurgan is often called the gate of Siberia. The population of the town is over 327.898 inhabitants. Kurgan is spread over the area of about 160 km. The town is divided into 7 districts. Kurgan is the cultural center of our region. We have a number of institutions of primary, secondary and higher education in our town.

There are several museums in Kurgan: the Art Museum, the Museum of Regional Studies, the House Museum of Decembrists. In the center of Kurgan the Town Park is situated. In the Park there is the Alexander Nevskiy church which was built in 1902.

There are some theatres in Kurgan, the most popular one is Drama Theatre. There is a monument to the people who died during the Great Patriotic War in the center of the town, in the square there is the eternal fire. Not so long ago a new monument to the soldiers who died in the local wars was opened in the town.

Kurgan is famous for some outstanding personalities, the names of G. A. Ilizarov, Y.D. Vitebskiy, T.S.Maltsev are known all over the country.

Task 1 Answer the questions

1 Where is Kurgan situated? 2 When and who was Kurgan founded by? How did it look like that time? 3 When did Kurgan become a town? 4 What is the population of Kurgan? 5 What is the area of the town? 6 What museums are there in the town? 7 Are there many theatres in Kurgan? 8 What are the famous people of Kurgan?

Task 2 Prove the following statements

- 1 Before the Great October Revolution Kurgan was a backward merchant town.
- 2 After the Revolution Kurgan began to develop.
- 3 Kurgan is the cultural center of our region.
- 4 Kurgan is famous for some outstanding personalities

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