

Ю. А. Смирнов



Сборник устных тем для подготовки к ГИА


ПРОСВЕЩЕНИЕ
ИЗДАТЕЛЬСТВО

5-9

Ю. А. Смирнов



АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

Сборник устных тем
для подготовки к ГИА

5–9 классы

Пособие для учащихся
общеобразовательных организаций

2-е издание, исправленное

Москва
«Просвещение»
2014

УДК 373.167.1:811.111
ББК 81.2Англ-922
С50

Смирнов Ю. А.

С50

Английский язык. Сборник устных тем для подготовки к ГИА. 5–9 классы : пособие для учащихся общеобразоват. организаций/Ю. А Смирнов. – 2-е изд., испр. – М. : Просвещение, 2014. – 145 с. – ISBN 978-5-09-032024-5.

Сборник охватывает все темы, включённые в спецификацию Государственной итоговой аттестации по английскому языку. Для удобства работы темы сборника представлены в порядке, предложенном в спецификации. После каждой темы предлагается план-ответ, который поможет учащимся подготовиться к устному рассказу, список вопросов, а также список полезных слов и выражений к темам, не предполагающим заучивание фактической информации. После изучения материалов сборника раздел «Говорение» ГИА не будет представлять трудностей для учащихся. Кроме того, материалы сборника можно использовать при подготовке к устным зачётам и экзаменам по английскому языку в 5–9 классах.

**УДК 373.167.1:811.111
ББК 81.2Англ-922**

ISBN 978-5-09-032024-5

© Издательство «Просвещение», 2012
© Художественное оформление.
Издательство «Просвещение», 2012
Все права защищены

Содержание

Предисловие	5
А. (Межличностные) взаимоотношения в семье FAMILY MATTERS	6
Б. (Межличностные) взаимоотношения с друзьями и в школе FRIENDS	10
В. Внешность и характеристики человека APPEARANCES	12
Г. Досуг и увлечения (спорт, музыка, чтение, посещение кино/ театра, дискотеки, кафе). Молодёжная мода	17
1. HOBBIES AND PASTIME	17
2. MUSIC	20
3. READING	24
4. CLOTHES AND FASHION	28
Д. Покупки. Карманные деньги DOING THE SHOPPING	32
Е. Переписка PEN FRIENDS AND EMAILS	35
Ж. Школьная жизнь. Изучаемые предметы и отношение к ним. Каникулы. Школьные обмены	39
1. SCHOOL LIFE	39
2. HOLIDAYS	44
3. Проблемы выбора профессии и роль иностранного языка	48
1. CHOOSING A CAREER	48
2. LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGES	52
И. Страна/страны изучаемого языка и родная страна. Их географическое положение, климат, население, города и сёла, достопримечательности	55
1. GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM	55
2. LONDON	58
3. FAMOUS BIG AND SMALL CITIES OF BRITAIN	63
4. GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE OF THE USA	68
5. WASHINGTON, D.C.	71
6. FAMOUS BIG AND SMALL CITIES OF THE USA	76
7. GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE OF RUSSIA	82
8. MOSCOW	85
9. FAMOUS BIG AND SMALL CITIES OF RUSSIA	90

<i>К. Страна/страны изучаемого языка и родная страна. Их культурные особенности (национальные праздники, знаменательные даты, традиции, обычаи)</i>	
1. UK HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS	94
2. US HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS	97
3. RUSSIAN HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS	102
<i>Л. Выдающиеся люди родной страны и стран изучаемого языка, их вклад в науку и мировую культуру</i>	
1. OUTSTANDING PEOPLE OF BRITAIN	108
2. OUTSTANDING PEOPLE OF THE USA	113
3. OUTSTANDING PEOPLE OF RUSSIA	117
<i>М. Путешествие по странам изучаемого языка и по России</i>	
TRAVELLING	121
<i>Н. Технический прогресс</i>	
TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS	126
<i>О. Глобальные проблемы современности</i>	
GLOBAL PROBLEMS OF TODAY	129
<i>П. Средства массовой информации (пресса, телевидение, радио, Интернет)</i>	
MASS MEDIA	132
<i>Р. Природа и проблемы экологии. Здоровый образ жизни</i>	
1. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	136
2. DOING SPORTS AND KEEPING FIT	140

ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

Сборник устных тем для подготовки к ГИА охватывает все темы, включённые в спецификацию Государственной итоговой аттестации по английскому языку. Для удобства работы темы сборника представлены в порядке, предложенном в спецификации:

- А. (Межличностные) взаимоотношения в семье
- Б. (Межличностные) взаимоотношения с друзьями и в школе
- В. Внешность и характеристики человека
- Г. Досуг и увлечения (спорт, музыка, чтение, посещение кино/театра, дискотеки, кафе). Молодёжная мода
- Д. Покупки. Карманные деньги
- Е. Переписка
- Ж. Школьная жизнь. Изучаемые предметы и отношение к ним. Каникулы. Школьные обмены
- З. Проблемы выбора профессии и роль иностранного языка
- И. Страна/страны изучаемого языка и родная страна. Их географическое положение, климат, население, города и сёла, достопримечательности
- К. Страна/страны изучаемого языка и родная страна. Их культурные особенности (национальные праздники, знаменательные даты, традиции, обычаи)
- Л. Выдающиеся люди родной страны и стран изучаемого языка, их вклад в науку и мировую культуру
- М. Путешествие по странам изучаемого языка и по России
- Н. Технический прогресс
- О. Глобальные проблемы современности
- П. Средства массовой информации (пресса, телевидение, радио, Интернет)
- Р. Природа и проблемы экологии. Здоровый образ жизни

После каждой темы предлагается план-ответ, который поможет учащимся подготовиться к устному рассказу по теме, и список вопросов. После тем, которые не требуют заучивания фактической информации, предлагается список полезных слов и выражений, которые можно использовать при составлении монологического высказывания.

После изучения материалов сборника раздел «Говорение» ГИА по английскому языку в 9 классе не будет представлять для учащихся труда. Кроме того, материалы сборника можно использовать при подготовке к зачётам и экзаменам по английскому языку в 5–9 классах.

A (Межличностные) взаимоотношения в семье

FAMILY MATTERS

I want to tell you about my family.

My family is rather big. I have got a mother, a father, an elder sister, a grandfather and a grandmother.

My mother's name is Irina. She is a teacher of English in one of Moscow schools. She is a very good specialist and has achieved a lot in her profession. My mother likes sewing and reading fashion magazines. I am always ready to help her with house chores, because I know that teaching profession is very difficult and I should make sure that my mother has some free time after the school.

My father's name is Alexei. He is a wonderful designer. He works for a big publishing house. I love looking at his works! Sometimes I give him advice on the colours or pictures and he appreciates my opinion. My father is also very good at composing music. It is so interesting to watch him writing music.

My elder sister's name is Elena. She is a student of the 4th year at Moscow Financial University. Elena is going to be an accountant. Sometimes she helps me with my Maths homework when she has time, but she says that I must study myself to achieve good results in future. My sister likes going to a gym and she keeps fit.

My grandparents, Vera and Vladimir, live in a separate flat. They do not work now, because they are retired. My grandmother used to work as an engineer at a big car factory and my grandfather is a professor: he used to teach students at Moscow State University. He is a specialist in Russian history and culture. Sometimes he still writes articles for specialised journals and he knows so many interesting things! Every week I go to visit them and always help them with shopping.

I love my family and I am so happy that we are all together!

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. FAMILY MATTERS

1. Вступление. Рассказать в общем о своей семье (big/not very big/small; a mother/a father/a sister/a brother/grandparents, etc.).
2. Рассказать о каждом члене семьи по следующей схеме: name → age → occupation → hobbies → qualities of character, etc.
3. Заключение (I love my family and I am so happy that we are all together!).

QUESTIONS

1. What is your name?
2. What is your surname?
3. Where are you from?
4. Do you have a family? Is it big?
5. Are you a pupil? What form are you in?
6. What do you like doing in your free time?
7. What's your mother's name?
8. Do you have any brothers or sisters?
9. What are their names?
10. What's your father's name?
11. Do you have a grandfather or grandmother?
12. How old are they?
13. Do you have any uncles or aunts?
14. How many cousins have you got?
15. What are their names?
16. Are they older than you?
17. How old are they?
18. Are they boys or girls?
19. Where do your cousins live?
20. Where do your grandparents live?
21. What does your father do?
22. Where does your mother work?
23. Does your father have a car?
24. What kind of car is it?
25. What does your brother do?
26. What about your sisters? What do they do?
27. Do you live in a house or in a flat?
28. Do you have your own room?
29. Does your brother or sister have his/her own room?
30. What do you have in your room?

31. Can you describe your house or flat?
32. Do you have a garden or a balcony?
33. Have you got a pet?
34. What kind of pet have you got?
35. What's its name?
36. How old is it?
37. How do you get on with your brother/sister?
38. Do you go to the same school as your brother/sister?
39. Do your grandparents live with you?
40. Do you have a great-grandfather/grandmother?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

wife

husband

Parents

mother

stepmother

father

stepfather

Children

daughter

son

sister

brother

baby

stepson

stepdaughter

Grandparents

grandmother

grandfather

grandchildren

granddaughter

grandson

Other relatives

aunt

uncle

niece

nephew

cousin

жена

муж

Родители

мать

мачеха

отец

отчим

Дети

дочь

сын

сестра

брат

малыш

пасынок

падчерица

Бабушки и дедушки

бабушка

дедушка

внуки

внучка

внук

Другие родственники

тётя

дядя

племянница

племянник

двоюродный(-ая) брат/сестра

mother-in-law
 father-in-law
 son-in-law
 brother-in-law

daughter-in-law

sister-in-law

Types of houses/flats

(3)-room flat/apartment (AmE)
 block of flats
 condo (condominium AmE)
 cottage
 detached house
 houseboat
 loft

penthouse flat

semi-detached house

studio

terraced-house

villa

Parts of houses/flats

bathroom
 bedroom
 dining room
 garage
 hall
 kitchen
 kitchen garden
 living room
 study

тёща/свекровь
 тесть/свёкор
 зять (муж дочери)
 зять (муж сестры), шурин (брат жены), деверь (брат мужа),
 свояк (муж свояченицы)

жена сына, невестка, сноха
 невестка (жена брата); золовка;
 свояченица

Типы домов/квартир

(трёх)комнатная квартира
 многоквартирный дом
 кооперативный дом/квартира
 коттедж, загородный дом
 особняк, дача
 плавучий дом
 лофт (квартира открытой планировки, расположенная в бывшем индустриальном здании)
 фешенебельная квартира обычно на крыше высотного здания
 дом из двух квартир, имеющих общую стену
 квартира-студия
 таунхаус
 вилла
Части дома/квартиры
 ванная комната
 спальня
 столовая
 гараж
 коридор, холл
 кухня
 огород
 гостиная
 кабинет

Б. (Межличностные) взаимоотношения с друзьями и в школе

FRIENDS

I think it is very important to have friends, because any person needs someone to communicate and share interests with.

My best friend is my classmate Sasha. He is fifteen. He is a tall boy with a round face and grey eyes. His hair is short and fair. Sasha lives very close to my block of flats. We often spend time together. We go for walks, play computer games and do our homework. I really enjoy spending my time with him. Sasha is a very good pupil and he studies really well. Sometimes he helps me with school subjects if I have any difficulties.

I should say that my classmates are really friendly. We always help each other and I usually invite them over to my apartment for birthday parties.

Sasha and my classmates are not my only friends. I have other friends outside school, too. Masha is one of them. She is older than me. Masha studies in the 11th form. She likes dancing and has a big collection of music CDs at home. She wants to be a professional dancer and she knows many interesting facts about musicians and music in general. She doesn't have much time because she attends dancing classes and I am sure that she will make a wonderful career as a dancer. Reading is Masha's other hobby. She always buys new books and we exchange them. It is great to have common interests.

All of my friends like computer games. We play online games and have fun. I am really lucky to have such wonderful friends.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. FRIENDS

1. Вступление по теме (I think it is very important to have friends, because any person needs someone to communicate and share interests with.).

2. Рассказать о своём лучшем друге/своей лучшей подруге (name/age/appearance/interests or hobbies; lives far/not far/close to; activities you do together: playing computer games/walking/reading/doing homework/doing sports/cycling/skating/skateboarding/going shopping, etc.).
3. Рассказать о друзьях-одноклассниках (friendly/unfriendly, invite classmates over/help each other, etc.).
4. Рассказать о друзьях вне школы (name/age/appearance/interests or hobbies; lives far/not far/close to; activities you do together: playing computer games/walking/reading/doing homework/doing sports, etc.).
5. Заключение (I am really lucky to have such wonderful friends).

QUESTIONS

1. What is friendship?
2. Why is it important to have friends?
3. Have you got many friends?
4. Who is your best friend and what can you tell about him/her?
5. What do you usually do when you meet with your friends?
6. What common interests do you have with your friends?
7. Are common interests important for friends?
8. Do you have friends among your classmates?
9. What qualities should a good friend have?
10. What annoys you in your friends?
11. Would you like to have more friends than you have now?
12. Does age matter for friends?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

acquaintance
 associate
 classmate
 colleague
 companion
 co-worker
 friend/pal/buddy
 partner
 pen friend
 rival
 roommate

знакомый
 товарищ
 одноклассник
 коллега
 компаньон
 коллега
 друг
 партнёр
 друг по переписке
 враг, противник
 сосед/соседка по комнате

В. Внешность и характеристики человека

APPEARANCES

They say that appearances are important. On the one hand, this is true, on the other, this is not quite right. A handsome man or a pretty woman can have very unpleasant traits of character and the opposite. However, there are exceptions, of course!

I want to tell you about my sister, Katya. In primary school she didn't look very pretty. She had freckles, red wavy hair and was wearing glasses. All this made her clumsy and shy.

Since that time her appearance has changed very much, but her character has remained the same. She has grown up into a very pretty girl. She is of a medium height, slender and well-proportioned. Her hair has got darker into a chestnut shade. She wears it long to her shoulders. Her face has soft features, her freckles have disappeared, but her complexion remains pale as before. Instead of glasses she wears contact lenses, which allow her sparkling hazel-green eyes to shine. She has a small straight nose and a rather wide mouth but her enchanting smile shows her white teeth and makes her face look charming. No one can say that her gestures are clumsy any more.

Katya has nice manners. She is sincere, polite and helpful. She is not easily angered or bad-tempered. Her childhood experience has taught her to be patient and not to show off. She has still remained a bit withdrawn in some situations but she is good-natured, tolerant and sensitive to other people's needs. She is always ready to help. These are the qualities of her character which I like.

She does fairly well at the university. She is bright, attentive and keen on learning new things. She tries hard to get good marks but sometimes her hobbies are more important for her than school.

Katya likes house chores and is not lazy at all. Unlike me, she always has her room clean because she does not mind helping her mother about the flat. Apart from that, like other girls of her age, she likes dancing, playing the guitar, and listening to modern music.

We spend quite a lot of time together. She understands my problems and I can rely upon her. We have the same view on things and even if we argue we always find a compromise. Although she has her faults, nobody is perfect.

I like my sister a lot and I hope our friendship will last forever.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. APPEARANCES

1. Вступление (They say that appearances are important. On the one hand, this is true, on the other, this is not quite right. A handsome man or a pretty woman can have very unpleasant traits of character and the opposite. However, there are exceptions, of course!).
2. Рассказать о друге/подруге/члене семьи/знакомом (age/height/looks (hair/face/eyes/nose/mouth/complexion)/build/manners/characteristics/interests or hobbies/activities that you do together, etc.).
3. Заключение (I hope our friendship will last forever).

QUESTIONS

1. Are appearances really important? Why (not)?
2. Do you think that people with good looks are always nice?
3. How can you describe your best friend?
4. What qualities of character are important in your opinion?
5. What are your best characteristics?
6. Which characteristics would you like to have?
7. Is it important for a person to be shy?
8. Do you get irritated by talkative people? Why (not)?
9. How do you feel in a company of strangers?
10. Are you good at meeting new people?
11. Is it good to be optimistic? Why (not)?
12. Do you agree that there is only one best friend, others are just acquaintances? Why (not)?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Age

baby
toddler
youngster
teenager
adult
look (thirty)
under forty
over fifty
middle age/aged
elderly person

Height

tall
of medium height
short

Build

slim
slender
skinny
plump
to be overweight
stout
to have an athletic build
broad shouldered

Looks

beautiful/pretty
handsome
attractive
good-looking
plain

Hair

long (to the shoulders)
short
straight
wavy
curly
ponytail
plait

Возраст

младенец, новорождённый
ребёнок (от 10 месяцев до 2 лет)
юноша
подросток
взрослый
выглядеть на (тридцать)
под сорок
за пятьдесят
среднего возраста
пожилой человек

Рост

высокий
среднего роста
низкий

Телосложение

худой
стройный
тощий
пухлый
с избыточным весом
полный
атлетического телосложения
широкоплечий

Внешность

красивая (о женщинах)
красивый (о мужчинах)
привлекательный
с приятной внешностью
некрасивый

Волосы

длинные (до плеч)
короткие
прямые
волнистые
кудрявые
хвост
коса

light/fair/blond
dark/dark-haired
auburn

light/dark brown
red/ginger

grey
beard
moustache
bald

Face

round
oval
angular
coarse/soft features
wrinkled
freckles/freckled

Eyes

blue-eyed
deep blue
dark
grey
hazel

Nose

straight
hooked
aquiline
snub

Mouth

wide
small
narrow

Complexion

pale
tanned
dark

Characteristics

(dis)honest
(im)patient
(im)polite

светлые, блондин(ка)
тёмные/темноволосый
золотисто-каштановый
светло-/тёмно-коричневые
рыжие
седые
борода
усы
лысый

Лицо

круглое
овальное
узкое
с грубыми/мягкими чертами
морщинистое
веснушки/веснушчатое

Глаза

голубоглазый
тёмно-голубые
тёмные
серые
карие

Нос

прямой
с горбинкой
орлиный
курносый

Рот

широкий
маленький
узкий

Цвет лица

бледный
загорелый
смуглый

Черты характера

(не)честный
(не)терпеливый
(не)вежливый

(un)faithful	(не)верный
(un)friendly	(не)дружелюбный
(un)selfish	(не)эгоистичный
amiable	милый, дружелюбный
brave	смелый
cunning	хитрый
curious	любопытный
emotional	эмоциональный
energetic	энергичный
generous	щедрый
good-tempered	дружелюбный
bad-tempered	злой, раздражительный
greedy	жадный
hard-working	трудолюбивый
with a sense of humour	с чувством юмора
hospitable	гостеприимный
intelligent	умный
kind	добрый
lazy	ленивый
mischievous	вредный
modest	скромный
moody	человек настроения, угрюмый
open-minded	человек широких взглядов
optimist/pessimist	оптимист/пессимист
quiet	тихий
rude	грубый
self-confident	самоуверенный
show off	красоваться, хвастаться
shy	скромный
silly	глупый
sociable	общительный
sympathetic	полный сочувствия
tactful	тактичный
talkative	разговорчивый
touchy	обидчивый
trusting	доверчивый

Г. Досуг и увлечения (спорт, музыка, чтение, посещение кино/театра, дискотеки, кафе). Молодёжная мода

1. HOBBIES AND PASTIME

A hobby is something that you enjoy doing in your free time. I think that hobbies help you not to waste your spare time doing nothing. Most people choose a hobby to their liking.

One of the most popular hobbies is collecting things. This may include collecting badges and stamps, bottles or flowers. Wealthy people collect works of art or even cars.

As for me, I used to collect coins in my childhood. My collection includes more than five hundred coins from all over the world. My grandfather collects stamps. His father started the stamp collection and then my grandfather inherited it. There are very old and rare stamps in his collection.

Making things is another type of hobbies. This includes handicraft, drawing, painting, etc. For example, one of my friends sews clothes for dolls. My brother makes toy trains. His collection is growing day by day.

Playing computer games has become a very popular hobby both with children and adults. My cousin loves computer games. On the one hand, it is nice that a person has such a hobby, but on the other hand, it can do harm to health.

Sport can also be a hobby. I don't mean professional sport, but amateur sport. Some people play tennis, football or volleyball. Others prefer watching sport programmes on TV.

Personally, my major hobby is reading. I am very fond of detective stories and mysteries. It is very hard for me to pass by a bookshop, and I can spend hours there! I read books not only in Russian, but in English too. New e-readers are becoming more and more popular in Russia, but I think that there is nothing better than paper copies of books, so I don't have

an e-reader.

Listening to music is my other hobby. I have a big collection of CDs with different kinds of music both Russian and international. I also have some favourite composers and I collect information about them.

There are people who don't have hobbies, but they still have their own ways of spending free time. My friend likes travelling and he spends most of his free time travelling across Russia. He goes to nearby towns and cities by car and to far-away places by train or even by plane.

As for me, I like playing computer games and watching TV in my free time. Most of all I like educational programmes, especially about technology. In general, I consider it necessary to have a hobby or favourite things to do, because in this case you don't waste your time doing nothing.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. HOBBIES AND PASTIME

1. Вступление (what a hobby is/why people should have a hobby).
2. Рассказать о самых распространённых видах хобби с примерами из своего опыта (*collecting things*: what people collect; if you/your friends/family members collect anything; *making things*: what this hobby includes; if you you/your friends/family members make things; *computer games*: a popular hobby; if you/your friends/family members are fond of computer games; advantages and disadvantages; *sport*: professional/amateur sport).
3. Рассказать о своём/своих хобби (Personally, my major hobby is reading/dancing/listening to music/doing sports/ etc.; I am very fond of...).
4. Рассказать о том, что вы обычно делаете в свободное время, с примерами из своего опыта (travelling/watching TV/reading, etc.).
5. Заключение (In general, I consider it necessary to have a hobby or favourite things to do, because in this case you don't waste your time doing nothing.).

QUESTIONS

1. What is a hobby?
2. What types of hobbies do you know?
3. Do you have a hobby?
4. What hobbies do your family members and friends have?

5. What do you usually do in your free time?
6. Is it really important to have a hobby? Why (not)?
7. Do you know any unusual hobbies?
8. What hobby do you consider most interesting?
9. Have you ever collected anything in your life?
10. Can learning foreign languages be a hobby? Why (not)?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

astrology
 collecting coins/stamps/autographs
 completing a jigsaw
 cooking
 dancing
 embroidery
 fishing
 gardening
 horse riding
 knitting
 listening to music
 making models
 martial arts
 painting
 photography
 play chess/cards/a musical instrument/on the computer/computer games
 reading books/comics/magazines
 sculpting/sculpture
 sewing
 singing
 taking up sports
 woodworking

астрология
 коллекционировать
 монеты/марки/автографы
 собирать пазл
 кулинария
 танцы
 вышивание
 рыбалка
 садоводство
 верховая езда
 вязание
 слушать музыку
 собирать модели
 боевые искусства
 рисование
 фотография
 играть в шахматы/карты/на музыкальном инструменте/на компьютере/в компьютерные игры
 читать книги/комиксы/журналы
 заниматься скульптурой
 шитьё
 пение
 занятие спортом
 работа по дереву

2. MUSIC

We come into contact with music throughout our lives. Music plays a significant role for us. We hear it everywhere: in streets, in shops, in cafés and at home. Music follows us from childhood and we can't live without it. When we are little, we listen to lullabies sung by our mothers or grandmothers and soon we try to sing some songs ourselves. We listen to music when we are happy or sad, we dance to it and we learn to play music too. Music is not just a combination of sounds, it is a real art. There are a lot of different genres of music that people enjoy: classical music, jazz, popular music or pop music, rock and club music. Music reflects our life, our emotions and feelings.

At any time of the day we can listen to music of all genres on the radio. Young people buy CDs by their favourite singers and composers or download the music they like from the Internet. They often watch music channels on TV. One of the most popular channels is MTV. You can also see many people wearing earphones in the streets or in the underground and listening to music using MP3-players or mobile phones.

Big and small cities and towns provide opportunities for people of all ages to enjoy music at concert halls, clubs or at music festivals. Young people usually go to clubs to listen to their favourite groups or dance to club music: trance, techno or house.

Those who have a musical talent can develop it by learning to play a musical instrument. Many children start playing the piano or wind instruments, such as the flute or the saxophone. Others like string instruments, for example, the violin. However, under the influence of pop music broadcast by the radio and TV tastes may change. Teenagers often start to play the guitar, the drums or the keyboard and many of them dream of making a group and giving concerts to a large audience. At

the age of 16 or 17 many young people also take dancing lessons and develop a liking for dance music.

As for me, I prefer European pop music. I have no favourite musical genre, I can listen to various kinds of music and the choice depends on my mood. My sister loves rock music. Her favourite rock groups are *30 Seconds to Mars* and *Muse*.

My father likes jazz. His favourite jazz singer and musician is Louis Armstrong. Sometimes he listens to classical music too.

As for my mother, she is fond of Paul McCartney. She can listen to his songs all day. She says that he is a really great singer and his voice makes her forget everyday problems.

No one knows when music appeared first, but it is clear that if there was no music, our life would be extremely boring and sad.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. MUSIC

1. Вступление (what role music plays in our life, where we can hear it, when we start listening to music, what popular genres of music there are, etc.).
2. Рассказать о том, где и как обычно можно послушать музыку (radio/TV/CDs/MP3-players/mobile phones/concert halls/clubs/music festivals, etc.).
3. Рассказать о возможностях развивать музыкальный талант и музыкальные предпочтения в подростковом возрасте (learning to play a musical instrument, tastes change with age, organising a group, dancing lessons, etc.).
4. Рассказать о своих музыкальных предпочтениях и о музыкальных предпочтениях родственников и друзей (as for me, I prefer...; my brother/sister/mother/father likes...; etc.).
5. Заключение (No one knows when music appeared first, but it is clear that if there was no music, our life would be extremely boring and sad.).

QUESTIONS

1. What role does music play in our life?
2. Where can we hear music?
3. When do we first meet with music?

4. Have you ever heard lullabies?
5. When do we usually listen to music? When do you listen to music?
6. What genres of music do you know?
7. What are your favourite genres of music?
8. Have you got an MP3-player?
9. Do you listen to music on CDs or on the radio?
10. What music channels are there in Russia? Which of them do you watch?
11. What opportunities are there for people to enjoy music in towns and cities?
12. Where do young people usually go to enjoy music?
13. Do you go to clubs or concerts?
14. How can you develop your musical talent?
15. Have you ever attended a music school?
16. Can you play any musical instruments?
17. Which instrument would you like to play?
18. In what way can music tastes change?
19. Can you dance? Would you like to learn to dance?
20. Which music do you prefer?
21. What music do your friends/relatives listen to?
22. Can you imagine life without music? Why (not)?
23. Would you like to become a musician? Why (not)?
24. Do you like electronic music? Why (not)?
25. Have you ever thought of becoming a DJ?
26. What are your favourite music bands? Why do you like them?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Genres of music

alternative

blues

chamber music

choir

classical

country

dance

electronic

folk

hip-hop/rap

house

jazz

Latino

Музыкальные жанры/направления

альтернативная музыка

блюз

камерная музыка

хор

классическая музыка

кантри

танцевальная музыка

электронная музыка

народная музыка

хип-хоп/рэп

хаус-музыка

джаз

латиноамериканская музыка

lullaby
opera
pop
punk
rock/rock'n'roll
symphonic
techno
trance

Musical instruments

String

(acoustic/electric) guitar
harp
mandolin
viola
violin

Woodwinds

bassoon
clarinet
flute
saxophone

Brass

French horn
trombone
trumpet

Keyboard

electric piano
organ
piano
synthesizer

Percussion

bongos
cymbals
drum
tambourine
triangle
xylophone

Other instruments

accordion
harmonica

колыбельная
опера
поп-музыка
панк-рок
рок/рок-н-ролл
симфоническая музыка
техно
транс

Музыкальные инструменты

Струнные

(акустическая/электрическая) гитара
арфа
мандолина
альт
скрипка

Деревянные духовые

фагот
кларнет
флейта
саксофон

Медные духовые

валторна
тромбон
труба

Клавишные

электронное пианино
орган
пианино
синтезатор

Ударные

бонго (сдвоенные барабаны)
тарелки
барабан
бубен
треугольник
ксилофон

Другие инструменты

аккордеон
губная гармошка

3. READING

Child psychologists believe that reading is one of the best habits that should be encouraged in children. Ninety percent of the things we learn during our lifetime come through books; therefore if we can't read, we can't learn.

Books appeared long ago. At first they were written by hand, but after printing was invented, it became easier to publish books. There are two large groups of books: fiction and non-fiction books. Fiction books are most popular with readers and include short stories and novels of different genres and poetry. Non-fiction books are dictionaries, reference books, historical books, biographies, encyclopaedias and others.

In my childhood, my mother read different books to me and that helped me to love reading. When I learnt to read, I was really happy because I could read books which I wanted and liked. At first, they were fairy tales, adventure stories and comics. Later, I was fond of detective stories and thrillers. Now I read historical novels and I realise that I do not know many things from history and it is so wonderful that I can learn them now and understand facts that I could not understand in my childhood. During my studies I also use non-fiction books like dictionaries and encyclopaedias to find necessary information.

Today television and the Internet have almost replaced books because these resources provide any information one wants and some people think that in the modern world we do not need books at all. I think, however, that books will never disappear, because reading gives us pleasure.

Modern technologies also made it possible for us to use electronic readers instead of paper copies of books. On the one hand, such readers are very convenient as you do not have to carry a thick book in your bag: you just take the reader and upload text files into it, so instead of several books you just

carry one light electronic device! In addition, you may also keep pictures and even music files on it. Lastly, it is more environmentally friendly to use an electronic reader – cutting down trees is not needed for their development unlike the process of producing paper copies.

However, everything has its disadvantages. To begin with, such readers are rather expensive and not everyone can afford them. One point against it is that free electronic texts to download are hard to find. Finally, paper books are more pleasant to hold in hands: touch their pages, turn them over, feel their smell. I have an electronic reader and it is convenient, but I still read paper copies of books too.

To sum up, it is impossible to live without reading and even if paper books may disappear in the future, people will never stop reading.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. READING

1. Вступление (the importance of reading, if we can't read, we can't learn, etc.).
2. Рассказать кратко об истории книгопечатания и двух группах книг (appeared long ago, were written by hand, printing was invented, two large groups, fiction: short stories and novels of different genres and poetry; non-fiction: dictionaries, reference books, historical books, biographies, encyclopaedias).
3. Рассказать о том, что вы читали в детстве, какие книги предпочитаете читать сейчас (In my childhood, fairy tales/adventure stories, etc.; Now I read...; During my studies I also use...).
4. Рассказать о чтении и книгах в современном мире и современных технологиях (television and the Internet, do not need books at all, modern technologies, electronic readers: advantages and disadvantages, etc.).
5. Заключение (To sum up, it is impossible to live without reading and even if paper books may disappear in the future, people will never stop reading.).

QUESTIONS

1. Do you read much?
2. What sort of books do you read?

3. Do you enjoy reading?
4. Should children be encouraged to read?
5. What are the advantages of reading? Are there any disadvantages? What are they?
6. Is it good to get the reading habit?
7. Do you read in English or in your own language?
8. Does reading help to learn a language?
9. When do you usually read?
10. Do you read newspapers?
11. Do you read magazines or journals?
12. What books do you usually use to get ready for your classes?
13. Do you think people should read more?
14. What will happen if we don't read?
15. When should we start reading?
16. Do you think that people don't read so much because they are busy watching television or surfing the Internet?
17. What would you do to encourage people to read? Is it difficult to encourage yourself to read? Why (not)?
18. What was your favourite book in your childhood? What is your favourite book now?
19. What is your favourite genre of books?
20. Do you read electronic books or prefer paper copies of books? Why?
21. What are the advantages and disadvantages of electronic readers?
22. Do you think that books may disappear in the future? Why (not)?
23. Where do you usually buy books?
24. Do you borrow books from a library or do you buy them?
25. Do you think that libraries may disappear in the future? Why (not)?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Fiction

action and adventure
children's
contemporary
crime
fantasy
graphic novels/comics
historical fiction
horror
humour

Художественная литература

боевики и приключения
книги для детей
современная проза
детектив
фэнтези
комиксы
исторический роман
ужасы
юмористическая проза

mystery
 romance
 science fiction
 short story collection
 thrillers
 young adult
Non-Fiction
 almanac
 art & photography
 biography & memoirs
 blueprint
 booklet
 brochure
 business & finance
 cookbook
 dictionary
 encyclopaedia
 gardening
 gift books
 guide
 handbook
 history
 "how-to"
 journalism
 manual
 medical health & fitness
 nature & ecology
 periodical
 pets
 picture book
 psychology
 reference
 self-help
 sports
 textbook
 travel

детективный роман
 любовный роман
 научная фантастика
 сборник рассказов
 триллеры
 литература для подростков
Научно-популярная литература
 альманах
 книги по искусству
 биография/мемуары
 план, чертёж
 буклет, брошюра
 брошюра
 бизнес и финансы
 кулинарная книга
 словарь
 энциклопедия
 садоводство
 подарочные издания
 гид, путеводитель
 справочник, руководство
 книги по истории
 инструкция
 журналистика
 руководство пользователя
 медицина и фитнес
 природа и экология
 периодические издания
 о домашних животных
 словарь в картинках
 психология
 справочник
 книги «помоги себе сам»
 спорт
 учебник
 книги о путешествиях

4. CLOTHES AND FASHION

People have various attitudes to fashion. Some are indifferent and do not care what they wear. Others, mostly women, are very choosy about what clothes to wear and like to spend a lot of money on them. Most people buy ready-made clothes at clothes shops or second-hand shops, but there are those who like to have their clothes made at the tailor's. There are some people who dress to the latest fashion even if it does not suit them. It seems to be their hobby to follow the fashion magazines and see what leading designers present.

Fashion concerns not only clothes, but also hair style, make-up and accessories, such as shoes, handbags, gloves, belts, hats, scarves or jewellery and glasses. Styles, cuts, designs and particularly the length of clothes change very quickly because dressmaking has become big business nowadays. Fashions often revert to older styles; what is out of fashion, funny or ridiculous now, may look romantic a few decades later.

The way we dress also depends on our taste, on the season and the proper occasion. In summer we usually wear light summer dresses, shorts or Bermuda shorts and various T-shirts. The usual summer footwear is sandals and flip-flops.

In winter people wear something warm – trousers, jeans, cardigans and jumpers. People also wear anoraks, winter coats and jackets, sometimes even fur coats outside.

On special occasions people usually dress up. When going to a concert or to the theatre, evening dresses and suits are appropriate. For sports people put on sportswear, such as sports trousers, jeans, shorts, T-shirts and trainers.

The most popular types of clothes with teenagers are jeans or trousers, shirts and T-shirts of different colours, sweat-shirts or pullovers and trainers. Boots and shoes of the "Converse" shoe company are very popular with the young people now.

As for me, my favourite articles of clothes are jeans, T-shirts and trainers. At my school pupils must wear a uniform, so I don't have a problem with what to put on when I go to school. When I go out, I prefer something comfortable like jeans and a sweatshirt. I try to follow the fashion, but fashionable clothes are rather expensive and since I haven't got a job yet, I have to ask my parents for pocket money. I usually buy clothes at a market and choose clothes similar to the ones that are in fashion at the moment. This saves money!

Some people do not choose their clothes to the latest fashion. They wear what suits them, what is comfortable and what they can afford.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. CLOTHES AND FASHION

1. Вступление (attitudes to fashion/choosy/ready-made clothes/second-hand clothes/follow the fashion/hair style/ accessories/styles, etc.).
2. Рассказать о том, какую одежду носят в разные времена года (*summer*: summer dresses/shorts/Bermudas, etc.; *winter*: trousers/jeans/cardigans/trainers, etc.).
3. Рассказать о том, что одевают в разных ситуациях (concert/theatre/sports competitions, etc.).
4. Рассказать о подростковой моде (jeans/T-shirts/sweatshirts/trainers/popular brands, etc.).
5. Рассказать о своей любимой одежде (favourite articles of clothes; what you wear at school and outside school; if you follow the fashion/why (not); where you buy clothes; who buys clothes for you).
6. Заключение (Some people do not choose their clothes to the latest fashion. They wear what suits them, what is comfortable and what they can afford.).

QUESTIONS

1. What attitudes do people have to fashion?
2. What does fashion include?
3. What changes in fashion very quickly?
4. How does the season influence clothes?
5. What kind of clothes do people wear on various occasions?

6. Do you follow the fashion?
7. What are your favourite types of clothes?
8. Where do you usually buy clothes?
9. Do you prefer buying clothes yourself or with your parents?
10. Do your parents give you pocket money for new clothes?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Clothes

suit/costume
tweed/leather/suede [sweid]/
denim jacket
tuxedo
waistcoat/vest (AmE)
trousers/pants (AmE)
jeans
evening dress
top
blouse
jumper
cardigan/sweater
pullover
anorak

raincoat
fur coat
parka

pyjamas
night dress/gown
track suit
shorts
Bermuda shorts/Bermudas
shirt
sweatshirt
T-shirt
skirt
swim suit
trunks
blazer

Одежда

мужской костюм/женский костюм
твидовый/кожаный/замшевый/
джинсовый пиджак
фрак
жилет
брюки
джинсы
вечернее платье
топик
блузка
джермпер
вязаная кофта/свитер
пуловер
анорак (*тёплая куртка с капюшоном*)
плащ
шуба
парка (*удлинённая тёплая куртка с капюшоном*)
пижама
ночная рубашка
тренировочный костюм
шорты
бермуды
рубашка
толстовка
футболка
юбка
купальный костюм
плавки
спортивная куртка

Footwear

leather/suede/hand-made shoes

heel

sole

laces

sports shoes

low/high-heeled shoes

slippers

sandals

flip-flops

trainers

boots

Wellingtons/wellies/rubber

boots

Accessories

socks

stockings

tie

bow tie

scarf

handkerchief

gloves/mittens

hat

(baseball) cap

hood

belt

buckle

umbrella

braces

handbag

glasses

jewellery

necklace

bracelet

brooch

earrings

ring

Обувькожаные/замшевые/изготовлен-
ные вручную туфли

каблук

подошва

шнурки

спортивная обувь

туфли на низком/высоком каблуке

тапочки

сандалии

сланцы

кеды/кроссовки

ботинки

резиновые сапоги

Аксессуары

носки

чулки

галстук

бабочка

шарф

носовой платок

перчатки/варежки

шляпа/шапка

бейсболка, кепка

капюшон

ремень

пряжка

зонт

подтяжки

дамская сумочка

очки

украшения

ожерелье

браслет

брошь

серьги

кольцо

Д. Покупки. Карманные деньги

DOING THE SHOPPING

Shopping usually means going to some place to buy something. It is a part of our life and we have to accept it whether we like it or not. There are people who hate shopping, so they usually make a list of the things they need, run through shops and buy them. There are people who go from shop to shop choosing goods at a lower price. For some people shopping is a hobby; they love shops and they can spend hours in large shopping centres. Such people are called "shopaholics" because they sometimes buy things which they do not need and it is like an addiction.

My family usually does the shopping at weekends. My parents work too hard, so they do not have enough time to do the shopping during a week. On Sundays we go to a supermarket and buy food for the whole week. I don't like supermarkets, because there are crowds of people there. You can buy anything in such supermarkets: poultry, meat, seafood, dairy products, etc.

There are a lot of different shops in my city, both expensive and cheap and everyone has a choice where to go. I prefer going to a big shopping centre not far from my home where there are a lot of shops and a food court. There are clothes shops, shoe shops, a florist's, a chemist's, an optician's, a jeweller's and many others. I usually walk there with my friends doing the window-shopping.

When I need clothes or books I do the shopping alone. My favourite bookshop is just in the centre of my city. I can spend hours inside looking through new books. I also like shopping when I need to buy presents for my family or friends. Sometimes my friend helps me to choose presents. She is a nice girl with good taste and she knows what would be a nice present for my family.

In childhood, I used to like shopping because I felt grown-up, but now I see that it can be quite boring and time-consuming. However, we have to go shopping because we need food and other things that are necessary for our life.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. DOING THE SHOPPING

1. Вступление (what "shopping" means, kinds of people (hate shopping, love shopping/shopaholics).
2. Рассказать о походах по магазинам со своей семьей (when you usually do the shopping, where you go shopping, who you go there with, what you usually buy there).
3. Рассказать о магазинах в своём городе (a lot of/few shops, shopping centres, what shops there are, etc.).
4. Рассказать о себе (prefer doing the shopping alone/with family/with friends/etc., whether you like shopping or not and why, what your favourite shops are, etc.).
5. Заключение (We have to go shopping because we need food and other things that are necessary for our life.).

QUESTIONS

1. What does shopping mean?
2. When does your family do the shopping?
3. Do you like shopping?
4. When do you do the shopping?
5. Do you usually go shopping alone or with your family/friends?
6. What shops are your favourite?
7. Did you do the shopping in childhood?
8. Do you like buying clothes or things for yourself?
9. Do you enjoy buying presents for other people?
10. What's a department store?
11. What's a supermarket?
12. What do you think of shopping on a Saturday afternoon in the supermarket?
13. What are the advantages and disadvantages of them?
14. What do you think of online shopping?
15. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this kind of shopping?
16. What do you think of street markets?
17. Do you think it is cheaper to buy things at street markets?
18. Have you ever been to an auction?

19. What do you think of this system of buying things?
20. What are the advantages and disadvantages of an auction?
21. Do you look at the prices when you go shopping?
22. Are you a shopaholic?
23. What is the best day of the week for shopping?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

antique shop
baker's
barber's
beauty salon
bookshop
butcher's
clothes shop
confectioner's
corner shop
department store
deli
department store
fishmonger's
florist's
grocer's
greengrocer's
haberdasher's
hairdresser's
market
jeweller's
music shop
novelty shop
optician's
pet shop
shoe shop/footwear
sports shop
stationery shop

supermarket
tobacconist's
toy shop

магазин антиквариата
булочная
парикмахерская (для мужчин)
салон красоты
книжный магазин
мясная лавка
магазин одежды
кондитерская
мелкий магазин, лавка
универмаг
гастроном, кулинария
универмаг
рыбный магазин
цветочный магазин
бакалея
овощной магазин
галантерея
парикмахерская (для женщин)
рынок
ювелирный магазин
музыкальный магазин
хозяйственный магазин
оптика
зоомагазин
обувной магазин
магазин спортивных товаров
магазин канцелярских принадлежностей
супермаркет
табачный магазин
магазин игрушек

Е. Переписка

PEN FRIENDS AND EMAILS

Modern technologies made it possible for people to communicate easily in a way which is more convenient for them. There are different ways of communication today: older ones like post, telephone and fax and modern ones like email, SMS and social media sites. It has become much easier to write an email and send it to your friend or colleague and you are sure that it will reach its addressee in a few seconds even if the distance between you is huge.

It has also become very easy to meet new people and make friends at distance. With the help of such social media sites like Facebook, Twitter or their Russian analogues Vkontakte or Odnoklassniki you can either find people who you have lost contact with or make new friends. Forums and chats help people with similar interests to create groups and discuss things that interest them. Many of them meet in real life and communicate.

As for me, I consider myself a “digital native” and I am interested in new gadgets and the Internet. I usually spend my free time on social media sites too. I have profiles on Facebook and Vkontakte and post pictures and status updates. It’s nice to get comments on them and also it is cool to hear from people who you haven’t heard from for a long time. Furthermore, it is easy to drop a message to your friends or discuss something online. My parents are “digital immigrants”, so I had to teach them to use the Internet and email. I am proud that I succeeded in it and now they have their own profiles on some social media sites and use email often.

I have got some pen friends too. One of them, Matt, lives in America in Connecticut. He is my peer and we usually drop each other emails. On the one hand, it is extremely interesting to know what life is like in America and learn about their

habits and culture. On the other hand, I have a very good opportunity to practise my English. I ask Matt to correct mistakes in my letters and this really helps me in my studies.

My other pen friend's name is Katarina, she is from Berlin, Germany. She speaks English well and she is fascinated by Russia and our traditions and way of life, so I tell her about my country and the way we live here. Katarina is thinking of learning Russian as a second foreign language.

I think it is really important to have pen friends from different countries. This will help you practise English or another language that you learn and also it will give you an opportunity to learn something about the life of other countries and their culture.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. PEN FRIENDS AND EMAILS

1. Вступление (Modern technologies made it possible for people to communicate easily in a way which is more convenient for them. There are different ways of communication today: older ones like mail, telephone and fax and modern ones like email, SMS and social media sites. It has become much easier to write an email and send it to your friend or colleague and you are sure that it will reach its addressee in a few seconds even if the distance between you is huge.).
2. Рассказать о самых распространённых интернет-сайтах и социальных сетях, которые позволяют общаться с друзьями и знакомыми, о своём отношении и отношении своей семьи к ним (social media sites, Facebook/Twitter/Vkontakte/Odnoklassniki, forums and chats; "digital native"; I usually spend/don't spend my free time on social media sites; I have/don't have profiles on Facebook/Vkontakte/Odnoklassniki, etc.; post pictures/status updates/get comments, etc.; "digital immigrants", teach parents to use the Internet and email.).
3. Рассказать о своих друзьях по переписке, если они есть, по следующей схеме: age → occupation (pupil/university student, etc.) → place of living (country) → topics that you discuss → interests.
4. Заключение (I think it is really important to have pen friends from different countries. This will help you practise English or another language that you learn and also it will give you an opportunity to learn something about the life of other countries and their culture.).

QUESTIONS

1. What are the ways of communication?
3. What ways of communication do you personally use?
4. What in your opinion is the most convenient way of communication?
5. Which do you use more often, post or email?
6. Are you a "digital native"?
7. What about your parents/grandparents? Are they "digital natives" or "digital immigrants"? Why?
8. What is your opinion about social media sites?
9. Do you have a profile on any of the social media sites?
10. Why do you use these sites?
11. Do you use internet chats or forums?
12. Have you ever met people from chats and forums in real life?
13. Do you think it might be dangerous to meet users from internet chats and forums in real life? Why (not)?
14. Have you got any pen friends? Where are they from?
15. What do you think about pen friendship in general?
16. Would you like to have pen friends from all over the world? Why (not)?
17. What similar interest do you have?
18. Why is it important to have pen friends?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

addressee

analogue

attach

blog

bulletin board (message board)

chat

chat room (chatroom)

communicate

convenient

cyberspace

dating site

digital immigrant

адресат

аналог

прикреплять (файл к электронному письму)

блог

электронная доска объявлений

чат

«комната» чата, посвящённая определённой теме

общаться

удобный

интернет-пространство, виртуальное пространство

сайт знакомств

плохо знакомый с техническими новинками

digital native	хорошо знакомый с технически- ми новинками
domain	домен
email	электронная почта
firewall	система защиты доступа
forum	форум
instant messaging	обмен мгновенными сообщения- ми
internet address	интернет-адрес
link	ссылка
network	сеть
online phone calls	интернет-звонки
post	публиковать объявление в элек- тронном дневнике или на сайте
pen friend	друг по переписке
profile	профиль (анкета) в социальных сетях или на сайтах знакомств
screen name	ник в чатах и на форумах
SMS (short messaging system)	СМС-сообщения
social media/networking site	социальная сеть
SPAM	нежелательная почта
subscribe	подписываться (на сайт, рассыл- ку)
toolbar	панель инструментов
upload	загружать что-либо в интернет (на сайт)
username	имя пользователя
video conference	видеоконференция
vlog (videoblog)	видео-дневник, видео-блог
webmaster	разработчик веб-страниц
website (internet site)	интернет-сайт

Ж. Школьная жизнь. Изучаемые предметы и отношение к ним. Каникулы. Школьные обмены

1. SCHOOL LIFE

Everybody will agree that education is very important. Without education you will not be able to get a good job or make a career. School years are the most important period for everybody, as you get basic education which is truly essential.

I study in the 9th form in a co-educational state school. We study all the usual subjects such as Maths, Science, History, Geography, Russian and English. It is hard to say which subject is my favourite, because I am good at all of them. But still I am more into humanitarian subjects and I like Russian and English, for example. This year I am going to take the State General Exam in English, so I attend additional English evening classes in my school to pass the exam successfully.

Most of the schoolchildren live nearby and come to school on public transport or on foot. The school day usually starts at 8:30 am and finishes at 2:30 pm.

The school building is rather big: it has four floors with a lot of facilities. On the ground floor there is a gym, a cafeteria, a medical room, a school museum and a library. Breakfast and lunch are provided in the cafeteria. They are very healthy and we get energy for the whole school day.

Our gym is very well-equipped. There is new sports equipment to meet all pupils' needs. School sports competitions usually take place in our gym.

The school library has a big collection of old and new books. Schoolchildren get textbooks for free in the library, so they do not have to buy them.

The first floor is mostly used for administrative purposes, but there are a few large classrooms including a computer lab.

The second floor is for primary school children. There are also classrooms for pre-school education with toys and games.

From the third floor and up there are different classrooms. Each classroom is devoted to a particular subject. One can find the classrooms of Russian, Literature, Biology, English, etc. All of them have modern educational equipment necessary for interesting lessons. Most of our classrooms have CD and DVD players, TV-sets and interactive boards, so teachers show us educational films and documentaries.

The internet access in the computer lab is available for all schoolchildren for free.

There are also some interesting clubs at my school. I like the drama club which I go to on Thursdays. We have already staged a lot of plays and I am proud that I can take part in them. We also have a dancing studio, a handicraft club and an art studio. They are all free of charge.

There is a large assembly hall in my school where school meetings and concerts take place. There is a big stage and up-to-date equipment necessary for performances and concerts.

Another interesting fact about my school is that there is an international exchange programme. Every year five best pupils from secondary school go to England or the USA for a month and study there. In exchange, English or American pupils come to Russia and go to our school. They stay in the families of those pupils who left. I think this is a very nice programme. It makes pupils want to be best of all to go and see an English-speaking country. I would love to go on such a programme, but I haven't been good enough yet. I am working hard to get such an honour.

There are rules in my school, but they are not very strict. Students must respect each other and school property for example, and we don't have to wear a uniform.

I am really glad that I am one of the students of this school and I am sure that I will always remember my school years.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. SCHOOL LIFE

1. Вступление (education is important/without education you.../school years).
2. Рассказать о себе (I study in the ... form in a co-educational state/private/board-ing school; major subjects; hard/easy to say which subject is my favourite, because...; I am more into humanitarian/scientific subjects and I like...).
3. Рассказать о школьном распорядке (the school day starts/finishes at...).
4. Рассказать о школьном здании (rather big/not very big/small; one/two/three/four/five floors; on the ground floor there is a...; if you have/do not have an opportunity to have meals at school; about the gym: very well-equipped/not very well-equipped; new/old sports equipment; about the library: a big collection of/a lot of/few old and new books; if schoolchildren get/do not get textbooks for free in the library; what is there on the other floors).
5. Рассказать о классных комнатах и актовом зале (devoted to a particular sub-ject/can be used for various subjects; modern educational equipment/CD and DVD players/TV-sets/interactive boards/the internet access for free/only dur-ing lessons/for a fee/school meetings and concerts/big stage and up-to-date equipment).
6. Рассказать о школьных кружках и клубах, если есть (interesting clubs; free of charge/for a fee).
7. Рассказать о программе обмена учащимися, если есть (an international exchange programme; who is chosen for it; what countries).
8. Рассказать о школьных правилах и требованиях (not very/very strict; don't have to/have to wear a uniform, etc.).
9. Заключение (I am really glad that I am one of the students of this school and I am sure that I will always remember my school years.).

QUESTIONS

1. What form are you in?
2. Is your school big or small?
3. How many floors are there in your school building?
4. What classrooms are there in your school?
5. Is there a gym in your school? Is it up-to-date?
6. Do you have breakfasts and lunches at school?
7. Are there classrooms for every subject? Do you have special labs?
8. What is a typical classroom like in your school?
9. Are there any clubs in your school? Do you go to any of them?
10. What are your teachers like?
11. What are the qualities a teacher should have?
12. How many students are there in your class?

13. How many students do you think there should be in a class?
14. What do you do if you don't understand the teacher's explanation?
15. What are your memories of your younger school days?
16. How do school children go to school nowadays?
17. Do you remember the first day you went to school?
18. Do you remember the first book you ever read?
19. Do you remember your first teacher? what was he/she like?
20. Do you think little children are happy at school?
21. At what age do you think boys and girls should leave school?
22. At what age do they leave school?
23. At what age will/did you leave school?
24. What subject do you like best and least?
25. Do you study languages at school? Which languages?
26. At what age did you start to learn English?
27. Do you have lunch at school?
28. Can you describe the food you have?
29. How long did you stop for lunch?
30. Which is the worst time for studying?
31. Would you like to be a teacher? Why? Is teaching a demanding job?
32. What would you change in your class?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

beginning/end of the school
year/term

Holidays

autumn

New Year and Christmas

spring

summer

Special events

parent-teacher meeting

State General Exam

Russian National Exam

farewell party

school trips

Subjects

compulsory

начало/конец учебного
года/четверти

Каникулы

осенние

новогодние и рождественские

весенние

летние

Особые события/мероприятия

родительское собрание

Государственная итоговая

аттестация

Единый государственный экза-
мен

прощальная вечеринка

школьные поездки

Предметы

обязательные

optional/elective
 humanities/social sciences
 Science/Natural Sciences
 Maths/Math
 Physics
 Chemistry
 Biology
 Geography
 History
 Computer Science (ICT)
 English/German/Russian

Physical Education (PE)
School building
 schoolyard
 sports ground
 swimming pool
 classrooms
 head's office/deputy's office
 teachers' room
 cloakroom
 gym
 assembly hall
 canteen
 cafeteria/snackbar

Pupils
 hardworking
 gifted
 talented
 lazy
 inattentive
 capable
 (un)disciplined

Teachers
 ideal
 (in)experienced
 demanding
 patient
 strict

предметы на выбор
 гуманитарные
 естествознание
 математика
 физика
 химия
 биология
 география
 история
 информатика
 английский/немецкий/русский
 язык
 физкультура

Здание школы
 школьный двор
 спортивная площадка
 бассейн
 классные комнаты
 кабинет директора/завуча
 учительская
 раздевалка
 спортивный зал
 актовый зал
 столовая
 буфет

Ученики
 трудолюбивые
 одарённые
 талантливые
 ленивые
 невнимательные
 способные
 (не)дисциплинированные

Учителя
 идеальные
 (не)опытные
 требовательные
 терпеливые
 строгие

2. HOLIDAYS

What is the best time for schoolchildren? Holidays, of course! Autumn, winter, spring and definitely summer holidays. These are the times when you can forget about homework, school and teachers.

Usually autumn holidays are not very exciting. The weather is getting worse, it's raining and you don't have much opportunity to walk outside for a long time. During autumn holidays my friends and I usually spend time at each other's places playing computer games.

Winter holidays are much more interesting! I like skating and my family usually goes to the skating rink in a nearby park. Sometimes my friends and I go outside the city to the ski lodge. We rent skis and go cross-country skiing in the forest. Just before the New Year's Day a big fir tree is set in our park. It is decorated with garlands and large toys. Ice hills are also made in the park. I like going to the park with my younger sister and my friends. At New Year's night my family usually goes outside. My father and I make a fireworks display. My mother always says that it is dangerous, but we all know that she likes our fireworks. We also congratulate everyone who we meet with the New Year and they congratulate us back. I like it that people are so kind during this holiday!

The longest term is behind and spring holidays come. It is getting warm every day, streams are flowing in the streets. It is fun, but you should be careful not to slip on the spring ice and fall in a puddle! I walk with my friends, go to the cinema, ride a bike or roller-skate.

At last summer has come! The books have been taken back to the library, now other children will use them next year. Summer is my favourite season. I can wear only a T-shirt, jeans or shorts and light trainers or flip-flops. I have three months of rest which I can devote to myself and to my friends. During

the first two weeks of summer holidays my family and I go to some resort. We have already been to Turkey and Egypt and this year we are going to Spain. We like sunbathing and swimming in the sea. I wish we could do this all year round!

Then we go back to the city and my sister and I go to our grandparents' country house. It is not worse than holidays at the sea. Our country house is rather far from our city – about two and a half hours by car. But it is worth going there anyway. I take a bike and a games console with me. I meet my friends there. I see some of them every day at school and I don't see others for the whole year, so I have an opportunity to meet them again and catch up. We ride bikes, sunbathe on the river bank, swim in the river and communicate with each other.

I wish holidays were all year round!

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. HOLIDAYS

1. Вступление (What is the best time for schoolchildren? Holidays, of course! Autumn, winter, spring and definitely summer holidays. These are the times when you can forget about homework, school and teachers.).
2. Рассказать о школьных каникулах и о том, чем обычно занимаются во время них (autumn holidays: not very exciting, weather getting worse, my friends and I...; winter holidays: much more interesting; I like...; my family...; New Year's Day; spring holidays: the longest term; it is getting warm; streams; I walk with my friends/go to the cinema/ride a bike/roller-skate, etc.; summer holidays: I can wear...; three months; my family and I...; this year we...; Then...; country house; meet my friends, etc.).
3. Заключение (I wish holidays were all year round!).

QUESTIONS

1. What are holidays?
2. What school holidays are there in Russia?
3. What are your favourite holidays?
4. When are autumn holidays?
5. What do you usually do during autumn holidays?
6. When are winter holidays?
7. What do you usually do on winter holidays?
8. Do you like winter holidays? Why (not)?

9. Are spring holidays long or short?
10. What can schoolchildren do during spring holidays?
11. What do you usually do?
12. How long are summer holidays?
13. Where do you usually spend your summer holidays?
14. Do you go with your family?
15. Do you prefer to swim in the sea or in a swimming pool?
16. What do you think of spending a holiday in a village?
17. What is better to spend holidays with the family or with friends?
18. Have you ever been camping? if so, where?
19. Do you take any school books to revise?
20. Do you read during your holidays?
21. Do you meet any English-speaking people during your holidays?
22. What do you think of spending your holidays learning languages?
23. What do you think of working during your holidays?
24. What do you think of people who work in summer?
25. How do you feel when your holidays are over?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Indoor activities

dance
listen to music
play board games/computer
games
read
study
watch TV

Outdoor activities

birdwatching
(downhill) skiing
(ice) skating
(rock) climbing
(whitewater) rafting
camping
canoeing
cross-country skiing

diving
figure skating

Занятия в помещении

танцевать
слушать музыку
играть в настольные
игры/компьютерные игры
читать
учиться
смотреть телевизор

Занятия на открытом воздухе

наблюдение за птицами
катание на горных лыжах
катание на коньках
скалолазание
сплав по реке
идти в поход
заниматься греблей
кататься на лыжах по пересе-
чённой местности
ныряние (дайвинг)
фигурное катание

fishing
gardening
jogging
karting
make sandcastles
paintballing
picnic
play volleyball/football
rowing
sailing
scuba diving
sightseeing/doing the sights
skateboarding
snorkeling
snowboarding
sunbathe
surf
swim
toboggan
walk
waterskiing
windsurfing
zorbing

ловля рыбу
садоводство
бег
картинг
строить замки из песка
пейнтбол
пикник
играть в волейбол/футбол
гребля
плавание (на яхте, на лодке)
ныряние с аквалангом
осмотр достопримечательностей
скейтбординг
плавание под водой с маской
сноубординг
загорать
сёрфинг
плавать
катание на санках
гулять
катание на водных лыжах
виндсёрфинг
зорбинг (катание/спуск со склонов внутри прозрачного двухслойного шара «зорба»)

3. Проблемы выбора профессии и роль иностранного языка

1. CHOOSING A CAREER

Finishing school means the independent life for millions of school-leavers. Many roads are open before them: technical schools, colleges and universities. But it is not an easy thing to choose a profession out of thousands! Some pupils follow their parents' advice; others can not make any decision after leaving school.

In childhood I wanted to be a spaceman; then I dreamed of becoming a policeman. Only a few years ago I started thinking about my future career seriously. Life is quite difficult, but I want to have an interesting job and would like it to be connected with different countries and people. That is why I decided to become an interpreter. I am good at foreign languages. My favourite language is English. I like watching films and reading books in the original.

I think the questions young people should ask themselves are: What am I interested in? and What do I want to be? When they find the answers, they will have the goal to achieve. If you are good at a particular subject and you want your profession to be connected with it, it is important that you study it seriously.

My father wants me to follow in his footsteps and become a physicist. But I am not interested in medicine and I am not good at Chemistry or Biology. As they say, medicine is "not my cup of tea".

Another problem is entering a university. Russian National Exam which school-leavers have to pass at the end of the 11th form is rather difficult, so you have to study really hard to get a necessary number of exam points to enter a university. Moreover, different universities have different number of "acceptance points". I have some friends who did not get

enough points to enter the universities they wanted, so they had to choose other places to study or pay for their education.

However, some young people do not know which career to choose even after they finish school, so they have to waste time deciding, or start working. For young men the situation is difficult because they may be taken to the Army that is why a lot of them enter any institute or university just not to become soldiers.

Sometimes young people choose a career to their liking, they enter a university and after some time they realise that the occupation they chose is not what they really want, so they get poor marks and have to leave the university.

The problem of choosing a career is very widespread among young people and they should think about their future seriously before making any decisions.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. CHOOSING A CAREER

1. Вступление (what finishing school means, what opportunities school-leavers have after school, if it is easy/difficult to choose a profession).
2. Рассказать о том, кем вы хотели стать в детстве и кем думаете стать теперь (in childhood I wanted to be..., then..., now I want..., I have made/have not made a decision, I am thinking of..., I am good at...).
3. Рассказать о том, чем должны руководствоваться ученики при выборе профессии (I think the young people should...).
4. Рассказать о том, что думает ваша семья о вашем выборе или кем бы они хотели, чтобы вы стали (my father/mother, etc. wants me to..., but...).
5. Рассказать о проблемах, с которыми сталкиваются выпускники после окончания школы (Russian National Exam, universities and necessary exam points, exam failure, pay for education, can not make choice, waste time, working, the Army; choose a wrong career, leave studies).
6. Заключение (The problem of choosing a career is very widespread among young people and they should think about their future seriously before making any decisions.).

QUESTIONS

1. What opportunities do school-leavers have after finishing school?
2. Is it easy to choose a future career? Why (not)?
3. What did you want to be in your childhood?

4. Have you made up your mind about the future occupation?
5. What would you like your future occupation to be connected with?
6. What school subjects are you good at?
7. What do you think young people should ask themselves when they start thinking about their future?
8. What do your parents think about your future career?
9. Do you usually follow your parents' advice?
10. Do you think that parents should take part in the discussion of your future profession or shall you make a decision yourself?
11. What problems do young people face nowadays after finishing school?
12. Do you study hard to pass the Russian National Exam successfully?
13. Have you chosen the subjects which you will take exams in?
14. Do you agree that sometimes people may get disappointed in the profession they chose? Why (not)?
15. What are the choices for them then?
16. Is it important to choose the future profession only by your interests? Why (not)?
17. Do you think some occupations are useless? Why?
18. Have you heard about professions that are not taught at universities? What are they?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Occupations (Professions)

accountant
actor/actress
architect
artist
astronaut
baker
barber/hairdresser
butcher
carpenter
cashier
chef/cook
composer
computer programmer
construction worker
courier

Профессии

бухгалтер
актёр/актриса
архитектор
художник
астронавт, космонавт
пекарь
парикмахер мужской/женский
мясник
плотник
кассир
шеф-повар
композитор
программист
строитель
курьер

dancer
dentist
doctor
driver
editor
electrician
estate agent

farmer
fire fighter
flight attendant
gardener
journalist
lawyer
librarian
mechanic
model
musician
nurse
painter
pharmacist
photographer
pilot
plumber
police officer
postal worker/postman
sailor
salesperson
scientist
secretary
security guard
singer
taxi driver
teacher
translator/interpreter
travel agent
veterinarian/vet
waiter/waitress

танцор/танцовщица
стоматолог
врач
водитель
редактор
электрик
риелтор, агент по
недвижимости
фермер
пожарный
бортпроводник
садовник
журналист
юрист
библиотекарь
механик
модель
музыкант
медсестра
маляр
фармацевт
фотограф
пилот
сантехник
полицейский
почтальон
моряк
продавец
учёный
секретарь
охранник
певец/певица
таксист
учитель
переводчик
турагент
ветеринар
официант/официантка

2. LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Learning a foreign language is not an easy matter. It is a long and slow process that takes a lot of time and effort.

People learn foreign languages for different reasons. The most important reason is communication. More and more people travel abroad and the knowledge of a foreign language helps them communicate. Another reason is business. Big companies usually prefer hiring employees who know at least one language at advanced level. So learning a foreign language or a few languages will help you find a good job.

There are numerous languages in the world. Some of them are not widespread; others have become international languages for communication, like English or German.

The English language is the official language of some international organisations like the Olympic Committee, the United Nations and many others. This is also the universal language of computing. Many interesting and useful internet sites and software are in English, though some of them give information in other languages as well. English is also the native language of many countries like Great Britain, the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and others. In some former British colonies it is the second official language.

Moreover, many languages borrow English words and phrases and people use them in their everyday speech. Such words as "manager", "producer", "mobile phone" are used by different peoples throughout the world. However, despite the fact that English has become the universal language of communication, Chinese is considered to be the most spoken language because China is the most populous country in the world. The Chinese language, Japanese and Arabic are believed to be the most difficult foreign languages to learn.

I study English at school and I understand that this is a very good opportunity for me. I am trying to improve my

knowledge of English by watching films and reading books in the original. I also have a pen friend from England and we communicate very often. I am also thinking of choosing English as my future career because I am good at it. I would also like to learn another foreign language if I had a chance.

All in all, learning foreign languages is a very important process and I am glad that people realise it and start learning them.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGES

1. Вступление (Learning a foreign language is not an easy matter. It is a long and slow process that takes a lot of time and effort.).
2. Рассказать о причинах, по которым люди изучают иностранные языки (communication, business, etc.).
3. Рассказать о роли английского языка в мире (official language of some organisations, universal language, native language, second official language, borrowed English words and phrases, etc.).
4. Рассказать о своём опыте изучения иностранных языков (study English/German/French at school, good opportunity for me, improve my knowledge, pen friends, future career, learn another foreign language).
5. Заключение (All in all, learning foreign languages is a very important process and I am glad that people realise it and start learning them.).

QUESTIONS

1. Why is learning a foreign language not an easy matter?
2. How many foreign languages can you speak?
3. Which of the languages you know is the most difficult?
4. What do you think of the grammar?
5. Can you learn a language without grammar?
6. What's the most difficult part of learning a language?
7. Do you think grown-ups can learn a language as easily as children?
8. Do you watch films in the original?
9. Do you think that going to the country where the language is spoken is important?
10. What do you think of spending a summer month in Great Britain?
11. What do you think of reading in the original? Does it help to improve your knowledge of a foreign language?
12. Can you learn a language by yourself?
13. What is the best age for learning languages?

14. Is learning a language boring?
15. What's the most pleasant part of learning languages?
16. Should languages be taught at school?
17. Are languages important when looking for a job?
18. Which languages are most in demand?
19. What are the advantages of speaking languages?
20. If you want to travel, what languages may help you?
21. What's the most spoken language in the world?
22. Would you like to learn Chinese or Japanese? Why (not)?
23. Do you think that children have difficulties when learning two languages at the same time?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

advanced level

borrow

business

colony

communication

effort

employee

foreign

former

hire

improve

in the original

matter

native

opportunity

pen friend

populous

reason

software

universal

widespread

продвинутый уровень

заимствовать

бизнес

колония

общение, коммуникация

усилие

наёмный работник

иностранный

бывший

нанимать на работу

улучшать

в оригинале

вопрос

родной

возможность

друг по переписке

густонаселённый

причина

программное обеспечение

универсальный

широко распространённый

И. Страна/страны изучаемого языка и родная страна. Их географическое положение, климат, население, города и сёла, достопримечательности

1. GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

The UK is a sovereign state to the northwest of mainland Europe comprising two large islands: the Island of Great Britain, the northeast part of the Isle of Ireland and about 3,000 small local islands.

The UK consists of four constituent countries: England, Wales, Scotland (on the island of Great Britain) and Northern Ireland (on the Isle of Ireland). The country is washed by the North Sea in the north, the Atlantic Ocean in the west and the English Channel in the south. The English Channel separates Great Britain from France, but the country is linked to France by the Channel Tunnel. The Isle of Man in the Irish Sea and the Channel Islands are not part of the United Kingdom as they are self-governing.

One can find nearly every kind of landscape on the British Isles: moors, mountains, hills, meadows and marshes. The main areas of mountains and high land are in Scotland, Wales and Cumbria. The Pennines, called the "backbone of England", are situated in the centre of England running to the north. Ben Nevis, the highest peak in the British Isles, is situated in the Grampian Mountains in the Scottish Highlands. The second highest peak, Snowdon, is situated in the Cambrian Mountains in Wales. The Cheviot Hills separate England from Scotland.

The climate of the country is generally temperate and oceanic with plentiful rainfall all year round. The warm currents of the Atlantic Ocean influence the climate greatly. British winters are not severely cold while summers are rarely hot.

The largest navigable river in Great Britain is the Thames which flows into the North Sea and the longest river is the Severn which flows from the Welsh mountains to southwest.

The Lake District, the most beautiful region in the British Isles and one of British fourteen national parks, is situated in the west. The place is a popular holiday destination. Here England's highest mountain, Scafell Pike, is situated.

One of the most famous lakes is the Loch Ness in Scotland. According to legends, stories and witnesses a monster called "Nessie" or "Loch Ness Monster" lives in the lake.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

1. Рассказать о географическом положении Великобритании (northwest of mainland Europe; two large islands; about 3,000 small local islands).
2. Рассказать о составе Соединённого Королевства (four constituent countries; Northern Ireland).
3. Рассказать об океанах, морях и проливах, воды которых омывают Британские острова (the Atlantic Ocean; the North Sea; the English Channel; the Irish Sea).
4. Рассказать о ландшафте Британских островов (varied; moors/mountains/hills/meadows/marshes; the Pennines; Ben Nevis; the Grampian Mountains; the Scottish Highlands; Snowdon; the Cambrian Mountains; the Cheviot Hills).
5. Рассказать о климате Британских островов (temperate and oceanic; winters and summers).
6. Рассказать о крупных реках (the Thames; the Severn).
7. Описать Озёрный край (the Lake District; national park; holiday destination; Scafell Pike) и рассказать об озере Лох-Несс (most famous; legend about the monster).

QUESTIONS

1. Where geographically is the United Kingdom situated?
2. What islands does the UK consist of?
3. How many constituent countries comprise the UK?
4. What water bodies is the country washed by?
5. What Channel separates Britain from France?
6. What islands are self-governing in the UK?
7. What is the landscape of Britain characterized by?
8. Where are mountainous areas situated?
9. What mountain range is called the "backbone of England"?
10. What are the highest peaks in the British Isles?
11. What mountain range is there in Wales? in Scotland?

12. What can you say about the Cheviot Hills?
13. How can you describe the climate of the UK?
14. What's the water system like in the UK?
15. What is the Lake District famous for?
16. Where is the Loch Ness situated?
17. What legend is connected with it?

2. LONDON

London is the capital of England and the United Kingdom. Founded in 55 BC by the Romans, this city is Britain's political, economic and cultural centre. London is the most populous city in Europe with an official population of 7.7 million people and has a metropolitan area with the population of between 12 and 14 million people.

London is divided into three big parts: the City, the West End and the East End. The City of London (usually called "The City") is a big financial and business centre. It is an independent unit, having its own Lord Mayor and its own police force. The Royal Exchange built in 1567 and opened by Elizabeth I is situated there.

The West End is London's main entertainment and shopping district, with locations such as Oxford Street, Leicester Square, Covent Garden and Piccadilly Circus acting as tourist magnets. The West London area is known for fashionable residential areas such as Notting Hill, Knightsbridge and Chelsea with very expensive property.

The eastern side of London contains the East End and East London. The East End is the area closest to the original Port of London, known for its high immigrant population, as well as for being one of the poorest areas in London with slums. The surrounding East London area is being redeveloped as part of the Thames Gateway including the London Riverside and Lower Lea Valley, which is being reconstructed into the Olympic Park for the 2012 Olympic Games.

London has numerous sites which attract crowds of tourists.

Piccadilly Circus is the heart of London. On special occasions nearly 50,000 people gather around the statue of Eros in the centre of the Circus. This statue was erected in 1893 in honour of the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury who helped the poor. People were shocked at the naked memorial and its creator lost

his popularity and left for another country. In 1932, however, he received a knighthood for his masterpiece.

St. Paul's Cathedral is Sir Christopher Wren's creation. The building of the cathedral began in 1675 and finished in 1710. Visitors can go to the Whispering Gallery to enjoy its acoustic phenomenon. The Cathedral contains a lot of fine paintings, sculptures and other works of art. From the Stone Gallery one can enjoy the breathtaking view of London.

The Houses of Parliament are not ancient, rebuilt in 1870 after a fire. When Parliament sits, a flag flies from the Victoria Tower by day and at night a light shines in the clock. The Old Palace of Westminster Palace was built as a residence for the King and his court. The interior of the Palace is richly decorated with paintings and works of art. Big Ben, the famous clock named after Sir Benjamin Hall, is a reliable timekeeper and a much-loved landmark. Westminster Abbey, one of the masterpieces of the Middle Ages, is situated across Parliament Square. This is where all the English monarchs have been crowned for more than 600 years. A lot of famous people are buried inside the cathedral: Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, William Shakespeare and many others.

Halfway along Whitehall is 10 Downing Street, the residence of the Prime Minister. It also houses his secretariat and helpers.

Trafalgar Square is famous for a tall monument in the centre of it, called Nelson's Column, and built to commemorate the Battle of Trafalgar and honour Admiral Nelson. The National Gallery across the square houses the national collection of Western European painting.

On the waterfront of the City is the famous Tower of London, the oldest construction in London built in the 11th century. It used to be a prison, a fortress, a palace, a treasury and even a zoo. The oldest part of the Tower is the White

Tower. Most of the public displays are here. They include a big collection of armour, jewels and clothes. Traitor's Gate, through which prisoners were taken to the Tower, can still be seen. The Tower of London is also famous for Beefeaters, people who work mainly as guides and guards. But another duty is to look after the 12 black ravens that live on the territory of the Tower.

One of the London sites is Tower Bridge across the Thames built because of the need for an open waterway for large ships. The bridge now is one of the symbols of London.

The National Portrait Gallery founded in 1856 houses more than 9,000 works and a large archive. Among other museums and galleries is the Tate Gallery, opened in 1897. The Victoria and Albert Museum houses a magnificent collection of fine and applied arts.

The National History Museum contains a collection of plants, animals and minerals. The Hall of Human Biology enables visitors to learn about their bodies and the way they work.

The Science Museum displays the discovery and development of such inventions as the steam engine, photography, glass-making, printing and others.

The British Museum is one of the biggest museums in the world containing a lot of artifacts and pieces of art. It was founded in 1753 by an act of Parliament.

But still one of the most famous museums in London is Madam Tussauds Museum, which houses a great collection of wax figures of celebrities. The Sherlock Holmes Museum, situated not far from it, is dedicated to the fictional character created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Often called "The Green City", London has a number of open spaces and green areas. The largest of these in the central area are the Royal Parks of Hyde Park and its neighbours

Kensington Gardens and Holland Park Gardens at the western edge of central London, and Regent's Park on the northern edge. Closer to central London are the smaller Royal Parks of Green Park and St. James's Park. Hyde Park, the largest park in London, is popular for sports and sometimes hosts open-air concerts. Among its sites is Speakers' Corner, a place where anyone can speak out on any topic. Kensington Gardens house the Statue of Peter Pan, which is a favourite place for children that gather around it, and the famous Round Pond.

Regent's Park is another popular place of rest for Londoners with an open-air theatre and the Zoo. The Regent's Canal leads to London Little Venice, a very rich district with beautiful luxurious houses.

London is also a centre of culture with more than 40 theatres in the West End. Theatres range from the Royal Shakespeare Theatre Company to the English Stage Company's presentations of experimental works at the Royal Court Theatre. Opera and ballet performances are given at the Royal Opera House, which is situated in Covent Garden.

London is also a big shopping centre with numerous cheap and expensive shops of different kinds with "Harrods" being the most famous shop in the world.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. LONDON

1. Предоставить общую информацию о Лондоне (capital, founded by the Romans, official population).
2. Рассказать о плане города и о каждой части (three parts: the City, the West End, the East End; the City: Lord Mayor, police force, the Royal Exchange; the West End: entertainment, shopping, Oxford Street, Covent Garden, etc; the East End: immigrant population, poor area, slums, industrial development, the Thames Gateway, etc.).
3. Рассказать кратко об основных достопримечательностях Лондона и о том, чем они интересны (Piccadilly Circus, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Downing Street, Trafalgar Square, the Tower of London, Tower Bridge).
4. Рассказать кратко об известных музеях и галереях Лондона (The National

Portrait Gallery, the National History Museum, the Science Museum, the British Museum).

5. Рассказать о самых известных парках Лондона (Hyde Park, Regent's Park, Kensington Gardens).
6. Рассказать о театральной жизни Лондона (the Royal Shakespeare Theatre Company, the Royal Opera House).
7. Рассказать о самых известных магазинах города ("Harrods").

QUESTIONS

1. Who founded London and when?
2. What parts is London divided into? What can you say about each of them?
3. What is Piccadilly Circus and what story is connected with it?
4. What can you say about St. Paul's Cathedral?
5. What do you know about Tower Bridge?
6. London is famous for its museums and art galleries. What do you know about the most famous ones?
7. What are the Houses of Parliament?
8. Does London have any parks? If yes, what are they?
9. Can London be called an educational centre of England? Can you prove it?
10. What's cultural London like?
11. Can you prove that London is a shopping centre?
12. What famous shops do you know?
13. Would you like to visit London? Why (not)?
14. What sights would you like to see in London? Explain your choice.
15. What museums would you visit first thing? Why?

3. FAMOUS BIG AND SMALL CITIES OF BRITAIN

Liverpool

Liverpool lies in Merseyside and in 2006 was announced the third most populous city in England. It is one of the industrial cities of Great Britain. The modern rise of Liverpool took place because of improvement in transport.

Reconstruction of old docks and building of new ones have given Liverpool seven miles of docks and many industries such as sugar refinery, tanning, and cattle-feed manufacture. Liverpool is a historic place as well with fine eighteenth-century buildings. Farther inland, shopping and entertainment quarters occupy streets near the main railway stations.

There is a university and two cathedrals in Liverpool. The city got its world-famous reputation for the *Beetles* legendary rock band which was organised there. Crowds of Beetles fans still come to Liverpool to feel the atmosphere and visit places which inspired the famous band.

Stratford-upon-Avon

Situated in Warwickshire, in the heart of England, Stratford is known all over the world as the birthplace of the greatest playwright, William Shakespeare, and as the home of the Royal Shakespeare Company.

The town was called Stratford-upon-Avon because it is situated on the river Avon. Stratford is small, but it has a lot of places of interest. Among them is the house where Shakespeare was born. Nowadays this is a museum which contains a big exhibition illustrating Shakespeare's life and work. New Place is the house where William Shakespeare spent his retirement and died. Ann Hathaway's Cottage attracts tourists as well, because this is the house of Shakespeare's wife. The Holy Trinity Church is the place where the Shakespeare family is buried.

Stratford-upon-Avon Butterfly farm can be described as a

wonderful place with ponds, streams and waterfalls and various tropical exotic flowers that grow up there. The Insect City boasts with a huge collection of spiders and other insects that are kept in glass cages.

The Teddy Bear Museum, housing a great collection of bears from all over the world, used to be situated in Stratford. In 2004, after 18 years in the city, this award-winning Museum moved from Stratford-upon-Avon to a new home in London.

Cambridge

This city has been described as the loveliest city of Britain thanks to its wonderful courtyards, bridges across the river Cam and architecture. The history of the city dates back to the Neolithic times. The Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology has a big collection of relics. In Roman times there was a settlement and later the Saxons and the Normans came to this place. Soon Cambridge became a teaching centre for scholars from neighbouring monasteries and by the 13th century the University of Cambridge was founded. Like Oxford, the University consists of several colleges the oldest among which is Peterhouse, founded in 1284. The oldest colleges and University buildings are in the central area of Cambridge.

There are a lot of important museums in the city. For example, the Fitzwilliam Museum, the Folk Museum and the University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Oxford

This city is known all over the world not only by its beautiful architecture and landscape, but mostly by Oxford University. The city is also known as the "city of dreaming spires", as Matthew Arnold (an English poet) called it in regard to the harmonious architecture of the university buildings. King Charles I used Oxford as English capital when he was driven out of London in the 17th century. There are actually two universities in Oxford: the University of Oxford and

Oxford Brookes University.

The University of Oxford is over 800 years old. Today the University of Oxford consists of 35 independent colleges and 5 halls. It provides central libraries, laboratories and services. Oxford is home to a wide range of schools many of which accept students from all over the world. There are University choral foundations, established to educate the boy choristers of the chapel choirs, and have kept the tradition of single sex education.

There are some museums and art galleries in Oxford. For example, the Ashmolean Museum which is the oldest museum in Britain. It has a good collection of antiques, European paintings, sculpture and silver. In the Christ Church Picture Gallery there are works of Italian painters from the 14th to the 18th century.

The Museum of the History of Science houses numerous scientific instruments dating back to the 16th century, collections of ancient chemical apparatuses, watches and clocks and medical instruments.

Birmingham

Birmingham is the second largest city of England, and one of the principal industrial centres in the British Isles. The city is situated in west Midlands and has a population of over one million people. It was founded by a small group of Anglo-Saxons whose leader may have been called Beorma or Berrn, the settlement is described as Bermingeham in the Domesday Book of 1086. Since the 16th century Birmingham has got the reputation of a metalworking centre, although it had no fuel or ore resources of its own.

Birmingham grew very fast after the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century. During World War II the city was heavily bombed, and the centre was rebuilt with new roads and buildings.

Although Birmingham's industrial importance has declined, it has developed into a national commercial centre, being named as the third best place in the United Kingdom to locate a business, and the 21st best in Europe by Cushman & Wakefield in 2007.

Birmingham is one of the most visited cities in the UK; it has many sights that attract tourists. For example, the Town Hall which is now a big concert hall. The old Council House is the main administrative centre of the city. The University of Birmingham, founded in 1900, is world-famous. Like most great cities Birmingham has many specialised colleges, large parks, a big reference library, a famous museum and an art gallery. There are also a lot of cafés, restaurants and pubs in the city.

People from Birmingham are known as Brummies, a term derived from the city's nickname of Brum. There is a distinctive Brummie dialect (distinct vocabulary and syntax) and accent, both of which differ from the adjacent Black Country.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. FAMOUS BIG AND SMALL CITIES OF BRITAIN

1. Рассказать кратко о Ливерпуле (Merseyside, the third most populous city in England, industrial city; sugar refinery, tanning, and cattle-feed manufacture; fine eighteenth-century buildings, shopping and entertainment quarters, a university, two cathedrals, the Beatles).
2. Рассказать кратко о Стрэтфорде-на-Эйвоне (heart of England, birthplace of Shakespeare, home of the Royal Shakespeare Company, the house where Shakespeare was born, New Place, Ann Hathaway's Cottage, the Holy Trinity Church, ponds, streams, waterfalls, tropical exotic flowers, the Insect City, the Teddy Bear Museum).
3. Рассказать кратко о Кембридже (loveliest city of Britain, courtyards, bridges, the river Cam, architecture, Neolithic times, the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, a teaching centre, the University of Cambridge, Peterhouse, Fitzwilliam Museum, the Folk Museum, the University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology).
4. Рассказать кратко об Оксфорде ("city of dreaming spires", King Charles I, English capital, Oxford Brookes University, University of Oxford, 35 inde-

pendent colleges, 5 halls, choral foundations, the Ashmolean Museum, collection of antiques, European paintings, the Christ Church Picture Gallery, The Museum of the History of Science).

5. Рассказать кратко о Бирмингеме (the second largest city, principal industrial centre, west Midlands, Anglo-Saxons, metalworking centre, the Industrial Revolution, World War II, a national commercial centre, the third best place to locate a business, one of the most visited cities, the Town Hall, the old Council House, the University of Birmingham, Brummies, Brummie dialect).

QUESTIONS

1. What famous British cities and towns do you know?
2. What is Liverpool famous for?
3. Which city is connected with William Shakespeare's name? Why?
4. What other interesting sights can you visit in this city?
5. Why has Cambridge been described as the loveliest British city?
6. What is Cambridge famous for?
7. What is Oxford mainly famous for?
8. How old is Oxford University?
9. Would you like to study there? Why (not)?
10. What other places of interest are there besides the University?
11. What is the second largest city in Britain?
12. How was it founded?
13. Why is the city one of the most visited ones in the UK?
14. Why are the citizens of this city called "Brummies"?

4. GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE OF THE USA

The United States of America lies in North America and is washed by the Pacific Ocean in the west and the Atlantic Ocean in the east. The USA borders on Canada in the north and Mexico in the south. It has a sea border with Russia too.

The landscape of the country varies: there are mountain chains, plains, canyons and deserts. The first mountains from the east are the Rocky Mountains (or the Rockies), which are the highest in the country. To the west of the Rockies there are vast plateaus: the volcanic Columbia Plateau, the Great Basin and the Colorado Plateau. The western part of America (including Alaska) is made up of high mountain ranges, tablelands and plateaus of the Cordillera system. The Cordilleras consist of rows of mountain ranges, tablelands and plateaus. In Alaska the mountain ranges stretch in the west-eastern direction and include the Brooks Range, the Yukon Tableland, the Aleutian Range with Mount McKinley, which is the highest peak in North America.

Further west there are the Cascade Mountains and the Sierra Nevada Range.

There are a lot of lakes and rivers in the USA. The Mississippi which joins the Missouri is the longest river in the United States (and the longest in the world). It flows to the south and runs into the Gulf of Mexico at New Orleans. The Hudson River which flows across the north-eastern part of the country and empties into the Atlantic Ocean at New York is another important river in the country. The rivers in the west of the country are not navigable as they flow through deep canyons and are cut by numerous rapids. These rivers start in the Cordilleras and flow into the Pacific Ocean. The largest among them are the Columbia River and the Colorado River.

The region of the Great Lakes is in the north-east of the United States bordering on Canada. It is a system of five great

lakes (Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie and Lake Ontario) joined together by natural channels. The famous Niagara Falls are situated in New York State and are the biggest falls in the world.

The climate of the USA varies. The country is situated mainly in the temperate and subtropical zones. Alaska lies in the subarctic and arctic zones. Winter temperature in Alaska is 25 degrees below zero. The southern part of Florida and Hawaii are in the tropical zone. In southern states it is warm all year round while in northern states the climate is changeable.

The United States is rich in mineral resources such as: coal, iron, gas, oil and different metals. There are coal mines in the Cordilleras, in the Kansas City region and in the east near Birmingham and Pittsburgh. Iron is mined near the Great Lakes and in Pittsburgh, Birmingham and Philadelphia. In California and Texas there are oil fields. There are also silver and gold deposits.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE OF THE USA

1. Рассказать о географическом положении Соединённых Штатов (North America; borders on).
2. Рассказать об океанах, воды которых омывают США (the Atlantic Ocean; the Pacific Ocean).
3. Рассказать о ландшафте США (varies; mountain chains/plains/canyons/deserts; the Rockies; plateaus: Columbia Plateau, Great Basin, Colorado Plateau; the Cordillera system; Alaska, the Brooks Range, the Yukon Tableland, the Aleutian Range, Mount McKinley; the Cascade Mountains, the Sierra Nevada Range).
4. Рассказать о крупных реках и озёрах (the Mississippi, the Missouri; the Gulf of Mexico; the Hudson River; the Columbia River, the Colorado River; the Great Lakes: Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario; the Niagara Falls).
5. Рассказать о климате США (temperate, subtropical, subarctic, arctic, tropical).
6. Рассказать о полезных ископаемых США (coal, iron, gas, oil and different metals, silver and gold deposits).

QUESTIONS

1. Where geographically is the USA situated?
2. What is the country washed by?
3. What is the landscape of the USA characterised by?
4. Where are mountainous areas situated?
5. What mountain ranges are there in the USA?
6. What is the highest peak in North America?
7. What's the longest river in the USA?
8. What other rivers are there in the country?
9. What five lakes are there in the Great Lakes region?
10. What are the biggest falls in the world?
11. How can you describe the climate of the USA?
12. What mineral resources are there in the country?

5. WASHINGTON, D.C.

Washington D.C. (District of Columbia) is the capital of the country named after the first president of the USA, George Washington. This is an American political centre of the country situated on the Potomac River. The central part of D.C. is called the Mall. This is a square where museums and art galleries belonging to the Smithsonian Institution are situated. The Capitol and the White House (the residence of the President) are found there too.

The Capitol Building is one of the most impressive buildings in Washington. It is easily recognisable because of its large dome, which is the fourth largest dome in the world, rising 180 feet above the ground and weighing almost nine million pounds. Around the large dome there are 36 marble columns, each representing the 36 states of the Union when the dome was built. Above them there is another set of 13 columns that represent the 13 original colonies. There is a law that no building in D.C. should be taller than the Capitol, so it can be seen from any part of the city.

The Library of Congress was established by an act of Congress in 1800 when President John Adams signed a bill which moved the seat of government from Philadelphia to Washington. In 1814 the library was burned by the British. Thomas Jefferson, who had already retired, offered his collection of books as a replacement of the burned ones. His collection included books in foreign languages and volumes of philosophy, science, literature, etc. In 1815, Congress accepted Jefferson's offer and the foundation was laid for a great national library which opened to the public on November 1, 1897.

The White House is the oldest public building in the District of Columbia. Here every President, except George Washington, has conducted the government of the nation. In the past 200

years, the White House has become the symbol of American Presidency all over the world. The White House was rebuilt several times to suit the needs of its residents. Tourists can visit the House except for the rooms that the President and his family occupy.

Washington D.C. is also famous for its numerous monuments, museums and art galleries. The Smithsonian Institution, which is the world's largest museum complex, consists of 16 museums and the National Zoological Park. The entrance to all of them is free of charge all year round. The National Museum of American History was opened in 1964. It houses various collections and objects of transportation, communications, agriculture, medicine, science, and technology. The National Air and Space Museum which was opened in 1976 offers its visitors a great collection of flying machines and spacecraft never before stored in one place. For more than 27 years, this museum has been a must for visitors of Washington, perhaps because it is so much fun for children and grown-ups. Twenty-three galleries house dozens of airplanes and spacecraft, missiles and rockets, engines, propellers, models, uniforms, instruments, flight equipment, medals, etc. The Museum is also the home of the first airplane, the 1903 Wright Flyer.

The National Gallery of Art was created by the resolution of Congress accepting the gift of Andrew Mellon, an art collector. The paintings and sculptures given by Andrew Mellon have formed a huge collection of contemporary art.

The Zoo is located in Rock Creek Park which occupies a hillside. The Zoological Park has about 2,800 animals of 435 species. The Zoo's mission is to study and protect the animals.

The Washington Monument towers over everything in the capital and reminds people of George Washington's contribution to the nation. The monument is a classic obelisk the first stone of which was laid on July 4, 1848. The Washington

Monument is open every day except December 25. A lift carries visitors to the 500-foot level in 70 seconds. From the observation floor which is 500 feet above the ground people can enjoy the view of the city.

In 1867, Congress signed an act for the building of a memorial to Abraham Lincoln. But nothing was done until 1914 when the building began at last. The memorial looks like a Greek temple with the statue of Lincoln inside. The statue is 19 feet tall and 19 feet wide and made of 28 separate blocks of white marble. The 36 columns around the memorial represent the states of the Union at the time of Lincoln's death. The names of 48 states in the Union when the memorial was completed in 1922 are carved in the walls. Park rangers, who work there, are available to answer questions and give talks.

In Constitution Gardens near the Lincoln Memorial there is the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. This is a black granite wall with a mirror like surface and 58,209 names carved on it. The names go in chronological order according to the date of death.

Thomas Jefferson's importance as one of the great figures in the Nation's history demanded to build a memorial in the capital. The memorial was finished in 1943 on the 200th anniversary of Jefferson's birth four years after President Roosevelt laid the cornerstone. The memorial appears most beautiful in early spring when the Japanese cherry trees are in bloom. The trees are a gift from Tokyo given in 1912.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial is one of the most expansive memorials in the USA. It is divided into four outdoor galleries with trees, waterfalls and statues. Each room has the spirit of this great man. The memorial stands in West Potomac Park.

Arlington National Cemetery is the best known one among more than 100 national cemeteries in the USA. All who are buried here have one thing in common: service to their coun-

try. Thousands of veterans from American wars are buried in Arlington. The grounds of Arlington National Cemetery are divided into numbered and lettered sections. There are special rules for visitors. For example, fresh cut flowers may be placed on graves at any time. Flags decorate each grave on Memorial Day weekend but are not permitted at any other time.

Most of those who live in Washington work for government. The others live in the outskirts of the city, in the so-called villages. The Metro system of the city is very well-organised. 300,000 people take advantage of the Metrorail every day going from one place to another.

The city is planned well: streets running from south to north are numbered; those going from east to west are lettered. Large streets are called avenues and bear the names of big states. So it's hard to get lost in D.C. Moreover, names and destinations of all tourist attractions, such as museums, art galleries, and historic places are indicated on signs, so it's easy to find your way around while doing the sights.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. WASHINGTON, D.C.

1. Предоставить общую информацию о Вашингтоне (capital, named after Washington, political centre, the Potomac River, the central part is the Mall).
2. Рассказать кратко об основных достопримечательностях Вашингтона (the Capitol Building, the Library of Congress, the White House, Arlington National Cemetery).
3. Рассказать кратко о музеях и галереях города (the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum of American History, the National Air and Space Museum, the National Gallery of Art, the Zoo).
4. Рассказать кратко о памятниках великим президентам США (the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial).
5. Рассказать о жителях Вашингтона и планировке города (work for government, outskirts, "villages", Metrorail, numbered and lettered streets).

QUESTIONS

1. What does "D.C." mean?
2. Why is Washington considered a political centre of the United States?

3. How is the central part of Washington called?
4. What is the Capitol Building and what is it famous for?
5. When was the Library of Congress established?
6. What is the oldest public building in D.C.?
7. What museum complex is there in Washington?
8. What museums comprise the complex? What can you tell about some of them?
9. What's the Zoo's mission in Washington?
10. What monuments to American presidents are there in Washington?
11. What can you tell about some of them?
12. Who is buried at Arlington National Cemetery?
13. Who usually lives in Washington?
14. What can you tell about the plan of the city?

6. FAMOUS BIG AND SMALL CITIES OF THE USA

New York City

The biggest city of the USA is New York City, which is situated in New York State. The city is also called The Big Apple. In the 19th century it used to be very dirty with muddy streets and avenues. Fires and diseases were widely spread in New York those times. When immigrants started to arrive, New York began growing fast. New inventions were developed to manage the population expansion. Trains, bridges, railways, steam boats and skyscrapers were introduced. The first skyscraper was built in 1888 and had only 13 floors, but the next skyscraper had 22 floors. The Empire State Building is the tallest building in New York with 102 floors.

New York is an industrial, financial, political, cultural and business centre of the USA. It attracts a lot of people from all over the world. The city lies in the mouth of the Hudson River and is divided into 5 boroughs: Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx and Staten Island. Brooklyn is the most populous borough also called the bedroom of New York as many people live there. Richmond is the poorest borough with piers and warehouses. The Bronx is more residential, rather than industrial part of the city when Queens is both residential and industrial borough of the city.

Manhattan is the heart of New York and the centre of American finance, art, theatre and fashion. It is divided into the West Side and the East Side and also into Downtown, Midtown and Uptown Manhattan. Wall Street is one of the most famous streets in New York where the New York Stock Exchange and the American Stock Exchange are situated. There are many stockbrokers, banks, and headquarters of large corporations in the Wall Street area. On a weekday you can visit the New York Stock Exchange.

Chinatown is another tourist attraction of New York where

the Chinese immigrants live. The place is full of Chinese restaurants and shops. The Chrysler Building and the Empire State Building, one of the tallest buildings in the world, are situated in Midtown Manhattan, the financial centre of New York. Times Square is famous for its Theatre District which begins at the Square and spreads to Broadway Street. Central Park which is in Uptown Manhattan is a large green spot on the map of New York. The Park was designed in the 1850's and has a skating rink, a zoo, a lake where you can row, and an outdoor theatre, where events are held each summer.

New York is famous for its museums and art galleries too. The Metropolitan Museum of Art is the biggest of all. It houses more than two million works of art several hundred thousand of which are on display at any time.

The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum has one of the world's finest collections of modern and contemporary art. Masterpieces by some of the most important artists of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, including Brancusi, Chagall, Kandinsky, Picasso and Van Gogh can be seen there.

The American Museum of Natural History is the largest science museum in the world.

Broadway is home to many big and small theatres of New York. It starts in Times Square. In addition to Broadway there are Off-Broadway and Off-Off-Broadway theatres. Most of these theatres are in the Greenwich Village. Plays at such theatres are more experimental than plays on Broadway and they touch some new topics and problems. Sometimes the audience becomes part of the play.

The Statue of Liberty is the symbol of freedom. Since 1886, the Statue of Liberty has stood in New York harbour. It is a gift of international friendship from the people of France to the people of the United States. The statue is of a robed female figure representing Libertas, the Roman goddess of freedom,

who bears a torch and a tabula ansata (a tablet evoking the law) upon which is inscribed the date of the American Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776. A broken chain lies at her feet.

The American Museum of Immigration was opened by President Nixon in 1972, at the base of the statue. It houses a permanent exhibition of photos, posters, and artifacts showing the history of American immigration. The complete statue was officially presented to the United States in Paris, France on July 4, 1884. It was then carefully taken apart and shipped to America. The statue arrived in 1885 and the pedestal was completed in April of 1886. The statue was made from copper sheets and it is hollow inside. There is a circular stairway from the base to the crown and a lift inside the Statue.

New York is a very well-planned city, so it is not hard to find a way around it. The streets are named by ordinal numbers or letters of the alphabet: 5th Avenue, W 21st Street, E 38th Street, etc.

Los Angeles

Los Angeles (or L.A.), a city in California, is considered to be the capital of the film industry. Hollywood, a district of L.A., is famous for its film production all over the world. It used to be a farmland until film-makers started to move there. Hollywood turned to be a perfect place for shooting films all year round as it has mountains, an ocean and a desert.

The Beverly Hills district is the wealthiest area of Los Angeles. It's famous for its beautiful houses and expensive shops and restaurants. The city is very busy with a lot of traffic going along highways. It's one of the problems that L.A. faces nowadays. Its air is so polluted that sometimes people can't see the sun even when there are no clouds in the sky. Another problem is crime. This is one of the most dangerous cities in the States.

Los Angeles is not only a tourist centre, but also a large centre of manufacturing, finance and trade.

There are a lot of places of interest in L.A. The Music Centre is the cultural point of Southern California, and the home to orchestral music, vocal performance, opera, theatre and dance. At the Children's Museum there are exhibits designed especially for children who can touch and explore them and learn through play.

Little Tokyo makes you feel in Japan. There are luxury goods and numerous exotic restaurants there. Chinatown is located in the spacious lanes. Numerous shops offer oriental goods.

The Natural History Museum displays fossils, gems and minerals.

A good place to have fun is Disneyland where children and grown-ups can spend some great time.

San Francisco

San Francisco is one the most beautiful cities in America. It used to be very small until the Gold Rush began. Seekers of gold came to San Francisco and stayed there. In a few years the population of the city grew to more than 50 thousand people. Later, in 1906, San Francisco was destroyed by a huge earthquake and a big part of the city burned down.

San Francisco is surrounded by water on three sides, it stands on 40 hills and trams, or street-cars, climb up and down the hills. The city also bears the reputation of being crazy. Beat poets and hippies led a very active life there.

The Golden Gate Bridge, which is over the Golden Gate Strait connecting San Francisco Bay to the Pacific Ocean, is the symbol of San Francisco.

Boston

Boston, the capital of Massachusetts, is the oldest major city in the USA. It is a city of numerous historic places and

places of interest. The Freedom Trail is the simplest, cheapest, safest, and most flexible way to get acquainted with Boston's historic sights. The Trail is a red line painted on the pavement following which one can pass by all important places of interest in Boston.

Two big celebrations take place in Boston's Chinatown every year. The first is the New Year, usually celebrated in February. The activities include lion dances, traditional Chinese dance and Kung Fu performances. There are a lot of big and small cheap Chinese restaurants in the district.

The New England Aquarium has the world's largest collection of sharks. The Museum of Fine Arts displays outstanding Egyptian and Asian collections, a good display of Impressionists and superb Americans.

The Constitution ship is another interesting place to visit. The entrance to the ship is free to the public. Boston also has a lot of monuments, such as the Boston Massacre Monument, the Lafayette Monument, the Declaration of Independence Monument and the Civil War Monument.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. FAMOUS BIG AND SMALL CITIES OF THE USA

1. Рассказать кратко о Нью-Йорке и его достопримечательностях (biggest city, The Big Apple, immigrants, growing fast, skyscrapers, the Empire State Building, industrial, financial, political, cultural and business centre, mouth of the Hudson River, divided into 5 boroughs: Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx and Staten Island, heart of New York, Wall Street, the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange, Chinatown, Times Square, Broadway, Central Park, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Statue of Liberty, The American Museum of Immigration, a very well-planned city).
2. Рассказать кратко о Лос-Анджелесе (California, film industry, Hollywood, The Beverly Hills district, a lot of traffic, crime, a tourist centre, the Music Center, the Children's Museum, Little Tokyo, The Natural History Museum, Disneyland).
3. Рассказать кратко о Сан-Франциско (beautiful, the Gold Rush, was destroyed by a huge earthquake, surrounded by water on three sides, 40 hills, street-

cars, crazy, beat poets and hippies, the Golden Gate Bridge).

4. Рассказать кратко о Бостоне (Massachusetts, oldest major city, the Freedom Trail, Chinatown, the New England Aquarium, the Constitution ship, numerous historic monuments).

QUESTIONS

1. Where is New York City situated? What's the second name of it and why?
2. What was New York life like in the 19th century?
3. When did New York start growing?
4. What's the tallest building in New York?
5. What boroughs is New York divided into?
6. What borough is the heart of New York? What parts is it divided into?
7. What can you tell about Chinatown?
8. What is Times Square famous for?
9. What is Central Park and where is it situated?
10. What museums and art galleries are there in New York?
11. What is theatrical life like in New York?
12. What is the most famous monument in the city?
13. What do you know about the Statue of Liberty?
14. Is New York planned well? Why (not)?
15. Where is Los Angeles situated?
16. What industry is Los Angeles famous for?
17. What is the Beverly Hills district?
18. What problems does Los Angeles face today?
19. What interesting places can be seen in Los Angeles?
20. What city is the capital of Massachusetts?
21. What historic places of interest can be seen/visited in the city?
22. What can you tell about Chinatown? What big celebrations take place there?

7. GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE OF RUSSIA

Russia is the largest country in the world covering eastern part of Europe and northern part of Asia. The total area of Russia is about seventeen million square kilometres with the population of about 145 million people. It borders on many countries, for example, China, Georgia, Finland, Norway, Ukraine and others.

The country is washed by twelve seas and three oceans: the Pacific Ocean in the east, the Arctic Ocean in the north and the Atlantic Ocean in the west. Among the seas are the Baltic Sea, the Azov Sea, the Black Sea, the Caspian Sea and others.

The landscape of Russia is varied. Most of the territory consists of vast plains that are steppes to the south and heavily forested to the north, with the tundra along the northern coast. 10% of the world's arable land is in Russia.

Mountain ranges are along the southern borders, such as the Caucasus (with Mount Elbrus which the highest point in both Russia and Europe) and the Altai Mountains (with Mount Belukha, which is the highest point of Siberia). In the eastern parts there is the Verkhoyansk Range and the volcanoes of Kamchatka Peninsula (with Klyuchevskaya Sopka, which is the highest active volcano in Eurasia as well as the highest point of Asian Russia). The Ural Mountains, rich in mineral resources, divide Europe and Asia, going from the north to the south.

The climate in the country varies. The areas which are far from the sea have humid continental climate and it is predominant in all parts of the country except for the tundra and the southeast. Most of Northern European Russia and Siberia have subarctic climate, with extremely severe winters (especially in the Sakha Republic, where the Northern Hemisphere's Pole of Cold is located with the lowest recorded temperature of -71.2°C). The strip of land along the shore

of the Arctic Ocean and the Russian Arctic islands have polar climate. The climate of the coastal part of Krasnodar Territory on the Black Sea is humid subtropical with mild and wet winters. Winters are dry compared to summers in many regions of East Siberia and the Far East. The region along the Lower Volga and Caspian Sea coast, as well as some areas of southernmost Siberia, possesses semi-arid climate.

Russia has thousands of rivers and inland water bodies providing it with one of the world's largest surface water resources. The Volga River, the largest river in Europe, and the Siberian rivers (the Ob, the Yenisei, the Lena and the Amur) are among the longest rivers in the world. The largest and most prominent of Russia's freshwater body is Lake Baikal, the world's deepest and purest freshwater lake. The Baikal contains over one fifth of the world's fresh water. Other major lakes include the Ladoga and the Onega, two of the largest lakes in Europe.

Russia is an industrial country. The major industries are agriculture and fishing. Large farms concentrate mainly on the production of grain and husbandry products, small private household plots produce most of the country's yield of vegetables and fruit. With access to three oceans – the Atlantic, the Arctic, and the Pacific – Russian fishing fleets are a major contributor to the world's fish supply. Russia also has a lot of mineral resources: coal, natural gas, oil and iron.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE OF RUSSIA

1. Рассказать о географическом положении России (eastern part of Europe, northern part of Asia; total area is about 17 million sq km; about 145 million people; borders on many countries).
2. Рассказать об океанах и морях, воды которых омывают Россию (the Pacific Ocean, the Arctic Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean; the Baltic Sea, the Azov Sea, the Black Sea, the Caspian Sea, etc.).
3. Рассказать о ландшафте России (varied; vast plains, steppes, tundra; mountain ranges: the Caucasus, Mount Elbrus, the Altai Mountains, Mount Belukha,

the Verkhoyansk Range, volcanoes of Kamchatka, Klyuchevskaya Sopka, The Ural Mountains).

4. Рассказать о климате России (varies; humid continental climate, subarctic, polar, humid subtropical, semi-arid.).
5. Рассказать о крупных реках и озёрах (The Volga River, the Ob, the Yenisei, the Lena, the Amur, etc.; Lake Baikal, the Ladoga, the Onega, etc.).
6. Рассказать о промышленности России (agriculture, fishing, grain, husbandry products, vegetables, fruit, fish supply; mineral resources: coal, natural gas, oil, iron, etc.).

QUESTIONS

1. Where geographically is Russia situated?
2. How many oceans and seas wash the country? Name some of them.
3. What is the landscape of Russia characterised by?
4. What mountain ranges can be found in Russia?
5. What are the highest peaks in Russia and where are they?
6. Where does the volcanic territory lie in Russia?
7. How can you describe the climate of Russia?
8. What is the predominant climate of the country?
9. What is the coldest region in Russia?
10. What's the water system like in the country?
11. What are the major rivers and lakes?
12. What is the Baikal?
13. What are the major industries in Russia?

8. MOSCOW

Moscow is the capital of Russia and the most populous city in the country. Founded in 1147 on the Moskva River by Prince Yury Dolgoruky, the city grew rapidly and in the 16th century Moscow was made the capital of the country by Tsar Ivan the Terrible.

Today Moscow is the largest city in Europe and one of the largest cities in the world with the population of more than 10 million people. It is a major political, cultural, scientific, religious, financial, educational, and transportation centre of Russia.

Red Square with the Kremlin is the centre of Moscow. These are the most popular tourist destinations. Red Square is the place for parades and big national and international concerts.

St. Basil's Cathedral in Red Square is a masterpiece of Russian architecture. The Cathedral was erected to commemorate Russia's victory over the Kazan Kingdom in the 16th century. The monument to Minin and Pozharsky, the oldest monument in

Moscow built in memory of the victory over the Polish invaders, can be seen in front of the Cathedral. The State History Museum, the museum of Russian history, is situated opposite St. Basil's Cathedral. It is one of the biggest museums in Moscow with the exhibitions that range from relics of the prehistoric tribes inhabiting present-day Russia to priceless artworks acquired by members of the Romanov dynasty.

On the territory of the Kremlin one can see ancient cathedrals that are real architectural masterpieces. The Bell Tower of Ivan the Great, the Cathedral of the Dormition, the Cathedral of the Annunciation, the Palace of Congress, the Tsar-Cannon and the Tsar-Bell, the biggest cannon and bell in the world can be seen there. The Spasskaya Tower, the tallest tower, is the symbol of the Kremlin. Alexander Garden is sit-

uated outside the Kremlin walls. It was one of the first urban public parks in the city. The park comprises three separate gardens, which stretch along the western Kremlin wall. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with the eternal flame is a memorial to the soldiers who died in World War II.

Moscow is a big cultural centre with plenty of cinemas, concert halls, numerous drama and musical theatres, including world-famous ones like the Bolshoi Theatre and the Maly Theatre, and clubs. The city is also proud of its museums and art galleries. Moscow's biggest museum is the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, which houses one of the world's largest collections of ancient, classical and oriental works of art. The Tretyakov Gallery is famous all over the world and contains a great collection of Russian artists' works.

Moscow has as a lot of green spots scattered around the city. There are 96 parks and 18 gardens in the city, including 4 botanical gardens. Gorky Park was founded in 1928. It borders on Neskuchny Garden, the oldest park in Moscow. The Garden has the Green Theatre, one of the largest open amphitheatres in Europe with the capacity of 15 thousand people.

Izmailovsky Park opened in 1931 is one of the largest urban parks in the world along with Richmond Park in London. Its area is six times bigger than that of Central Park in New York.

Sokolniki Park, named after the falcon hunting that often took place there in the past, is one of the oldest parks in Moscow. The centre of the park is marked with the fountain and the network of birch, maple and elm tree alleys that radiate from it.

Kuzminsky Park is another green spot of Moscow. The district is a family nest of the Golitsyn Princes, a summer house settlement in the past, which was famous for its great location, remarkable parks, and picturesque ponds. Today there is

a museum there. This preserved nature complex of the city is of unique ecological, scenic, historical and cultural value.

Losiny Ostrov National Park is situated partly in Moscow, partly in Moscow Region. This is the first national park in Russia and is considered the largest forest in a city.

The Main Botanical Garden of the Academy of Science, founded in 1945, is the largest in Europe. It contains a collection of more than 20 thousand different plants from various parts of the world as well as a scientific research lab. There is also a rose garden with 20 thousand rose bushes in the Garden, a tree nursery, and an oak forest with the trees that are more than 100 years old.

Other popular attractions include the Moscow Zoo, a zoological garden of nearly a thousand animal species. Every year the zoo attracts more than 1.2 million visitors.

Moscow is a big sports centre too. There are various sports facilities in the city including sixty-three stadiums. Luzhniki Stadium is the 4th largest stadium in Europe (it hosted Summer Olympic Games in 1980). There are also seven horse racing tracks in Moscow, the largest of which is Moscow Central Hippodrome, founded in 1834.

The so-called "Seven Sisters", seven massive skyscrapers scattered throughout the city, are among the most famous buildings in the city. They stand at the equal distance from the Kremlin and are among the tallest constructions in central Moscow apart from the Ostankino Tower, which, when it was completed in 1967, was the tallest free-standing building in the world and today remains the world's fourth tallest tower after Burj Khalifa in Dubai, Canton Tower in Guangzhou and the CN Tower in Toronto.

Moscow is a large educational centre with plenty of schools, colleges, institutes and universities. The biggest and most famous university is Moscow State University on the

Vorobyovy Hills. The University was named after Mikhail Lomonosov who helped to found it. Students from all over Russia and international students study at MSU.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. MOSCOW

1. Предоставить общую информацию о Москве (the most populous city; founded in 1147 by Yury Dolgoruky; 16th century; Tsar Ivan the Terrible; the largest city in Europe, one of the largest cities; the population of more than 10 million people).
2. Рассказать вкратце о достопримечательностях центра Москвы (the Kremlin, a place for parades, concerts and demonstrations; St. Basil's Cathedral, Russia's victory over the Kazan Kingdom; the monument to Minin and Pozharsky, the victory over the Polish invaders; the State History Museum, one of the biggest museums, exhibitions; ancient cathedrals, the Bell Tower of Ivan the Great, the Palace of Congress, the Tsar-Cannon and the Tsar-Bell; the Spasskaya Tower; Alexander Garden, the first urban public park, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier).
3. Рассказать о культурной жизни столицы, о театрах и музеях города (a big cultural centre with plenty of cinemas, concert halls, numerous drama and musical theatres; the Bolshoi Theatre, the Maly Theatre; the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, the Tretyakov Gallery).
4. Рассказать о самых известных парках Москвы (96 parks and 18 gardens, 4 botanical gardens; Gorky Park, Neskuchny Garden, Izmailovsky Park, Central Park, Sokolniki Park, Kuzminsky Park, Losiny Ostrov National Park, the Main Botanical Garden of the Academy of Science, the Moscow Zoo).
5. Рассказать о спортивной жизни Москвы (a big sports centre, sixty-three stadiums, Luzhniki Stadium, Moscow Central Hippodrome).
6. Рассказать о некоторых известных строениях Москвы ("Seven Sisters", the Ostankino Tower).
7. Рассказать об учебных заведениях Москвы (a large educational centre, plenty of schools, colleges, institutes and universities; Moscow State University).

QUESTIONS

1. Who founded Moscow and when?
2. When did Moscow become the capital of Russia? What Tsar did that?
3. What is Moscow like today?
4. What is Moscow centre famous for?
5. What interesting places can you see in the Kremlin?
6. What is Alexander Garden famous for?
7. Why is Moscow considered to be a large cultural centre of the country?
8. What are the biggest museums and art galleries in Moscow?

9. Have you ever been to any of them?
10. What can you tell about largest Moscow parks? What is Losiny Ostrov?
11. What botanical garden is the most famous in Moscow and what can you see there?
12. What's the place where you can see animal species from all over the world?
13. Why is Moscow called a big sports centre?
14. What are the most popular sports facilities in Moscow?
15. What are the "Seven Sisters" and what is interesting about them?
16. What is the tallest free-standing building in Moscow?
17. Can Moscow be called an educational centre of Russia? Why?

9. FAMOUS BIG AND SMALL CITIES OF RUSSIA

Like any other large country, Russia has many big and small cities and towns. All in all there are 157,895 residential places in the country and each of them has historic past and interesting sights. I would like to tell you about some of them.

Saratov

Saratov is a major city situated in southern Russia, founded in 1590 as a fortress to protect the southern borders of Russia. The city lies on the right bank of the Volga River and stretches along it for 34 km. Saratov is a great industrial, cultural and educational centre.

The city is a well-known Russian centre of higher education and research activities. Saratov State University is one of the oldest universities in Russia. There are more than a dozen other universities in Saratov too.

The population of Saratov is more than eight hundred people. Saratov has a lot of places of interest: Saratov Bridge, the Embankment of Cosmonauts on which you can see Rotunda and Lovers Monument, Kirov Avenue and many others.

The recreational park is one of the favorite places among the residents. The main attraction is an oak grove and a cascade of old ponds.

There are a lot of different theatres in Saratov. The Opera and Ballet House is one of the oldest theatres in Russia. Saratov Academic Theatre for Young Spectators is the first professional children's theatre opened in 1918.

Saratov State Conservatory is situated in the centre of the city. It was opened in 1912 and became the third high musical school in the country.

The Radishchev Art Gallery is a museum in Saratov opened in 1885. It used to be the first public art museum in the Russian provinces.

Murmansk

Murmansk is the largest city in the world beyond the Polar Circle. The climate of the city is mild because of the Gulf Stream. The Polar day lasts from May 23 until July 21 in the city. From December 1 to January 13 the Polar night descends on to Murmansk.

Murmansk was officially founded on October 4, 1916 and used to be a small settlement called *Romanov-on-Murman*.

Murmansk is a large centre of the fishing industry. A new port has been built in the southern part in the Gulf of Kola. Its deep-water docks are up-to-date with the newest equipment.

Murmansk has plenty of entertainments, the traditional Festival of the North, for example which includes reindeer races, skating and skiing competitions. Murmansk has three professional theatres and a few cinemas. In the Local History Museum visitors can learn interesting things about the flora and fauna of the Arctic region and the history of the Kola Peninsula.

Tyumen

Tyumen is the oldest Russian settlement in Siberia founded in the 16th century to support Russia's eastward expansion. The city has remained one of the most important industrial and economic centers to the east of the Urals.

Tyumen has a range of entertainments for all ages. Tyumen has had its own Drama and Comedy Theatre since 1858. There is a professional Puppet Show and the Youth Theatre. The Tyumen Music Hall is one of the most common places for tours of Russian and world class music stars. The Tyumen Circus is the most modern circus in Siberia and is considered one of the best in Russia. Tyumen offers a great variety of cuisine in its numerous restaurants and bars. There are some annual events taking place in the town such as the Student Spring Music Show and Town Day Show. There are also many cinemas includ-

ing two with high class stereo systems, and clubs.

There are numerous museums and art galleries in Tyumen. The most famous are the Tyumen Museum of Local Lore and the Tyumen Fine Arts Gallery.

Yaroslavl

Yaroslavl is an ancient city founded in 1010 by Prince Yaroslav the Wise. The city is situated to the north of Moscow on the Volga River. The legend says that once Prince Yaroslav and his warriors came to the place where the Kotorosl River flowed into the Volga, and decided to found a city there. The local pagans didn't like that invasion and sent their sacred bear to kill the Prince, but Yaroslav killed the animal with his pole axe. Then he founded the fortress and it called it *Yaroslavl*. Because of this legend, the coat of arms of the city is a bear carrying a pole axe on its shoulder.

The city's historic past is rich: it saw the Tatar invasion, the Polish intervention; it was damaged heavily during the Revolution. But in spite of all these difficult periods Yaroslavl has remained magnificently beautiful.

Yaroslavl belongs to the Golden Ring of Russia. Every day crowds of tourists come to this city and admire its wonderful cathedrals, monasteries and churches.

The city is also famous for the first Russian theatre, the Volkov Theatre, which was built by Fyodor Volkov in 1750.

Yaroslavl is a big industrial city with big plants and factories that produce engines, paints, oil, tires and synthetic rubber.

The first woman cosmonaut, Valentina Tereshkova, was born in Yaroslavl.

In 2005, the historic centre of Yaroslavl was included on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In 2010, Yaroslavl celebrated its 1000th birthday.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. FAMOUS BIG AND SMALL CITIES OF RUSSIA

1. Вступление (Like any other large country, Russia has many big and small cities and towns. All in all there are 157,895 residential places in the country and each of them has its historic past and interesting places. I would like to tell you about some of them.).
2. Рассказать кратко о любых российских городах или своём любимом городе по следующей схеме: name → position → historic facts → places of interest → interesting facts.

QUESTIONS

1. What Russian cities and towns do you know?
2. What is your hometown and where is it situated?
3. What interesting places are there in your hometown?
4. Do you prefer travelling across Russia or abroad? Why?
5. What Russian cities would you like to visit and why?
6. What Russian cities and towns have you visited?
7. What were your impressions?
8. Have you ever been to one of the cities mentioned above (Saratov, Murmansk, Tyumen or Yaroslavl)?
9. What do you know about each of these cities now?

К. Страна/страны изучаемого языка и родная страна. Их культурные особенности (национальные праздники, знаменательные даты, традиции, обычаи)

1. UK HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS

There are eight public holidays a year in Great Britain when the British have days off work. They are: Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, the spring bank holiday and late summer bank holiday. The term *bank holiday* applies also to Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Easter Monday, New Year's Day and May Day and dates back to the 19th century when by the Bank Holiday Act of 1871 these days were constituted bank holidays – days on which banks were to be closed.

Most of these holidays are of religious origin, though for the greater part of the population they have long lost their religious significance and are simply days on which people relax, eat, drink and have fun.

In Great Britain traditions play a more important role in the life of the people than in any other countries. Englishmen are proud of their traditions and keep them up. Holidays are especially rich in old traditions and are different in Scotland, Wales, Ireland and England.

At Easter, the British give each other chocolate eggs, which they open and eat on Easter Sunday. Easter Monday is a holiday and many people go to the country or seaside to rest.

Christmas (celebrated on December 25th) is a great national holiday but it isn't widely celebrated in Scotland (the Scots begin to enjoy themselves on New Year's Eve six days after Christmas). All shops and factories are closed on this day. At Christmas family members wrap their presents and leave them under the Christmas tree or in colourful socks at the end of children's beds.

Boxing Day (December 26th) is the second day of Christmas

when people visit their friends and go for long walks. The rich give money and small presents to postmen, servants and the poor. There are several theories about the origins of the name "Boxing Day". Some say that it was the day when people gave a present or Christmas box to those who had worked for them throughout the year. Another theory says that in England many years ago, it was common practice for the servants to carry boxes to their employers when they arrived for their day's work on the day after Christmas. The employers would then put coins in the boxes as special end-of-year gifts.

New Year's Day is not that important in England as, for example, in Scotland. People invite their friends over to sit the Old Year out and the New Year in. When the clock begins to strike midnight, the head of the family goes to the entrance door, opens it and holds it open till the last stroke. Then he shuts the door and goes back to table, and after that greetings and small presents are offered. People usually make resolutions such as to give up smoking, to change their lives, etc.

St. Valentine's Day, celebrated on the 14th of February, is the traditional day for those who are in love. Young people give flowers and greetings cards to their Valentines and spend the day together. This day has been celebrated worldwide.

Halloween, a holiday loved by all children, takes place on October 31. There are a lot of parties, people dress up in costumes of witches, ghosts and other monsters and scare each other. They also cut faces in pumpkins and put a candle inside. Children usually go from one house to another with empty baskets, knock on doors and say: *Trick or treat*. People should give them something sweet, or they will play a trick on them.

Among historic holidays, Guy Fawkes Night can be mentioned. In 1605, a group of people with their leader, Guy Fawkes, decided to blow up the Houses of Parliament. Fawkes promised to carry out the plan on the fifth of November, but

one of the conspirators got frightened and wrote a warning letter to one of the Lords. Guy Fawkes and his helpers were caught and hanged. Since then British people have celebrated this day by burning a doll made of straw and dressed in old clothes on a bonfire. There are fireworks displays everywhere. Children sing *Remember, remember the fifth of November*. Some dress in old clothes and beg in the street saying *Penny for the guy*.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. UK HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS

1. Предоставить общую информацию о праздниках Великобритании (eight public holidays: Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, the spring bank holiday and late summer bank holiday; bank holidays and their history).
2. Рассказать о самых популярных праздниках Великобритании и традициях (important role; proud of; *Easter*: chocolate eggs, Easter Sunday/Monday, seaside; *Christmas*: December 25th, shops and factories are closed, wrap presents, Christmas tree, colourful socks; *Boxing Day*: December 26th, visit friends/go for long walks, the rich give money to the poor, theories; *New Year's Day*: Scotland, the clock strikes midnight, head of the family, holds the door open, make resolutions; *St. Valentine's Day*: 14th of February, flowers and greetings cards, Valentines, has been celebrated worldwide; *Halloween*: October 31, parties, costumes, cut faces in pumpkins, *Trick or treat*; *Guy Fawkes Night*: 1605, blow up the Houses of Parliament, the 5th of November, a warning letter, were caught and hanged, burning a doll made of straw, fireworks displays; *Remember, remember the fifth of November, Penny for the guy*).

QUESTIONS

1. How many public holidays are there in Britain? What are they?
2. What does the term *bank holidays* mean and why?
3. What role do traditions play in the life of the British?
4. What are the traditions at Easter?
5. What do the British do at Christmas?
6. What is Boxing Day and what are the theories about its origin?
7. Is New Year's Day important in England?
8. What are the Scottish traditions of seeing the New Year in?
9. What celebration takes place on February 14th?
10. What is Halloween? How is it celebrated?
11. Who was Guy Fawkes? What do people do on Guy Fawkes Night?

2. US HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS

Like any other country the USA has a lot of holidays and interesting traditions. In 1971, the dates of most federal holidays in the USA were officially moved to the nearest Monday by President Nixon. There are four holidays which are not necessarily celebrated on Mondays: Thanksgiving, New Year's Day, Independence Day and Christmas. When New Year's Day, Independence Day, or Christmas falls on a Sunday, the next day is also a holiday. When one of these holidays falls on a Saturday, the previous day is also a holiday.

Federal government offices, including the post office, are always closed on all federal legal holidays. Schools and companies don't work on such major holidays as Independence Day and Christmas but many people work, on Veterans' Day, for example.

Federal legal holidays are observed differently in different states. The dates of these holidays are appointed by the state government. Each state can agree on the same date that the President has proclaimed, such as Thanksgiving. There are other legal or public holidays which are observed at the state or local level. The closing of local government offices and businesses varies. Whether citizens have the day off from work or not, depends on the decision of local authorities.

In the United States New Year's Day is on January 1, but Americans begin celebrating on December 31. A lot of parties take place across the United States on this day. Sometimes people have masked balls, when guests dress up in costumes and cover their faces with masks. Following an old tradition, guests unmask at midnight. Most television channels show Times Square in the heart of New York City. It is overcrowded with those who want to celebrate New Year in the centre of the biggest city in the USA. At one minute before midnight, a lit ball drops slowly from the top to the bottom of a pole on one

of the buildings. People count down from 10 to 0 at the same time as the ball drops. When it reaches the bottom, people hug and kiss and wish each other Happy New Year!

On January 1, Americans visit relatives, friends and neighbours. Many families watch the *Tournament of Roses* parade which takes place in California on television. The main theme of this parade varies from year to year. The procession is usually more than five miles long with thousands of participants.

Martin Luther King Day is celebrated on the third Monday in January. Martin Luther King was a black clergyman who tried to win full civil rights for black Americans. King spoke out and campaigned tirelessly to make white and black Americans equal by cancelling some laws, for example, the requirement for black people to take back seats in buses or no right to vote.

In 1968, Martin Luther King was assassinated while he was leading a workers' strike in Memphis, Tennessee. White people and black people who had worked so hard for peace and civil rights were shocked and angry. The world grieved the loss of this man of peace.

Martin Luther King's death did not stop the Civil Rights Movement. Black and white people continued to fight for freedom and equality. On Monday, January 20, 1986, in cities and towns across the USA the first celebration of Martin Luther King Day took place. Schools, offices and federal agencies are closed for the holiday. On Monday there are quiet memorial services in honour of Dr. King. All weekend popular radio stations play songs and speeches that tell the history of the Civil Rights Movement. Television channels broadcast special programmes about King's life.

Memorial Day takes place on the last Monday of May. On this day Americans honour the dead. Most families honour the memories of their dead relatives. In many communities special

ceremonies are held in cemeteries or at war monuments by veterans of military services. Parades and memorial services or special programmes in churches, schools or other public meeting places are held.

Independence Day is one of the most important holidays in the USA. It is celebrated on the 4th of July. On this day in 1776 the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia. There are picnics and parades all over the country on this day. Americans don't work on this day. Communities have day-long picnics with favourite food like hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad and baked beans. Some cities have parades with people dressed as the original founding fathers who march in parades to the music of high school bands. The day ends with a big fireworks display.

Halloween is a holiday celebrated mostly by children and teens. On the 31st of October they dress as vampires, witches and ghosts and go from house to house saying *Trick or treat*. People should give them a treat, otherwise they will play a trick on them.

Thanksgiving is one of the most popular American holidays too. It is celebrated on the last Thursday in November. This holiday dates back to the times when the Pilgrims came to America and settled in. Their first winter was very hard, they had very little food. In spring, the Indians showed them how to plant and grow new crops, hunt and fish. The following autumn the colonists made a feast for the Indians.

Today family members meet and spend this day together. The traditional Thanksgiving food is roast turkey, cranberry jelly, pumpkin pie, sweet potatoes, ham and other delicious things. A lot of people go to religious services on Thanksgiving.

Christmas is celebrated on the 25th of December. This is a religious holiday when people celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. During the holiday season people sing Christmas songs,

or carols. There are different types of carols: old traditional songs in English, German, Spanish, French and other languages, religious songs and modern American songs. Another important tradition is to send Christmas cards. People start sending cards to their friends and relatives early in December. Going home for Christmas is another good tradition. Christmas is considered to be the family celebration and family members usually get together on this day.

Americans put up a Christmas tree and decorate it with toys and sweets. Wrapping Christmas presents is another tradition. There are religious ceremonies at churches on Christmas Day and families usually attend them.

In the morning children hurry to the Christmas tree to look for presents. American children believe that Santa Claus lives at the North Pole with his wife. All year round he makes a list of children's names, both those who have been good and those who have been bad. He decides what presents to give to the good children. He and his helpers make presents and wrap them. Children also hang big colourful socks for Santa Claus to put presents inside. Santa is believed to get into a house through the chimney and leave presents in socks. Unwrapping presents is the most exciting moment at Christmas.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. US HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS

1. Предоставить общую информацию о праздниках в США (federal legal holidays, nearest Monday, observed differently in different states, public holidays, local authorities).
2. Рассказать о самых популярных праздниках США и традициях (*New Year's Day*: parties, masked balls, unmask, Times Square, lit ball, count; *Tournament of Roses*: California, parade, theme; *Martin Luther King Day*: third Monday in January, civil rights, assassinated, memorial services; *Memorial Day*: last Monday of May, honour the dead, war veterans; *Independence Day*: one of the most important holidays, July 4th, Declaration of Independence, picnics, parades, communities, fireworks display; *Halloween*: October 31, dress up in costumes, *Trick or treat*; *Thanksgiving*: last Thursday in November, the Pilgrims, hard winter, little food, the Indians, a feast, roast turkey, cranber-

ry jelly, pumpkin pie, sweet potatoes, etc., religious services; *Christmas*: December 25th, sing carols, send greetings cards, family members get together, Christmas tree, Santa Claus, colourful socks, chimney).

QUESTIONS

1. When were the dates of most federal holidays moved to the nearest Monday?
2. Which holidays are not necessarily celebrated on Mondays?
3. Do government offices work on federal legal holidays?
4. How are federal legal holidays observed?
5. How do public holidays depend on local authorities?
6. How many public holidays are there in Britain? What are they?
7. How is New Year's Day celebrated in the USA?
8. What happens on Times Square in New York on December 31st?
9. What is the Tournament of Roses and where does it take place?
10. When is Martin Luther King Day celebrated?
11. Who was Martin Luther King? What was he famous for?
12. What events take place on this day?
13. What can you tell about Memorial Day?
14. Why is Independence Day considered one of the most important holidays in the USA?
15. What are the Halloween traditions in the USA?
16. When is Thanksgiving celebrated?
17. What historic facts are connected to this holiday?
18. How is Thanksgiving usually celebrated?
19. When is Christmas celebrated in the USA?
20. What are the common traditions at Christmas?

3. RUSSIAN HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS

Russians enjoy their holidays and celebrate them with a lot of food, presents and in big companies of relatives and friends.

There are three types of holidays in Russia: family holidays, state or public holidays and religious holidays.

Family holidays include birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and other family celebrations. Different families have different traditions of celebrations.

State or public holidays in Russia include Constitution Day, New Year's Day, the International Women's Day, May Day, Victory Day and Independence Day. State organisations, banks and companies do not work on these days. People spend holiday time with their families and friends; they go to theatres or exhibitions, or go to city centre where there are usually folk festivals and concerts in the open air and celebrate with other people.

Russian religious holidays include Christmas, Easter and some others. There is also a pagan holiday – Shrovetide or Pancake Day.

New Year's Day is the major family holiday for many Russians. It is a national holiday in Russia, on which most businesses and public offices are closed. Schools and universities are closed as part of their winter holidays at this time of the year.

New Year's dinner usually starts late on December 31 and includes Russian salad, dressed herring, sparkling wine and other national food. Five minutes before the clock strikes midnight people watch the president's speech on TV and raise a toast to the chiming of the Kremlin clock. After that Russians congratulate each other and exchange presents. Some people go outside to play snowballs, make a snowman or light fire crackers.

Some Russians celebrate this day at their friends' houses

or attend the fireworks displays in their city. Celebrations for children include a decorated fir tree and Grandfather Frost, the Russian equivalent of Santa Claus who is believed to bring presents. Grandfather Frost often comes with his granddaughter, Snegurochka (*Snow Girl*).

Victory Day celebrated on May 9 is a very important historic holiday which marks Germany's surrender to the Soviet Union in 1945, ending one of the bloodiest wars in Russia's history. Public offices, schools and most businesses are closed for the celebrations. There may be changes in public transport routes due to parades and street performances.

A lot of people attend a local military parade and watch the fireworks display at night on this day. The biggest parade is in Moscow's Red Square, showcasing Russia's military forces. Veterans wear their medals as they head to the parade or an event organised by local veteran organisations. Another tradition is to give red carnations to veterans and to lay wreaths at the war memorial sites. Schools usually have concerts and performances, sing wartime songs and read poetry. At home, families gather around a festive table to honor surviving witnesses of World War II and remember those who passed away.

Orthodox Christmas is both a national and religious holiday in Russia so banks and public offices are closed on January 7th. Russians celebrate it by having a family dinner, attending a Christmas liturgy and visiting relatives and friends.

For many Russians, Christmas Day is a family holiday but it is not as important for many families as New Year's Day. Many people visit friends and relatives, as well as give and receive presents. Prior to Christmas Day, there is Christmas Eve, which marks the start of an old Slavonic holiday, Svyatki, during which young women used a mirror and candles to see the image of their future husbands.

Maslenitsa, also known as Pancake Week or Shrovetide, is

a Russian pagan holiday celebrated during the last week before Great Lent (the seventh week before Easter). Maslenitsa is an ancient Slavonic holiday, dating back to the pagan culture. This is a festival, celebrating the approach of the spring, warmth and renovation of the nature. During the week Russians eat pancakes, have celebrations and every day of the Pancake Week has its own name and traditions.

For example, Sunday is called the *Forgiveness Day* when everybody should ask for forgiveness. Young married couples usually visit their relatives, give presents to parents and friends, pay visits to their godparents to give presents to them, too.

When asking for forgiveness people usually bow and normally hear the reply, *God will forgive you*. All the food that is left needs to be eaten up, followed by a piece of rye bread and salt, as a reminder of the upcoming Lent. This is also the last day of the week when pancakes are eaten.

Sunday evening is the time when Maslenitsa straw doll has to be burnt; after it has turned to ashes, young people walk over the fire, marking the end of the Maslenitsa festivities.

Nowadays foreign celebrations are becoming more and more popular in Russia. The most popular ones are Halloween and St. Valentine's Day.

At Halloween some clubs organise parties and masquerades, people dress up in costumes and may get access to some clubs for free if they come dressed-up. However, this celebration is banned in public schools.

St. Valentine's Day is mostly popular with teenagers and young people. They usually buy small presents for their girlfriends and boyfriends such as chocolate or sweets and make greetings cards in the shape of a heart.

As for me, I don't mind foreign celebrations, but I think that people of different countries should not borrow traditions

and celebrations from other nations, even if they are interesting and fun.

My favourite family holiday is New Year's Day. A week before the celebration my mother and I decorate a New Year tree with colourful glass balls and toys. My family usually has the New Year dinner in the evening, long before midnight and just before the New Year comes, we have snacks, caviar and sparkling wine. When the clock strikes midnight, we give each other presents. Later, we watch TV and relax and go outside to watch fireworks displays.

Another celebration which I like is my birthday. It is in spring and usually my friends and I get together, have a party either at my flat or in a café and then go for a walk. I like getting presents and having fun. Once we went to the central park and rode on a big wheel. It was great! I also remember my birthday when my family and I went to a water park and spent a lot of time there swimming and sliding on waterslides of various shapes and sizes!

I think that holidays are important because they connect people and give them an opportunity to have fun and enjoy themselves.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. RUSSIAN HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS

1. Вступление (Russians enjoy their holidays and celebrate them with a lot of food, presents and in big companies of relatives and friends.).
2. Предоставить общую информацию о праздниках России (three types of holidays; family holidays; *state/public holidays*: Constitution Day, New Year's Day, the International Women's Day, May Day, Victory Day, Independence Day; *religious holidays*: Christmas, Easter; Shrovetide).
3. Рассказать о самых популярных праздниках России и традициях (*New Year's Day*: December 31, national holiday, businesses/public offices/schools are closed; *dinner*: Russian salad/dressed herring/sparkling wine, etc., watch the president's speech, congratulate each other, exchange presents, play snowballs, make a snowman, light fire crackers, etc., Grandfather Frost, Snegurochka; *Victory Day*: important historic holiday, May 9, Germany's surrender, public offices, schools

and most businesses are closed, local military parade, watch the fireworks display, the biggest parade, veterans wear their medals, give red carnations, lay wreaths at the war memorial sites, school concerts and performances, honour surviving witnesses of World War II; *Christmas*: Orthodox Christmas, national and religious holiday, January 7th, family dinner, Christmas liturgy, a family holiday, Christmas Eve, Svyatki; *Maslenitsa (Pancake Week or Shrovetide)*: pagan holiday, festival, approach of the spring, renovation of the nature, eat pancakes, the Pancake Week, the *Forgiveness Day*, visit relatives and friends, a straw doll is burned).

4. Рассказать о зарубежных праздниках, которые отмечаются в России, и выразить своё мнение (*foreign celebrations*: Halloween, St. Valentine's Day, parties and masquerades, banned in public schools, St. Valentine's Day, teenagers and young people, buy small presents, make greetings cards; I don't mind/like/don't like foreign celebrations; I think that people in every country should/should not borrow traditions and celebrations from other nations).
5. Рассказать о своём любимом празднике по следующей схеме: name of the holiday → usual activities on this day → family traditions on this day → why you like it.
6. Заключение (I think that holidays are important because they connect people and give them an opportunity to have fun and enjoy themselves.).

QUESTIONS

1. What holidays do the Russians have?
2. What are the three types of Russian holidays?
3. What days are included in family holidays?
4. What celebrations are state or public?
5. What do religion holidays include?
6. When is New Year's Day celebrated?
7. What are the most popular traditions on this day?
8. How do you usually celebrate New Year's Day?
9. What is Victory Day and why is it important for the Russians?
10. When is it celebrated?
11. What are the traditions and activities on Victory Day?
12. When is Christmas celebrated in Russia?
13. What are the Christmas traditions?
14. How do you usually celebrate this holiday?
15. What is Maslenitsa? What other names does it have?

16. What are the traditions of this pagan holiday?
17. What foreign celebrations appeared in Russia?
18. What's your opinion about them?
19. Do you celebrate any of them?
20. What are your favourite Russian holidays?
21. Why do you like them?
22. What do you and your family usually do on these days?
23. Do you think holidays are important? Why (not)?

Л. Выдающиеся люди родной страны и стран изучаемого языка, их вклад в науку и мировую культуру

1. OUTSTANDING PEOPLE OF BRITAIN

Great Britain is famous for its poets, writers, musicians and scientists. It gave birth to such famous people as William Shakespeare, Robert Burns, Charles Dickens, Arthur Conan Doyle, Alexander Bell, Princess Diana, Sir Sean Connery, Joanne Rowling and many others. The Beatles band was also founded in Britain. However, it is very important to know contemporary British outstanding people and celebrities. This group includes writers, artists, actors, singers, sports people and politicians.

Joanne Rowling

Joanne Rowling is one of the most famous English writers in the world. Her *Harry Potter* series has been translated into many languages. Joanne Kathleen Rowling was born on the 31st of July in 1965, in Bristol, England. In her childhood she dreamt of becoming a writer. At the age of six Joanne wrote her first book about a rabbit. Like Hermione Granger, one of the characters of *Harry Potter* books, she was a know-it-all and a bookworm and her favourite subjects at school were English and foreign languages. After graduating from Exeter University, she worked as a secretary and then went to Portugal to teach English. Rowling had busy afternoons and evenings, but free mornings when she could write. In Portugal she married a TV-journalist, but the marriage wasn't successful, so she returned to Britain with her 4-month-old daughter. Joanne settled in Edinburgh, Scotland. The idea of a book about a young magician occurred to her in 1990, when she was going by train from Manchester to London. She quickly invented the main plot and some of the characters and in July 1997, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* was published. It became an immediate success and was published in eight countries. There

are seven *Harry Potter* books, five films based on the novels, *Harry Potter* computer games and a lot of goods with the *Harry Potter* trademark.

Sean Connery

Sir Thomas Sean Connery is an Academy Award-, Golden Globe-winning Scottish actor and producer who is best known as the first actor to have played James Bond in cinema, starring in seven Bond films. Sean Connery was born on August 25, 1930 in Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, to the family of a cleaning lady and a factory worker and truck driver. Connery's first job was as a milkman in Edinburgh, then he joined the Royal Navy, but was later discharged on medical grounds. Afterwards, he worked as a lorry driver, labourer, artist's model for the Edinburgh College of Art, coffin polisher, and bodybuilder. According to Connery's official website, he placed third in the 1953 Mr. Universe bodybuilding contest which led Connery to stage, television, and film work. Connery's breakthrough came with the role of secret agent James Bond. He acted in seven Bond films including *Dr. No*, *From Russia with Love*, *Goldfinger*, *Thunderball*, *You Only Live Twice*, *Diamonds Are Forever* and *Never Say Never Again*. In 1987, he won the Academy Award for the Best Supporting Actor for his role in *The Untouchables*. Sir Sean Connery was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in July 2000. Connery is known for keeping his Scottish accent in films, regardless of the nationality of the character played. Despite being older than most contemporary actors, he has repeatedly been named as one of the most attractive men alive by various magazines due to his good looks.

David Beckham

David Robert Joseph Beckham is an English footballer, who is playing for and is the captain of Major League Soccer's *Los Angeles Galaxy*. Beckham was born on May 2, 1975 in England. His career began when he signed a professional contract with

Manchester United, making his first-team debut in 1992 aged 17. He left *Manchester United* to sign for *Real Madrid* in 2003, where he remained for four seasons. While at Madrid, Beckham became the first British footballer to play 100 Champions League matches. In January 2007, it was announced that Beckham would leave *Real Madrid* and sign a five-year contract with the *Los Angeles Galaxy*. Beckham's new contract with the *Galaxy*, effective on July 1, 2007, gave him the highest salary of any Major League Soccer player in history. He has twice been runner-up for FIFA World Player of the Year, and in 2004 was the world's highest-paid footballer. Beckham was captain of England National Team from November 15, 2000 to July 2, 2006. Alongside with his career as a footballer, Beckham has become famous through his marriage to former *Spice Girls* member, Victoria Beckham, leading to various sponsorship deals and advertising campaigns and an estimated joint wealth of £112 million. The couple has 3 sons and 1 daughter and currently live in California, USA.

Robbie Williams

Robbie Williams, born on February 13, 1974 in Stock-on-Trent, England, is a Grammy Award-nominated, 15-time British Record Industry Trust Award-winning English singer and songwriter. His career started as a member of the pop band *Take That* in 1990. He left the band in 1995 to start his solo career, after selling 25 million records with the group. His album sales stand at over 55 million, with singles sales over 17 million. Williams entered the Guinness Book of World Records when in just one day he sold more than 1.6 million tickets for his 2006 world tour. He has been the recipient of many awards, including fifteen BRIT and six ECHO awards. In 2004, he officially became a member of the UK Music Hall of Fame, after being voted as the greatest artist of the 1990s. Robbie Williams is the artist who is currently featured the

most in the UK *Now That's What I Call Music!* TV-show.

Andrew Lloyd Webber

Andrew Lloyd Webber is a highly successful British composer of musical theatre. Webber started composing at the age of 6 and published his first piece at the age of 9. Lloyd Webber has received great popular success, with several musicals that have run for more than a decade both in the West End and on Broadway. He has composed 13 musicals, a song cycle, a set of variations and two film scores. He has also gained a number of honours, including a knighthood in 1992 followed by a peerage, three Grammy Awards, an Oscar, an International Emmy, a Golden Globe and many others. Several of his songs, notably *Don't Cry for Me, Argentina* from the musical *Evita*, *Memory* from *Cats*, and *The Music of the Night* from *The Phantom of the Opera* have been widely recorded and were hits outside of their parent musicals. His company, the *Really Useful Group*, is one of the largest theatre operators in London.

Margaret Thatcher

Margaret Thatcher is a British politician, who used to be Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1979 to 1990 and Leader of the Conservative Party from 1975 to 1990. She is the first and only woman to hold either post. Thatcher's term as Prime Minister was the longest continuous period in office since the tenure of Lord Liverpool who was Prime Minister in the early 19th century. She was the first woman to lead a major political party in the UK, and the first of only three women to have held any of the four great offices of state. Among other things, she defiantly opposed the Soviet Union, and her tough-talking rhetoric gained her the nickname the "Iron Lady". She currently has a life peerage as Baroness Thatcher, of Kesteven in the County of Lincolnshire, which entitles her to sit in the House of Lords. Not long ago a film was shot about Thatcher's life and career (*The Iron Lady*).

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. OUTSTANDING PEOPLE OF BRITAIN

1. Вступление (Great Britain is famous for its poets, writers, musicians and scientists. It gave birth to such famous people as William Shakespeare, Robert Burns, Charles Dickens, Arthur Conan Doyle, Alexander Bell, Princess Diana, Sir Sean Connery, Joanne Rowling and many others. The Beatles band was also founded in Britain. However, it is very important to know contemporary British outstanding people and celebrities. This group includes writers, artists, actors, singers, sports people and politicians.).
2. Рассказать кратко об известных людях Великобритании по следующей схеме: occupation (writer/singer/actor/politician, etc.) → date of birth/place of birth → childhood and family → achievements (awards/famous books/roles, etc.) → your personal opinion about him/her.

QUESTIONS

1. What world-famous writers, inventors and poets did Britain give birth to?
2. Who is Joanne Rowling and what is she famous for?
3. What can you tell about Rowling in brief?
4. Have you read Harry Potter books or watched the films?
5. Which did you like more: books or films? Why (not)?
6. What can you tell about Sir Sean Connery?
7. Do you like this actor? What films have you seen with Sean Connery, if any?
8. Who is David Beckham and what is he famous for?
9. Have you ever watched a football match with Beckham playing?
10. What do you know about Robbie Williams? Do you like his songs? Why (not)?
11. Who is Andrew Lloyd Webber?
12. What are Webber's achievements?
13. Who is Margaret Thatcher and what do you know about her?
14. What are Thatcher's achievements?

2. OUTSTANDING PEOPLE OF THE USA

The United States of America is a relatively young country, but it has got a lot of outstanding people. Due to the world's biggest cinema production in Hollywood, there are a lot of well-known American actors, actresses and film directors. The USA is also famous for its writers, scientists, sportsmen, pop stars and politicians.

Albert Einstein

Albert Einstein is one of the most famous American scientists in the world. He was born in a middle-class family in Germany. At the age of 15, his family moved to Switzerland where Einstein graduated from the Polytechnic Academy of Zurich. After that he got a job at a patent agency and spent his free time studying philosophy, mathematics and science. In 1905 he formulated the *Theory of Relativity* which was published in 1915. Einstein also proved that every planet has a gravitational field and this work made him world-famous. Another work was called *Photoelectric Law*.

In 1922 Einstein got the Nobel Prize for this discovery. In 1933 he moved to the United States as the protest against fascism and died there in 1955. Einstein's discoveries were a great contribution to science.

Ernest Hemingway

Ernest Hemingway is considered one of the greatest American writers. Hemingway was born in Illinois in 1899. He was a great sportsman as he went in for sport in his childhood. He was also one of the brightest students at school and wrote poetry and prose for a school magazine.

When World War I began in 1917, Hemingway joined the Army and was sent to Italy where he was badly wounded. After that he was awarded a silver medal by the Italian government. The war affected his future works greatly.

In 1920 Hemingway returned to the USA and found a job

as a foreign journalist in a newspaper. His dream though was to write novels. He travelled a lot to collect material for his works. In 1929 *A Farewell to Arms*, his first novel, was published and it made Hemingway famous. In this novel he protests against war. In 1936 Hemingway went to Spain and took part in the Civil War there. After that he wrote another novel called *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, devoted to American people who died in the war for Spain.

In 1954 Hemingway was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature for his last novel *The Old Man and the Sea* which was called the best of his works. Ernest Hemingway died in 1961 in Cuba where he spent his last years.

Michael Phelps

Michael Phelps is an American swimmer who has, overall, won 16 Olympic medals, becoming the most successful Olympic athlete in history. Phelps holds the record for the most gold medals won in a single Olympics. Furthermore, he holds the all-time record for most individual gold Olympic medals, at nine.

Phelps was born on June 30, 1985 in Towson, located just outside of Baltimore, Maryland. Phelps' father used to be a football player in high school; his mother is a school principal. Phelps began swimming at the age of seven and by the age of 10, he held a national record for his age group. At the age of 15 Phelps qualified for the 2000 Summer Olympics and became the youngest male to make a US Olympic swim team in 68 years.

Phelps's international titles and record breaking performances have earned him the *World Swimmer of the Year* award six times and *American Swimmer of the Year* award eight times. He has won a total of sixty-six medals in major international competitions. His unprecedented Olympic success in 2008 earned Phelps Sports Illustrated magazine's "Sportsman

of the Year" award.

After the 2008 Summer Olympics, Phelps started the *Michael Phelps Foundation*, which focuses on swimming and promoting healthier lifestyles.

Lady Gaga

Lady Gaga (Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta) is an extremely popular pop singer. She was born in 1986. Gaga could play the piano by ear from the age of four and later said her musical inspiration was the classical composer Johann Sebastian Bach. Gaga always loved performing and dreamt of fame from an early age. At the age of 17, she became one of the youngest students at the Tisch School of Performing Arts in New York. After that, she followed her dream the hard way, moving out of her parents' home to a cheap flat, while trying to earn a living as a singer-songwriter. It wasn't easy. Gaga spent a few years performing in clubs without success. Then, her luck started to change.

She began writing songs for successful artists like Britney Spears and *The Pussycat Dolls* and music executives quickly spotted her talent for writing pop hits. Meanwhile, Gaga was developing her own image and performance style, wearing outrageous costumes, wigs and make-up.

Lady Gaga created her own website, as well as MySpace, Twitter, YouTube and Facebook profiles to promote her music. This was the turning point in her career. She grabbed the attention of the world. She even made her songs available as free downloads. Lady Gaga also used these social media sites to chat with fans about various things such as her latest fashion statement or the lyrics of a new song. Lady Gaga shows no sign of slowing down. She writes songs, she sings and she dances, surprising audiences with her unusual clothes. Her talent and hard work have made her a reigning icon of today's pop culture.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. OUTSTANDING PEOPLE OF THE USA

1. Вступление (The United States of America is a relatively young country, but it has got a lot of outstanding people. Due to the world's biggest cinema production in Hollywood, there are a lot of well-known American actors, actresses and film directors. The USA is also famous for its writers, scientists, sportsmen, pop stars and politicians.).
2. Рассказать кратко об известных людях США по следующей схеме: occupation (writer/scientist/sportsman, etc.) → date of birth/place of birth → childhood and family → achievements (awards/famous books/roles, etc.) → your personal opinion about him/her.

QUESTIONS

1. Who is Albert Einstein and what is he famous for?
2. What can you tell about Einstein's life in brief?
3. What can you tell about Ernest Hemingway?
4. Have you ever read Hemingway's novels? What are your impressions?
5. Who is Michael Phelps?
6. Have you ever watched Phelps' performance at the Olympic Games?
7. Who is Lady Gaga?
8. How did Gaga's career start?
9. Do you listen to her songs? If you do, why do you like them?
10. What other famous Americans do you know?
11. What can you tell about them?
12. Who is your favourite American famous person? What is he/she famous for?
13. Do you think that it's much easier to become popular in America than in Russia? Why (not)?

3. OUTSTANDING PEOPLE OF RUSSIA

Russia has a very rich history and has a lot of outstanding people most of whom are world famous, and it is almost impossible to tell about all of them. It was our country that gave birth to such people as Alexander Pushkin, Dmitry Mendeleyev, Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, Yuri Gagarin, Ilya Repin and many others. Today, Russia also has got famous people who work in various fields. They are pop stars, sportsmen and sportswomen, actors and actresses, world famous doctors and physicists, writers and politicians.

I would like to tell you about some of Russian outstanding people of the past and of today.

Mikhail Lomonosov

Mikhail Lomonosov was a Russian polymath, scientist and writer, who made important contributions to literature, education, and science of the country. Lomonosov is considered to be the "father" of Russian science.

Mikhail Lomonosov was born in 1711 in a small village of Arkhangelsk Region. He always wanted to study and when he was nineteen he joined a caravan travelling to Moscow. He entered the Slavic-Greek-Latin Academy and six years later was sent to Germany to complete his studies in Chemistry and mining.

Lomonosov returned to Russia in 1741 and a year later he was named adjutant to the Russian Academy of Science at the Physics Department. In May 1743, Lomonosov was arrested and held under house arrest for eight months, after he supposedly insulted a few people who worked at the Academy. He was released and pardoned in January 1744 after apologising to all people involved.

Later Lomonosov was made a full member of the Academy, and named professor of Chemistry. He established the Academy's first chemistry laboratory. Eager to improve

Russian educational system, Lomonosov joined his patron Count Ivan Shuvalov in founding the Moscow State University which is now named after him.

Lomonosov made research in electricity, gravity and the character of colour. He was also the author of several odes and poems and published a lot of scientific works, including the first book on Russian grammar. 300 years passed since Lomonosov's birth and there were a lot of events in his memory all over Russia in 2011.

Leonid Roshal

Professor Leonid Roshal is a world-famous Russian doctor, whose reputation continues to grow as the years pass.

Roshal was born in Livny, a small town in Oryol Region. From the time he was a small boy, he knew that he would grow up to become a doctor.

After finishing secondary school, he entered a medical institute where he decided to join the pediatric faculty partly because of his love for children. After graduating, however, he realised that he wanted to continue his studies and went on to become a pediatric surgeon.

Roshal's many prestigious titles and awards include Doctor of Medicine, Professor, Director of the Moscow Research Institute of Child Surgery and Traumatology and President of the national Charity Fund set up to help child victims of disasters and catastrophes.

In spite of his very heavy workload as the director of the Moscow Research Institute, Professor Roshal still devotes much time to his patients both as a medical doctor and a surgeon.

Of all the honours that Roshal has received throughout his career, he insists that the title of *Children's Doctor of the World*, given to him in 1996, has pleased him the most.

Boris Akunin

Boris Akunin is the pen name of Grigory Shalvovich Chkhartishvili. He was born in Zestafoni, and is an expert on Japan, an essayist, a translator and a writer of detective fiction. He is best known for his historical mysteries set in Imperial Russia with *tsarist-era* detectives.

Akunin used to work as an assistant to the Editor-in-Chief of the Foreign Literature magazine but left to pursue a career as a fiction writer.

Under his given name of Grigory Chkhartishvili, he serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the 20-volumed *Anthology of Japanese Literature* and Chairman of the board of a large *Pushkin Library*. He has also contributed literary criticism and translations from Japanese, American and English literature under his own name.

Under the pseudonym Boris Akunin, he has written a lot of works of fiction, mainly novels and stories in the series *The Adventures of Erast Fandorin*, *The Adventures of Sister Pelagia*, *The Adventures of the Master* (following Nicholas Fandorin, Erast's grandson).

With more than a dozen crime novels published, Akunin has been named the champion of Russian crime fiction. His novels have been translated into many languages.

Dima Bilan

Dima Bilan, born Victor Belan, is a famous Russian pop singer. At the age of two he moved to his grandmother's place in Naberezhnye Chelny, Tatarstan Republic. When he was six, his family moved to Kabardino-Balkaria where he went to school with his sister. He took part in school performances, recited poems and sang songs.

Dima graduated from the Gnesins Academy of Music as a classical vocal performer. Bilan made his debut when he took fourth place at the Russian-Latvian festival *New Wave* in 2002.

In 2003, Bilan released his debut album titled *Night Hooligan*.

Bilan represented Russia at the famous Eurovision Song Contest 2006 with *Never Let You Go*, finishing second, and he won the contest in 2008 in Belgrade, with the song *Believe*. He still has concert and club performances and has several Russian No 1 hits.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. OUTSTANDING PEOPLE OF RUSSIA

1. Вступление (Russia has a very rich history and has a lot of outstanding people most of whom are world-famous; and it is almost impossible to tell about all of them. It was our country that gave birth to such people as ... and many others. Today, Russia also has got famous people who work in various fields. They are pop stars, sportsmen and sportswomen I would like to tell you about some of Russian outstanding people of the past and of today.).
2. Рассказать кратко об известных людях России по следующей схеме: occupation (writer/singer/actor/politician, etc.) → date of birth/place of birth → childhood and family → achievements (awards/famous books/roles, etc.) → your personal opinion about him/her.

QUESTIONS

1. What world-famous writers, inventors and poets did Russia give birth to?
2. Who was Mikhail Lomonosov and what is he famous for?
3. What can you tell about Lomonosov in brief?
4. Have you read any books or watched the films about Lomonosov?
5. Is the name Leonid Roshal familiar to you?
6. What can you tell about Leonid Roshal? What is he famous for?
7. Who is Boris Akunin and what is he famous for?
8. Have you ever read any of Akunin's books? What are your impressions?
9. What do you know about Dima Bilan? Do you like his songs? Why (not)?
10. Have you watched the Eurovision Song Contest in 2006 and 2008 where Bilan performed? What can you say about his performance?

М. Путешествие по странам изучаемого языка и по России

TRAVELLING

People travel for different purposes. Some people travel on business, others travel to visit their relatives and friends, but most people travel to see the world.

There are two ways of travelling: using one's own means of transport and using public transportation. One can travel by car, by plane, by ship, by train, by coach or on foot depending on what one prefers: comfort or speed.

One of the most comfortable ways of travelling is travelling by ship. Modern ships have got everything on board to make people feel at home. Luxurious liners offer swimming pools, bars, restaurants, even shops and casinos. However, there are disadvantages of sea travel. The main disadvantage is the price: tickets are rather expensive. Some people can also get seasick and their journey can be spoilt.

Unlike sea travel, going by air is the fastest way of travelling. Modern planes are comfortable and it is always nice to reach the destination point within hours, even if you travel to another part of the globe.

Land offers the greatest variety of transport both on wheels and on rail. Travelling by train is quite popular: people travel from one city to another by train if there is no flight connection between them or if the distance between the places is not too big. Modern trains are comfortable and travelling by train is convenient and cheaper than travelling by plane or ship.

Nowadays, a lot of people travel by coach too. There are special international bus tours which offer travelling through several countries. However, such tours also have disadvantages. Some people may feel sick in coaches; it is also not very comfortable to sleep on a bus seat. Moreover, tourists usually do not have enough time to see the sights of this or that city

when they travel by coach.

My favourite way of travelling is by car. To my mind, this is one of the most comfortable means of travelling, especially if the destination is not too far. I always enjoy looking through the window while going in a car. One can travel to different towns and cities of your native country and even abroad. In summer I like travelling on foot, or hiking. My friends and I take tents, backpacks, food and start walking. This way of travelling is rather slow, but you have an opportunity of spending a lot of time outdoors and you do not have to think about tickets or missing a train or a plane. It is so nice to sleep in a tent in the open air too.

If you decide to travel by any means of transport you'll have to get ready for the trip. If you travel by plane, train or ship, you have to book tickets beforehand which can be done either online or in a travel agency. When travelling by plane, you have to be at the airport two hours before an international flight and one hour before a domestic flight. At the airport you will have to go through the passport control and security check, have your luggage (of a limited weight) checked and then wait until the plane is ready for take-off. Sometimes, however, the flight can be delayed, so you have to wait at the airport.

When you go by train, it is easier, because you have to go through ticket control only and you may take more than 20 kilograms of luggage with you.

When travelling on vacation you should look for accommodation appropriate to your demands. There are hotels and motels which differ in price and comfort. Before the arrival you should make a room reservation at a hotel. All this should be done beforehand over the phone or on the Internet in case the hotel is full when you arrive. A special cheap kind of accommodation for young people is youth hostels where it is possi-

ble to stay overnight at a low price. Some tourists prefer to rent a room on their own.

Travelling is always nice: it gives you an opportunity to see interesting places and meet new people. I like travelling a lot!

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. TRAVELLING

1. Вступление (why people travel/purpose of travelling).
2. Рассказать о видах транспорта для путешествий (one's own transport/public transportation/car/plane/ship/train/coach/on foot, etc.).
3. Рассказать о типичных видах транспорта для путешествий, их достоинства и недостатки (*by ship*: comfortable/luxurious/great view/expensive/seasick, etc.; *by air*: fast/comfortable; *by train*: popular/not expensive/comfortable/convenient/cheap; *by coach*: travel across several countries/can be not comfortable/people may get sick/not much time for the sights).
4. Рассказать о своём любимом виде транспорта для путешествий (My favourite way of travelling is...; it is one of the most comfortable means of travelling; I think so because..., etc.).
5. Рассказать о подготовке к путешествию, о том, что необходимо сделать (book tickets/be at the airport ... hours before the flight/go through passport control/security check/have one's luggage checked/look for accommodation/make a room reservation, etc.).
6. Заключение (Travelling is always nice: it gives you an opportunity to see interesting places and meet new people. I like travelling a lot!).

QUESTIONS

1. Where do you usually spend your holidays?
2. Do you go with your family?
3. Where did you go when you were younger?
4. Do you prefer to swim in the sea or in a swimming pool?
5. What do you think of spending a holiday in a village?
6. How much pocket money do you get on holidays?
7. Do you spend more than at home?
8. How do you feel when your holidays are over?
9. Would you like to spend your holidays cruising in the Mediterranean?
10. Which do you prefer, winter or summer holidays?
11. What do you think about taking all your holidays at the same time?
12. Do you think it's better to take holidays in parts?
13. What is better to spend holidays with the family or with friends?
14. Have you ever been camping? if so, where?

15. What do you think of camping?
16. What are the advantages and disadvantages of camping?
17. Do you take any school books to revise?
18. What about reading? Do you read during your holidays?
19. Do you meet any English-speaking people during your holidays?
20. Do you practise any other languages?
21. What do you think of spending your holidays learning languages?
22. What do you think of working during your holidays?
23. Are holidays short or long? How long should they be?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Means of transport

passenger

public

land

sea

air

go by ship/train/coach/ plane

go on foot

ride a bike/a motorcycle

fly/flight

Travelling by train/plane

carriage

compartment

sleeping car

seat

see sb off

luggage

suitcase

hand luggage

air ticket

first class/economy class

boarding pass

Виды транспорта

пассажирский

общественный

наземный

морской

воздушный

плыть на корабле/ездить на

поезде/на автобусе/летать на

самолёте

идти пешком

ездить на велосипеде/

мотоцикле

летать/рейс

Путешествие на поезде/

самолёте

вагон

купе

спальный вагон

место

проводить кого-либо

багаж

чемодан

ручная кладь

билет на самолёт

первый класс/эконом-класс

посадочный талон

check-in
 take off/land
 security check
 crew
 customs control
 passport control
 ticket office (booking office)
 single ticket/one way ticket
 return ticket
 departure/arrival
 be delayed
 timetable/schedule
Accommodation
 B&B (bed and breakfast)

boarding house

camping park
 campus accommodation
 guest house
 hotel
 inn
 lodge
 motel
 resort hotel
 youth hostel
 restaurant with rooms

self-catering

serviced apartment

single/double room

регистрация на рейс
 взлетать/приземляться
 контроль безопасности
 экипаж (*самолёта*)
 таможня
 паспортный контроль
 билетная касса
 билет в один конец
 билет туда-обратно
 вылет/прилёт
 задерживаться
 расписание

Проживание

гостиница типа «проживание и завтрак»
 пансион (*проживание и питание*)
 кемпинг, лагерная стоянка
 проживать в общежитии
 небольшая гостиница
 отель
 гостиница
 охотничий домик
 мотель
 курортный отель
 молодёжный хостел
 ресторан с комнатами для съёма
 апартаменты, путешествовать
 дикарём
 апартаменты (*с бытовой техникой*)
 номер на одного/двоих

Н. Технический прогресс

TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS

For centuries people have been inventing things to make life easier. Among the greatest inventions of the past are the automobile, the steam engine, the electricity, the telephone and television. Since the beginning of the 20th century people have made a huge step in technology. Now we live in flats, talk to people who live in other parts of the world, travel from one place to another by plane. All these things are a product of technological progress and it is still growing rapidly.

Today we live in the world of machines and computers. Every day more and more gadgets appear and all of them make our life easier. Some of the new inventions have become so affordable and common, that now people cannot imagine life without them. For example, the mobile phone has turned from an expensive portable phone into an inexpensive data, e-mail, and voice service that almost anyone can afford. At the speed that mobile phones are evolving they may one day replace in-home phone services. Years ago mobile phones were bulky and required large batteries in a carrying case. Today's mobiles fit in a pocket and can replace a computer.

Another example of modern high-tech inventions is the Internet. Almost every company in the world has its own website. The Internet provides any kind of information on any topic. Of course, some of the sources are not reliable, but the Internet gives a very good opportunity to shop, book rooms and flights, watch films, listen to music and many other things. The Internet also gives an opportunity to make new friends and find old ones thanks to social networking sites such as Facebook or Vkontakte.

Computer technology has influenced production processes and made work easier. Toy companies, for example, incorporate computer chips in toys which make them move, talk and

sing on their own. The car industry has computer systems installed in cars and they give information on car's condition, including tire pressure, headlights or the temperature inside and outside. Printing has become much easier with the computer-based printing machines.

Tablet PCs are becoming more and more popular today. They are much lighter than notebooks or netbooks and they contain all the software that is needed for business, studies and pleasure. EBook readers are a new invention too. This is a very convenient gadget that allows uploading books in different electronic formats. Instead of carrying one paperback book in a bag, you can carry one eBook reader with thousands of books on it.

Surely, these new inventions are not the last ones that humanity has developed and many others will be developed year upon year.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS

1. Вступление (have been inventing things for centuries/the automobile/the steam engine, etc.; technological progress now).
2. Рассказать о технологическом процессе в современном мире (the world of machines and computers, more and more gadgets appear, so affordable and common, the mobile phone: bulky, large batteries, etc.)
3. Рассказать о новых изобретениях и об их роли в нашей жизни (*the Internet*: any kind of information, good opportunity to shop, book rooms and flights, watch films, social networking sites, computer technology, toy companies, the car industry, printing; *tablet PCs*: lighter than notebooks, the software that is needed, for business, studies and pleasure; *eBook readers*: convenient, uploading books, thousands of books).
4. Заключение (Surely, these new inventions are not the last ones that humanity has developed and many others will be developed year upon year.).

QUESTIONS

1. Why have people been inventing new things for many centuries?
2. What are the basic greatest inventions of the past?
3. What does the modern world look like?
4. How can you describe technological progress now?
5. What can you say about mobile phones as inventions?

6. Have you got a mobile phone?
7. Can you live without a mobile now? Why (not)?
8. Do you consider the Internet a great invention? Why (not)?
9. How often do you browse the Net?
10. What are your favourite sites?
11. Do you have an account on any of the social networking sites?
12. Have you got a tablet PC? Would you like to have it and why?
13. Do you think that eBook readers are a great invention?
14. Do you use such a reader?
15. Do you think that eBooks will replace paperback books in the future? Why (not)?
16. What other inventions do you know? What can you tell about them?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Inventions

antibiotics

automobile

battery

eBook

eBook reader

electronic money

GPS technology

jet airliner

LED (light emitting diodes)

mobile/cell (AmE) phone

MP3-player

netbook

printing press

social networking/media site

steam engine

tablet PC/pad

telescope

television

text messages/SMS

walkman

Изобретения

антибиотики

автомобиль

батарея

литературное произведение в электронном формате (электронная книга)

устройство для чтения электронных книг

электронные деньги

система спутниковой навигации

реактивный самолёт, лайнёр

светодиоды

мобильный телефон

mp3-плеер

нетбук

книгопечатный станок

социальная сеть

паровой двигатель

планшетный компьютер, «таблетка»

телескоп

телевидение

СМС-сообщения

кассетный плеер

О. Глобальные проблемы современности

GLOBAL PROBLEMS OF TODAY

People have lived on our planet Earth for centuries and global problems have always existed. In ancient times the biggest global problem was wars. People have been fighting with each other since the beginning of the civilisation mostly to get new territories and more land. Later, fighting the distance was another global problem, too, before the discovery of the plane. Today, there are more global problems which can be divided into two categories: ecological problems and social, economic and political issues.

The first category includes issues relating to ecological destruction, pollution and global warming as the result. The climate is changing and many people agree that climate change may be one of the greatest threats facing the planet. Many people think that a rise in temperature of about three or four degrees is not very much, but the effects are worse than it seems at first sight. Global warming has already killed off some types of animals and plants. There have been more and more heat waves in the summer, with many people dying in big cities. Rising sea levels are threatening whole nations on low-lying islands in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

The second category of global problems deals with social, economic and political issues. They include global terrorism, poverty, human rights, health issues, racism and many others.

We are faced with the problem of global terrorism and more and more countries are suffering from it. It is difficult to catch terrorists and prevent their acts. The most terrible terrorist attack took place on September 11, 2001 in the USA. The World Trade Centre, the pride of all Americans and one of the symbols of New York City, was destroyed completely and thousands of people died. The world was shocked and most countries decided to fight against terrorism. However, new terror-

ist attacks have been committed. Many innocent people still get killed and nobody can stop terrorists.

Poverty is another global problem. It may seem surprising, but most of humanity lives on just a few dollars a day now. The worst situation is in Africa where people (mostly children) die every day of hunger because they have nothing to eat. The poor also have less access to health, education and other services. Problems of hunger, malnutrition and diseases affect the poorest in society.

Another global problem is racism, when people of different races and different skin colour are humiliated and even killed. There are many organisations that fight social global problems, but this battle has lasted for a long time and it will take much time for the solution of all of them.

We live in the 21st century and humanity has made a great progress in technology, so I think that it is strange that we still have global problems, especially the ones that deal with social, economic and political issues. I am sure that they can be solved completely without any conflicts or wars.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. GLOBAL PROBLEMS OF TODAY

1. Вступление по теме (People have lived on our planet Earth for centuries and global problems have always existed. In ancient times the biggest global problem was wars. People have been fighting with each other since the beginning of the civilisation mostly to get new territories and more land. Later, fighting the distance was another global problem, too, before the discovery of the plane.).
2. Рассказать о двух группах глобальных проблем и о каждой в отдельности (two categories; *ecological problems*: ecological destruction, pollution and global warming; climate change; killed off some types of animals and plants; heat waves in the summer; many people dying in big cities; rising sea levels; *social, economic and political issues*: global terrorism, poverty, human rights, health issues, racism; terrorists, most terrible terrorist attack, fight against terrorism, new terrorist attacks, innocent people; poverty, Africa, die of hunger, less access to health, education and other services; racism, humiliated and killed, organisations, fight social global problems).

3. **Закключение** (We live in the 21st century and humanity has made a great progress in technology, so I think that it is strange that we still have global problems, especially the ones that deal with social, economic and political issues. I am sure that they can be solved completely without any conflicts or wars.).

QUESTIONS

1. What global problems were there in the past?
2. What are the two categories of global problems now?
3. What does the first category include?
4. Why is global warming considered a global problem?
5. How does it affect nature?
6. What global problems does the second category include?
7. Why is terrorism a global problem?
8. Is poverty a big issue nowadays? Why?
9. What is racism and why is it a global problem?
10. What other global problems can you mention?
11. In what way can we fight global problems?
12. What global problem do you think is the biggest one? Why?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Problems

climate change
diseases
ecological
economic
educational
environmental
financial crisis
global
global warming
health
hunger
malnutrition
political
pollution
poverty
racism
social
technological
terrorism

Проблемы

изменение климата
болезни
экологические
экономические
образовательные
связанные с окружающей средой
финансовый кризис
глобальные
глобальное потепление
здравоохранение
голод
недоедание
политические
загрязнение
бедность
расизм
социальные
технологические
терроризм

II. Средства массовой информации (пресса, телевидение, радио, Интернет)

MASS MEDIA

Modern world is full of information of various kinds which sometimes is even more valuable than money. Mass media (the press, radio, television and Internet) have a very big impact on modern society. They serve to inform people of different events that take place or may happen, educate, entertain and give us any kinds of information. Complete and accurate information is very important to get nowadays.

The press still remains one of the most powerful kinds of mass media, even more powerful than the Internet. One can find daily, weekly and monthly newspapers and magazines on different topics. My family is subscribed to *Moskovsky Komsomolets* which is one of the most popular daily newspapers in Russia. However, I do not read it since I prefer getting news from the Internet. My mother also buys monthly fashion magazines like *Vogue* or *Cosmopolitan* and my father prefers sports newspapers and magazines. There are also a lot of newspapers and magazines for children which are colourful and full of pictures.

Television plays a big role in our society too and a lot of people prefer watching television to reading a newspaper. Television provides a great opportunity for people to learn latest news, watch educational programmes, children's programmes, old and new films and soap operas on TV. TV-series have also become very popular with the Russians nowadays.

As for me, I usually watch documentaries and game shows on television. My mother prefers sitcoms and educational programmes; my father watches sports programmes and political talk shows. I think that it is impossible to live without television, even though the Internet, I am sure, will replace it one day in future.

Radio is less popular than newspapers and television, but still people listen to it in cars or at work. I usually listen to online radio stations while I am doing my homework. Every hour radio stations tell latest news in brief. There are also different types of radio stations and one can find any radio station to their liking.

The Internet is the newest kind of mass media, but which has become the most popular and greatest source of information and entertainment. If you have the internet access, you may read newspapers online, watch films, listen to music, listen to the radio and even watch television online!

I use the Internet every day for various purposes: I chat with friends all over the world, read news and browse the Net to find necessary information for my studies. E-mail has become the greatest way of communication. One can send a letter to their friends (even from the most distant countries and places) without the need of buying an envelope, and the letter will be delivered in a few seconds. I also like social media sites, like Facebook or V Kontakte. I have my profiles there and they help me stay in touch with all my friends both from Russia and abroad.

Surely, there are advantages and disadvantages of mass media. Some of the advantages are education and entertainment. However, one needs to have special equipment, like a TV-set to watch television, a radio-set to listen to the radio, or a computer with the internet access to surf the Net and buying all of these may be hard if one does not have enough money. Another disadvantage is that sometimes the information which is provided on the Internet is unreliable and may even be harmful to people.

In spite of all disadvantages, people still read newspapers, watch TV, listen to the radio and browse the Net.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. MASS MEDIA

1. Вступление (the world of information, the importance of it, what mass media are, what mass media do).
2. Рассказать о каждом типе СМИ с примерами из своей жизни (*the press*: powerful kind, newspapers/magazines, if your family is subscribed to any newspaper/magazine, what your family members read, etc.; *television*: latest news, educational programmes/talk shows/soap operas/cartoons, etc.; *radio*: less popular, a lot of music/news/talk shows; *the Internet*: chat/news, good way of communication, email, etc.).
3. Рассказать о достоинствах и недостатках СМИ (educate and entertain, necessary equipment, expensive, unreliable information).
4. Заключение (In spite of all disadvantages, people still watch TV, listen to the radio and surf the Internet.).

QUESTIONS

1. What do mass media include?
2. What is one of the most popular types of mass media?
3. Why is reliable information important nowadays?
4. Is your family subscribed to a newspaper or magazine?
5. Do you watch television?
6. What are your favourite channels and programmes on TV?
7. Why is radio less popular than television?
8. Do you listen to the radio? What are your favourite radio stations?
9. What TV programmes do you and your family watch?
10. Do you think it is possible to live without television?
11. Do you often surf the Internet?
12. What kind of information do you usually look for in the Internet?
13. Do you have a profile on a social media site?
14. Do you think that life is impossible without the Internet now? Why (not)?
15. What are the advantages and disadvantages of mass media?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Types of the press

book

daily/weekly/monthly newspaper

flier

journal

leaflet

Виды печатной продукции

книга

ежедневная/еженедельная/еже-
месячная газета

флаер

специализированный журнал

листовка (рекламная)

magazine

Types of TV programmes

cartoon

children's programme

documentary

educational programme

news programme

quiz/game show

sitcom

soap opera

sports programme

talk show

TV show/series

weather forecast

The Internet

blog

browse/surf the Internet/Net

browser

chat

connection

download

e-mail

link

online

post

social media site

upload

журнал

Виды телевизионных программ

мультфильм

детская программа

документальный фильм

образовательная программа

новости

телевикторина

комедия положений

мыльная опера

спортивная программа

ток-шоу

сериал

прогноз погоды

Интернет

блог (онлайн-дневник)

«лазить» по Интернету

браузер

болтать

связь

скачивать

электронная почта

ссылка

в сети, онлайн

публиковать комментарий/пост

социальная сеть

загружать в Интернет

(информацию/фото/видео)

Р. Природа и проблемы экологии. Здоровый образ жизни

1. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Ecological problems are becoming more and more important today. People all over the world discuss environmental protection, but we still go on polluting air, water and soil.

Air pollution is the biggest problem of large cities and industrial areas. It is usually caused by different means of transport. Cars, buses and planes are among the worst air polluters. Factories and plants also pollute air by pouring harmful emissions into the air causing lung diseases and doing harm to our health. As a result, acid rains appear and damage forests and soil.

Trees absorb carbon dioxide from the air and give out oxygen in return. In some parts of the world, such as Asia and South America, trees are threatened not by pollution, but by people. The rainforests are destroyed for firewood and building materials. If we lose tropical forests, it will become more difficult to breathe, because they provide 50 per cent of the world's annual production of oxygen. With more carbon dioxide in the air, the temperature on the planet will rise and this will cause global warming.

How can the problems of air pollution be solved? First of all, people should try to use alternative sources of energy, such as solar, water or wind energies, or at least to burn smokeless fuels.

There are ways to reduce air pollution caused by road traffic. It is possible to build more railways and to support public transportation. Also, people should be encouraged to drive at the speed limit in order to use fuel more efficiently. Another way is to encourage tree planting, because trees absorb carbon dioxide. Special kinds of gasoline for cars can also help to reduce air pollution.

Water pollution is as dangerous as air pollution. Factories

and plants dump wastes into rivers and lakes polluting them. Wastes that get into rivers, streams and oceans can entangle wildlife or be mistaken by them for food and spread diseases to humans. Rain or excess water can wash fertilisers into rivers and streams, causing excess weeds to grow.

There are several things that can be done to restore polluted waterways back to normal. You should make sure you never throw anything that could be toxic down a drain or onto soil. Basically, it is important to remember that anything that gets onto the ground can eventually end up in a river, lake or stream. So, make sure you do not allow any chemicals or waste to go on the ground or down the drain.

Soil pollution does not allow plants to grow and makes people sick after they eat fruit and vegetables grown on polluted soil. People also pollute soil by throwing litter onto it. Forests are full of used bottles and cans. Such litter can be found in rivers and lakes too which makes wild animals sick and causes their death. This can be stopped if you make sure that you throw litter into recycling bins and take litter with you after a picnic in a forest or on a river bank.

Every day we throw away a lot of litter, which, actually, we can use again, for example paper, cloth, glass, plastic, etc. Everybody should know the three r's: reduce, reuse and recycle. Water and electricity can and should be reduced. We should reuse whatever we can: plastic bags, paper, cans, glass and bottles. Paper and plastic, for example, are also recycled at factories and plants and we get paper and plastic bags made from recycled materials.

It is impossible to stop technological process, to close all factories and plants to prevent pollution, but people need to invent new waste-free technologies that will not damage the environment. There are new inventions such as self-destructible plastic bags which turn into powder if you keep them for

some time or leave them in the forest. There are up-to-date filters that make water and air clean and that some factories and plants have started using to prevent pollution.

We must not ignore the problems of environmental pollution and we have to try and make everything possible to stop or at least reduce it.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

1. Вступление (Ecological problems are becoming more and more important today. People all over the world discuss environmental protection, but we still go on polluting air, water and soil.).
2. Рассказать о типах загрязнений, почему они возникают и как можно с ними бороться (*air pollution*: transport/factories and plants/acid rains/damage forests and soil/oxygen/rainforests are destroyed/alternative sources of energy/building more motorways, etc.; *water pollution*: factories and plants dump wastes/poison rivers/spread diseases to humans/never throw toxic things into the drain/etc.; *soil pollution*: litter/used bottles and cans/causes death of animals/throw litter into litter bins, etc.).
3. Рассказать в общем о том, как можно сократить загрязнение окружающей среды (three r's/reduce water and electricity/reuse and recycle plastic bags/paper/cans/glass, etc., new waste-free technologies/self-destructible plastic bags/up-to-date filters, etc.).
4. Заключение (We must not ignore the problems of environmental pollution and we have to try and make everything possible to stop or at least reduce it.).

QUESTIONS

1. Are the ecological problems important today?
2. What causes air pollution and what kind of emissions are emitted into the air?
3. How can acid rain be caused?
4. How does acid rain affect our environment?
5. Why are trees important for life on earth?
6. What kind of climate changes can air pollution cause?
7. What are the ways of reducing air pollution?
8. What measures can we take to reduce air pollution by road traffic?
9. How does water pollution occur?
10. What can be done to reduce water pollution?
11. How is land pollution caused?
12. What are the possibilities of reusing waste materials?

13. How can we get rid of waste of all kinds?
14. What can be done with litter in the streets?
15. What can people do to prevent pollution?
16. What areas does pollution affect?
17. What is the role of technology in reducing pollution?
18. What causes noise pollution and how can we reduce it?
19. What kind of protection do animals and plants need?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

air pollution

disposal

dump

efficiency

emission

environment

fossil fuel

global warming

leak

litter bin

noise pollution

poison

poisonous

pollute

pollution

pollutant

rubbish/litter

sewage

soil pollution

storage

store

waste

waste disposal

water pollution

загрязнение воздуха

уборка, избавление от отходов

сбрасывать, сливать

производительность,

эффективность

выброс

окружающая среда

природное топливо

глобальное потепление

утечка; протекать

мусорный бак

шумовое загрязнение

яд

ядовитый

загрязнять

загрязнение

загрязнитель

мусор

сточные воды

загрязнение почвы

хранилище

хранить

отходы

утилизация отходов

загрязнение воды

2. DOING SPORTS AND KEEPING FIT

The polluted and unhealthy world of today makes people realise the importance of keeping fit and going in for sport. Sport is popular with the young and the old. Many people do morning exercises, go jogging and train at gyms. Others prefer just watching sports programmes on TV and listening to sports news.

There are some reasons for that and the main reason is that sport takes a lot of time. If you wish to be a professional sportsman, you will have to train hard several times a week, or even every day. Those who work hard making money can't afford to spend their time on that. Still you can be an amateur which means that you are not a professional sportsman and you go in for sport because you enjoy it. A lot of people are sports amateurs today. In winter they ski, skate and snowboard and in summer they play football, cycle and rollerblade.

Sport is a good way to keep fit too, and keeping fit is important because a healthy person can work much easier and live a happy life. Keeping fit has become an important part of our life and everyone should know that humans were not created for sitting at a table all day, so it is very important to spend some time doing exercises every day.

Physical Education, or PE, has become an important school subject in Russia. Schoolchildren have physical training three times a week. Boys and girls play sports games, such as volleyball and basketball, do various exercises, take part in sports competitions.

In Russia the most popular kinds of sport are football, hockey, skating and skiing. Snowboarding has become a popular sport too. Our country is well-known for wonderful gymnasts, figure skaters and tennis players. Russia takes part in summer and winter Olympic Games too and our sportsmen get gold and silver medals.

As for me, I do sport regularly. I am an amateur and I usually play football with my friends and sometimes jog in the morning. My favourite sport is swimming and I go to the swimming pool twice a week. This helps me feel fit and healthy and when I swim I relax and forget about problems for some time. My grandfather used to play football and hockey when he was a teenager but now he prefers watching these sports games on television as he is too old for doing sport. My father doesn't go in for sport because he works hard and he has no time for it. My mom likes watching figure skating competitions on TV.

Keeping fit doesn't mean only doing sport, it also deals with the right way of eating. Keeping to a diet has become very popular today. Diets differ a lot. On the one hand, keeping to a diet helps people feel better because they avoid eating fatty and unhealthy food, but on the other hand, some people start eating very little and do not look healthy at all. This problem usually concerns models and actresses.

People need all types of vitamins to keep their body healthy and these vitamins can be found in fruit and vegetables. They also contain fiber, which is very important for our health.

A lot of people spend most of their free time watching TV or working at computers and by doing that they ruin their eyes and their muscles. This is not healthy at all. Some people also have bad habits, such as smoking, drinking alcohol and taking drugs. A lot of teenagers and young people prefer smoking to going in for sport and I think this is wrong.

Keeping fit and going in for sport are very important and everyone should do something to stay healthy and feel happy.

ПЛАН-ОТВЕТ. DOING SPORT AND KEEPING FIT

1. Вступление. Рассказать в общем о важности спорта и здорового образа жизни (polluted and unhealthy world, popular with, do morning exercises, go jogging, train at gyms, watching sports programmes, listening to sports news).
2. Рассказать о разнице между профессиональным и любительским спортом, о том, какими видами спорта люди занимаются летом и зимой (takes a lot

of time, have to train hard, can't afford to spend, not a professional sportsman, ski/skate/snowboard, etc.).

3. Рассказать об уроках физкультуры в школе (Physical Education, an important school subject, three times a week, play sports games, do various exercises, school sports competitions).
4. Рассказать о популярных видах спорта в России (football/hockey/ skating, etc.; gymnasts/figure skaters, etc.; summer and winter Olympic Games, gold and silver medals).
5. Рассказать о себе, своей семье и отношении к спорту (do/don't sport regularly; I am an amateur/a professional; I usually play football/basketball/baseball, etc.; My favourite sport is...; My father/mother/sister/brother, etc.... does/doesn't do sport, etc.).
6. Рассказать о важности ведения здорового образа жизни, о диетах и вредных привычках и вашем отношении к этому (keeping fit, keeping to a diet, diets differ, helps people feel better, fatty and unhealthy food, eating very little, vitamins, fruit and vegetables, fiber, watching TV/working at computers, ruin eyes/muscles, bad habits: smoking/drinking alcohol, etc.).
7. Заключение (Keeping fit and going in for sport are very important and everyone should do something to stay healthy and feel happy.).

QUESTIONS

1. What's your favourite sport?
2. What games do you usually play?
3. Mention all the games and sports you can think of.
4. What sport do people go in for in Russia?
5. Do you do any sport?
6. Are you good at any games or sports?
7. Which do you think is the hardest sport?
8. Which do you think is the most dangerous sport?
9. Which do you think is the laziest sport?
10. Do you think sport is good for health?
11. Can you mention some benefits sport provides?
12. Is there any harm that sport may do to you?
13. What do you think of running?
14. What are the advantages of running?
15. What are the disadvantages?
16. What do you think of running marathons?
17. What is the difference between professional and amateur sport?
18. What do you think of professional sport?

19. Would you like to be a professional sportsman?
20. Would you like to go to the Olympic Games?
21. Do you watch them on TV?
22. Which sports do you like to watch most?
23. What do you think of football on TV?
24. Have any Olympic Games taken place in your country?
25. Do you keep to a diet?
26. Do you think keeping to a diet is good for health? Why (not)?
27. What is healthy food?
28. Do you eat fast food?
29. Why are vitamins important for people?
30. Do you lead a healthy life? Why (not)?

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Kinds of sport

(horse) racing
archery
athletics
baseball
basketball
billiards/pool
body building
bowling
boxing
canoeing
chess
cricket
curling
cycling
golf
handball
ice hockey
judo
karate [kə'ra:ti]
motor racing
rock climbing/mountaineering
rollerblading
rowing
sailing

Виды спорта

(скачки) гонки
стрельба из лука
атлетика
бейсбол
баскетбол
бильярд
бодибилдинг
боулинг
бокс
гребля на байдарках
шахматы
крикет
кёрлинг
велосипедный спорт
гольф
гандбол
хоккей
дзюдо
карате
автомобильные гонки
скалолазание
катание на роликах
гребля
парусный спорт

shooting
skateboarding
skating
skiing
skydiving
snowboarding
swimming
table tennis
tennis
volleyball
water polo
water skiing
weight lifting
windsurfing
wrestling
yoga

Health

animal fat
cereals
rye bread instead of white flour
pastries. (rolls, buns, cakes)

drink alcohol
eat fruit and raw vegetables
eat more times a day in small
amounts
eat preferably lean meat

eat slowly/take time to eat
enough/a lot of vitamins
fatty food
fibrous food

high calorie dishes
keep to a diet
little or no caffeine
little salt and spices
vegetable oil and butter

стрельба
скейтбординг
катание на коньках
катание на лыжах
прыжки с парашютом
сноубординг
плавание
настольный теннис
теннис
волейбол
водное поло
водные лыжи
тяжёлая атлетика
виндсёрфинг
борьба
йога

Здоровье

животный жир
злаки
ржаной хлеб вместо мучных
изделий (рулетов, булочек,
пирожных)
пить алкогольные напитки
есть фрукты и сырые овощи
есть чаще маленькими
порциями
есть предпочтительно постное
мясо
есть медленно, не торопясь
достаточно/много витаминов
жирная еда
еда с большим содержанием
клетчатки
высококалорийные блюда
придерживаться диеты
мало или без кофеина
мало соли и специй
растительное масло и сливочное
масло

Учебное издание

Смирнов Юрий Алексеевич

АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

Сборник устных тем для подготовки к ГИА

5–9 классы

Пособие для учащихся общеобразовательных организаций

Центр группы германских языков

Руководитель Центра *В. В. Копылова*

Зам. руководителя Центра по проектам *И. Н. Темнова*

Редактор *С. Ю. Денисова*

Выпускающий редактор *М. А. Семичев*

Художественный редактор *Н. В. Дождёва*

Техническое редактирование и
компьютерная вёрстка *А. А. Алексеева*

Корректор *И. Б. Окунева*

Налоговая льгота – Общероссийский классификатор продукции
ОК 005-93—953000. Изд. лиц. Серия ИД № 05824 от 12.09.01.

Подписано в печать 25.06.13. Формат 70 x 90^{1/16}.

Бумага типографская №2. Гарнитура Прагматика. Печать офсетная.

Уч.-изд. л. 7,06. Тираж 10 000 экз. Заказ № 1589.

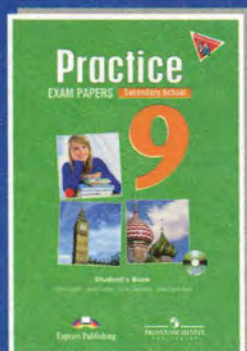
Открытое акционерное общество «Издательство «Просвещение».
127521, Москва, 3-й проезд Марьиной рощи, 41.

Отпечатано в филиале «Тверской полиграфический комбинат детской литературы»
ОАО «Издательство «Высшая школа», 170040, г. Тверь, проспект 50 лет Октября, 46.
Тел.: +7(4822) 44-85-98. Факс: +7(4822) 44-61-51

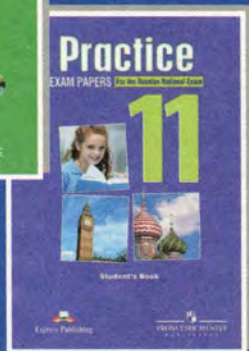
Данный сборник охватывает все темы, включённые в спецификацию Государственной итоговой аттестации по английскому языку. После каждой темы предлагается план-ответ, который поможет учащимся подготовиться к устному рассказу, список вопросов, а также список полезных слов и выражений к темам, не предполагающим заучивание фактической информации. После изучения материалов сборника раздел «Говорение» ГИА не будет представлять трудностей для учащихся.

Кроме того, материалы сборника можно использовать при подготовке к устным зачётам и экзаменам по английскому языку в 5–9 классах.

Дополнительные пособия для подготовки к различным видам итоговой аттестации



9 класс



11 класс

“Practice Exam Papers” – новая серия учебных пособий для подготовки учащихся к итоговой аттестации по окончании 9 и 11 классов. Серия была создана совместно с британским издательством “Express Publishing” при участии российских авторов-экспертов ГИА и ЕГЭ.

Основные особенности серии:

- аутентичные тексты, подобранные в соответствии с уровнем учащихся;
- соответствие тематики и языкового материала последним демо-версиям экзамена;
- аудиоприложение на CD, записанное в экзаменационном формате;
- наличие подробных ключей к заданиям, включая примерные ответы на задания раздела «Письмо».

ISBN 978-5-09-032024-5



9 785090 320245