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АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

**Практическое пособие для
студентов II курса филологического факультета
специальностей 1-21 05 01 – “Белорусская филология”
и 1-21 05 02 – “Русская филология”**

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Практическое пособие содержит тексты страноведческого направления с упражнениями и заданиями на развитие и совершенствование навыков чтения и устной речи, расширение активного словаря и кругозора студентов. Адресовано студентам филологического факультета.

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ВВЕДЕНИЕ

Данное пособие содержит тексты страноведческого направления о некоторых интересных особенностях истории и культуры Великобритании, знакомит с традициями, обычаями и национальными чертами характера британцев и включает тексты для чтения с системой предтекстовых и послетекстовых заданий.

Цель пособия - обучение студентов поисковому, просмотровому, ознакомительному и изучающему видам чтения, расширение активного словаря, развитие навыков устной речи и письма, расширение кругозора студентов.

В пособие включены тексты, составленные отечественными авторами и аутентичные тексты, занимательность и экстралингвистическая насыщенность которых помогут быстрее достичь поставленной цели, избежав традиционной монотонности.

Данное пособие может быть использовано для обучения студентов гуманитарных специальностей университета.

TEXT 1

1. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a). one-syllable words:

more, law, queues, castle, tongue;

b). words with the stress on the first syllable:

self-discipline, courtesy, island, foreigners, tragic, biscuits, leisure, Cedars, Poplars, Rhubarb;

c). words with the stress on the second syllable:

notorious, except, among, excitedly, familiar, devotion, majority, substantial, inhabitants, occasions, behaviour.

2. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to.

Translate them into Russian.

one of the most striking features, people do not rush, may not mention, a foreigner's language, a tradition that is rooted, a suitable occasion, it will consist, Englishmen tend to be, when being introduced, its inhabitants, he can be sent, ordinary people seem to remain, much easier.

3. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

leisure, behaviour, to mention, to shake hands, to be introduced to someone, to prefer something to something, a neighbour, in a quiet manner, strictly speaking, a suitable occasion, well-to-do.

b). Fill in the gaps using the words from a) in the correct form:

1. People usually ... when they ... each other.
2. He has always wanted to live in his own big house not to have any
3. Gardening is a very popular ... time activity in Britain.
4. He didn't even ... his understanding of this foreigner's language.
5. She always spoke ... and had excellent

6. Their family was rather ... and they always had many tasty things for dinner.
7. ..., tea is not a meal at all, but ... for social intercourse.
8. The Englishman ... his own house ... an apartment in a block of flats.

4. Look through the text and fill in the gaps with necessary words:

1. Englishmen ... rather conservative and unsociable, they love familiar things.
2. English people don't like ... their emotions even in dangerous and tragic situations.
3. They hardly ever ... with their friends except seeing them after a long interval or saying good-bye before a long journey.
4. Animals ... by law.
5. On Sunday mid-mornings most British people ... in some fairly light ... such as gardening, washing the car, shelling peas for Sunday lunch, or taking the dog for a walk.
6. The English sense and feeling for ... is notorious.
7. "An Englishman's house is his castle", as ... goes.
8. ... of the British population live in small houses built close together.
9. ..., tea is not a meal at all, but a suitable occasion for social intercourse.
10. "High tea", however, is ... and is eaten between five-thirty and six-thirty by families which do not usually have a late dinner.

5. Match the words with their definitions:

behaviour, devotion, leisure, inhabitant, foreigner, emotion, cemetery, intercourse, biscuit, custard.

1. attachment to a thing or person.
2. the manner of conducting oneself.
3. a person not native in the country.

4. time free from work.
5. any of the feelings of joy, fear, hate, love, etc.
6. a cookie.
7. a burial ground for the dead.
8. a person that lives in a certain place.
9. a dessert, made with eggs, milk and sugar, baked or boiled until thickened.
10. communication between people, groups, countries.

6. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

7. Read the text and choose the appropriate title for each passage:

1. Way of life.
2. Animals.
3. Tea.
4. Character.
5. Houses.

THE BRITISH PEOPLE AS THEY ARE

Great Britain is an island on the outer edge of the European continent, and its geographical situation has produced a certain insular spirit among its inhabitants, who tend, a little more perhaps than other people, to regard their own community as the centre of the world. The British look on foreigners in general with contempt and think that nothing is as well done elsewhere as in their own country.

Englishmen tend to be rather conservative and unsociable, they love familiar things. One of the most striking features of English life is the self-discipline and courtesy of people of all classes. There is little noisy behaviour, and practically no loud disputing in the street. People do not rush excitedly for seats in buses or trains, but take their seats in queues at bus stops in a quiet and orderly manner.

Englishmen are naturally polite and are never tired in saying "Thank you", "I'm sorry", "Beg your pardon". If you follow anyone who is entering a building or a room, he will hold a door open for you. Many foreigners have commented on a remarkable politeness of the English people.

English people don't like displaying their emotions even in dangerous and tragic situations, and ordinary people seem to remain good-tempered and cheerful under difficulties.

The Englishman does not like any boasting or showing off in manners, dress or speech. Sometimes he conceals his knowledge: a linguist, for example, may not mention his understanding of a foreigner's language.

The English sense and feeling for privacy is notorious. England is the land of brick fences and stone walls, of hedges, of thick draperies at all the windows. English people rarely shake hands except when being introduced to someone for the first time. They hardly ever shake hands with their friends except seeing them after a long interval or saying good-bye before a long journey.

A tradition that is rooted not only in their own soul, but in the minds of the rest of the world is the devotion of the English to animals. Animals are protected by law. If, for instance, any one leaves a cat to starve in an empty house while he goes for his holiday, he can be sent to prison. There are special dogs' cemeteries.

Most people in Britain work a five-day week, from Monday to Friday; schools, colleges and universities are also closed on Saturdays and Sundays. As Friday comes along, as people leave work they say to each other, "Have a nice week-end." Then on Monday morning they ask, "Did you have a nice week-end?"

On Sunday mid-mornings most British people indulge in some fairly light activities such as gardening, washing the car, shelling peas for Sunday lunch, or taking the dog for a walk. Another most popular pre-lunch activity consists of a visit to a "pub" — either a walk to the "local", or often nowadays a drive to a more pleasant "country pub" if one lives in a built-up area. The national drink in England is beer, and the "pub", where Englishmen go to drink to, is a peculiarly English institution.

Much leisure time is spent in individualistic pursuits, of which the most popular is gardening. Most British people love gardens, their own above all, and this is probably one reason why so many people prefer to live in houses rather than flats.

The Englishman prefers his own house to an apartment in a block of flats, because he doesn't wish his doing to be overlooked by his neighbours. "An Englishman's house is his castle", as the famous proverb goes. The majority of the British population live in small houses built close together. Most of London's suburban houses consist of two floors. The front door, which faces the street, opens into a hall with two rooms, one on each side of the hall. One of them is the dining-room; the other may be called the sitting-room or the living-room.

The rooms upstairs are bedrooms; they are often very small. Often the dining-room is the most comfortable room in the house, and the one that is used all the time.

Many British people give their suburban house a name, such as the Cedars, the Poplars, The Rhubarb Cottage, even though there are no trees or vegetables in their gardens. People of high social position have country houses with names, so a house with a name seems "better" than a house with a number. Numbers make the postman's work much easier, but this is not important.

The British people are the world's greatest tea drinkers. They drink a quarter of all the tea grown in the world each year. Many of them drink tea on at least eight different occasions during the day. Strictly speaking, tea is not a meal at all, but a suitable occasion for social intercourse, when people often come in for a chat over their cup of tea. There are two kinds of tea, "afternoon tea", and "high tea". "Afternoon tea" takes place between three-thirty and four-thirty and consists of tea, bread, butter and jam, followed by cakes and biscuits. "High tea", however, is a substantial meal and is eaten between five-thirty and six-thirty by families which do not usually have a late dinner. In a well-to-do family it will consist of ham or tongue and tomatoes and salad, or a kipper, or tinned salmon, with strong tea, bread and butter, followed by stewed fruit, or tinned pears, apricots or pineapple with cream or custard and cake.

7. After having read the text say if your ideas were right. Which new facts about the British people and their way of life have you learned from the text?

8. Find statements that are not true to the text and correct them:

1. Englishmen are usually rather sociable, they love unfamiliar things.
2. There is very often noisy behaviour in the street, for example, people usually rush excitedly for seats in buses or trains.

3. Englishmen are usually not very polite and you can seldom hear them saying "Thank you", "I'm sorry", "Beg your pardon".
4. English people rarely shake hands except when being introduced to someone for the first time.
5. A tradition that is rooted not only in their own soul, but in the minds of the rest of the world is the devotion of the English to collecting stamps.
6. The only popular leisure time activity in Britain is watching TV.
7. The majority of the British population live in big separate houses.
8. Names that many British people give to their suburban house make the postman's work much easier.
9. The British people are the world's greatest tea drinkers.
10. "High tea" is a substantial meal and is usually eaten at five sharp.

9. Answer the following questions:

1. What has produced a certain insular spirit among Great Britain's inhabitants?
2. What did many foreigners notice in the British people's behavior?
3. Why do so many people prefer to live in houses rather than flats?
4. Which room is the most comfortable room in the house, and the one that is used all the time?
5. What are the most popular Sunday activities in Britain?
6. How many times a day can the British people drink tea?
7. What does the high tea consist of in a well-to-do family?

10. Work out the questions for the following answers:

1. Great Britain is an island on the outer edge of the European continent.
(Where...?)
2. One of the most striking features of English life is the self-discipline and courtesy of people of all classes. (What...?)

3. If anyone leaves a cat to starve in an empty house while he goes for his holiday, he can be sent to prison. (Why...?)
4. Much leisure time is spent in individualistic pursuits, of which the most popular is gardening. (How...?)
5. Most of London's suburban houses consist of two floors. (How many..?)

11. Look back at the text and fill in the missing points so that you had the plan of the text.

1. The insular spirit of the British character.
2. ...
3. Devotion to animals.
4. ...
5. ...
6. Tea-drinking in Great Britain.

12. Retell the text using the plan from ex.11.

13. Memorize the following proverbs. Give their Russian equivalents and use them in short situations of your own.

1. My house is my castle.
2. There is no place like home.
3. Men make houses, women make homes.

14. Read another text about Britain. Use the information from this text to answer the following questions:

1. Which changes are there in the British society?
2. Why has the number of divorces increased?
3. Why do members of a family see less of each other than they used to?

4. Why is the father more involved with bringing up children nowadays?
5. Who looks after the older generation?

FAMILY LIFE

The English are a nation of stay-at-home. "There is no place like home," they say. And when the man is not working he is at home in the company of his wife and children and busies himself with the affairs of the home. "The Englishman's home is his castle," is a saying known all over the world. And it is true.

A "typical" British family used to consist of mother, father and two children, but in recent years there have been many changes in family life. Some of these have been caused by new laws and others are the result of changes in society. For example, since the law made it easier to get a divorce, the number of divorces has increased. In fact one marriage in every three now ends in divorce. This means that there are a lot of one-parent families. Society is now more tolerant than it used to be of unmarried people, unmarried couples and single parents.

Another change has been caused by the fact that people are living longer nowadays, and many old people live alone following the death of their partners. As a result of these changes in the pattern of people's lives, there are many households which consist of only one person or one person and children.

You might think that marriage and the family are not so popular as they once were. However, the majority of divorced people marry again, and they sometimes take responsibility for a second family.

Members of a family — grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins — keep in touch, but they see less of each other than they used to. This is because people often move away from their home town to work, and so the family becomes scattered. Christmas is the traditional season for reunions. Although the family

group is smaller nowadays than it used to be, relatives often travel many miles in order to spend the holiday together.

Relationships within the family are different now. Parents treat their children more as equals than they used to, and children have more freedom to make their own decisions. The father is more involved with bringing up children, often because the mother goes out to work. Increased leisure facilities and more money mean that there are greater opportunities outside the home. Although the family holiday is still an important part of family life (usually taken in August, and often abroad) many children have holidays away from their parents, often with a school party or other organized group.

Who looks after the older generation? There are about 10 million old-age pensioners in Britain, of whom about 750,000 cannot live entirely independently. The government gives financial help in the form of a pension but in the future it will be more and more difficult for the nation economy to support the increasing number of elderly. At the present time, more than half of all old people are looked after at home. Many others live in Old Peoples' Homes, which may be private or state owned.

TEXT 2

1. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a). one-syllable words:

spear, shield, guard;

b). words with the stress on the first syllable:

anthem, rivalry, thistle, ancient, plunder, weary, vulgar, shamrock, mystery, doctrine, clover, gracious;

c). words with the stress on the second syllable:

diagonal, comprises, alternative.

2. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to. Translate them into Russian.

it was set up, Union Jack comprises, the oldest in the world, the red rose became, it has since become, a legend says, St. David's Day.

3. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

anthem, to make noise, all over the world, to settle, to be based on smth, to take off, to be tired, in ancient times, to take by surprise.

b). Fill in the gaps using the words from a) in the correct form:

1. Come in, but try not ...- the child is sleeping.
2. This tribe came to territory of our region and ... here
3. Please, ... your coat and make yourself at home!
4. Yesterday I ..., so I went to bed at 9.
5. The national ... of this country ... on a famous poem.
6. You ... me, I must confess.
7. English is a world-wide language. It's known and understood

4. Look through the text and fill in the gaps with necessary words:

1. Union Jack ... the combination of colours and crosses reflecting the ... of the existing at that time national flags of England, Scotland and Ireland.
2. The red diagonal cross on the white ... is St. Patrick's Cross — the patron saint of
3. Besides the Union ... there is Royal Standard — Royal ... flag.
4. The red ... has since become the national emblem of
5. In ancient times the Norsemen raided ... of Scotland intending to ... it and settle in the country.
6. On coming quite near they ... their shoes not to make....

7. Welshmen all over the world celebrate St. David's Day by wearing either ...
or....
8. St. Patrick used ... as an illustration of the mystery.

5. Match the words with their definitions:

cross, globe, enemy, anthem, alarm, helmet, flag, guard.

1. a protective head covering worn by soldiers, football players, cyclists, etc.
2. the planet Earth.
3. a piece of cloth marked with distinctive colours and designs and used as a symbol of a nation.
4. a figure or object consisting of two lines intersecting at right angles.
5. a song of praise, devotion or patriotism.
6. a person that keeps watch over prisoners or protects a place from disturbance, theft, etc.
7. any sound, outcry, or information intended to warn of approaching danger.
8. an opposing military force; armed foe.

6. Read the text. While you are reading try to find answers to the following questions:

1. What's the UK's national flag?
2. What are the UK's national emblems?
3. What can you say about the UK's national anthem?

SYMBOLS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Notes:

thistle - чертополох

leek - лук-порей

daffodil - нарцисс

shamrock – трилистник

Nowadays the UK is personified under the name of “Britannia”, as a helmeted woman seated on a globe with one arm on a shield and grasping a spear with her free hand.

The UK's national flag is Union Jack. It was set up in 1801 after the last of the three Acts of Union. Union Jack presents the combination of colours and crosses reflecting the peculiarities of the existing at that time national flags of England, Scotland and Ireland. The name, the colours and crosses symbolize the union of the united parts of the country. Union Jack comprises three crosses. The red upright cross on the white field is St. George's Cross — the patron saint of England. The diagonal white cross on the blue field is St. Andrew's Cross — the patron saint of Scotland. The red diagonal cross on the white field is St. Patrick's Cross — the patron saint of Ireland.

The national anthem is the oldest in the world, established in 1745 and based on a song of the 17th century. The beginning of it runs as follows:

God save our gracious Queen,
God save our noble Queen,
God save the Queen!
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious
Long to reign over us.
God save the Queen!

Besides the Union Jack there is Royal Standard — Royal personal flag. National emblems are: the red rose — of England, the thistle — of Scotland, the leek — of Wales, the shamrock — of Ireland.

The red rose became the emblem of England after the Wars of the Roses (1455—1485) which was the war of the dynasties for the English throne. All rivalry between the Roses ended by the marriage of Henry VII Tudor (the

Lancastrian whose emblem was the red rose) with Princess Elizabeth, the daughter of Edward IV (the Yorkist whose emblem was the white rose). The red rose has since become the national emblem of England.

The thistle, the national emblem of Scotland, was chosen as such, because it saved the country from the enemy. This is what a legend says about it. In ancient times the Norsemen raided the east coast of Scotland intending to plunder it and settle in the country. The Scots took their stations behind the river Tay, the largest in Scotland. Not expecting the enemy before the next day and being weary and tired after a long march they pitched their camp and were resting. The Norsemen saw that no guards protected the camp so they crossed the river intending to take the Scots by surprise. On coming quite near they took off their shoes not to make noise. But one of the Norsemen stepped on a thistle and shrieked with pain. The alarm was given in the Scots camp and the Norsemen were put to flight. Scots, thankful for timely help, chose the thistle as their national emblem.

The leek or daffodil is Welshmen's national emblem. Welshmen all over the world celebrate (on March 1st) St. David's Day by wearing either leeks or daffodils. St. David is supposed to have lived for several years on bread and wild leeks, so the link between the leek and St. David is a strong one.

The daffodil is also closely associated with St. David's Day due to the belief that it flowers on that very day. It became an alternative to the leek as a Welsh emblem in the present century, because some thought the leek vulgar.

The shamrock, the national emblem of the Irish, is proudly worn on St. Patrick's Day, March 17. It is worn in memory of Ireland's patron saint, who when preaching the doctrine of the Trinity to the pagan Irish used the shamrock (a small white clover with three leaves on one stem) as an illustration of the mystery.

7. Work in groups and decide the questions from ex. 6.

8. Correct the statements:

1. The UK's national flag is red and white.
2. The UK's national flag was set up after the Wars of the Roses.
3. The national anthem is based on a song of the 20th century.
4. The red rose is the national emblem of Scotland.
5. One of the Norsemen stepped on a rose and shrieked with pain.
6. St. David is supposed to have lived for several years on bread and butter.
7. The red rose became the emblem of England after the World War II.
8. At the beginning of the 20th century the Norsemen raided the east coast of Scotland intending to plunder it and settle in the country.
9. Not expecting the enemy before the next day and being full of energy they decided to go sightseeing.
10. Scots liked the flower for its beauty, that is why they chose the thistle as their national emblem.

9. Put as many questions as you can to the following sentences:

1. The name, the colours and crosses symbolize the union of the united parts of the country.
2. The red rose became the emblem of England after the Wars of the Roses.
3. The thistle, the national emblem of Scotland, was chosen as such, because it saved the country from the enemy.
4. The daffodil is also closely associated with St. David's Day due to the belief that it flowers on that very day.

10. Add the beginning to the following sentences:

1. ... intending to plunder it and settle in the country.
2. ... chose the thistle as their national emblem.

3. ... who when preaching the doctrine of the Trinity to the pagan Irish used the shamrock as an illustration of the mystery.
4. ... reflecting the peculiarities of the existing at that time national flags of England, Scotland and Ireland.
5. ... established in 1745 and based on a song of the 17th century.
6. ... become the national emblem of England.
7. ... was chosen as such, because it saved the country from the enemy.
8. ... and being weary and tired after a long march they pitched their camp and were resting.

11. Using the previous exercises try to retell the text.

12. Using the text translate the following words and phrases:

государственный гимн, в древние времена, государственная эмблема ирландцев, тесно связан, обосноваться в стране, в этот самый день, в память о, закричал от боли, государственный флаг соединенного королевства, застать врасплох, вот о чем гласит легенда, война династий за английский трон, с тех пор, спас страну от врага, уставшие после долгого похода, святой покровитель, благодарные за своевременную помощь.

ТЕХТ 3

1. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a). proper names:

`King `Arthur, `Europe, Guine`vere, `Merlin, `Jesus Christ, `Glastonbury, Ex`calibur, `Launcelot;

b). one-syllable words:

sword, reign, knight, wound, guide;

c). words with the stress on the first syllable:

pilgrimage, courage, recently, island, castle;

d). words with the stress on the second syllable:

magician, adventures, cathedral.

2. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to. Translate them into Russian.

poems were written, continues to be, there have been, King Arthur ruled, he was more important, the cup could be found, the first British church, the largest church, he will wake, the Pope's permission, Cadbury had been, golden objects, enjoy themselves.

3. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

destruction, to be well-known, according, hill-fort, magician, chocolate sweets, cathedral, loyal, pilgrimage, deed, coin.

b). Translate the following sentences paying attention to the underlined words:

1. King Arthur was well-known then in Britain and in other parts of Europe.
2. According to legend King Arthur ruled from his castle in Camelot, with his beautiful queen, Guinevere.
3. His close friend was an old magician named Merlin.
4. Today you can only see the ruins of this great cathedral.
5. During the adventures the knights showed how brave they were, and how loyal they were to Arthur.
6. The stories of King Arthur and his knights of the Round Table are full of heroic deeds, adventure, love, hate, magic.
7. The destruction of Glastonbury Cathedral reflected a great quarrel between King Henry VIII and the Pope of Rome.

8. Digging deeper into the hill the archaeologists found that Cadbury had been a hill-fort.
9. Today the tasty chocolate sweets are made at the famous chocolate factory there.
10. Coins, golden objects, pottery show that it was also an important centre of trade.

4. Match the words with their definitions:

court, grave, king, reign, pilgrimage, legend, grail, church.

1. a male sovereign or monarch; the chief authority over a country.
2. a nonhistorical story known from earlier times and accepted as historical.
3. a building for public Christian worship.
4. the period during which a sovereign occupies the throne.
5. the residence of a sovereign, palace.
6. a cup that in medieval legend was associated with unusual powers and was much sought after by knights: identified with the cup used at the last supper and given to Joseph of Arimathea.
7. a journey made to some sacred place as an act of religious devotion.
8. an excavation made in the earth in which to bury a dead body.

5. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

6. Read the text. While you are reading try to find answers to the following questions:

1. Who was Merlin?
2. Why do many people visit Glastonbury?
3. Why is King Arthur's sword so famous?

4. What hill is called by old people "King Arthur's Palace"?

KING ARTHUR

Everybody in Britain knows something about King Arthur and his knights. Many poems were written about them in the Middle Ages and later.

King Arthur was well-known then in Britain and in other parts of Europe. In recent years King Arthur continues to be quite popular, and there have been poems, paintings, novels, television films and even a musical film called "Camelot" about him. Even a Walt Disney cartoon, "The Sword in the Stone", was produced about this famous king. He is a symbol of strength, courage and goodness.

But who was King Arthur and why is he still so popular?

It is quite strange, but nobody knows exactly who he was. There are many legends about him and very few facts. However, recently the work of archaeologists and historians has given new facts.

According to legend King Arthur ruled from his castle in Camelot, with his beautiful queen, Guinevere. His close friend was an old magician named Merlin. Arthur was a good king, and his reign was a time of peace and goodness for the people. Arthur had a hundred knights with him at his court at Camelot. These knights were chosen by him for their goodness and bravery.

When Arthur and his knights met together, they sat at a round table so that no man should feel that he was more important than the others. The knights quite often went on adventures, which took them far away. During the adventures the knights showed how brave they were, and how loyal they were to Arthur. In many of the adventures the knights tried to find the Holy Grail. According to legend this was the cup from which Jesus Christ drank at the Last Supper. It was believed that Joseph of Arimathea, who was the uncle of the Virgin Mary and who buried Jesus after his death, had brought the cup to Britain, but then it was lost. It

was also believed that if the cup could be found, it could bring Christ's kindness to the lives of men.

But the Grail was never found. King Arthur was finally defeated in a great battle. His enemies used Black Magic against him. After the battle, Arthur was taken to the magic island of Avalon to heal his wounds. Today this place is known as Glastonbury. At the time of Arthur, the land around Glastonbury was a lake, and Avalon was an island. According to legend Joseph of Arimathea brought the Holy Grail to Glastonbury when he came to Britain. He built the first British church on the site where Glastonbury Abbey now stands. Once it was the largest church in England, but in the 16th century it was destroyed on the order of King Henry VIII when he started his attacks against the Catholic Church. Though today you can only see the ruins of this great cathedral, thousands of people come to this place all round the year, because it is a place of pilgrimage. Every summer great musical festivals are held here. Among the ruins of Glastonbury you can also see the legendary grave of King Arthur and his wife Guinevere. Many stories say that Arthur did not die on the island of Avalon. They say that he is only asleep and he will wake again when Britain needs him.

There are also many stories about Arthur's knights — Launcelot, Gawain, Perceval and others, about the famous sword Excalibur, which Arthur drew out of a stone. The stories of King Arthur and his knights of the Round Table are full of heroic deeds, adventure, love, hate, magic.

The destruction of Glastonbury Cathedral reflected a great quarrel between King Henry VIII and the Pope of Rome. In 1525 Henry VIII decided to divorce his queen, Catherine of Aragon because she had only given him a daughter, and Henry wanted a son. He fell in love with Anne Boleyn who was younger, but when Henry asked the Pope for permission to divorce Catherine, he refused. Henry became so angry with the Pope that he ended all contact between England and Rome, divorced Catherine without the Pope's permission and married Anne Boleyn. In 1534 Parliament made Henry head of the Church of England. This was the

beginning of the Anglican Church. Henry VIII started a real war against the Catholic Church in England, ordering Catholic churches and monasteries to be destroyed. It was then that Glastonbury Abbey was destroyed.

Glastonbury is only 30 kilometers from Cadbury, where Arthur's Castle, Camelot, was believed to be situated, and where today the tasty chocolate sweets are made at the famous chocolate factory.

Some years ago archaeologists began to dig at Cadbury Hill. The old people in the area called the hill "King Arthur's Palace". Digging deeper into the hill the archaeologists found that Cadbury had been a hill-fort. There were many of these hill-forts all over south and west England before the Romans came. When the Romans left Britain, the forts were used again by the Britons. The archaeological findings show that a great leader, who lived at the time of Arthur, did in fact have a fort on Cadbury Hill. Weapons were found, showing that Cadbury was an important military base. Coins, golden objects, pottery show that it was also an important centre of trade. Of course, the real castle of Camelot was not so rich and grand as the Camelot which is described in different stories, or shown in films. But the many tourists who visit this place, especially in summer enjoy themselves listening to the stories of the guides and taking pictures of the famous place. Most of the people believe that King Arthur and his brave knights lived here. If you visit Cadbury or Glastonbury some day, you will also come to think that these stories are true. Why not?

7. After having read the text say if your ideas were right.

Which new facts about King Arthur and his knights have you learned from the text? Answer the questions from ex.6.

8. Correct the statements:

1. King Arthur is believed to have been killed at Glastonbury.

2. Today Avalon is a big island surrounded by a large lake.
3. Cadbury is famous also because of its large park of attractions.
4. Glastonbury Cathedral was destroyed by the Romans when they occupied the country.
5. Glastonbury is quite popular among young people because musical festivals are held here every year.
6. According to legend Joseph of Arimathea brought the Holy Grail to Cadbury.
7. Launcelot, Perceval were Arthur's great enemies.
8. The knights of King Arthur took part in many adventures because they hoped to find the Holy Grail.
9. According to legend the knight who found the Holy Grail would become very rich.
10. King Arthur and Queen Guinevere are buried on Cadbury Hill.

9. Answer the questions:

1. When were the poems about King Arthur written?
 2. What is the title of Walt Disney's cartoon film about King Arthur?
 3. For what did Arthur choose the knights to his court?
 4. How many knights did Arthur have at his court?
 5. For what did Arthur choose the knights to his court?
 6. How did Arthur's enemies defeat the king?
 7. Why was Arthur taken to the magic island of Avalon?
 8. Who destroyed Glastonbury Abbey? Why?
1. What is Cadbury famous for?
 2. Did the archaeologists find anything of interest at Cadbury Hill?

10. Complete the sentences with the best answer (a, b or c).

1. King Arthur continues to be popular today because
 - a) he fought against the Romans.
 - b) he is a symbol of strength, courage and goodness.
 - c) he tried to find the Holy Grail.
2. According to legend King Arthur ruled
 - a) from the castle in Camelot.
 - b) England in the 15th century.
 - c) together with his beautiful queen, Guinevere, in Glastonbury.
3. When Arthur and his knights met together, they sat at a round table
 - a) because it was easier for them to address each other when they discussed their problems.
 - b) to have their meals together.
 - c) so that no man should feel that he was more important than the others.
4. According to legend the Holy Grail was the cup
 - a) which Jesus Christ brought to Jerusalem when he entered the city.
 - b) from which Jesus Christ drank at the Last Supper.
 - c) which was lost in Jerusalem after the death of Jesus Christ.
5. We know from many ancient stories that Avalon was
 - a) an island located in a big lake near Glastonbury.
 - b) a large castle where Arthur had his court.
 - c) a big town where the knights of King Arthur lived.
6. Glastonbury is a place of pilgrimage because
 - a) here you can see the ruins of the largest cathedral in Britain.
 - b) King Arthur is believed to be buried here together with his queen.
 - c) it is a sacred place connected with the Holy Grail.
7. When archaeologists dug at Cadbury Hill

- a) they found many objects which proved that once there was an ancient castle at this site.
- b) they found nothing of interest.
- c) they knew nothing about King Arthur and his knights.

11. Complete parts 1,2,3,... with a,b,c,....

1. The stories of King Arthur and his knights of the Round Table	a. with his beautiful queen, Guinevere.
2. Digging deeper into the hill	b. from which Jesus Christ drank at the Last Supper.
3. According to legend King Arthur ruled from his castle in Camelot,	c. are full of heroic deeds, adventure, love, hate, magic.
4. According to legend this was the cup	d. they sat at a round table so that no man should feel that he was more important than the others.
5. When Arthur and his knights met together,	e. the archaeologists found that Cadbury had been a hill-fort.

12. Write a summary of the text and retell it.

13. Using the text translate the following words and phrases:

вкусные шоколадные конфеты, большинство людей верят, так и не нашли, рыцари круглого стола, в последние годы, самая большая церковь в Англии, по всему югу и западу Англии, довольно странно, согласно легенде, место паломничества, военная база, его правление, героические подвиги, важный торговый центр, была разрушена по приказу, он

влюбился, начали раскопки, любят слушать рассказы гидов, было найдено оружие.

10. Read another text about King Arthur. Use the information from this text to answer the following questions:

1. In what way did storytellers pass on the earliest tales about Arthur?
2. Where were the earliest accounts of Arthur from?
3. How many versions of the events that led to Arthur's death are there?
4. What are these versions?

King Arthur was a legendary king of medieval Britain. He became the main character in some of the most popular stories in world literature. For almost 1,000 years writers have told of Arthur's brave deeds and the adventures of his knights of the Round Table.

Real Arthur probably existed, but historians know little about him. Storytellers passed on the earliest tales about Arthur by word of mouth. These storytellers may have based the tales on an actual British leader who won minor victories over German invaders in the early A.D. 500's.

The earliest accounts of Arthur were from Celtic, Latin and French sources. In Latin sources, Arthur's father was King Uther Pendragon, who fell in love with Igrayne, the wife of the Duke of Cornwall. With the aid of Merlin, a Celtic magician, Uther took the form of the duke and so conceived Arthur. Arthur was raised without knowledge of his royal ancestry. But when he pulled magic sword Excalibur from a block of stone, he proved himself the rightful heir to the throne of Britain and became king. Later, Arthur married Princess Guinevere. Arthur had several residences. His favourite was Camelot, a castle in southern England.

There're two versions of the events that led to Arthur's death. Both say he fought a war against the Roman imperor Lucius and conquered much of western

Europe. Early writers said he was called home before completing his conquest. He had heard that Modred, a knight who was either his nephew or his son, had seized his kingdom and queen. Arthur killed Modred and died from wounds received in the fight.

Later authors wrote that Arthur had completed his victory over the Romans. After he returned to Britain, Arthur and his court began the quest for the Holy Grail, the cup or dish that Jesus used at the Last Supper. After the quest ended, a love affair developed between Queen Guinevere and Sir Lancelot, the greatest knight of the Round Table. While fighting a war of revenge against Lancelot, Arthur learned of Modred's treachery. Then followed the battle that resulted in the death of Arthur and Modred. Many people believed that Arthur had gone to the mythical island of Avalon to be healed and that someday he would return to help his country in its time of need.

TEXT 4

1. Guess the meaning of the following words:

human, reputation, sympathy, monarchy, communicate, emotion, privacy, popularity, residence, press, official, princess, photo, critic, intellectual, public, problem, sentiment, national, tragedy, designer, prize.

2. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a). **with the stress on the first syllable:** queue, previously, fortunate, palace, injured;

b). **with the stress on the second syllable:** Diana, immediately, embarrassed, behaviour, acknowledge, compassionate, abolish, recipient, accept, appreciate;

c). **with stresses on other syllables:** anniversary, unsophisticated, amputee.

3. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to. Translate them into Russian.

will be, died, the monarchy's reputation, her problems, people felt sympathy, a national survey, men, women and children, couldn't, were enjoying, have donated, she was suggested, should accept.

4. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

detail, neither...nor, to appreciate, to criticize, to take to someone, reserved, to seem, to manage, to be struck by something, to respect.

b). Translate the following sentences paying attention to the underlined words:

1. Her critics say she was neither a great intellectual nor a saint.
2. The public took to her because she seemed so human.
3. Many people were struck by the tragedy of a beautiful woman.
4. The idea that the British are reserved and unable to communicate what they feel was shown to be untrue.
5. At her funeral, her brother criticized the press for not allowing her any privacy.
6. People always want to know details about celebrities' lives.

5. Match the words with their definitions:

speech, treaty, charity, palace, landmine, fortune, behaviour, princess, amputee,

1. generous actions to help the poor, ill or helpless.
2. an explosive device that is hidden on or under the ground that explodes when a person walks on it or touches it.
3. someone who has his arm or leg amputated.
4. a manner of conducting oneself.

5. a form of communication in spoken language, made by a speaker before an audience.
6. a nonreigning female member of a royal family.
7. an official residence of a royal family.
8. wealth, riches.
9. a formal agreement between two or more states with reference to peace, commerce or other international relations.

6. Look through the text and fill in the blanks with the correct words.

1. When Diana ... Prince Charles, the British public liked her....
2. The royal family were ... by her and thought she would ... the monarchy's reputation for 'proper behaviour'.
3. Diana's death showed that ... the monarchy changes it will be even more....
4. They ... for up to eight hours to write ... in Official Condolence Books.
5. The flowers ... Kensington Palace, where she..., covered a huge area.
6. Others ... that they were also enjoying having a good cry with ... of the country.
7. During her life Diana campaigned for....
8. She also helped raise money to help amputees who had been ... by them.
9. They said that people who live ... should accept that people want to know ... about their lives.
10. Perhaps the Diana story had shown that it's ... nature to not really ... someone until they have gone.
- 11.... nine months after her death, people were making a ... out of her.

7. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

8. Read the text and choose the appropriate title for each passage:

6. The British character.
7. The Press.
8. The monarchy.
9. Charity.

Notes:

to take to someone – полюбить кого-либо

to get over something – справиться с чем-либо

Cardboard City – место в Лондоне, где бездомные спят в картонных коробках.

WHY PRINCESS DIANA WON'T BE FORGOTTEN

September will be the anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. Photos of her and articles are still in the English press every day. Her critics say she was neither a great intellectual nor a saint like Mother Theresa who died just a week after Diana (and whose death was not mourned even half as much as Diana's). Despite this, her life and death affected many. Let's look at some of those affected.

1. _____ When Diana married Prince Charles, the British public liked her immediately. She was shy and unsophisticated at first but the public took to her because she seemed so human. When her marriage started to have problems, Diana couldn't cope. She was not used to hiding her emotions. The royal family were embarrassed by her and thought she would ruin the monarchy's reputation

for 'proper behaviour'. Instead people felt sympathy for her and admired her for managing to get over her problems. When she died, these sentiments became even stronger. Many people said the only one nice royal was dead and that there was no point having a monarchy that was so inhuman and out of touch. When the Queen didn't make a speech following Diana's death, the public criticized her until she made one. Diana's death showed that unless the monarchy changes it will be even more disliked. The Royal Family acknowledged this by commissioning a national survey into people's attitudes towards them and how they can become more popular.

2. _____ The idea that the British are reserved and unable to communicate what they feel was shown to be untrue. It might have been true once but the week following Diana's death showed that, like Diana, the British were not afraid to show emotion. They queued for up to eight hours to write farewell messages in Official Condolence Books. They covered the ground outside London's royal palace with flowers. The flowers outside Kensington Palace, where she used to live, covered a huge area. Men, women and children wrote messages telling her how much she was loved. So many people were struck by the tragedy of a beautiful woman who had died so young and now her children would not have a mother. Others confessed that they were also enjoying having a good cry with the rest of the country. People who had previously thought of her as stupid rich girl could see what was good about her. She may not have passed many exams in her life but she had helped a lot of people. Admittedly while Mother Theresa wore simple clothing, Diana wore designer clothes but this did not stop her from being a compassionate person.

3. _____ During her life Diana campaigned for many charities. She took her young sons to meet homeless people in Cardboard City under Waterloo Bridge because she wanted her children to see what life was like for people less fortunate than them. Since her death, many people have donated money to the charities she supported. Towards the end of her life she did a lot of

work with the International Red Cross to try to abolish the use of landmines in war zones. She also helped raise money to help amputees who had been injured by them. As a tribute to her, the United Nations is hoping to pass a treaty banning their use and naming it after her. She was also suggested as a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

4. _____ At her funeral, her brother criticized the press for not allowing her any privacy. Since then the newspapers have promised to respect famous people's private lives more, especially her sons'. Soon after her death, the government talked about passing a privacy law but newspapers objected. They said that people who live in the public eye should accept that people want to know details about their lives. They said Diana owed her popularity to the press. It was interesting that the newspapers that had been the most critical of Diana when she was alive suddenly became her biggest fans. Perhaps the Diana story had shown that it's human nature to not really appreciate someone until they have gone. Another way of looking at it is that newspapers knew they could sell more newspapers by talking how wonderful she was. For many journalists, Diana was a gift; people always wanted to read about her. Even nine months after her death, people were making a fortune out of her.

9. After having read the text say if your ideas were right. Which new facts about Diana have you learned from the text?

10. Find statements that are not true to the text and correct them:

1. Diana's critics say she was both a great intellectual and a saint.
2. Her life and death affected nobody.
3. When Diana married Prince Charles, the British public liked her immediately.
4. The public took to her because she seemed so sophisticated.

5. The idea that the British are reserved and unable to communicate what they feel was shown to be true.
6. Nobody was struck by the tragedy of a beautiful woman who had died so young.
7. Men, women and children wrote messages telling her how much she was loved.
8. People who had previously thought of her as stupid rich girl could see that it was true.
9. Though Diana wore designer clothes she was a compassionate person.
10. During her life Diana didn't campaign for any charities.
11. Towards the end of her life she did a lot of work with the International Red Cross.
12. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize a year before her death.
13. For many journalists, Diana was a gift as she donated much money to the press.

11. In teams, make up five questions to the text you have read. Ask the opponent team to answer them. Reply to their questions.

12. Reread the text and complete the following statements:

1. September will be
2. When her marriage started
3. Instead people felt sympathy for her
4. When the Queen didn't make a speech....
5. The week following Diana's death showed....
6. She may not have passed many exams....
7. She was also suggested....
8. At her funeral....
9. Another way of looking at it....

10. For many journalists, Diana was a gift...

13. Express the main idea of each paragraph in one sentence.

14. Write a summary of the text.

15. Using the text translate the following words and phrases:

справиться со своими проблемами, она казалась такой человеческой, была обязана своей популярностью прессе, годовщина смерти, не смогла справиться, не смотря на это, сразу же полюбили ее, люди хотят знать подробности, испортить репутацию монархии, помогала собирать деньги, королевский дворец, сострадательный человек, покрыли землю цветами, она помогла многим людям, люди, менее удачливые, личная жизнь известных людей, были поражены трагедией красивой женщины, сначала считали ее, к концу своей жизни, она не привыкла скрывать эмоции, эти чувства стали еще сильнее.

16. Read the text about the Royal family and do the exercise that follows.

The Royal Family

At present the British royal family is headed by Queen Elizabeth. When the Queen was born on the 21st of April 1926, her grandfather, King George V, was on the throne and her uncle was his heir. The death of her grandfather and the abdication of her uncle brought her father to the throne as King George VI.

As a child she studied constitutional history and law as well as art and music. In addition she learned to ride and acquired her enthusiasm for horses. As she grew older she began to take part in public life, making her first broadcast at the age of 14.

The marriage of the young Princess Elizabeth to Philip, Duke of Edinburgh took place in November 1947. She came to the throne after her father's death in 1952 and was crowned in Westminster Abbey in June 1953.

Among Queen Elizabeth's many duties are the regular visits she makes to foreign countries, and especially those of the Commonwealth, whose interests and welfare are very important to her. The Queen has done much to signify the formalities of the monarchy, including allowing the BBC to make a documentary film about the every day of the royal family. She also started the tradition of the "walkabout", an informal feature of an otherwise formal royal visit, when she walks among the public crowds and stops to talk to some people.

The annual Christmas broadcast made by the Queen on radio and television has become a traditional and popular feature of the season, and there were widespread celebrations and special programmes of events in 1977 to mark her Silver Jubilee.

The Queen's husband, Duke of Edinburgh, was born in 1926 and served in the Royal Navy. He takes a great deal of interest in industry, in the achievements of young people (he founded Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme in 1956) and in saving raise wild animals from extinction.

The Queens heir is Charles, Prince of Wales, who was born in 1948, married Lady Diana Spencer and has two children, Prince William and Prince Harry. The Prince of Wales is well-known as a keen promoter of British interests.

The Queen's other children are Princess Anne (born in 1950), Prince Andrew (born in 1960) and Prince Edward (born in 1964). Anne, Princess Royal, has acquired a reputation for being arrogant, but in recent years has become quite popular with the general public.

She is widely known for her interest in horses and horse-racing. She is now the president of the Save the Children Fund, Chancellor of the University of London and carries out many public engagements.

Prince Andrew, Duke of York, served as a helicopter pilot in the Royal Navy. In 1986 he married Miss Sarah Ferguson, (Fergie, for short) and has two daughters. Prince Edward is keen on the theatre. This interest began while he was at university. He quit the Royal Marines, and is now pursuing a career with a theatrical company.

The Queen Mother, the widow of the late King George VI, celebrated her ninety birthday in 1990 and continued to carry out many public engagements every year. The Queen's only sister, Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, is one of the most unconventional members of the royal family. She is well-known for her charity work, including her support for Barbados, the Girl Guides Association, and the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

17. Express your agreements or disagreements with the statements given below. Begin your answers with one of the following formulas:

That's right. Exactly so. Precisely so. That's just it. You are quite right, I agree with you. I am afraid, you are incorrect. Nothing of the kind. There is no doubt about it.

1. At present the British royal family is headed by Charles, Prince of Wales.
2. As a child Queen Elizabeth studied constitutional history and law as well as art and music.
3. The marriage of the young Princess Elizabeth to Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, took place in June, 1953.
4. The Queen's husband, Duke of Edinburgh, was born in 1926.
5. The Queen's heir is Prince Andrew.
6. Charles, Prince of Wales has got five children.
7. Anne, Princess Royal, in recent years has become quite popular with the general public.
8. Prince Andrew, Duke of York, and Sarah Ferguson have got three children.

9. The Queen's only sister, Princess Margaret, is well-known for her charity, including her support for Barbados, the Girl Guides Association, and the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

TEXT 5

1. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a) one-syllable words:

wrap, piece, pie, tea;

b). **with the stress on the first syllable:** cereal, sausage, marmalade, civilized, mixture, vinegar, pudding, beverage, foreigner, cucumber, vegetable, precious, biscuit, schedule, restaurant, final, specialty;

c). **with the stress on the second syllable:** substantial, variety, abundance, offence, occasion, delicious, ideal, dessert.

2. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to.

Translate them into Russian.

water is added, yesterday's dinner, ours, leaves, further sociability, a clear soup, might consist, there will probably follow, a cup of tea completes the meal, like to drink, the best fish, with one's fingers.

3. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

expensive, foreigner, precious, in the open air, delicious, cereal, nothing like, according to, to fry, pickles, raw.

b). Fill in the gaps using the words from a) in the correct form:

1. There is ... a picnic
2. Oh, did you make the pudding yourself? It's really
3. The dinner is not ready yet. The meat is still

4. You shouldn't eat ... if you have a stomachache.
5. Do you eat ... for breakfast?
6. He hurried home with the ... bundle of fish and chips.
7. His favorite dish is potato ... in fat with some salad.
8. Every ... knows that tea is the favourite beverage in England.
9. You may add vinegar, salt, pepper and mayonnaise ... your taste.
10. In the ... restaurants or among upper class people spirits are taken with the meal.

4. Match the words with their definitions:

salad-dressing, foreigner, beverage, salad, tart, tea, pudding, porridge, custard, sandwich.

1. any drinkable liquid.
2. a soft dessert, typically made with milk, sugar, flour and flavoring.
3. a dessert, made with eggs, milk and sugar, baked or boiled until thickened.
4. a mixture of oil, vinegar, salt, pepper and mayonnaise.
5. a bitter, aromatic beverage prepared by infusing tea leaves in boiling water, served hot or iced.
6. a person not native in the country.
7. two or more slices of bread or the like with a layer of meat, fish, cheese, etc.
8. fruit baked in a covering of pastry without a lid.
9. a thick cereal made of oatmeal boiled in water or milk.
10. a cold dish of raw vegetables, as tomatoes, lettuce and cucumbers, served with a dressing, sometimes with meat, cheese added.

5. Look through the text and fill in the blanks with the correct words and expressions.

1. English cooking is..., ... and....
2. The ideal English breakfast consists of ..., with milk and sugar, followed by bacon and eggs, ... and marmalade, and finally, ..., a cup of tea.
3. At lunch, which is at about ... o'clock, cold mutton or fish with ..., salad and ... generally grace the table.
4. Fruit baked in a covering of ... with a "lid" is called a...; without a lid it is called a
5. There is ... like an English tea-party, be it at home or....
6. It would be an ... to take lemon in your tea.
7. Dinner begins with what might ... to a Russian "zakuska," followed by a ... soup, fish, ... chicken, potatoes and vegetables and....
8. The English have a popular ... known as fish and chips.
9. Fish ... in batter are fried golden-brown and ... with chips — strips of raw potato also fried in ... — on a piece of paper, salt and ... are added and the meal is then ... in a final sheet of newspaper.
10. This is one of the ... of being English!

6. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

7. Read the text. Five sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the list A-E the one which fits each gap.

A. In simpler homes the schedule is somewhat different.

B. Tea is part of the prose of British life, as necessary as potatoes or bread.

C. Fish and chips can be made at home but the best fish and chips are sold in fish and chip shops.

D. It would be an offence to take lemon in your tea.

E. Salad is a little different from ours.

ON ENGLISH FOOD

English cooking is heavy, substantial and plain. The usual meals are breakfast, lunch, tea and dinner. Breakfast is really a big meal, but one would find that lunch is not small either. The ideal English breakfast consists of cereals, either porridge (borrowed from the Scots), or breakfast cereal, with milk and sugar, followed by bacon and eggs, or sausages and tomatoes, toast and marmalade, and finally, of course, a cup of tea.

1. _____ It must be made “just like mother makes it”, one teaspoonful of tea for each person and “one for the pot”. Boiling water is added and the tea is allowed to stand, brew or draw. It is drunk with or without sugar but almost always with milk. No self-respecting Briton would drink a cup of tea which has not been made in a teapot in a civilized way; he would certainly never accept a cup with that monstrosity, a tea bag, dangling in it.

The midday meal is called lunch. At lunch, which is at about one o’clock, cold mutton (left over probably from yesterday’s dinner) or fish with potatoes, salad and pickles generally grace the table. English mutton is a treat and it is prepared in such a way that you wouldn’t know it is mutton. 2. _____ You only get the clean green leaves and the so-called “salad-dressing”, a mixture of oil, vinegar, salt, pepper and mayonnaise that you may take according to your taste.

The sweet, sometimes called dessert may consist of fruit and custard or the famous steamed or boiled pudding. Another favourite sweet is rice pudding or sago. There are many varieties of pie. Fruit baked in a covering of

pastry with a “lid” is called a pie; without a lid it is called a tart. These pies or tarts are eaten hot or cold, often with custard.

After lunch most people take coffee, though tea is the favourite beverage in England. That is why there are no “coffee-houses” there, but tea-rooms and luncheon-rooms there are in abundance. There is nothing like an English tea-party, be it at home or in the open air. Such little at-homes and outings do much to further sociability and make you feel on good terms with all the company in a short time, which is very helpful to a foreigner in England. Afternoon tea can hardly be called a meal. Tea is made at the table. It is very strong and mostly drunk with sugar and cream. 3. _____

When outing, that is, on a picnic, the English load their luncheon baskets with all sorts of sandwiches made of thin slices of bread (as thin as a sheet) and butter with meat, ham, raw tomatoes or even cucumber in between. The latter are, of course, more refreshing than nourishing. There in the basket you would likely find, besides cakes and biscuits, some bottles of gingerbeer (wine is very dear in England as it is being imported from overseas).

Dinner, which is around 7 o’clock in the evening, begins with what might correspond to a Russian “zakuska,” followed by a clear soup, fish, roast chicken, potatoes and vegetables and dessert.

4. _____ In the morning they have breakfast, at midday-dinner, which is considered to be the chief meal, tea in the afternoon and supper in the evening. The supper might consist of an omelette or sausage, sometimes bacon and eggs or even a sandwich of bread and butter with cheese with a cup of coffee or cocoa.

Sunday dinner is a special occasion, a week-end joint of beef or lamb being bought and eaten hot with vegetables. After this there will probably follow a large, heavy pudding with custard; a cup of tea completes the meal. The

English occasionally like to drink water or beer with their meal, but in the expensive restaurants or among upper class people spirits are taken with the meal.

The English have a popular specialty known as fish and chips. This meal, fit for a king, is only appreciated by those with a specially trained palate.

5. _____ Fish coated in batter are fried golden-brown and served with chips — strips of raw potato also fried in fat — on a piece of paper, salt and vinegar are added and the meal is then wrapped in a final sheet of newspaper. One hurries home with the precious bundle, its delicious odour wafting through the newspaper, or else the fish and chips are simply eaten out of the newspaper, in the street, with one's fingers. This is one of the joys of being English!

8. After having read the text say if your ideas were right. Which new facts about meals in England have you learned from the text?

9. Find statements that are not true to the text and correct them:

1. The ideal English breakfast is really very small.
2. Coffee is part of the prose of British life, as necessary as potatoes or bread.
3. Tea must be made “just like mother makes it”, one teaspoonful of tea for each two persons and a slice of lemon.
4. The midday meal is called lunch.
5. Salad is a mixture of different vegetables, just like in Belarus.
6. The pies or tarts are eaten hot or cold, often with custard.
7. After lunch most people take spirits.
8. Afternoon tea can easily be called a meal.
9. The English have a popular specialty known as fried potatoes.
10. The best fish and chips are always made at home.

10. Answer the questions:

1. What are the usual meals in England?
2. What does the ideal English breakfast consist of?
3. How must tea be made?
4. How is the midday meal called?
5. What may dessert consist of?
6. What do most people take after lunch?
7. When do the English have their dinner?
8. Is the schedule different in simpler homes?
9. What do the English like to drink with their meal?
10. What popular specialty do the English have?
11. In what way is this meal prepared?

11. Here's the receipt of scrambled eggs. Put its parts into the logic succession:

a) To get creamy scrambled eggs, be careful at this stage. As soon as the egg in the pan is thick and there is almost no liquid egg left, turn off the stove. Keep stirring to continue the cooking. The heat in the pan will cook the egg to the right consistency.

b) Place the pan over the lowest heat possible and put the knob of butter in. Stir the butter around the pan.

c) As soon as the butter starts to melt, pour in the egg. Keep stirring the egg in the pan with a spoon to mix the cooked egg with the uncooked part.

d) Break the egg into the bowl and add the milk, salt and pepper. Beat the egg gently just to mix in the ingredients.

12. Accepting these few receipts on English cooking as a base, describe the way you do your own cooking.

Notes:

to peel – чистить

turnip – репа

parsley – петрушка

broth – бульон

a sieve – сито

lard – свиное сало

dripping – жир

crisp – хрустящий

to drain – стекать

Vegetable soup

Peel and cut into very small pieces three onions, three turnips, one carrot and four potatoes; put them into a pan with a quarter of a pound of butter, a quarter of a pound of ham and a bunch of parsley; pass them ten minutes over a sharp fire; then add a spoonful of flour, mix well in; add 4 pints (2 litres) of broth and a pint of boiling milk; boil up, keeping it stirred; skim it; season with a little salt and sugar and run it through a sieve into another pan; boil again and serve with fried bread in it.

Potatoes fried in slices

Peel large potatoes, slice them about a quarter of an inch thick or cut them into shavings as you would slice a lemon; dry them and fry in lard or dripping. The pan should be put on a quick fire and as soon as the lard boils put in the slices of potatoes and keep moving them until they

are crisp; take them up and lay them to drain on a sieve. Send to table with a little salt sprinkled over them.

13. Using the text “On English Food” speak about English meals.

14. Using the text translate the following words and phrases:

ни один уважающий себя британец; еда, достойная короля; наконец; любимый напиток; полоски сырого картофеля; такой же необходимый, как; фрукты и заварной крем; считается главным приемом пищи; едят на улице руками; полуденный прием пищи; в изобилии; одна чайная ложка чая; имбирное пиво; рисовый пудинг; фирменное блюдо; тонкие ломтики хлеба; жареный цыпленок; чашка чая завершает прием пищи; рыба, завернутая в тесто; большинство людей пьют кофе; идеальный английский завтрак; корзинки для ленча; англичане; смесь масла и уксуса; цивилизованно; кипящая вода; тосты с мармеладом.

15. Act out the following dialogues with your partner and make similar conversations.

At a Restaurant

1

(reserving the table)

- Good evening, sir.
- Have you got a reservation?
- No, I'm afraid not. Have you got a table for two?
- Yes, sir. Over there by the window. Come this way, please. Would you like something to drink while examining the menu?

- Yes, some sherry, please.
- Here it is, sir.

2

(ordering a meal)

- Are you ready to order?
- Yes, I think so.
- What would you like to start with?
- I'd like a prawn cocktail, please.
- And for the main course?
- I think I'll have a rump steak. Medium, please.
- Would you like wine with your meal?
- I'll have another beer, please.
- Will that be all?
- That's all for a while, thank you. Can I have the bill, please?
- Here it is.
- Is service included?
- Yes, it is.

3

(checking your bill)

- Excuse me. I don't think this bill is correct.
- I'm very sorry, sir - what appears to be wrong?
- You've charged me for four beers, and I've only had two.
- I'm sorry, sir, I'll get you a new bill.

TEXT 6

1. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a). proper names:

`Buckingham `Palace, Middle Ages, `Lion, Crown;

b). words with the stress on the first syllable:

nowadays, slightly, source, juke, customer, foreigner, previously, tavern, lager, brewery;

c). words with the stress on the second syllable:

majority, variety, amusement machine, musician, indecent, confusing, completely;

d). words with the stress on other syllables:

alcoholic, entertainment, opportunity.

2. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to.

Translate them into Russian.

the most popular drink, more expensive, good pubs to visit, the worst pubs, less tasty, they can be seen, you'll get very angry, summer's day, you feel, don't forget, opening hours have been relaxed, many pubs used the opportunity.

3. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

independent, to spend time, to use the opportunity, as well as, to chat, at least, tasty, strict, customer, to confuse, to feel like.

b). Fill in the gaps using the words from a) in the correct form:

1. Oh, the pie is really How do you make it?
2. The salesmen usually ... with regular
3. Most pubs have ... two different rooms.
4. If the pub is ... you can buy its beer from any brewery.

5. Most pubs serve food and coffee or tea ... alcoholic drinks.
6. Many tourists ... their ... visiting pubs.
7. Not so many pubs ... to remain open all day.
8. ... opening hours have been relaxed since 1988.
9. Very often on a hot summer's day you ... a long cool drink.
10. Another thing that ... foreigners is that a lot of pubs have the same name.

4. Match the words with their definitions:

chat, pub, fare, customer, staff, foreigner, darts, brewery, tea, juke-box.

1. a bar or tavern.
2. a person not native in the country.
3. a coin-operated phonograph, having a variety of records that can be selected by a push button.
4. a building or establishment for brewing beer.
5. a person who purchases goods or services from another.
6. informal conversation.
7. food.
8. a game in which darts are thrown at a target.
9. a bitter, aromatic beverage prepared by infusing tea leaves in boiling water, served hot or iced.
10. a group of people (employees) who work at an establishment.

5. Look through the text and fill in the blanks with the correct words.

11. Most pubs have ... two different rooms for drinking.
12. Most pubs are ... by a brewery.
13. If you see a pub that is a free house, this ... that the pub is independent and can buy its ... from any brewery.
14. Today the increasing number of pubs serve ... and ... or ... as well as alcoholic drinks.

15. It seems that the English think it rather ... for people to drink alcoholic drinks in any place where they can be seen from....
16. The staff of the bar usually know the ... and ... with them.
17. Another thing that ... foreigners is that a lot of pubs have ... name.
18. This is generally ... but you will find slightly different opening and closing times in ... parts of the country.
19. In Scotland, Wales and Ireland, opening and closing times are....
20. The previously ... opening hours have been ... since 1988.

6. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

7. Read the text. While you are reading try to find answers to the following questions:

1. What do we call a pub?
2. What is the most popular drink in the majority of pubs?
3. What do the increasing number of pubs serve today?
4. What are the things that confuse foreigners about pubs in Great Britain?

THE PLEASURES OF THE PUB

Notes:

bitter – горькое пиво

lager – легкое пиво

Where do you think most tourists go when they visit Britain? Is it Buckingham Palace? The Tower of London? Stratford-on-Avon? Oxford? Sorry, I'm afraid not. Most tourists spend most of their time visiting the pub.

Pubs (public houses) date back to the inns and taverns of the Middle Ages, places where local people met and where travellers stayed. In every town and village nowadays there are plenty of pubs where people can go for a drink and

a chat. Most pubs have at least two different rooms for drinking, the “public bar” and a smarter and slightly more expensive “saloon bar”.

In the majority of pubs, the most popular drink is beer. You can have a glass of it, called a pint, or a small glass which we call a half.

Remember that if you want English beer, you ask for “bitter” because in English, beer is a very general word and can mean “lager”. Most pubs are owned by a brewery, the factory that makes the beer. These sell only the beer made by that brewery.

If you see a pub that is a free house, this means that the pub is independent and can buy its beer from any brewery. These are good pubs to visit if you want to try different kinds of beer.

Today the increasing number of pubs serve food and coffee or tea as well as alcoholic drinks. Providing good cheap food is now an important source of profit. The best pubs produce excellent home-made fare and welcome families. The worst pubs remain impersonal and only serve mass-produced food which is often more expensive and less tasty than homemade fare.

Pubs, besides offering a wide variety of alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks and providing (but not all of them) hot and cold food, serve as places for meeting friends and entertainment. Many have TV sets, amusement machines and juke-boxes and provide facilities for playing darts, billiards, dominoes and similar games. Some employ musicians for evening entertainment.

It seems that the English think it rather indecent for people to drink alcoholic drinks in any place where they can be seen from outside. So pubs not only have no tables outside, but are so built that it is impossible for people outside to see in, or for those who are inside to see out. There are few exceptions to this. Even modern pubs look as if they were several hundred years old. The staff of the bar usually know the regular customers and chat with them.

Another thing that confuses foreigners is that a lot of pubs have the same name. The most popular pub names are: “The Red Lion”, “The Crown”, “The White Hart”.

Another confusing thing about pubs is their opening and closing times. If you come from a country where the bars are open all the time, you’ll get very angry at four o’clock on a hot summer’s day when you feel like a long cool drink. You can’t get one.

English pubs open at 10.30 in the morning and close at 2.30 in the afternoon. They open again at 5.30 and close at 11.00. This is generally true but you will find slightly different opening and closing times in different parts of the country. And don’t forget that Sundays are different — the pubs open one and a half hours later, and close half an hour earlier. Of course in Scotland, Wales and Ireland, opening and closing times are completely different.

It should be mentioned, however, that the previously strict opening hours have been relaxed since 1988 and they are allowed to remain open all day, though not so many pubs used the opportunity.

8. After having read the text say if your ideas were right. Which new facts about pubs in Great Britain have you learned from the text? Answer the questions from ex.7.

9. Find statements that are not true to the text and correct them:

1. Most tourists spend most of their time visiting different places of interest.
2. Pubs date back to the inns and taverns of the Middle Ages.
3. Only in big cities nowadays there are plenty of pubs where people can go for a drink and a chat.
4. Most pubs have only one room for drinking and playing chess.

5. In the majority of pubs, the most popular drink is coca-cola.
6. Most pubs are owned by a brewery, the factory that makes the beer.
7. Providing cheap alcoholic drinks is now an important source of profit.
8. All pubs employ musicians for evening entertainment.
9. Even modern pubs look as if they were several hundred years old.
10. All pubs have different names.
11. English pubs open at 9.00 in the morning and close at 6.00 in the evening.

10. In teams, make up five questions to the text you have read. Ask the opponent team to answer them. Reply to their questions.

11. Write a summary of the text.

12. Using the text translate the following words and phrases:

постоянные посетители, проводят большую часть своего времени, важный источник дохода, одинаковые названия, местные жители, игровые и музыкальные автоматы, в разных частях страны, по крайней мере, несколько сотен лет, попробовать разные сорта пива, места для встречи друзей и развлечений, нельзя заглянуть вовнутрь, время открытия и закрытия, следует упомянуть, обслуживающий персонал бара, на полчаса раньше, пивоваренный завод, отличная домашняя еда, самый популярный напиток, есть несколько исключений.

13. Get a better idea of pubs in Great Britain and answer the questions that follow.

At the Pub

Pubs (short for public houses) are an important part of British life. They are as a rule quiet, rather private places, large or small, new or old, in cities

or in the countryside, with a friendly atmosphere where local people meet in the evening for company and conversation.

You can find every kind of person there: doctors, schoolteachers, workers. They come to relax, talk, play games like darts or billiards and have their usual drink or a meal. You can buy many kinds of drinks in pubs, alcoholic and non-alcoholic. The typical drink is beer. There are many different types of beer both draught and bottled, which is served in pints (0,57 of a litre) or half pints. You never ask for a pint of beer, name always for a pint of bitter, larger, keg or other particular name of the beer. You can also buy spirits (e.g. whiskey, gin, vodka) and usually wine, by the glass, but not by the bottle.

There are also a lot of soft drinks, e.g. coca-cola (coke), fruit juice or lemonade. A very refreshing drink on a hot day is a shandy (lemonade mixed with beer).

The pub is the place where you meet people. You get to know other "regulars", you buy drinks in turn, which is called "to stand a round" and you talk. You talk about the weather or how the English cricket team is doing in the Test Match against Australia. And although the regulars see each other almost every night or years, they never go into each others home.

People may want to sing in the pub. Then they ask someone to play the tunes on the old piano. The pianist has free drinks as long as he plays. That is the custom.

Some pubs have two bars (the salon bar and the public bar) and a restaurant. The saloon is better decorated and more comfortable (but the drinks are more expensive). The games and music are in public bars. In the restaurants you can get a complete meal.

It's normal to buy one's own drinks at the bar and the barman is not tipped unless he brings drinks to your table. Each order is paid for separately, and no at the end of the evening like in restaurants.

There are strict laws regulating who is allowed into pubs. Children under 14 are not allowed to get into a pub, and young people under the age of 18 are not allowed to buy alcoholic drinks. Many today's pubs have tables outside, sometimes in well-tended gardens. It's quite normal for women to go into pubs in Britain, but like everybody else they must follow the licensing laws.

Questions for discussion:

1. What is a pub / a bar?
2. Is it more popular than a restaurant in Britain?
3. Why do English people go to a pub?
4. What drinks do they normally have there?
5. Is alcohol forbidden in the pubs?
6. Are there such places as pubs in our country?
7. What drinks can you order there?
8. Is there a great variety of beers in British pubs? In our country?
9. Is it customary to buy round in our country?
10. What are the drinking habits in our country?
11. Is alcoholism a social problem in many countries?

TEXT 7

1. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a) one-syllable words:

priest, church, guest, aisle, sign;

b). words with the stress on the first syllable:

honeymoon, altar, ceremony, couple, female, limousine;

c). words with the stress on the second syllable:

reception, pronounce, religious, tuxedo, bouquet, officially, embarrassing, confetti, occasion, expensive.

2. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to. Translate them into Russian.

the best man, the bride arrives, the bride's father, the words that are said, party to celebrate the wedding, things that have happened, the woman will be, the women often buy hats specially.

3. a). Make sure you know the meanings of the following words and word combinations:

in turn, registry office, to be well known, couple, to get married, tin can, either ... or, wedding ring, expensive, meal.

b). Fill in the gaps using the words from a) in the correct form:

1. We are planning to ... in two months.
2. During the meal the bride and groom cut the wedding cake and give it to their guests.
3. Look at this young How happy they are!
4. The words that are said during the wedding service are very well known to most people.
5. Please, answer
6. Sometimes tin cans are tied to the back of the young couple's car.
7. My ... with diamonds is very
8. After the ... everybody went to the restaurant for the wedding reception.
9. The party will take place ... on Friday ... on Saturday, I don't remember exactly.

4. Match the words with their definitions:

altar, confetti, register, tuxedo, wedding, honeymoon, veil, church.

1. a building for public Christian worship.
2. a special book which is the official record of marriages.
3. small pieces of coloured paper.
4. a holiday taken by people who have just got married.
5. the part at the front of the church.
6. the ceremony of marrying.
7. a piece of material that falls over the face forming a part of a headdress of a bride.
8. a man's jacket traditionally of black or dark blue colour and having satin or grosgrain facing on the lapels.

5. In the extracts from the text below, fill in the blanks, paying special attention to the words expressing sequence of events.

A ... (1) the bride and the bridegroom are together ... (2) the altar the priest ... (3) the wedding service. The words that ... (4) said... (5) the wedding service are ... (6) well known to most people. ... (7) the service, the bridegroom gives ... (8) bride a wedding ring. ... (9)... (10)... (11) of the ceremony, the priest or ... (12) says: 'I pronounce you man and wife', ... (13) means that they are officially married. The ... (14) and bridegroom ... (15) sign the register. (*which, at the end, bride, minister, then, when, at, the, during, begins, very, are, during.*)

B The bridegroom is not supposed to ... (1) the bride on the day of the wedding ... (2) they meet in church as this ... (3) considered to be bad luck. The ... (4) arrives at the church ... (5) and waits inside, near the altar with the best man. The families of ... (6) bride and bridegroom, and the wedding ... (7) sit in rows in the church ... (8)... (9) the wedding ceremony begins, the bride ... (10) at the church in a car ... (11) her father. (*the, guests, just before, with, arrive, at, first, bridegroom, is, see, until.*)

6. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

7. Read the text and choose the appropriate title for each passage:

1. Before the ceremony.
2. The reception.
3. The main people at the wedding.
4. After the ceremony.
5. After the reception.
6. The ceremony.

WEDDING IN GREAT BRITAIN AND AMERICA

In Britain people get married either in church or in a registry office. In the US people often get married in a house, a garden, a park, a hotel, or in a wedding chapel as well as in church. Most people, when they of a wedding, think of people getting married in church and the customs that go with this type of wedding, called a white wedding. Even people who are not religious often want to have a traditional white wedding in a church.



There are special names for some of the people in the wedding ceremony. The woman who is getting married is called the bride and the man is called the bridegroom or groom. The man has a male friend with him called the best man and the bride has some female friends called the bridesmaids. It is traditional for

the bride to wear a long white dress and a white veil and to carry flowers in a bouquet. She is also supposed to wear 'something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue' because this will bring her luck. The groom wears a suit or sometimes a tuxedo (in the US) or morning suit (in Britain). Everyone else wears their best clothes and the women often buy hats specially.

The bridegroom is not supposed to see the bride on the day of the wedding until they meet in church as this is considered to be bad luck. The bridegroom arrives at the church first and waits inside, near the altar, with the best man.

The families of the bride and bridegroom, and the wedding guests, sit in rows in the church.

Just before the wedding ceremony begins, the bride arrives at the church in a car with her father. The car is usually an expensive car, such as a Rolls Royce or a limousine, hired for the occasion and decorated with ribbons.

It is a custom for the bride's father to give her to the bridegroom. The bride and her father walk slowly up the aisle of the church, with the bridesmaids. When the bride and bridegroom are together at the altar the priest or the minister begins the wedding service. The words that are said during the wedding service are very well known to most people. During the service, the bridegroom gives the bride a wedding ring (a plain gold ring) and says 'With this ring I thee wed' ('With this ring I marry you.'). Sometimes the bride also gives a ring to the bridegroom. The priest or the minister asks the bride and bridegroom in turn: 'Will you have this man/woman to be your wedded husband/wife?' The bride and bridegroom each say 'I will'. At the end of the ceremony, the priest or minister says, 'I pronounce you man and wife', which means that they are officially married. The bride and bridegroom then sign the register.

Outside the church, the friends of the bride and bridegroom throw confetti or rice over them. Photographs are usually taken of the bride and bridegroom and their families and friends.

After the photographs everyone usually goes to a hotel for the wedding reception, which is a special meal (wedding breakfast) and party to celebrate the wedding. During the meal the bride and groom cut the wedding cake and give it to their guests. At the end of the meal there are speeches, usually made by the bride's father, the groom and the best man. It is traditional for the best man to make a speech in which he talks about funny and embarrassing things that have happened to the bridegroom in the past.

Before the reception ends the bride and bridegroom usually drive to another hotel to spend their wedding night before beginning their honeymoon. The car the couple drive away in has usually been decorated by their friends. There is often a sign saying 'Just married' and sometimes tin cans are tied to the back of the car. Before she leaves, the bride throws her bouquet to her friends to catch. According to custom, the woman who catches it will be the next one to get married.

8. After having read the text say if your ideas were right. How much do American and British weddings differ from ones in Belarus? What are typically British and typically American features of the event:

- before the ceremony;
- during the ceremony;
- after the ceremony?

9. Correct the statements:

1. In Britain people get married only in church.
2. People who are not religious always have their wedding in a registry office.
3. To see the bride on the day of the wedding is considered to be good luck.
4. The families of the bride and bridegroom, and the wedding guests, stay outside the church.
5. The groom and his mother walk slowly up the aisle of the church, with the best man.
6. It is traditional for the best man to make a speech in which he talks about the negative features of the groom's character.
7. Before the reception ends the bride and bridegroom drive directly to the airport.
8. Before he leaves, the groom throws his shoes to his guests to catch.
9. According to custom, the woman who catches them will be his next wife.

10. In teams, make up five questions to the text you have read. Ask the opponent team to answer them. Reply to their questions.

11. Add the beginnings to the following sentences:

1. ... to give her to the bridegroom.
2. ... has usually been decorated by their friends.
3. ... and waits inside, near the altar with the best man.
4. ... dress and a white veil and to carry flowers in a bouquet.
5. ... to be your wedded husband/wife?
6. ... hired for the occasion and decorated with ribbons.
7. ... throw confetti or rise over them.
8. ... usually made by the bride's father, the groom and the best man.

12. Look back at the text and fill in the following table for either British or American wedding:

Traditional wedding		
Symbols	Clothes	Characters
...

13. In pairs, discuss what kind of wedding you would like to have. Give reasons. Does your partner agree with you?

14. Imagine that you attended a wedding party a week ago. Write about it in a letter to your imaginable friend from England.

15. Using the text translate the following words and phrases:

перед тем, как уйти, в прошлом, принесет ей удачу, медовый месяц, новобрачные, шафер, свадебный торт, длинное белое платье, отец невесты, подружки невесты, обручальное кольцо, смокинг, свадебный прием, по очереди, украшенная лентами, отдел записей актов гражданского состояния, белая вуаль, ждет внутри, во время церемонии, бросает букет, произносить речь, жених, приезжает в церковь на машине.

16. Read the text about wedding superstitions in England. Find answers to the following questions:

1. Which month is traditionally unlucky for weddings?
2. What is the tradition for the bride's parents which dates from two or three centuries ago?
3. What is considered to be a lucky omen on the wedding day?

4. What was the old custom for the bride and the groom as they left the church?
5. What does the richness of the wedding cake symbolize?

Wedding Superstitions

In England the wedding preparations, ceremony and feast have all become loaded with ritual practices to ward off evil and bless the marriage with fortune and fertility.

The choice of date is important. May is traditionally unlucky for weddings and many modern couples marry between Easter and late May, a practice much encouraged by tax rebates. The tradition that the bride's parents should pay for the wedding dates from two or three centuries ago, when wealthy families would pay an eligible bachelor to take an unmarried daughter off their hands in exchange for a large dowry. At most formal weddings, brides still get married in virginal white —many other colours are considered unlucky.

A bride will also ensure that her wedding outfit includes "something old, something new; something borrowed, something blue." "Old" maintains her link with the past; "new" symbolizes the future; "borrowed" gives her a link with the present; and "blue" symbolizes her purity.

Even a modern bride will observe the taboos about wearing her dress before the ceremony. The groom mustn't see her in it until she enters the church. The veil should be put on for the first time as she leaves for the church.

It's a lucky omen if the bride should see a chimney sweep on her way to church. Sometimes a sweep is paid to attend the ceremony and kiss the bride — a relic of the old idea that soot and ashes are symbols of fertility.

After the ceremony, the couple is showered with confetti — to bless the marriage with fertility.

One old custom was for the bride and sometimes the groom to negotiate some obstacle as they left the church — guests would impede them with ropes of flowers, for example, or with sticks that had to be jumped over.

After that the bride is faced with the feast. The most important item is the wedding cake, whose richness symbolizes fertility, just as it has done since Roman times. Today, the first slice is cut by the bride to ensure a fruitful marriage.

TEXT 8

1. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a). one-syllable words:

eve, wrap, fur, pour;

b). words with the stress on the first syllable:

ancient, adult, mistletoe, mantelpiece, figure, carol, triumph, recipe, pantomime;

c). words with the stress on the second syllable:

beloved, exiting, prepare, assemble, religious, accompany, occasion.

2. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to.

Translate them into Russian.

the most exiting, people gave, was born, preparations start, the largest of them being placed, the figure is constantly rising, David's city, "carol" had come to mean, bigger.

3. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

fur-tree, to hang, ancient, eve, to look forward to doing smth, to include, to serve, huge.

b). Fill in the gaps using the words from a) in the correct form:

1. Mince pies are usually ... hot.
2. Traditional English Christmas entertainment ... candle-lighting, cracker-snapping and pantomime.
3. Children are ... getting some special gift on Christmas.
4. The biggest ... was placed in the centre of the city.
5. Children enjoy carol-singing from door to door, which is done on Christmas....
6. At tea-time a ... Christmas cake appears on the table.
7. Carols date back to ... Greeks and Romans.
8. Sprigs of holly and paper chains are ... across the rooms.

4. Match the words with their definitions:

Santa Claus, mistletoe, carol, plum pudding, Christmas, stable, pantomime, Christmas Eve.

1. a Christmas song or hymn.
2. a theatrical spectacle common in England at Christmastime, with stock characters who sing, dance, and tell jokes.
3. the evening or the day preceding Christmas.
4. a plant with yellowish flowers and white berries which is used in Christmas decorations.
5. a building for the lodging and feeding of horses and cattle, etc.
6. a white-bearded, plump, red-suited grandfatherly man of folklore who brings gifts to well-behaved children at Christmas.
7. the annual festival of the Christian church commemorating Jesus' birth: celebrated in the Western church on December 25.

8. a rich pudding made with raisins, citron, spices, etc and steamed or boiled.

5. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

6. Read the text. While you are reading try to find answers to the following questions:

1. What does the word Christmas mean?
2. Where is the London's largest Christmas tree placed?
3. How many cards are posted on Christmas in Britain?
4. What did the word "carol" refer originally to?
5. What does the traditional Christmas dinner include?

CHRISTMAS IN ENGLAND

Notes:

Bethlehem - Вифлеем

holly – остролист

mistletoe – омела, традиционное украшение дома на рождество в Англии

mantelpiece – каминная доска

carol – рождественская песня, гимн

chestnut stuffing – начинка из каштана

mince pie – фаршированный пирог

cracker- хлопушка

Christmas Day, December 25th is probably the most beloved, the most exciting and the most important holiday of all in Britain. The word Christmas means "Christ's Mass", that is an ancient Christian church service at which people gave

praise and glory to God. Christians believe that Jesus Christ was born in a stable in Bethlehem about 2000 years ago and was the Son of God.

Christmas is a festival when both children and adults are filled with anticipation and excitement. Preparations start long before the holiday, but on Christmas Eve everything is rush and bustle. Offices and public buildings close at one o'clock, but the shops stay open late. Cities and towns are decorated with coloured lights and Christmas trees, the largest of them being placed on Trafalgar Square in London. Trains and buses are crowded with people, traveling from all parts of the country to be at home for Christmas. Families prepare for this holiday weeks before: cleaning rooms, buying special foods and gifts, wrapping them in bright paper and ribbons, choosing a fir-tree and then decorating it with shining ornaments and coloured lights. Sprigs of holly and evergreen symbols of life and health are assembled and placed about the house, paper chains are hung across the rooms. A large bunch of mistletoe, "a kissing bush", is placed in the hall or over the door. Christmas cards bringing good wishes to the family are placed over the mantelpiece. The sending of Christmas cards is very much a part of the festival in Britain. About 650 million cards are posted on Christmas and the figure is constantly rising.

Christmas is a religious festival and many church services are held to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Carols, celebration songs and hymns, telling the story of birth and life of Jesus Christ, are sung.

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for a bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Many carols, sung today, were born in the 18th and 19th centuries, though carols date back to ancient Greeks and Romans and were brought to England by

the latter. The word “carol” referred originally not to song but to dance. By the 13th century “carol” had come to mean not just the dance, but the music that was sung to accompany the dance. Today only the second meaning of the word remains. Children and some adults enjoy carol-singing from door to door, which is done on Christmas Eve. The group of singers is called carol-singers. It is a custom to give them some presents for their singing.

Christmas generally is a time to give and receive presents. Everyone gets something - even pets: the dog - a new collar, the cat - a tin of sardines. Children are looking forward to getting something very special. In the evening of the 24th of December they hang their Christmas stocking on their beds or put them under the Christmas tree. A Christmas stocking is not, of course a real one, but much bigger and very beautifully decorated. Many children all over the world believe that it is Santa Claus (Father Christmas) who puts the presents into them.

Christmas dinner is a great occasion and really traditional, and the fare (food) stretches out for a week. The dinner includes the roast beef of old England, the more modern turkey or goose with chestnut stuffing and roast potatoes and traditional Christmas pudding (plum pudding). The lady of the house who made the pudding fetches it herself. Brandy is poured over it; it is lit up and brought flaming into a dark room to the triumph of the whole family. Pudding which is the highlight of a Christmas dinner is a special rich dish made with lots of dried fruit, eggs, and very little flour. A coin is traditionally placed into it and it will bring luck to the one who will find it.

At tea-time a huge Christmas cake appears encrusted by thick marzipan and decorated with white icing. Mince pies are served too, but there is no minced meat in them nowadays though old recipes included it. These pies are small and round containing fruits soaked in lemon juice and brandy and covered with pastry and baked. They are served hot. Mince pies are a special Christmas sweet; they are always offered to the visitors who call during the Christmas feasts. Twelve of these pies must be eaten between Christmas and New Year to

make sure of twelve happy months to come. Friends may be invited to tea but not usually to dinner. Candle-lighting, cracker-snapping and pantomime are also part of traditional English Christmas entertainment.

7. After having read the text say if your ideas were right. Which new facts about Christmas have you learned from the text?

8. Work in groups and decide the questions from ex. 6.

9. Correct the statements:

1. Christians believe that Jesus Christ was born in a stable in Bethlehem about 1000 years ago.
2. On Christmas Eve offices, public buildings and shops stay open late.
3. Families don't make any special preparations for this holiday.
4. The sending of Christmas cards is not very popular in Britain.
5. Children and some adults enjoy carol-singing from door to door, which is done some days after Christmas.
6. Many children all over the world believe that it is their parents who put the presents into the stockings.
7. Mince pies with minced meat in them are served cold.
8. Ten of these pies must be eaten between Christmas and New Year to make sure of twelve happy months to come.
9. Friends are usually invited to dinner.

10. Put as many questions as you can to the following sentences:

1. Trains and buses are crowded with people, traveling from all parts of the country to be at home for Christmas.

2. A large bunch of mistletoe, “a kissing bush”, is placed in the hall or over the door.
3. Friends may be invited to tea but not usually to dinner.

11. Add the beginning to the following sentences:

1. ... but on Christmas Eve everything is rush and bustle.
2. ... traveling from all parts of the country to be at home for Christmas.
3. ... are placed over the mantelpiece.
4. ... to give and receive presents.
5. ... but much bigger and very beautifully decorated.
6. ... to the triumph of the whole family.
... it will bring luck to the one who will find it.
7. ...they are always offered to the visitors who call during the Christmas feasts.

12. Look through the text once again to fill in the following table.

Christmas					
Preparations for the holiday	Christmas symbols		Christmas meals		Christmas entertainments
	ever-greens	other symbols	dinner	sweet	
...

13. Arrange the following items of the plan into the logic succession according to the text.

1. Christmas decorations.
2. Christmas entertainments.
3. Carol singing.
4. Preparations for the holiday.
5. Christmas presents.
6. Sweet.
7. Holiday itself and origin of the word.
8. Christmas dinner.

14. Retell the text using the plan from ex.13.

15. Read another text about Christmas and answer the questions that follow according to the text.

In English speaking countries, children don't get their presents on Christmas Eve (24 December). Santa comes at night when everyone is asleep. Santa's reindeer can fly and take him from house to house. They land on the roofs of the houses and then Santa climbs down the chimney to leave the presents under the Christmas tree.

In the morning of Christmas Day (25 December), children usually get up very early to unwrap their presents. Then they have plenty of time to play with their new toys.

Christmas dinner is served in the early afternoon. Most people eat turkey and sprouts and a Christmas pudding.

26 December is called Boxing Day. It hasn't always been a holiday. People used to go back to work on that day where their bosses gave them little Christmas presents in small boxes. That's why the day is called Boxing Day.

1. *Santa's sleigh lands ...*

- in front of the house
- in the sitting room
- on top of the house

2. *Santa puts the presents ...*

- under the tree
- in the chimney
- in his bag

3. *Why is 26 December called Boxing Day?*

- people used to fight for their presents on that day
- people hang around all day watching TV
- people received little gift boxes on that day

TEXT 9

1. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a). proper names:

St. `Valentine, `Christian, Middle Ages, Re`naissance, `Cupid, `Romans, `Emperor;

b). words with the stress on the first syllable:

honouring, humourous, sweetheart, neighbour, martyr, ancient, fortune, feather, soldier, comment, merchant;

c). words with the stress on other syllables:

variety, ridiculous, anniversary, exchange, anonymous, celebration, completely, disappointment.

2. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to.

Translate them into Russian.

to share, brightly, will exchange, the first Valentine, he was put to death, his jailer's blind daughter, better soldiers, men, the easiest way, could read, he wrote, his girl did not like him, another, men and women declare their feelings, humorously, the most popular, it can cause.

3. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

couple, disappointment, to share, to suit, ridiculous, attractive, ancient, to take care, to exchange, variety.

b). Fill in the gaps using the words from a) in the correct form:

1. There seems to be no limit to ... of cards on sale for the celebration of the day.
2. They are happy or sad, romantic or humourous, serious or....
3. On this day all people ... greetings of affection, undying love or satirical comment.
4. St. Valentine lived in Rome and married young ... against the order and will of the Emperor.
5. There are different kinds of cards, to ... all tastes.
6. It has become a tradition to ... gifts on St. Valentine's Day.
7. If they receive nothing it can cause great
8. Long before February 14 shops come to life with displays of ... and brightly coloured Valentine cards.

4. Match the words with their definitions:

ribbon, custom, shell, valentine, lace, love, holiday, cake.

1. a sweet, baked, breadlike food, usually containing flour, eggs, sugar.
2. a card or message sent by one person to another on St. Valentine's Day.
3. a profoundly tender, passionate affection for another person.
4. a practice so long established that it has the force of a law.

5. a day fixed by law or custom on which ordinary business is suspended in commemoration of some event or in honor of some person.
6. a strip of fine material used for ornament, tying.
7. a netlike ornamental fabric made of threads by hand or machine.
8. a hard outer covering of an animal, as of snail, lobster or turtle.

5. Skim the text and fill in the given periods of time when the following facts took place.

1. The first Valentine of all was a bishop who was put to death in ... by the Romans.
2. Books with valentine verses were sold as early as....
3. It was only in the early ... that factories began to make black and white valentines.
4. Written valentines began about....
5. The oldest known valentine was made in ... by a Frenchman.

273 AD, 1400, 1823, 1415, 1800's.

6. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

7. Read the text. While you are reading try to find answers to the following questions:

1. What is the quick modern way to express your love or affection on St. Valentine's Day?
2. Who was the first Valentine of all?
3. When did written valentines begin?
4. What are the most popular presents on St. Valentine's Day?

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

St. Valentine's Day is a day to share loving feelings with friends and family. It is also known as a holiday honouring lovers. Long before February 14 shops come to life with displays of attractive and brightly coloured «I love you» Valentine cards. There seems to be no limit to variety of cards on sale for the celebration of the day. They are happy or sad, romantic or humourous, serious or ridiculous.

On St. Valentine's Day boys and girls, sweethearts and lovers, husbands and wives, friends and neighbours, and even the office staff will exchange greetings of affection, undying love or satirical comment. And the quick modern way to do it is with a Valentine card, as there are all kinds, to suit all tastes.

The first Valentine of all was a bishop, a Christian martyr who before he was put to death (273 AD) by the Romans sent a note of friendship to his jailer's blind daughter. There was also another St. Valentine. He lived in Rome and he was known as a Christian priest who would marry young couples against the order and will of the Emperor, who believed that unmarried young men were better soldiers. The Christian Church took for his saint's day February 14, the date of an old pagan festival when young Roman maidens threw decorated love missives into an urn to be drawn out by their boyfriends.

This Roman custom was completely forgotten during the early Middle Ages. Then it was revived in the age of the Renaissance with its profound interest in Ancient Greek and Roman culture. And love lotteries became very popular once again. That revived custom later became known as name-drawing.

There used to be a custom in England on St. Valentine's Day that the names of young unmarried men and girls were mixed up and dropped into a jar or Valentine box and drawn out by chance. The person of the opposite sex whose name came out after yours was to be your «Valentine (or

sweetheart) for the year». Young people hoped to find their own mates on Valentine's Day. They chanted magic charms and spells trying to foretell their future and make their wishes come true. Nowadays many girls keep this tradition of telling fortunes on this day.

One of the easiest and humorous ways of telling fortune is by counting the buttons on the clothes saying:

Rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief,
Doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief.

It has become a tradition to exchange gifts on St. Valentine's Day. Present-giving was not confined to sweethearts only. Until very recently children used to go about singing:

Good morrow, Valentine,
First 'tis yours, then 'tis mine,
Please to give me a Valentine.

They were given some small presents, money, fruit or Valentine Buns specially made for the occasion. This was a morning activity, and children were supposed to go out before sunrise. In some parts of Britain St. Valentine's Eve was a great present giving anniversary both for children and adults. Anonymous gifts of all kinds were laid upon the door-steps of houses, and the givers took care to do it secretly and get out of sight before the door was opened. The secrecy was essential as a great part of the fun of St. Valentine's Day consisted in trying to identify the anonymous giver. There was time when the presents given on this day were more numerous than Christmas ones.

Verses and other valentine greetings were popular even in the Middle Ages. At that time few people could read or write. Lovers usually said or sang their valentines to their sweethearts.

Written valentines began about 1400. The oldest known one was made in 1415 by a Frenchman, Charles, Duke of Orleans. He was captured by the

English in a battle and imprisoned in the Tower of London. There he wrote valentine poems many of which were saved and can be seen in the British Museum.

In the last century sweethearts of both sexes would spend hours fashioning a home-made card or present. Lace, ribbon, wild flowers, coloured paper, feathers and shells — all were brought into use.

It was only in the early 1800's that factories began to make black and white valentines. As time passed valentines became more fancy: folded, decorated with laces, framed for pictures, brightly coloured and with moving parts, some of the cards more than two feet long. The ornaments that decorated valentines were symbols of love and friendship. Each had a special meaning. A fan meant «Open up your heart», a ribbon meant «You are tied up» or «You are my girl», and lace meant «You have caught my heart in a net».

Books with valentine verses were sold as early as 1823. People who could not think up their own greetings copied verses from the book. These lines, used in the 1700's, are still popular today:

The rose is red, the violet blue,
Lilies are fair and so are you.

As valentines became more and more popular so did valentine parties. At valentine parties and dinners romantic symbols were sometimes hidden in a cake. Each guest got a slice and, if he was lucky, a symbol which told his fortune. Rice meant a wedding; a ring also meant wedding or an engagement. A coin meant a person would marry someone wealthy. Sometimes a boy got a red mitten, which meant that his girl did not like him. Today hearts are the most common romantic symbol. Candy, cookies and even cakes are made in heart shapes and decorated in pink or red as they are Valentine colours.

Another most famous valentine symbol is Cupid with his bow and arrow. Red, gold and silver symbols are sometimes put in gift packages.

Nowadays on February 14 young men and women declare their feelings for each other, some seriously, some humorously (humorous variety of cards seem to be the most popular). But the tradition is to do this anonymously. Many people hope to receive the cards and presents on the day. If they receive nothing it can cause great disappointment. Romantic flowers, mainly red roses, and cakes are the most popular presents on this day.

8. After having read the text say if your ideas were right. Which new facts about St. Valentine's Day have you learned from the text? Answer the questions from ex.7.

9. Find statements that are not true to the text and correct them:

1. St. Valentine's Day is a day to share loving feelings with friends and family.
2. The choice of cards on sale for the celebration of the day is strictly limited.
3. Only husbands and wives exchange greetings of affection and undying love on St. Valentine's Day.
4. The first and the only Valentine of all was a bishop, a Christian martyr.
5. Young people hoped to find their own mates on St.Valentine's Day.
6. Nowadays nobody keeps the tradition of telling fortunes on St. Valentine's Day.
7. Verses and other valentine greetings became popular only in the 20th century.
8. The ornaments that decorated valentines didn't have any special meaning.
9. Today flowers are the most common romantic symbol on St.Valentine's Day.
- 10.Romantic flowers, mainly red roses, and cakes are the most popular presents on this day.

10. In teams, make up five questions to the text you have read. Ask the opponent team to answer them. Reply to their questions.

11. Reread the text and add the beginnings to the following sentences:

1. ... to do this anonymously.
2. ... are sometimes put in gift packages.
3. ... were sometimes hidden in a cake.
4. ... copied verses from the book.
5. ... were symbols of love and friendship.
6. ... were more numerous than Christmas ones.
7. ... trying to foretell their future and make their wishes come true.
8. ... later became known as name-drawing.
9. ... as a holiday honouring lovers.
- 10.... is with a Valentine card, as there are all kinds, to suit all tastes.

12. Look through the text and fill in the following table:

Symbols of St.Valentine's Day	The ornaments of valentines	Greeting and presents on St.Valentine's Day	Customs and traditions
hearts	laces	cards	love-lotteries
...

13. In pairs, discuss what would you like to have as a present on St. Valentine's Day. Which present is the best to declare your feelings for friends, lovers? Give reasons. And what about the rest of the group?

14. Write a summary of the text.

15. Read another text about St. Valentine's Day and do the tasks that follow.

Like many other holidays, Valentine's Day is thought to be of American origin; but—like many other holidays—it is not. Already in ancient Rome, people celebrated a similar holiday in the middle of February. It was Lupercalia, the festival of fertility.

The Valentine celebrations we know today probably originate in 14th-century England and France. We could indeed say that it was some kind of medieval “blind-date show” to which single men and women got together on 14 February. The women wrote their names on cards and put them into a box from which each man then picked a card. The woman whose name was on the card became the man's sweetheart or “Valentine”, as 14 February is also the commemoration day of St. Valentine (therefore the day is called St. Valentine's Day).

The date, in fact, is the only connection between the festival and the martyr St. Valentine, a Roman priest from the 3rd century. Valentine lived during the reign of Claudius II, who did not allow his soldiers to get married. Claudius believed that married soldiers would not make a good army, so when he found out that Valentine married young couples secretly, he had the priest arrested and sentenced to death.

Let's leave martyrdom behind, however, and return to the more pleasant rites of our time. Valentine's Day has become the festival of love—lovers surprise each other with little presents, flowers or a romantic dinner by candlelight. Sending special greeting cards on that day is also very popular. Valentines, as these cards are called, are sent to loved ones or even to secret lovers in order to

win their hearts. If the sender doesn't want to be recognised, the card is signed "Your Valentine".

a) Answer the questions according to the text.

1. Where was St.Valentine's Day first celebrated ?
2. Who is 14 February is a commemoration day for?
3. Why did Claudius II want his soldiers to be single?
4. How are Valentine cards signed when they are from an anonymous sender?

b) Find in the text some more information to speak on the following points:

1. Roman people held a festival in February.
2. Each man picked a card with the name of a woman on it.
3. On 14 February many people send cards to people they like.

16. Now answer the questions of the following quiz:

1. Valentine's Day ___ on February 14th.

- a. celebrates
- b. had celebrated
- c. is celebrated
- d. celebrated

2. Cupid is the most famous ___ of Valentine.

- a. symbol
- b. sign
- c. motif
- d. hint

3. It's known that this mischievous ___ child shoots darts of desire and make men fall deeply in love.

- a. swunged

b. wiggled

c. winged

d. winded

4. *The ___ of Saint Valentine's Day had its origin in a belief that birds began to pair on February 14th.*

a. costume

b. habitat

c. custom

d. customer

5. *The festival became associated with the ___ day of two Roman martyrs, both named St. Valentine, who lived in the 3rd century.*

a. fast

b. feast

c. feature

d. fist

6. *Valentine's Day became the date for exchanging love letters and sending lovers' ___.*

a. tolls

b. tools

c. trots

d. tokens

7. *St. Valentine has been regarded as the ___ saint of lovers.*

a. patrol

b. patron

c. patroness

d. patronal

8. *Today's celebration of Valentine's Day ___ of a tradition that began in the Roman Empire.*

- a. grew out
- b. grew up
- c. grew
- d. grown up

9. *The cards, known as valentines, are often ___ with hearts to symbolize love.*

- a. desired
- b. signed
- c. derived
- d. designed

10. *Roses are the most common flowers given ___ this occasion.*

- a. on
- b. in
- c. after
- d. under

TEXT 10

1. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a). one-syllable words:

joke, trick, wrong, sew, view, flour, hoax, mayor, laugh;

b). words with the stress on the first syllable:

light-heatedly, otherwise, colleague, document, measure, malady, notice, patient, origin, error, laughter, humour, process;

c). words with the stress on the second syllable:

original, deceive, support, precaution, municipal, succeed, elaborate, befooled, persistent, obscure, affirm, festivity, immediately, whatever, acquire, participant, ahead;

d). words with the stress on the third syllable:

documentary, cultivation, crucifixion.

2. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to. Translate them into Russian.

must be received, who becomes, many and many have been used, you may receive, children, were harking and wagging their tails, the victims understood, some wit had made, April Fool's Day.

3. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

to succeed, to affirm, to acquire, participant, to go ahead, victim, laughter, patient.

b). Fill in the gaps using the words from a) in the correct form:

1. The 1st of April is the official day of
2. Most of the tricks have now become traditional, yet they ... again and again.
3. Gradually the ... understood that some wit had made April fools of them.
4. We are to be ... with the jokers, though some jokes are not so innocent.
5. Let's be more active ... on the humour process, ... and laugh!
6. People of the world ... the official day of laughter on the 1st of April.
7. The third theory ... that the birth of the custom is connected with the change of calendar.

4. Match the words with their definitions:

colleague, joke, malady, trick, summons, crop, official, participant.

1. anything said or done to provoke laughter or cause amusement.
2. a call or a notice by authority to appear at a specified place for a particular purpose or duty.
3. a fellow worker of a profession.

4. a person or a group that participates.
5. a disorder or disease of the body.
6. the cultivating produce of the ground, while growing or when gathered.
7. a foolish or childish action.
8. a person appointed or elected to an office or charged with certain duties.

5. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

6. Read the text. Five sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the list A-E the one which fits each gap.

- A. None of them knew what to make of it.
- B. So we see that some jokes are not so innocent.
- C. And they say the tradition began in France after the change of the calendar into the Gregorian one.
- D. Many people like to play jokes or tricks on this day.
- E. After the programme hundreds of viewers telephoned the BBC.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Notes:

hydrophobia - бешенство

muzzled - в наморднике

The 1st of April is a day when one can light-heatedly make fools of any person, young or old, important or otherwise, a friend, a colleague, a family member. 1. _____ They send wrong messages to mislead their victims, tell some realistic-looking but untrue things to fool each other.

The joke, however, must be received or believed by midday otherwise it is the joker and not the victim who becomes the fool. Most of the tricks are far from the original and many and many have been used so often that they have now become traditional, yet they succeed again and again. One tells someone that his shoe-lace is undone, or his tie is crooked, or that something else is wrong with his dress, when in fact all is in order. Or you may receive a letter with a deceiving message or invitation.

Children are very keen supporters of the tradition. Their victims are other children, parents, schoolteachers, tradesmen, friends who fall into their well-laid traps. The jokes include false summons to the door or telephone; placing the basin of water for someone to step into it; sewing up sleeves or trouser-legs and so on.

2. _____ There are some very famous examples of them. Half a century ago, on March 31, a large number of persons who owned dogs received a very official-looking document. It was marked «Urgent», and the document was typewritten and signed by the Mayor of the town. It ran as follows:

«Owing to a sudden outbreak of hydrophobia, it has become necessary to take special measures of precaution against this terrible malady and to have all the dogs of the town vaccinated».

By ten o'clock on the day appointed, hundreds of dogs, muzzled and unmuzzled, and of all breeds and sizes have assembled and were harking and wagging their tails in the courtyard of the Town Hall.

The astonished officials came to the windows. 3. _____ When the owners of the dogs showed their summonses and demanded admission, they were informed that there must be some mistake, as no such notices had been sent out. Gradually the victims understood that some wit had made April fools of them. Most of them laughed heartily and went home.

Newspapers, television and radio programmes join in the fun, publishing and broadcasting amusing and unlikely tales. On 1 April, 1957, BBC Television played an elaborate April Fool's Day hoax on the viewers of highly regarded weekly documentary programme, «panorama». It showed a film about harvesting a spaghetti crop in Southern Switzerland, near the Italian frontier. The film showed agricultural workers picking long strands of spaghetti from bushes. The film commentator pointed to the length of the spaghetti — the result, he said, of many years of patient cultivation by plant breeders.

4. _____ Some of the calls were from viewers who had enjoyed the joke, including one who complained that spaghetti didn't grow vertically, but horizontally. Some of the calls were from viewers who wanted to know where they could buy spaghetti bushes. But most calls were from those who were no longer sure that spaghetti was made with flour and water.

The persons befooled are called April Fools. When succeeding in their purpose the jokers usually greet the befooled person with shouts: «April Fools!» «Noodle!»

But all jokes end when noon comes. This rule is rigidly observed everywhere; otherwise the mockery is upon the joker's own head. If anyone attempts a trick after midday, the intended victim says:

April Fool's gone past

You're the biggest fool at last.

The origin of this lively and persistent custom remains obscure, though there is a variety of theories attempting to explain it. One of them is that April was a month of fickle («fooling») weather, and that the Jews started the custom during Jesus' passion by sending him on fool errands to various magistrates before his crucifixion. Another theory is that the custom is related to Noah's error of «sending the dove out of the ark before the water had abated» on a date that corresponded to our April 1. The third theory, which seems more reasonable, affirms that the birth of the custom is connected with the change of calendar.

Until 1564 March 25 marked the European New Year and the festivities usually lasted eight days until April 1. With the Calendar change of that year the New Year became January 1, but not everyone immediately got the information. Those late who still celebrated it on April 1 were called April fools and those late visits and traditional presents were replaced by pretended gifts and mock ceremonial visits.

5. _____ And the victims of the jokes are called there «April fish» (poisson d'avril).

Whatever the theory the fact is that people of the world acquired the official day of laughter, which they enjoy just as they can. Let's be more active participants on the humour process! So go ahead and laugh! It's good for all of us.

7. After having read the text say if your ideas were right. Which new facts about April Fool's day have you learned from the text?

8. Find statements that are not true to the text and correct them:

1. The 1st of April is a day when one can light-heatedly make fools of any person.
2. All the jokes are jokes are innocent.
3. The joke must be received or believed only in the evening.
4. Most of the tricks are very original.
5. On this day you may receive a letter with a deceiving message or invitation.
6. Old people are very keen supporters of the tradition.
7. Newspapers, television and radio programmes join in the fun, publishing and broadcasting amusing and unlikely tales.
8. The origin of this lively and persistent custom remains unknown.

9. The most reasonable theory affirms that the birth of the custom is connected with the change of calendar.
10. They say the tradition began in England.

9. Answer the following questions:

1. What do many people do on the 1st of April?
2. What happens if the joke is received after midday?
3. What kind of tricks do people usually play?
4. Are all jokes innocent?
5. How do we call the persons befooled?
6. How many theories are there about the origin of this custom?
7. Which theory seems more reasonable?
8. Where did the tradition begin?

10. Reread the text and complete the following statements:

1. They send wrong messages to mislead their victims...
2. One tells someone that his shoe-lace is undone...
3. Their victims are other children...
4. By ten o'clock on the day appointed, hundreds of dogs, muzzled and unmuzzled...
5. Some of the calls were from viewers...
6. This rule is rigidly observed everywhere...
7. One of them is that April was a month of fickle («fooling») weather...
8. Those late who still celebrated it on April 1...
9. Whatever the theory the fact is that people of the world acquired the official day of laughter...
10. So go ahead...

11. Work out the questions for the following answers:

1. The 1st of April is a day when one can light-heartedly make fools of any person. (What kind...?)
2. The astonished officials came to the windows. (Who...?)
3. The film showed agricultural workers picking long strands of spaghetti from bushes. (What ...?)
4. But all jokes end when noon comes. (When...?)

12. Discuss in groups:

- Have you ever been the victim of April's jokes?
- Describe the best joke you have played yourself.

13. Look back at the text and fill in the missing points so that you had the plan of the text.

2. The day of humour and laughter.
3. ...
4. ...
5. A famous example of jokes.
6. ...
7. The way we call befooled people.
8. The "midday" rule.
9. ...
- 10....
- 11.Let's laugh!

14. Retell the text using the plan from ex.13.

15. Now read some examples of English humour and do the exercises that follow:

Glossary:

noise - шум

at all - совсем, вообще

was very pleased - была очень довольна, рада

move out/in - переезжать (выселяться, вселяться)

wake up (woken up) - проснуться, разбудить

barking - лай

nasty - грубый, неприятный

succeed - преуспеть, удаваться

Miss Grey lived alone in a small flat. She was old and did not like noise at all, so she was very pleased when the noisy young man and woman who lived in the flat above her moved out. A new young man moved in, and Miss Grey thought, "Well, he looks quiet."

But at three o'clock in the next morning, Miss Grey was woken up by the barking of a dog. She thought, "I've never heard a dog here before. It must belong to the new man in the flat above."

So she telephoned the young man, said some nasty words about him and his dog and then hung the receiver up before he could answer.

Nothing more happened until three o'clock the next morning. Then Miss Grey's telephone rang, and when she answered, a voice said, "I'm the man upstairs. I've rung you up to say that I haven't got a dog."

A. Answer these questions.

1. Why was Miss Grey very pleased?
2. What did she think about the new young man?
3. What woke her during the night?
4. Who did she think the dog belonged to?

5. Why did the young man wait till three o'clock in the morning to telephone Miss Grey?

B. Put one word in each empty space.

1. Miss Grey lived alone: she and her parents did not live _____.
2. The young man in the flat above Miss Grey's never told lies: he was a very _____ man.
3. Miss Grey wasn't doubtful about where the dog lived. She was _____ that it lived in the flat above.
4. Miss Grey didn't succeed in finding the dog's owner. She _____ to find him.
5. Miss Grey did not know the young man. He was _____ to her.

II

Glossary:

rarely - редко

to cool - охлаждать

audience - зрители, публика

turn - очередь

coin - монета

be amused - БЫТЬ ИЗУМЛЕННЫМ

Mrs. Evans went to a large local cinema one summer afternoon. Half-way through the wonderful film there was the usual interval, so that people could buy sweets, chocolates and ice-cream.

Mrs. Evans rarely bought anything in the cinema, but this time she was feeling hot, so she thought, "I'll have an ice-cream to cool me. I certainly need

it." Quite a lot of the audience were waiting to buy ice-creams from the girl who was selling them, so Mrs. Evans waited for her turn.

There was a small boy in front of her. When it was his turn, he offered the girl ten pence and asked for an ice-cream, but it cost twenty pence, so the girl said, "I want another ten pence, please."

The small boy put the coin back in his pocket, put his hand in another pocket, took out another ten pence coin and offered that to the girl.

Mrs. Evans was so amused that she paid the other ten pence herself.

A. Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mrs. Evans decide to have an ice-cream in the cinema?
2. Why did she have to wait before she could buy it?
3. What did the boy do then?
4. Why did Mrs. Evans help him?

B. What words in the story mean:

1. big
2. make less hot
3. not at all frequently
4. people in the theatre or cinema
5. should be able to

C. Write this story. Put one word in each empty space. You will find all the correct words in the story above.

A man was boasting to a stranger about the beer in his town.

"Why is it so _____?" the stranger asked. "Is it stronger than the _____ beer?"

"It _____ is! said the _____ man. "I've _____ found a stronger one. A friend of mine was at a cinema, and _____ through the film, during the _____, he went to the bar and had a few glasses of it to _____ himself, because he felt hot. Then he went into the cinema again."

"Well, and what's so wonderful about that?" asked the stranger, putting a _____ down as a tip for the barman.

"When he went in again, he found that there was a different film and a different _____, and when he asked one of them, he discovered that it was the next night!"

TEXT 11

1. Guess the meaning of the following words:

Christian, Orthodox, legend, pharaoh, ceremony, chronology, conservative, decorate, tradition, nationality, calculation, result, serious, natural, calendar, date.

2. Practice the pronunciation of the following words:

a). geographical and proper names:

`Christian, `Julian, Euro`pean, `Orthodox, `Easter, `Egypt, `China, the Jews, `Hebrew, `Jesus Christ;

b). common nouns with the stress on the first syllable:

genuine, legend, bonnet, generous, dawn, lamb, blood, ancient, pharaoh, vernal, equinox, ceremony;

c). common nouns with stresses on other syllables:

resurrection, parade, observance, although, coincide, chronology, survive, result, conservative.

3. Analyze the following forms and say which part of speech they belong to.

Translate them into Russian.

the English are said to be, had adopted, took the decision to join, Easter is celebrated, comes from, lamb's blood, Easter can fall, the possibility has been discussed, observances, older, best.

4. a). Study and memorize the meaning of the following words and word combinations:

to win a prize, service, to decorate, generous, coincide, ancient, major.

b). Fill in the gaps using the words from a) in the correct form:

1. You're the most ... person I have ever met.
2. The Orthodox Easter sometimes ... with that of the West.
3. The ... at this shop leaves much to be desired.
4. On Christmas all the houses in England are beautifully
5. The ... Christian holiday is Easter.
6. Although it was a serious competition, he managed
7. Eggs were attached to spring ceremonies all over the world well before Christianity, most notably in China and ... Egypt.

5. Match the words with their definitions:

holiday, bunny, church, legend, custom, Old Testament, Easter.

1. an annual Christian holiday in commemoration of resurrection of Jesus Christ.
2. the complete Bible of the Jews, being the first of the two main divisions of the Christian Bible.
3. a day fixed by law or custom on which ordinary business is suspended in commemoration of some event or in honor of some person.
4. a nonhistorical story known from earlier times and accepted as historical.
5. a building for public Christian worship.
6. a rabbit, especially a small or a young one.
7. a practice so long established that it has the force of a law.

6. Skim the text and fill in the given periods of time when the following facts took place.

1. In Russia we celebrate these holidays ... later than in Britain.
2. Until ... Russia had the Julian calendar.
3. In the ... the possibility of a fixed date for Easter has been discussed and supported among Christians.
4. Russians celebrate Christmas on ..., while the English celebrate it on
25th December, 13 days, 20th century, 191⁸, 7th January.

7. Can you guess what the text is about judging by the title? What do you know or what have you heard about the subject you are going to read about?

8. Read the text. Eight sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the list A-H the one which fits each gap.

- A. By this time the accumulated difference between the calendars was 13 days.
- B. Hares and rabbits are also a symbol of fertility since they often have multiple births.
- C. The most traditional colour for dyeing eggs is red.
- D. This is a Jewish spring holiday which dates back to the days of the Old Testament.
- E. It is Easter Monday and Good Friday.
- F. After church services, everyone went for a walk around the town.
- G. Each nationality has its own features.
- H. The second Sunday in April has been proposed.

EASTER IN BRITAIN AND IN RUSSIA

They say ‘so many countries, so many customs.’ It’s natural, that different countries have different cultures, different customs and traditions. 1._____ For example, the English are said to be very conservative, while the Russian are said to be generous and plain. But, as we all are creatures of our God, The Lord and Creator, we have much in common.

Both Russia and the United Kingdom are Christian countries, so the main Christian holidays in our countries are the same: Christmas and Easter, although in Russia we celebrate these holidays 13 days later than in Britain. Russians celebrate Christmas on 7th January, while the English celebrate it on 25th December. Until 1918, Russia had the Julian calendar, whilst the majority of European countries had adopted the Gregorian calendar long before. 2._____ Thus, the same holiday had different dates in Europe and in Russia. The Russian state took the decision to join the Gregorian system of chronology in 1918. The Russian Orthodox Church, however, stuck to the so-called “old style” (the Julian calendar), hence the different dates.

Easter is the major Christian holiday. The word “Easter” comes from Anglo-Saxon “Eostre”, which is the name of the Goddess of Spring and Dawn. Easter is the major holiday in the Christian world because on this day Jesus Christ rose from the dead.

The Russian word “Пасха” comes from the Greek “pascha” which comes from the Hebrew “pesakh” meaning Passover. 3._____ After the Pharaoh would not let the people of Israel leave Egypt, God killed every first-born in Egypt. However, he spared (passed over) Jewish families who marked their thresholds with lamb’s blood.

Western Christians celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs upon or following the vernal equinox (March 21st). It means that Easter can fall between March 22nd and April 25th. This rule was fixed in the 8th century. In the Eastern Orthodox Church, however, a slightly different

calculation is followed. As a result, the Orthodox Easter, although sometimes coinciding with that of the West, can fall one, four, or five weeks later.

In the 20th century, the possibility of a fixed date for Easter has been discussed and supported among some Christians; adoption would depend on agreement being reached among the various churches.

4. _____ Some Easter observances are older than Christianity. Eggs, for example, have always been a traditional symbol of resurrection and rebirth. As such, they were attached to spring ceremonies all over the world well before Christianity, most notably in China and ancient Egypt.

Nowadays Easter eggs are usually made of chocolate, marzipan, and other types of confectionery. Many households still dye, colour, or decorate genuine hard-boiled eggs. 5. _____ This comes from the legend that Our Lady stood below the cross with a basket of eggs, and the eggs were splattered with the blood of Christ.

Another popular Easter symbol in Britain is the Easter hare (or Easter Bunny as it is known in America). It was believed in Celtic times that the hare chased away the spirit of winter. 6. _____ Some English children spend the Easter morning hunting for eggs that the Easter Hare has hidden from them, and the child who finds the most eggs wins a prize. In some parts of Britain the custom of eating hare pie still survives.

One of the best known of Easter customs, which has a long history, is Easter parades or Easter Bonnet parades as they are called in the U.K. They originated with the tradition of buying new clothes for Easter which people wore to church. 7. _____

Egg-rolling is a traditional Easter pastime which still flourishes in Northern England, Scotland, Ulster, the Isle of Man, and Switzerland. It takes place on Easter Sunday, or Monday, and consists of rolling coloured, hard-boiled eggs down a slope until they are cracked and broken after which they are eaten by their owners. In some districts this is a competitive game, the winner being the

player whose egg remains longest undamaged, but more usually the fun consists simply of the rolling and eating. This is evidently the older form of the custom, since egg-rolling does not appear to have been originally a game to be lost or won. At the beginning of the 20th century we had the same tradition in Russia, but it was lost after the Revolution.

There are two Christian holidays in Britain besides Easter and Christmas which are state holidays. 8. _____ In Russia these holidays are not state recognized.

On Good Friday bakers sell hot cross buns, which are toasted and eaten with butter. Easter Monday is a holiday and many people travel to the seaside for the day or go and watch one of many sporting events such as football and horse-racing.

9. After having read the text say if your ideas were right. Which new facts about Easter have you learned from the text?

10. Find statements that are not true to the text and correct them:

2. Eggs were attached to spring ceremonies most notably in England well before Christianity.
3. In some parts of Britain the custom of eating apple pie still survives.
4. Some Easter observances are older than Christianity.
5. The Russian Orthodox Church took the decision to join the Gregorian system of chronology.
6. Both Russia and the United Kingdom are the Christian countries.
7. Different countries have the same cultures, customs and traditions.
8. The Easter hare is a popular Easter symbol in Britain.
9. One of the forgotten Easter customs is Easter Parades.

11. Answer the following questions:

2. What's the difference in characters between the English and the Russian?
3. Which Christian holidays are the same in Russia and in the United Kingdom?
4. When did the Russian state take the decision to join the Gregorian system of chronology?
5. Why is Easter the major holiday in the Christian world?
6. What is the most traditional color for dyeing eggs?
7. How do some English children spend the Easter morning?
8. Which custom still survives in some parts of Britain?
9. What is one of the best known of Easter customs, which has a long history?
10. Which Easter pastime still flourishes in Northern England and Scotland?
11. Are there any other Christian holidays in Britain besides Easter and Christmas which are state holidays?
12. What is a traditional pastime on Good Friday?
13. What do people usually do on Easter Monday?

12. Make up sentences using the words given at random:

1. have, it's, different, natural, that, different, countries, cultures.
2. holiday, is, major, Easter, the, Christian.
3. in, another, Easter, Britain, hare, is, Easter, symbol, the, popular.
4. a, traditional, egg-rolling, which, is, flourishes, Northern England, still, Easter, pastime, in.

13. Reread the text and complete the following statements:

1. Some Easter observances ...
2. Easter is the major holiday in ...
3. Many households still...

4. Easter Monday is a ...
5. Nowadays Easter eggs...

14. Work out the questions for the following answers:

1. Easter is the major holiday in the Christian world.
2. The Russian word “Пасха” comes from the Greek “Pascha”
3. The most traditional color for dyeing eggs is red.
4. In some parts of Britain the custom of eating hare pie still survives.

15. Read the following summary of the text and fill in the gaps.

The main Christian holiday in Russia and the United Kingdom are (1)... : Christmas and (2)... . In Russia we celebrate these holidays 13 days (3)... than in Britain, as the Russian Orthodox Church stuck to the (4)... “old-style” calendar. Easter is the major holiday in the Christian world because (5)... Jesus Christ rose from the dead. The Russian word “пасха” (6)... the Hebrew “pesakh” (7)... Passover. Colored eggs and Easter hare are popular Easter (8)... . One of the best known of Easter customs is (9)... . Another traditional Easter (10)... is egg-rolling. Easter Monday and Good Friday are also (11)... in Great Britain.

16. Work in groups. Look through the texts and add the missing information. Speak about Easter traditions and customs.

I. Origin of the words – 1) Easter comes from “Eostre”

Easter/Пасха and which is the name of the goddess
of the holiday (3) of Spring and Dawn.

2) ...

3) ...

II. Traditional Easter Pastimes (3) – 1) Egg-rolling ,...

III. Eating habits (4) – 1) Lamb, ...

IV. State-recognized holidays – 1) Christmas ,... in Britain (4)

17. Read quickly another text about Easter. Use the information from this text to fill in the following table.

Easter customs	Easter symbols
eating hare pie	eggs
Easter parades	Easter Bunny
egg-rolling	...
hunting for eggs	...
...	...

Notes:

crucifix – распятие

cross – крест

candle – свеча

lamb – ягненок

lily – лилия

feast – праздник

pretzel – крендель с солью

Lent – пост

Easter symbols.

Many symbols remind Christians of the original Easter events and their meaning. The crucifix and the cross are present in churches and many homes. A crucifix is a cross with an image of Jesus' body hanging from it. Sunday is an Easter symbol that is observed the year round. Candles are burned during many Easter celebrations. Christians associate Jesus with the light from the candles, calling him "the Light of the World". Easter lilies are used to decorate churches and homes. They remind Christians of the new life that comes to them through the Resurrection of Jesus. The lamb is a particularly important Easter symbol in central and eastern European countries. Christians traditionally refer to Jesus as "the Lamb of God". Many people serve lamb as part of the Easter feast. Besides eggs and lamb, certain other foods are associated with the Easter season. Pretzels, for example, were originally a Lenten food. Hot cross buns, now eaten throughout the Easter season, were first baked in England to be served on Good Friday. The buns have a cross on the top.

Easter customs.

A number of popular customs are observed during the Easter season. Carnivals provide opportunities for feasting and merrymaking before the solemn days of Lent. Passion Plays which dramatize the Easter story are performed during the Easter season since the Middle Ages. Wearing new clothes for Easter is a custom common among many Christians. Like many other Easter symbols, the new clothes represent the new life offered through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

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Английский язык

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РЕПОЗИТОРИЙ ГГУ ИМЕНИ Ф. СКОРИНЫ