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АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК
ЧТЕНИЕ И УСТНАЯ РЕЧЬ

Практическое пособие
для студентов IT-специальностей

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Материал издания направлен на развитие и совершенствование у студентов IT-специальностей факультета математики и технологий программирования навыков чтения, а также речевых навыков в рамках обозначенной тематики.

Практическое пособие содержит тексты, упражнения и темы для обсуждения.

Предназначено для студентов 1 курса IT-специальностей факультета математики и технологий программирования.

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ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

Практическое пособие представляет собой сборник текстов, охватывающих широкий круг вопросов профессионально-трудовой сферы, связанных с образованием в Республике Беларусь и за рубежом, а также будущей профессиональной деятельностью IT-студентов.

Пособие состоит из пяти основных разделов: «Our University and Students' Life», «Higher Education in English-Speaking Countries», «Future Profession», «IT Jobs» and «Supplementary Reading». Каждый раздел включает следующие части: предтекстовые упражнения и/или темы для обсуждения, направленные на облегчение восприятия рабочего текста и на развитие навыков монологической и диалогической речи; собственно текст/тексты (профессионально ориентированный или на тему образования) для поискового, изучающего или просмотрового чтения; список ключевых слов и выражений, используемых в тексте/теме; послетекстовые упражнения и задания, ориентированные как на проверку понимания содержания текста, так и на закрепление языкового материала, а также на формирование, развитие и/или совершенствование соответствующих коммуникативных навыков.

Представленные тексты расширяют активный запас общей и профессиональной лексики, знакомят с грамматическими и синтаксическими структурами, широко используемыми в текстах данной направленности.

Предлагаемый материал способствует глубокому овладению изучаемым языком, расширению кругозора и эстетическому воспитанию студентов.

UNIT 1. OUR UNIVERSITY AND STUDENTS' LIFE

I Studying at University

1 Read the text. Write out and memorise the topical vocabulary.

Some students go to university because they enjoy studying, others just want a **qualification**. First, however, you have to get good **grades** in your final school exams to **get a place** at many universities. You can then **study for / do a degree**. If you complete the course **successfully**, you **get** your **degree** and **receive a certificate**.

In the UK, most degree courses **last** three years, although some take longer, e.g. medicine or law.

Teachers at university are usually called **lecturers**, and most of the **teaching** is done through **lectures**. The most senior lecturers have the title **Professor**. Students doing **arts** subjects, e.g. English or history, will spend time working in the **library** and writing **essays**. Students doing **science** degrees, e.g. physics or chemistry, will probably spend a lot of their time working in a **laboratory** (lab).

When students are doing their first degree, they are called **undergraduates**. When they complete their degree, they are **graduates**. Some graduates **go on to do a Master's**, e.g. in the UK an MA (Master of Arts) or MSc (Master of Science). These are called **postgraduate** degrees. The longest one is a **PhD** (Doctor of Philosophy) where students **do research** for at least three years.

2 Put the sentences in the correct order.

I did a degree course.

I passed with good grades.

I got a Master's.

I did a postgraduate course.

I did my final exams at school.

I became an undergraduate.

I got a place at university.

I got a degree in business studies.

3 Are the statements about English universities true or false? If the statement is false, correct it.

- 1) University teachers are all called professors.
- 2) Anyone can go to university if they want to.
- 3) Some students go to university just to get a qualification.
- 4) Most university degree courses in the UK last five years.
- 5) Students don't go to lectures at university.
- 6) If you are unsuccessful, you get a degree anyway, just pay for it.
- 7) Students doing their first degree are called graduates.
- 8) Science students write a lot of essays.
- 9) A PhD is a postgraduate degree.
- 10) If you study arts subjects, you work in a laboratory.

4. Complete the text using the topical vocabulary.

Mark got very good... in his final school exams, and he went to University and got a... in IT. He then... to do an MSc.

The course... a year, and at the end he had an offer to go... business.

After a couple of years Mark decided to go back to University to do... for a PhD.

He knows it will be three years' work, but he loves studying, and never went to university just for a... that would get him a good job earning a lot of money.

5 Answer the questions about Belarus.

- 1) Do you need to pass exams before you can go to university in Belarus?
- 2) How long do most degree courses last?
- 3) In England the first degree is called a BA or BSc. What is the first degree called in Belarus?
- 4) Do we have similar postgraduate degrees?
- 5) Do you get a certificate when you finish your degree?

II Our University

1 Vocabulary box.

to join a university
traditional values
new approaches
faculty
department
to offer
modern facilities
daytime training / full-time studies
part-time studies

preparatory section
post-graduate courses
educational supplies
hostel (dormitory)
semester
attendance
compulsory
credit test
scholarship
grade

I am a student of Fr. Scorina Gomel State University. It was opened in 1969 on the basis of the Pedagogical Institute. It was the second University in Belarus.

Our University combines traditional values with new approaches. That is why we have various faculties: *the Faculty of Biology, Geology and Geography, History, Part-Time Studies and Pre-University Training, Foreign Languages, Mathematics and Programming Technologies, Psychology and Pedagogics, Physics and Information Technologies, Physical Culture, Philology, Economics, Law.*

Our University offers modern facilities for students and five forms of training – daytime training (full-time studies), part-time studies, preparatory section, distance learning and post-graduate courses.

The University trains future *teachers* in various subjects, *lawyers, economists and managers, psychologists, engineers, programmers and research workers.*

Part-time students combine work and studies. Preparatory section helps (those who finished schools many years ago) become students.

Our University has a good library. The students can get all sorts of educational supplies there. Reading halls, different laboratories with modern equipment are at the students' disposal.

Many students of our University live in hostels.

The chief task of a student is to learn. Attendance at all lectures, seminars and practical classes is compulsory for all students. The course of study lasts for four or five years. The academic year is divided into two

semesters. At the end of each semester students take credit tests on practical work and examinations on theory.

The first-year students of the Faculty of Mathematics and Programming Technologies study physics, higher mathematics, descriptive geometry and social sciences. Later they acquire profound knowledge in cybernetics, computing machinery, etc. Special attention is paid to analog and digital computers. There is a computing centre at the University where the students are taught to work with computers.

Many students receive scholarship that depends much on their grades.

As well as academic success, the social scene is an important part of life at the University. Students extend their knowledge and talents, develop as individuals.

2 Complete the sentences.

- 1) It was opened in...
- 2) Our University combines...
- 3) Our University offers...
- 4) The University trains...
- 5) Part-time students...
- 6) The chief task of a student...
- 7) Attendance...
- 8) The course of study...
- 9) At the end of each semester...
- 10) Students of the Faculty of Mathematics and Programming Technologies study...
- 11) As well as academic success...

3 Make up your own sentences using the following words and phrases.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| to join a university | a hostel |
| to combine | scholarship |
| to offer modern facilities | computing machinery |
| to be at smb's disposal | |

4 Define the tense-forms of the predicates in the following sentences.

- 1) It was opened in 1969 on the basis of the Pedagogical Institute.
- 2) It was the second University in Belarus.
- 3) Part-time students combine work and studies.
- 4) Many students will receive scholarship.

- 5) Most of the students have passed their exams successfully.
- 6) As well as academic success, the social scene is an important part of life at the University.

5 Answer the questions to the text.

- 1) When was our University opened?
- 2) What faculties do we have at our University?
- 3) What facilities does our University offer for students?
- 4) What is the chief task of a student?
- 5) Is the social scene an important part of life at the University?

6. Problem solving.

You are a student of Gomel State University. It's a great event in your life. Share your joy with your friend. (Make up short dialogues)

- 1) Describe your first impression of the University.
- 2) What new information about our University did you learn from the text?
- 3) Your advice to a future school-leaver.
- 4) Who helped you choose your future speciality.

III Students' life

1 Read this story about Paul, a university student. Note down the useful words to talk about the university life.

My friend's name is Paul, he's a freshman.

Paul **enrolled** in four classes. And he decided to take Psychology 100. At first Paul was a very good student. He studied very hard.

After Paul enrolled in Psych 100, Paul **hit the books**. Every night he opened his book and studied. Then the professor, the prof, **handed out the assignment**. But Paul got very stressed. He couldn't think about the assignment, he was too stressed out about it, so he ended up partying and having fun. And then the assignment came due, which meant he had to give the assignment in on a Thursday. The night before the assignment was due, Paul decided to **pull an all-nighter**. He stayed up all night working on it. So the next day, he went to class and **handed in** his assignment.

Paul got a really good mark on his paper, somehow. Paul got an A+. But then he started **to skip class**. Instead of going to class he **cut class**.

Instead of studying he was at the bar with his friends having fun. Paul had no idea what was happening in class. Every week he was supposed to read a certain amount. He didn't do any of his readings. So, he **fell behind**. So there was too much work for him to do. Everybody was over here. This was really bad at university.

He started to go to class, get advice, become a better student. He hit the books again. So, because of his effort, a nice thing happened: he **got caught up**. He tried really hard, he hit the books, he got caught up, but then he started to skip classes again, and he started to cut class again. He stopped doing his assignments, he stopped doing his homework, and what happened? He fell behind again. So then Paul was back in a bit of a problem, in a difficult situation. So there was a couple of things Paul could do then. He could leave the course. That meant he could quit the course. He wasn't going to **withdraw from the course** or **drop the course**.

But the problem was that Paul was a little bit of a lazy student. So instead of doing what he should, Paul did something a little bad. Not a little bad, very bad. Paul "plagiarized". He decided **to plagiarize** his paper. He copied an essay from the Internet, or he bought an essay online.

He handed in his paper to the professor, and the professor realized there was something wrong with his paper. The professor did an online search, and saw: "Wait a second. Paul didn't write this paper. Somebody else wrote this paper." So then Paul was in huge trouble at the university. Luckily, the professor was a very nice person and just gave Paul a zero. But if you plagiarize you can **be expelled** or **kicked out**.

So, luckily, that didn't happen to Paul. This was his first year, his freshman year. Afterwards, he learned how to be a good university student. He never plagiarized again. He never... Well, he fell behind a couple more times, but he always managed to get caught up. He hit the books, he studied really hard, and so Paul actually did really well.

And now he has a really high-paying job. So, good job, Paul!

2 Fill in the gaps with the suitable words from the text.

- 1) When you decide to go to university, you... in multiple classes.
- 2) She handed her term paper... late.
- 3) It's about time he got his first...
- 4) Normally, when I..., I just want to sleep all day.

- 5) He was ill for six weeks and... with his schoolwork.
- 6) Can you... what you're doing and help me with this report?
- 7) If you compare the two books side by side, it is clear that the author of the second has... (from the first).
- 8) My brother was... from school for bad behaviour.
- 9) I was... out of the game for using bad language.
- 10) The teacher asked her to... out the worksheets.
- 11) You promised you wouldn't... classes.
- 12) What course would you like to... for?
- 13) I can't go out tonight. I need to... the books.
- 14) Having cut some many classes, he would hardly get... up.
- 15) She had to... from the competition because of a leg injury.

3 Use these words and write about either your experience at university or somebody's you know.

4 Watch the video "The People You Can Meet at University" on YouTube and take notes of the vocabulary.

5 Match the word with its definition.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a freshman - a sophomore - a junior - a senior - undergraduate students/ undergraduates - Master's students/ grad students - TA - RA - PhD student - post doc - instructor/lecturer - professors - faculty - advisor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a third year student - students of a university - teaching assistant - a person doing a profound research - a person professionally conducting research after the completion of their doctoral studies (typically a PhD) - a first-year student - full-time members at the university - a second year student - the academic staff of a university - the head of the department or university - the person you go to when you want to get into a class - students doing their 1 or 2 years' postgraduate study - last year student |
|---|--|

- registrar
- Dean

- research assistant
- a person who teaches undergrads
- helps undergrads, and grad students with their studies, gives advice on things

6 *Make sure you know the meaning of the following words.*

- 1) to take/do/sit/resit an exam;
- 2) to pass/do well in an exam;
- 3) to fail/do badly in an exam;
- 4) to revise for (the exam);
- 5) to skip classes/lectures;
- 6) marks/grades;
- 7) continuous assessment;
- 8) to graduate from the university;
- 9) to get grants/scholarship.

7 *Correct these sentences.*

- 1) I can't come out. I'm studying. I'm passing an exam tomorrow.
- 2) Congratulations! I hear you succeeded your examination!
- 3) You can study a lot of various careers at this University.
- 4) I got some good notes in my continuous assessment this term.
- 5) She is a professor in a primary school.
- 6) He gave an interesting 45-minute conference on Hardware.

8 *What is ... ?*

- 1) A first degree at college or university.
- 2) The lower level of postgraduate degree.
- 3) The highest university degree.
- 4) A person who is studying for their first degree.
- 5) A person who has completed their first degree.
- 6) A person who is studying for a master's or PhD.

9 *Complete these sentences.*

- 1) This undergraduate... lasts four years.
 - a) credit;
 - b) programme;
 - c) field.
- 2) To complete the year students need 180... 60 of these are for the thesis.

- a) lectures;
 - b) credits;
 - c) modules.
- 3) After three years, you will ... with a bachelor's degree.
- a) research;
 - b) credit;
 - c) graduate.
- 4) My master's ... on modern English literature was 120 pages long.
- a) field;
 - b) credit;
 - c) dissertation.
- 5) Dr Lewis has been doing ... into dolphin behaviour and has made a very important discovery.
- a) research;
 - b) thesis;
 - c) field.
- 6) Lucy is an expert in the ... of ancient history and has just completed her PhD on Greek art.
- a) field;
 - b) programme;
 - c) research.

10 Speak on one of the following topics:

- 1) My University studies.
- 2) My usual day at University.
- 3) Students' life in Belarus.

UNIT 2. HIGHER EDUCATION IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES

I How to Choose the Right University

1 Vocabulary box.

to fit interests

academic background

to narrow down the choice

target university

to climb the career ladder

to ace exams

main priority

a more laid-back academic environment

to get homesick easily

to cover tuition fees

to search for financial aid

to obtain a loan

Choosing which university fits your interests and academic background is an important decision that will greatly influence the success of your university study. In the UK alone, there are hundreds of choices and therefore you need to be strategic in making a shortlist of universities and narrowing down your choices into second and first choice. This involves weighing some factors such as your motivation and aspiration, your personality, your location, and your budget.

People attend university for different reasons, so ask yourself what you want from your target university and what you want to do after you graduate. Many people attend top universities because of the prestige without considering their choice of future career. If you have interest in a particular career, you should find universities with a better reputation for your career choice than others. With a degree from a university that is most respected in the profession you want to enter, it will be easy for you to get your dream job and you will be able to climb the career ladder fast.

Your personality types also play an important role in your success as a university student. A scholarly type student usually has self-motivation to work hard in order to ace exams and achieve high grades. This type of

person will find comfort in a highly academic environment offered by top world universities such as Oxford or Cambridge. On the contrary, if you are not a type of person who can study for hours and getting top grades is not your main priority, you better go to a university with a more laid-back academic environment so that you will not be stressful all the time and can enjoy your life at university.

Coming home could be a good escape during your hard time at university, so think about the distance between your home and the target university. If you get homesick easily, you should not consider choosing a university outside your hometown or which takes more than a day to travel by land or water. However, if distance is not a problem for you, you might want to consider studying abroad, especially at a university whose reputation is better than the universities in your home country.

Last but not least, calculate your financial ability, which should cover tuition fees and cost of living. Both vary across the country and different universities, so do your homework by doing some research in order to find out which one fits your bills. If you cannot afford to go to the university of your choice, you can search for financial aid in the forms of student loans, grant, or scholarship. Do remember that if you decide to obtain a loan, you have to pay for it after you finish your study.

2 Reading comprehension questions.

- 1) Why do you need to choose the right university?
 - a) Because it will make you happy.
 - b) Because it has an impact on your success at university.
 - c) Because life at university is difficult.
 - d) Because the right university is difficult to find.
- 2) Which university should you go to if you already have a career choice?
 - a) One with the lowest tuition fees.
 - b) One that offers you a scholarship.
 - c) One that has the highest prestige.
 - d) One that has a good reputation in your future profession.
- 3) What type of student will enjoy a highly academic environment?
 - a) A student who has self-motivation to work hard.
 - b) A smart student who does not need to study hard for exams.
 - c) A student who puts the highest priority on student societies.
 - d) A student who does not have a part-time job.

- 4) Where should you study if you are prone to homesickness?
- a) Abroad.
 - b) Outside your hometown.
 - c) At your local university.
 - d) At home.
- 5) What can you do if you do not have enough money to fund your study?
- a) Wait for a year to collect money.
 - b) Find a full-time job.
 - c) Choose to study online.
 - d) Find a student loan or scholarship.

3 Discuss with group-mates what universities could fit your interests and financial abilities.

If you could choose any university in the world, where would you go and why?

II Higher Education in the United Kingdom

1 Vocabulary box.

to offer higher education
research-oriented
self-governing
to arrange courses
to award the degrees
scientifically biased
admission to the universities
old trial patterns
to extend for years
to keep up with their fellow students

In the United Kingdom, higher education is offered by universities and non-university institutions (colleges, institutes, schools and academies). They provide both research-oriented and higher professional education. There are around 130 universities and university colleges in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. British universities are independent autonomous self-governing institutions. The most famous of

them are: Cambridge, Oxford, Edinburgh, London, Essex, Aberdeen and many others.

The university is like a federation of colleges. It arranges courses, lectures, exams; and awards the degrees. The universities of Oxford and Cambridge each have over 10000 full-time students. Oxford is older than Cambridge, more philosophical and classical. Cambridge, on the other hand, is more scientifically biased. But in many respects (their prestige and wealth) they look alike. Admission to the universities is based on the old trial patterns.

Degree programmes culminate to a degree (bachelor's, master's, or doctor's degree) and non-degree programmes lead to a vocational qualification such as a certificate or diploma.

University degree courses generally extend for 3 or 4 years though in medicine 5 or 6 years are required. The first degree of Bachelor is awarded on the completion of such a course with satisfactory examination results. Further study or research is required at modern universities for the degree of Master and by all universities for the degree of Doctor. Universities are centres of research and teaching.

University teaching combines lectures, practical classes (in scientific subjects) and small group teaching in either seminars or tutorials.

At Oxford, a **Tutor** is a member of staff (professor) who supervises students' work individually. Each student goes to his tutor's room for an hour every week to read out an essay which he/she and the tutor then discuss. The tutor can help with general problems (choice of courses, difficulty in keeping up with their fellow students) and practical problems (family matters, finding accommodation). Then there is a **Dean**, who is in charge of the discipline among 300 students inside the College. Last there are **Directors of Studies** and their assistants – **Supervisors**.

In some unis in the UK the term **dean** is used for the head of a **faculty**, a collection of related academic departments. There are also **lecturers** or **instructors**, **registrars**, and **advisors**.

Most adequately qualified British students can obtain awards from public funds in order to attend full-time at a university. The amount of these awards depends on the income of the student and his parents. Grants for postgraduate study are offered annually by the Department of Education and Science, the Research Councils.

2 *Open ended.*

- 1) What are the post-school institutions of higher education?
- 2) What are the most famous universities of Great Britain?
- 3) What is a British university like?
- 4) How long do University degree courses generally last?
- 5) What degrees do universities in the UK award?
- 6) What does a Tutor at Oxford do?
- 7) What is a tutorial?
- 8) What does the word “dean” mean?

3 *Speak about higher education in Great Britain in general or give a short presentation on Cambridge and Oxford.*

III Studying in the UK: the pros and cons

1 *Watch the video “Studying in the UK: the pros and cons” on YouTube. Before watching make sure you understand the following phrases from the video.*

- to think independently
- to think critically
- a creative thinker
- to memorise things
- to acquire knowledge
- the emphasis
- to be valued by employers
- to develop skills
- to have access to
- extracurricular activities
- knowledge heavy
- to apply for
- to be worth smth/doing smth
- to be recognized

2 *Translate the sentences.*

- 1) In the UK universities teach you how to be independent, how to think independently, how to think critically, how to debate, argue, how to be a creative thinker.

2) In a lot of countries universities teach you how to memorise things and you learn how to acquire knowledge rather than create knowledge.

3) In British universities the emphasis is very much on critical thinking.

4) This skill is definitely valued by employers.

5) In the UK students have access to a lot of international research.

6) They provide students with those extracurricular activities that help develop their personality and develop them as people in general.

7) British universities are not so knowledge heavy.

8) If you're an international student it's even more expensive but there might be scholarships and grants that you might be able to apply for.

9) You just have to decide whether it's worth it or not.

10) Some universities in the UK are not necessarily recognized by employers in other countries.

3 Fill in the following table:

Studying in the UK

| Pros | Cons |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 3 |
| ... | ... |

4 Compare the systems of higher education in Great Britain and Belarus (See "Supplementary Reading"). What are the differences? What do they have in common?

IV The System of Higher Education in the United States

I Vocabulary box.

counterparts

nationwide assumption

to spring up

substantial

vast majority

to assess

by means of

broad range of subject areas

to pursue
to derive from
to be adopted by
wholesale

The system of higher education in the United States differs from its counterparts in Europe in certain ways.

In the United States, there is a nationwide assumption that students who have completed secondary school should have at least two years of university education. Hence, a great number of “junior colleges” and “community colleges” have sprung up to provide two years of undergraduate study, in contrast to the traditional universities and colleges, where a majority of students complete four years of study for a degree and where substantial numbers go on for one to three years of postgraduate study in a “graduate school.”

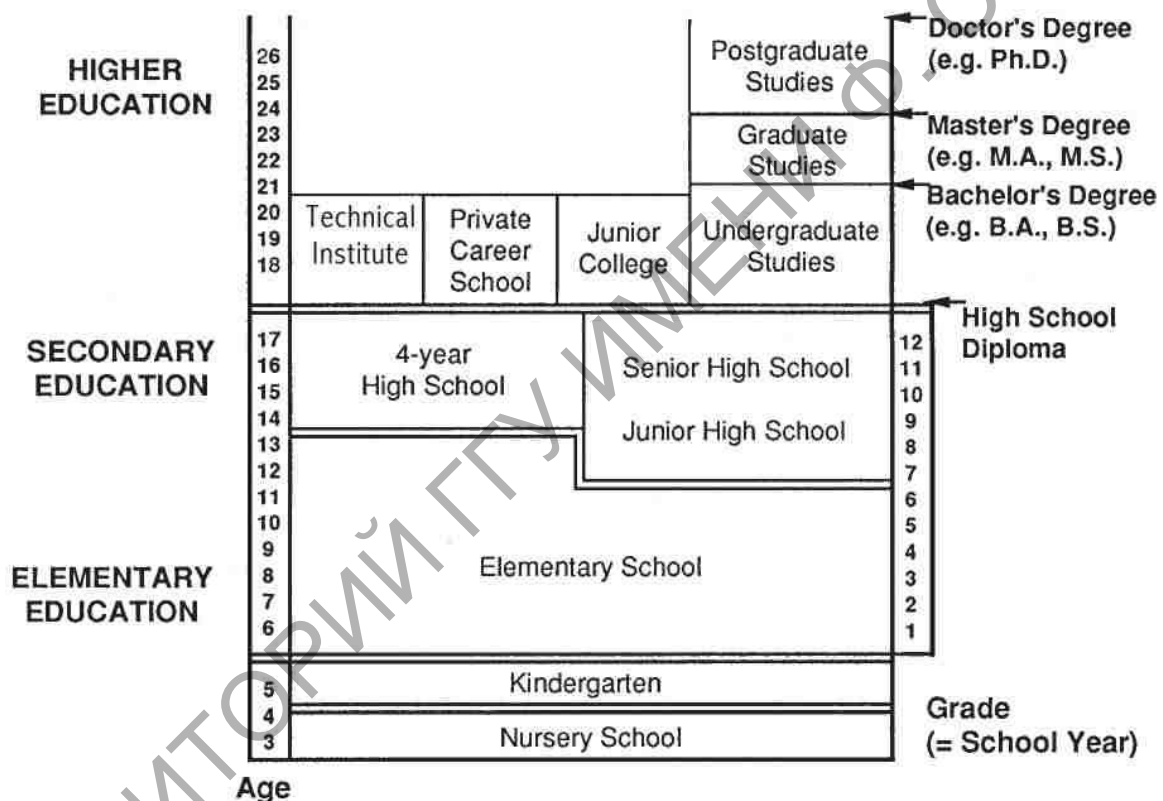
Universities that provide four-year study courses are either privately funded foundations or are state or city foundations that depend heavily on the government for financial support. Private universities and colleges depend largely on tuition charges levied on students. The individual state governments fund the nation’s highly developed system of state universities, which ensure the provision of higher education for the vast majority of those willing and academically qualified to receive such education.

In the American system, the four-year, or “bachelor’s,” degree is ordinarily obtained not by passing a “finals” examination but rather by the accumulation of course “credits,” or hours of classroom study. The quality of work done in these courses is assessed by means of a continuous record of marks and grades in a course transcript. The completion of a certain number (and variety) of courses with passing grades leads to the “bachelor’s” degree. The first two years of a student’s studies are generally taken up with prescribed courses in a broad range of subject areas, along with some “elective” courses selected by the student. In the third and fourth years of study, the student specializes in one or perhaps two subject fields. Postgraduate students can pursue either advanced studies or research in one of the many graduate schools, which are usually specialized institutions. At these schools students work toward either a “master’s” degree (which involves one to two years of postgraduate study) or a doctoral degree (which involves two to four years of study and other requirements).

A marked feature of American education that derives from the German model is the de-emphasis on lecture and examination. In both of these countries, students are evaluated according to their performance in individual courses where discussion and written essays figure importantly. The American model of higher learning was adopted wholesale by the Philippines and influenced the educational systems of Japan and Taiwan after World War II.

2 Describe the US system of education using this chart and the Internet.

The System of Education in the U.S.A.



3 Give a short presentation on the most famous Universities of the USA.

V Making Presentations

1 Choose one of the topics to make a Power Point presentation:

- 1) British Universities – traditions and modern life.
- 2) Interesting facts about Oxford (Cambridge, Harvard, Stanford).

- 3) Universities and colleges in the USA.
- 4) Higher Education in Canada (Australia, New Zealand).
- 5) Most unusual universities of the world.
- 6) Students' life in the USA (Great Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand).

2 Keep these tips in mind to create a successful Power Point presentation.

- 1) Don't read your presentation straight from the slides.

Include only main ideas, keywords, and talking points in your slide show text.

- 2) Follow the 5/5/5 rule.

Keep the text on each slide short and to the point. Some experts suggest using the 5/5/5 rule: no more than five words per line of text, five lines of text per slide, or five text-heavy slides in a row.

- 3) Don't forget your audience.

Know your audience, and tailor your presentation to their tastes and expectations.

- 4) Choose readable colors and fonts.

Your text should be easy to read and pleasant to look at. Large, simple fonts and theme colors are always your best choice.

- 5) Don't overload your presentation with animations.

Before including effects in your presentation, ask yourself: Would this moment in the presentation be equally strong without an added effect? Does it unnecessarily delay information? If the answer to either question is yes leave out the effect.

- 6) Use animations to enhance your presentation.

Don't take the last tip to mean you should avoid animations and other effects entirely. When used sparingly, subtle effects and animations can add to your presentation. For example, having bullet points appear as you address them can help keep your audience's attention.

UNIT 3. FUTURE PROFESSION

1 Practice reading the following words (minding stresses).

Science, since, mathematics, mathematician, chemistry, biology, linguistics, astronomy, physics, mechanics, phenomenon, especially, opportunity, possibility, cybernetics, optimization, fundamental, to analyze, guidance, synthesis, microeconomics, macroeconomics, finances, technique, (to) graduate, control, equation, to determine, complicated, to occupy.

2 Give Russian equivalents of the following words and word combinations. Memorize them.

Exact sciences, pure (abstract) and applied mathematics, to apply, influence, to process data, to perform tasks, statistical calculation, to regard, equations of mathematical physics, to serve, phenomenon, to do one's best, simulation modeling, probability theory, particular emphasis, skills and competencies, progress, software implementation, installation and maintenance of software.

3 Make up word-combinations with the following words and memorize them.

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| statistical | equation |
| intellectual | optimization |
| operational | networks |
| to offer | companies |
| sphere of | knowledge |
| differential | software |
| exact | property |
| computer | models |
| scientific | calculation |
| field of | research |
| decision | opportunities |
| leading | sciences |
| data | progress |
| to develop | influence |

4 Match the words having similar meaning.

To apply, significant, to make, computation, possibility, research, velocity, sign, to use, important, data, calculation, investigation, symbol,

to study, opportunity, various, to calculate, installation, to start, in the sphere of, to compute, information, to learn, probation, to begin, speed, in the field of, to produce, different, practical training, setting up.

5 Read the text *“Mathematics”* and agree or disagree to the following statements.

- 1) Mathematics originated from all exact sciences.
- 2) Mathematics is called the queen of sciences because it is widely used in various fields of knowledge.
- 3) Nowadays mathematics is extensively used in natural, social sciences and other fields.
- 4) Today people can do without mathematics.
- 5) Psychology and linguistics are traditional spheres of influence of mathematics.
- 6) Mathematics was conventionally applied to statistics.
- 7) Computers hardly made mathematics important for science.
- 8) The following subareas of mathematics are abstract and applied.
- 9) Mathematics doesn't follow the progress made in other sciences.
- 10) Mathematical symbols are used to formalize our thinking.
- 11) Arithmetic, algebra, analytic and differential geometry are subdivisions of applied mathematics.

Mathematics is generally agreed to be the basis for all exact sciences. It is sometimes called “the queen of sciences”. Today mathematics is widely used in chemistry, biology, linguistics and other fields. Astronomy, mechanics and physics are its traditional spheres of influence since progress in these sciences is unthinkable without mathematics. At the same time mathematics follows the changes taking place in various fields of knowledge.

Traditionally maths was used for statistical calculation of data. Now it is applied for building up mathematical models of different phenomena in many sciences. Mathematics of today is often occupied with “strange” things. One of the leading mathematicians of the world Andrei Kolmogorov applied it to analyzing the problems of writing verse.

When the first electronic computers were made mathematics became especially important for scientific progress in general. These machines can process information, perform calculations and solve complicated problems at high speeds.

Mathematics may be regarded not only as a body of knowledge. It is a special language, perfect and abstract. The grammar of this language is determined by the rules of logic. Its vocabulary consists of symbols such as *numerals* for numbers, *letters* for unknown numbers, and *equations* for relationship between numbers. These symbols serve to shortcut our thinking.

Mathematics is divided into two sections – pure (abstract) and applied mathematics. Pure mathematics includes arithmetic, algebra, analytic geometry, calculus, differential geometry. Applied maths includes methods of calculation (calculation methods), equations of mathematical physics, programming, simulation modeling.

6 Look through the text “**Mathematics**” again, find the derivatives of these words in the text and define their parts of speech.

to compute

analysis

to use

to apply

to build

tradition

to know

to calculate

to simulate

to model

to think

science

to develop

to differ

7 Open ended.

- 1) Why is mathematics sometimes called “the queen of sciences”?
- 2) What sciences experience the influence of mathematics?
- 3) What sections is mathematics divided into? Can you describe the two sections of mathematics?
- 4) Mathematics follows the changes taking place in various fields of knowledge, doesn't it?
- 5) What was mathematics traditionally used for?
- 6) Why do we say that mathematics is often occupied with strange things?
- 7) When did mathematics become especially important for scientific progress in general?
- 8) What kind of language is it?
- 9) Is the grammar of the mathematical language determined by the rules of logic?
- 10) What does its vocabulary consist of?

8 Read the text “*Applied Mathematics*” and find English equivalents to the words below.

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| общий | имитация |
| реализация | передовой |
| умение | сопровождение |
| понятие | передача данных |
| профессия | сосредоточиваться |
| ЭВМ | особый акцент |
| управление | основополагающий |
| требование | проектирование |
| предположение | |

I am a (first-year) student of the Faculty of Mathematics and Programming Technologies. I’m doing a course in Applied Mathematics. Applied mathematics is the application of mathematical methods by different fields such as physics, engineering, medicine, biology, business, computer science, and industry. Thus, applied mathematics is a combination of mathematical science and specialized knowledge. Applied mathematicians work on practical problems by formulating and studying mathematical models.

Our faculty provides progressive education in computing. So we study general subjects as well as special ones. Special subjects include *mathematical analysis, algebra and geometry, discrete mathematics and mathematical logic, computer and programming, differential equations, computer networks, matrix analysis, calculation methods of algebra, functional analysis and integral equations, probability theory and mathematical statistics, data models and DBMS, theory of algorithms, equations of mathematical physics, simulation and statistical modeling, computer physics, operating systems*, etc.

The course focuses on the fundamental concepts of 1) *information technology*, 2) *information system*, 3) *systems analysis*, and 4) *software implementation (programming)* with particular emphasis on the analysis, design and management of information systems. We’ll acquire skills and competencies needed for defining requirements, design, production, implementation, testing, maintenance, and security of integrated microcomputer based systems to qualify for careers in hardware, software and data communication.

After graduating we can work as *teachers of mathematics and informatics* as well as *mathematician-programmers* at *IT-companies, computing centres, research laboratories and institutes, industrial enterprises* solving problems related to the development and application of computing systems, web design, etc.

9 Look through the text “*Applied Mathematics*” again, find the derivatives of these words in the text and define their parts of speech.

to communicate

to manage

mathematic

to require

to develop

industry

to modify

to repair

to implement

to define

to test

to maintain

10 Read the text “*Software Engineer*”, find the following international words in the text and give their Russian equivalents.

computer

procedure

to be instructed

simulation

management

technology

progressive

analysis

profession

to realize

expert

competent

architecture

organization

to be connected

information

transaction

programming

design

collection

service

peripheral

I had always wondered what my future profession would be like. Computer speciality appealed to me a lot. So I made up my mind to enter the University to study the profession. And only after that I realized how important and interesting it was. Actually, my future profession will be connected not just with computers, but with using information technology concepts.

Now I am a (first-year) student of the Faculty of Mathematics and Technologies of Programming. I am doing a course in *Information Technology Software (Computer Science and Software Engineering)*. Our

faculty provides progressive education in computing with particular emphasis on the analysis, design and management of information systems. As we know, an information system is a collection of hardware, software, people, procedures, data, and connectivity. These work together to provide information essential to running an organization. This is the information that will successfully produce a product or service and make a profit.

Computer based information systems have three levels – 1) *transaction processing system* (диалоговая система обработки запросов), 2) *management information system* (административная информационная система) and 3) *decision support system* (информационная модель, система поддержки принятия решений). We are expected to know how information flows into an organization and how it helps to run it. And the most common tool in processing these vast amounts of information is a computer, so first of all we should be computer competent.

That is why we are instructed in general subjects as well as special ones. We study *higher mathematics, mathematical analysis, algebra and geometry, physics, programming essentials, descriptive geometry and engineering graphics, computer organization and functioning, differential equations, program design and programming languages, probability theory and mathematical statistics, computer architecture, software standardization and certification, functional and logical programming; database, knowledgebase and expert systems; computer peripherals, design automation systems, DBMS, systems software, object-oriented programming, computer networks, software design technology, simulation and statistical modelling, operating systems*, etc.

The course focuses on the fundamental concepts of 1) *information technology*, 2) *information system*, 3) *systems analysis*, and 4) *software implementation (programming)*. We'll acquire skills and competencies needed for defining requirements, design, production, implementation, testing, maintenance, and security of integrated microcomputer based systems to qualify for careers in hardware, software and data communication.

After graduating we become *software engineers*. We can take up a variety of positions – *backend developer, machine learning engineer, data scientist, data engineer, database administrator, project manager, product manager* and so on – and work at *IT-companies, computing centers, at the Board of Statistics, research laboratories and institutes, industrial*

enterprises. We solve problems related to the development and application of computing systems – that is support the product delivery process – take a project from its goals and requirements to the final product.

11 Work in pairs. Ask all types of questions to the text.

12 Read the text “Applied Informatics” and find English equivalents to the words below.

вычислительный механизм

хранение

обработка

основной предмет (направление)

информатик

передача данных

теория чисел

шифровальный

распределенный

разработка

проектирование

основы

понятие

умение

Actually I’ve always been interested in computers. And now I am a student of Applied Informatics degree course. The course focuses on collecting, storing, processing, and transmitting data with the help of computing machinery and communication systems. To put it simply, my major – *computer systems software* – is about applying big data to computer systems in meaningful ways. That’s why we are instructed in general subjects as well as special ones.

We study *mathematical analysis, algebraic number theory, analytic geometry, differential equations, probability theory and mathematical statistics, discrete mathematics and mathematical logic; computer architecture, operating systems, programming technologies, computer networks, data models and database management systems, operations research (operational research); graph theory, algorithms and data structures, system(s) programming, software testing and quality assessment, software systems design, cryptographic methods, calculation methods, software management, distributed and parallel systems, computer graphics, information systems security.*

As specialists in this field we are expected to 1) know fundamental math concepts referring to computer science, 2) understand and apply a wide range of tools required for software development – design methodology, algorithms, programming languages, and man-machine interaction techniques, 3) understand the essentials of computer

architecture, computer networks, and data communications. We'll acquire skills and competences needed for 1) solving problems related to the analysis, design, implementation, control, maintenance, and security of computer systems for business or non-business organizations, 2) designing and managing web projects, operating systems, databases, computer networks software in different programming languages.

After graduating we become *information specialists, experts on software development*. We can take up a variety of positions (*informational analyst, system analyst, analyst of computer communications, computer systems and data banks; information system developer, applied programmer, programmer-analyst, application developer, web-master, web-programmer, consultant on information technologies; and so on*) at *IT-companies, computing centers, at the Board of Statistics, research laboratories and institutes, industrial enterprises, research-and-development centers*, in both industrial and government sectors.

13 Look through the text "**Applied Informatics**" again, find the derivatives of these words in the text and define their parts of speech.

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| industry | to analyze |
| to develop | probable |
| to compute | to maintain |
| meaning | competent |
| to consult | method |
| different | to graduate |

14 Ask questions to the following statements.

1) Applied Informatics focuses on collecting, storing, processing, and transmitting data with the help of computing machinery and communication systems. (What ... on)

2) We'll acquire skills and competences needed for solving problems related to the analysis, design, implementation, control, maintenance, and security of computer systems for business or non-business organizations. (What kind of)

3) People collect, store, process, and transmit data with the help of computing machinery and communication systems. (How)

4) Graduates can take up a variety of positions at IT-companies, computing centers, at the Board of Statistics, research laboratories and

institutes, industrial enterprises, research-and-development centers, in both industrial and government sectors. (Where)

5) To be competent specialists in this field we are expected to understand the essentials of computer architecture, computer networks, and data communications. (What... for)

15 Find in the text (Task 8, 10 or 12) words of Latin and Greek origin and write them out.

16 Concept check. Work in pairs or groups. Ask your partners questions about their future profession.

- 1) What will your future profession be connected with?
- 2) Our department provides progressive education, doesn't it?
- 3) What does your course focus on?
- 4) What special subjects do the students of your course study?
- 5) Which is your favorite one?
- 6) What will you become after graduating?
- 7) What positions can you take up?
- 8) Where can you work?
- 9) Which company would you like to work for after graduating?

17 Make up a plan and speak on the topic "My Future Profession as I See it". Use the following phrases to express your opinion.

In my opinion...

To my mind...

As far as I am concerned...

From my point of view...

As for me / As to me...

I would say that...

It seems to me that...

I have no doubt that...

I am sure / I am certain that...

I think / consider / find / that...

I hold the opinion that...

It goes without saying that...

UNIT 4. IT Jobs

1 Repeat the following words and phrases after the teacher (minding stresses) and memorise them.

Webmaster.

Technical writer.

Network administrator.

Cryptographer.

Database administrator.

Systems analyst.

Programmer (or developer).

Data architect.

Computer technical support specialist.

User interface designer.

Applications architect.

Cloud solutions architect.

Web developer.

Information security analyst.

Mobile application developer.

Front-end web developer.

Back-end developer.

2 Read out the words and give their Russian equivalents.

1) to develop;

2) to maintain;

3) backup;

4) updating resources;

5) to be involved in;

6) to encourage;

7) to expand;

8) to increase;

9) to manage;

10) to be responsible for;

11) implementation;

12) maintenance;

13) related to;

14) encryption;

15) to determine;

- 16) to access;
- 17) to utilize;
- 18) preliminary investigation;
- 19) to troubleshoot;
- 20) to oversee;
- 21) to ensure (to make sure) ;
- 22) readily accessible;
- 23) to handle data;
- 24) inge'nuity;
- 25) to be hampered;
- 26) to employ;
- 27) diverse;
- 28) scala'bility;
- 29) website layout;
- 30) to be highly proficient with;
- 31) debugging.

3 (Track 02) Listen to six people introducing themselves. What jobs do they do? Complete the sentences. Then compare answers with a partner.

- 1) database administrator;
- 2) helpdesk supervisor;
- 3) project manager;
- 4) software developer;
- 5) support technician;
- 6) systems analyst.

4 Listen again. Complete these collocations.

- 1) to write *software*;
- 2) to supervise...;
- 3) to have...;
- 4) to be responsible... IT projects;
- 5) to look... computers;
- 6) to install...;
- 7) to diagnose...;
- 8) to design...;
- 9) to maintain...;
- 10) to write... for software.

5 (Track 03) Listen to an IT employee telling his new manager about his job. What do you think his job is?

Listen again. Tick ✓ the things that usually happen.

- 1) Robert checks emails.
- 2) Robert has emails waiting for him.
- 3) Robert visits people at their desks.
- 4) Sales people have problems.
- 5) Robert attends meetings.
- 6) Robert visits other companies.

6 Listen again. Write these phrases in the correct place in the sentences in Task 5.

- 1) from time to time,
- 2) generally,
- 3) hardly ever,
- 4) normally,
- 5) occasionally,
- 6) usually.

7. While watching the video try to find the answers to the questions about a 12-year-old programmer.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fkd9TWUtFm0>).

- 1) What is his main interest in life?
- 2) What is the name of Thomas' first app?
- 3) Why did he create the app about Justin Bieber?
- 4) When did he release it?
- 5) Where do you go to find out how to make an app?
- 6) Can parents teach their children? Why not?
- 7) How much did his parents pay to be able to put his apps on the App Store?
- 8) What has he started at school?
- 9) Who is sponsoring the club?
- 10) What do they do there?

8 Watch the video again and find English equivalents to the words below.

- 1) притягивать, привлекать к чему-либо;
- 2) делиться;

- 3) гадалка;
- 4) удача, счастье; богатство, состояние;
- 5) игра «убить крота»;
- 6) решил;
- 7) разрешил демонстрацию, выпустил;
- 8) разузнавать, узнавать;
- 9) комплект, набор инструментов; дистрибутив;
- 10) убедил, уговорил;
- 11) поддержка, ободрение, побуждение;
- 12) вдохновение;
- 13) конструировать, проектировать;
- 14) проблема, трудность;
- 15) учреждения образования;
- 16) признавать;
- 17) сторонний.

9 Read the descriptions of IT jobs and be ready to differentiate between them.

Webmasters develop and maintain Web sites and resources. The job may include backup of the company Web site, updating resources, or development of new resources. Webmasters are often involved in the design and development of the Web site. Some Webmasters monitor traffic on the site and take steps to encourage users to visit the site. Webmasters also may work with marketing personnel to increase site traffic and may be involved in development of Web promotions.

Technical writers prepare instruction manuals, technical reports, and other scientific or technical documents. Most technical writers work for computer software firms, government agencies, or research institutions. They translate technical information into easily understandable instructions or summaries. As new technology continues to develop and expand, the need for technical writers who can communicate technical expertise to others is expected to increase.

Network administrators manage a company's networks. They may be responsible for design, implementation, and maintenance of networks. Responsibilities usually include maintenance of both hardware and software related to a company's networks. Network administrators are typically responsible for diagnosing and repairing problems with these

networks. Some network administrators are responsible for planning and implementation of network security as well.

Cryptographers design systems, break systems, and do research on encryption. Responsibilities typically do not include building and maintaining the computer networks that use cryptography; these are the duties of security engineers and network administrators. In general, cryptographers are mathematicians who specialize in making and breaking codes. Many cryptographers work as consultants or professors of cryptography, yet there are full-time positions available at some large corporations or for the government.

Database administrators use database management software to determine the most efficient ways to organize and access a company's data. Additionally, database administrators are typically responsible for maintaining database security and backing up the system. Database administration is a fast-growing industry and substantial job growth is expected.

A **systems analyst** follows the steps described in the systems life cycle. Analysts plan and design new systems or reorganize a company's computer resources to best utilize them. Analysts follow the systems life cycle through all its steps: preliminary investigation, analysis, design, development, implementation, and maintenance.

Programmers or developers (in general) create, test, and troubleshoot programs used by computers. Programmers also may update and repair existing programs. Most computer programmers are employed by companies that create and sell software, but programmers also may be employed in various other businesses. Many computer programmers work on a project basis as consultants, meaning they are hired by a company only to complete a specific program.

Data architects oversee the design and maintenance of data across a variety of information systems and databases. The main goal of data architects is to ensure that data in a system or database is accurate and readily accessible. More than just administering a system, data architects must employ knowledge and analytical skills to determine if data is being handled in the best, most efficient way possible, and what methods can be implemented to improve existing systems. Data architects work alongside other IT professionals in teams.

Computer technical support specialists engage in troubleshooting and problem solving, both within a corporation and for individual clients.

Computer technical support specialists draw on general knowledge of computer systems, hardware, and software, as well as knowledge of specific products, to improve technological issues. Some individuals in this field work for technical support service companies, while others work within corporations or agencies. Computer technical support specialists must maintain up-to-date knowledge of current technologies and technological issues.

User interface designers work to ensure that software functions smoothly and logically for users and consumers.

User interface designers operate within a software development team to design, create, and troubleshoot the user interface aspects of software. User interface designers rely on technical knowledge, familiarity with a variety of programming languages, critical thinking, and ingenuity to ensure that the user experience for software is not hampered by a poorly designed interface.

Applications architects ensure individual software projects follow the organization's application development methodology and parameters. They also ensure the project fits a company's technology infrastructure and business strategy.

Typically, large companies employ applications architects to work with a diverse set of existing applications that need to be integrated with numerous new application development projects. Based on an employer's design standards, applications architects design components of applications.

Cloud solutions architects design solutions for companies seeking to move their IT infrastructure and services from on-premise servers to a cloud-based storage solution.

Cloud solutions architects define the cloud structure for a company and work with business analysts to make sure the architecture is in line with business requirements. They also make sure the cloud service provides high availability, scalability, and fault tolerance. Cloud solutions architects manage cloud infrastructure and ensure that private and public clouds interface well.

Web developers collect or create web content and plan website layouts and navigation, as well as coding for web pages. They also test and optimize a website for user experience and optimum performance.

Web developers draw on expert knowledge in programming languages used for the web to develop front-end and back-end aspects of

websites and applications. They need to be highly proficient with HTML, Javascript, and CSS, and should be familiar with server-side programming languages to develop more complex applications. Web developers typically work in teams alongside web designers and other IT professionals.

Information security analysts develop and implement computer security strategies and systems to protect vital information from computer crime and cyber warfare.

Information security analysts monitor networks for security breaches and, when required, respond to attacks with countermeasures. Information security analysts must understand the current state of threats in the field, the needs of their employers, and current systems available for combating threats to information security. Information security analysts also educate employees on computer security.

Mobile application developers create applications for mobile devices, such as iPhones and Androids.

Mobile application developers utilize multiple programming languages to optimize application functioning on a variety of mobile platforms. Individuals in this field may find diverse project and employment opportunities, including optimizing mobile versions of existing applications, designing game apps, or designing functional lifestyle apps.

Front-end web development, also known as client-side development is the practice of producing HTML, CSS and JavaScript for a website or Web Application so that a user can see and interact with them directly. The challenge associated with front end development is that the tools and techniques used to create the front end of a website change constantly and so the developer needs to constantly be aware of how the field is developing.

A front-end developer architects and develops websites and applications using web technologies (i.e., HTML, CSS, DOM, and JavaScript), which run on the Open Web Platform or act as compilation input for non-web platform environments (i.e., React Native).

Back-end developers primarily develop and maintain the core functional logic and operations of a software application or information system. Typically, a back-end developer has expert programming skills in C++, C#, Java and other high-level programming languages. The key job role of a back-end developer is to ensure that the data or services requested

by the front-end system or software are delivered through programmatic means. Back-end developers also create and maintain the entire back-end of a system, which consists of the core application logic, databases, data and application integration, API and other back-end processes. Moreover, a back-end developer performs the testing and debugging of any back-end application or system.

10 Watch the video “A Day in the Life of a Software Engineer” and discuss your future career perspectives in teams.

11 Choose 2 or 3 jobs from Task 9 that appeal to you and describe them to your partner (work in pairs).

UNIT 5. SUPPLEMENTARY READING

To Unit 1

1. *“Our University and Students’ Life” Revision.*

- 1) What is the official name of our University?
- 2) When was our University opened?
- 3) What faculties do we have at our University?
- 4) What forms of training does our University have?
- 5) How can the faculty of part-time studies help?
- 6) How can preparatory section help?
- 7) What facilities does our University offer for students?
- 8) Where do many students live?
- 9) What is the chief task of a student?
- 10) Is attendance at all lectures, seminars and practical classes compulsory for all students?
- 11) How long does the course of study last?
- 12) What do all students do at the end of each semester?
- 13) What does the scholarship depend on?
- 14) What subjects do the students of the Faculty of Mathematics and Programming Technologies study?
- 15) Is the social scene an important part of life at the University?
- 16) What does the word “student” mean?
- 17) What types of institutions provide higher education?
- 18) What are the first and second years devoted to?
- 19) When does specialization usually begin?
- 20) What do all students receive after graduating?
- 21) What do students also do at the classes?
- 22) What do student councils and various societies arrange?
- 23) What societies and clubs are there at the University?
- 24) What do some students work in summer for?

To Unit 2

I Studying in the UK: the pros and cons

1 *The transcript of the video.*

The first great thing about studying in the UK is that universities there teach you how to be independent, how to think independently, how to think critically, how to debate, argue, how to be a creative thinker. In a lot of countries universities teach you how to memorize things and you learn how to acquire knowledge rather than create knowledge. Whereas in British universities the emphasis is very much on critical thinking, thinking, independently using your own brain and creating ideas rather than just learning about ideas. So it's a really good thing and something that's definitely valued by employers and allows you to develop other skills that are based on critical thinking.

The second good thing about studying in the UK is that as a student you have access to a lot of international research. You don't only have access to books in libraries but also electronic journals which are basically journals where people from around the world publish their research and it's a great thing. If you think about scientists, for example, who work in Poland, they want to publish a sort of academic essay. If they do it in Polish how many people are going to read it? Not that many. Whereas if they decide to publish it in English then obviously the number of people who will access this paper. And what will be much more than if it was published in Polish. So as a student at a British university you will be able to access all this research being published all around the world.

The third thing which is probably not the main reason why you're considering coming to study in the UK is the social life and extracurricular things that you can do. For example, you might be able to join a society, you might be able to learn new things, learn a new language and join debating club, try a new sport. These are the things that British universities and their students unions really emphasize that University's main function is to teach but also to provide students with those extracurricular activities that help develop their personality and develop them as people in general.

So the first good thing is critical and independent thinking, something that you learn at UK universities. The second thing is access to research and the third thing is the social life.

There are a couple of things that could be seen as negatives and the first one of them is that British universities are not so knowledge heavy. So obviously people do know a lot but the emphasis when teaching students is not on facts. You learn how to be an independent thinker and rather than learning and memorizing things. It can be a good thing. But for some people who prefer a different style of learning it might be a problem, so if

you'd rather go to University in a country where the education system is knowledge heavy or fact heavy then perhaps setting in the UK is not for you. The second thing which could be considered as a negative is the cost. Going to university in the UK costs a lot of money it's very expensive at the moment students pay up to 9000 pounds. If you're an international student it's even more expensive but there might be scholarships and grants that you might be able to apply for. It's worth researching beforehand and you might be able to speak to universities in your country or talk to your embassy and see whether they could fund your studies. If you do decide to do it it's an investment and it's absolutely worth it and it's a great choice. So I guess you just have to decide whether it's worth it or not.

The third thing is that some universities in the UK are not necessarily recognized by employers in other countries. So if you're thinking about going back to your country after graduating, then perhaps you should choose a university that's recognised internationally. For example Oxford and Cambridge are the two most obvious universities that probably most employers in the world have heard about. And on the other hand there are smaller universities or perhaps ones that are recognized in the UK but they're not necessarily known in other countries, so it's definitely something to think about when applying to university. Pick the ones that are good universities but also once they're recognized abroad and in case you decide to go back to your country or go to another country to work. So the three negative things are the cost, the fact that they're not necessarily knowledge heavy and the third one is and some universities not being recognized abroad.

2 Read the text “National System of Higher Education” and use the info from the text to compare the systems of higher education in Great Britain and Belarus.

to offer – предлагать

full-time programs – программы дневного обучения

part-time programs – программы заочного обучения

to confer the degree of Bachelor – присуждать степень бакалавра

completed secondary education – законченное среднее образование

entrance examinations – вступительные экзамены

to graduate with honours – закончить ВУЗ с отличием

There are 57 state and private universities, academies and institutes in Belarus. They offer full-time and part-time programs.

Applicants are to have completed secondary education. Most entrance examinations are in the form of centralized testing (CT).

Belarusian higher educational institutions confer the degree of Bachelor. It usually requires four or five years of training, success in final state examinations, and defense of a degree work (diploma). There are also other degrees – Master, Candidate of Sciences and Doctor of Sciences.

Higher educational institutions are headed by Rectors. The institution is divided into faculties, headed by Deans. Faculty members are organized into sub-faculties or departments.

The course of study lasts for four or five years. The academic year has 2 semesters. After the course of study students take a state profile exam and defend a diploma.

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