

МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ РЕСПУБЛИКИ  
БЕЛАРУСЬ  
ГОМЕЛЬСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ  
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ  
Имени Ф.СКОРИНЫ

УЧЕБНОЕ ПОСОБИЕ  
ПО ОБУЧЕНИЮ УСТНОЙ РЕЧИ  
Для студентов факультета заочного обучения

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## Введение

Настоящее пособие по развитию навыков устной речи предназначено для студентов-заочников гуманитарных специальностей. Оно составлено в соответствии с требованиями действующей «Программы по английскому языку для студентов-заочников высших учебных заведений».

Целью пособия является развитие навыков устной речи по темам, предусмотренным программой по английскому языку для заочного обучения.

Пособие состоит из двух частей. В первую часть включены тексты устных тем и упражнения к ним. Каждая тема снабжена тематическим словарём и системой предтекстовых и послетекстовых упражнений. Предтекстовые упражнения предназначены для снятия фонетических и лексических трудностей. Послетекстовые упражнения направлены на развитие навыков подготовленной речи. Во вторую часть пособия включён материал страноведческого характера, представляющий собой несложные тексты для чтения и обсуждения.

Пособие может использоваться как для работы на практических занятиях так и для самостоятельной работы.

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### About Myself

I'm Svetlana Aleksandrova. I was born on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March in 1980 in Rechitsa but in 1985 we moved to Gomel as my father got a job here. At the age of 6 I went to school number 22 in Gomel. I was quite good at school. My favourite subjects were Russian, Geography and History, but I didn't do very well in physics or chemistry. I left school in 1996. Since September 1998 I've been a student of the Philological department at Gomel State University named after F. Skorina. I'm doing a correspondence course, it means that I have to combine work and study (I work as a teacher in a school). It's not easy to have a full-time job and to study, but I'm really enjoying my course at the university and I like my job, too.

The things I like doing most are watching TV and reading, I'm also fond of listening to music. I'm a sociable person so I have a lot of friends. I spend a lot of time with them, we watch video together or listen to music, sometimes we go to the theatre or they come to my place and we just chat. I'm not married and still live with my parents.

My father's name is Vladimir. He works as an engineer at a big plant. I think my father is quite handsome. He is tall and broad-shouldered. His dark hair is just beginning to go grey. He's a clever man but a little unpractical. Though he is always busy he helps my mother about the house.

My mother's name is Irina. She's a tall good-looking woman of 46 but she doesn't look her age. She has a kind face and when you meet her the first thing you notice is her

smile – she has a very charming smile. As to her character, she is kind and gentle, warm-hearted and tactful. My mother is a housewife, she does all the housework and helps my elder brother bring up his sons. My mother's hobbies are knitting and reading books. She's also very good at cooking.

My elder brother, Alexei, is married and has his own family – a wife and two children, so he doesn't live with us. But we often see each other and we still celebrate all the holidays together.

I think I'm a happy person. I have a loving family and a lot of friends, an interesting job and a lot of hobbies.

I. Find pairs of words matching a word in A with a word in B.

A: married, mother, son, younger, sister, grandmother, nephew, wife.

B: husband, daughter, single, father, brother, niece, grandfather, elder.

II. Remember the following words:

to do a correspondence course, to combine work and study, a full-time job, a part-time job, to enjoy a course, a sociable person.

III. Fill in the gaps using the words given below in the correct form.

I want to tell you about my sister Helen. Helen is 39 ... ..  
She teaches German at ... . She likes her ... very much.

Helen is ... . Her husband's name is Robert. Helen and Robert have 2 ... : a son and a daughter. Their daughter's name is Jane. She is 8. Jane is a ... girl. She has a lot of friends. Helen's son Mike is 18. He is a first-year ... at the Medical Institute. Mike is a good son and a good brother. He ... his parents about the house and ... his younger sister.

children, job, help, sociable, years old, look after, married, student, school

IV. Paraphrase the sentences using a synonym. Pay attention to the –ing forms.

be fond of / be interested in

model: I like classical music. – I am fond of classical music.

I am interested in classical music.

1) Roger likes fishing. 2) Do you like gardening? 3) Does your daughter like reading? 4) My father doesn't like travelling. 5) Do you like collecting coins?

be good at

model: Mike can skate well. – Mike is good at skating.

1) Robert plays chess very well. 2) Mary can swim well. 3) Do you cook well? 4) Can you ski well? 5) Does Peter know maths well?

V. Read the text. Mark the sentences as True or False. Correct the false sentences.

1. Svetlana doesn't like her studies because it's too difficult to combine work and study.
2. The girl has a lot of friends.
3. Svetlana has a large family.
4. Her mother goes out to work.
5. Svetlana often sees her brother because they live together.

VI. Give all the adjectives in the text dealing with the description of

- a) appearance
- b) character and personality

VII. Reproduce the sentences from the text where the following words are used:

to move, to do a correspondence course, a full-time job, to chat, a handsome man, to look one's age, to bring up.

VIII. Answer the questions about Svetlana:

1. How old is she?
2. What's her job?
3. How long has Svetlana been a university student?
4. Is it easy for her to study at university? Why (not)?
5. Does she have a family of her own?
6. What does she like doing in her free time?
7. What does her father look like?
8. Is he a good family man?
9. Where does Svetlana's mother work?
10. Is she a good-looking woman?



11. Is Svetlana an only child?

12. Is she a happy person? Why (not)?

IX. Say what you have learned about Svetlana using the following plan:

a) Her childhood.

b) Her work and study.

c) Her hobbies.

d) Her father.

e) Her mother.

f) Her brother.

X. Answer the questions in ex. VIII about yourself.

XI. Tell about

1) your childhood

2) your family

3) your work

4) your studies

5) your hobbies

Our University

I. Прочитайте и переведите следующие интернациональные слова:

academic, biology, club, comfortable, course, department, drama, ecology, economics, economist, engineer,

examination, group, history, instruction, junior, lecture, mathematics, method, modern, philosophy, physics, practical, qualify, seminar, specialization, sport, tourist.

## II. Запомните следующие слова:

area – область, сфера

in the area of language teaching. The university offers programmes in subject areas including ecology, geology and etc.

curriculum – учебная программа

Some schools in England specialize in one or more subjects outside the basic curriculum. The curriculum in grammar school include English language, English literature, modern languages and etc.

evaluate – оценивать

The school has been open for six months, so it's too early to evaluate its success.

found – основывать

When were the first English universities founded?

graduate – выпускник

The graduates of our university work in various branches of our industry and economy.

name – называть

They named their baby son John.

pastime – времяпровождение, развлечение

Reading is her favourite pastime.

qualify – квалифицировать, давать квалификацию

This test will qualify you to fly an airplane.

research – исследование

Research workers are examining the problem.

science – наука

Science plays an important role in our life.

society – общество

a medical society, a literary society, a drama society,

students' scientific society

spacious – просторный

We have a spacious reading hall in our building.

III. Прочитайте и переведите текст.

## OUR UNIVERSITY

The Gomel State University named after F. Scorina was founded in 1969, now it is the second largest university in Belarus. Here young people can get education in various areas such as mathematics, physics, economics, biology, ecology, law, social, sciences and humanities.

The departments of our university qualify their graduates as teachers, engineers, economists, lawyers and research workers.

The university has five comfortable and well-equipped buildings with spacious classrooms, labs, reading-halls and well-stocked libraries.

The curriculum of junior years includes courses for general knowledge: Philosophy, History of Belarus, a foreign language and sport. Specialization begins in senior years.

The methods of instruction include lectures, seminars and practical classes.

The academic year has two terms: the autumn term and the spring term. Each term ends with a set of examinations and credit tests. Students' knowledge is evaluated through term papers and oral and written tests.

All students can spend their time in many interesting and useful ways. There is a choir, a tourists' club, groups of modern and folk dance, a drama society and lots of sport societies, so everyone can find a pastime to their liking.

IV. Найдите слова в тексте, определения которых даны ниже.

a place of education at the highest level;

an organization of people with similar interests;

a person who has completed a course at a college, university, etc.;

a course of study at university, etc.;

a group of people who sing together;

something done to pass one's time in a pleasant way;

studies such as literature, languages, history.

V. Найдите в тексте слова, близкие по значению следующим:

to check up, up-to-date, semester, different, to establish, spare, field, receive, faculty, teaching.

VI. Найдите в тексте прилагательные, характеризующие следующие существительные:

Gomel university is ... .

The buildings are ... .

The classrooms are ... .

The libraries are ... .

The tests are both ... and ... .

There are groups of ... and ... dance.

VII. Вставьте вместо точек подходящие по смыслу слова.

1) The a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ year is divided into two t \_ \_ \_ . 2) The gr \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ of our university work in v \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ branches of our industry and economy. 3) By the time the students graduate, they have practical and theoretical k \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in their subject. 4) During the 1960s eight new universities were f \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in Great Britain. 5) An e \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ is an important test. 6) I enjoyed doing experiments in our l \_ \_ .

VIII. Сообщите верны или нет следующие утверждения. Исправьте неверные утверждения.

1. Gomel university is the largest in Belarus.
2. Gomel university was founded 25 years ago.
3. Our university qualifies its graduates as teachers, engineers, economists and etc.
4. The university has three comfortable and well-equipped buildings.
5. Our students study Philosophy and History of Belarus in senior years.
6. Specialization begins in junior years.

7. The students have a set of examinations and credit tests twice a year.
8. There are oral and written tests.
9. Students' knowledge is evaluated only through term papers.
10. Our students have all opportunities to spend their free time.

IX. Ответьте на следующие вопросы:

- 1) When was our university founded?
- 2) In what subject areas can our students get education?
- 3) What professions do our graduates have?
- 4) How many buildings has our university?
- 5) Are they well-equipped?
- 6) What subjects does the curriculum of junior years include?
- 7) Do all students study a foreign language?
- 8) Does specialization begin in junior or senior years?
- 9) When do students have their examinations?
- 10) How is students' knowledge evaluated?
- 11) Are exams oral or written?
- 12) Do students have to write term papers?
- 13) What societies can our students join?
- 14) Are there any opportunities for our students to go in for sport?

X. Закончите следующие предложения:

- 1) The students of Gomel university can get education ... .
- 2) The departments of our university qualify their graduates as ... .
- 3) The university has five buildings with ... .
- 4) The curriculum of junior years include ... .
- 5) The methods of instruction include ... .
- 6) The academic year has ... .
- 7)

Students' knowledge is evaluated through ... . 8) There is a choir ... .

XI. Расскажите о своем университете.

## Great Britain

### I. Прочитайте и переведите следующие интернациональные слова:

Capitalist, climate, constitutional, industrial, kilometre, monarchy, nationality, navigation, ocean, parliament, party, political, textile, total.

### II. Переведите следующие производные:

king – kingdom, north – northern, mountain – mountaneous, develop – development – developed, machine – machinery, navigate – navigation, equip – equipment, dense – density – densely, populate – population – populated, constitution – constitutional, national – nationality, monarch – monarchy, govern – government, elect – election – elected, rule – ruler – ruling.

### III. Переведите следующие предложения, догадайтесь о значении подчеркнутых слов.

1) There are a lot of health resorts on the coast of the Black Sea. 2) Belarus is situated in the centre of Europe. 3) Russia is the biggest producer of steel in the world. 4) The area of United Kingdom is 244 thousand square kilometres.

5) The climate of Great Britain is damp, that means that there is a lot of rain throughout the year. 6) The American President is elected every four years. 7) A flying machine of any kind is called an aircraft.

**IV. Заполните пропуски, необходимыми по смыслу словами, приведенными ниже.**

nationalities, head, capital, reigned, mountains, chambers, densely, climate, area, coast, island, parliament.

1) The ... of England as well as of Great Britain is London. 2) The British parliament has two ... . 3) Queen Elizabeth II is the ... of the state. 4) England is the most ... populated part of the island. 5) The Scots and the Welsh still feel that they are separate ... . 6) Queen Elizabeth I ... in the 16 th century. 7) Scotland is a land of ... . 8) The centre of England (the "Midlands") is an ..., and you are never far from the sea. 10) The east ... of Scotland is busy with oil rigs and fishing boats. 11) The ... of the USA is different in every part of the country. 12) ... is the real government of Britain.

**V. Read and translate the text.**

**Great Britain**

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland consists of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. It is situated on the British Isles. Great Britain and Ireland and the largest islands and there are about five



thousand small islands. The total area of the UK is about 244 thousand square kilometres.

The British Isles are separated from the European continent by the North Sea and the English Channel. The western coast of Great Britain is washed by the Atlantic Ocean and the Irish Sea. The surface of the British Isles varies very much. The north and west are mountaneous, but all the rest is a vast plain. The mountains are not very high. Ben Nevis in Scotland is the highest peak in Great Britain.

There are a lot of rivers in Great Britain but they are rather short. The Severn is the longest river, while the Thames is the deepest and the most important one. The climate of the country is mild and damp and it is very good for agriculture.

Great Britain is not very rich in natural resources, it has some deposits of coal and iron ore and vast deposits of oil and gas that were discovered in the North Sea.

The UK is a highly developed industrial country. It is one of the world's largest producers of machinery, electronics, textiles, aircraft and navigation equipment.

Great Britain is a densely populated country, its population is over 57 million. The four main nationalities are the English, the Irish, the Welsh and the Scots. The official language is English.

The UK is a constitutional monarchy, the Head of the State is the Queen. In practice the Queen reigns, but does not rule. The country is ruled by the elected government with the Prime Minister at the head. The

British Parliament consists of two chambers: the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The main political parties are the Labour, the Conservative and the Liberal parties. The Labour Party is the ruling party nowadays.

The capital of Great Britain is London. It is situated on the river Thames. It is one of the largest cities and ports in the world.

**VI. Найдите в тексте:**

а) слово, подходящее к следующим определениям:

1) to be composed of; 2) a number of people living in a place; 3) a large stretch of flat land; 4) a state ruled by a king or queen; 5) a very high hill; 6) a person or company that produces goods.

б) синонимы к следующим словам:

wet, territory, seashore, plane, state, tongue, govern, chief.

**VII. Воспроизведите предложения из текста, где встречаются следующие слова и выражения:**

to be washed by, area, to consist of, surface, climate, developed, populated, rule

**VIII. Ответьте на следующие вопросы:**

1) What is the official name of Great Britain? 2) What do we call a group of islands on which the UK is situated? 3) What are the names of the biggest islands? 4) What seas surround the British Isles? 5) Are the mountains in Great Britain low or high? 6) What can you say about

the climate of Great Britain? 7) Does Great Britain import or export aircraft and navigation equipment? 8) What can you say about the composition of the population of Great Britain? 9) Is the UK a monarchy or a republic? 10) Is the Queen the head of the government? 11) What is the role of the Queen to-day? 12) How many chambers has the English Parliament? What are they? 13) Which is the ruling party now? 14) What kind of city is London?

**IX. Перефразируйте следующие предложения, используя текст.**

1) There are four different countries in the UK. 2) Great Britain is surrounded by the Irish Sea, the North Sea and by the Atlantic Ocean. 3) Scotland is a land of mountains. 4) Much of Britain is open country. 5) Everyone in Great Britain speaks English. 6) The most important natural resources of England are coal and iron. 7) The British climate has a bad reputation, there is too little sunshine in the country. 8) Some areas of Britain are very crowded. 9) The Queen doesn't have any political power. 10) The British Parliament has two "Houses".

**X. Расширьте следующие утверждения:**

1) The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland comprises several parts. 2) The UK is situated on a number of islands. 3) Great Britain is surrounded by seas. 4) There are Highlands and Lowlands in Great Britain. 5) There is a wide network of rivers on the British Isles. 6) England has a mild climate. 7) The UK has

a highly developed industry. 8) People of different nationalities live in Great Britain. 9) The UK is a constitutional monarchy. 10) There are several political parties in Great Britain.

**XI. Расскажите о Великобритании, используя следующий план:**

1) Geographical position of the UK. 2) Total Area. 3) Seas, surrounding Great Britain. 4) Mountains, rivers. 5) Climate. 6) Natural resources and the main industries. 7) Population. 8) The system of government.

**History is my future speciality**

**I. Прочитайте и переведите следующий текст.**

I am a student of the Gomel State University named after F. Scorina. I am in the third year of the correspondence department of the faculty of History. Thus, my future profession is History. Future historians must be knowledgeable and competent in their field. That is why the university course comprises such subjects as World History, the History of the Middle Ages, Contemporary History, the History of Belarus as well as such applied subjects as Logics, Archaeology, Philosophy, Politics, foreign languages, computing and others.

I do my best to have a good command of all the subjects and to master my profession. I am especially interested in

Contemporary History as this is an objective history of our times.

In two years my dream will come true, and I will graduate from the University with a degree in History we will work as teachers of History, archivists, archaeologists. Perhaps somebody will become a well-known politician. But we all are and will be united by our love for History. It is a very important subject. Without History we can't understand our own country, our people. It makes us feel that the past was as real as the present. History not only studies and analyses the facts from the past, but helps understand and predict the events of the future. It is a well-known fact that people who don't remember the past will have to go through it again. Thus, as you see, the importance of my favourite subject can't be overestimated.

II. Догадайтесь о значении приведенных ниже интернациональных слов, уточните в словаре их произношение.

a student a historian, a subject, to analyse, analysis, objective, an archeologist, an archivist, a fact, a profession, competent, real, a sphere.

III. Прочтите название предметов и найдите соответствующий перевод в правой колонке.

The History of Eastern Slavs  
История Беларуси

the History of Belarus            политология

Contemporary History            логика

Ancient History	История Средних Веков
the History of the Middle Ages	Новая История
World History	библиография
Logic	иностранные языки
Philosophy	История Древнего Мира
Politology	философия
Bibliography	История Восточных Славян
foreign languages	Мировая История
Archaeology	Археология

IV. Из приведенных производных одного слова найдите то, которое соответствует данному переводу.

history, historic, historian, historical – историк

knowledge, knowledgeable, knowing – умный, хорошо осведомленный

applied, application, apply – прикладной

computer, computing, computerization – информатика

political, politology, politician, policy – политик

estimate, underestimate, overestimate - переоценить

V. Найдите в тексте словосочетания, соответствующие приведенным ниже русским. Прочтите предложения с ними.

овладеть профессией

усвоить предмет

быть особенно заинтересованным

закончить университет

предсказать события

прикладные предметы  
нельзя не переоценить  
известный факт  
университетский курс включает  
мечта осуществиться

VI. Вставьте предлог и переведите предложение.  
I am ... the 3d year of the University.  
Next year I will graduate ... the Institute ... a degree ...  
History.  
People who don't remember the past will have to go ... it  
again.  
It is necessary to have a good command ... the subject.  
Our University is named ... F. Scorina.  
It is impossible to understand your country and people ...  
knowing History.

VII. Угадайте слово по его дефиниции.  
a person whose profession is History;  
who deals in politics;  
who works in the archive;  
who studies archeology.

VIII. Найдите в тексте определения к приведенным  
ниже словам и переведите словосочетания на русский  
язык.

subject	language
science	fact
history	people

IX. Замените слово в скобках на соответствующее английское. Переведите предложение.

1. History (предсказывает) the event of the future.
2. It is difficult to (переоценить) the importance of History.
3. The university course (включает) special applied subjects.
4. Soon my dream (осуществиться) and I will graduate from the University.
5. All teacher must be (компетентными) people.
6. We do our best to (овладеть профессией).
7. Historians are to (анализировать) и (изучать) the events of the past.
8. All the student of our faculty (объединены) by our love to History.

X. Найдите в тексте, где сказано о следующем:  
the subjects that future historians study;  
the aim of Contemporary History;  
the professions of those who graduate from the History faculty;  
what the students of this faculty have in common;  
the aim of History;  
why the importance of History can't be overestimated.

XI. Найдите предложения, не соответствующие содержанию текста. Исправьте их.

Modern History studies the events of the Middle Ages.



Foreign Languages are taught at our faculty. It is one of the applied subjects.

I am a third-year student.

Those who graduate from our faculty will work as teachers of History.

History helps understand that the past was as real as the present.

Some politicians have a degree in History.

My dream is to master the profession of an archeologist.

Future historians must be competent and knowledgeable in all spheres of life.

ХII. Скажите, какой раздел истории ваш любимый предмет, почему? Используйте приведенную ниже модель и подходящие по смыслу словосочетания.

Model: I am especially interested in Ancient History as it describes the life of people who lived thousands year ago.

describes the events of the ... centuries.

the difficult historic process of the development of the Russian state.

the life of our ancestors.

the main tendencies in the development of mankind.

ХIII. Расширьте следующие высказывания:

I study at the Gomel State University.

The university course of History comprises many subjects.

Most students try their best to become knowledgeable and competent specialists in their field.

Those who graduate from our faculty work in different spheres of life.

History is very important.

Everybody knows the aim of the historical subject.

XIV. Составьте ситуации, используя приведенные слова и словосочетания:

to study, to be in the 3d year, to comprise, to have a good command of the subjects, to master one's profession.

to comprise, special subjects, applied subjects, to be especially interested, to describe, to graduate with a degree.

to be overestimated, to be as real as the past, to analyse, to predict, to understand the events, to go through the past.

XV. Составьте план текста.

XVI. Расскажите о своей будущей профессии по составленному вами плану.

## The Legal Profession

I. Выучите следующие слова и словосочетания.

legal – юридический, правовой

law – закон

lawyer – юрист, адвокат

judge – судья

procurator – прокурор

investigator – следователь

notary – нотариус

human – человеческая судьба

activity – деятельность

aim – цель, намерение

to bring into accord (with) – приводить в соответствие  
(с)

crime – преступление

conduct – поведение

offender – преступник

to raise – поднимать

to prevent – предотвращать

responsible – ответственный

just- справедливый

guard – охрана, стража

graduate (n) – выпускник

to master (a language) – овладеть (языком)

whatever – какой бы ни

II. Прочитайте и переведите следующие слова и их производные.

difficult – difficulty;

create – creation – creative – creator;

stable – stability – stabilize – stabilization;

crime – criminal – criminality – criminalist;

educate – education – self-education – re-educate;

success – successful – successfully;

train ( ) – training (n) – trainer;

regular – regularly – regularity – regulate;

theatre – theatrical;

truth – truthful – truthless;

just – justice – injustice;  
relation – interrelation.

III. Переведите следующие предложения, догадайтесь о значении подчеркнутых слов.

1. Whatever we may become – judges, procurators, investigators, notaries – we shall have to deal with human destinies.

2. The activities of the lawyers are aimed at bringing the conduct of the people into accord with the law.

3. They are in the forefront in the struggle against the criminal phenomena.

4. Mastering foreign languages also contributes a lot to general education.

5. Every year thousands of graduates from law institutes join those who stand on guard of public order.

6. I also want when I become a lawyer to make my contribution to the defence of the people against injustice.

IV. Заполните пропуски необходимыми по смыслу словами, приведенными ниже:

The legal profession is not an ... one. 2. Sometimes because of its ... it is compared with the profession of a doctor. 3. Lawyers work a lot for ... of public order and stability. 4. This struggle consist not only in punishing but also in re-educating ... . 5. Lawyers also do a lot to ... crimes. 6. There is no need to say how ... all that work is. 7. Large practice and constant ... are necessary to become a good lawyer. 8, Each of us must constantly ... the

cultural level. 9. Besides, a lawyer is to be a person of high ... qualities. 10. I have a deep respect for the lawyers and I am ... that I shall become one of them.

responsible, proud, easy, moral, creation, difficulty, self-education, offenders, raise, prevent.

V. Прочитайте и переведите текст.

### The Legal Profession

My future profession is that of a lawyer. Lawyers are trained by law institutes and faculties and they work at different law offices – courts, Procurator's offices, notary offices, The bar the organs of the Ministry of the Interior, etc.

The legal profession is not an easy one. Sometimes because of its difficulty it is compared with the profession of a doctor. What ever we may become – judges, procurators, investigators, notaries – we will have to deal with human destinies.

The activities of the lawyers are aimed at bringing the conduct of the people, their interrelations, their attitude towards the state and the public organizations into accord with the law. Lawyers work a lot for creation of public order and stability, for creation of the legal state. They are in the forefront in the struggle against the criminal phenomena. This struggle consists not only in punishing but also in re-educating offenders. Tremendous work is carried out by the lawyers in eliminating the causes of these phenomena. Lawyers also do a lot to prevent crimes.

There is no need to say how responsible all that work is. To carry it out successfully one needs a high general education level and good professional training. Each of us realizes that to become a lawyer one must arm oneself with great and concrete knowledge. And still after that it is impossible at once to become a good lawyer. Large practice and constant self-education are necessary. Each of us must constantly raise the cultural level. We must know classical and modern literature and art, regularly attend public lectures, theatrical performances, concerts, etc. Mastering foreign languages also contributes a lot to the general education and cultural advance.

Besides, a lawyers is, of course, to be a person of high moral qualities. He must strictly keep to the rules of the community, his conduct is to be irreproachable and he must be an example for other people. He is to be truthful, honest and just.

Every year thousands of graduates from law institutes and law faculties join those who stand on guard of the interests of the citizens and public order. I also want when I become a lawyer to make my contribution to the defence of the people against injustice and to the establishment of the stable, legal state. I have a deep respect for lawyers and I am proud that I will become one of them.

Примечания к тексту:

law office – юридическое учреждение

court – суд

procurator's office – прокуратура

the bar – адвокатура

notary office – нотариальная контора

Ministry of the Interior – Министерство внутренних дел

attitude – отношение

to punish – наказывать, карать

to eliminate – 1) устранять; 2) уничтожать

tremendous – огромный

to arm oneself (with) – вооружаться

to realize – представлять себе, (ясно) понимать

to attend – посещать

advance – 1) продвижение вперед; 2) повышение, рост

irreproachable – безупречный

to keep to the rules – придерживаться правил;  
соблюдать нормы

phenomena - явления

VI. Определите, соответствуют ли следующие предложения содержанию текста.

Sometimes because of its difficulty the legal profession is compared with the profession of a doctor.

The activities of the lawyers are aimed at developing national economy.

Tremendous work is carried out by the lawyers in eliminating the causes of the criminal phenomena.

To work as a lawyer one doesn't need a high general education.

The cultural level of lawyers is not important.

A lawyer is to be a person of high moral qualities.

VII. Воспроизведите предложения из текста, где встречаются следующие выражения.

at different law offices;

human destinies;

to prevent crimes;

to arm oneself with;

to attend public lectures;

to keep to the rules.

VIII. Ответьте на следующие вопросы:

Where do lawyers work?

Why is the legal profession difficult?

What can you say about the activities of the lawyers?

What does a lawyer need to be able to cope (справиться) with his responsible work?

What moral qualities must a lawyer possess?

Are you proud that you will become a lawyer?

IX. Расширьте следующие утверждения:

Lawyers work at different law offices.

The legal profession is not easy one.

The activities of the lawyers are aimed at bringing the conduct of the people, their interrelations into accord with the law.

To work successfully as a lawyer one needs a high general education level and good professional training.

Besides, a lawyer is to be a person of high moral qualities.



Every year thousands of graduates from law institutes and law faculties join those who stand on guard of the public order.

Х. Расскажите о своей будущей профессии, используя следующие слова и выражения.

my future profession; to be trained by; to work at; to deal with; human destinies; the activities of the lawyers; to bring into accord with; creation of public order; criminal phenomena; punishing and re-educating offenders; to prevent crimes; responsible work; good professional training; cultural level; moral qualities; irreproachable; graduates; to stand on guard; to make contribution to; defence; injustice; legal state.

### **PHILOLOGY IS MY FUTURE SPECIALITY**

I. Догадайтесь о значении приведенных ниже интернациональных слов, уточните в словаре их произношение.

Belorussian, course, critic, culture, discussion, education, genre, interpretation, lexicology, linguist, literary, literature, manuscript, method, morphology, periodical, philology, phonology, poem, practice, professional, Russian, seminar, speciality, stylistics, syntax, test, theory, university.

II. Запомните следующие слова:

ancient – древний

convey- передавать  
 duty- долг  
 extra-mural - заочный  
 get ready for – готовиться  
 improve -улучшать  
 include – включать  
 keep pace with- идти в ногу  
 knowledge- знания  
 major in - специализироваться  
 origin - происхождение  
 skill - умение  
 standpoint- точка зрения  
 treat – трактовать, объяснять  
 value - ценность  
 various - различный  
 well-read - начитанный  
 well-spoken - красноречивый

III. Прочитайте и переведите текст.

### **PHILOLOGY IS MY FUTURE SPECIALITY**

I am a student of the extra-mural department of Gomel State University and I major in Russian (Belorussian) language and literature, so I can say that my future speciality is philology. The term “ philology” is of Greek origin and means love for word. Nowadays philology is treated as a complex of sciences about language and literature. One of the main tasks of philology is

interpretation and analysis of texts, that's why we must develop our understanding of literature and language from the standpoints of the critic and linguist. The course of studies at our department includes various subjects, such as phonology, morphology, syntax, lexicology, stylistics and some other subjects. We study Russian, Belorussian and foreign literatures from the ancient time to the present, besides we have an opportunity of studying a wide variety of literary genres. As future teachers of literature we should be well-spoken and well-read, that's why we spend a lot of time in the library studying articles and manuscripts, reading novels, short stories, poems and periodicals, getting ready for our seminars and discussions. In our fifth year we have teaching practice at schools where we can test theory against practice and develop teaching skills. But it is not enough to have a good knowledge of a subject, the teachers of literature should convey eternal values of literature, art and culture to their pupils. It is a professional duty of a teacher to improve his knowledge and teaching methods and work at his self-education in order to keep pace with time.

IV. Найдите в тексте словосочетания, соответствующие приведенным ниже русским.

Прочтите предложения с ними.

знание

начитанный

факультет заочного обучения

специализироваться

учебная практика  
 интерпретация и анализ текстов  
 с точки зрения лингвиста  
 проверить теорию на практике  
 курс обучения  
 разнообразие литературных жанров  
 самообразование

V. Заполните таблицу:

Aspect of language	The object of its study
	Organization of speech-sounds, their classification
	Words and their meaning, word-equivalents
	Rules for sentence-building
	Study of the morphemes of a language
	Style in writing

Key-words: syntax, phonology, stylistics, morphology, lexicology

VI. Угадайте слово по его дефиниции.

1. having a socially acceptable way of speaking, typical of educated people
2. the science of the nature of development of words, language or a particular language

3. written works which are of artistic value
4. the system of human expression by means of words in speech or writing
5. a word or expression used in a particular activity or profession
6. a branch of knowledge studied as part of one's education
7. a piece of writing on a particular subject in a newspaper, magazine, etc.
8. a long written story dealing with invented people and events
9. a position from which things are seen and opinions formed
10. to make feelings, ideas, thoughts known  
(term, article, language, well-spoken, convey, novel, subject, standpoint, philology, literature )

**VII. Прочитайте и переведите следующие предложения. Найдите и исправьте те предложения, которые не соответствуют содержанию текста.**

1. The term "philology" comes from the Latin language.
2. Philology is a complex of sciences about language, history and art.
3. The main task of philology is interpretation and analysis of texts.
4. Our students study only contemporary literature.
5. We have an opportunity of studying various literary genres.

6. Teaching practice is not included in the course of studies.
7. To have a good knowledge of the subject is quite enough for a teacher.
8. It is essential for a teacher to go on learning.

**VIII. Ответьте на следующие вопросы:**

1. What department do you study at?
2. What subjects do you major in?
3. What does the term “ philology” mean?
4. What are the tasks of Philology?
5. What subjects does the course of studies include?
6. What qualities should future teachers of literature have?
7. What is the aim of teaching practice at school?
8. What is the main task of a teacher of literature?
9. What is the professional duty of a teacher?

**IX. Расширьте следующие утверждения:**

1. The term “philology” is a foreign one.
2. Philology is a complex science.
3. We study literature from different standpoints.
4. The course of studies includes various subjects.
5. The students spend a lot of time in the libraries.
6. In the fifth year students have teaching practice.
7. It is not enough to have a good knowledge of a subject.
8. A teacher should always be ready to go on learning.

**X. Расскажите о своей будущей профессии.**

## GEOGRAPHY

### **I. Прочитайте и переведите следующие интернациональные слова:**

analysis, antiquity, aspect, cartography, climatology, complex, energy, fauna, flora, geology, geomorphology, global, hydrology, industrial, interpretation, mathematics, method, mineral, natural, ocean, phenomena, physics, potential, rational, regional, resources, service, specific, territory.

### **II. Запомните следующие слова. Переведите словосочетания и предложения на русский язык.**

area – район, зона, область, край, территория

What is the area of this country? There are no lakes in this area.

branch – отрасль, ветвь

a branch of a tree, a branch of science, a branch of family, a branch railway.

describe – описывать; description - описание

The article describes the climatic conditions of Belarus.

There is a very good description of the country's landscape in the textbook.

environment – окружающая среда

Many people are concerned about the environment.

The factory pollutes the environment.

explore – исследовать; explorer – исследователь;  
 exploration - исследование

They explored the northern part of the island.

J. Cook was a famous explorer.

I've read an article about Arctic exploration.

general – общий, всеобщий

general education, general election, general concern,  
 general idea.

landscape - ландшафт

a city / urban landscape,

a country / rural landscape

mountain range – горная цепь

There are no high mountain ranges in Belarus.

The Pounine mountain range is the backbone of the  
 isle of Great Britain.

natural – природный, естественный, натуральный  
 natural mineral wealth.

Try to look natural for you photo.

Tom is a natural musician.

ore – руда

metallic ores, copper ore, polymetallic ores.

plain – равнина

the great plains of the USA.

Our plane was flying across a vast plain.

plot – наносить на карту

plot the route of the expedition;

plot the position of the ship.

recreational – развлекательный, рекреационный

recreational facilities, recreational areas.



resources – ресурсы, запасы, (природные) богатства  
 mineral resources, scarce resources, vast resources.

regional – региональный  
 regional development, regional problems.

subterranean – подземный  
 subterranean waters / caves / rivers / lakes

timber – лесоматериалы, строевой лес  
 timber resources, timber processing.

vegetation – растительность  
 scarce vegetation, tropical vegetation.

### **III. Прочитайте и переведите текст**

#### **GEOGRAPHY**

The origins of geography as a science go back to antiquity. At first, it concerned itself with the description of various parts of the world, of near and distant countries. The name "geography" means "description of the Earth" (from the Greek "geo-" earth, and grapho" – I write).

Geographers and travellers penetrated every corner of the Earth and plotted all the explored areas on geographical maps. Eventually very few unexplored places remained, and geography went over from fact gathering and description to the interpretation and explanation of the arrangement of things on the Earth's surface.

Modern geography makes a deep analysis of the relationship among the phenomena of nature and of the economic life of society. In studying these relationships, geographers make use of other branches of science such as

physics, chemistry biology, geology, mathematics and social sciences.

The main emphasis in geographic research is now on studying the natural environment, the natural resources of specific areas and determining the most rational methods of utilizing them.

Discovery is still one of the fascinating aspects of this science. There are some blank spaces on the map of the world.

What vast natural resources every such blank space conceals! Mountain ranges abound in ore, valuable timber and swift mountain torrents, the potential source of energy; wide-stretching plains rich in forests, various kinds of minerals, rivers, lakes and subterranean waters and the ocean is rich in food fauna and minerals. To reveal the secrets of unexplored territories and water areas, to chart them on a map, to study nature's riches and place them at the service of mankind – such is the task of the geographic explorer.

Modern geography is a complex science having many interconnected branches. They are: physical geography, economic geography, social geography and cartography.

Physical geography includes landscape study, geomorphology, climatology, hydrology, soil geography and biogeography; economic and social geography include population geography, industrial geography, agricultural geography, geography of transport and service. Cartography is concerned with making up of all sorts of

maps. On the boundary between physical and economic geography there have appeared some "marginal" branches of geography: political, historical, medical and recreational, geography.

General geography studies global problems, while regional geography is concerned with the study of nature and resources of a definite country or area.

**IV. Найдите в тексте слова, определения которым даны ниже:**

- a) a science that is concerned with the description of the Earth;
- b) a place on the Earth's surface that has not been explored and plotted on the map;
- c) a branch of geography that is concerned with making up maps;
- d) nature's riches that can be used by mankind;
- e) a person who explores nature;
- f) a group of mountains.

**V. Найдите в тексте слова и словосочетания, близкие по значению следующим словам и словосочетаниям:**

to study; a far-away country; plot on a map; to find out; unexplored areas; abundant resources, to be rich in something, to open a secret; to make it possible for mankind to use nature's riches; underground waters.

**VI. Найдите в тексте слова, противоположные по значению следующим словам:**

to be unconcerned, to conceal, distant, general geography, indefinite, regional problems, scarce resources, valueless.

**VII. Найдите в тексте прилагательные, характеризующие следующие существительные:**

area, environment, geography, mountain torrents, plains, resources, spaces.

**VIII. Составьте словосочетания из глаголов и существительных.**

to concern oneself with	every corner of the Earth
to penetrate	natural resources
to go back to	secrets
to go over to	minerals
to make	a deep analysis
to utilize	interpretation of facts
to conceal	antiquity
to be rich in	description

**IX. Прочитайте и переведите следующие предложения. Найдите и исправьте те предложения, которые не соответствуют содержанию текста.**

1. The name "geography" means description of the weather;
2. There are few unexplored areas on the Earth's surface;
3. Geography makes use of other branches of science;
4. Blank spaces conceal vast natural resources;
5. The task of the geographer is to learn foreign languages;
6. Cartography deals with all sorts of maps;
7. Physical geography and climatology are marginal branches of geography;
8. Regional geography studies the nature and resources of a specific area.

**X. Ответьте на следующие вопросы:**

1. What does the word geography mean?
2. What did ancient geographers study?
3. What does modern geography study?
4. Is the study of the natural environment in the focus of attention of modern geographers?
5. What is the most fascinating aspect of exploration?
6. What are the tasks of the geographic explorer?
7. Modern geography isn't a complex science, is it?
8. Can you name the branches of modern geography?
9. Where have the marginal branches of geography appeared?
10. Does regional geography study global problems?

**XI. Заполните следующую таблицу:**

Branch of	The object of its research
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geography	
	Physical characteristics of earth's surface, landforms, vegetation, soils.
	Systematic and regional study of world climates, physical and dynamic climatology. Climate classification.
	Surface waters characteristics of selected climatic regions.
	Economic nature of resources.
	Rational use of soils and land, waters, minerals, forests and wildlife. Land use planning.
	Industrial location.
	Location and distribution of urban centres, land use, city planning.
	Transport facilities and patterns of movement. Interaction of transportation and regional development.
	Mapping, topographic, thematic maps, map classification.

Расскажите о своей будущей специальности и той области географии, в которой вы хотели бы специализироваться.

## PART II

### **This is Britain**

“Great Britain” has several different names. Some people say “Britain” or “the United Kingdom”, or just “UK”. There are four different countries in the United Kingdom: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Everyone from Britain is British, but only people from England are English. People from Scotland are Scottish, people from Wales are Welsh, and people from Northern Ireland are Irish. Don’t call a Scottish or Welsh person English. He won’t like it! The fact is that the Scots and the Welsh still feel that they are separate nationalities.

Altogether more than 56 million people live in Britain, many of them in big industrial cities like London, Liverpool and Manchester, but people are often surprised by how much of Britain is open country, with lonely hills and woods, quiet rivers, lakes and farmlands.

Everyone in Britain speaks English. But in some parts of Scotland and Wales people speak an older language as well. The Welsh are especially proud of their language, and you can see road signs in Welsh all over Wales.

Everyone speaks English, but they do not all speak in the same way. A Scottish person has to listen carefully if he wants to understand a Londoner. And when a Welsh person speaks everyone knows at once where he comes from!

Many people think that the weather is cold and wet in Britain all the year-round. But it isn’t! True, it sometimes rains and even snows for days and days, but every year

there are weeks of beautiful sunny weather when the British put on their bikinis and go out to sunbathe.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. What other names has Great Britain? What is the official name of the state?
2. What are the main nationalities in Great Britain and what countries do they live in?
3. Why don't Scottish and Welsh people like to be called English?
4. Does the majority of Britain's population live in cities or in the country?
5. What people speak some other language besides English?
6. Is it easy for people from different parts of Great Britain to understand each other? Does the same problem exist in our country?
7. Is it correct to say that the English weather is nasty?

**NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, WEST**

Britain is only a small country, but every part is different. Scotland is a land of mountains, lakes and romantic castles. The winters are cold, with plenty of snow, but the summers are often warm and sunny. Most farmers keep sheep, and there are many small factories which make fine sweaters from their wool. In some parts of Scotland, there are very few people. Deer live in the hills, and rivers are full of salmon. But Glasgow and Edinburgh are both



large and busy, with all that is good (and bad) in modern cities.

Northern Ireland has its problems, but it has beauty too. In the warm, wet climate, the grass grows a brilliant green, and much of the land is farming country. Belfast is a large industrial city with many fine buildings and a big port from which ships come and go to Scotland and England. But Belfast has had many difficult years, and it is not the busy place it once was.

In the north of England there are many old industrial towns. Now, a great number of factories have closed and thousands of people have no work. Some have moved to the new towns, built in the 1960s and 1970s, where the industries are more modern. Outside the towns, much of this part of England is beautiful countryside, with green hills, lakes and sandy beaches. Fishing is an important industry in the North East, and every night (except Sunday) the fishing boats go out to sea.

The centre of England (the Midlands) is also an important industrial area, especially near the huge cities of Coventry and Birmingham, the centre of the car industry. But everywhere, even in the heart of a modern city, there are buildings from an older Britain – cathedrals, castles, and houses built hundreds years ago.

Wales is a special place, a country of high mountains and pretty valleys. But Wales has plenty of industry too, with many factories and coal mines. The people of Wales are very musical. Every year they have a festival of Welsh music and poetry called an “Eisteddfod”.

The west of England is rich farming country. It produces milk, cream, butter, cheese (especially Cheddar cheese, Britain's favourite), and apples, which go to make cider, a popular drink in the villages. Country people often grow their own fruit, vegetables and flowers.

Some areas of Britain are very crowded. Around Manchester, in north west England and Glasgow, in Scotland, are large city areas of houses and factories. The south east of England, too, has many towns and cities, including London, the giant capital. But quite near London there are some quiet villages and peaceful farms.

Britain is an island, of course, and you are never too far from the sea. Some of the coast, especially in the west, is wild and rocky, with small sandy beaches, and romantic old harbours. Other parts are industrial. The east coast of Scotland, for example, is busy with oil rigs and fishing boats. The most popular beaches are near the many holiday towns on the south coast, where the weather is usually warmer. It is here that Londoners come to relax.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. Can you say that Britain has a varied landscape?
2. In what parts of Britain is the climate favourable for agriculture?
3. What problems do old industrial towns have?
4. What part of Britain is the industrial centre of the state?
5. The Welsh are musical people, aren't they?
6. What products are produced in the west of England?
7. What are the most populated areas in Britain?

8. Would you prefer to spend your holiday on the west or south coast of Great Britain? Why?

### **LONDON**

London has been a capital city for nearly thousand years, and many of its ancient buildings still stand. The most famous of these are the Tower of London (where the Crown jewels are kept), Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral, but most visitors also want to see the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace (the Queen's London home) and the many magnificent museums.

Once, London was a small Roman town on the north bank of the Thames, but slowly it grew into one of the world's major cities with more than seven million people. Fewer people live in the centre now, but the suburbs are still growing.

Places now in the heart of London like Westminster, once stood in the middle of green fields. Many small villages, like Hampstead, Chelsea and Mayfair, became part of London, but they still keep some of their old atmosphere. Different areas of London seem like different cities. The West End is a rich man's world of shops, offices and theatres. The East End is the old working people's district, where there are many small flats and houses, some of them old, some new.

London is always changing. New buildings go up and old ones come down. Poorer areas become fashionable and people with more money move into them.

A hundred years ago, the river was crowded with ships, leaving for Java and Japan, New Zealand and New York, but now the port is nearly empty. People travel by air, and London's main airport Heathrow is one of the busiest in the world.

Like all old cities, London has streets and concrete buildings, but it also has many big parks, full of trees, flowers and grass. Sit on the grass (you are allowed to!) in the middle of Hyde Park or Kensington Gardens, and you will think that you in the country, miles away.

Many people live outside the centre of London in the suburbs, and they travel to work by train, bus or underground. Every day, nearly half a million office workers travel into the "City", the business centre of London, a small area full of banks and offices. Some people come from far out of London, even from the coast, and spend up to four hours travelling every day.

Working hours are from 9 am to 5 p.m. From 8 until 10 every morning, and 4.30 to 6.30 every evening, the trains are crowded with people, and after the morning "rush hour" the shoppers come.

By day the whole of London is busy. At night, the City is quiet and empty, but the West End stays alive, because this is where Londoners come to enjoy themselves. There are two opera houses here, several concert halls and many theatres, as well as cinemas, and in nearby Soho the pubs, restaurants and night clubs are busy half the night.

Many people think that London is all grey, but in fact red is London's favourite colour. The buses are red, the

letter boxes are red, and the mail vans are all bright, bright red. London is at its best when people are celebrating. Then the flags, the soldiers' uniforms, the cheering crowds and the carriages and horses all sparkle in the sunshine – if it is not raining, of course!

**Answer the following questions:**

1. What are the oldest buildings in London?
2. On what bank of the river Thames did London originate?
3. Many people prefer to live in the outskirts of London, don't they?
4. What districts of London were once villages?
5. Why has the port lost its importance?
6. What is characteristic of the City?
7. Where can Londoners spend their evenings?
8. What colour is London's favourite?

**EDINBURGH**

Edinburgh is Scotland's capital, and one of the most beautiful cities in Britain. It has been the capital since fifteenth century when it was the centre of Scotland's resistance to its enemies. The heart of Edinburgh is the thousand-year-old castle, where the kings of Scotland lived for centuries. Nowadays, it overlooks one of Europe's most famous streets, Prince Street.

From Edinburgh castle you can see for miles, north over the beautiful old streets and squares to the "Firth", and arm of the sea that pushes inland. Far away are the mountains of Central Scotland, often covered with snow.

There are also the Royal Palace of Holyrood and many other beautiful monuments. It is a city of elegant Georgian architecture.

Edinburgh has a busy cultural life. Every year, in September, the international Festival takes place. Musicians, actors and singers come from all over the world and thousands of visitors fill the city. In the evening, the opera house, the theatres and the concert halls are full. In cafes and pubs, small groups sing, act and read poetry.

The castle is at its best in Festival time. Every night there is a magnificent military “Tattoo”. Highland soldiers wearing “kilts” play the bagpipes, and march to the music.

The kilt is only worn by men and is a relic of the time when the clan system existed in Scottish Highlands.

Tartans, the patterns of the kilts, have an interesting history. Since the fifteenth century, each Scottish family (or ‘clan’) has worn its own tartan as a kind of badge. It was a useful way of recognizing people, especially in times of war. Many tartans date only from the nineteenth century, but some of the old patterns still exist. “Dress” tartans, worn on special occasions have light, bright colours. “Hunting” tartans are usually green, blue or brown.

The kilt and the tartan are very much connected with Scottish history. In 1745 Bonnie Prince Charlie came to Scotland and led a rebellion against King George II in an attempt to regain the throne for the Stuarts. Most of the Prince’s followers were highlanders from the clans. The rebellion was a disaster and at the battle of Culloden the Scots were finally defeated.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. How long has Edinburg been the capital of Scotland?
2. What is the castle famous for?
3. What kind of celebrations do the inhabitants of Edinburg have during the international Festival?
4. What is a kilt?
5. What is a tartan?
6. In what way are the kilt and tartan connected with Scottish history?

**OXFORD**

What is so special about Oxford and Cambridge, the two oldest universities in England? Why do so many students want to study there?

Both of these university towns are very beautiful. They have some of the finest architecture in Britain. Some of their colleges, chapels and libraries are three, four and even five hundred years old, and are full of valuable books and precious paintings. Both towns have many lovely gardens, where the students can read and relax in the summer months.

Oxford is the older university of the two. The first of its colleges was founded in 1249. The university now has thirty-four colleges and about twelve thousand students, many of them from other countries. There were no women students at Oxford until 1878, when the first women's college, Lady Margaret hall, opened. Now women study at most colleges.

Oxford is, of course, famous for its first-class education as well as its beautiful buildings. Some of the most intelligent men and women in the country live and work here. Oxford gives them what they need: a quiet atmosphere, friendly colleagues, and the four-hundred-year-old Bodleian library, which has above five million books.

It is not easy to get a place at Oxford University to study for a degree. But outside the university there are many smaller private colleges which offer less difficult courses and where it is easy to enroll. Most students in these private schools take business, secretarial or English language courses.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. Oxford is a small town with fine architecture, isn't it?
2. What are Oxford and Cambridge famous for?
3. Which of the two universities is the older and in what century was it founded?
4. Do women have an opportunity to study at Oxford?
5. Why do many students want to study at Oxford?
6. Is it difficult to get a place at Oxford University?

**FAMILY LIFE**

British and American families are small. In fact, the populations of both Britain and the USA have stopped growing. The typical family has a father, mother and two children. Grandparents come to visit, but do not usually live with their children.



Most people get married between the ages of 20 and 23, but many marriages end in divorce. This means that in both countries there are a large number of “single parent families”, one father or mother looking after their children alone.

The typical British family has a car, a colour TV set, a washing machine, and a cat or dog as well. They start the day at about 7 o'clock, have breakfast at 8, and are off to work by 8.30. More and more women now go out to work as well as men. The children have lunch at school at about 12.30 and come home at 4 in the afternoon. Their parents are usually home by 6 o'clock, and the family eats together at 6.30 or 7. In the evening, father may go to the pub for a drink, or stay at home and watch TV with the others. Children go to bed early, at about 8 o'clock, two or three hours before their parents.

The typical American family has more money than a British family. Many have two or three cars, large modern kitchens and more electrical goods. They eat more meat and spend more on clothes. But their daily programme is nearly the same. Like British children, American children eat lunch at school, come home mid-afternoon, and go to bed earlier than their parents.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. Are American and British families large or small?
2. What is a typical American family?
3. Do parents and their grown-up children live together?

4. At what age do people get married? And in our country?
5. Which people have more money to spend?
6. How much time do children spend at school?
7. How do fathers spend their evenings?

### **FESTIVALS**

In the USA, different states celebrate different holidays, but everyone remembers July 4<sup>th</sup>, “Independence Day”. On this day, in 1776, America signed the “Declaration of Independence” and started the fight for freedom from British rule. People go out into the streets on July 4<sup>th</sup>, dress up, and take part in parades. In the evening there are always parties and fireworks.

The second big American festival is Thanksgiving Day. On the fourth Thursday in November, American families meet for a special dinner, usually with turkey, pumpkin and pies. They give thanks to God for the past year, and remember the first harvest of the first European Americans in 1621.

Children always have fun at Halloween on October 31<sup>st</sup>. They dress up as ghosts and witches. They cut up a pumpkin to look like a frightening face and put a light inside. They go from house to house and say “Trick or Treat?” If they get a “treat” (something nice, like sweets or an apple), they go away happy. But if they don’t, they play a “Trick”. They might put soap on the windows, or throw rubbish into the garden.

There are two days in the year when both the Americans and British remember special people. February 14<sup>th</sup> is St. Valentine's Day. People in love send "Valentines" to each other, special cards with hearts, flowers and loving words. The second Sunday in May is "Mother's Day". People buy cards, flowers and chocolates for their mothers.

There are fewer public holidays in Britain than in most countries. There is Christmas Day, of course, and "Boxing Day" (the day after Christmas), New Year's Day, the Monday after Easter, and three more Mondays, two in May and one in August.

Public holidays in Britain are called "bank holidays", because the banks as well as shops and offices are closed.

There is no national day in Britain, but there is one festival that everyone celebrates – Christmas. The fun starts the night before, on Christmas Eve, when children hang stockings at the ends of their beds for Father Christmas to fill with toys. Christmas Day is a family day. Grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins all meet for the big Christmas dinner of turkey and plum pudding, and everyone gives and receives presents.

In Scotland, New Year's Eve is the biggest festival of the year. The dancing goes on all night, and too many people drink too much whisky!

One special British festival takes place on November 5<sup>th</sup>. On that day, in 1605, Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament. He did not succeed, but the children of Britain never forgot him. Every year, on "Guy Fawkes's

night”, they make “guys” to burn on bonfires, and let off fireworks.

There smaller, local festivals all through the year. In the spring, village children dance round the Maypole. In the autumn, people take vegetables and fruit to church for the Harvest Festival, and once a year the Lord Mayor of London puts on a show and rides through the streets in his golden coach.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. What festivals have roots in national traditions?
2. What is the greatest holiday in the USA? How do people celebrate it?
3. What holidays are celebrated both in Britain and the USA?
4. Which people have fewer public holidays?
5. What are the main holidays in Great Britain?
6. Why are public holidays in Britain called “bank holidays”?
7. In what way do the British celebrate Christmas?
8. What is “Guy Fawker’s night”?
9. What holidays are celebrated in spring and in autumn?

**SCHOOLS**

In America all children from six to sixteen go to school. They spend six years in “elementary” school, and four or six in “secondary” school. School education is free.

At the end of every school year, the child takes a test. If he does well. He goes into the next class (“grade”). If he doesn’t do well, he has to repeat the grade.

Some schools have modern teaching equipment, like computers and closed circuit television, but there are also small country schools, with just one classroom.

At the end of their time at school, most students get a higher school diploma. If they want to go on to college, they take college admission tests.

In Britain, all children from five to sixteen go to school. They spend six years in “primary” school, and then go on to “secondary” school.

In Britain there are “state” schools which are free, and private schools for which parents pay. Many British private schools are “boarding” schools. The children stay at school all the time, and only come home in the holidays. They usually wear uniforms.

Teaching in both countries is usually quite informal. Students often work together in groups and go to the teacher only when they need help.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. Do children in Britain and the USA start school at the same age?
2. On what condition are children allowed to go into the next grade?
3. What is required of the children who want to study at college?
4. Do parents have to pay for their children’s education?

5. What is the difference between an ordinary school and a boarding school?

РЕПОЗИТОРІЙ ГТУ ІМЕНІ Ф. СКОРИНЬ