

**Министерство образования республики Беларусь  
Учреждение образования  
«Гомельский государственный университет  
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**АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК  
ПРАКТИЧЕСКОЕ ПОСОБИЕ  
для студентов 1–2 курсов  
специальности 1-33 01 02 «Геоэкология»  
по теме  
«ENGLISH VOCABULARY IN USE»**

**Гомель 2011**

УДК 811. 111 (075. 8)

ББК 81. 432. 1 – 923

С 147

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Франциска Скорины»

Рекомендовано к изданию научно-методическим советом  
учреждения образования «Гомельский государственный  
университет имени Франциска Скорины»

**Сажина, Е. В.**

С 147      Английский язык в действии: практическое пособие  
для студентов 1–2 курсов специальности 1-33 01 02  
«Геоэкология» / Е. В. Сажина; М-во образования РБ,  
Гомельский гос. ун-т им. Ф. Скорины. – Гомель : ГГУ им.  
Ф. Скорины, 2011. – 44 с.

Данное пособие предназначено для обучения студентов 1–2  
курса геолого-географического факультета навыкам как чтения  
текстов, владение которыми необходимо будущим специалистам, а  
также навыкам формирования устной речи и переводческим навыкам.  
Эффективное практическое овладение языком обеспечивается  
системой языковых упражнений.

УДК 811. 111 (075. 8)

ББК 81. 432. 1 – 923

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## **Введение**

Предлагаемое практическое пособие разработано на основании программы обучения иностранным языкам в неязыковых вузах с учетом современных требований гуманитаризации высшего образования.

Книга предназначена для студентов I-II курсов высших учебных заведений неязыковых специальностей и предполагает обучение активному владению языковым материалом, чтению и переводу со словарем литературы средней трудности по общебытовой тематике, ведению беседы на английском языке в пределах тем, предусмотренных программой.

Пособие состоит из 14 разделов, каждый из которых включает ряд упражнений для развития лексико-грамматических навыков говорения. В рамках каждого раздела студентам предлагается выполнение следующих упражнений: чтение и перевод текста по теме, выполнение упражнения для закрепления лексического материала, а также контрольные задания в виде вопросов и пересказа.

Актуальность книги заключается в том, что автор сумела объединить в одно целое серию тем, предусмотренных программой по английскому языку для неязыковых специальностей вуза, тем самым предложив для студентов универсальное пособие по развитию навыков говорения.

## Unit 1 Who Am I?

### Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:

Difficult as it is to speak about ourselves, still in certain situations we have to introduce ourselves, regarding our biography, members of the family, friends and so on. So, I will try to introduce myself.

First of all I would like to speak about my family, my parents, who play a great role in moulding my character, but not my opinion and thoughts. My family isn't large. My father is 52 years old, but he looks much younger, because he is fond of going in for sports. He is a coach, but as he is a well-educated and well-read person he has experience in many fields. That is why it is always interesting to communicate with him, he usually tells a lot of exciting stories.

And my mother is 42. She is a good-looking woman with fair hair and large green eyes. I admire her character. She is an optimist, in almost everything she sees its good side, she is full of energy and enthusiasm. I really adore her sense of humor. She is a housewife. It takes her much time and strength to take care of the house and of me and my father. But I can say she copes with her work well. Besides my father and I try to help her with the housework. For example, I wash dishes, go shopping and so on.

I enjoy spending time with my family very much. We often go for walks. I enjoy strolling along Gomel streets because my parents usually tell me a lot of interesting details of the history, some things I've never heard about. That is also the reason I'm fond of travelling with my parents.

My mother spends a lot of time in the kitchen – she is fond of cooking. She always finds out new recipes, tries them, invents new unusual names.

When I was a child my father involved me in photography. Since that time taking pictures and making video films have become my hobbies. We have numerous pictures. We also are keen on music and everyone who comes to our place praised our numerous collections.

To my mind my parents are remarkable people: kind-hearted, honest, they have moral values and don't break promises. Although they aren't young they understand me completely. They allow me almost everything, they always give me good advice and, frankly speaking, I don't know what I will do without them. I am very lucky that I have got such wonderful parents and of course I love them very much.

Now, I think, it is time to speak about myself. My name is Tatiana, but my friends call me Tania. I am 18 years old. I am tall. I have an oval face

and large green eyes. Speaking about my character I can say that I'm friendly, kind, generous and honest. I have my own likes and dislikes. I am modest and sometimes shy, but I can lose my temper. But in spite of all this I can keep secrets, I will never let my friends down. I usually say what I think, that is why people around me often take offence, so last time I began to hide my emotions. But it is very difficult to cope with feelings when I understand that I deal with a person who has such features of character as egoism and dishonesty.

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 Who is the main character of the text?
- 2 What role do her parents play in moulding her character?
- 3 How old are Tania's father and mother?
- 4 What are they like?
- 5 What are they?
- 6 How do the members of this family spend their free time?
- 7 What are Tania's hobbies?
- 8 Does Tania get along with her parents?
- 9 What does Tania look like?
- 10 What is she like?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - introduce;  
- mould;  
- an opinion;  
- a thought;  
- go in for sports;  
- a coach;  
- well-educated;  
- well-read;  
- experience;

- b) - тренер;  
- опыт;  
- хорошо начитанный;  
- представлять;  
- заниматься спортом;  
- мысль;  
- лепить;

- мнение;
- хорошо образованный.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

вовлекать, втягивать; светлый (о волосах); заботиться; сила; восхищаться; волнующий; чувство юмора; затрачивать время; прогуливаться; причина.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

- 1 (Прежде всего) I must ask a few questions.
- 2 My parents can influence my behaviour but not (мое мнение).
- 3 (Вот почему) it is always interesting to communicate with my parents.
- 4 My sister (справляется) with her household chores very well.
- 5 We are (полны) of hope.
- 6 I (получаю удовольствие) spending time with my family very much.
- 7 We (увлекаемся) on music.

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## Unit 2 Our University

**Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

The history of Gomel State University named after F. Skorina began in 1929, when it was decided to establish The Agricultural Pedagogic Institute in Gomel. In 1933 it was reorganized into a pedagogical institute with the three-year curriculum. A year later the institute was reorganized into a higher educational establishment with a four-year program of training, providing the training of teachers of Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Natural Studies. In 1939 the institute was given the name of the famous pilot V.P. Tchkalov.

In 1969 the work of the institution staff was highly praised and the institute was reorganized into Gomel State University.

In 1988 the university was given the name of F. Skorina for great results in studying and scientific research of the cultural heritage of Byelorussian people, cultural and educational activities.

Today Gomel State University named after F. Skorina is the largest research and educational center, recognized by native and world scientific communities. The oldest higher educational establishment of the region has become the real intellectual and cultural center of the Byelorussian Polessye.

The scientific potential of Gomel State University named after F. Skorina is quite remarkable. The total staff is 1470 people, including 640 teachers and professors. There are 40 Doctors, 29 Professors, 222 Candidates of Sciences, and 190 Senior Lecturers. There are four corresponding members of the National Academy of Sciences.

The Post Graduate Courses and Doctorate are considered to be the reserve of scientific and teaching staff. The magistracy was established in 2004.

The university includes two research institutes, 17 research laboratories, engaged in scientific research in various fields of science.

The doors are wide open for the establishment of contacts with those who would like to get higher education at our educational institution.

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 When did the history of Gomel State University named after F. Skorina begin?
- 2 When was it reorganized into a pedagogical institute?
- 3 When was the institute given the name of the famous pilot V.P. Tchkalov?
- 4 For what was the university given the name of F. Skorina?
- 5 What is Gomel State University named after F. Skorina like today?
- 6 What can you say about the scientific potential of Gomel State University?
- 7 Are there the Post Graduate Courses and Doctorate at University?
- 8 When was the magistracy established?
- 9 How many research institutes does the university include?
- 10 Can foreign people study at Gomel State University?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - establish;
- three-year curriculum;
- a higher educational establishment;
- training;
- famous;



- reorganize;
- scientific research;
- cultural heritage;
- educational center;

b) - культурное наследие;

- реорганизовать;
- трехгодичный курс обучения;
- научное исследование;
- образовательный центр;
- подготовка;
- известный;
- высшее учебное заведение;
- учреждать.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

исследовательские лаборатории; штат сотрудников; научный потенциал; член-корреспондент; области науки; получить высшее образование; научные сообщества; замечательный; аспирантура; магистратура.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 (Год спустя) the institute was reorganized into a higher educational establishment.

2 In 1969 the work of the institution staff (была высоко оценена).

3 Today Gomel State University named after F. Skorina is (самый большой) research and educational center.

4 (Есть) 40 Doctors, 29 Professors, 222 Candidates of Sciences, and 190 Senior Lecturers.

5 The Post Graduate Courses and Doctorate (считаются) to be the reserve of scientific and teaching staff.

6 The university includes two research institutes, 17 research laboratories, (вовлеченных в) scientific research in various fields of science.

7 The doors (широко открыты) for the establishment of contacts.

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## Unit 3 The English Language in My Life

### Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:

Nowadays English is the international language of human speech, either spoken or written all over the world. Language itself is the most common system of communication which allows people to talk to each other and to write their thoughts and ideas.

And it is not the only reason why English is important in our life. It means that there are a lot of other reasons. Firstly, learning a foreign language increases your range of communication. For example, if you speak only English, you can communicate with over 400 million other people. If you also learn Spanish, you can speak to any of the 297 million Spanish-speaking people in Latin America, Spain, and other parts of the world. Secondly, by learning another language, you get knowledge of the customs and ways of life of their nations. While learning French, you find out how French people live, behave, and think. And finally, a foreign language can help and add to your knowledge of your own language. For example, by studying Latin, you can improve your understanding of the thousands of English words that have their roots in Latin.

So, I think that if a person has reasons to learn English he can learn it everywhere. And there are some often used ways how to do it. Firstly, you can learn English at school, where teachers can help you with your pronunciation skills. Secondly, you can learn it while travelling and speaking with native speakers. For example, you can visit the UK or the USA where all people speak English. And finally, it will be good to attend special courses, at which you can deepen your knowledge of the language.

But you can also learn English at home. And there are several ways to do it very effectively. Firstly, you can use tape recorders, which allow students to listen, repeat, delete their own repetition and then try again. Secondly, a videotape can really help in studying languages because it lets students watch their mouth movements. And finally computers can help to study English because they can correct students' translation of words and phrases on a video display screen. So, these language study aids provide not only instruction and practice, but also self-instruction, because they can be used without a teacher.

My name is Irina. As for me I learn English at university. I have English two hours a week. I have home reading where we read a lot, retell and analyse different texts. I also study grammar where the teacher teaches us

different rules of the use of the language. Besides I practice writing where we study how to write letters to our pen friends. And the last one is Practice of English. I think that it is a very interesting class because there I try to express my own opinion about different things. It seems to me that all these lessons are very important because they can help me to deepen my knowledge of English.

So, English plays an important role in my life not only because it can help to communicate with people from other countries but also because it can help to learn more about other cultures, traditions and habits.

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 What is language itself?
- 2 Why English is important in our life?
- 3 Whom can you communicate with if you speak foreign languages?
- 4 What are the ways of learning languages?
- 5 How can you learn a language at home?
- 6 Where does Irina study English?
- 7 What classes does she have?
- 8 Which of the classes does Irina like most of all and why?
- 9 Why does she think English classes are important?
- 10 What role does English play in Irina's life?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - human speech;  
- communication;  
- customs;  
- behave;  
- improve;  
- pronunciation skills;  
- attend;  
- deepen;  
- effectively;

- b) - улучшать;  
- обычаи;  
- вести себя;  
- эффективно;  
- посещать;  
- углублять;

- произносительные навыки;
- коммуникация;
- человеческая речь.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

роль; мнение; пересказывать; обеспечивать; повторение; друзья по переписке; выражать; традиции; самообразование; привычки;

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 And (не единственная) reason why English is important in our life.

2 Secondly, by learning another language, you (приобретаешь знания) of the customs and ways of life of their nations.

3 For example, by studying Latin, you can improve your (понимание) of the thousands of English words that have their roots in Latin.

4 Secondly, you can learn it while travelling and speaking with (носителями языка).

5 And finally computers can help to study English because they (могут) correct students' translation of words and phrases on a video display screen.

6 So, these (вспомогательные средства по изучению языка) provide not only instruction and practice, but also self-instruction, because they can be used without a teacher.

7 (Мне кажется) that all these lessons are very important because they can help me to deepen my knowledge of English.

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

**Unit 4 Student Life**

**Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

Student life is the best part of life. A student learns many things from books. But he has to enter the real world after his student life is over. So, he needs practical knowledge of things. Student life prepares a man to lead a successful life. In fact, student life is a life of learning. A student learns morality and good manners. He understands the value of discipline in life. So student life is a period of making and preparation.

Student life is a care-free life. It is a life of joy. A student is free from almost all cares of the world. He gets a different atmosphere at college from that of home. He takes part in games and sports. He goes sometimes on a picnic and sometimes on educational trips. A student lives in a small world of his college or university. The life of a student, therefore, is a golden period of life.

Student life is a life of discipline. At home a student may behave well or badly. But the atmosphere of a university is completely different. Good boys are loved and praised. Wicked boys are punished. All students have to follow some rules and obey their teachers. Thus, they learn discipline. Discipline makes them selfless and teaches them 'live and let live'.

Student life is a life of character building. Character has its importance in life. A student must be bold and fearless. He must think about society. He should try to solve the problems of the nation. He must be loving and truthful. Student life is a life of character formation. Students must have a sense of patriotism. They must go on doing work without thinking of the dead past and the uncertain future.

“Trust no future; howe'er pleasant!  
Let the dead past bury its dead!  
Act-act in the living present  
Heart within and God o'er head”

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 Where does a student learn many things?
- 2 When does a student need practical knowledge of things?
- 3 Does student life prepare a man to lead a successful life?
- 4 What is student life like?
- 5 In what way does the atmosphere of a university/college differ from that of home?
- 6 What is discipline in student life?
- 7 Is character built while you are a student?
- 8 What must a student be like?
- 9 What features of character must a student have?
- 10 Students must go on doing work without thinking of the dead past and the uncertain future, mustn't they?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - practical knowledge;
- lead;

- learning;
- morality;
- good manners;
- the value of discipline;
- preparation;
- care-free;
- take part in;

- b) - вести;
- обучение;
  - беззаботный;
  - ценность дисциплины;
  - принимать участие;
  - подготовка;
  - нравственность;
  - хорошие манеры;
  - практические знания.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

слушаться; храбрый; соблюдать некоторые правила; бескорыстный; правдивый; формирование; образовательное путешествие; бесстрашный; неопределенный; безнравственный.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

- 1 Student life is (лучшая часть) of life.
- 2 A student (свободен от) almost all cares of the world.
- 3 A student lives (в маленьком мире) of his college or university.
- 4 At home a student (может) behave well or badly.
- 5 Good boys are loved and (хвалят).
- 6 Discipline makes them selfless and (учит) them 'live and let live'.
- 7 Student life is a life of (построения характера).

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## **Unit 5 The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Geography and Climate**

### **Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

#### **Geography**

The total area of the United Kingdom is approximately 243,610 square kilometres. It consists of the island of Great Britain, the northeastern one-sixth of the island of Ireland, and smaller surrounding islands. It lies between the North Atlantic Ocean and the North Sea, coming within 35 kilometres of the coast of northern France, from which it is separated by the English Channel.

The coastline of Great Britain is 17,820 kilometres long. It is connected to continental Europe by the Channel Tunnel.

England accounts for just over half of the total area of the UK, covering 130,395 square kilometres. Most of the country consists of lowland terrain, with mountainous terrain north-west of the Tees-Exe line including the Cumbrian Mountains of the Lake District, the Pennines and limestone hills of the Peak District, Exmoor and Dartmoor. The main rivers and estuaries are the Thames, Severn and the Humber. England's highest mountain is Scafell Pike (978 metres), which is in the Lake District. Its principal rivers are the Severn, Thames, Humber, Tees, Tyne, Tweed, Avon, Exe and Mersey.

Ben Nevis, in Scotland, is the highest point in the British Isles. Scotland accounts for just under a third of the total area of the UK, covering 78,772 square kilometres, including nearly eight hundred islands, predominantly west and north of the mainland, notably the Hebrides, Orkney Islands and Shetland Islands. The topography of Scotland is distinguished by the Highland Boundary Fault – a geological rock fracture – which traverses Scotland from Arran in the west to Stonehaven in the east. The faultline separates two distinctively different regions; namely the Highlands to the north and west and the lowlands to the south and east. The more rugged Highland region contains the majority of Scotland's mountainous land, including Ben Nevis, which at 1,343 metres is the highest point in the British Isles. Lowland areas, especially the narrow waist of land between the Firth of Clyde and the Firth of Forth known as the Central Belt, are flatter and home to most of the population including Glasgow, Scotland's largest city, and Edinburgh, its capital and political centre.

Wales accounts for less than a tenth of the total area of the UK, covering 20,779 square kilometres. Wales is mostly mountainous, though South Wales is less mountainous than North and mid Wales. The main population and industrial areas are in South Wales, consisting of the coastal cities of Cardiff, Swansea and Newport and the South Wales Valleys to their north. The highest mountains in Wales are in Snowdonia, and include Snowdon (Welsh: Yr Wyddfa), which, at 1,085 metres is the highest peak in Wales. The 14 (or possibly 15) Welsh mountains over 3,000 feet high are known collectively as the Welsh 3000s. Wales has over 1,200 km of coastline. There are several islands off the Welsh mainland, the largest of which is Anglesey in the northwest.

Northern Ireland accounts for just 14,160 square kilometres and is mostly hilly. It includes Lough Neagh, at 388 square kilometres, the largest body of water in the UK and Ireland. The highest peak in Northern Ireland is Slieve Donard at 852 metres in the Mourne Mountains.

### **Climate**

The United Kingdom has a temperate climate, with plentiful rainfall all year round. The temperature varies with the seasons but seldom drops below  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $14.0^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) or rises above  $35^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $95^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). The prevailing wind is from the southwest, bearing frequent spells of mild and wet weather from the Atlantic Ocean. Eastern parts are most sheltered from this wind and are therefore the driest. Atlantic currents, warmed by the Gulf Stream, bring mild winters, especially in the west, where winters are wet, especially over high ground. Summers are warmest in the south east of England, being closest to the European mainland, and coolest in the north. Snowfall can occur in winter and early spring, though it rarely settles to great depth away from high ground.

### **Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 What is the total area of the United Kingdom?
- 2 What does the UK consist of?
- 3 What connects Great Britain to Europe?
- 4 What mountains and hills are situated in Great Britain?
- 5 What rivers flow on the territory of Great Britain?
- 6 What does the surface of Northern Ireland look like?
- 7 What is the climate of Great Britain?
- 8 What are the driest parts of Great Britain?
- 9 What brings mild winters?
- 10 Snowfall can occur in winter and early spring, can't it?



**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - surrounding;  
- coast;  
- separate;  
- be connected to;  
- account for;  
- terrain;  
- limestone;  
- point;  
- mainland;

- b) - побережье;  
- соединяться с;  
- разделять;  
- окружающий;  
- точка;  
- местность;  
- материк;  
- составлять;  
- известняк.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

водный бассейн; сужение суши; изобильный; укрывать; глубина; снегопад; трещина, разлом; труднопроходимый; период; ложиться (о снеге).

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 The total area of the United Kingdom (приблизительно составляет) 243,610 square kilometres.

2 The coastline of Great Britain is 17,820 kilometres (в длину).

3 (Большая часть) the country consists of lowland terrain.

4 The (линия сброса породы) separates two distinctively different regions.

5 The 14 (or possibly 15) Welsh mountains over 3,000 feet (в высоту) are known collectively as the Welsh 3000s.

6 The temperature (варьируется) with the seasons.

7 Summers are warmest in the south east of England, (располагающейся ближе всего к) the European mainland.

## **Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

# **Unit 6 The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Administrative Division**

## **Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

The structure of administrative divisions in the UK is multi-layered and non-uniform. Each of the four countries has its own system of administrative and geographic demarcation which often have origins that pre-date the formation of the United Kingdom itself. Consequently, there is “no common stratum of administrative unit encompassing the United Kingdom”. Until the 19th century there was little change to those arrangements, but since then there has been a constant evolution of role and function. Change did not occur in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales in a uniform manner, and the devolution of power over local government to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland means that future changes are unlikely to be uniform either.

The organisation of local government in England is complex, with the distribution of functions varying according to the local arrangements. Legislation concerning local government in England is decided by the UK parliament and the government of the United Kingdom, because England does not have a devolved parliament. The upper-tier subdivisions of England are the nine Government office regions or European Union government office regions. One region, Greater London, has had a directly elected assembly and mayor since 2000 following popular support for the proposal in a referendum. It was intended that other regions would also be given their own elected regional assemblies, but a rejection by a referendum in 2004 of a proposed assembly in the North East region stopped this idea in its tracks. Below the region level, London consists of 32 London boroughs and the rest of England has either county councils and district councils or unitary authorities. Councillors are elected by First Past The Post in single member wards or by the multi-member plurality system in multi-member wards.

Local government in Northern Ireland has, since 1973, been organised into 26 district councils, each elected by single transferable vote with powers limited to services like collecting waste, controlling dogs, and maintaining parks and cemeteries. However, on 13 March 2008, the

Executive agreed on proposals to create 11 new councils to replace the present system and the next local elections will be postponed until 2011 to facilitate this.

Local government in Scotland is divided on a basis of 32 council areas, with wide variation in both size and population. The cities of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Dundee are separate council areas as also is Highland Council, which includes a third of Scotland's area but just over 200,000 people. The power invested in local authorities is administered by elected councillors, of which there are currently 1,222 who are each paid a part-time salary. Elections are conducted by single transferable vote in multi-member wards that elect either three or four councillors. Each council elects a Provost or Convenor to chair meetings of the council and to act as a figurehead for the area. Councillors are subject to a code of conduct enforced by the Standards Commission for Scotland. The representative association of Scotland's local authorities is the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA).

Local government in Wales consists of 22 unitary authorities, including the cities of Cardiff, Swansea and Newport, which are separate unitary authorities in their own right. Elections are held every four years by First Past The Post with the most recent elections being in May 2008. The Welsh Local Government Association represents the interests of local authorities in Wales.

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 Is there any common stratum of administrative unit encompassing the United Kingdom?
- 2 Is the organisation of local government England is complex?
- 3 How many Government office regions does the upper-tier subdivisions of England consist of?
- 4 How many boroughs does London consist of?
- 5 In what way are Councillors elected in England?
- 6 Local government in Northern Ireland has been organised into 26 district councils, hasn't it?
- 7 On what basis is local government in Scotland divided?
- 8 Are elections in Scotland conducted by single transferable vote in multi-member wards that elect either three or four councillors?
- 9 What are Councillors subject to in Scotland?
- 10 What does local government in Wales consist of?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - administrative divisions;
- multi-layered;
- encompass;
- arrangements;
- devolution;
- unlikely;
- distribution of functions;
- legislation;
- devolved;

- b) - побережье;
- соединяться с;
- разделять;
- окружающий;
- точка;
- местность;
- материк;
- составлять;
- известняк.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

водный бассейн; сужение суши; изобильный; укрывать; глубина; снегопад; трещина, разлом; труднопроходимый; период; ложиться (о снеге).

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 (Каждая из) the four countries has its own system of administrative and geographic demarcation.

2 (Следовательно), there is “no common stratum of administrative unit encompassing the United Kingdom”.

3 Change (не произошло) in England.

4 Legislation (касающееся) local government in England is decided by the UK parliament and the government of the United Kingdom.

5 The power invested in local authorities (управляется) by elected councillors.

6 Elections (проводятся) by single transferable vote in multi-member wards.

7 Elections are held (каждые) four years.

### **Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## **Unit 7 Famous Landmarks in Great Britain**

### **Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

Great Britain is a land of ancient cities, royal palaces, massive cathedrals, and legendary sites. Mighty castles, stately homes, glorious gardens, and tiny picturesque villages enhance the natural beauty of the countryside.

Stonehenge is the most famous prehistoric monument in Britain. It is a circle of stones.

People began building Stonehenge about 5,000 years ago, dragging each stone into place.

Stonehenge is situated on Salisbury Plain in the county of Wiltshire.

Windsor Castle has dominated the river Thames for over 900 years. It was built by the Normans from timber and later rebuilt in stone.

Hadrian's Wall, a stone wall barrier built to separate the Romans and the Picts tribes in Scotland 2000 years ago. It allowed Roman soldiers to control the movements of people coming into or leaving Roman Britain. It was so well built that you can still see parts of it today.

King's College, founded in 1441 by Henry VI, is a constituent college of the University of Cambridge. The chapel, is home to the world-famous Choir.

The White Cliffs of Dover are truly one of the most famous English landmarks. These distinctive cliffs have been a welcoming site for returning sailors through the many centuries.

Blackpool Tower is a tourist attraction in Blackpool, Lancashire in England which was opened to the public on 14 May 1894. It is said to be the most famous seaside landmark in England.

Buckingham Palace is one of the most popular landmarks in London. It is the London home of the British Royal family. The 600 room palace is surrounded by a 40 acre garden.

The Palace of Westminster, known also as the Houses of Parliament, is where the two Houses of the Parliament of the United Kingdom (the House of Lords and the House of Commons) conduct their sittings. The Palace lies

on the north bank of the River Thames in the London borough of the City of Westminster.

This royal fortress, on the north banks of the River Thames, was built by William the Conqueror, following his successful invasion in 1066. It has been added to over the years by the various monarchs.

The Tower, or Bloody Tower as it is known, has been host to many famous executions and imprisonments, including those of Anne Boleyn, Catherine Howard, Lady Jane Grey and Sir Walter Raleigh. The Jewel House, which houses the Crown Jewels, lies within the confines of the Tower of London.

The London Eye, next to County Hall, is another of London's most modern landmarks. It is the world's biggest ferry wheel, and will carry 800 passengers at a time on a thirty-minute ride. From its highest point of 450 feet, it promises views of up to 25 miles.

The dome of St Paul's Cathedral is the second biggest dome in the world, after St Peter's in Rome.

The first St Paul's Cathedral was built in 604 AD but burnt down in 675. The rebuilt cathedral was again burnt down in the Great Fire of London in 1666.

On 2nd September, 1666, the Great Fire of London destroyed a large area of the city including St. Paul's Cathedral. Sir Christopher Wren was given the task of designing and rebuilding St. Paul's - a task that was to take him thirty-five years to complete. The most dramatic aspect of St. Paul's was its great dome. It was the second largest dome ever built (the largest was St. Peter's Basilica in Rome).

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 What enhances the natural beauty of the countryside?
- 2 What is Stonehenge?
- 3 When was Stonehenge built?
- 4 Where is Stonehenge situated?
- 5 Who built Windsor Castle?
- 6 What is Hadrian's Wall? What was it used for?
- 7 When was King's College founded?
- 8 What is a welcoming site for returning sailors?
- 9 What is one of the most popular landmarks in London?
- 10 Name the other famous sights in Great Britain.

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - mighty;
- picturesque;
- drag;
- timber;
- found;
- constituent;
- a landmark;
- conduct sittings;
- borough;

- b) - небольшой городок;
- живописный;
- основать;
- проводить заседания;
- древесина;
- межевой знак;
- тянуть, тащить;
- могущественный, сильный;
- составляющий.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

колесо; разрушать; аспект, сторона; крепость; паром; купол; граница; военное вторжение; заключение (в тюрьму); (смертная) казнь.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 Great Britain is a land of (древних городов), royal palaces, massive cathedrals, and legendary sites.

2 Windsor Castle (возвышается) the river Thames for over 900 years. 3 (Это позволило) Roman soldiers to control the movements of people coming into or leaving Roman Britain.

4 The White Cliffs of Dover are (в полном смысле слова) one of the most famous English landmarks.

5 The Palace (лежит) on the north bank of the River Thames in the London borough of the City of Westminster.

6 The Tower, or Bloody Tower as it is known, has been (хозяином) to many famous executions.

7 The first St Paul's Cathedral was built in 604 AD but (спален дотла) in 675.

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## **Unit 8 London**

**Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

London is the capital of England and the United Kingdom, the largest metropolitan area in the United Kingdom and the largest urban zone in the European Union by most measures. London has been a major settlement for two millennia, its history going back to its founding by the Romans, who called it Londinium. London's ancient core, the City of London, largely retains its square-mile mediaeval boundaries. Since at least the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the name London has also referred to the metropolis developed around this core. The bulk of this conurbation forms the London region and the Greater London administrative area, governed by the elected Mayor of London and the London Assembly.

London is a leading global city, with strengths in the arts, commerce, education, entertainment, fashion, finance, healthcare, media, professional services, research and development, tourism and transport all contributing to its prominence. It is the world's largest financial centre alongside New York, has the largest city GDP in Europe and is home to the headquarters of more than 100 of Europe's 500 largest companies. It is the most visited city by international tourists in the world. London's five international airports make its airspace the busiest of any urban centre worldwide and London Heathrow is the world's busiest airport by number of international passengers. London's 43 universities form the largest concentration of higher education institutions in Europe. In 2012 London will become the first city to host the Summer Olympics three times.

London has a diverse range of peoples, cultures and religions, and more than 300 languages are spoken within its boundaries. In July 2007 it had an official population of 7,556,900 within the boundaries of Greater London, making it the most populous municipality in the European Union. The Greater London Urban Area is the second largest in the EU with a population of 8,278,251, while London's metropolitan area is the largest in



the EU with an estimated total population of between 12 million and 14 million.

London contains four World Heritage Sites: the Tower of London; Kew Gardens; the site comprising the Palace of Westminster, Westminster Abbey and St. Margaret's Church; and the historic settlement of Greenwich (in which the Royal Observatory marks the Greenwich Meridian (0° longitude) and GMT). Other famous landmarks include Buckingham Palace, the London Eye, Piccadilly Circus, 30 St Mary Axe ("The Gherkin"), St Paul's Cathedral, Tower Bridge and Trafalgar Square. London is home to numerous museums, galleries, libraries, sporting events and other cultural institutions including the British Museum, National Gallery, British Library, Wimbledon and 40 theatres. London's Chinatown is the largest in Europe. The London Underground network is the oldest underground railway network in the world and the most extensive after the Shanghai Metro.

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 What is the largest metropolitan area in the United Kingdom?
- 2 Who founded London?
- 3 Who governs London?
- 4 In what spheres does London have strengths?
- 5 Is London home to the headquarters of big companies?
- 6 How many international airports does London have?
- 7 How many universities are there in London?
- 8 How many languages are spoken in London?
- 9 What World Heritage Sites are there in London?
- 10 Is the London Underground network the oldest underground railway network in the world?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - urban;  
- a settlement;  
- a core;  
- retain;  
- mediaeval;  
- a bulk;  
- conurbation;  
- healthcare;  
- prominence;

- b) - здравоохранение;
- вмещать, удерживать;
  - ядро, центр;
  - средневековый;
  - большой город с пригородами;
  - городской;
  - поселение;
  - известность;
  - гряда, кипа, масса.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

включать; наследие; Колесо обозрения в Лондоне; выступать в роли принимающей стороны; штаб-квартира; густонаселенный; предполагаемый; суммарный; содержать; обладающий протяженностью.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 London is the largest urban zone in the European Union (по большей мере).

2 The City of London (в значительной степени) retains its square-mile mediaeval boundaries.

3 Since at least the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the name London (также считался) the metropolis developed around this core.

4 London is a (ведущий) global city.

5 It is the world's largest financial centre alongside New York, has the largest city (валовой внутренний продукт) in Europe.

6 It is (самый посещаемый) city by international tourists in the world.

7 London has a (разнообразный) range of peoples.

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## **Unit 9 Political System of the UK**

**Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

The United Kingdom is a unitary state under a constitutional monarchy. Queen Elizabeth II is head of state of the UK as well as of fifteen other independent Commonwealth countries. The United Kingdom has an uncodified constitution, as do only three other countries in the world. The Constitution of the United Kingdom thus consists mostly of a collection of disparate written sources, including statutes, judge-made case law, and international treaties. As there is no technical difference between ordinary statutes and “constitutional law,” the UK Parliament can perform “constitutional reform” simply by passing Acts of Parliament and thus has the political power to change or abolish almost any written or unwritten element of the constitution. However, no Parliament can pass laws that future Parliaments cannot change.

## **Government**

The UK has a parliamentary government based on the Westminster system that has been emulated around the world – a legacy of the British Empire. The Parliament of the United Kingdom that meets in the Palace of Westminster has two houses: an elected House of Commons and an appointed House of Lords, and any Bill passed requires Royal Assent to become law. It is the ultimate legislative authority in the United Kingdom since the devolved parliament in Scotland and devolved assemblies in Northern Ireland, and Wales are not sovereign bodies and could be abolished by the UK parliament.

The position of Prime Minister, the UK’s head of government, belongs to the Member of Parliament who can obtain the confidence of a majority in the House of Commons, usually the current leader of the largest political party in that chamber. The Prime Minister and Cabinet are formally appointed by the Monarch to form Her Majesty’s Government, though the Prime Minister chooses the Cabinet, and by convention HM The Queen respects the Prime Minister’s choices.

The Palace of Westminster is a seat of both houses of the Parliament of the United Kingdom. The Cabinet is traditionally drawn from members of the Prime Minister’s party in both legislative houses, and mostly from the House of Commons, to which they are responsible. Executive power is exercised by the Prime Minister and Cabinet, all of whom are sworn into Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council, and become Ministers of the Crown. The Rt. Hon. David Cameron, leader of the Conservative Party, has been Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service since 11 May 2010. For elections to the House of Commons, the UK is currently divided into 650 constituencies with each electing a

single Member of Parliament by simple plurality. General elections are called by the Monarch when the Prime Minister so advises. The Parliament Act (1911) requires that a new election must be called within five years of the previous general election.

The UK's three major political parties are the Conservative Party, the Labour Party, and the Liberal Democrats, who won between them 622 out of 650 seats available in the House of Commons: 621 seats at the 2010 general election and 1 more at the delayed by-election in Thirsk and Malton. Most of the remaining seats were won by minor parties that only contest elections in one part of the UK such as the Scottish National Party (Scotland only), Plaid Cymru (Wales only), and the Democratic Unionist Party, Social Democratic and Labour Party, Ulster Unionist Party, and Sinn Féin (Northern Ireland only, though Sinn Féin also contests elections in Ireland). In accordance with party policy, no elected Sinn Féin Member of Parliament has ever attended the House of Commons to speak in the House on behalf of their constituents as Members of Parliament are required to take an oath of allegiance to the Monarch. However, the current five Sinn Féin MPs have since 2002 made use of the offices and other facilities available at Westminster. For elections to the European Parliament, the UK currently has 72 MEPs, elected in 12 multi-member constituencies.

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 What kind of state is the United Kingdom?
- 2 Who is head of state of the UK?
- 3 What does the Constitution of the United Kingdom consist of?
- 4 How can the UK Parliament perform “constitutional reform”?
- 5 What kind of parliament does the UK have?
- 6 Where does the Parliament of the United Kingdom meet?
- 7 What Houses does the Parliament of the United Kingdom consist of?
- 8 Who appoints the Prime Minister and Cabinet?
- 9 Who traditionally comprises the Cabinet?
- 10 What are three major political parties in the UK?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - a constitutional monarchy;
- uncodified;
- disparate;
- a treaty;
- a statute;

- abolish;
- emulate;
- a legacy;
- legislative;

- b) - несоизмеримый;
- законодательный акт парламента;
  - законодательный;
  - договор;
  - неcodифицированный;
  - конституционная монархия;
  - аннулировать;
  - наследие;
  - следовать примеру.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

посещать; осуществлять; получать; доверие; доступный; возможность; клятва верности; бороться за; клясться; составлять.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 The UK Parliament has the political power to change or abolish almost (любой) written or unwritten element of the constitution.

2 The Parliament of the United Kingdom that meets in the Palace of Westminster has two houses: an (избираемый) House of Commons and an appointed House of Lords.

3 The devolved parliament in Scotland and devolved assemblies in Northern Ireland, and Wales are not sovereign (органы).

4 (Исполнительная власть) is exercised by the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

5 General elections (назначаются) by the Monarch when the Prime Minister so advises.

6 (В соответствии с) party policy, no elected Sinn Féin Member of Parliament has ever attended the House of Commons.

7 However, the current five Sinn Féin MPs have since 2002 (воспользовались) of the offices and other facilities available at Westminster.

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## Unit 10 The Republic of Belarus

### Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:

Belarus is situated in the centre of Europe, and has international borders with five countries: Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia.

Although a landlocked state, the location has made Belarus an important trade and transport route between Europe and the CIS.

The total land area of Belarus is more than 207,000 square kilometers.

Minsk, the capital of Belarus, is located in the centre of the country. Minsk today is a modern international city. The first recorded mention of the city goes back to 1067.

Over the course of its chequered history, Minsk has been destroyed and rebuilt numerous times, most recently after World War 2, when it was almost completely destroyed.

More than 1.8 million people live in Minsk today. It has excellent transport links including Minsk airport, several major train stations, the Minsk metro underground network, and a well-developed road system.

The country of Belarus is divided into six administrative districts, each centred around a major city: Brest region, Gomel region, Grodno region, Minsk region, Mogilev region, Vitebsk region.

Belarus has a moderate continental climate, with cool humid winters and warm summers. Average temperatures vary across Belarus. In January, temperatures average from  $-4.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $-8^{\circ}\text{C}$ . In July the average temperature is  $+17^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+18.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Some parts of Belarus experience sub-zero temperatures for more than a third of the year.

Belarus has an average annual rainfall of 600–700 mm. 70% of the rain falls from April to October. Belarus also enjoys 75–125 days of snow each year, with falls ranging from 15 to 30 cm.

Belarus rarely experiences the extremes of temperature that can make travelling difficult. Indeed, if you don't mind the cold then it can be very beautiful to visit during the winter months.

If you prefer a warmer trip then you should go in the middle of the year (but take an umbrella just in case).

### Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:

1 Where is Belarus situated?

2 What countries does Belarus have international borders with?

3 What has made Belarus an important trade and transport route between Europe and the CIS?

4 What is the total land area of Belarus?

5 What is the capital of Belarus?

6 When was the first recorded mention of Minsk?

7 Minsk has been destroyed and rebuilt numerous times, hasn't it?

8 How many people live in Minsk?

9 What transport links does Minsk have?

10 How many administrative districts is the country of Belarus divided into?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

a) - a border;

- landlocked;

- trade;

- go back to;

- chequered;

- excellent;

- well-developed;

- a road system;

- administrative;

b) - хорошо развитый;

- дорожная система;

- административный;

- граница;

- торговый;

- превосходный;

- датироваться;

- почти полностью окруженный сушей;

- разнообразный.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

главный; влажный; средний; умеренно континентальный климат; одна треть; ниже нуля; ежегодный; быть против; испытывать; колебаться в известных пределах.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

- 1 Although a landlocked state, the location has made Belarus an important trade and transport route between Europe and (СНГ).
- 2 Minsk, the capital of Belarus, (располагается) in the centre of the country. Minsk today is a modern international city.
- 3 (На протяжении) of its chequered history, Minsk has been destroyed and rebuilt numerous times.
- 4 Belarus has a moderate continental climate, with (прохладными) humid winters and warm summers.
- 5 Belarus has an average annual (количество осадков) of 600-700 mm. 70% of the rain falls from April to October.
- 6 Belarus rarely experiences the (крайности) of temperature that can make travelling difficult.
- 7 (Конечно), if you don't mind the cold then it can be very beautiful to visit during the winter months.

### **Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## **Unit 11 Attractions in Belarus**

### **Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

Whether it is WW I or WW II, Napoleon war or Northern wars – they happened here in Belarus. There is plenty of history of Russian Socialist revolution here too. Belarus has the richest Jewish history. Whether it is David Mayer-Lanski or David Sarnoff, Isaac Asimov or Menachem Begin, Irving Berlin or Eliayahu Golomb, Kirk Douglas or Gwyneth Paltrow, Haim Weizmann, Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, Shimon Peres, Marc Chagall, Micgel Kikoine, the Chofetz Chaim, Bielski brothers, and the first Lubavitcher Rebbe – they were born or have roots in Belarus or within 50 miles of its current borders. The first ever Yeshiva was built in Valozhyn, Belarus.

There are plenty of XII–XIV centuries Castles left in Belarus. Most of them half destroyed. Some (in Mir, Nyasvizh, Zaslaue, Lida, Kamianec) are reasonably preserved. Mir Castle is one of the many former residences of the famous Belarusian Radzivill family. Today it is a residence of the college of architectural restoration



You can still find XII century orthodox churches in Hrodna, Mahilyow, Polacak, Navahradak, etc. There are beautiful and mighty catholic churches (XIV–XVI cc.) well preserved in Hrodna, Vitebsk, Vidzy, etc.

There is the “Farny” Jesuit Cathedral in Hrodna, built in XVII–XVIII cc by the King of Rzhech Pospolita Polsko-Litewska – Stefan Batory.

If you are flying it is most likely that you will come to our capital Minsk. Although completely destroyed during the WW II it was rebuilt in a beautiful city. As for me I like its botanical garden.

During WW II every fourth (by some accounts 1/3) citizen of Byelorussian SSR perished. Thus we do have a lot of memorials for the victims of WW II. The most known are Khatyn, close to Minsk, and Brest Fortress. Khatyn is a memorial to a village burned during WW II with its inhabitants alive by Nazi. It has a Graveyard of Villages – each grave symbolizes one of those many Belarusian villages that have shared their terrible fate with Khatyn.

Brestskaya Krepsc is famous for the deed of its heroic garrison. It was defending their post for more than month completely cut off, surrounded by Germans, far from the front that was moving fast to Moscow. They all perished but did not surrender. In commemoration of this deed a tremendous memorial was arisen in Brest. Belarusians had an unprecedented guerilla resistance scale – hundreds of thousands of partisan fighters stayed in Belarusian woods fighting Germans. Bielski brothers saved more than 1,200 of their fellow Jews from perishing in the Holocaust – as many as Oscar Schindler, – the largest rescue of Jews by Jews in all of World War II

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 Where did WW I or WW II, Napoleon war, Northern wars happen?
- 2 Does Belarus have the richest Jewish history?
- 3 Who was born or has roots in Belarus or within 50 miles of its current borders?
- 4 What castles are there in Belarus?
- 5 Which of the castles is one of the many former residencies of the famous Belarusian Radzivill family?
- 6 Can you still find XII century orthodox churches in Belarus?
- 7 Are there a lot of memorials for the victims of WW II in Belarus? Which of them is the most famous one?
- 8 What is Khatyn a memorial to?
- 9 What is Brestskaya Krepsc famous for?

10 Who stayed in Belarusian woods fighting Germans?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - happen;  
- plenty of;  
- a root;  
- reasonably;  
- preserved;  
- a residence;  
- restoration;  
- orthodox;  
- depict;

- b) - отображать;  
- резиденция;  
- сохранившийся;  
- корень;  
- много;  
- случаться, происходить;  
- православный;  
- довольно, достаточно;  
- реконструкция.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

близко к; заживо; могила; делить; судьба; вероятный; полностью; мемориал; деяние; погибнуть.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 Belarus has (самую богатую) Jewish history.

2 Most of them (наполовину разрушены).

3 Mir Castle is one of the many (бывших) residencies of the famous Belarusian Radzivil family.

4 As for me I like (его) botanical garden.

5 (Таким образом) we do have a lot of memorials for the victims of WW II.

6 Khatyn is a memorial to a village burned during WW II with its (жителями) alive by Nazi.

7 It (защищала) their post for more than month completely cut off, surrounded by Germans, far from the front that was moving fast to Moscow.

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## **Unit 12 Education in Belarus**

**Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

Belarus has a well-regarded education system, including universities and further education institutions that attract numerous foreign students

Pre-school education is not compulsory in Belarus but around 70 % of children do attend nursery or kindergarten before they start school.

Most children in Belarus start school at the age of 6. All pupils must follow the basic education curriculum up to the age of 15, and the vast majority of pupils stay at school until they finish their high school education at 18.

At the age of 15, pupils that have successfully completed basic education can attend college or professional technical institutions where they can focus on completing their high school education and work toward a professional certificate.

Completion of a high school or professional certificate allows students to apply to continue their education at the university level.

There are two official languages within the education system in Belarus, Russian and Belarusian.

Belarus has one of the highest student-to-population ratios in Europe. The higher education system in Belarus is seen as prestigious due to its high quality and affordability.

There are four main types of higher education establishments to choose from, which can be either private or state operated: classical university, profile university or academy, institute, higher college.

Most courses run for 5 years and students can choose to study full time, at evening classes or by correspondence.

Grants are available for full-time students and scholarships are awarded to very gifted students.

All higher education establishments are governed by the Ministry of Education in Belarus.

More than 6000 foreign students study at higher education institutions and universities in Belarus every year.

All colleges and universities in Belarus have an accommodation department, which can help you get a residence permit and find lodgings. Most students live in student hostels.

There are more than 50 higher education establishments in Belarus.

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

1 Does Belarus have a well-regarded education system?

2 Is pre-school education not compulsory in Belarus?

3 At what age do most children in Belarus start school?

4 At what age can pupils that have successfully completed basic education attend college or professional technical institutions?

5 What does completion of a high school or professional certificate allow students?

6 How many official languages are there within the education system in Belarus?

7 How many types of higher education establishments to choose from are there in Belarus?

8 Most courses run for 5 years, don't they?

9 Who are grants available for?

10 Can foreign students study at our universities?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

a) - well-regarded;

- attract;

- compulsory;

- a curriculum;

- basic education;

- focus on;

- a professional certificate;

- completion;

- apply;

b) - концентрироваться на;

- подавать заявление;

- завершение;

- привлекать;

- обязательный;

- начальное образование;
- аттестат;
- учебный план;
- высоко оценивается.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

награждать; одаренный; доступность; выбирать; обучаться на стационаре; стипендия; коэффициент; заочно; высшее учебное учреждение; управляется государством.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 Belarus has a well-regarded (образовательную) system, including universities and further education institutions that attract numerous foreign students

2 (Около) 70 % of children do attend nursery or kindergarten before they start school.

3 All pupils (должны придерживаться) the basic education curriculum up to the age of 15.

4 The higher education system in Belarus (считается) as prestigious due to its high quality and affordability.

5 There are four main types of higher education establishments to choose from, which can be either (частными) or state operated.

6 Most courses (длятся) for 5 years.

7 Most students live (в студенческих общежитиях).

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

**Unit 13 Higher Education in Great Britain**

**Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:**

All British universities are private institutions. Students have to pay fees and living costs, but every student may obtain a personal grant from local authorities. If the parents do not earn much money, their children will receive a full grant which will cover all the expenses. Students studying for first degrees are known as “undergraduates”. New undergraduates in some

universities are called “freshers”. They have lectures, there are regular seminars.

After three or four years the students will take their finals. Those who pass examinations successfully are given the Bachelor’s degree: Bachelor of Arts for History or Bachelor of Science. The first postgraduate degree is Master of Arts, Master of Science. Doctor of Philosophy is the highest degree. It is given for some original research work which is an important contribution to knowledge. Open Days are a chance for applicants to see the university, meet students and ask questions. All this will help you decide whether you have made the right choice.

The most famous universities in Britain are Oxford and Cambridge. They are the two oldest English universities and they both have a long and eventful history of their own. Oxford and Cambridge are regarded as being academically superior to other universities and as giving special privilege and prestige. Cambridge University consists of a group of 32 independent colleges. The first students came to the city in 1209 and studied in the schools of the cathedral and monasteries.

Further education in Britain is for people over 16 taking courses at various levels up to the standard required for entry to higher education. The Open University offers degrees for people who do not have a formal education and qualifications, or who are older. Students study at home and then post them off to a tutor for marking. Most courses take six years and students get a number of credits for each year’s work. The Open University was founded in 1969 and started its first course in 1971. About 120, 000 people have enrolled since then.

**Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:**

- 1 Are British universities state operated?
- 2 May every student obtain a personal grant from local authorities in Britain?
- 3 How are students studying for first degrees called?
- 4 When will the students take their finals?
- 5 Which of the students is given the Bachelor’s degree?
- 6 What is the first postgraduate degree?
- 7 Open Days are a chance for applicants to see the university, aren’t they?
- 8 What are the most famous universities in Britain?
- 9 What colleges does Cambridge consist of?
- 10 What does the Open University offer?

### **Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

- a) - a fee;
- living costs;
- obtain;
- earn;
- a fresher;
- pass examinations;
- a degree;
- research;
- a contribution;

- b) - сдать экзамены;
- исследование;
- вклад;
- платеж;
- зарабатывать;
- степень;
- первокурсник;
- расходы на жизнь;
- получать.

### **Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

привилегия; независимый; полный событий; абитуриент; зачет; ставить оценку; записываться; превосходить; наставник; поступление.

### **Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

- 1 Their children will receive a full grant which (покроет все расходы).
- 2 After three or four years the students (будут сдавать) their finals.
- 3 All this will help you decide whether you have made (правильный выбор).
- 4 Oxford and Cambridge (считаются) as being academically superior to other universities.
- 5 (Дальнейшее образование) in Britain is for people over 16 taking courses at various levels.
- 6 Students study at home and then (отправляют их) to a tutor for marking.
- 7 Most courses (занимают) six years.

### **Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

## Unit 14 Choosing a Profession

### Ex. 1 Read and translate the text:

The problem of choosing the future profession has always been very important. The profession a person chooses in many ways determines his future life. This is a universal problem of our epoch. Every generation in this or that way comes across it. For most people choosing a career is not an easy task. It is one of the most important decisions one makes in life. The properly chosen career makes a person happy and successful for the rest of his life.

There are several factors that influence the decision of young people to make their choice. They concern material and spiritual aspects of the future profession. It is generally believed that professions should be both prestigious and interesting. Everybody wants to benefit from the social privileges provided by the profession. At the same time other factors are important. Much depends on the inclinations and interests of the person. Although it is wonderful when one's hobby becomes one's profession it seldom happens in reality. Another important factor is social environment. The profession of the parents often in this or that way influences the future profession of their children. Today we have dynasties of physicians, historians, lawyers, economists, pilots, and military officers.

It is impossible to forget about the material aspect of the future profession. It indicates the level of the society's values. Today all professions can be classified as prestigious and not prestigious. The problem of prestige is subjective. Nobody can explain the meaning of this notion. "Prestigious" jobs give a chance to an individual to enter the upper circles of the society. When the job is prestigious money is of secondary importance. The future profession should be interesting and meet the demands of the person.

### Ex. 2 Answer the following questions:

- 1 The problem of choosing the future profession has always been very important, hasn't it?
- 2 What determines a person's future life?
- 3 Is choosing a career an easy task?
- 4 What makes a person happy and successful for the rest of his life?
- 5 What factors influence the decision of young people to make their choice?



6 Does everybody want to benefit from the social privileges provided by the profession?

7 What does much depend on while choosing a career?

8 Does the profession of the parents often influence the future profession of their children?

9 What indicates the level of the society's values?

10 The problem of prestige is subjective, isn't it?

**Ex. 3 Match the equivalents:**

a) - determine;

- an epoch;

- a generation;

- come across;

- a decision;

- properly;

- concern;

- spiritual;

- benefit from;

b) - решение;

- должным образом;

- эпоха;

- духовный;

- касаться;

- извлекать выгоду из;

- встречаться, натолкнуться;

- определять;

- поколение.

**Ex. 4 Find English equivalents in the text:**

юрист; субъективный; невозможный; значение; социальная среда; ценность; объяснять; представление, понятие; склонность; врач.

**Ex. 5 Translate the words given in brackets into English. Use the words and phrases from the text:**

1 The profession a person chooses (во многом) determines his future life.

2 It is one of the most important decisions one (принимает) in life.

3 The properly chosen career makes a person happy and successful for (остаток) of his life.

4 There are several factors that influence the decision of young people (сделать свой выбор).

5 It is generally believed that professions should be (и) prestigious (и) interesting.

6 Although it is wonderful when one's hobby becomes one's profession it seldom happens (в реальности).

7 The future profession should be interesting and (удовлетворять потребностям) of the person.

**Ex. 6 Retell the text.**

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РЕПОЗИТОРИЙ ГГУ ИМЕНИ Ф.СКОРНИНА

Учебное издание

**САЖИНА Елена Владимировна**

**АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК**

**ПРАКТИЧЕСКОЕ ПОСОБИЕ**

**для студентов 1–2 курса  
специальности 1-33 01 02 «Геоэкология»  
по теме  
«ENGLISH VOCABULARY IN USE»**

В авторской редакции

Лицензия №02330/0133208 от 30. 04.04.

Подписано в печать . Формат 60x84 1/16. Бумага писчая № 1.

Гарнитура «Таймс». Усл. печ. л. . Уч.-изд. л. . Тираж экз.

Заказ № .

Отпечатано на ризографе с оригинала-макета  
учреждения образования

«Гомельский государственный университет имени Франциска  
Скорины»

Лицензия № 02330/0056611 от 16.02. 04.

246019, г. Гомель, ул. Советская, 104