



Министерство науки и высшего образования
Российской Федерации

Братский педагогический колледж

федерального государственного бюджетного
образовательного учреждения высшего образования

«Братский государственный университет»

Иностранный язык

Учебно-практическое пособие Сборник текстов по страноведению

для студентов
очной и заочной форм обучения

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Братск, 2021

Учебно-практическое пособие. Сборник текстов по страноведению: Учебно-практическое пособие. / Сост. Н.П. Грудинина – Братск: БПК ФГБОУ ВО «БрГУ», 2021 – 37 с.

Рассматриваются тексты по пяти англо-говорящим странам: Великобритании, США, Канаде, Австралии и Новой Зеландии. Содержит комплекс текстов с заданиями по изучаемым темам. Предназначено для студентов всех специальностей в качестве справочного и практического материала и может быть использовано для работы в аудитории под руководством преподавателя, так и при самостоятельной подготовки.

Печатается по решению научно-методического совета
Братского педагогического колледжа ФГБОУ ВО «БрГУ»
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Прочитайте и переведите текст и ответьте на вопросы
GREAT BRITAIN

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is situated on the British Isles. It consists of four parts: England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

England, Wales and Scotland occupy the territory of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is situated in the northern part of Ireland. The territory of the United Kingdom is about 244000 square kilometres. The population is over 56 million people. The capital of the United Kingdom is London.

The surface of the United Kingdom varies greatly. The northern and the western parts of the country are mountainous and are called the Highlands. All the rest is a vast plain which is called the Lowlands. The mountains are not very high. The rivers are not very long. The most important of them are the Severn and the Thames. There are many beautiful lakes in the mountainous part of the country.

The mountains, the Atlantic Ocean and the warm waters of the Gulf Stream influence the climate of Great Britain. It is mild the whole year round. Winters are not cold and summers are not hot.

Great Britain is a highly developed industrial country. It is known as one of the world's largest producers and exporters of iron and steel products, machinery and electronics, chemicals and textile. One of the industries is shipbuilding.

Great Britain is a country with old cultural traditions and customs. The most famous educational centres are Oxford and Cambridge universities. They are considered to be the intellectual centres of Europe. The education is not free, it is very expensive.

The United Kingdom is a monarchy and the Queen is the head of the state. But in practice it is ruled by the government with the Prime Minister at the head. The British Parliament consists of two chambers: the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

There are three main political parties in Great Britain: the Labour party, the Conservative party and the Liberal party.

Words

to be situated — быть расположенным

British Isles — Британские острова

to occupy — занимать

surface — поверхность

to vary — меняться
high — высокий
plain — равнина
vast — огромный
lake — озеро
mountainous — гористый
shipbuilding — кораблестроение
education — образование
free — бесплатный
expensive — дорогой
to influence — влиять
climate — климат
mild — мягкий
industry — промышленность
population — население
develop — развивать
to produce — производить
to export — экспортировать
chemicals — продукты химической промышленности
textile — текстиль
government — правительство
chamber — палата
to rule — править

Questions

1. What is the official name of Great Britain?
2. Where is it situated?
3. What parts does it consist of?
4. What is the territory and the population of Great Britain?
5. What city is the capital of Great Britain?
6. What is the surface of the country?
7. Are there any big rivers and lakes in Great Britain?
8. What is the climate on the British Isles?
9. Is Great Britain a highly developed industrial country?
10. What goods does the British industry produce?
11. Are there any big educational establishments in Great Britain?
12. Is Great Britain a constitutional monarchy?
13. What is the name of the Queen of Great Britain?
14. How many chambers does the British Parliament consist of?

What are they?

15. What are the main political parties in Great Britain

Прочитайте текст и выполните задание

THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the UK) is the official name of the state which is situated in the British Isles. Thus "Great Britain" is often the same as "Britain" and refers¹ only to Scotland, England and Wales. The "United Kingdom", or the "UK" includes Northern Ireland. It consists of four countries which are England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Their capitals are London, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast.

The UK is an island state. The two main islands are Great Britain (where England, Scotland and Wales are situated) and Ireland. Northern Ireland and the independent Irish Republic are there. The two islands are separated by the Irish Sea.

The UK is separated from the continent by the English Channel and the Straits of Dover. Once the British Isles used to be a part of the continent. The nearest point to Europe is the Straits of Dover. The UK is also washed by the Atlantic Ocean in the north and the North Sea in the east.

Everyone who was born in Britain is British. People from England are English. People from Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland are not English. They are Scottish or Scots; Welsh and Irish. People from Scotland and Wales don't like it when they are called English but they are British.

More than 56 million people live in Britain. Many of them live in big industrial cities like London. Manchester and Liverpool, for example, are big industrial cities in the centre of England. But foreigners are often surprised by the fact that much of the land in Britain is open country. There are many lonely hills, quiet rivers, deep lakes and farmlands especially in the south of the country.

Everyone in Britain speaks English, but in some parts of Scotland and Wales people speak different languages as well. The Welsh are especially proud of their language. They like to speak Welsh, to sing

¹ refer to — относиться к

songs in Welsh and when you travel you can see road signs in Welsh all over Wales.

Everyone in the UK speaks English but they all speak it differently. A Scottish person has to listen carefully if he wants to understand a Londoner or a Welsh person.

As you know, the flag of the United Kingdom is known as the Union Jack. It is made up of three crosses. The upright red cross is the cross of St. George, the patron saint of England. The white diagonal cross is the cross of St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland. The red diagonal cross is the cross of St. Patric, the patron saint of Ireland. Wales has its own flag called the Welsh dragon. The patron saint of Wales is St. David.

The red rose is the national emblem of England, the thistle is the national emblem of Scotland. The daffodils and the leek are the emblems of Wales and the shamrock is the emblem of Ireland.

Could you answer the questions?

1. Where is the UK situated?
2. Why do you think the UK is called "an island state"?
3. What other country is situated in the British Isles?
4. What languages are spoken in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland?
5. How many people live in Britain?
6. What is the Union Jack? What do you know about it?

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the UK)

<i>State/ Country</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>People</i>	<i>Language</i>
Great Britain	London	the British	English
England	London	the English	English
Scotland	Edinburgh	the Scots	Scottish/English
Wales	Cardiff	the Welsh	Welsh/English
Northern Ireland	Belfast	the Irish	Irish/English

¹ the patron saint [ˈpeɪtrən ˈseɪnt] — святой покровитель

Complete the following sentences:

1. _____ is the official name of the state which is situated on the British Isles.
2. The capital of Great Britain is _____ .
3. The capital of Scotland is _____ .
4. The capital of Northern Ireland is _____ .
5. The capital of Wales is _____ .
6. Ireland and Great Britain are separated by _____ .
7. The UK is separated from the continent by _____ .
8. Once _____ used to be a part of the continent.
9. The UK is washed by _____ in the north.
10. _____ The UK is washed by _____ in the east.

Disagree with the following and correct the statements:

1. People speak only English on the British Isles.
2. The Union Jack is the national flag of England.
3. The Union Jack is made of three squares.
4. People who were born in Scotland are not British.
5. People from Scotland and Wales are English.
6. You can never see signs in Welsh when you travel in Britain.
7. The UK consists of three countries.

Fill in articles where necessary:

1. ___ British Isles
2. ___ Cardiff
3. ___ Scots
4. ___ Atlantic Ocean
5. ___ Wales
6. ___ Straits of Dover
7. ___ Scottish
8. ___ English Channel
9. ___ English
10. ___ Union Jack
11. ___ Belfast
12. ___ Irish Sea
13. ___ Ireland
14. ___ Northern Ireland
15. ___ United Kingdom

Прочитайте тексты и выполните задание

THE QUEEN AND PARLIAMENT

It is rather difficult to understand the British way of ruling the country. In Britain the Queen is the Head of State, but in fact she doesn't rule the country as she has no power. The Queen is the symbol of the country, its history and its traditions. She is very rich. She travels about the United Kingdom, meets different people and visits schools, hospitals and other special places. So do all the members of the Royal Family.

At the beginning of the 20th century many countries all over the world were ruled by Britain. Among them were the British colonies and they were all part of the British Empire. India, Pakistan and Ceylon, for example, were also part of the Empire. Now these countries are independent states. But in 1949 Britain and the former colonies founded

the Commonwealth.¹ The Commonwealth includes many countries such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand and others. The Queen of Great Britain is also the Head of the Commonwealth and the Queen of Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The real power in the country belongs to the British Parliament and to the British Government. The British Parliament has two houses: the House of Commons² and the House of Lords.³ The House of Lords does not have much power but it is very important as it can discuss and change laws, it can delay laws too. The House of Commons makes laws about the policy of the country, taxes⁴ and many other things.

¹ the Commonwealth — Содружество наций

² the House of Commons — палата общин

³ the House of Lords — палата лордов

⁴ taxes — налоги

Answer the following questions from the text.

1. Who is the Head of State in Britain?
2. Does the Queen rule the country?
3. What does the Queen do?
4. What do you know about the Royal Family?
5. What countries were included into the British Empire at the beginning of the 20th century?
6. What happened in 1949?
7. Who does the real power in Britain belong to?

¹ to select [si'lekt] — отбирать

² a peer [pis] — пэр

UK POLITICAL SYSTEM

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is a parliamentary monarchy. This means that the power of the British monarch is limited by Parliament.

The legislative power belongs to Parliament which consists of two houses: the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The House of Lords is composed of 800 peers who are not elected, they inherit this right from their fathers. The Chairman of this House is called Lord Chancellor. 630 members of the House of Commons are elected by people every five years. The Chairman of this house is the speaker. The main function of the Parliament is law-making.

The executive power is realized by Prime Minister and his Cabinet. The government is usually formed by the party that wins the election and receives the majority in the House of Commons. The leader of the party becomes Prime Minister. He appoints ministers and forms the Cabinet. The Cabinet, consisting of 20 ministers, holds office for five years. The second largest party becomes the official opposition with its own leader and the Shadow Cabinet. The two leading parties in Great Britain are the Conservative Party and the Labour Party.

The judiciary branch of the government determines common law and is independent of both legislative and the executive branches.

Complete the text with the following words:

royal, rule (*v*), parliament, power, belong, symbol, former, queen, include, independent, Britain, queen

In the UK real ___ does not belong to the Queen, though the ___ family is still very important for the country. The Queen is the ___ of the country. She doesn't ___ the country. The real power in the country ___ to the British ___.

In 1949 ___ and the ___ colonies founded the Commonwealth. The former British colonies are ___ states now. The Commonwealth ___ many countries. The ___ of Great Britain is also the Head of the Commonwealth. She is the ___ of Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Group the words into three categories: *nouns, verbs, adjectives*:

Power, delay, lawyer, law, offer, former, permanent, elect, royal, belong (to), include.

You know the noun *saint*, can you guess what *saint* (*adj*) means? Try and guess the meanings of the following words:

- 1) a saint — святой; saint (*adj*) _____
- 2) to offer (*v*) — предлагать; offer (*n*) _____
- 3) a rule (*n*) — правило; to rule (*v*) _____
- 4) to delay (*v*) — откладывать; delay (*n*) _____
- 5) a place (*n*) — место; to place (*v*) _____

Read the text "The Queen and Parliament" and agree or disagree with the following statements:

1. The Queen is the Head of State in Britain.
2. She is also the Head of the Commonwealth.
3. All the power in Great Britain belongs to the Queen and the royal family.
4. The Queen has got 3 daughters.
5. The former British colonies belong to Britain.
6. The Commonwealth was founded in 1959.
7. The Commonwealth includes only Britain and Australia.
8. The British Parliament consists of two houses.
9. The House of Lords has got all the power in Britain.
10. The House of Lords makes laws.
11. The members of the House of Commons are elected.
12. The British people elect 650 members of the House of Commons every five years.

Look through the text again and complete the following statements:

- 1) ___ doesn't rule the country.
- 2) The Queen is the symbol of ___.
- 3) ___ were ruled by Britain.
- 4) At the beginning of the 20th century India, Pakistan, Ceylon were ___.
- 5) Nowadays these countries are ___.
- 6) The Commonwealth includes many countries such as ___.
- 7) The real power in Great Britain belongs to ___.
- 8) The British Parliament has two houses: ___.
- 9) The House of Lords is very important as ___.
- 10) The House of Commons ___ about the policy of the country.
- 11) The members of the House of Lords are not elected, they are ___.

Прочитайте и переведите текст и ответьте на вопросы:

LONDON

London is the capital of Great Britain, its political, economic and commercial centre. It is one of the largest cities in the world and the largest city in Europe. Its population is about 8 million.

London is situated on the river Thames. The city is very old. It has more than 20 centuries old history. Traditionally it is divided into

several parts, the City, Westminster, the West End and the East End. They are very different from each other.

The City is the oldest part of London, its financial and business centre. Numerous banks, offices and firms are concentrated here. Few people live in the City but over a million come to work here. There are two places of interest in the City: St. Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London. St. Paul's Cathedral was built in the 17th century by the architect Christopher Wren. The Tower of London was built in the 15th century. It was used as a fortress, a palace and a prison. Now it's a museum.

Westminster is the aristocratic official part of London. There are Buckingham Palace where the Queen lives and the Houses of Parliament along the north bank of the Thames.

The clock tower of the Houses of Parliament is famous for its big hour bell known as «Big Ben». Westminster Abbey is the place where the coronation of nearly all kings and queens has taken place. Many of them are buried here as well as some other famous people of the country.

The West End is the richest and most beautiful part of London. The best hotels, restaurants, shops, clubs, parks and houses are situated there. There are many tourists there from different countries of the world.

Trafalgar Square is the geographical centre of London, it was named in the memory of Admiral Nelson's victory in the battle of Trafalgar in 1805. The tall Nelson's Column stands in the middle of the square.

The East End is an industrial district of London. There are many factories there. The region is densely populated by working class families.

Words

capital — столица

centre — центр

numerous — многочисленный

palace — дворец

fortress — крепость

cathedral — собор

hotel — гостиница

prison — тюрьма

clock tower — колокольня
memory — память
residence — резиденция
official — официальный
densely — плотно
populated — населено

Questions

1. What is the capital of Great Britain?
2. Is London a big city?
3. What is London's population?
4. On what river does London stand?
5. Into what parts is London divided?
6. Why is the City called the business centre of London?
7. What places of interest does Westminster include?
8. Who was buried in Westminster Abbey?
9. What is the West End famous for?
10. Why is the central square in London named Trafalgar Square?
11. Who lives in the East End?

Прочитайте текст:

LONDON - THE CAPITAL OF THE UK

More than two thousand years ago the early Britons established a settlement on the north bank of the Thames. The site had many advantages. It was defended on two sides by rivers. It lay in the centre of the most fertile region. The old Britons gave the town its name, Lyndin, the Romans made it the centre of their colony, the Germanic invaders tried to burn and destroy it, the victorious Normans made it the capital of the country.

Now London is the capital of the UK, its political, economic and commercial centre. It is one of the biggest and busiest ports of Great Britain. Modern London is situated on both sides of the Thames. Its population is more than eight million people. The main parts of London are: Westminster, the City, the West End and the East End.

Westminster is now the political centre of London. In the 11th century King Edward the Confessor decided to build a great abbey church there. William the Conqueror was crowned there, and since then all the coronations have taken place in the Abbey.

During the reign of Edward the Confessor the Palace of Westminster was built too. It was the Royal residence and also the country's main court. The Parliament met here since the 16th till the 19th century. The present Houses of Parliament were built after the fire in the Palace of Westminster in 1834. At two corners of the building there are two great towers. One of them is the clock Tower with a huge bell known all over the world as Big Ben, called so after the name of the Chief Commissioner of Works Benjamin Hall.

The City is the oldest part of London, its financial and business centre. The Royal Exchange, the Stock Exchange, Bank of England, numerous offices and trusts are situated here. During the daytime nearly a million people work there, but less than 8000 people actually live there.

The West End is the richest part of London, the symbol of wealth and luxury. The largest and best hotels, theatres, cinemas, shops, restaurants, museums are situated here. Piccadilly Circus is the heart of the West End. It is called "The Hub" (центр, пуп) of Empire or even of the Universe. Piccadilly Circus is quite fantastic with enormous advertisements which are ablaze with light. In the centre of the square is the memorial fountain with the bronze statue of Eros, God of Love.

Londoners are fond of parks and gardens and are proud of them. There are about 550 parks with picturesque surroundings, ponds, fountains, flower-beds and even animals as deer and waterbirds as pelicans, ducks and swans. The most beautiful parks are Regent Park with the Zoo, the Open air Theatre, a 20 acre boating lake, St. James Park, Green Park, the unique botanic garden with exotic plants and flowers. One of the largest park is Hyde park together with Kensington Gardens.

The East End is in great contrast with the wealthy West End. It is largely a working class area and the poorest part of London. All the factories, mills and docks are located in this district. Here people speak the special London dialect called "cockney". The Cockneys consider themselves the real Londoners.

Прочитайте и переведите текст

THE BRITISH FLORAL SYMBOLS

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has four historic parts: England with its capital in London, Scotland with its

capital in Edinburgh, Wales with its capital in Cardiff and Northern Ireland with its capital in Belfast. The floral symbol of England is the RED ROSE. Earlier, it decorated the arms of the House of Lancaster. The Lancastrians argued for the throne of England with the Yorkists whose arms had a white rose. The war for the throne between the Lancastrians and the Yorkists became known in the history of the country as the War of the Red and White Rose. It lasted 30 years (1455-1485). When the Lancastrians won the war, their arms of the Red Rose became the symbol of the whole England.

The Scottish symbol is a wild plant called the THISTLE. At one point, the Scandinavians planned to attack a Scottish village. But since the Scots knew they were coming, they started to prepare for war. Late at night, the Scandinavians came in their bare feet so as to not awaken the Scottish warriors in the village. But the thorns of the thistle hurt their bare feet. Their howls of pain pierced the silence and the Scots awoke to fight the enemy.

The Welsh symbol is a vegetable called the LEEK (or, on occasion, the flower, the daffodil). The patron saint of Wales, David, ate only leeks and bread. In memory of this Christian saint, the leek became the symbol of Wales. Daffodils which burst into flames by the 1st of March celebrate the revered Welsh saint.

The Irish symbol is another wild plant called the SHAMROCK. This plant helped St Patrick explain to the people of his country what the Holy Trinity is. The historic colours of the parts are: England, WHITE, Scotland, BLUE, Wales, RED, Northern Ireland, GREEN. Sport teams of the nations wear these colours.

Прочитайте текст и ответьте на вопросы:

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The United States of America lies in the central part of the North American Continent between the two oceans: the Atlantic Ocean in the East and the Pacific Ocean in the West.

Canada in the North and Mexico in the South are the only countries that have borders with the USA.

The USA consists of three separate parts. They are the Hawaiian Islands in the Pacific Ocean, Alaska and the main part. There are fifty States in the USA. They are very different in size, population and economic development. The smallest state is Rhode Island and the

biggest is Texas. The total area of the USA is about 9 million square kilometres. The population is about 230 million people.

The USA is a big country and the climate conditions are very different in different places.

There are many big cities in the United States: New York, Philadelphia, Houston, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles are the biggest of them.

The USA economically is the most powerful country in the world.

The USA is a parliamentary republic. The government has three branches: the Congress, the President and the Supreme Court.

There are two political parties in the United States: the Democratic Party, their Symbol is a donkey, and the Republican Party, their symbol is an elephant. The president is elected for a 4-year term and not more than two times.

The Congress has two houses; the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the country.

Words

borders — границы

separate — отдельные

climate conditions — климатические условия

parliamentary republic — парламентская республика

branches — ветви

donkey — осел

term — срок

House of Representatives — палата представителей

Supreme Court — Верховный суд

Questions

1. What is the size of the United States?
2. What is the smallest state in the United States?
3. What is the largest state in US?
4. What are the biggest cities of the Unites States?
5. What are the three branches of the US government?
6. What is the political system of the United States?

Прочитайте текст и выполните задание:

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. HISTORY of the USA

North America's first settlers were people, who came from Asia, using the land bridge between North America and Asia. Later the natural bridge was covered with water, the Bering Strait appeared. So the continents were isolated and the migration stopped. Modern Europeans knew nothing about American continent till the XV-th century when Christopher Columbus discovered it.

In 1492 C. Columbus, an Italian sailor, whose lifetime dream was to find a new way to India, sailed westwards with three little ships. It was a very difficult voyage but in three months the ships reached and landed on one of the Bahamas Islands. Until the end of his life Columbus thought that the islands and the mainland were the part of India. That's why they were called West Indies and the red-skinned natives — "Indians".

In 1497 another Italian seaman Amerigo Vespucci explored the coast of South America and proved that the land discovered by Columbus was not India but the new continent. The "New World" was decided to name after him — America, the land of Amerigo.

But only at the beginning of the XVII-th century Englishmen established several colonies and called them new England. It happened in 1620 when some English families (about 100 people) left England on board the ship "Mayflower" and sailed to America. From the Atlantic coast colonists gradually penetrated into the depths of the continent. They drove back the native population, took away their lands by force and deception and destroyed them. The colonists became richer and stronger, but they were ruled by England and paid duty on different things.

At the end of the XVII-th century (in 1775) the colonists started the War of Independence. It lasted eight years. In 1776 the Declaration of Independence was written by Thomas Jefferson. Thirteen colonies declared themselves free and independent of England. This day (July, 4) is considered to be the birthday of the American nation.

After the end of the War of Independence in 1783, 16 states were formed and they chose George Washington as their first president. At present there are 50 stars on the American flag, symbolizing 50 US states, the stripes represent 13 original states.

II. GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION of the USA

The USA is situated in the central part of the North American continent. It occupies the territory of over nine million square kilometres. The population of the country is about 240 million people.

The country borders on Canada in the north and Mexico in the south. In the west it is washed by the Pacific Ocean and in the east — by the Atlantic Ocean.

The continental part of the USA consists of several surface divisions which are determined by the mountain ranges that run from the north to the south. The main highlands are the Appalachian mountains in the east and the Rocky mountains and the Cordillera in the west. Between the mountain ranges are the central lowlands, called the prairie, and the Eastern Lowlands, called the Mississippi Valley.

The greatest rivers of the USA are the Colorado and the Columbia flowing into the Pacific Ocean, the Mississippi with its tributaries the Missouri and the Ohio flowing into the Gulf of Mexico, and the St. Lawrence river and the Hudson river, which flow into the Atlantic Ocean. The rivers in the west are unsuitable for navigation as they are cut by deep rapids. They serve as a great source of electric power.

The country has thousands of lakes of all kinds and sizes. In the north of the country, on the border between the USA and Canada there are five Great Lakes — Lake Superior, Huron, Michigan, Erie and Ontario. They are joined together by short rivers and canals and cut by rapids. The greatest of these rapids is the Niagara Falls. The waters of the five lakes have the outlet into the Atlantic Ocean by the St. Lawrence River. There are different climatic zones on the territory of the USA. But on the whole the climate of the country is continental. Large reserves of coal, oil, gas, iron ores, ferrous and non-ferrous metals form a solid base for the development of the USA industry.

III. ECONOMIC SYSTEM of the USA

The USA is a highly developed capitalist country. It is the leading industrial state of the world. The USA economy is based on the free enterprise system, though some elements of state control and regulation are present.

There is a sharp distinction between the richest part of the population and the poorest one, though the number of middle-class citizens is constantly growing.

The country has a developed system of communications of various kinds: motor-way and railway, phone and computer and others. The availability of raw material, stability of economy provide constant increase of national gross output.

IV. POLITICAL SYSTEM of the USA

The United States of America is a Federal Republic consisting of 50 states. According to the constitution proclaimed in 1787 the power of the government is divided into three branches — the legislative, the executive and the judicial branches.

The legislative branch is the Congress, which consists of the Senate (100 senators, two from each state) and the House of Representatives (435 persons). The function of the legislative branch is to make laws.

The executive branch, which includes the President, Vice-president and the Cabinet consisting of eleven Secretaries of the executive departments, is responsible for administering and executing the laws. The President is the head of the state and the government and the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the USA.

The judicial branch of the federal government consists of the Supreme Court of the United States and the system of federal courts. It has the responsibility of judging the constitutionality of acts of law.

1. Answer the following questions

I. 1. Who were the first settlers of North America? 2. How did they come to the continent? 3. How did C. Columbus discover the new land? 4. What was his life-time dream? 5. How long did his voyage to "India" last? 6. Where did his ships land? 7. Why were the natives called "Indians"? 8. What did A. Vespucci prove? 9. When did Englishmen begin to establish colonies in the "New World"? 10. How did they call their colonies? 11. When did "Mayflower" reach America? 12. How did colonists behave on the continent? 13. Why was the War of Independence broken? 14. How long did it last? 15. What was the result of that war? 16. What was George Washington? 17. What do stars and stripes on the American flag symbolize?

II. 18. Where is the USA situated? 19. What territory does it occupy? 20. What oceans is the country washed by? 21. What countries does it border on? 22. What determines the surface division of the continental part of the USA? 23. What surface divisions does the country consist of? 24. Name the main rivers of the USA and show them on the map. 25. What lakes are there on the territory of the United States of America? 26. How are the five Great Lakes connected with the Ocean? 27. What is the climate in the country? 28. What mineral resources has the United States of America?

III.29. What is the USA economy based on? 30. What system of communication has the country? 31. What provides constant increase of national gross output?

IV. 32. What is the USA from political point of view? 33. What are the three main branches of the power of the government? 34. What is the legislative branch? 35. What is its function? 36. What does the executive branch include? 37. What is it responsible for? 38. What is the role of the President? 39. What does the judicial branch consist of? 40. What is its function?

2. Translate the following words and phrases

I. First settlers; the natural bridge; to discover; a lifetime dream; to sail westwards; a difficult voyage; to reach; to land the island; the mainland; red-skin natives; another seaman; to explore the coast; to prove; it was decided to name; to establish several colonies; on board the ship "Mayflower"; to penetrate gradually; to drive back the native population; to take away the lands; by force; by deception; to destroy; to be ruled; to pay duty; the War of Independence; to last; to declare oneself free and independent; to symbolize; to represent original states.

II. To be situated; to occupy the territory; to border on; to be washed by; in the west; in the east; surface division; the mountain ranges; to run from the north to the south; Rocky mountains; prairie; valley; the tributaries; the Gulf of Mexico; unsuitable for navigation; cut by deep rapids; to serve as a source of electric power; to join together; to have the outlet; on the whole; ferrous and non-ferrous metals; to form a solid base.

III. A highly-developed capitalist country; a leading industrial state; free enterprise system; a sharp distinction; the number of middle-class citizens; rich; poor; to grow constantly; communication of various kinds; railway; availability of raw materials; to provide constant increase; national gross output.

IV. According to the power of the government; the legislative branch; the executive power; the judicial branch; the House of Representatives; to make laws; to be responsible for; administering and executing laws; Commander-in-Chief; Army and Navy; the Supreme Court; to judge the constitutionality of acts of laws.

**Прочитайте текст и ответьте на вопросы:
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Washington, the capital of the United States is situated on the Potomac River in the District of Columbia. The district is a piece of land which does not belong to any one state but to all the States. The district is named in honour of Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of America. It is very interesting that Americans never say simply «Washington». They always add «D.C.» as the indication of the location. It is important because there are many towns with the same name all over the country and even one large state in far north-west.

Washington was founded in 1791 as the capital of the United States of America. Washington is quite a new city. The population of the city is nearly one million people. It is not a very large city, but it is very important as the capital of the USA. There is a law in Washington against building structures higher than the Capitol.

Washington has many historical places. The largest and tallest is the Capitol, where the Congress meets. It is a very beautiful building with white marble columns. Not far from the Capitol is the Library of Congress. It holds five million books.

The White House, the residence of the president is the oldest public structure in the capital and one of the most beautiful. It was built in 1799. It is a two storied white building. Not far from the Capitol is the Washington Monument, which looks like a, very big pencil. It rises 160 metres and it is empty inside. A special lift brings visitors to the top in 70 seconds, from where they can enjoy the view of the city.

The Jefferson Memorial was built in memory of the third President of the USA Thomas Jefferson, who was also the author of the Declaration of Independence. The Memorial is surrounded by cherry trees.

The Lincoln Memorial is devoted to the memory of the sixteenth President of the USA, the author of the Emancipation Proclamation, which gave freedom to Negro slaves in America.

Words

District of Columbia — округ Колумбия

piece of land — участок земли

nearly — около, приблизительно marble — мраморные

two storied — двухэтажный

Declaration of Independence — декларация независимости

Questions

1. When was Washington, D.C. founded?

2. Where is Washington situated?
3. What state does the District of Columbia belong to?
4. What are the most important places of interest in Washington?
5. What is the nickname of the Washington memorial?
6. What is the design of the Lincoln memorial?
7. What is the population of Washington?
8. Are there any specific laws about building of the structures in Washington, D.C.?

Прочитайте текст и ответьте на вопросы:

NEW YORK

New York, one of the largest cities in the world, was founded three hundred years ago in the mouth of the Hudson River.

The centre of New York is Manhattan Island. In 1626 it was bought from the Indians for a sum of twenty-four dollars. Today Manhattan is the centre, of business and commercial life of the country. There are many skyscrapers, banks and offices of American businessmen in Manhattan. Broadway begins here, the Stock Exchange is located here. Very few people live in Manhattan, although the majority work here. Numerous bridges link Manhattan Island with the other parts of New York.

New York is inhabited by people of almost all nationalities. It is even called «Modern Babylon». At the turn of the 20-th century a lot of people came to the USA from different countries of the world. They entered the USA through New York — the Gateway of America.

New York is one of the leading manufacturing cities in the world. The most important branches of industry are those, producing paper products, vehicles, glass, chemicals, machinery. The city traffic is very busy.

Words

mouth — устье

Stock Exchange — Нью-Йоркская фондовая биржа

majority — большинство

numerous — многочисленный

to link — соединять

to inhabit — населять

Babylon — Вавилон
vehicles — средства передвижения (автомобили и т. п.)
gateway — ворота
skyscrapers — небоскребы
branches of industry — отрасли промышленности
city traffic — городской транспорт

Questions

1. When was New York founded?
2. What was the price of Manhattan Island in 1626?
3. What is Manhattan today?
4. Do many people live in Manhattan?
5. What is Broadway famous for?
6. Why is New York called «Modern Babylon»?
7. What are the most important branches of industry in New York?

South Dakota — Южная Дакота
to commemorate — ознаменовывать
human spirit — человеческий дух
determination — решимость
a height — высота
to carve — высекать
Mount Rushmore — гора Рашмор
a skyline — очертания (на фоне неба)
dynamite — динамит
a layer — слой
to blast — взрывать
to dedicate — зд. открывать в торжественной обстановке
growth — рост
a trust — концерн
a conservationist — активный борец за охрану природы
natural resources — природные богатства

Прочитайте текст

THE FACES OF MOUNT RUSHMORE

The guide: In South Dakota we have a joke: What has 60-foot high faces, eyes 11 feet across, noses 20 feet long, mouths that stretch 18 feet wide, and is visited by two and a half million people a year? Today you'll find out. You're going to see a monument that celebrates the memory of some great people in American history, our most respected presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln. But this monument doesn't only commemorate some great people in our history, it is also a monument to the human spirit, determination and hard work, which proves that even the impossible can become possible. "So what's so special about this monument?" you might ask. "What makes people from different parts of America and the world come to this place to see it?" If you've already looked through the fliers or seen the monument on advertising posters, you'll know the answer. The faces of the presidents are carved into a huge granite mountain called Mount Rushmore. Actually, it's probably the largest sculpture in the world and the fact that it was started and completed at a time when people didn't have the kind of powerful tools we have today makes it even more exciting.

It all started in 1923 with Doane Robinson, a South Dakota state historian. His idea was to carve the faces of famous people from the Old West in the mountain. He thought it would attract a lot of tourists, who would come and spend money in the area. Now we know that he was right.

The idea got a lot of support, and government funding was given. Then the sculptor Gutzon Borglum began to search for a suitable place. When he finally found Mount Rushmore, he knew that it was just what he needed. It was also the highest peak in the area and faced southeast, which meant that it would be well lit for most of the day. Borglum pointed at the mountain and said, "America will march along that skyline." It was the beginning of years of hard work.

On October 4, 1927 the carving began. They used dynamite to take rock from the mountain until there was only a thin layer of granite left. The rest of it was removed by hand, keeping teams of workers busy until the presidents' faces were absolutely smooth. If the workers made a mistake, they had to blast huge pieces of rock away and start the face all over again.

Finally, on July 4, 1934, Washington's face was dedicated. This great event attracted a lot of visitors. Before the face was shown to the public, it was covered by a huge flag measuring 39 by 70 feet, which greatly impressed the audience. Two years later Thomas Jefferson's head was dedicated, and a year after that Abraham Lincoln's face was dedicated on September 17, 1937, which was the one hundred fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Constitution. The work was completed in 1941 with the face of another great president, Theodore Roosevelt.

"Why was he chosen among the greatest presidents of the US?" you may ask. In my opinion he deserved it. Theodore Roosevelt did a lot of good for his country. The interests of working people were close to his heart, and he's remembered for his fight against financial monopolies and trusts to help economic growth. But most importantly, he was a conservationist, which means that he placed our unique natural resources under government protection to preserve them for the future. All in all, he set up five national parks, eighteen national monuments, and helped preserve millions of acres of national forest in America.

Прочитайте тексты

THE FLAG OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

The Flag of the United Kingdom is called the Union Flag or THE UNION JACK.

In 1603, King James 1 of England (or Jack for short) united England and Scotland. Then in 1801, there was the union with Ireland. Now the flag combines the emblems of the three countries (England, Scotland and Northern Ireland) united under one monarch. Wales is not represented in the flag because at the time the flag appeared in 1606, Wales was already united with England.

The Union Jack is a combination of the crosses of three patron saints of the country:

- the red cross of Saint GEORGE for England on a white background;
- the white diagonal cross of Saint ANDREW for Scotland on a blue background;
- the red diagonal cross of Saint PATRICK for Ireland on a white background

The United States of America

The American flag is known as THE STARS AND STRIPES. It consists of fifty stars which represent the fifty states. Thirteen red and white horizontal stripes (seven red and six white) stand for the original thirteen States that were united in 1776.

The first flag was called The Grand Union Flag. It combined the flag of Great Britain with the thirteen stripes. It showed that these first thirteen states were British colonies. After the War of Independence, all thirteen states became free and the flag changed. The British flag in the corner was replaced by stars. Every time a new state entered the Union, a star was added.

So now today's flag shows the thirteen stripes for the original number of states in 1776 plus the 50 stars which represent today's total.

EMBLEMS

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The State Emblem of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland shows the union of its four parts: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The emblem was introduced after the union with Scotland in 1603. The shield of the emblem is divided into four parts. There are emblems of England (three lions on a red background), emblem of Scotland (a red lion on a yellow background) and the emblem of Northern Ireland (a yellow harp (арфа) on a blue background).

The two emblems of English lions symbolise the leading role of England in this union. The SHIELD is supported by two mythic animals: the ENGLISH LION and the SCOTTISH UNICORN. The emblem is headed with a crowned lion, the symbol of power and might. Below the emblem, there are floral symbols of the four parts of the country.

The United States of America

The symbol of the country is the BALD-HEADED EAGLE with its wings spread on a white background.

The first Americans chose the eagle as the emblem to symbolise their power. The bald eagle owes its name to the early American colonists. It actually isn't really bald at all but white-headed. This bird lives only in the USA and Canada. In 1782, Congress selected the bald

eagle as the emblem of the newly formed union to show the courage and might of the nation.

Изучите таблицу и составьте сравнительную характеристику стран:

	The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	The United States of America	The Russian Federation
Capital	London	Washington D.C. (District of Columbia)	Moscow
Population	59 million	276 million	147 million
Area	244 thousand sq km	9 million sq km	17 million sq km
Nationality	Britons	Americans	Russian
Ethnic / Cultural groups	English 81.5%, Scots 9.6%, Welsh 1.9%, Irish 2.4%, other nations 2%	most of the population are of European origin: 29% from Britain and Ireland, 8% from Germany, 5% from Italy, 3% from Scandinavia, 3% from Poland; 12% African Americans, 8% Hispanics, 3% Asian and Pacific Islanders	Russian 81.5%, Tatar 3.8%, Ukrainian 3%, Chuvash 1.2%, Bashkir 0.9%, Belarussian 0.8%, Mordva 0.7%, other nations 8.1%

Official language	English	English	Russian
Major Cities	Birmingham, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Edinburgh, Sheffield, Belfast, Newcastle, Cardiff	New York, Atlanta, Boston, Houston, Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Baltimore	St Petersburg, Nizhni-Novgorod, Rostov-on-Don, Samara Tver, Volgograd, Omsk, Novosibirsk, Chelyabinsk, Perm
Parts	4 historic parts: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland	50 states and the District of Columbia	21 republics, 6 territories (krai), 49 provinces (region, oblast'), 10 autonomous areas (okrug), 1 autonomous region
Location	Europe	America	Eurasia
Borders	Ireland, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Scandinavian countries (sea borders)	Canada (in the north), Mexico (in the south), Russia (a sea border)	China, Mongolia, Korea, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Azerbaijan (in the South), Norway, Finland, the Baltic States, Belarussia, the Ukraine (in the west); the US (a sea border)
Highest Mountains	Ben Nevis, in the Highland of Scotland, 1,343	Mount McKinley, in Alaska, 6,194	Elbrus, 5,642 metres

	metres	metres	
Longest River	The Severn, 354 kilometres	The Mississippi-Missouri, 6,019 kilometres	The Lena, 4,400 kilometres
Largest Lake	Lough Neagh in Northern Ireland, 382 square kilometres	Lake Superior, 83,270 square kilometres	Lake Baikal, 31,5 square kilometers, 1,620 metres deep; The Caspian Sea (a salt-water lake), 371,000 square kilometers

Прочитайте текст и выполните задание:

CANADA

Canada is situated on the north of Northern America, washed by the Atlantic Ocean in the east, the Pacific Ocean in the west, and the Arctic Ocean in the north and in the northeast by the Baffin Bay and the Davis Strait, which separate it from Greenland, In the south and in the north Canada borders on the USA. It is a land of vast distances and rich natural resources. Canada became a self-governing dominion in 1867 while retaining ties to the British crown. Canada's territory is the world's second largest country, surpassed in size only by Russia. It includes many islands, notably the Canadian Arctic Islands, also called Arctic Archipelago in the Arctic Ocean. Economically and technologically the nation has developed in parallel with the US, its neighbour to the south. The total area is about 10 million sq km. Canada is slightly larger than the US. It is an important manufacturer, and its major cities, such as Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Ottawa, Edmonton, Calgary and Winnipeg are centres of commerce and industry.

The climate of Canada varies from temperate in the south to subarctic and arctic in the north. The highest Canadian point is Mount Logan 5,959 m. The population of Canada is about 32 million people. There are two state languages: English and French. English is spoken by 60 % of population; French is spoken by 23 % of people.

Most of Canada's inhabitants live in the southern part of the country and vast areas of the north are sparsely inhabited. The country is divided into ten provinces (Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan) and three territories (Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory, Nunavut Territory). The third territory called Nunavut, to be carved from the present Northwest Territories, was created in 1999.

The name Canada is derived from an Iroquoian term meaning «village».

Among the great rivers of Canada there are the Saint Lawrence River, draining the Great Lakes and emptying into the Gulf of Saint Lawrence; the Ottawa and the Saguenay rivers, the principal affluents of the Saint Lawrence River; the Saint John River, emptying into the Bay of Fundy.

The government type is confederation with parliamentary democracy. The capital of Canada is Ottawa.

Canada became independent from the United Kingdom on July, 1, 1867. Legal system is based on the English common law, except in Quebec, where civil law system based on the French law prevails.

The racial and ethnic makeup of the Canadian people is diversified. About 35 percent of the population is composed of people of the British origin. People of the French origin total about 25 percent of the population. The vast majority of French-speaking Canadians reside in Quebec, where they make up about three-fourths of the population; large numbers also live in Ontario and New Brunswick.

French-speaking Canadians maintain their language, culture, and traditions, and the federal government follows the policy of a bilingual and bicultural nation. During the 1970s and 1980s the proportion of Asians among the Canadian population increased, and today those who count their ancestry as wholly Asian make up 8 to 10 percent of the population. More than two-thirds of the Asian immigrants live in Ontario or British Columbia. The remainder of the population is composed of people of various ethnic groups, such as German, Italian, Ukrainian, Netherlands Dutch, Scandinavian, Polish, Hungarian, Greek, and Native American.

ANSWER THE QUESTION:

1. Where is Canada situated?
2. What is Canada washed by?

3. What does Canada border on in the South and in the North?
4. When did Canada become a self-governing dominion?
5. What is the total area of Canada?
6. What is the highest Canadian point?
7. How many state languages are there in Canada?
8. Where do most of Canada's inhabitants live?
9. What provinces is Canada divided into?
10. What is the government type in Canada?
11. When did Canada become independent?
12. What is the largest religious community in Canada?

FIND THE WORDS IN THE TEXT:

Церковь, население, число, страна, двуязычная нация, выросло, различные этнические группы, французское законодательство, основные притоки реки, жители.

Прочитайте текст и выполните задание:

NEW ZEALAND

Questions:

1. Where is New Zealand situated?
2. What city is the capital of New Zealand?
3. What languages do people in New Zealand speak?
4. What is the official language in New Zealand?
5. Who is New Zealand's head of state?
6. Who runs the national government?
7. Who were the first people to live in New Zealand?
8. What are the main industries of the country?

Vocabulary:

to lie — находиться

is situated — расположена

the North Island — Северный остров

the South Island — Южный остров

dozen — дюжина

capital — столица

official language — государственный язык

Maori — маорийский язык

the Commonwealth of Nations — Содружество

the United Kingdom — Соединенное Королевство

to appoint — назначать
governor general — генерал-губернатор
to represent — представлять
legislation — законодательная власть
prime minister — премьер-министр
Cabinet — кабинет
government — правительство
provision — положение
brown-skinned — с коричневой кожей
to settle — селиться
New Zealander — новозеландец
descendant — потомок
settler — поселенец
to make up — составлять
population — население
standard of living — уровень жизни
agriculture — сельское хозяйство
manufacturing industry — обрабатывающая промышленность
service industry — сфера услуг
trade — торговля

New Zealand is an island country in the Southwest Pacific Ocean. It lies about 1600 km southeast of Australia and about 10 500 km southwest of California. New Zealand belongs to a large island group called Polynesia. The country is situated on two main islands — the North Island and the South Island — and several dozen smaller islands. Most of the smaller islands are hundreds of kilometers from the main ones.

Wellington is the capital of New Zealand and Auckland is the largest city. English is the official language of New Zealand and is spoken throughout the country. Many native people speak their own language» Maori, in addition to English.

The country once belonged to the British empire. Today it is an independent member of the Commonwealth of Nations, an association of Britain and a number of its former colonies.

New Zealand is a constitutional monarchy. The British Monarch, Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom, is the monarch of New Zealand. She appoints a governor general to represent her, but the

governor general has little power. The legislation, prime minister, and Cabinet run the national government.

Britain gave New Zealand a constitution in 1852, when it was a British colony. But through the years the New Zealand legislature has changed almost all its provisions. Today, the nation has no written constitution.

The first people who settled in New Zealand were a brown-skinned people called Maoris. They came from Polynesian islands located northeast of New Zealand. The country was discovered by Europeans in 1642, but they did not start to settle in the islands until the late 1700's. Today, most New Zealanders are descendants of the early European settlers. Maoris make up about 12 % of the country's population

New Zealand has one of the highest standard of living in the world. For many years, the economy of the country depended largely on agriculture. Today agriculture, manufacturing, and service industries are all important to the economy. New Zealand's economy depends on trade with many countries — Australia, Britain, Japan and the United States.

Прочитайте текст и выполните задание:

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

The Commonwealth of Australia is a federal state. It has got six states: New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania and two internal territories. The official language is English.

Australia is situated in the south-west of the Pacific Ocean.

The area of this country has got 7,687,000 square kilometers. Australia is the largest island in the world and it is the smallest continent. The Dutch were the first Europeans to visit Australia. In 1770 the English captain James Cook discovered the east coast of Australia.

Nearly 20 million people live in Australia.

Australia's climate is dry and warm. Australia is situated in the southern hemisphere and that's why there is summer, when we have winter and there is winter, when we have summer. It is interesting to know that January is the hottest month in Australia.

Australia is separated from many countries. The animals in Australia have a lot of original, and they are interesting, for example, dingoes (wild dogs), koala bears, kangaroos.

The kangaroo and koala have got the pouch in which they carry their cubs. There are many birds in the country, too. One can see parrots

and cockatoos. The emu is the most interesting bird in Australia. It is big and can't fly.

There are many rivers and lakes in the country.

Australia is an industrial country. It has coal, nickel, zinc, gold. Several factories and plants work in the country. Australia is one of the most important producers of metals and minerals. It exports wool production, meat, fruit, sugar.

The capital of the country is Canberra. The city became the capital in 1927. Federal Government works in Canberra in the government buildings. It is interesting to know that there are no industrial plants in Canberra.

The population of Canberra is about 300,000 people.

There are many sights in the city. They are the Building of the Australian Academy of Sciences, the Australian National University and others. There are two big industrial cities in Australia: Sydney and Melbourne.

The inhabited part of the country is situated near ocean. Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and others are the ports of the country.

Australia is a part of the British Empire. Formerly the head of the state is the Queen, but in fact Australia is independent, self-governing state. The Parliament consists of two Houses.

There are many universities, theatres and museums in Australia.

Find the words:

1. независимое, самоуправляющееся государство
2. население
3. промышленная страна
4. много рек и озер
5. сухой и теплый
6. самый большой остров
7. официальный язык
8. на юго-западе
9. интересно узнать
10. детеныши
11. два больших индустриальных города
12. правительство
13. несколько фабрик и заводов
14. самая интересная птица
15. самый жаркий месяц

16. самый маленький континент
17. две внутренние территории
18. площадь этой страны
19. в южном полушарии
20. попугаи

Прочитайте текст:

ENGLISH – SPEAKING COUNTRIES

Before you read the texts about English- speaking countries guess the meaning of the following word combinations:

1. one of the most powerful countries in the world;
2. one of the most advanced countries in the world;
3. the third largest population in the world;
4. the financial and cultural centre;
5. the second important language;
6. the second largest country in the world;
7. the official emblem of...;
8. the country consists of two islands;
9. the official language
10. the world's seventh biggest city.

I'm from Canada, the second largest country in the world. It's nearly as big as all of Europe. My country shares with the USA seven of the world's largest lakes and also has three of the world's longest 20 rivers.

The capital of Canada is Ottawa. In Canada there are people of many nationalities. There are two official languages in my country, English and French. English spoken in Canada is a bit different from British English: there are some pronunciation and grammatical differences.

The red and white Canadian flag shows a leaf of the maple tree, which grows in North America. The maple leaf is the official emblem of Canada. You can often see it on the back of our famous hockey players.

I'm from the USA or the United States of America. It's one of the most powerful and advanced countries in the world. It stretches from the Atlantic Ocean in the east to the Pacific Ocean in the west and from Canada in the north to Mexico in the south. The capital of the USA is

Washington, though some people think it's New York. This famous city is the financial and cultural center of the USA.

The USA has the third largest population in the world. It's a real melting pot. English is the official language in the USA. But the English language spoken in my country is known as American English.

There are some differences between British and American English. For example a film in Britain is a movie in America, a postman is a mailman, the underground is the subway. But people speaking British English can be easily understood in the US. No problem! The second important language in the United States is Spanish.

My country's motto is "In God We Trust".

I'm from a small and quiet country in the Pacific Ocean. My country consists of two main islands and some smaller islands. It's New Zealand. My country looks like Italy upside down.

New Zealand is the same distance from Australia -as London is from Moscow. When it's summer in Europe, it's winter in New Zealand. But the school year still starts in autumn - in February! When it's time to go to bed in Europe, it's time to go to work in my country.

The capital of New Zealand is Wellington. The population of my country is mixed. Some people came from Britain years ago. Some Maori people lived here before the British came. Our official languages are English and Maori. But English is spoken in a very unusual way in New Zealand. It is often called Kiwi English.

New Zealand is sometimes called "The World's Biggest Farm". It is famous for its products: butter, cheese, meat.

I'm from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Usually it is shortened to the United Kingdom or UK or Great Britain. My country is an island state. It's one of the world's smallest countries — it's twice smaller than France or Spain. However, there are only nine other countries with more people, and London is the world's seventh biggest city.

Most people in Britain are British, but in some British cities you can meet people of many different nationalities.

The capital of the UK is London. The official language is English. Do you know that English is made up of Anglo- Saxon, French and Latin? It also includes a lot of words from Greek and other languages, even Russian

My country is the biggest island and the smallest continent in the world. Of course, you've guessed, it's Australia. Australia is the only country in the world which occupies a whole continent and some islands around it. It lies between the Indian and the Pacific Oceans. It's a large country, but its population is only 18.3 million people.

There are "original Australians" who lived here - long ago but most of population came to Australia from Britain, Ireland and other countries years ago. At present in Australia there are a lot of people from Russia.

The capital of Australia is Canberra.

English is the official language in Australia. But English spoken in Australia is a bit different from British English and American English.

Sometimes Australia is called "Oz" or "the Lucky Country".