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А.А.Ежевского
Колледж автомобильного транспорта и агротехнологий

МАТЕРИАЛЫ
ДЛЯ САМОСТОЯТЕЛЬНОЙ РАБОТЫ
ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ

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Материалы для самостоятельной работы по английскому языку: Методические указания для студентов специальностей среднего профессионального образования, 2-е изд., стер.

Составитель: преподаватель первой квалификационной категории колледжа автомобильного транспорта и агротехнологий Амосова Т.В.

Цель материалов – развитие навыков устной и письменной речи, расширение словарного запаса в области английского языка, знакомство с культурой Великобритании. Материалы разделены на 4 модуля, включающие задания по грамматике, тексты информационного содержания, речевые упражнения. Контроль лексики и понимания содержания текста, навыков монологического высказывания проверяется в процессе письменной и устной коммуникации.

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Умения, необходимые для самостоятельной работы.

1. Умение определить принадлежность слов к частям речи по позиции в предложении и морфологическим показателям.
2. Умение определить грамматические категории слов.
3. Умение определить содержание каждого абзаца текста по знакомым опорным словам.
4. Умение составить план текста.
5. Умение изложить основное содержание текста по составленному плану.
6. Умение создать подготовленное монологическое высказывание.

Activity work № 1.

Topic: The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Objectives: Comprehension of the text.

Oral and written utterances on the topic studied.

Literature:

1. Английский язык для инженеров: Учеб./ Т.Ю. Полякова, Е.В. Синявская, О.И. Тынкова, Э.С. Улановская. – 5-е изд., стереотип. – М.: Высш. шк., 2000.
2. Большой англо-русский словарь (любой издание).
3. К.Н. Качалова, Е.Е.Израилевич. Практическая грамматика английского языка. – М: ЮНВЕС, 1995.
4. Учебник английского языка для сельскохозяйственных и лесотехнических вузов/И.З. Новоселова, Е.С. Александрова, Л.Е. Гринцева и др. – 4-е изд., перераб. – М.: Высш. шк., 2010.
5. 400 тем по английскому языку для школьников, абитуриентов, студентов и преподавателей. – Донецк: ООО ПКФ «БАС», 2006.
6. О Соединенном Королевстве Великобритании и Северной Ирландии – Е. Костина. – М.: Московский Лицей, 2000.

The work consists of stages:

Stage I (Preparatory): to revise grammar you will touch in the text

Stage II (Lexical and grammatical exercises on the text): to read, to translate the text and to do the exercises.

Stage III (Comprehension of the text): to do textual exercises.

Stage IV (Speaking): to prepare and to speak about the topic.

Preparatory Stage

I.1. Revise the following grammar:

Tenses: a) Present Simple Active and Passive [1, p. 336 – 367, 369-370],

[4, p. 53- 58, 66-70, 81-85, 147-152]

b) Present Perfect Active and Passive [1, p. 376-379], [4, p. 131-134, 150- 151]

c) [1, p. 383-386], [4, p. 118,130-131]

Word – building: suffixes of nouns, adjectives and adverbs [1, p. 355-361, 409],

[4, p. 11-30]

Lexical and grammar exercises on the text

II. 1. Read the texts below:

THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

The English Language Today

Approximately 350 million people speak English as their first language. About the same number use it as a second language. It is a language of aviation, international sport and pop music. 75% of the world's mail is in English, 60% of the world's radio stations broadcast in English and more than half of the world's periodicals are printed in English. It is an official language in 44 countries. In many others it is the language of business, commerce and technology. There are many varieties of English, but Scottish, Australian, Indian and Jamaican speakers of English, in spite of the differences in pronunciation, structure and vocabulary, would recognize that they are all speaking the same basic language.

Great Britain

Plan

1. Countries of the UK and their capitals.
2. Peculiarities of geographical position of the British Isles.
3. People of Great Britain.
4. Industry.
5. Politics.
6. National flag.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the UK) occupies most of the territory of the British Isles. It consists of four main parts: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. London is the capital of England, Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland, Cardiff – of Wales and Belfast – of Northern Ireland. The UK is a small country with an area of some 314,000 square kilometres. It occupies only 0,2 per cent of the world's land surface. It is washed by the Atlantic Ocean in the north-west, north and south-west and separated from Europe by the North Sea in the east and by the English Channel in the south. The Strait of Dover or Pas de Calais is the narrowest part of the Channel. The North Sea and the English Channel are often called “the narrow seas”; they are not deep but are frequently rough and difficult to navigate during storms. In the west the Irish Sea and the North Channel separate the UK from Ireland. The seas around Britain provide exceptionally good fishing grounds. The country has many bays favourable for shipping. In their shelter are Britain's main ports such as London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Hull and others.

The highest mountain is Ben Nevis in Scotland, 4,406 feet high. The longest river is the Severn in England, about 200 miles long.

The population of the United Kingdom is over 58 million people. Foreigners often call British people “English”, but the Scots, the Irish and the Welsh do not consider themselves to be English. The English are Anglo-Saxon in origin, but the Welsh, the Scots and the Irish are Celts, descendants of the ancient people, who crossed over from Europe centuries before the Norman Invasion. It was this people, whom the Germanic Angles and Saxons conquered in the fifth and sixth centuries AD. These Germanic conquerors gave England its name – “Angle” land. They were conquered in their turn by the Norman French, when William the Conqueror of Normandy landed near Hastings in 1066. It was from the union of Norman conquerors and the defeated Anglo-Saxons that the English people and the English languages were born.

The official language of the United Kingdom is English. But in western Scotland some people still speak Gaelic and in northern and central parts of Wales people often speak Welsh.

The UK is a highly developed industrial country. It is known as one of the world's largest producers and exporters of machinery, electronics, textile, aircraft

and navigation equipment. One of the chief industries of the country is shipbuilding.

The UK is a constitutional monarchy. In law, Head of the State is Queen. In practice, the country is ruled by the elected government with the Prime Minister at the head. The British Parliament consists of two chambers: the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

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

The flag of the United Kingdom, known as the Union Jack, is made up of three crosses. The big red cross is the cross of Saint George, the patron saint of England. The white cross is the cross of Saint Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland. The red diagonal cross is the cross of Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.

2. Look back in the text and copy out unknown words. Translate them into Russian.

3. Find in the text the English equivalents for:

Па-де-Кале, завоевывать, Вильгельм Завоеватель, вторжение, оборудование, кораблестроение, конституционная монархия, покровитель, кабинет, палата общин, палата лордов.

4. Complete the following sentences with prepositions: *of, on, by, in, from*.

- 1) The United Kingdom is situated... the British Isles.
- 2) The British Isles are separated... the English Channel.
- 3) ... the north the Cheviots separate England... Scotland.
- 4) At present the British royal family is headed... the Queen Elizabeth II.
- 5) Parliament has two parts: the House... Commons and the House... Lords.
- 6) The Sovereign's birthday is officially celebrated every June ... the ceremony of Trooping the Colour ... Horse Guards Parade.

5. Complete the sentences with a necessary form of the words in brackets.

- 1) The London Zoo is one of (old) zoos in the world.
- 2) The Thames is (deep) and (long) of the British Rivers.
- 3) The Highlands of Scotland are (tall) of the British Mountains.
- 4) England is (large) and (rich) country of Great Britain.
- 5) There are (few) public holidays in Great Britain than in other European countries.
- 6) Your English is improving. It's getting (good) and (good).

6. Open the brackets using Present, Past or Future Simple. Translate the sentences into Russian.

- 1) There (to be) 26 letters in the English alphabet.
- 2) Europeans first (to come) to America in the late fifth century.
- 3) In England the weather (to change) very often.
- 4) I (to be) in Great Britain last week.
- 5) Next year we (to travel) around Europe.
- 6) East Anglia (to remain) a region of villages, isolated farmsteads and small market towns.
- 7) In some fifty years people (to go) to the Moon for the weekend.
- 8) People in Britain often (to say) something about the weather when they begin to talk with strangers, their friends or colleagues.

7. If the verbs are used in the Active or Passing Voice:

Is situated, consist, are separated, is washed, occupies, have been developed, are known, promoted, makes, are employed, was born, has allowed, will be published, have been grouped, has not been cleaned; disappeared; will have already been sold.

8. Use the verbs in brackets in the correct form (Active or Passive Voice). Translate the sentences into Russian.

- 1) The weather (to change) very often.
- 2) At present the British royal family (to head) by the Queen Elizabeth II.
- 3) Members of the House of Commons (to elect) by the voters of 650 constituencies.
- 4) The London Zoo (to establish) in 1828 by the Zoological Society of London.
- 5) In 1635 Charles I (to open) Hyde Park to the public, and it (to become) a fashionable ground.
- 6) Before 1750 Glasgow (to be) a small town.
- 7) Today the London Zoo (to contain) more than 8,000 animals.
- 8) The British people (to love) their country and (to take care of) it.

9. Form a) Participle I and b) Participle II out of the following verbs.

- a) to develop, to contain, to heat, to perform, to improve, to get
- b) to make, to find, to be, to increase, to apply, to put

10. Choose the right modal verb in the following sentences.

- 1) They mustn't / needn't buy a new car. Their car is good enough.
- 2) You mustn't / needn't attend the meeting. There will be nothing interesting this time.
- 3) You mustn't / needn't talk to driver while he is driving.
- 4) You mustn't / needn't smoke in front of the children.
- 5) You mustn't / needn't vacuum-clean the room. I'll do it myself.
- 6) You mustn't / needn't take dogs into the restaurant.

Comprehension of the text

III. 1. Answer the following questions:

1. Where is the United Kingdom situated?
2. What ocean and seas are the British Isles washed by?
3. What are the main parts of the United Kingdom? What are their capitals?
4. What nationalities does the British people consist of? What languages do they speak?
5. What is the population of Great Britain?
6. What kind of state is Great Britain?
7. Who is the head of British government?
8. How many parts does Parliament have? What are they?
9. What is the total area of Great Britain?
10. What industries are developed in the UK?

2. Read the text and say whether these statements are true or false.

- 1) Britain is a parliamentary monarchy.
- 2) The Prime Minister is officially head of all the branches of government.
- 3) Parliament has four parts.
- 4) The Queen is ultimately responsible for dissolving Parliament, normally at the request of the Prime Minister.
- 5) There are three main political parties in Great Britain.

3. Agree or disagree to the following:

- 1) The political system of the UK is undemocratic and conservative.
- 2) Monarchy is the rudiment of the old political system which can be easily given up nowadays.
- 3) The constitution has two branches.

Speaking

IV. 1. Use the following phrases and word combinations to express your opinion, translate them.

As I understood from the text...

According to the text...

As a matter of fact...

I don't quite agree with you.

According to the figures (data, information, opinions) from the text...

It seems to me (that)...

I would like to say (that)...

I shouldn't say so.

I think that...

I guess...

I suppose...

I am (absolutely) sure that...

As far as I know...

And besides...

Nevertheless

To sum it up...

2. Read the text again and translate it into Russian orally.

3. Retell the text in English.

4. How well do you know your Homeland? Answer the questions:

1. How large is the territory of Russia?
2. How large is the population of Russia?
3. Can you name the longest rivers in Siberia and the Far East?
4. Which is the deepest lake and where is it? What's its depth?
5. What mineral resources is Russia rich in?
6. What kind of state is the Russian Federation?
7. What period is the president elected for?
8. What are the three branches of power in our country?
9. Have you ever travelled about Russia?
10. What places would you like to visit in the future?
11. What region of our country do you live in?
12. What places of interest are there in your region and in your town?

5. Develop the following points:

- 1) Speak about the political system a) of the United Kingdom; b) of your country.
- 2) Find points of similarity and difference between them. Discuss these points.

6. Make up a dialogue between two friends (one of them is from England, the other is from your country), comparing the countries.

Suggestions: size, population, different parts of regions, climate, the main cities, towns, industries, agriculture, etc.

Activity work № 2

The topic: Population, Industry and Agriculture of Great Britain

The objective: to improve communicating skills of prepared topic.

Literature:

1. Английский язык для инженеров: Учеб./ Т.Ю. Полякова, Е.В. Синявская, О.И. Тынкова, Э.С. Улановская. – 5-е изд., стереотип. – М.: Высш. шк., 2000.
2. Большой англо-русский словарь (любой издание).
3. К.Н. Качалова, Е.Е.Израилевич. Практическая грамматика английского языка. – М: ЮНВЕС, 1995.
4. Учебник английского языка для сельскохозяйственных и лесотехнических вузов/ И.З. Новоселова, Е.С. Александрова, Л.Е. Гринцева и др. – 4-е изд., перераб. – М.: Высш. шк., 2010.

The work consists of four stages:

Stage 1 (Preparatory) to revise grammar you will touch in the text

Stage 2 (Lexical and Grammar Exercises on the Text) to read, to translate the text and to do the exercises.

Stage III (Comprehension of the text): to do textual exercises.

Stage IV (Speaking): to prepare and to speak about the topic.

Preparatory Stage

I.1. Revise the following grammar:

Tenses: a) Present Simple Active and Passive [1, p. 336 – 367, 369-370],

[4, p. 53- 58, 66-70, 81-85, 147-152]

b) Present Perfect Active and Passive [1, p. 376-379], [4, p. 131-134, 150- 151]

c) [1, p. 383-386], [4, p. 118,130-131]

Word – building: suffixes of nouns, adjectives and adverbs [1, p. 355-361, 409]

Lexical and Grammar Exercises on the Text

II.1. Read the text below:

Population, Industry and Agriculture of Great Britain

Great Britain has an open economy, in which foreign trade plays a vital part. About one-quarter of its gross domestic product comes from the export of goods and services, a high share among major economies. Private enterprise accounts for three-quarters of gross domestic product and over two-thirds of total employment. Services now account for 60 percent of gross domestic product and manufacturing for about 25 percent. Britain is among the largest exporters of steel, chemicals, aircraft and satellites, textiles and clothing, financial, business and other services.

Great Britain is one of the most densely populated countries in the world, the average density being over 233 people per square kilometre. Over 90 per cent of the population live in towns. The population of Great Britain is more than 60 million.

England is one of the most powerful capitalist countries in Europe. There are many big industrial cities here, such as Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Cardiff, Sheffield and many others. London, its capital, which is situated on the river Thames, is one of the biggest commercial centres of the world.

One of the leading industries of Great Britain is the textile industry. Coal, iron and steel as well as various machines are also produced there. Ship building and motor industry are also highly developed.

Northern and Western England is a coal, metal and textile country. The most ancient centres of English iron and steel industry are Birmingham and Sheffield. Various machinery, railway cars, motor cars, electrical equipment, scientific instruments and many other things are produced in Birmingham in great quantities.

Sheffield is the city of steel. It has specialized in producing high-quality steel and articles of steel, heavy armaments, wheels of railway cars, weaving looms, knives, fine instruments, etc.

The main centres of the textile region are Liverpool and Manchester.

Manchester is the chief cotton manufacturing city surrounded by a number of towns.

Liverpool is the principal port of Western England. It stands on the river Mersey.

Today, in a new age of modern technology, Britain has made important advances in such new industries as electronics and telecommunications equipment, in aircraft and aircraft engines, in plastics and synthetic materials, radioisotopes and new drugs – all major exports.

Over a million people work in agriculture. British sheep-farming, cattle-farming, dairy-farming, pig-farming and chicken-farming are very important. Britain today is self-sufficient in milk, eggs, potatoes, barley and oats. Also a large proportion of meat and vegetables is home-produced. Home-produced flour, cheese, bacon and ham meet half of the country's needs.

The increasing use of intensive methods of production in agriculture has led to greater specialization. Three-fifths of the farms in Britain are devoted mainly to dairying or beef cattle and sheep; one in six is a cropping farm and the remainder specializes in pigs, poultry or horticulture, or are mixed farms. It follows then that Britain's farming is predominantly based on livestock production.

Arable crops grown in Britain include cereals (wheat, barley, oat), potatoes, sugar beet and fodder crops (turnip, swede, kale). There are 12 million hectares of cultivated land under crops (37%) and grass (40%).

Horticultural crops (fruit, vegetables and flowers) are largely grown on specialized holdings, but some are produced on arable farms.

Early in the 20th century Dutch growers introduced tulips into Britain. Today flowers and bulbs occupy some 5,000 hectares of land.

Tomatoes form the most important glasshouse crop, and, together with lettuce and cucumbers represent some 95% of the total value of glasshouse vegetable output.

Mushrooms are also grown in specially constructed sheds in most parts of Britain, especially in south-eastern and northern England.

Britain imports all of its cotton, rubber, sulphur, 80% of its wool, half of its food and iron ore, also certain amounts of paper, tobacco, chemicals. Manufactured goods made from these basic materials have been exported since the industrial age began. Main exports are machinery, chemicals, woolen and synthetic textiles, clothing, autos and trucks, iron and steel, locomotives, ships, jet aircraft, farm machinery, drugs, radio, TV, radar and navigation equipment, scientific instruments, arms, whisky.

1. Look back in the text and copy out unknown words. Translate them into Russian.

2. Find in the text the English equivalents for:

Самолет; остаток, остальные; садовые культуры; промышленные товары; ячмень; домашний скот; сахарная свекла; участок земли, владение; молочное хозяйство; крупный рогатый скот; хлебный злак; овес; домашняя птица; репа, турнепс; независимый, самостоятельный, самообеспеченный.

3. Read the following words and circle the suffixes. For each word try to define the part of speech:

Densely, population, powerful, industrial, improvement, information, famous, political, attractive, historic, engineer, friendship, helpful, homeless, childhood, practical, reading, happiness, production, synthetic.

4. Form verbs from the following words and translate them into Russian.

Development; production; increasing; specialization; breeding; cultivation; concentration; raising; equipment; employment; government; competition; privatization; supply.

- 5. Look back in the text and copy out 5 sentences containing Passive Voice (don't repeat the same verbs). Translate them into Russian.**
- 6. Look back in the text and find the sentences containing Participle I and Participle II. State their functions. Write the sentences down and translate into Russian.**
- 7. Define the tense of the verb in the following sentences (Active or Passive). Translate the sentences into Russian.**
- 1) Private enterprise accounts for three-quarters of gross domestic product and over two-thirds of total employment.
 - 2) In the middle of the last century the House of Commons was the centre of real political power.
 - 3) The Labour Party was established at the beginning of this century.
 - 4) Political struggles since World War II have concentrated on peace, homes, wages.
 - 5) The population of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is now over 60,000,000.
 - 6) About 30,000,000 newspapers are sold in Great Britain every day.
 - 7) In the group of old universities Oxford (1167) and Cambridge (1209) are the oldest ones.
 - 8) If you stand today in Trafalgar Square with your back to the Nelson Column you will see a wide horizontal front in a classical style: the National Gallery. It has been in this building since 1838.
 - 9) You will be shown lots of historical monuments, places of interest, wonderful parks, museums, which you will admire.
 - 10) Many foreigners have commented on the remarkable politeness of the English people.

Comprehension of the Text

III.1. Read the text again and translate it into Russian orally.

2. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) in relation to the information in the text. If you think a statement is false, change it to make it true.

1. Great Britain is an agricultural country.
2. Great Britain is rich in natural resources, such as oil, copper, zinc and others.
3. Great Britain exports raw materials.
4. Very few people are employed in the mining and manufacturing industries in Great Britain.
5. Britain's industry produces mostly cheap low quality goods.
6. Britain's industry is concentrated in one area.

3. Answer the following questions :

1. What are the main industries in Great Britain?
2. What are the main industrial centers of Great Britain?
3. What kinds of farms are there in Great Britain?
4. What arable crops are grown in the country?
5. What does Britain import and export?
6. What is the characteristic feature of Britain's industry?

Speaking

IV.1. Retell the text in English.

2. Say how you assess the economic situation in our country.

Activity work № 3

The topic: Public Holidays and Celebrations in Great Britain

The objective: Comprehension of the text.

Oral and written utterances on the topic studied.

Literature:

1. Английский язык для инженеров: Учеб./ Т.Ю. Полякова, Е.В. Синявская, О.И. Тынкова, Э.С. Улановская. – 5-е изд., стереотип. – М.: Высш. Шк., 2000.
2. Большой англо-русский словарь (любой издание).
3. Читаем. Говорим. Слушаем. Деловой английский для начинающих.- Любимцева С.Н., Памухина Л.Г. М.: ГИС, 1998.
4. Учебник английского языка для сельскохозяйственных и лесотехнических вузов/ И.З. Новоселова, Е.С. Александрова, Л.Е. Гринцева и др. – 4-е изд., перераб. – М.: Высш. Шк., 2010.
5. О Соединенном Королевстве Великобритании и Северной Ирландии.- Е. Костина.-М.: Московский Лицей, 2000.

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Stage III (Comprehension of the text): to do textual exercises.

Stage IV (Speaking): to prepare and to speak about the topic.

Preparatory Stage

I.1. Revise the following grammar:

Tenses: a) Present Simple Active and Passive [1, p. 336 – 367, 369-370],

[4, p. 53- 58, 66-70, 81-85, 147-152]

b) Present Perfect Active and Passive [1, p. 376-379], [4, p. 131-134, 150- 151]

c) [1, p. 383-386], [4, p. 118,130-131]

Word – building: suffixes of nouns, adjectives and adverbs [1, p. 355-361, 409]

2. Before you start working at the text translate the following words. Try to remember them:

Christmas Day
Boxing Day
Good Friday
Easter Monday
Spring Bank Holiday
Pancake Day

Lexical and grammar work on the texts

II.1. Read and translate:

Public Holidays and Celebrations

British Holidays

There are many holidays in the United Kingdom. They are especially rich in old traditions and are different in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. For example, Christmas is a great English national holiday, and in Scotland it is less popular and all the shops, mills and factories are working. But six days later, on New Year's Eve, the Scotch begin to enjoy themselves. All the shops, mills and factories are closed on New Year's Day. In England New Year's Day is not popular, in spite of the Day's symbolic significance.

Pancake Day, on the eve of Lent, was traditionally a day to make pancakes in order to use up all the butter and eggs that would not be allowed during Lent. In an annual race held in Olney since 1945, women run 380 metres, each carrying a pan and a pancake that must be flipped three times.

Mothering Sunday, traditionally the fourth Sunday in Lent, is a day to visit one's mother, bearing a cake or flowers.

On the second Sunday in November, Remembrance Day commemorates those who died in World Wars I and II and later conflicts. Red paper poppies are sold by the British Legion to raise money for veterans.

There are three traditional Mondays, on which banks and other businesses close in Britain. These are the so-called «Bank Holidays».

The bank holidays include Easter Monday, Whit Monday and the last Monday in August.

The British spend these holidays in different ways. They like to go out of town into the open air. They go to the seaside or to amusement parks.

Londoners often visit the Zoo, outside London, but the residents of the working people part of London (who are called «cockneys») like to visit Hampstead Heath, a large natural park, where there is a big fair on the Bank Holidays. There are many different amusements for children and young people at these fairs — merry-go-rounds, swings, a puppet show. Everybody buys bright balloons and paper hats and this makes everybody merry. A very important event is the coming of the Pearly Kings and Queens — these are cockneys who have sewed pearl buttons all over their dresses and suits. And their hats also have many pearl buttons on them. Those of them that have the most beautiful costumes are named Pearly King and Queen for one year.

Christmas

Christmas (shortened: Xmas) is an annual church festival kept on December 25. It is a day of special gifts and greetings. People usually wish «A merry Christmas to you», and the reply is «The same to you». Everybody tries to prepare gifts for the family, friends and dearly loved. English children hang up their stockings at the foot of their bed on Xmas Eve and expect to find them in the morning filled with toys and sweets.

On Christmas English families decorate their rooms not only with Christmas trees. They often use different evergreens such as holly, ivy or mistletoe. Holly is a beautiful evergreen with red berries. Mistletoe is usually hung in the doorway or in the middle of the room.

Crackers, streamers and Chinese lanterns are part of the fun. During Christmas dinner the traditional «cracker» is laid beside each plate. Those seated next to each other pull the ends of each other's crackers, which make a loud bang. Inside there is a paper hat and a trinket.

Pantomimes have been of the British Christmas for 200 years or more. Pantomime in England is a Christmas performance, usually based on a story, providing entertainment and amusement for both young and old. The most popular pantomime characters are Robinson Crusoe, Cinderella, and others from legends and fairy-tales.

On the 26th of December is the so called BOXING DAY. It has taken the name for small earthenware boxes that tradespeople and civil servants usually carried around to collect tips. Boxing Day was traditionally the day on which householders gave presents or Christmas boxes to servants and tradespeople. It is

now simply a leisure day, a day for relaxing and visiting friends. Many offices, but not shops, close for all the period from Christmas to New Year.

New Year's Day

The celebration of New Year's Eve is one of the oldest ceremonies known to man. Even in primitive, ancient societies some sort of New Year ritual was celebrated, and the celebrations were surprisingly similar to our own.

In Scotland New Year's Eve has always been one of the most important annual events. A number of Scottish New Year's customs still survive from those early times.

People invite their friends to their houses and «sit the Old Year out and the New Year in». When the clock begins to strike twelve, the head of the family goes to the entrance door, opens it wide and holds it until the last stroke. Then he shuts the door. He has let the Old Year out and the New Year in. Now greetings and small presents are offered.

Another Scottish custom is singing «Auld Lang Syne» at midnight. It is a relatively new tradition, having been practised for only about 175 years. When the clock strikes twelve everybody stands in a circle crossing their arms and linking them with those who are on either side and merrily sings.

The Scots also have a custom called first-footing. The «first-footer» is called the first person crossing the threshold of a home in the early-morning hours. After midnight young men visit their neighbours wandering from house to house! The first young man to enter a house (traditionally dark-haired, or it will be an unlucky year) is known as the first-foot. He has the right to kiss the girl who answers the door. It is considered the height of fun if a very old person comes to the door instead of the expected pleasant-looking, attractive girl.

In northern England, on New Year's Day (1 January) the old custom of «first-footing» is sometimes practised too. The «first-footer» must come with a piece of bread, a piece of coal and a silver coin to bring the household luck. Bread is a symbol of food, coal symbolizes warmth and coin is a symbol of wealth.

Children born on New Year's Day are considered to bring good fortune for the whole family.

2. Define the tense of the verb in the following sentences (Active or Passive). Translate the sentences into Russian.

1. The tree is brightly decorated with tinsel, brilliant stars and shining balls of different colours.
2. Christmas is observed on the 25th of December.
3. This day was a festival long before the conversion to Christianity.

4. The Christmas bird, these days usually a turkey, is being prepared as well as pudding and cakes.
5. Pantomimes have been of the British Christmas for 200 years or more.
6. Most of the popular old carols were written in the nineteenth century.
7. In Trafalgar Square, in front of the National Gallery, stands an enormous Christmas Tree.
8. Many customs connected with the celebration of Christmas go back to pagan times.

2. Open the brackets using the verbs in the correct form:

1. Most hotels and dance halls (to hold) a special dance on New Year's Eve.
2. Nowadays Christmas (to have) practically no religious significance for the majority of the population of Britain.
3. Children born on New Year's Day (to consider) to bring good fortune for the whole family.
4. Everybody (to buy) bright balloons and paper hats and this makes everybody merry.

3. Form all possible questions to which the following sentences are the answers:

1. There are only six public holidays a year in Great Britain.
2. Christmas is observed on the 25th of December.
3. Christmas is celebrated in all parts of Britain except Scotland.
4. Remembrance Day commemorates those who died in World Wars I and II and later conflicts.

4. Insert prepositions: *in, on, at, by, from, till* where necessary.

1. The first man walked on the moon ... 21 July 1969.
2. What are you doing... the weekend?
3. Columbus made his first voyage from Europe to America ... 1492.
4. We often have a short holiday ... Christmas.
5. We travelled overnight to Paris and arrived ... 5 o'clock ... Friday morning.
6. I started learning English ... the age of five.
7. I'll have written a composition ... 5 o'clock.
8. Jazz became popular in the United States ... the 1920s.

5. Read the text and put the words in brackets into the correct form. Translate the text.

Tricks on April Fool's Day

In 1698, a number of Londoners received invitations to see the lions washed in the Thames. This event (describe) in newspapers. However, the same trick (repeat) in 1860, and again a lot of curious Londoners (come) to enjoy the lions washed. In 1957 BBC Television played an even (hilarious) joke on its viewers. It showed a film about a spaghetti crop (grow) in Southern Switzerland. Agricultural workers (pick) long strands of spaghetti from bushes and the presenter of the film (comment) on the uniform length of the spaghetti and on the successful cultivation of "these vegetables". After the programme there (be) a lot of calls from people who (not get) the joke and wanted to know where they (can) buy spaghetti bushes.

Comprehension of the text

III.1. Answer the following questions:

1. Do all parts of the United Kingdom celebrate the same holidays?
2. Do you like the way Christmas is celebrated in Great Britain?
3. Is Christmas equally popular in different parts of the UK?
4. What public holidays are called "Bank Holidays"?
5. Where do the British people like to go on the holidays?
6. How do people enjoy themselves in Hampstead Heath?
7. How do people choose the Pearly King and Queen?
8. Is the celebration of New Year a new ceremony?

Speaking

IV.1. Imagine that you are talking with your groupmate about your last vacation. Complete some sentences and make up your own dialogue.

- Tell me something about your last holiday.
- I travelled in Siberia, you know, I saw lake Baikal.
- Fantastic! Did you see anything else in Siberia?
- Well,.....By the way, I met the Pavlovs in Irkutsk.
- It's a small world. Did you meet anyone else?
-
- You enjoyed your trip, didn't you?
- Yes, I did, it was great!
-
-

2. Make up the short story about Valentine's Day-February 14.

- 1) How do you spend it?
- 2) Do you exchange greetings among your friends?
- 3) Whom do you send a valentine card?

3. Make up the story on the topic: “ *My Favourite Holiday*”

Activity work № 4

Topic: Outstanding persons of Great Britain

Objectives: Comprehension of a text.

Oral and written utterances on the topic studied

Literature:

1. Английский язык для инженеров: Учеб./ Т.Ю. Полякова, Е.В. Синявская, О.И. Тынкова, Э.С. Улановская. – 5-е изд., стереотип. – М.: Высш. Шк., 2000.
2. Большой англо-русский словарь (любой издание).
3. Читаем. Говорим. Слушаем. Деловой английский для начинающих.- Любимцева С.Н., Памухина Л.Г. М.: ГИС, 1998.
4. Учебник английского языка для сельскохозяйственных и лесотехнических вузов/ И.З. Новоселова, Е.С. Александрова, Л.Е. Гринцева и др. – 4-е изд., перераб. – М.: Высш. Шк., 2010.
5. О Соединенном Королевстве Великобритании и Северной Ирландии.- Е. Костина.-М.: Московский Лицей, 2000.

Preparatory Stage

I.1. Revise the following grammar:

Tenses: a) Present Simple Active and Passive [1, p. 336 – 367, 369-370],

[4, p. 53- 58, 66-70, 81-85, 147-152]

b) Present Perfect Active and Passive [1, p. 376-379], [4, p. 131-134, 150- 151]

c) [1, p. 383-386], [4, p. 118,130-131]

Word – building: suffixes of nouns, adjectives and adverbs [1, p. 355-361, 409]

Lexical and grammar exercises on the text

II.1. Read, translate and remember the following words:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Century | 13.Amount |
| 2. Contribution | 14.To combine |
| 3. Decision | 15.To determine |
| 4. Discovery | 16.To investigate |
| 5. Education | 17.Law |
| 6. To establish | 18.Rays |
| 7. Field | 19.To found |
| 8. Research | 20.Motion |
| 9. To solve | 21.Phenomenon |
| 10.By means of | 22.Conclusion |
| 11.To achieve | 23.Adventure |
| 12.Achievement | 24.To influence on |

2. Read and translate the following words and word- combinations.

At the age of; a well-known scientist; was born; a good education ; to enter an institute; to graduate from an institute; to do one's research; to solve a number of problems; foreign languages; to take into account; to make progress; a favourite amusement; the problem of obtaining fresh water; to carry out experiments; attempts; masterpiece; to deal with; imagination; liquids; the electric current; to develop a new type of device.

3. Read and translate the texts into Russian.

Queen Elizabeth I (1533-1603)

Queen Elizabeth I was one of the strongest rulers in England's history. She was the last of the Tudor dynasty, the daughter of Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn. Elizabeth had a difficult early childhood. Her mother was executed when she was only three years old, and during her sister Mary's reign (1553-58) she was a prisoner.

Elizabeth received a good education, including foreign languages (French, Latin, Spanish), science, and mathematics. In 1558, after the death of Mary, Elizabeth became Queen. Like her father, Elizabeth I was a Protestant monarch. This meant that she was the head of the church of England. She led her country with great cleverness and courage through the difficult and often dangerous times. She was queen of England for 45 years. During her long and stable reign, she suppressed several Catholic plots (заговоры) against her Protestant regime. In 1587, Elizabeth executed her Catholic cousin Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots,

for her role in the plot against Elizabeth. The Catholic forces in England and Spain had supported Mary.

In 1588, Elizabeth's navy defeated the Spanish Armada, sent to invade England. By the time the queen died, England was a wealthy trading nation and a stable Protestant state.

During Elizabeth's reign English culture flourished. The development of the English language reached the height of its power as an instrument of prose and especially of poetry. The English drama is the crowning glory of the Elizabethan age. The most outstanding dramatist and poet of the period was William Shakespeare.

The theatre became a favourite amusement of people, especially in towns. Theatres appeared one after another. At the end of the century there were about 10 theatres in London.

Christopher Wren (1632-1723)

The great Englishman was born in Wiltshire in 1632. A parson's son, he lost his mother when he was a little boy. His elder sister Susan looked after him. When Christopher was eleven Susan married William Holder, a mathematician. The man had a great influence on Christopher.

Christopher left school at fourteen. His interests were very wide. Christopher Wren is often called the English Leonardo da Vinci as he was a specialist in physics, medicine, anatomy, agriculture, astronomy. He knew much of mechanics and engineering.

Wren invented a machine, which was drawn by a horse and ploughed land and planted corn. Christopher Wren always worked on the problem of obtaining fresh water at sea. He carried out experiments on the cleansing of sick-rooms: it was very important to stop spreading different dangerous diseases. He was among the first to experiment in the transfusion of blood, taking blood from one animal and giving it to another one. After the Great Fire there was the difficult problem of taking away the ruins quickly and safely. Wren proposed to blow up the walls of the burned houses by using gunpowder, which he had experimented before. His first attempts were very successful.

At the age of 28 he was already Professor of Astronomy at Oxford. Later he became one of the founders of the Royal Society (the British National Academy of Sciences). Christopher's interest in architecture came rather later in his life. At the age of thirty four he held a post equal to the post of chief architect of a city.

After the Great Fire he created a detailed plan for the restoration of London. He designed long, wide streets, built in all directions from a new, central Cathedral church of St. Paul's and, at the end of the streets, beautiful churches. The building of Wren's masterpiece, St. Paul's Cathedral went on more than thirty years, and Wren was an old man before it was finished.

Isaac Newton (1642-1727)

Isaac Newton was born in a little village, not far from the old university town of Cambridge, on December 25, 1642.

As a schoolboy, Isaac liked to make things with his own hands. He made a primitive wooden clock that was driven by the slow escape of water. He interested in mathematics and nature phenomena.

At the age of 18 he was sent to Cambridge where he studied mathematics. Some years after having taken his degree he was appointed professor to the chair of physics and mathematics at Cambridge.

Newton's contribution to science is great. When Newton was 21 he developed a mathematical method. At the age of 24 the young scientist developed the theory of gravity in its basic features and some twenty years later he returned to the subject.

The study of light was Newton's favourite study. Having made a number of experiments with lenses, he came to the conclusion that white light consisted of rays of different colours and that each kind of coloured ray was differently bent when it fell on a glass surface at the angle. His results formed the basis of modern spectography, greatly developing the field of optics.

Having been brought, by the fall of the apple, to the conclusion that the apple and the earth were pulling one another, he began to think of the same pull of gravity extending far beyond the earth. Newton calculated the force of gravity acting between the sun and the planets, thus establishing the law of gravitation in its most general form.

He also discovered the laws of motion, which we still consider to be the basis of all calculations concerning the motion.

He died at the age of 84. His funeral ceremonies were those of a national hero. It was the first time that national honours of this kind have been given in England to a man of science.

Daniel Defoe (1660-1731)

Daniel Defoe is considered the father of the English and the European novel. It was due to him that the genre became once and forever established in European literature.

Daniel Defoe's life was complicated and adventurous. He was the son of a London butcher whose name was Foe, to which Daniel later added the prefix De. His father wanted his son to become a priest. Daniel was educated at a theological school. But he never became a priest. He became a merchant. He travelled in some countries on business. Defoe was not a success in business but these travels gave him material for his future novels.

Daniel Defoe took an active part in the political life of Britain. He participated in the revolt against James II. The revolt was defeated and Defoe had

to hide himself for some time. His political activity had ups and downs. He was even imprisoned for his attack against the Church.

In 1690s Daniel Defoe turned to literature. His first works were satirical poems dealing with the urgent problems of his time. Later he published a satirical pamphlet, written in support of the Protestants, persecuted by the government and the Church. For the pamphlet Defoe was arrested and imprisoned.

At the age of 60 he wrote his first and most popular novel «The Life and Strange Surprising Adventures of Robinson Crusoe». It was followed by some other novels of adventure.

Michael Faraday (1791-1867)

The English chemist and physicist Michael Faraday was largely self-taught, but he became one of the most brilliant scientists of his age. His main contribution to science was in the field of electromagnetism. Among many other developments, he provided the idea and basic framework for the construction of the electric motor. Faraday was one of those great men who made possible the age of electricity in which we live.

Michael Faraday was born in a poor family in 1791. His father was a blacksmith and Michael had little chance to get an education. When the boy was thirteen he was sent to learn bookbinding. He read many of the books he had to bind and made notes from those books that interested him most. Once when binding an encyclopaedia, he ran across an article on electricity. It struck his imagination and aroused his interest.

With the little money he could save, he bought a cheap and simple apparatus and started to make experiments. He began to attend the lectures of Humphry Davy, an outstanding scientist and the most popular lecturer in London at that time. It was Davy who helped Faraday to become an assistant at the laboratory of the Royal Institute and to get good knowledge of the subject. While still an assistant Faraday helped Davy to create a safety lamp for miners.

He learned chemistry, lectured for young people interested in science and wrote for a scientific journal. At the same time he worked on the problem of turning gases into liquids.

For several years he worked at the problem of a perfect optical glass and made a glass that greatly improved the telescope.

Yet the problem of electricity and magnetism interested him above all. At last in 1831 he made his major discovery in the field — the electromagnetic induction. Among a number of other discoveries he is also known to have measured for the first time the electric current.

4. Give three forms of the verbs.

Be, induce, lead, lose, develop, rise, get, sit, cut, lie, die, make, find, read, teach, burn, build, deal, let.

5. Put the verbs in brackets into correct voice and tense-forms.

1. Shakespeare (to bear) on April 23, 1564 in the small town of Stratford-upon-Avon, about 75 miles from London.
2. Sir Christopher Wren, the famous architect, (to take part) in rebuilding the city.
3. Modern physics (to base) on Isaac Newton's theories.
4. Until the 1800s, the only forms of lighting (to be) fires, candles, and oil lamps.
5. In 1769 James Watt, a laboratory assistant from Scotland, (to create) a new type of steam engine.
6. The 18th century (to know) in the history of England as the period of Enlightenment.
7. Daniel Defoe (to consider) the father of the English and European novel.
8. The social and political developments in Britain (to reflect) in the literature of these years.

6. Underline the forms of the Infinitives in the following sentences. Translate the sentences into Russian.

1. I want to be informed of their decision.
2. The boy decided to enter Moscow University to study mathematics and physics.
3. In order to raise the labour productivity we must apply new equipment.
4. A problem to be solved by a digital computer must be expressed in mathematical terms.
5. The microscope enables very small objects to be examined in details.
6. To study this phenomenon requires much knowledge.

7. Complete the sentences with *by, in, to, at, of, on, for*.

1. ... winter and... summer they have their examinations.
2. Let's meet ... the railway station ... 5 o'clock.
3. Palma is ... the coast ... Majorca.
4. The students go ... the Academy... bus.
5. Einstein presented his theory ... relativity ... 1905.
6. The family cat is sleeping ... the armchair.
7. The discovery ... radio waves ... Alexander Popov ... 1895 had a great value ... mankind.
8. The Browns have got different breeds ... animals ... the farm.

8. Find the Gerund in each sentence. Define the functions of the Gerund. Translate the sentences into Russian.

1. Maintaining constant temperature and pressure during the test was absolutely necessary.

2. The task of the factory was producing corrosion – resistant polymers in far larger quantities.
3. The experimentalist suggested purifying the solution by a new method.
4. At presents scientists take great interest in the methods of turning the light and heat of the sun directly into electricity.
5. In converting water into ice we do not change its composition.

Comprehension of the text

III.1. Correct the following statements. Begin with: I'm afraid that's wrong; you are not quite right (mistaken); as far as I know; I don't think so; I think so; according to the text.

1. Michael Faraday, a well-known Latvian scientist, was born in Riga on January 28, 1911.
2. Isaac Newton wanted to become a biologist, like his father.
3. Daniel Defoe was born in 1834.
4. Queen Elizabeth I was one of the strongest rulers in England's history.
5. Christopher Wren is often called the English Leonardo da Vinci.

2. Answer the following questions.

1. What kind of ruler was Queen Elizabeth?
2. How did English culture change during Elizabeth's reign?
3. When and where was Isaac Newton born?
4. Where did Newton study?
5. What three major discoveries did Newton make?
6. In what spheres of science did Michael Faraday carry out research?
7. Who was Christopher Wren?
8. Where was Christopher Wren born?
9. When did Daniel Defoe write his first and most popular novel?
10. What other popular British writers and scientists do you know?

Speaking

IV.1. Use the following phrases and word combinations to express your opinion, translate them.]

1. In my opinion...
2. I agree with you about...
3. That's absolutely right!
4. I'm afraid that's wrong!

5. That's not quite true.
6. I take it...
7. I'd like to tell you about...
8. I think...
9. I don't think...
10. I suppose...

2. Read the texts again and make a plan to one of the texts.

3. Retell the text using your plan.

4. Find the information about other writers, scientists or inventors.

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