

МИНИСТЕРСТВО СЕЛЬСКОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ
ДЕПАРТАМЕНТ ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ, НАУЧНО-ТЕХНОЛОГИЧЕСКОЙ ПОЛИТИКИ
И РЫБОХОЗЯЙСТВЕННОГО КОМПЛЕКСА

ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОЕ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОЕ БЮДЖЕТНОЕ ОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНОЕ
УЧРЕЖДЕНИЕ ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ
«ДОНСКОЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ АГРАРНЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ»
(ФГБОУ ВО Донской ГАУ)

АЗОВО-ЧЕРНОМОРСКИЙ ИНЖЕНЕРНЫЙ ИНСТИТУТ – ФИЛИАЛ
ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОГО ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОГО БЮДЖЕТНОГО ОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНОГО
УЧРЕЖДЕНИЯ ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ
«ДОНСКОЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ АГРАРНЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ» В Г. ЗЕРНОГРАДЕ
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Кафедра «Гуманитарные дисциплины
и иностранные языки»

Е.П. Гаран

LINGUISTICS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Лингвострановедение:
Великобритания

Сборник текстов и заданий на английском языке
для обучающихся 1 курса бакалавриата
всех направлений подготовки

Часть I

Учебно-методическое пособие

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Целью данного учебного пособия является ознакомление студентов с особенностями и отдельными сторонами социокультурной жизни Великобритании, её традициями и обычаями. Основой пособия являются тексты страноведческой и культурологической тематики. Каждый текст снабжен словарем, обзорными вопросами и заданиями для контроля усвоения изученного материала и развития навыков спонтанной, неподготовленной устной речи. Пособие может быть рекомендовано для использования в подготовке бакалавров по всем направлениям по дисциплине «Иностранный язык».

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INTRODUCTION

Лингвострановедение представляет собой новое научное направление, сочетающее в себе элементы лингвистических знаний с элементами страноведения, т.е. с изучением реалий страны изучаемого языка.

Целью данного учебного пособия является ознакомление студентов с особенностями и отдельными сторонами социокультурной жизни Великобритании, её традициями и обычаями. Основой пособия являются тексты страноведческой и культурологической тематики. Каждый текст снабжен словарем, обзорными вопросами и заданиями для контроля усвоения изученного материала и развития навыков спонтанной, неподготовленной устной речи.

Предлагаемое автором учебно-методическое пособие по изучению страноведческого материала способствует развитию компетентностей, связанных с коммуникацией, творческим и критическим анализом, независимым мышлением в поликультурном контексте. Пособие предназначено для бакалавров 1 курса всех направлений подготовки.

1. THE HISTORY OF THE BRITISH FLAG

union – союз

background – фон

The Britain flag is called the ‘Union Jack’. The Union means “союз”. It is really **three flags** on top of each other – the red cross on white background of St. George for England, the white ‘X’ on blue background of St Andrew for Scotland, and the red ‘X’ on white background of St Patrick for Ireland. Of course, each country in Britain also has its own flag.

The British Flag and the Saints

The English Flag

patron saint – святой покровитель

wound – ранить



Флаг Св. Георгия
(Англия)

The Saint George’s cross is the English flag. **Saint George** is the patron saint of England. He was a soldier famous for saving the Princess Cleolinda from being eaten by a dragon. He wounded the dragon and took it back to the city of Silene on a lead like a dog. Saint George’s Day is celebrated on 23 April. Saint George is also the patron saint of Germany, Portugal and Greece.

The Scottish Flag

apostle – апостол

X-shaped – крест в форме X



Флаг Св. Андрея
(Шотландия)

The Saint Andrew’s cross is the Scottish flag. **Saint Andrew**, a fisherman, was one of the 12 apostles who followed Jesus Christ. Paintings of Saint Andrew often show him being killed on an X-shaped cross. Saint Andrew’s Day is celebrated on 30 November. He is the patron saint of both Scotland and Russia.

The Irish Flag

former – бывший

convert – обратить (в другую веру)

is supposed to – предполагается

get rid of – избавиться



Флаг Св. Патрика
(Ирландия)

The Saint Patrick's cross is the former flag of Ireland. **Saint Patrick** is the patron saint of Ireland. He was born about AD 390. He converted the Irish to Christianity and is supposed to have got rid of all the snakes in Ireland. Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated on 17 March.

The Welsh Flag

relics – останки

cathedral – собор



The Welsh flag shows a dragon. **Saint David**, the patron saint of Wales, started a number of monasteries in the country. Paintings of Saint David normally show him with a dove on his shoulder. His relics are now in Saint David's Cathedral in Wales. Saint David's Day is celebrated on 1 March.

2. LONDON

Vocabulary:

1. ancient – древний, старинный
2. numerous – многочисленный
3. fortress – крепость
4. in memory of – в память о
5. priceless – бесценный
6. outstanding – выдающийся
7. official residence – официальная резиденция
8. wealth – богатство
9. striking – поразительный, замечательный
10. statesman – государственный деятель
11. to contain – содержать
12. to bury – хоронить

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 8,3 million.

London is divided into several parts: the City, Westminster, the West End, and the East End.

The heart of London is the City, its financial and business centre. Numerous banks, offices, and firms are situated there, including the Bank of England, the Stock Exchange, and the Old Bailey. Few people live here, but over a million people come to the City to work. There are some famous ancient buildings within the City. Perhaps the most striking of them is the St. Paul's Cathedral, the greatest of English churches. It was built in the 17th century by Sir Christopher Wren. The Tower of London was founded by Julius Caesar and in 1066 rebuilt by William the Conqueror. It was used as a fortress, a royal palace, and a prison. Now it is a museum.

Westminster is the governmental part of London.

Nearly all English kings and queens have been crowned in Westminster Abbey. Many outstanding statesmen, scientists, writers, poets, and painters are buried here: Newton, Darwin, Chaucer, Dickens, Tennyson, Kipling, etc.

Across the road from Westminster Abbey is Westminster Palace, the seat of the British Parliament. The Clock Tower of the Houses of Parliament is famous for its big bell, known as "Big Ben". Buckingham Palace is the official residence of the Queen.

The West End is the richest and most beautiful part of London. It is the symbol of wealth and luxury. The best hotels, shops, restaurants, clubs, and theatres are situated there.

The Trafalgar Square is the geographical centre of London. It was named in 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.

On the north side of the Trafalgar Square is the National Portrait Gallery. Not far away is the British Museum – the biggest museum in London. It contains a priceless collection of ancient manuscripts, coins, sculptures, etc, and is also famous for its library.

There are a lot of factories, workshops, and docks in the East End.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. What's the population of London?
2. Is London the largest city in the world?
3. What do you know about the City?
4. Traditionally London is divided into four parts. Can you name them?
5. Who founded the Tower of London? When was it rebuilt?
6. Whom was the St. Paul's Cathedral built by?
7. What building has more historic associations than any other building in London?
8. What is the governmental part of London?
9. What is Big Ben?
10. Where do the working people of London live?

Translate into Russian.

1. London is divided into several parts: the City, Westminster, the West End, and the East End.
2. Numerous banks, offices, and firms are situated there, including the Bank of England, the Stock Exchange, and the Old Bailey.
3. The West End is the richest and most beautiful part of London.
4. It contains a priceless collection of ancient manuscripts, coins, sculptures, etc, and is also famous for its library.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions:
about 8,3 million; Westminster Abbey; The Tower of London; the Trafalgar Square.

1. Its population is
2. Nearly all English kings and queens have been crowned in
3. was founded by Julius Caesar and in 1066 rebuilt by William the Conqueror.
4. On the north side of is the National Portrait Gallery.

Translate into English.

1. В Сити есть несколько известных исторических памятников.
2. Вест-Энд – самая богатая и красивая часть Лондона.
3. Собор Святого Павла был построен в 17 веке сэром Кристофером Реном.
4. Трафальгарская площадь – географический центр Лондона.

3. THE TOWER OF LONDON

Vocabulary:

1. imposing – заметный
2. jewel – драгоценность
3. raven – ворона
4. to ascend – спускаться
5. to comprise – включать
6. to be beheaded – быть обезглавленным
7. prison – тюрьма
8. murdered – убитый
9. countless – бесчисленный
10. prisoner – заключенный

The Tower of London is one of the most imposing and popular of London's historical sites. It comprises not one, but 20 towers. The oldest of which, the White Tower, dates back to the 11-th century and the time of William the Conqueror. Nowadays a lot of tourists visit the Tower of London, because of the Tower's evil reputation as a prison. The Tower is famous as home of the Crown Jewels. Today they can be viewed in their new jewel house. They include the Crown of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother which contains the celebrated Indian diamond.

Many stories associated with British history come from the Tower. In 1483 King Edward IV's two sons were murdered in the so-called Bloody Tower. Over two centuries later the skeletons of two little boys were found buried beneath steps in the White Tower.

Traitor's Gate has steps leading down to the River Thames. Countless prisoners, including the future Queen Elizabeth I of England, were brought to the Tower by barge and ascended the steps before being imprisoned. For many it was their last moment of freedom before their death. But Elizabeth was released from the Tower and became Queen. The King's second wife, Anne Boleyn, was brought to trial there in 1536 and beheaded. Six years later her cousin, Catherine, Henry VIII's fifth wife, suffered the same fate. Sir Thomas More was beheaded there in 1535.

Of course, no visit to the Tower would be complete without seeing the ravens; huge black birds who are an official part of the Tower community. Legend states that if the ravens were to leave the Tower the Crown will fall, and Britain with it. Under the special care of the Raven Master, the ravens are fed a daily diet of raw

meat. And there is no danger of them flying away, because their wings are clipped.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. How many towers does the Tower comprise?
2. What is the most imposing and popular site in London?
3. Tell something about Traitor's Gate.
4. Who is an official part of London's community?
5. What is the Tower of London famous for?
6. Are you familiar with the Tower legend of the huge black crows?

Translate into Russian.

1. The Tower is famous as home of the Crown Jewels.
2. In 1483 King Edward IV's two sons were murdered in the so-called Bloody Tower.
3. Traitor's Gate has steps leading down to the River Thames.
4. Legend states that if the ravens were to leave the Tower the Crown will fall, and Britain with it.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: King Edward IV's; The Tower of London; the ravens; Anne Boleyn; the Crown.

1. is one of the most imposing and popular of London's historical sites.
2. In 1483 two sons were murdered in the so-called Bloody Tower.
3. The King's second wife,, was brought to trial there in 1536 and beheaded.
4. Legend states that if were to leave the Tower will fall, and Britain with it.

Translate into English.

1. Сегодня много туристов посещают лондонский Тауэр.
2. Елизавета была освобождена из Тауэра и стала королевой.
3. Легенда гласит, что если вороны покинут Тауэр, корона падет и Британия вместе с ней.
4. Тауэр известен как хранилище королевских драгоценностей.

4. THE ROYAL FAMILY

Vocabulary:

1. abdication – отречение
2. annual – годовой
3. controversial – противоречивый
4. duke – герцог
5. enthusiasm – увлечение
6. for short – сокращенно
7. feature – важная примета
8. heir – наследник
9. keen promoter – ярый защитник
10. monarchy – монархия
11. outspoken – откровенный, прямой
12. the Royal Navy – Королевский флот
13. to signify – выражать
14. to grow older – взрослеть
15. to make one's broadcast – выступать в радиопередаче
16. welfare – благосостояние

At present the British royal family is headed by Queen Elizabeth. When the Queen was born on the 21st of April 1926, her grandfather, King George V, was on the throne and her uncle was his heir. The death of her grandfather and the abdication of her uncle brought her father to the throne as King George VI.

As a child she studied constitutional history and law as well as art and music. In addition she learned to ride and acquired her enthusiasm for horses. As she grew older she began to take part in public life, making her first broadcast at the age of 14.

The marriage of the young Princess Elizabeth to Philip, Duke of Edinburgh took place in November 1947. She came to the throne after her father's death in 1952 and was crowned in Westminster Abbey in June 1953.

Among Queen Elizabeth's many duties are the regular visits she makes to foreign countries, and especially those of the Commonwealth, whose interests and welfare are very important to her. The Queen has allowed the BBC to make a documentary film about the every day of the royal family. She also started the tradition of the "walkabout", an informal feature of an otherwise formal royal visit, when she walks among the public crowds and stops to talk to some people.

The annual Christmas broadcast made by the Queen on radio and television has become a traditional and popular feature of the season, and there were widespread celebrations and special programmes of events in 1977 to mark her Silver Jubilee.

The Queen's husband, Duke of Edinburgh, was born in 1926 and served in the Royal Navy. He takes a great deal of interest in industry, in the achievements of young people (he founded Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme in 1956) and in saving raise wild animals from extinction.

The Queen's heir is Charles, Prince of Wales, who was born in 1948, married Lady Diana Spencer and has two children, Prince William and Prince Harry. The Prince of Wales is well-known as a keen promoter of British interests.

In recent years he has become outspoken on such controversial topics as modern architecture, violence in films and on television, and the standard of English teaching in schools. His wife Diana, Princess of Wales (often called in mass media Princess Di), won the affection of many people by her modesty, shyness and beauty. Unfortunately, she died in a car accident in August, 1997.

The Queen's other children are Princess Anne (born in 1950), Prince Andrew (born in 1960) and Prince Edward (born in 1964). Anne, Princess Royal, has acquired a reputation for being arrogant, but in recent years has become quite popular with the general public.

The Queen is widely known for her interest in horses and horse-racing. She is now president of the Save the Children Fund, Chancellor of the University of London and carries out many public engagements.

Prince Andrew, Duke of York, served as a helicopter pilot in the Royal Navy. In 1986 he married Miss Sarah Ferguson (Fergie, for short) and has two daughters.

Prince Edward is keen on the theatre. This interest began while he was at university. He quit the Royal Marines, and is now pursuing a career with a theatrical company.

The Queen Mother, the widow of the late King George VI, celebrated her one hundred birthday in 2 000 and died in 2002. The Queen's only sister, Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, is well-known for her charity work.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. When was the Queen Elizabeth crowned?
2. By whom is the British royal family headed at present?
3. What tradition did she start?
4. What did the Queen Elizabeth study as a child?

5. What does she take a great interest in?
6. When was the Queen's husband born?
7. What are the names of the Queen's other children?

Translate into Russian.

1. As a child she studied constitutional history and law as well as art and music.
2. The Queen has allowed the BBC to make a documentary film about the every day of the royal family.
3. The Queen is widely known for her interest in horses and horse-racing.
4. Prince Edward is keen on the theatre. This interest began while he was at university.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: in Westminster Abbey; of the Save the Children Fund; Queen Elizabeth; the University of London; Prince Edward.

1. At present the British royal family is headed by.....
2. She came to the throne after her father's death in 1952 and was crowned in June 1953.
3. She is now president , Chancellor of and carries out many public engagements.
4. is keen on the theatre.

Translate into English.

1. В настоящее время британскую королевскую семью возглавляет королева Елизавета.
2. Принц Уэльский известен как ярый защитник интересов Британии.
3. Муж королевы, герцог Эдинбургский, родился в 1926 г., служил в Королевском военно-морском флоте.
4. Принц Эдвард оставил Королевскую морскую пехоту и сейчас делает карьеру в составе театральной труппы.

5. LONDON TRAFFIC

Vocabulary:

1. change – сдача
2. exact – точный
3. expensive – дорогой
4. fare – плата
5. passenger – пассажир
6. route – маршрут
7. to mark – обозначать
8. traffic – движение
9. enough – достаточно
10. underground – подземный
11. circle – круг

London is so large that visitors must learn to use buses and the underground to get about. London taxis are too expensive for any but the rich. You can get a map of the underground and the bus routes at any ticket office. The word "Underground" across a large circle shows you where the stations are. The London underground is called the "tube".

Bus stops are marked clearly. In the suburbs buses do not stop unless there are passengers who wish to get on or off. These stops are marked "Request Steps".

Inside some buses you will see the notice: "Please, state your destination clearly and have the exact fare ready." It is easy enough to tell the conductor where you want to go to, but not always possible to have the exact fare. The conductor will always give you the change.

The London buses are very large. They have seats both upstairs and downstairs. English children like to sit on the front seats of a big London bus. They can see everything that is happening in the streets.

Here are some of the things you may hear on a bus in London:

"Fares, please."

"Fourpence, please."

"Full up inside; plenty of seats on top."

"Standing room only."

"No, sir, this bus does not go to Victoria Station."

"You want a number 21."

In Great Britain traffic keeps to the left. Motor-cars, buses and cyclists must all keep to the left side of the road. In most other countries traffic keeps to the right. There is heavy traffic in London and you must observe traffic rules.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. What can you get at any ticket office?
2. What must visitors of London learn? Why?
3. How is the London underground called?
4. What does the word "Underground" show?
5. What will you see inside some buses?
6. Which stops are marked "Request Steps"?
7. Why must you observe traffic rules?
8. What seats have London buses?

Translate into Russian.

1. London taxis are too expensive for any but the rich.
2. The London underground is called the "tube".
3. Inside some buses you will see the notice: "Please, state your destination clearly and have the exact fare ready."
4. Motor-cars, buses and cyclists must all keep to the left side of the road.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: ticket office; conductor; "Request Steps"; traffic rules.

1. You can get a map of the underground and the bus routes at any....
2. These stops are marked
3. The will always give you the change.
4. There is heavy traffic in London and you must observe

Translate into English.

1. Остановки автобусов четко обозначены.
2. Автобусы в Лондоне очень большие. В них есть места верхние и нижние.
3. "Плата за проезд, пожалуйста". "Вам нужен автобус номер 21".
4. В большинстве других стран движение правостороннее.

6. CHRISTMAS IN GREAT BRITAIN

Vocabulary:

1. gift – подарок
2. turkey – индюшка
3. charity – милосердие
4. to wrap up – заворачивать, упаковывать
5. bottom – дно
6. Commonwealth – содружество
7. to mince – измельчить
8. Church – церковь
9. hymn – гимн
10. paper – бумага
11. corner – угол

For most British families, this is the most important festival of the year. This is the day when many people are travelling home to be with their families on Christmas Day. If you try to catch a train on 24th December you may have difficulty in finding a seat.

There are a lot of traditions connected with Christmas but the most important one is the giving of presents. Family members wrap up their gifts and leave them at the bottom of the Christmas tree to be "bound on Christmas morning".

At some time on Christmas Day the family will sit down to a big turkey dinner followed by Christmas pudding.

In the afternoon they may watch the Queen on the television as she delivers her traditional Christmas message to the United Kingdom and Commonwealth. Then they enjoy a piece of Christmas cake or eat a hot mince pie.

On the Sunday before Christmas many churches hold a service where special hymns are sung. Sometimes singers can be heard on the streets as they collect money for charity.

Most families decorate their houses with brightly-coloured paper or holly, and they usually have a Christmas tree in the corner of the room, glittering with coloured lights and decoration. 26th December is also a public holiday, called Boxing Day.

This is the time to visit friends and relatives or be a spectator at one of the many sporting events.

Everyone in Great Britain is waiting and enjoying this holiday very much!

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. What is the most important festival in Great Britain?
2. Are there many traditions connected with Christmas in Great Britain?
3. Is it difficult to catch a train on 24th December?
4. Do you like the way Christmas is celebrated in Great Britain?
5. What do the family do during this holiday?
6. Where special hymns are sung?

Translate into Russian.

1. Family members wrap up their gifts and leave them at the bottom of the Christmas tree to be "bound on Christmas morning".
2. At some time on Christmas Day the family will sit down to a big turkey dinner.
3. On the Sunday before Christmas many churches hold a service where special hymns are sung.
4. This is the time to visit friends and relatives.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: the giving of presents; Commonwealth; on 24th December; the United Kingdom; 26th December.

1. If you try to catch a train you may have difficulty in finding a seat.
2. There are a lot of traditions connected with Christmas but the most important one is
3. In the afternoon they may watch the Queen on the television as she delivers her traditional Christmas message to and
4. is also a public holiday, called Boxing Day.

Translate into English.

1. Существует много традиций, связанных с Рождеством, но наиболее важная из них – дарение подарков.
2. Большинство семей украшают свои дома яркой цветной бумагой и венками из листьев остролиста, и обычно в углу комнаты ставится рождественская ёлка.
3. Днём они могут увидеть по телевизору королеву, посылающую свое традиционное рождественское поздравление.
4. Иногда певцов слышно на улице, когда они собирают пожертвования.

7. BRITISH CUISINE

Vocabulary:

1. delicious – очень вкусный; восхитительный
2. disappointing – обидно, разочаровывать
3. cuisine – кухня
4. herb – трава
5. ingredient – ингредиент, составная часть
6. overcooked – переваренный
7. sauces – соус
8. spice – специя, пряность
9. to criticize – критиковать
10. tasteless – безвкусный
11. to invent – изобретать
12. to disguise – скрыть
13. to lend – одалживать

Some people criticize English food. They say it's unimaginable, boring, tasteless, it's chips with everything and totally overcooked vegetables. The basic ingredients, when fresh, are so full of flavour that British haven't had to invent sauces to disguise their natural taste. What can compare with fresh peas or new potatoes just boiled and served with butter? Why drown spring lamb in wine or cream and spices, when with just one or two herbs it is absolutely delicious?

If you ask foreigners to name some typically English dishes, they will probably say "Fish and chips" then stop. It is disappointing, but true that, there is no tradition in England of eating in restaurants, because the food doesn't lend itself to such preparation. English cooking is found at home. So it is difficult to a good English restaurant with a reasonable prices.

In most cities in Britain you'll find French, Italian, Indian and Chinese, restaurants. In London you'll also find Indonesian, Mexican, Greek... Cynics will say that this is because English have no "cuisine" themselves, but this is not quite the true.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. Do English people use a lot of sauces?
2. What do foreigners say when they criticize English food?

3. Do all English eat in restaurants?
4. From a foreigner's point of view, what typically English dishes?
5. Is it the true that English have no cuisine?
6. What kind of restaurants can you find in Britain?

Translate into Russian.

1. The basic ingredients, when fresh, are so full of flavour that British haven't had to invent sauces to disguise their natural taste.
2. Why drown spring lamb in wine or cream and spices, when with just one or two herbs it is absolutely delicious?
3. If you ask foreigners to name some typically English dishes, they will probably say "Fish and chips" then stop.
4. In most cities in Britain you'll find French, Italian, Indian and Chinese, restaurants.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: natural taste; English food; The basic ingredients; at home; "Fish and chips".

1. Some people criticize
2. , when fresh, are so full of flavour that British haven't had to invent sauces to disguise their.....
3. English cooking is found.....
4. If you ask foreigners to name some typically English dishes, they will probably say then stop.

Translate into English.

1. Трудно найти хороший английский ресторан с разумными ценами.
2. В Англии не принято есть в ресторанах, так как сами блюда не подходят для такого приготовления.
3. Говорят, что английская еда невозможна, безвкусна, что это – чипсы ко всем блюдам и ужасно переваренные овощи.
4. Английская кухня основана дома.

8. MEALS IN BRITAIN

Vocabulary:

1. cardiovascular disease – сердечно-сосудистое заболевание
2. fat – жир
3. fibre – грубая пища
4. obesity – ожирение
5. scone – лепешка
6. to be aware of – БЫТЬ ОСВЕДОМЛЕННЫМ
7. vinegar – уксус
8. value – ценность
9. fewer – меньше
10. middle – средний

Since the 1970's eating habits in Britain have undergone a change. People have been encouraged by doctors, health experts and government advertisements to eat less fat and more fibre. Fat is believed to be one of the major causes of obesity and heart disease. Forty per cent of adults in Britain are overweight and Britain has one of the highest death rates due to cardiovascular disease in the world. Britons have also become more aware of calories, the energy value of food. Some people count the number of calories they eat every day, so that they can try to take in fewer calories and lose weight. Food manufactures have started to help the general public to make more informed choices about what they eat.

So the traditional British breakfast is bacon, eggs or sausages, preceded by fruit and followed by toasts. Britons may eat this breakfast at weekends or on special occasions but prefer a smaller and healthier meal to start a day. Lunch is a light meal and is eaten at school or work. Lunch takes 40 minutes. Dinner is usually the main meal of the day and consists of two courses.

In recent years, foreign foods have become a regular part of the British diet. Indian and Chinese dishes are particularly popular for evening meals. Take-aways became extremely popular in the 1980 's. The traditional British take-away is fish and chips eaten with salt and vinegar and served in an old newspaper. The British are famous for their love of sweet things and afternoon tea with sandwiches; scones, jam and several kinds of cake, was once a traditional custom. Most working people don't have tea as an afternoon "meal", but they do have a short break in the middle of the afternoon for a cup of tea. Tea is often also drink with lunch and dinner.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. Why do some of people count the number of calories they eat?
2. Eating habits in Britain have undergone a change, haven't they?
3. What do the British have for the main meal of the day?
4. What are Britons famous for?
5. What is the traditional British breakfast?

Translate into Russian.

1. Fat is believed to be one of the major causes of obesity and heart disease.
2. So the traditional British breakfast is bacon, eggs or sausages, preceded by fruit and followed by toasts.
3. Dinner is usually the main meal of the day and consists of two courses.
4. The British are famous for their love of sweet things and afternoon tea with sandwiches; scones, jam and several kinds of cake, was once a traditional custom.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: fewer calories; Lunch; Tea; lose weight; Chinese.

1. Some people count the number of calories they eat every day, so that they can try to take in and
2. is a light meal and is eaten at school or work.
3. Indian and dishes are particularly popular for evening meals.
4. is often also drink with lunch and dinner.

Translate into English.

1. Британцы стали более осведомленными относительно калорийности и энергетической ценности пищи.
2. Некоторые люди подсчитывают количество калорий, которые они съедают за день.
3. Большинству работающих людей чай не заменяет обед, но у них есть маленький перерыв в середине дня на чашечку чая.
4. 40% взрослых Британии имеют избыточный вес, и в Британии один из самых высоких в мире показателей смертности из-за сердечно-сосудистых заболеваний.

9. BRITISH HOMES

Vocabulary:

1. enormous – огромный
2. owner – владелец
3. to borrow – занимать
4. plenty – множество
5. enough – достаточно
6. bedroom – спальня
7. bathroom – ванная
8. unmarried – неженатый

There are 22 million homes in Britain – big homes and small homes, old cottages and new buildings, houses and flats. (Americans say "apartment" but British people say "flat"). Many British people love old houses and these are often more expensive than modern ones. They also love gardening and you will see gardens everywhere you go: in towns, villages and out in the country.

Some are very small with just one tree and a few flowers. Others are enormous with plenty of flowers and enough vegetables and fruit trees. Two third of the families in Britain own their houses.

Millions of these houses are the same with two or three bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs, dining-room and kitchen downstairs. To pay for their house, home owners borrow money from a "building society" and pay back a little every month.

There are a great many different kinds of homes in Britain, but there are not enough! It is often very difficult for young people to find a home when they want to start a family. British homes are usually smaller than American homes. But like Americans old people, young families and unmarried people do not usually live together.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. Two thirds of families own their own houses, don't they?
2. How many homes are there in Britain?
3. Is it difficult or easy for young people to find a home?
4. What can you tell about British homes?
5. What do these families do to pay for houses?

Translate into Russian.

1. There are 22 million homes in Britain – big homes and small homes, old cottages and new buildings, houses and flats.
2. Many British people love old houses and these are often more expensive than modern ones.
3. To pay for their house, home owners borrow money from a "building society" and pay back a little every month.
4. It is often very difficult for young people to find a home when they want to start a family.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: gardening; bathroom; 22 million homes; bedrooms; old people.

1. There are in Britain – big homes and small homes, old cottages and new buildings, houses and flats.
2. They also love and you will see gardens everywhere you go: in towns, villages and out in the country.
3. Millions of these houses are the same with two or three and a upstairs, dining-room and kitchen downstairs.
4. But like Americans , young families and unmarried people do not usually live together.

Translate into English.

1. Многие англичане живут в старых домах, и это чаще дороже, чем жить в современных домах.
2. 2/3 английских семей владеют своими домами.
3. В Британии много разных видов домов, но их недостаточно!
4. Но, как и у американцев, старики, молодые семьи и неженатые люди обычно не живут вместе.

10. BRITISH MUSEUMS

Vocabulary:

1. display – выставка
2. medieval – средневековый
3. outstanding – выдающийся
4. marvelous – изумительный
5. applied – прикладная
6. valuable – ценный
7. finest – великолепнейший
8. treasures – сокровища
9. dispersed – рассеянный

There are many museums in London. One of them is the Tate Gallery in Millbank, which presents modern masters of England and France. There are some fine examples of modern sculpture. Its collection of French Impressionists is marvellous. There is the Victoria and Albert Museum in Brompton Road. It has an outstanding collection of the applied arts of all countries and periods.

The National Gallery in Trafalgar Square has one of the best picture collection in the world. It has the most valuable display of French paintings from the early of the Impressionists, and, of course, the finest English painting, with Turner, Gainsborough, Constable and others. It shows the progress of Italian painting from the medieval to the Renaissance, some outstanding pictures of the old Roman masters. It also has a great variety of Dutch and Flemish masters and an excellent choice of Spanish painters. There are great treasures dispersed in private collections all over the world. The Queen's collection is the most valuable among them.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. Name British Museums you know?
2. Are there many museums in London?
3. Tell about the Victoria and Albert Museum.
4. The Queen's collection is the most valuable, isn't it?
5. What is the National Gallery famous for?

Translate into Russian.

1. Its collection of French Impressionists is marvellous.
2. The National Gallery in Trafalgar Square has one of the best picture collection in the world.
3. There are great treasures dispersed in private collections all over the world.
4. There is the Victoria and Albert Museum in Brompton Road.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: Albert Museum; The Queen's collection; the Tate Gallery in Millmank; the Renaissance.

1. One of them is , which presents modern masters of England and France.
2. There is the Victoria and in Brompton Road.
3. It shows the progress of Italian painting from the medieval to , some outstanding pictures of the old Roman masters.
4. is the most valuable among them.

Translate into English.

1. В Лондоне много музеев.
2. Там хранится выдающаяся коллекция прикладного искусства всех стран и периодов.
3. В ней широко представлены голландские и фламандские мастера и есть большой перечень работ испанских художников.
4. Многие шедевры разбросаны в частных коллекциях по всему миру.

11. BRITISH LITERATURE

Vocabulary:

1. comedy – комедия
2. conviction – осуждение, убеждение
3. pilgrimage – паломничество
4. passion – страсть
5. playwright – драматург
6. rare – редкий
7. to represent – представлять
8. tragedy – трагедия
9. wonderland – страна чудес
10. embodied – воплощенный
11. simple – простой
12. novel – роман

Great Britain gave the world a lot of talented people. Many famous writers and poets were born and lived in Great Britain.

One of the best known English playwrights was William Shakespeare. He draw ideas for his tragedies and comedies from the history of England and ancient Rome. Many experts consider Shakespeare the greatest writer and the greatest playwright in English language. William Shakespeare wrote 37 plays which may be divided into: comedies (such as "A Midsummer Night's Dream"), tragedies (such as "Hamlet", "Othello", "King Lear", "Macbeth") and historical plays (such as "Richard II", "Henry V", "Julius Caesar", "Antony and Cleopatra").

Lord George Gordon Byron. His free-spirited life style combined with his rare poetic gift makes him one of the most famous figures of the Romantic Era. His famous works such as "Stanzas to Augusta", "The Prisoner of Chillon", "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage", "Manfred" draw readers into the passion, humors and conviction of a poet whose life and work truly embodied the Romantic spirit.

Lewis Carroll became famous when he published "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland".

Robert Burns represents the generation of Romantic writers. In his poems he described with love and understanding the simple life he knew. Among his well-known poems are "Halloween", "The Jolly Beggars", "To a Mouse".

Sir Walter Scott wrote the first examples of historical novel.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. What are the most famous plays by Shakespeare?
2. Who is the best known English playwright?
3. What makes George Byron famous?
4. Who is Robert Burns?
5. Who wrote historical novels?
6. What brought popularity to Lewis Carroll?
7. What are the best known works by Byron?

Translate into Russian.

1. Great Britain gave the world a lot of talented people.
2. One of the best known English playwrights was William Shakespeare.
3. Lewis Carroll became famous when he published "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland".
4. Among his well-known poems are "Halloween", "The Jolly Beggars", "To a Mouse".

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: English language; Sir Walter Scott; Great Britain; "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland".

1. Many famous writers and poets were born and lived in
2. Many experts consider Shakespeare the greatest writer and the greatest playwright in
3. Lewis Carroll became famous when he published
4. wrote the first examples of historical novel.

Translate into English.

1. Он брал идеи для своих трагедий и комедий из истории Англии и Древнего Рима.
2. Великобритания дала миру множество талантливых людей.
3. Роберт Бернс представляет поколение писателей эпохи романтизма.
4. Одним из самых известных английских драматургов был Вильям Шекспир.

12. BRITISH TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS

Vocabulary:

1. All Halloween's Eve – Канун всех святых (сокр. Хэллоуин)
2. amateur – любитель; поклонник; любительский
3. bonfire – костер
4. boat race – лодочные гонки
5. Bonfire night – Ночь костров
6. competition – соревнование
7. customs – традиции
8. countryside – сельская местность
9. celtic – кельтский
10. Eisteddfod – ежегодный фестиваль бардов (в Уэльсе)
11. Easter Sunday – Пасхальное Воскресенье
12. folk – народный (относящийся к обычаям, традициям простого народа)
13. firework – обыкн. мн. фейерверк
14. foot – мн. ч. неизм. фут (мера длины, равная 30,48 см)
15. gallon – галлон (мера жидких и сыпучих тел = 4,54 л)
16. handkerchief – носовой платок, косынка
17. half-crown – полкроны (монета в 2 шиллинга 6 пенсов)
18. halfpenny – полпенни
19. exciting – возбуждающий, волнующий

British nation is considered to be the most conservative in Europe. It is not a secret that every nation and every country has its own customs and traditions. In Great Britain people attach greater importance to traditions and customs than in other European countries. Englishmen are proud of their traditions and carefully keep them up. The best examples are their queen, money system, their weights and measures.

There are many customs and some of them are very old. There is, for example, the Marble Championship, where the British Champion is crowned; he wins a silver cup known among folk dancers as Morris Dancing. Morris Dancing is an event where people, worn in beautiful clothes with ribbons and bells, dance with handkerchiefs or big sticks in their hands, while traditional music-sounds.

Another example is the Boat Race, which takes place on the river Thames, often on Easter Sunday. A boat with a team from Oxford University and one with a team from Cambridge University hold a race.

British people think that the Grand National horse race is the most exciting horse race in the world. It takes place near Liverpool every year. Sometimes it happens the same day as the Boat Race takes place, sometimes a week later. Amateur riders as well as professional jockeys can participate. It is a very famous event.

There are many celebrations in May, especially in the countryside.

Halloween is a day on which many children dress up in unusual costumes. In fact, this holiday has a Celtic origin. The day was originally called All Halloween's Eve, because it happens on October 31, the eve of all Saint's Day. The name was later shortened to Halloween. The Celts celebrated the coming of New Year on that day.

Another tradition is the holiday called Bonfire Night.

On November 5, 1605, a man called Guy Fawkes planned to blow up the Houses of Parliament where the king James 1st was to open Parliament on that day. But Guy Fawkes was unable to realize his plan and was caught and later, hanged. The British still remember that Guy Fawkes' Night. It is another name for this holiday. This day one can see children with figures, made of sacks and straw and dressed in old clothes. On November 5th, children put their figures on the bonfire, burn them, and light their fireworks.

In the end of the year, there is the most famous New Year celebration. In London, many people go to Trafalgar Square on New Year's Eve. There is singing and dancing at 12 o'clock on December 31st.

A popular Scottish event is the Edinburgh Festival of music and drama, which takes place every year. A truly Welsh event is the Eisteddfod, a national festival of traditional poetry and music, with a competition for the best new poem in Welsh.

If we look at English weights and measures, we can be convinced that the British are very conservative people. They do not use the internationally accepted measurements. They have conserved their old measures. There are nine essential measures. For general use, the smallest weight is one ounce, then 16 ounce is equal to a pound. Fourteen pounds is one stone.

The English always give people's weight in pounds and stones. Liquids they measure in pints, quarts and gallons. There are two pints in a quart and four quarts or eight pints are in one gallon. For length, they have inches, foot, yards and miles.

If we have always been used to the metric system therefore the English monetary system could be found rather difficult for us. They have a pound sterling, which is divided into twenty shillings, half-crown is cost two shillings and sixpence, shilling is worth twelve pennies and one penny could be changed by two halfpennies.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. What are the best examples of their conservatism?
2. What nation is considered to be the most conservative in Europe?
3. What is the original name of Halloween?
4. What are the most popular English traditions?
5. What peculiarities of the English monetary system do you know?
6. What is the Eisteddfod?
7. What is a popular Scottish event?

Translate into Russian.

1. In Great Britain people attach greater importance to traditions and customs than in other European countries.
2. There are many customs and some of them are very old.
3. British people think that the Grand National horse race is the most exciting horse race in the world.
4. In the end of the year, there is the most famous New Year celebration.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: Liverpool; Halloween; the river Thames; pounds.

1. Another example is the Boat Race, which takes place on , often on Easter Sunday.
2. It takes place near every year.
3. is a day on which many children dress up in unusual costumes.
4. The English always give people's weight in and stones.

Translate into English.

1. В Великобритании люди уделяют большее внимание традициям и обычаям, чем в других европейских странах.
2. Другая традиция – это праздник, который называется Ночь костра.
3. Британцы не используют международную, принятую во всем мире систему мер.
4. Для измерения длины они используют дюймы, футы, ярды и мили.

13. CLIMATE IN GREAT BRITAIN

Vocabulary:

1. awful – ужасный, пугающий
2. dense – плотный, густой
3. dreadful – ужасный, страшный
4. fickle – непостоянный
5. fog – туман
6. insular climate – островной климат
7. It's raining cats and dogs – дождь льет как из ведра
8. moderate – умеренный
9. prevailing winds – господствующие ветры
10. shores – побережье
11. striking difference – зд. большая разница
12. temperate belt – умеренный пояс
13. throughout – по всей, повсюду, везде, в течение всего
14. the Gulf Stream – течение Гольфстрим
15. to flow – течь, протекать
16. to surround – окружать
17. to determine – определять
18. vehicle – транспортное средство, автомобиль
19. wet – сырой, мокрый

The British Isles which are surrounded by the ocean have an insular climate. There are 3 things that chiefly determine the climate of the United Kingdom: the position of the islands in the temperate belt; the fact that the prevailing winds blow from the west and south-west and the warm current – the Gulf Stream that flows from the Gulf of Mexico along the western shores of England. All these features make the climate more moderate, without striking difference between seasons. It is not very cold in winter and never very hot in summer.

So, the British ports are ice-free and its rivers are not frozen throughout the year. The weather on the British Isles has a bad reputation. It is very changeable and fickle. The British say that there is a climate in other countries, but we have just weather. If you don't like the weather in England, just wait a few minutes.

It rains very often in all seasons in Great Britain. Autumn and winter are the wettest. The sky is usually grey and cold winds blow. On the average, Britain has more than 200 rainy days a year. The English say that they have 3 variants of

weather: when it rains in the morning, when it rains in the afternoon, and when it rains all day long. Sometimes it rains so heavily, that they say «It's raining cats and dogs».

Britain is known all over the world for its fogs. Sometimes fogs are so thick that it's impossible to see anything within a few meters. The winter fogs of London are, indeed, awful; they surpass all imagination. In a dense fog all traffic is stopped, no vehicle can move from fear of dreadful accidents. So, we may say that the British climate has three main features: it is mild, humid and very changeable.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. Why does the United Kingdom have an insular climate?
2. Does the Gulf Stream flow from the Gulf of Mexico along the western shores of England?
3. Why are the English ports ice-free?
4. What kind of climate does Great Britain have?
5. What are three main features that determine the climate of Great Britain?
6. Is it very hot in Britain in summer?
7. Are the English rivers frozen during winter?
8. What happens when there is a heavy fog in Great Britain?
9. Does it rain very often?
10. What reputation does the weather of the United Kingdom have?

Translate into Russian.

1. The British Isles which are surrounded by the ocean have an insular climate.
2. It is not very cold in winter and never very hot in summer.
3. The British say that there is a climate in other countries, but we have just weather.
4. In a dense fog all traffic is stopped, no vehicle can move from fear of dreadful accidents.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: the Gulf of Mexico; the British Isles; fogs; the west; «It's raining cats and dogs».

1. The fact that the prevailing winds blow from and south-west and the warm current – the Gulf Stream that flows from along the western shores of England.
2. The weather on has a bad reputation.
3. Sometimes it rains so heavily, that they say
4. Britain is known all over the world for its

Translate into English.

1. Британские порты не сковываются льдом зимой, а реки не замерзают в течение года.
2. Небо обычно серого цвета, дуют холодные ветры.
3. В среднем по Англии более 200 дождливых дней в году.
4. Британский климат имеет три основных особенности: он умеренный, влажный и очень непостоянный.

14. EDUCATION IN BRITAIN

Vocabulary:

1. bachelor – бакалавр
2. compulsory – обязательная
3. exam – экзамен
4. master – магистр
5. nursery school – детский сад
6. opportunity – возможность
7. private – частный
8. subject – предмет
9. to award – давать, присваивать
10. either – любой
11. the Master's degree – степень магистра

In England and Wales compulsory school begins at the age of five, but before that age children can go to a nursery school, also called play school. School is compulsory till the children are 16 years old.

In Primary School and First School children learn to read and write and the basis of arithmetic. In the higher classes of Primary School (or in Middle School) children learn geography, history, religion and, in some schools, a foreign language. Then children go to the Secondary School.

When students are 16 years old they may take an exam in various subjects in order to have a qualification. These qualifications can be either G.C.S.E. (General Certificate of Secondary Education) or "O level" (Ordinary level). After that students can either leave school and start working or continue their studies in the same school as before. If they continue, when they are 18, they have to take further examinations which are necessary for getting into university or college.

Some parents choose private schools for their children. They are very expensive but considered to provide a better education and good job opportunities.

In England there are 47 universities, including the Open University which teaches via TV and radio, about 400 colleges and institutes of higher education. The oldest universities in England are Oxford and Cambridge. Generally, universities award two kinds of degrees: the Bachelor's degree and the Master's degree.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. How long does a child stay in compulsory school?
2. When does compulsory school begin?
3. What kind of exam do students have to take when they are 16?
4. What subjects do children learn in Primary School?
5. How do private schools differ from the regular ones?
6. Do students have to leave school at the age of 16 or to continue their studies?
7. What is the Open University?
8. What kinds of degrees do universities award?
9. How many universities are there in England?

Translate into Russian.

1. School is compulsory till the children are 16 years old.
2. In the higher classes of Primary School (or in Middle School) children learn geography, history, religion and, in some schools, a foreign language.
3. After that students can either leave school and start working or continue their studies in the same school as before.
4. Some parents choose private schools for their children.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions: in various subjects; the Bachelor's degree; Primary School; Oxford.

1. In and First School children learn to read and write and the basis of arithmetic.
2. When students are 16 years old they may take an exam in order to have a qualification.
3. The oldest universities in England are and Cambridge.
4. Generally, universities award two kinds of degrees: and the Master's degree.

Translate into English.

1. В Англии и Уэльсе обязательное обучение в школе начинается с пяти лет, но до этого возраста дети могут ходить в детский сад.
2. Частные школы очень дорогие, но считается, что образование в них дается на более высоком уровне.
3. Обучение в школе обязательно до достижения детьми возраста 16 лет.
4. После этого учащиеся могут покинуть школу и устроиться на работу или продолжить образование в той же школе.

15. FAMILY LIFE IN BRITAIN

Vocabulary:

1. contemporary – современный
2. divorce – развод
3. responsibility – ответственность
4. temporarily – временно
5. to increase – увеличиваться
6. companionship – дружеское общение
7. average – средний
8. empty – пустой
9. burden – бремя
10. less – меньше
11. reunion – воссоединение
12. nowadays – в наше время

A "typical" British family used to consist of mother, father and two children. But in recent years there have been many changes in family life. For example, since the law made it easier to get a divorce, the number of divorces has increased. That's why 24% of British children live with only one parent, usually their mother.

The contemporary British child doesn't have a lot of companionship from brothers and sisters, because the average family has only one or two children. Most British children live with their parents at least until they finish school at the age of 17 or 18. Then many go away to college, leaving some parents sad and lonely in their empty nest and others enjoying their release from parental responsibilities.

But many adults stay with their parents during their college years or return home after graduation. Today's parents cannot even be sure that their married children have moved out forever. After a divorce they may return to the parental home temporarily or even on a long-term basis.

Older people take pride in their independence, enjoy their freedom and don't want to be a burden to their children. The telephone, the car and the airplane keep them in close contact even when they live in different parts of the country.

Members of family – grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins – keep in touch, but they see less of each other than they used to. This is because people often move away from home town to work and so the family becomes scattered. Christmas is the traditional season for reunions.

Although the family group is smaller nowadays than it used to be, relatives often travel many miles in order to spend the holiday together. Family parties may be all the more joyous when they bring together relatives who haven't seen each other for a while.

Tasks

Answer the questions:

1. What can you tell about the contemporary British child?
2. Why do a lot of British children live with only one parent?
3. Older people take pride in their independence, don't they?
4. What is the traditional season for reunions?
5. Are there many adults staying at their parents' place?

Translate into Russian.

1. A "typical" British family used to consist of mother, father and two children.
2. That's why 24% of British children live with only one parent, usually their mother.
3. The contemporary British child doesn't have a lot of companionship from brothers and sisters, because the average family has only one or two children.
4. This is because people often move away from home town to work and so the family becomes scattered.

Complete the sentences using the following words and expressions:
independence; Christmas; Family parties; married children; Older people.

1. take pride in their , enjoy their freedom and don't want to be a burden to their children.
2. may be all the more joyous when they bring together relatives who haven't seen each other for a while.
3. is the traditional season for reunions.
4. Today's parents cannot even be sure that their have moved out forever.

Translate into English.

1. Закон упростил процедуру развода, количество разводов увеличилось.
2. Современный британский ребенок не ощущает большой поддержки братьев и сестер, потому что средняя семья имеет одного или двух детей.
3. Телефон, машина и самолет помогают им поддерживать контакт, даже если они живут в разных частях страны.
4. Семейные вечера становятся веселее, когда они собирают вместе родственников, которые долго не виделись.

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