АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК
Методические рекомендации к практическим занятиям для студентов 1 курса экономических специальностей
ЗАДАНИЯ ПО РАЗВИТИЮ НАВЫКОВ УСТНОЙ РЕЧИ НА АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ
Могилев 2015
Методические рекомендации предназначены для развития и совершенствования навыков говорения у студентов 1 курса экономических специальностей, а также для формирования их рецептивных и продуктивных лексических навыков по заданным темам. Задания разработаны на основе аутентичных текстовых материалов.

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Е. Н. Мельникова

Технический редактор
И. В. Голубцова

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Н. П. Полевничая

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1 The republic of Belarus

Unit 1. General Outline

1. Did you know?

The official name of Belarus is the ‘Republic of Belarus’ and the people are called Belarusians.

The Human Development Index of Belarus is the highest among the members of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The country boasts a literacy rate of around 99% and only 1.5% of the population is unemployed.

The highest point in Belarus is Mount Dzyarzhynskaya (346 m). While the lowest point is formed by Neman River (90 m).

Belovezhskaya Pushcha National Park, the remainder of primeval European forest, is a World Heritage Site.

The oldest city of Belarus is Polotsk, founded in 862 AD.

The oldest monument in Belarus is St Sophia’s Cathedral (Polotsk), built between 1044 and 1066.

The longest street in Belarus is Independence Avenue in Minsk (15 km).

2. Before reading the text match the words from column A with their Russian equivalents from column B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>constitute</td>
<td>а) благоприятный</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>significant</td>
<td>б) калий</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>indigenous</td>
<td>с) составлять/ включать в себя</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>favourable</td>
<td>д) наследие</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>predominantly</td>
<td>е) значительный</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>potassium</td>
<td>f) замечательный</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heritage</td>
<td>g) местный/ коренной</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>remarkable</td>
<td>h) преимущественно</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Belarus

The Republic of Belarus (Belarus) is located in the Eastern part of Europe. The territory of Belarus is 207 000 square km. It borders on Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Russia and Ukraine. Belarus is divided into six regions (oblasts). The capital of Belarus is the city of Minsk, which is the biggest political, economic, scientific and cultural center of the country.

The population of Belarus constitutes about 10 million people. Representatives of more than 100 nationalities live in Belarus. More than 3/4 of
the population is represented by the indigenous Belarusian nation. Significant numbers of Russians, Poles, Ukrainians and other nationalities live in the Republic along with Belarusians. The official languages are Russian and Belarusian.

The climate of Belarus is moderately continental which is favourable for growing grain crops, vegetables and particularly for cultivating potatoes.

The terrain of Belarus is predominantly low hilly and flat. The average height above the sea level is 160 meters. Agricultural lands occupy 45% of the territory, forests account for 36% of the territory. There are more than 20 000 rivers and creeks and about 11 000 lakes in Belarus. The biggest lake is Naroch (about 80 square km).

About 30 kinds of mineral resources have been discovered in Belarus (more than 4 000 deposits and fields of natural resources). The most significant are potassium salts, the deposits of which in the country occupy one of the leading places in Europe. The country is rich in granites, dolomites, chalk, refractory clay, sand and gravel. There are vast reserves of peat.

Belarus is a land of a great historical past and a rich cultural heritage. It is a land of castles and churches, palaces and parks, ancient treasures. Belarus is a motherland of many remarkable people, such as a pioneer in book printing Frantisk Skorina, famous painter Mark Shagal, prominent authors Yanka Kupala and Yakub Kolas. The richness and blend of the culture reflects the complexity of ethnic interactions that have been taking place in this region for hundreds of years.

3. Match the words from column A with their synonyms from column B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>constitute</td>
<td>a) grow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>significant</td>
<td>b) remarkable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cultivate</td>
<td>c) predominant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deposit</td>
<td>d) account for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prominent</td>
<td>e) reserve</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Finish the following sentences.

1. Belarus borders on … :
   a) Russia to the East and Poland to the West;
   b) Latvia and Lithuania to the South;
   c) Ukraine to the North.

2. The population of Belarus … :
   a) includes significant number of Poles and Hungarians;
   b) consists of representatives of 20 nationalities;
c) constitutes predominantly representatives of indigenous Belarusian nation.

3. The terrain of Belarus … :
   a) includes 20 000 rivers with average length of 160 meters;
   b) predominantly consists of forests;
   c) is comprised of hills and plains.

4. Belarus is rich in such mineral resources as … :
   a) granites, dolomites and gold;
   b) potassium salts and construction materials;
   c) peat, oil and other fossil fuels.

5. Mark Shagal was a … :
   a) famous pioneer in book printing;
   b) prominent painter who’s motherland was Belarus;
   c) remarkable Belarusian author.

5. Answer the following questions.
   1. Where is Belarus situated? What is the total area of the country?
   2. What countries does Belarus border on?
   3. What is the population of the country? Representatives of what nationalities does it comprise?
   4. Is the climate of Belarus favourable for developing agriculture?
   5. Is Belarus rich in forests, rivers and lakes?
   6. What are the most significant deposits of mineral resources discovered in Belarus?
   7. What remarkable people have contributed to the cultural heritage of our country?

Unit 2. Political Outline

1. Discuss with a partner.
   1. When did Belarus gain independence?
   2. When is the Independence Day of Belarus celebrated?
   3. When was the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus adopted?
   4. How many articles are there in the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus?
   5. What is a principle of separation of power?

2. Match the following terms with their definitions and translate them.
3. Make sure you know the translation and pronunciation of the following words then read the text and explain the functions of these state bodies:

the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, the House of Representatives, the Council of the Republic, the Council of Ministers, the Supreme Court

State system of Belarus

The Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, which was adopted on March 15, 1994, proclaimed Belarus an independent unitary democratic legal state. According to the Constitution, the head of the state is the President. The constitution establishes the principle of separation of power into legislative, executive and judiciary branches.

The legislative branch is represented by the parliament, the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, which comprises the 110-deputy House of Representatives (the lower house) and the 64-member Council of the Republic (the upper house) The House of Representatives has the power to appoint the Prime Minister and to make constitutional amendments and additions. The Council of the Republic has the power to select various governmental officials and to accept or reject the bills passed by the lower house.

The executive branch is represented by the government, the Council of Ministers, which is headed by the Prime Minister. The executive bodies are to realize the laws adopted by the parliament and provide their application to everyday life of the society as well as decide on foreign and domestic policy.

The judiciary branch is to legally solve the conflicts and arguments occurring in the society. It is represented by the Supreme Court and specialized courts.

Belarus is a member of United Nations, Commonwealth of Independent States, Union State of Belarus and Russia, and other international organizations.
4. Complete the sentences using the words from the box:

- legislative, reject, foreign, amendments, Assembly, established, Court, executive, bills, deputies, body, adopt, head, headed, judiciary, proclaims, Council, comprises

1. The Constitution … Belarus an independent state and … 146 articles.
2. According to the Constitution, the power in Belarus is separated into …, … and judiciary branches.
3. The … of the state is the President
4. The National … is a legislative …, which is composed of two houses.
5. The House of Representatives includes 110 … . It makes … and additions to the Constitution and develops ….
6. The Council of the Republic may … or … the bills suggested by the lower house.
7. The … of the Ministers is … by the Prime Minister.
8. The government executes domestic and … policy.
9. The … branch is represented by the Supreme …
10. Belarus was among the states that … the United Nations Organization.

5. Complete the diagram and use it to tell about the structure of the state system of the Republic of Belarus.

The Constitution of the Republic of Belarus
– was adopted on 1.________________________
– proclaims Belarus a 2._____, 3._____, 4._____ state
– establishes the principle of separation of 5._____ into three 6._____:

7. __________ power

Legislative power
The Parliament
The National
(110 deputies)

Executive power
The Government
The Council of9.______
(64 deputies)

Courts
The Supreme 10.______

The Prime Minister

6. Look at the following functions performed by different state bodies and put them in the right column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislative</th>
<th>Executive</th>
<th>Judiciary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>…</td>
<td>…</td>
<td>…</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
a) to decide on foreign and domestic policy
b) to legally solve the conflicts
c) to appoint the Prime Minister
d) to develop bills and adopt laws
e) to realize the laws adopted by the parliament
f) to supervise correct exercising of laws
g) to select governmental officials
h) to provide application of laws
i) to make constitutional amendments and additions

7. Answer the questions.

1. When was the Constitution adopted?
2. Did the Constitution proclaim Belarus a unitary or a federal republic?
3. Who is the head of the state according to the Constitution?
4. What are the branches of power? How is each of the branches represented?
5. What houses does the Parliament comprise?
6. How many deputies are there in each of the houses?
7. What are the functions of the House of Representatives and the Council of the Republic?
8. Who is the head of the Government of Belarus?
9. What functions does the Council of Ministers perform?
10. What is the supreme body of the executive branch?

Unit 3. Economic Outline

1. Discuss with a partner.

1. What is the national currency of the Republic of Belarus?
2. What are the major branches of Belarusian industry?
3. What goods are produced by the Belarusian enterprises?

2. Read the text and find the words that mean the following.

Paragraph 1: a) far ahead in development or progress; b) items bought by people for their own use, rather than by manufacturers;

Paragraph 2: c) an engine-driven machine, e. g. a car, used for transporting people or goods; d) a device or piece of equipment designed to perform a specific task; e) a chemical or natural substance added to soil or land to increase its fertility; f) a liquid which is put onto wood or other material to give it a hard, clear, shiny surface; g) developed to a high degree of complexity (about a machine or technique)
The Republic of Belarus has a **developed** industry, agriculture, an **advanced** culture, science and technology. Industry holds an important position in the republic's economy. The leading **industries** are machine-building and metal-working, motor industry, **chemical** industry, electronics and electrical engineering, radio-engineering, pharmaceutical industry, production of construction materials, **consumer goods** and food, etc.

Belarus specializes in the production of different kinds of trucks, including coaches, agricultural **machinery** and **special-purpose vehicles**. The **enterprises** of the republic produce television **equipment**, elevators, home electric **appliances**, **household** refrigerators and freezers, automatic washing machines, chemical yarn and fiber, **potash fertilizers**. The range of products includes furniture, electric motors, paper, **varnishes** and **paints**. Different new **sophisticated** products, such as integrated microcircuits, liquid-crystal indicators and displays and special technological equipment are produced as well. The major products of light industry are textile, knitwear and clothes, as well as footwear.

The main directions of the farming industry of the republic are meat and milk production, potatoes and **flax** cultivation. Grains, vegetables, sugar beet and fodder crops are grown as well.

3. Complete the table and finish the sentences below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Adjective/Participle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>–</td>
<td>develop</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>special</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>product</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Machine-building industry is well-… in Belarus.
2. Electrical engineering branch focuses on … of new sophisticated devices.
3. Chemical industry … varnishes and paints.
4. Trucks, coaches and other vehicles are … of machine-building branch.
5. Light industry … in production of textile, knitwear and clothes.

4. Complete the table and use it to speak about the structure of economy in Belarus.
Unit 4. Education

1. Check if you know the meaning of the following words then read the text and find their derivatives:

to afford, to continue, to bring up, compete, to establish, religion, to correspond, efficient, eminent, to improve

Example: science – scientific (наука – научный)

Higher education in Belarus

Belarus has one of the highest student-to-population ratios in Europe due to high quality and affordability of education. There are nearly 350,000 students in the country. Education policy is guided by a number of principles: continuity and equal access; importance of scientific knowledge and cultural tradition; integrating education with moral upbringing and physical development. The main strategic objective for education is to contribute to creating a competitive economy based on high and advanced technologies.

There are four main types of higher education establishments: classical university, profile university or academy, institute, higher college. Altogether
there are 54 higher educational establishments, of which 45 are state owned, 9 are private and 2 are run by religious organizations. Every establishment occupies its particular niche in training of highly qualified staff for various branches of national economy. Classical and profile universities as well as institutes provide a two-level system of higher education.

There are 3 forms of learning available at Belarusian higher educational establishments: full-time, evening and correspondence. Full-time learning is the most widespread and in the greatest demand with 2/3 of the students, over 35% of students learn by correspondence. The efficiency of any form of learning is ensured by eminently qualified teaching staff including a large number of candidates and doctors of science, associate professors and professors.

Belarusian education is popular among foreign students. According to the latest data about 12 000 students from 88 countries take their courses in Belarus. Nearly 130 foreign citizens do post-graduate courses at Belarusian research institutions and institutions of higher learning every year.

A great number of educational establishments of the Republic of Belarus actively cooperate with such organizations as UNO, UNCEF, UNDP, European Commission, European centers of professional improvement, etc.

2. Fill in the gaps with proper prepositions if necessary.

1. Higher education is very popular ... young people due ... its high quality.
2. Education integrates scientific knowledge ... moral upbringing.
3. Universities provide ... continuity of education.
4. University graduates contribute ... the development of the economy.
5. Two of 54 educational establishment are run by religious organizations.
6. Full-time learning is ... great demand among applicants.
7. A big number of students in our University learn ... correspondence.
8. Eminently qualified teaching staff ensures ... high quality of education.
9. According ... the Ministry of Education, there are nearly 350 000 students in Belarus.

3. Explain the meaning of the following numbers:

350 000  88  2/3  35%  12 000  54.

4. Answer the series of WHAT-questions and tell about the system of higher education in Belarus.

1. What are the reasons for the high number of students in Belarus?
2. What are the main principles on which the system of higher education based?
3. What is the main objective of the higher education system?
4. What are the main types of higher educational establishments in Belarus?
5. What form of education is mostly widespread?
6. What does eminently qualified teaching staff guarantee?
7. What is the number of foreign students getting higher education in Belarus?
8. What international organizations do Belarusian educational establishments cooperate with?

2. English-speaking countries

Unit 1. Great Britain

1. Discuss with a partner.
1. What do you know about the geographical position of Great Britain?
2. How does Great Britain elect its government?
3. Have the relationships among the four parts of the United Kingdom changed over time?
4. Can you name famous British scientists, writers, musicians and singers?
5. What attracts thousands of visitors to the UK each year?

2. Match the following words with their Russian equivalents, mind their pronunciation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Word</th>
<th>Russian Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>prosperous</td>
<td>доход, прибыль, заработок</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parliamentary elections</td>
<td>Палата общих (нижняя палата британского парламента)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House of Commons</td>
<td>полуостров</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>peninsula</td>
<td>месторождение, залежь</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deposit</td>
<td>валовой внутренний продукт</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP (gross domestic product)</td>
<td>парламентские выборы</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>majority</td>
<td>большинство</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>self-sufficient</td>
<td>процветающий</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>income</td>
<td>кухня, кулинарное искусство</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cuisine</td>
<td>самодостаточный, независимый</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Great Britain

Geography. The official name of Great Britain is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The United Kingdom is situated on the British Isles, separated from the European continent by the North Sea and the English Channel.
The island of Great Britain consists of three main parts: England (the southern and middle part of the island), Wales (a mountainous peninsula in the West) and Scotland (the northern part of the island). Northern Ireland occupies one third of the island of Ireland. The warm currents of the Atlantic Ocean influence the climate of Great Britain. Winters are not severely cold and, summers are rarely hot. There are no high mountains in Great Britain. The Thames is the deepest and the longest of the British rivers.

The population of Great Britain is over 58 million people. There are a lot of immigrants from former British Asian and African colonies. London is the capital, and it the world’s leading commercial, financial, and cultural center.

Resources and power. Great Britain is not very rich in valuable mineral resources. It has some deposits of coal and iron ore, which were once vital to the British economy, but their extraction has decreased.

By contrast, the United Kingdom has larger energy resources than any other EU member. Vast deposits of oil and gas were discovered in the North Sea. At the beginning of the 21st century, the country was one of the world’s largest oil producers. It has become self-sufficient in oil and even an exporter.

Economy and society. Great Britain is a highly industrialized country. New industries have been developed in the last three decades. In the conditions of economic stability at the turn of the 21st century, a large middle group arose in terms of income, housing, and lifestyle, referred to as ‘middle England’. But the gap between the least well-off and the most well-off widened. The economic centre of the country remained in London and the southeast. Britain thus became a prosperous but increasingly unequal and divided society.

Manufacturing and finance. The United Kingdom was at the forefront of the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century. But the contribution of manufacturing to gross domestic product (GDP) has declined to about one-fifth of the total, and now services are the source of greatest growth. The most important manufacturing industries are engineering, food, chemicals, paper and publishing, textiles, and clothing. Within the engineering industry, electrical engineering and transport engineering, including motor vehicles and aerospace equipment, have grown faster, and electronic products have shown the fastest growth.

The United Kingdom, particularly London, has traditionally been a world financial centre. At the end of the 20th century, the financial services industry employed more than one million people. London has grown in size and influence as a centre of international financial operations and has more foreign banks than any other city in the world.

Government. The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy. The British Parliament is the oldest in the world. It originated in the 12th century. The British Parliament consists of the House of Lords and the House of Commons and the Queen as its head.

The House of Lords has more than 1000 members, although only about
250 take an active part in the work in the house. Members of this Upper House are not elected. They sit there because of their rank.

The House of Commons plays the major role in law-making. It consists of 650 Members of Parliament (MPs). **Parliamentary elections** are held every 5 years by secret ballot. The British parliamentary system depends on political parties. The party which wins the **majority** of seats forms the government and its leader usually becomes Prime Minister. The Prime Minister chooses about 20 MPs from his party to form the Cabinet of Ministers, which meets at the Prime Minister’s house – 10 Downing Street. The second largest party becomes the official opposition with its own leader and ‘Shadow Cabinet’. Since the 1920s the Conservative Party and the Labor Party have been the dominant parties.

**Cultural life and social customs.** Great changes in the United Kingdom’s cultural life occurred after 1945. The most remarkable was the emergence of Liverpool and of London in the 1960s as a world centre of popular culture, and the Beatles is the best-known of the many British rock groups to win a world. The standard of education rose considerably. The number of students going on to higher education increased and the number of universities expanded.

England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland maintain their own unique customs, traditions, **cuisine**, and festivals. Afro-Caribbean, Asian, and Muslim immigrants introduced new cultural trends and made the United Kingdom the world’s most cosmopolitan and diverse country.

The contributions of the UK to the world science, technology, literature, music and other arts have been considerable. But perhaps Britain’s greatest export has been the English language, which is spoken now in every corner of the world.

Many of its people share the sentiments of Winston Churchill, the most famous UK Prime Minister, who said, «… we have our own dream and our own task. We are with Europe, but not of it. We are linked, but not comprised. We are interested and associated, but not absorbed». Great Britain is a member of the EU, but a rather reluctant one.

3. Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

| parliament, House of Lords, Prime Minister, GDP, monarch, financial services, House of Commons |

1. … is the total value of all the goods the country has produced and the services it has provided in a particular year.
2. … contributed about one-twelfth of the GDP at the end of the 20th century.
3. The … … is elected for a maximum term of five years.
4. A proposed law (a bill) has to pass through the House of Commons first, then it is sent to the … … for discussion.
5. The … must act on the advice of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet.
4. The authority of the … grew during the 20th century in Great Britain and he/she made decisions previously made by the cabinet as a whole.

5. The … and the monarch only meet together on symbolic occasions, such as coronation of a new monarch or the opening of the parliament.

4. Correct the following statements.

1. Great Britain is a constitutional monarchy in which the Prime Minister is the head of the state and the Monarch is the head of the government.

2. Legislative power is vested in the two chambers of the Parliament - the House of Lords and the House of Representatives.

3. The House of Lords is the publicly elected chamber of Parliament, opposed to the House of Commons, the seats in which are inherited.

4. The UK political system is a one-party system.

4. The leader of the political party that wins an absolute majority of seats in the House of Commons is chosen to be the leader of the ‘Shadow Cabinet’.

5. Look at the following powers exercised by different state bodies and officials and put them in the right column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monarch</th>
<th>Parliament</th>
<th>Prime Minister</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>…</td>
<td>…</td>
<td>…</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) appoints members of the government;
b) is the principal government figure in the House of Commons;
c) examines the work of the government;
d) summons or to dissolves the Parliament;
e) acts as the public «face» and «voice» of Her Majesty’s Government;
f) discusses important political issues;
g) grants Royal Assent to bills making them a law;
h) passes the laws;
i) coordinates the policies and activities of all government departments;
j) commands the Armed Forces of the UK;
k) appoints the Prime Minister.

6. Answer the following questions.

1. What is the full name of Great Britain and where is it situated?
2. How many parts does Great Britain consist of?
3. Why is the climate of Great Britain generally mild and temperate?
4. What resources is Great Britain rich in?
5. Is Great Britain a highly industrialized country, and what manufacturing industries has Britain made important advances in?
6. What kind of government does Great Britain have? What is the
relationship between the Queen and the Parliament in Great Britain?

7. What three elements does the Parliament consist of and what are their functions?

8. Who is the de facto leader of the UK government and exercises executive functions nominally vested in the sovereign?

9. How are parliamentary elections held?

10. What are Britain’s contributions to the world?

11. Is cultural life and social customs of Great Britain rich and diverse? Why?

7. Make presentations for each part of the text or split into pairs and discuss them in the form of a dialogue. Say, if you would like to visit Great Britain and give your reasons.

Unit 2. Education in Great Britain

1. Discuss with a partner.

1. Do you know of any British universities?

2. Would you like to study in one of the British Universities? Why?

Higher education in Great Britain

The UK has a vast variety of higher education opportunities to offer students with over 100 universities offering various degree programs for students from the UK and around the world. In addition to universities, there are also polytechnics and a series of different types of assisted colleges, such as colleges of technology, art, etc., which tend to provide more work-orientated courses than universities. Some of these courses are part-time, with the students being released by their employers for one day a week or longer periods.

Universities in Britain enjoy complete academic freedom, choosing their own staff and deciding which students to admit, what and how to teach, and which degrees to award. There is no automatic admission to university, as there are only a limited number of places (around 100,000) available each year. Candidates are accepted on the basis of their A-level results.

Virtually all degree courses are full-time and most last three years (medical and veterinary courses last five or six years).

Universities teach in all major subject areas: arts, science, law, engineering, medicine, social sciences.

Undergraduate courses allow students to develop academic and – in some cases – work-related skills. These programs are usually taught as a combination of lectures, seminars, and small tutorial classes in several modules with varying topical cores. Lectures are given to large groups of students. Seminars and tutorials are much smaller than lecture classes and in some
departments can be on a one-to-one basis (one member of staff and one student). Undergraduate courses mostly take three years to complete and lead up to a Bachelor’s degree (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Education, or Bachelor of Engineering).

Students who obtain their Bachelor degree (graduates) can apply to take a further degree course, usually involving a mixture of exam courses and research. There are two different types of postgraduate courses — the Master’s degree (MA or MSc) and a higher degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

The most common Master’s degrees in the UK usually last for one year. A British Master’s degree requires intensive study, with research and critical thinking being a very important part of every postgraduate course. Apart from their classes, students spend a significant part of their time researching their specialist subject area. A Master’s degree is the requirement for entry into a Ph.D. course. Postgraduates are usually assessed through written assignments and tests. Some postgraduate degrees require dissertation modules at the end of their course.

2. Match the words from the text with the definitions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. degree</td>
<td>a) to allow to enter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. part-time</td>
<td>b) a student with a first degree from a university who is studying or doing research at a more advanced level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. academic</td>
<td>c) an academic title given upon completion of studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. staff</td>
<td>d) a task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. admit</td>
<td>e) (in the UK except Scotland) the higher of the two main levels of standardized examinations in secondary schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. A-level</td>
<td>f) for the entire time appropriate to an activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. full-time</td>
<td>g) a person studying in a university for a first degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. undergraduate</td>
<td>h) to get</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. obtain</td>
<td>i) a person who has been awarded a first degree from a university or college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. graduate</td>
<td>j) the body of teachers or lecturers of an educational institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. postgraduate</td>
<td>k) a quality or performance demanded of a person in accordance with certain fixed regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. requirement</td>
<td>l) working or attending school on less than a full-time schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. assignment</td>
<td>m) belonging or relating to a place of learning, esp. a college, university</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Complete the sentences using the words from the box.

academic excellence, dominated, skills, lecture courses, Bachelor degrees, higher education, terms, specializes, postgraduate degree, undergraduate degree, requirements, attend, tutor, sandwich courses

1. Once students have obtained undergraduate degree, they can apply for a . . . .
2. British education focuses heavily on developing writing and analytical ...
3. First degrees are called ...
4. In the UK about one-third of all students go on to some form of ...
5. Oxford and Cambridge, the oldest universities, are world known for their ...
6. Each student has a … whom he can consult on any matter whether academic or personal.
7. The academic year is split into three ….
8. In the UK most … programs take three years to finish; however, the «sandwich course» is increasing in popularity, which is four years and involves one year in the work place (normally in your third year).
9. Universities may have certain … that all students will have to meet.
10. The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge generally require all students to … an interview, other universities will not require this.
11. Teaching is done through …, seminars (for 10 laboratories students), tutorial groups (for 3–4 students).
12. For seven hundred years Oxford and Cambridge universities … the British education.
13. Polytechnics offer first and higher degrees offer full-time and … (for working students).
14. Colleges of education provide two-year courses in teacher education or sometimes three years if the graduate … in some particular subjects.

4.1. Put the two halves together to make sentences and learn about the organization of the academic year in British Universities.

**Organization of the Academic Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. The full academic year for higher education runs</th>
<th>a) attendance is normally required from a date varying from the beginning of September to the beginning of October through to the end of June.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. For undergraduate (first cycle) students,</td>
<td>b) into three teaching terms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The year is traditionally divided by breaks</td>
<td>c) during the day or in the evening.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. All institutions generally have fewer teaching weeks in the third term</td>
<td>d) during which no teaching is done and students are expected to work independently.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. A few have a ‘reading week’ in the middle of a term,</td>
<td>e) which require student attendance for longer periods during the academic year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Certain institutions offer accelerated degrees</td>
<td>f) but may take place at other times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Teaching normally takes place between 9.00 a. m. and 6.00 p. m., from Monday to Friday</td>
<td>g) to allow time for revision and examinations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Part-time courses may be offered</td>
<td>h) from 1 August to 31 July.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2. How does the organization of the academic year in Great Britain differ from that in Belarus?

4. Discuss the following questions with a partner.
   1. What higher education opportunities are there in Great Britain?
   2. What are entrance requirements for British universities?
   3. What subject areas are available in British universities?
   4. What courses do British universities offer?
   5. How are undergraduate courses organized?
   6. What degrees are awarded by British universities?
   7. Who can take a Master’s degree course?
   8. How does a Master’s course differ from an undergraduate degree?

Unit 3. The United States of America

1. Discuss with a partner.
   1. What do you usually imagine when you think of the USA?
   2. How many states is the USA composed of?
   3. Why is the USA called ‘a nation of immigrants’ and nicknamed ‘the melting pot’?
   4. What branches is the federal government in the USA made up of?
   5. Is the U.S. President elected by the direct vote?

2. Find out the meaning of the following words and use them to complete the sentences below.

| output, electoral college system, refined, vote, amendment, advances, wealth, consumer, gross national product |
| 1. … is the total value of all the goods the country has produced and the services it has provided in a particular year. |
| 2. … is the possession of a large amount of money, property, or other valuable things. |
| 3. … is the amount of something that a person or a business produces. |
| 4. … is an individual who purchases goods and services for personal use. |
| 5. … refers to something that is without impurities or unwanted elements that have been removed by processing. |
| 6. … mean progress or doing well in a particular subject or activity. |
| 7. … is added to a law or rule in order to change it or improve it. |
| 8. … is a choice made by a particular person or group in a meeting or election. |
9. … is the system when the President is not elected directly by the voters. He is elected by ‘electors’ who are chosen by popular vote on a state-by-state basis.

The United States of America

Geography. The United States of America occupies the central part of the North American continent and is washed by the Atlantic Ocean in the east and the Pacific Ocean in the west. It is a federal republic of 50 states. The 48 states occupy the middle latitudes of the continent. The state of Alaska is separated from the rest of the country by Canada and the island state of Hawaii is located in the Pacific Ocean. The national capital is Washington, DC. District of Columbia is a 100-square-mile region created as the seat of the federal government.

The major characteristic of the United States is its great variety. Its climate ranges from the Arctic to the subtropical. The country has rain forests, deserts, mountain peaks and the flat prairie.

The United States is relatively young, being little more than 225 years old. America was the first of the European colonies gain independence. The flag of the United States is called ‘Stars and Stripes’. The 50 stars represent the 50 states and the 13 stripes represent 13 original English colonies, which in 1776 became free and independent of England.

Manufacturing. The United States is one of the world’s greatest economic powers in terms of gross national product (GNP). The nation’s wealth is partly a reflection of its rich natural resources, but it owes more to the highly developed industry of the country. Heavy industry dominates in the USA, including such branches as mining, metallurgical, engineering, chemical and high-tech industries. Since the mid-20th century, services (health care, entertainment and finance) have grown faster than other sectors of the economy. But, while manufacturing jobs have declined, manufacturing output has remained rather constant (at about one-fifth of GNP) due to advances in productivity.

The manufacture of transportation equipment (motor vehicles, aircraft and space equipment) is a leading sector. Computer and telecommunications firms (including software and hardware) remain strong, despite a downturn in the early 21st century. Other important sectors are biotechnology, health services, food products, chemicals, electrical and nonelectrical machinery.

The United States is the world’s biggest consumer of energy. Therefore, its major imports have included petroleum and fuel products. It is one of the world’s leading producers of refined petroleum.

Population. The population of the United States is large by world standards (about 250 mln.), and is very diverse. Probably no other country has a wider range of racial, ethnic, and cultural types than does the USA. It is often
called ‘a nation of immigrants’ because the country was built and developed by generations of immigrants. Millions of them came to America hoping for greater social, political and economic opportunities than they had in their native land. They have enriched the national character in addition to the presence of Native Americans (American Indians) and descendants of Africans taken as slaves to the New World.

**Government and society.** The American political system is generally described as a constitutional democracy. The U.S. Constitution adopted in 1789 is the world’s oldest written constitution still in force, and George Washington was the country’s first president. In the more than two centuries, there have been 27 amendments. The first 10 amendments, adopted in 1791, are known as the Bill of Rights, which state certain rights that belong to every person. Under the Constitution, the federal government is divided into three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial.

*The legislative power* is vested in the Congress, made up of two houses: the Senate and the House of Representatives. There are 435 member in the House of Representatives and 100 senators in the Senate. Each state elects two senators for a six-year term. The members of the House of Representatives are chosen by the direct vote and serve two-years. Their number from each state is based on its population. The Congress makes laws, controls finances (foreign and domestic spending), ratifies or rejects treaties made by the President and has the right to impeach the president.

*The executive branch* is headed by the president. A president is elected indirectly by the people through an electoral college system to a four-year term with a limit of two terms of office. The president proposes bills to the Congress, enforces federal laws, controls foreign policy, serves as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and appoints ministers. The President can veto a bill unless Congress by a two-thirds vote overrules it. The President’s official residence and office is the White House.

*The judicial branch* is headed by the Supreme Court of the United States. The political life of the country has always been dominated by the two major parties: the Democratic party and the Republican party which contest presidency and the majority of seats in the Congress at an election time.

### 3. Match the phrases from each column to make sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. The United States is the world’s fourth largest nation by total area,</th>
<th>a) and they are separate and distinct from one another.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. The United States, with its large size and geographic variety,</td>
<td>b) which is fueled by rich natural resources and high productivity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The United States has a capitalist mixed economy,</td>
<td>c) is the supreme law of the United States of America.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The constitution of the United States</td>
<td>d) ranking behind Russia, Canada and China.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. There are three branches of the national government – executive,</td>
<td>e) has 435 representatives, the number of congressmen from each state depends on the</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. The Constitution gives the Congress the power f) the 13 colonies that rebelled against British rule.
7. The Senate has 100 senators, two from every state, g) to make laws and to control finances. It meets in the US Capitol.
8. The House of Representatives h) includes most climate types.
9. The President is elected every four years i) one third of them is elected every two years for a six-year term.
10. The original 13 states were j) through an electoral college system (коллегия выборщиков).

4. Complete the diagram and use it to describe the structure of the USA federal government.

5. Look at the following phrases describing the Houses of the Congress and refer them in the corresponding column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>the Senate</th>
<th>the House of representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) upper house;</td>
<td>f) two congressmen, regardless of the population;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) lower house;</td>
<td>g) makes the laws;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) 435 voting members;</td>
<td>h) enforces the laws;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) 100 voting members;</td>
<td>i) members serve a 6-year term;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) number of members proportional to the population;</td>
<td>j) members serve a 2-year term.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Attribute the functions given below to the corresponding branch.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislative</th>
<th>Executive &amp; President</th>
<th>Judiciary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) passes bills;</td>
<td>b) is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces;</td>
<td>c) makes appointments to the federal judiciary and executive departments,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
with the advice and consent of the Senate;

d) vetoes bills passed by Congress (but the veto may be overridden by a
two-thirds majority of both houses);

e) possesses the sole power of impeachment;
f) executes the instructions of Congress;
g) ratifies treaties signed by the President;
h) can declare acts of the executive branch unconstitutional;
i) executes the spending authorized by Congress;
j) controls foreign policy;
k) can declare laws unconstitutional;
l) controls the federal budget

7. Answer the following questions.

1. Where is the United States of America situated?
2. Is the USA the world’s third-largest country by size?
3. Does the USA with its large size and geographic variety have most
climate types?
4. Is the USA rich in mineral resources?
5. What manufacturing industries are among the most important?
6. Is the USA a federal republic and how many states does it comprise?
7. What branches does the US state system comprise? What bodies are
ey they represented by?
8. How is the US president elected?
9. Is the Congress bicameral?
10. Does the House of Representatives have seats assigned proportionally
to the population of a definite state?
11. What are two major political parties in the USA?
12. When do Americans celebrate their Independence Day?

Unit 4. Education in the United States of America

1. Discuss the following statements.

1. What do you know about higher education in the USA?
2. Does it differ, in your opinion, from that in Great Britain and Belarus?
3. What are the highest ranked US Universities?

2.1 Match the US university terms with their Russian equivalents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Associate degree</th>
<th>преддипломное обучение (курс на соискание степени бакалавра)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>степень ассистента (присваивается окончившим двухгодичный колледж)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Chancellor | степень бакалавра (ученая степень, присваивается после 4-х лет обучения в вузе)
4. community college | профилирующая дисциплина, выбранная в качестве специализации
5. credit (credit hours) | аттестация
6. grading | студент колледжа (университета)
7. graduate school (postgraduate study) | местный колледж (2-годичный, готовящий специалистов средней квалификации для работы на территории местного сообщества)
8. junior college | гуманитарные науки
9. liberal arts | выписка из зачётно-экзаменационной ведомости
10. major | последипломный курс, магистратура
11. transcript | ректор (в некоторых университетах США)
12. undergraduate | зачётная единица
13. undergraduate education | колледж низшей ступени (с 2-летним обучением, даёт квалификацию ассистента)

2.2 Fill in the gaps with the terms from the glossary above.
1) … is a first degree awarded by universities.
2) … is a school that awards advanced academic degrees (master’s and doctoral degrees)
3) … provides further and higher education for people living in a particular area.
4) … is a university student who has not yet taken a first degree.
5) … is a college offering courses for two years either as a complete training or in preparation for a four-year college.
6) … is an undergraduate academic degree awarded by community colleges and junior colleges.
7) … is the post-secondary education including all academic programs up to the level of a bachelor's degree.
8) … the principal field of study of a student at a university.
9) … are subjects such as history or literature rather than science or business.
10) … is the president or chief administrative officer of a university.
11) … is an official record of a student's work, showing courses taken and grades achieved.
12) … are assigned based on the amount of work load and instruction hours.

Higher education in the United States of America

The US has a large and diverse higher education system. There are more than 3,500 higher education institutions. School leavers can continue their education in four-year colleges, universities, community colleges, professional institutes, performing and visual arts schools.
In the United States, it is generally assumed that young people should have at least two years of university education. Hence, there are a great number of «junior colleges», and «community colleges», which provide two years of undergraduate study. Often less expensive than traditional four-year colleges and universities, community colleges do not grant bachelor’s degrees but issue associates’ degrees.

The traditional universities and colleges provide four-year study courses for a degree and postgraduate study in a ‘graduate school’ (one to three years). Universities are either privately funded or funded by the government. Private universities and colleges depend largely on tuition fees paid by students. The state governments fund the system of state universities, which provide higher education to the vast majority of those who wish and are academically qualified to receive it.

Post-secondary education in the US differs from that in Europe in a number of ways. One of the differences is the great diversity of subjects, programs, and degree levels in different majors.

The four-year, or bachelor’s degree, is ordinarily obtained not by passing examinations, or finals, but by the accumulation of course credits, or hours of classroom study. The quality of work is assessed by means of a record of grades in a course transcript.

Another difference between US-based higher schools and those abroad is governance. Most US schools are private, non-governmental, self-governing. Others are affiliated with federal, state, and government agencies, but even they have some of these characteristics. US Universities are headed by presidents and/or chancellors. Within this system, deans, provosts, and/or vice-presidents are responsible for academic affairs.

A marked feature of American education is the de-emphasis on lecture and examination. Students are assessed according to their performance in individual courses where discussion and written essays are important.

Many people know about a high reputation of the Ivy League schools, which are elite private universities, Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology being among them. They are often named as the world’s leading universities.

3. Find in this text at least four features of the American higher education system that differ it from other Higher Education systems.

4. Decide whether the following statements describe Belarusian, British or American systems of higher education.

1. a) Universities have departments concerned with a major division of knowledge; b) Universities have different «schools», or departments, which house a number of related majors; c) Many universities are made up of
«colleges»’, governed by the university, but each college has quite a lot of autonomy from each other and from the university itself.

2. a) There is no Ministry of Education, and academic curriculum is determined on a school-by-school basis; b) The Ministry of Education controls higher education and organizes the accreditation of HEI.

3. Enrolment is on a competitive basis and depends on the results of the centralized testing.

4. a) Courses require weekly assignments such as small writing projects, research papers, and oral presentations; b) Courses are much more lecture-based with occasional assignments or without them and the grade will be based on one final exam; c) The studies are organized in the form of lectures, tutorials, seminars, laboratory work, individual and group consultations.

5. a) Assessment is based on overall performance on all assignments; b) It is based mostly on the final exam; c) Academic success is assessed on a «pass» or «fail» basis and exams at the end of each semester.

6. Types of degrees: a) Graduates are granted state diplomas of higher education; b) Associates, Bachelors, Masters, PhD; c) Higher National Diploma, Diploma of Higher Education.

7. a) The academic year runs from 1 September to the end of June and is divided into two semesters (17 weeks); b) In both countries most universities use the semester system, but some use a trimester system.

8. a) Full-time students with good grades receive a monthly scholarship; b) if a student gets a scholarship to a school or university, the studies are paid for by the school or university or by some other organization.

**Dormitories in the USA**

Many colleges and universities in the United States offer on-campus housing that is not in the middle of a town, and they have dormitories in which undergraduate students live. These dormitories are convenient for both academic and social activities. They become small communities, where you can meet other students and enjoy different activities with them.

Most dormitories have a traditional design of long corridors with many rooms for sleeping and living, often with two or three people per room. Dormitory residents typically share large bathrooms, which include showers and toilets. Some universities also offer apartment-style accommodation with bedrooms that share a common lounge and a bathroom.

The room is equipped with basic furniture for each student: a bed, a desk and chair, and some storage space. Internet (wireless or Ethernet), telephone, and television connections are normally provided.

Residence halls usually have several community areas where students gather to play games, watch television and socialize. Usually there is a quiet study lounge. There may also be basic kitchen facilities for preparing snacks...
between meals.

5. Fill in the gaps using the words from the box.

shared, social, dormitory (dorm), community, on campus, academic, lounge

1. In the United States … is the most common term, but many universities no longer use it and say residence hall (analogous to the United Kingdom ‘hall of residence’).
2. Most universities require students to live … in residence halls, at least for the first two years of undergraduate study.
3. Many prefer to live in on-campus dormitories because they are convenient for both … and … activities.
4. Students usually live in a room … with one or two other students.
5. Each residence hall is just like a …, and living there is an excellent way for students to get to know one another.
6. … is a public room, in which one may sit and relax.

6. Prepare a group discussion in which you will compare the Belarusian system of higher education with the systems of Great Britain and the USA.

3 Education and career

Unit 1. The English Language

1. Look at the points and tell why you are studying a foreign language:
   – because it is a part of my course at the university;
   – so I can read foreign magazines and newspapers;
   – so I can use it as an international language when I travel;
   – so I can communicate with foreign visitors to my country;
   – so I can use e-mail, chat online;
   – so I can surf the Internet and read websites;
   – because I have to;
   – for other reasons.

Φ 2. Study the following words and expressions (Profile2 U.1 Wordbank)

corporate language – корпоративный язык
evening course – вечерний курс
fluent speaker – бегло говорящий
2.1 Match phrases from each column to make sentences.

| 1. English is often used as a common study program in my spare time. |
| 2. My Spanish really improved after a week-long total tongue is Arabic. |
| 3. Senior managers do a one-month intensive training immersion course, because I had to speak Spanish all the time. |
| 4. He speaks fluent French, but his mother language in multinational companies. |
| 5. I'm following a German self-study program in London. |

2.2 Complete the sentences using the words from the box.

fluent speaker, native speaker, language training, evening course, common language, working knowledge, official language

1. We'll pay your course fees - we take ... seriously here.
2. The Vatican has two ...s: Italian and Latin.
3. Non-English speakers in English-speaking multinationals often feel that ...s from the US and Britain have an unfair advantage.
4. She often leaves work early so she can get to her ... by six o'clock.
5. I have a ... of Spanish, which means I manage most everyday situations.
6. I don't care if Tom is a ... of Japanese; he still has to do the job well.
7. Our diving instructor didn't speak English and we didn't speak Turkish, so German was our ... .

 قادر على التحدث عن استخدام اللغة الإنجليزية (Profile2 U.1)

3.1 a) Listen to Danuta and find equivalents to the following Russian words and expressions.
часть учебного курса, международная строительная фирма, коллега, отправлять электронные письма, работать за границей, загружать песни, искать информацию в Интернете, общаться в режиме реального времени.

b) Answer the questions.
1. Where did Danuta study? What was her major?
2. Where does she work now?
3. How does she use English to communicate with her colleagues from Germany and Sweden?
4. She wants to work abroad, doesn’t she?
5. How does she use English in the Internet?

3.2 Listen to Jorma and fill in the gaps.
I work as an (1)… in the Helsinki (2)… of a multinational company. I am in contact with our offices all around the world and the (3)… language is English. I don’t write many letters but I use email. I used to send a lot of faxes, but now most information is sent (4)… in email (5)… . I don’t feel very comfortable speaking English on the phone. When we have visitors from (6)… and we go and (7)…, everyone speaks English of course.

3.3 Listen to Claudio and say if you agree with the following statements.
1. Claudio is a manager of a hotel and without English his job is quite possible.
2. He has to handle telephone calls in Spanish and German.
3. He deals with emails for ordering books.
4. The English version of the hotel website is the most popular.
5. Claudio uses English mostly when he talks to the visitors from the Orient.

4. Using the vocabulary from the exercises 2, 3 write an essay about your experience of using the English language. Dwell on the following points.
1. English in my everyday life.
2. English in my future professional life.
3. Ways of improving my English language skills.

5. The English language has a lot of different statuses around the world. Read the text and match each status with its definition.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. provincial language</th>
<th>a) a language that comes from or relates to a country that is not your own</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. world language</td>
<td>b) a language of a country or a public body and its duties, actions, and responsibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. foreign language</td>
<td>c) a language known or spoken in many countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. first language</td>
<td>d) a language used by people of many nations in specific areas and fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. second language</td>
<td>e) a language spoken in the parts of the country outside the capital or big cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. official language</td>
<td>f) a language that is used by two or more people who have different native languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. international language</td>
<td>g) a language that one learned first and speaks best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. common language</td>
<td>h) a language which is not one’s native language but which they use at work or at school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The English language in the world

It is only in the course of the last hundred years that English has become a **world language**. In Shakespeare's time it was a «**provincial**» language of **secondary importance** with only 6 million **native speakers**. Nowadays English has become the world's most important language in politics, science, trade and cultural relations with over 350 million native speakers. It is the **official language** of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, of Australia and New Zealand. English is used as one of the official languages in Canada, the Republic of South Africa and the Irish Republic. It is also spoken as a second language by many people in India, Pakistan, numerous countries in Africa. Around 375 million people speak English as their **first language** and another 375 million speak it as a **second language**.

Even more widely English is studied and used as a **foreign language** – around 750 million people. **In this respect it acquired an international status.** It is used for **communication across frontiers**, listening to broadcasts, reading books and newspapers, in commerce and travel. Half of the world's scientific literature and 80 % of the world’s electronically stored information is in English. English is associated with technological and economic development of the great manufacturing countries. It is the language of automation and computer technology, international aviation, shipping and sport. It is the **common language** of diplomacy.

6. Choose one of the endings and complete the sentences.

1. In Shakespeare's time English was …
   a) a world language with 6 million native speakers.
   b) an international language of literature.
   c) a secondary language spoken in England.
2. Today English is an official language in …
a) Australia, Canada and New Zealand.
b) the USA, the Republic of South Africa and the Republic of Ireland.
c) India, Pakistan and the United Kingdom.

3. Around 375 million people speak English as …
a) their native language.
b) their second language.
c) a common language in multinational companies.
4. English has acquired an international status because …
a) more and more people study it as a foreign language.
b) it is the official language in great manufacturing countries.
c) it is an international language of aviation and shipping and sport.

5. English is a language …
a) of secondary importance in communication across frontiers.
b) associated with of science, commerce and diplomacy.
c) of one third of the world’s electronically stored information.

7. Answer the questions.

1. When has English become a world language? In your opinion, what were the reasons?
2. How many people speak English as their mother tongue, as a foreign language and as a second language?
3. What status does English have in India, Canada and New Zealand?
4. What proves that English has acquired an international status?
5. Do you assume that in future English will maintain its position in the world or its status will change?

Unit 2. Career in Economics

1. Do you agree?

1. «The curious mind embraces science; the gifted and sensitive – the arts; the practical – business; others become economists». Nassim Nicholas Taleb
2. «An economist is an expert who will know tomorrow why the things he predicted yesterday didn’t happen today». Laurence J. Peter
3. «There is one rule for the industrialist and that is: make the best quality goods possible at the lowest cost possible, paying the highest wages possible». Henry Ford
4. «In all recorded history there has not been one economist who has had to worry about where the next meal would come from». Peter Drucker
5. «The curious task of economics is to demonstrate to men how little they really know about what they imagine they can design». Friedrich von Hayek
2. Make word combinations using the words from columns A and B. Then read the text and explain their meaning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. wide</td>
<td>a) of the market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. international</td>
<td>b) functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. business</td>
<td>c) company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. structure</td>
<td>d) knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. exercise</td>
<td>e) of skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. have a good</td>
<td>f) range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. demand</td>
<td>g) of competence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. working</td>
<td>h) of an enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. level</td>
<td>i) administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. application</td>
<td>j) command</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Career of an economist

Nowadays the profession of an economist has become one of the most useful, modern and interesting. Economists find a wide range of careers open to them. They are employed in banking, finance, accountancy, commerce, marketing, logistics, management and business administration.

There is a place for an economist at every institution, plant or international company. Economist exercises different functions. A good specialist can determine the structure of an enterprise and calculate costs and probable profits. An economist analyses the conditions of the market and prospects of its development in the future. Having a good command of the economic situation in the region and the demands of the market, a person with economic diploma may start his own business or join a multinational firm.

To become a good economist one must work hard and get not only theoretical knowledge but also great practical skills. Working knowledge of computer and good level of competence in any foreign language, esp. English, is a must. Students majoring in Economics study principles of micro- and macroeconomics, statistics, math, finance and banking, economics theory and history of economic thought, etc. Some students major in economics because it is a good chance to get a well-paid job, some find it interesting and stimulating, others consider it to be a good application of their mathematical and analytical skills.

3. Match the names of different economy fields with their definitions.
| 1. banking | a) promoting and selling products or services, including market research and advertising |
| 2. finance | b) process or activity of running a business, organization, etc. |
| 3. accountancy | c) activity comprising all forms of the purchase and sale of goods and services |
| 4. commerce | d) planning, organizing and controlling of a company and its employees |
| 5. marketing | e) theory or practice of keeping financial accounts |
| 6. logistics | f) business conducted or services offered by a bank |
| 7. business administration | g) management of large amounts of money, especially by governments or large companies |
| 8. management | h) commercial activity of transporting goods to customers |

4. Fill in the gaps using the words from the box.

`enterprise, well-paid, must, majoring, costs, employed, institutions, profits`

1. Graduates of the Economics faculty are ___ as accountants and managers by such ___ as schools, sport centers and public authority offices.
   2. Marketing department of this ___ offers a ___ job to an experienced marketing manager.
   3. Job description of a financier includes knowledge of calculating ___ and___ of the production.
   4. For students ___ in logistics advanced foreign language skills is a ___.

5. Say if you agree or disagree with the following statements.
   1. Careers in economy are very popular nowadays.
   2. Any economist exercises a wide range of functions.
   3. Starting one’s own business is possible without having a good command of the local market.
   4. Knowledge of any foreign language is a must for any economist.
   5. Good computer skills are a must for an economist.

6. Answer the questions.
   1. What sphere of economics would you like to be employed in? Why?
   2. Why are economists in demand today?
   3. What functions do economists perform? Can you think of any other functions besides the ones mentioned in the text?
   4. Would you like to join a multinational company when you graduate from the university? What skills do you need to become an asset to the company?
   5. What subjects do students of economics study? Which ones do your consider the most important ones for your future career.
6. What were your reasons to major in economics?

Список литературы