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**АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК**

*Методические рекомендации к практическим занятиям  
для студентов всех специальностей очной и заочной форм обучения*

**Задания по развитию навыков устной речи**

**Часть 1**

**A**



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## Unit 1. The Belarusian-Russian University

### 1. Discuss the following statements.

1. It is important for every person to have an opportunity to proceed with their education after finishing school.
2. The Belarusian-Russian University is the best university in Mogilev region.

### 2. Match a word in Column A with its synonym in Column B.

A	B
1. an undergraduate	a. next
2. subsequent	b. a stimulus
3. to train	c. a dormitory (dorm)/hostel
4. to value	d. a student
5. a Hall of Residence	e. to establish
6. a board	f. to appreciate
7. an incentive	g. to teach
8. to found	h. a committee

### 3. Read the following text.

#### THE BELARUSIAN-RUSSIAN UNIVERSITY

“Which University to enter?” is one of the biggest decisions you have to make after leaving school. It determines your entire future life.

This year I entered the Belarusian-Russian University in Mogilev. It is a dynamic modern university with a long history of providing higher education to meet the needs of society and industry. The University is subordinate to the Ministries of Education of the Republic of Belarus and of the Russian Federation.

The Belarusian-Russian University was founded in 1961 as the Mogilev Mechanical-Engineering Institute and later was reorganized into a university. It trains engineers and economists in compliance with the Belarusian and Russian educational standards. Now it comprises a system of a continuous educational process: Lyceum, College of Architecture and Construction, University, Professional Development and Retraining Institute. The University has 8 faculties: Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Construction, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Automotive Engineering, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Engineering and Economics, Engineering Faculty of Correspondence Education, Faculty of Pre-University Training.

Entrance to the University is by centralized testing. Those who pass tests successfully are enrolled at the University. The basic subjects of the first year are Higher Mathematics, Physics, History of Belarus, Belarusian, Russian and a Foreign Language, PT classes, etc. These subjects lay the foundation for specialized subsequent years. The University has a good computer network and a good library.



Specialists of the highest qualification are trained through postgraduate (Master's and PhD) courses. The University has a specialized Board for defending theses and awarding PhD degrees in Engineering.

The University close relationship with industry and commerce benefits students, teachers and the society. The University also highly values its many international contacts. Students from foreign countries are an important part of the Belarusian-Russian University.

The University has three Halls of Residence. There are several sports clubs, providing a wide range of sporting opportunities.

A good reputation of the Belarusian-Russian University and attractions of the city of Mogilev offer a strong incentive to live and study here.

**4. Match a word in Column A with a word in Column B. Skim the text and see how these words are used in the text. Use these words in sentences of your own.**

A	B
1. to make	a. a university
2. to determine	b. the needs
3. to enter	c. an incentive
4. to provide	d. a decision
5. to meet	e. a degree
6. to benefit	f. the foundation
7. to award	g. the society
8. to defend	h. life
9. to offer	i. theses
10. to lay	j. higher education

**5. Put the right prepositions in the gaps.**

- The Belarusian-Russian university is subordinate ... the Ministries of Education of two countries.
- The University comprises ... 8 faculties.
- The students of the Faculty of Economics are trained ... compliance ... the Belarusian educational standards.
- In August I found out that I had been enrolled ... the Faculty of Construction.
- The subjects I am studying now will lay the foundation ... my future career in electrical engineering.
- A number of graduates make a decision to obtain the highest level of education ... postgraduate courses.
- International students value ... the opportunity to study at the Belarusian-Russian University.



## 6. Put the right word in the gaps.

*benefits, faculty, subjects, network, lyceum, sporting opportunities, undergraduate, continuous, needs*

1. A system of ... educational process includes not only the University and the College of Architecture and Construction, but ... as well.
2. The Mechanical-Engineering ... is one of the oldest in the Belarusian-Russian University.
3. The facilities of the Belarusian-Russian University meet all the ... of a modern ... .
4. The basic ... include Math, Foreign Language and History of Belarus.
5. The computer ... of the university ... students' academic progress.
6. There are several sports clubs, providing a wide range of ... .

## 7. Complete the sentences by selecting the correct ending.

1. The Belarusian-Russian University was founded in 1961 and in compliance with its specialization it was called ...

- a) the Belarusian Technical Institute.
- b) Mogilev Mechanical-Engineering Institute.
- c) Mogilev Technological Institute.

2. Structural division of the Belarusian-Russian University that provides an opportunity for obtaining the second higher education or a new specialty is ...

- a) Professional Development and Retraining Institute.
- b) College for Professional Development and Retraining.
- c) Institute for Retraining of Pedagogical Staff.

3. Enrollment at the University is based on ...

- a) the applicant's results of the final school exams.
- b) the applicant's results of the centralized testing.
- c) the applicant's determination to study.

4. The University has a specialized Board for ...

- a) demonstrating the achievements of its international students.
- b) defending theses on Economics.
- c) awarding PhD degrees.

5. There are three Halls of Residence situated ...

- a) not far away from the University.
- b) in the suburbs.
- c) within 100 meters from each other.

## 8. Agree or disagree with the following statements.

1. The Belarusian-Russian University provides high-quality education.
2. Students of the Mogilev Mechanical-Engineering Institute were trained in compliance with Belarusian and Russian educational standards.
3. College of Architecture and Construction is one of the structural divisions of the Belarusian-Russian University.
4. Foreign Language is one of the basic courses in the first year of university.



5. The University assists students' academic progress through providing an opportunity to use library and a computer network.

**9. Discuss the following questions with a partner.**

1. Do you agree that the choice of university determines your future life?
2. What were your reasons to choose the Belarusian-Russian University?
3. Did you study in Lyceum or College of Architecture and Construction before entering the University?
4. What are the advantages of the system of continuous educational process in your opinion?
5. What are the benefits of the fact that the University is subordinate to the Ministries of Education of two countries?
6. Do you agree that the basic subjects of the first year lay a good foundation for the subsequent specialized training?
7. Would you like to proceed with your training through postgraduate courses? Why/Why not?
8. What factors ensure a good reputation of the Belarusian-Russian University?

**Unit 2. The Republic of Belarus: General Outline**

**1. Did you know?**

1. The official name of Belarus is the 'Republic of Belarus' and the people are called *Belarusians*.
2. The highest point in Belarus is Mount Dzyarzhynskaya (346 m), while the lowest point is formed by Neman River (90 m).
3. Belovezhskaya Pushcha National Park, the remainder of primeval European forest, is a World Heritage Site.
4. The oldest city of Belarus is Polotsk, founded in 862 AD.
5. The oldest monument in Belarus is St Sophia's Cathedral (Polotsk), built between 1044 and 1066.
6. The longest street in Belarus is Independence Avenue in Minsk (15 km).

**2. Match a word in Column A with its Russian equivalent in Column B.**

A	B
1. constitute	a) благоприятный
2. significant	b) калий
3. indigenous	c) составлять/ включать в себя
4. favourable	d) наследие
5. predominantly	e) значительный
6. potassium	f) замечательный
7. heritage	g) местный/ коренной
8. remarkable	h) преимущественно



### 3. Read the following text.

#### THE REPUBLIC OF 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 9.4 million people (2019). **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 country along with Belarusians. The official languages are Russian and Belarusian.

The climate of Belarus is moderately continental which is **favorable** 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 Francisk Skorina, famous painter Mark Chagall, **prominent** authors Yanka Kupala and Yakub Kolas.

#### 4. Match a word in Column A with its synonym in Column B.

A	B
1. constitute	a) grow
2. significant	b) remarkable
3. cultivate	c) predominant
4. deposit	d) account for
5. prominent	e) reserve

#### 5. Match the sentence beginnings with the correct endings.

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) is predominantly represented by 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 Chagall is a ...

- a) famous pioneer in book printing.
- b) prominent painter whose motherland was Belarus.
- c) remarkable Belarusian author.

### 6. Discuss the following questions with a partner.

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? What nationalities does it comprise?
4. Is the climate of Belarus favorable for 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 3. The Republic of Belarus: 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 words with their definitions and translate them.

1. separation of power	a) a course of action that a state takes regarding its citizens, institutions and organizations
2. legislative	b) a draft of a proposed law presented to parliament for discussion
3. executive	c) department that has a particular function
4. judiciary	d) relating to the process of making and passing laws
5. a deputy	e) having the power to put laws into effect
6. domestic policy	f) a minor change or addition designed to improve a law
7. an amendment	g) division of political authority or control





8. a body	h) an organized group of people with a common purpose or function
9. a bill	i) a parliamentary representative
10. a branch	j) concerned with correct execution of laws

**3. 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**.

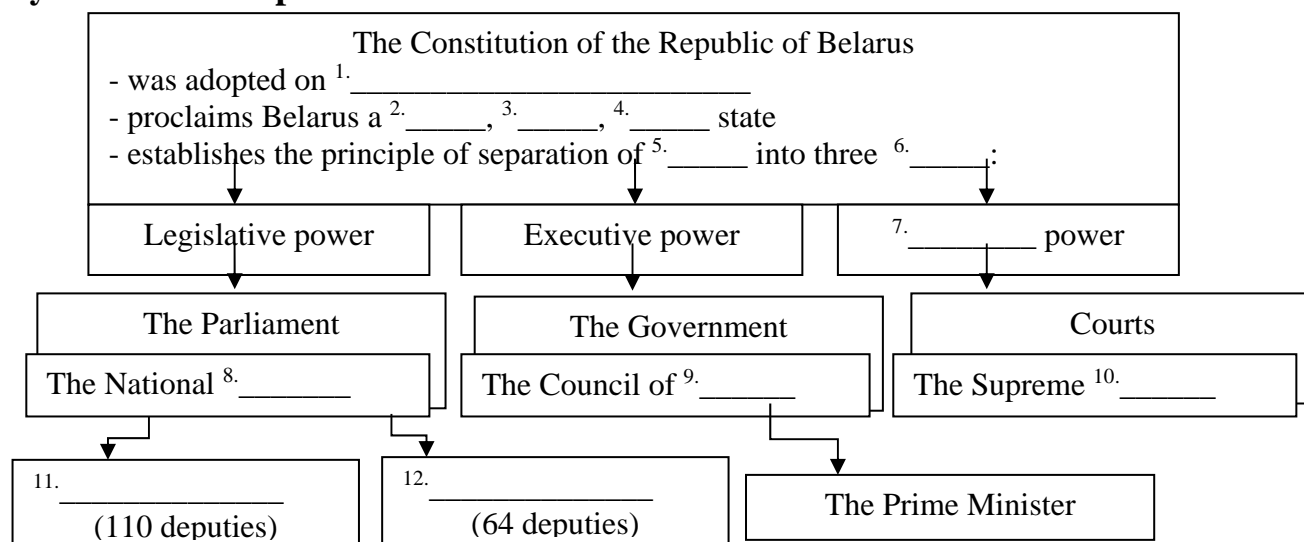
The legislative branch is **represented** by the parliament, the *National Assembly* of the Republic of Belarus, which **comprises** the 110-deputy *House of Representatives* (the lower house) and the 64-member *Council of the Republic* (the upper house) The House of Representatives has the power **to 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 exercise the laws adopted by the parliament, provide their application to everyday life of the society, make decisions on **foreign** and **domestic policy**.

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

Belarus is a member of the United Nations, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Union State of Belarus and Russia, and other international organizations.

**4. Complete the diagram and use it to talk about the structure of the state system of the Republic of Belarus.**



### 5. Put the right word in the gaps.

*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 proposed by the lower house.
7. The ... of 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.

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

Legislative	Executive	Judiciary
...	...	...

- a) makes decisions on foreign and domestic policy;
- b) legally resolves conflicts;
- c) appoints the Prime Minister;
- d) develops bills and adopt laws;
- e) puts into effect the laws adopted by the parliament;
- f) supervises correct exercising of laws;
- g) selects governmental officials;
- h) ensures application of laws;
- i) makes amendments and additions to the constitution.

### 7. Discuss the following questions with a partner.

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 4. The Republic of Belarus: 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 the 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)

*Paragraph 3:* h) made to order, meeting the demands of a client; i) fast; j) as good as or better than others.

### ECONOMY OF BELARUS

The Republic of Belarus has a **developed** industry, agriculture, an **advanced** culture, science and technology. Industry holds an important position in the country'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, coaches, and **special-purpose vehicles**. The **enterprises** of the country produce agricultural **machinery**, 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**, textile, knitwear, clothes, and footwear. Different new **sophisticated** products, such as integrated microcircuits, liquid-crystal indicators and displays and special technological equipment are produced as well.

In the past several years Belarus has **earned the reputation** of the leading IT country in the Eastern European region. The Belarusian software **services sector** has been developing at a rapid pace and its products are very **competitive**. The industry is engaged in **custom** development and high-end software services for clients that require low cost but highly skilled technology resources.

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

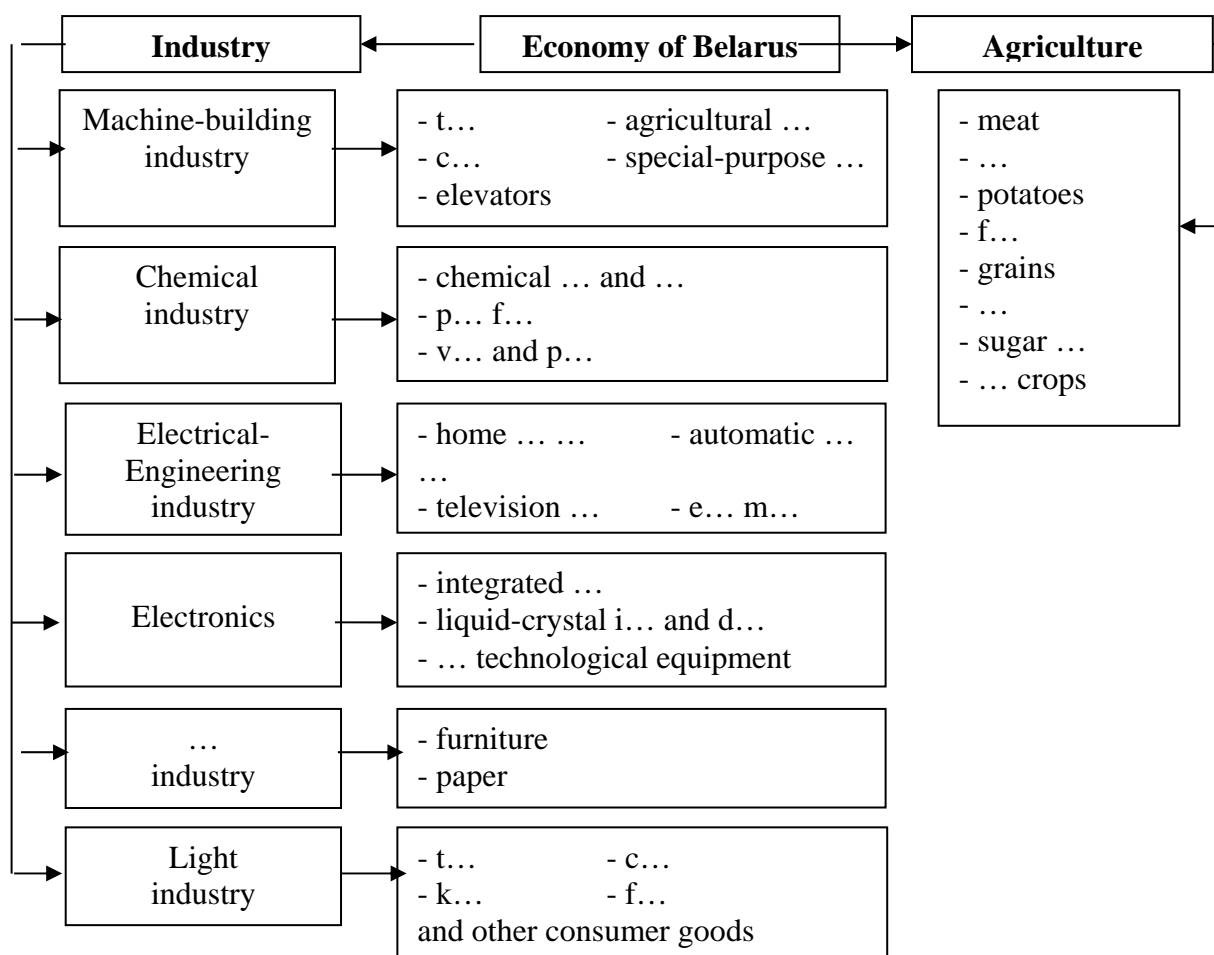
### 3. Complete the table and the sentences below.

<i>Noun</i>	<i>Verb</i>	<i>Adjective/Participle</i>
–	develop	–
–	–	special
product	–	–



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.
6. ... of IT sector is developing competitive software.

#### 4. Complete the table and speak about the structure of economy in Belarus.



### Unit 5. The Republic of Belarus: Higher Education

#### 1. Discuss with a partner.

Why is higher education important?

#### 2. Study the following words and word combinations.

1. fields of study	профиль, направление подготовки
2. major	профилирующая дисциплина, специальность
3. admission	прием (в учебное учреждение)
4. grade point average	средний балл
5. full-time study mode	очная форма обучения
6. part-time study mode	заочная форма обучения

7. academic year	учебный год
8. grading	аттестация, выставление отметок
9. pass/fail exam	зачет
10. academic record book	зачетная книжка
11. curriculum	программа обучения
12. academic discipline	учебная дисциплина
13. final evaluation	итоговая оценка
14. to conform to	соответствовать
15. educational standard	образовательный стандарт
16. graduation project	дипломный проект
17. internship	практика
18. to gain	получить
19. practical skills	практические навыки
20. transcript	приложение (к диплому)
21. accommodation	жилье
22. residence hall	общежитие
23. academic performance	успеваемость
24. allowance	стипендия, пособие
25. job placement	трудоустройство
26. extracurricular activities	внеучебные мероприятия
27. master's degree	степень магистра
28. post-graduate course	аспирантура

### 3. Read the following text.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

The higher education system of the Republic of Belarus is developing in line with global trends. Higher education in Belarus is represented by universities, institutes, academies. Belarusian higher education institutions offer training in a wide range of **fields of study**: technology and equipment; architecture and construction; natural sciences; environmental sciences; healthcare; art and design; humanities; economics; management, etc.

The current structure of higher education comprises two stages. The first stage enables students to obtain a diploma of higher education in a specific **major** field. **Admission** to the first stage is based on the results of centralized tests and the **grade point average** received at the general secondary education level.

Belarusian higher educational institutions offer both **full-time and part-time study modes**. Most undergraduates choose to study full-time. The students who have to balance study with personal or work life can enroll on a part-time course of study (correspondence or distance).

The **academic year** is divided into two semesters followed by exam sessions. The **grading** options are numerical grades or **pass/fail**. 10 is the highest grade achievable and 1 is the lowest. The minimum passing grade is 4. Certain courses are



offered on a pass/fail basis. The results of exams are recorded in the student **academic record book**. The students who meet the requirements of the **curriculum** and pass tests and exams in **academic disciplines** can progress to the next semester or academic year.

**Final evaluation** is carried out to determine whether the graduates' academic achievements **conform to** the requirements of **educational standards**. The final evaluation forms of student performance are state exams and defense of the **graduation project**. During their final year at the university students undergo **internships** which allow them to gain **practical skills** and workplace experience. Successful graduates receive state diplomas certifying their qualification and a **transcript** reflecting the courses taken and the grades earned by students throughout a course of study.

Higher education institutions offer **accommodation** to full-time non-resident students in student **residence halls**. Full-time students who demonstrate good **academic performance** receive monthly **allowances**. Full-time students who receive education funded from state budget are provided with the first **job placement**.

Higher education in Belarus does not only mean lectures, seminars and exams. Students take part in scientific conferences and competitions, student exchange programs. Besides, they have the opportunity to participate in a variety of **extracurricular activities**: sports, music and dance groups, theater, volunteering, etc.

Universities are headed by rectors. Vice-rectors are in charge of managing particular areas of the university, e.g., research or academic affairs. Universities are generally divided into a number of academic departments, schools or faculties.

The second stage of higher education allows students to gain higher level skills and more specialized understanding of their subject area and leads to a **master's degree**. Advanced academic training is available through **post-graduate** and doctoral courses.

#### 4. Find the word in the text that means the following.

- a) the period of the year during which students attend university;
- b) a small book where a student's grades are recorded;
- c) a report supplied by a university on the record of an individual student, listing subjects studied, grades received, etc.;
- d) the average value of a student's grades;
- e) a place where university students live;
- f) a period of supervised training required for qualifying for a profession;
- g) activities that are not part of the academic curriculum;
- h) a sum of money paid regularly to a student;
- i) finding a suitable job for a student;
- j) the level of a student's learning most often reflected in grades and test scores;
- k) an area of academic concentration;
- l) a series of questions or exercises for measuring the knowledge of a student.





**5. Match a word in Column A with a word in Column B. Skim the text and see how these words are used in the text. Use these words in sentences of your own.**

A	B
1) to offer	a) sessions
2) a field	b) of study
3) centralized	c) training
4) study	d) grade
5) exam	e) activities
6) a passing	f) allowances
7) to obtain	g) tests
8) monthly	h) placement
9) job	i) a diploma
10) extracurricular	j) modes

**6. Match the sentence beginnings with the correct endings.**

1) Higher education in Belarus is represented ...	a) state exams and defense of the graduation project.
2) The first stage enables students ...	b) state diplomas certifying their qualification.
3) Most undergraduates choose ...	c) receive monthly allowances.
4) The academic year is divided ...	d) by universities, institutes, academies.
5) The results of exams are recorded ...	e) in a variety of extracurricular activities.
6) The final evaluation forms of student performance are ...	f) to obtain a diploma of higher education in a specific major field.
7) Successful graduates receive ...	g) to full-time non-resident students in student residence halls.
8) Full-time students who demonstrate good academic performance ...	h) in the student academic record book.
9) Students have the opportunity to participate ...	i) full-time mode of study.
10) Higher educational institutions offer accommodation ...	j) into two semesters followed by exam sessions.

**7. Put the right word in the gaps.**

*recorded, leads to, offer, enables, headed, pass, carried out, conforms to, progress to, undergo, to gain, allows, balance, comprises, to obtain*

- Higher education institutions ... training in a wide range of fields of study.
- At present, the structure of higher education ... two stages.
- The first stage ... students ... a diploma of higher education in a specific major field.
- Some students have to ... study with personal or work life.





5. The students who ... tests and exams can ... the next semester.
6. The exam results are ... in the student academic record book.
7. Final evaluation is ... to determine whether the graduates' academic performance ... the requirements of educational standards.
8. Final year students ... internships which allow them ... practical skills and experience.
9. Universities are ... by rectors.
10. The second stage of higher education ... students to gain higher level skills and more specialized understanding of their subject area and ... a master's degree.

### **8. Agree or disagree with the following statements.**

1. Belarusian higher education institutions offer training in a wide range of fields of study.
2. The current structure of higher education comprises four stages.
3. Admission to the first stage is based on results of entrance exams.
4. All students choose full-time mode of study.
5. The academic year at Belarusian universities is divided into four quarters.
6. Universities use a system of letter grades to evaluate student performance.
7. The students who meet the requirements of the curriculum can progress to the next semester or academic year.
8. Students are encouraged to attend lectures, seminars and conferences, and to participate in research activities.
9. All students are provided with job placement.
10. A transcript is an official copy of the final examination results.

### **9. Discuss the following questions with a partner.**

1. What institutions provide higher education in the Republic of Belarus?
2. What fields of study are offered at higher education institutions?
3. What is the current structure of the Belarusian higher education?
4. What are general requirements for admission to the first stage?
5. What study modes are available at Belarusian higher education institutions?
6. What grading system is used at Belarusian higher education institutions?
7. How are university studies organized in an academic year?
8. What documents are given to graduates?
9. What benefits are offered to higher education students? Can all students enjoy these benefits?
10. How are universities organized?
11. What options do university graduates have after the first stage of higher education?

## **Unit 6. Great Britain: General and Economic Outline**

### **1. Discuss with a partner.**

1. Where is Great Britain located?
2. What do you know about the UK political system?



3. Who is the head of the state in Great Britain and who is the head of its government?
4. Can you name any famous British scientists, writers, musicians or singers? What are they famous for?
5. What attracts thousands of visitors to the UK each year?

## 2. Match a word in Column A with its Russian equivalent in Column B.

A	B
1. self-sufficient [ˌselfsə'fɪʃ(ə)nt]	a) валовой внутренний продукт
2. vehicle ['viːkl]	b) станок
3. machine tool	c) сфера обслуживания
4. to decline	d) поддерживать, стимулировать
5. deposit [dɪ'pɒzɪt]	e) транспортное средство, автомобиль
6. GDP (gross domestic product)	f) самодостаточный, независимый
7. manufacturing	g) составлять (часть от общего количества)
8. to account for	h) уменьшаться, идти на убыль; спадать
9. insurance [ɪn'sʊər(ə)ns]	i) месторождение, залежь
10. service sector	j) производство
11. boost	k) страхование

## 3. Read the following text.

### GREAT BRITAIN

**General outline.** 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, and is separated from the European continent by the North Sea and the English Channel. People travel to the continent by train through the Channel Tunnel.

The United Kingdom actually comprises four different countries, which collectively make up Great Britain: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Each of the four countries has its own culture, language and heritage and a certain amount of political independence. The population of Great Britain is over 66 million people (as of 2017).

The warm currents of the Atlantic Ocean influence the climate of Great Britain. The summers are cool, but the winters are mild. The Thames is the deepest and the longest of the British rivers. There are no high mountains in Great Britain.

The United Kingdom has more energy resources than any other European country. Vast deposits of oil and gas were discovered in the North Sea in the 60s of the past century. Great Britain became **self-sufficient** in oil. It is one of the world's largest oil producers now and its economy is **boosted** by oil and gas production. Great Britain is also rich in a number of natural resources. It has some **deposits** of coal and iron ore, which were vital to the British economy in the past.

**Economic outline.** The economy of the United Kingdom is highly developed and market-orientated. It is the fifth-largest national economy in the world measured by **gross domestic product (GDP)**. The country was at the forefront of the Industrial



Revolution of the 19th century. Revolutionary changes happened in **manufacturing**, with the development of factory systems and transportation. Britain was a huge empire with colonies in America and West Indies, often called ‘the empire on which the sun never sets’.

But manufacturing has changed over the past few decades. Its contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) has **declined**. Now the **service sector** dominates and contributes around 80% of GDP (as of 2016).

The main industries today are banking and finance. The United Kingdom has traditionally been a world financial and business centre. London has more foreign banks than any other city in the world. Services, particularly banking, **insurance**, and business services, **account for** the largest proportion of GDP.

The other leading industries are aerospace, steel, transport equipment, oil and gas, and tourism. The aerospace industry of the UK is the second-largest aerospace industry in the world. The country also produces **machine tools**, electric power equipment, automation and railroad equipment, aircraft, **vehicles** and parts, electronics and communications equipment, metals, chemicals, petroleum, food, textiles, clothing, and other consumer goods.

**4. Match a word in Column A with a word in Column B. Skim the text and see how these words are used in the text. Use these words in sentences of your own.**

A	B
1) travel by	a) the largest proportion
2) comprise	b) goods
3) to influence	c) natural resources
4) self-sufficient in	d) industry
5) rich in	e) four different countries
6) contribution to	f) train
7) service	g) oil
8) account for	h) GDP
9) consumer	i) sector
10) airspace	j) the climate

**5. Put the proper form of the right word in the gaps.**

*to account for, self-sufficient, to decline, manufacturing, insurance, vehicle, to boost, service sector, deposit, machine tool, to measure.*

- ... is used for transporting people or goods, especially on land.
- Social security ... about a third of total public spending.
- The process of converting raw materials, components, or parts into finished goods that meet a customer's expectations or specifications is called ... .
- I don't think this country, due to the climate, could ever be ... in food.
- If something ..., it becomes less in quantity, importance, or strength.
- ... a power-driven machine, such as a lathe, miller, or grinder, that is used for cutting, shaping, and finishing metals or other materials.



7. The first company to offer accident ... was formed in 1848 in England to insure against the rising number of fatalities on the railway system.
8. A good work environment ... productivity.
9. The company wants ... the benefits of the new initiative.
10. Some 70.9 per cent of the workforce is employed in the ..., followed by industries and agriculture.
11. This is the largest oil ... discovered in the last 30 years.

### 6. Agree or disagree with the following statements.

1. Great Britain is an island in the North Atlantic Ocean off the north east coast of continental Europe.
2. The UK is separated from the European continent by the North Sea and La Manche.
3. England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland do not have any degree of independence.
4. The warm currents of the Pacific Ocean influence the climate of Great Britain.
5. The country has a maritime climate with great temperature differences between seasons.
6. Great Britain is not self-sufficient in oil.
7. In the 19th century the country built a huge overseas empire.
8. Services, particularly banking, insurance, and business services, are key drivers of British GDP growth.
9. Manufacturing has increased its importance and still accounts for about 10% of economic output.
10. The UK does not have well-developed aerospace industry.

### 7. Discuss the following questions with a partner.

1. What is the full name of Great Britain?
2. How many countries 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. What made Great Britain one of the world's largest oil producers?
6. Is Great Britain a highly industrialized country?
7. What are the main manufacturing industries in Britain and what do they produce?
8. What accounts for the largest proportion of Great Britain's GDP now?

## Unit 7. Great Britain: Political Outline and Cultural Life

### 1. Match a word or word combination in Column A with its Russian equivalent in Column B.

A	B
1. decision	a) многонациональный, космополитичный, без национальных предрассудков
2. parliamentary elections	b) Палата общин (нижняя палата британского



[ˌpɑ:lə'ment(ə)rɪ]	парламента)
3. peer	с) влиятельный
4. House of Commons	d) решение
5. influential	e) большинство
6. cosmopolitan	f) парламентские выборы
7. majority [mə'dʒɔrəti]	g) лорд; пэр; человек, принадлежащий к высшим слоям общества
8. to contribute	h) поглощать, абсорбировать
9. cuisine [kwɪ'zi:n]	i) вносить вклад, обогатить ценным достижением
10. absorb	j) кухня; кулинарное искусство

## 2. Read the following text.

### GREAT BRITAIN

**Political outline.** The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy. It means that there is a queen or king but they don't make the laws of the country. Laws and political **decisions** in England are made by the Parliament of the United Kingdom. The Houses of Parliament are in central London next to the River Thames and the most famous part is the clock tower, Big Ben. 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 about 800 members. The majority are life **peers**. New members of this Upper House are not elected and are appointed by the Queen on the advice of the Prime Minister.

The House of Commons consists of 650 Members of Parliament (MPs). Parliamentary elections are held every 5 years by secret ballot. The UK political system is based on the two-party system. The Conservative Party and the Labor Party are the dominant parties. The leader of the party which wins the **majority** of seats becomes Prime Minister. He forms the Cabinet of Ministers and his residence is at 10 Downing Street.

**Cultural life.** Immigrants from former British Asian and African colonies made the United Kingdom the world's most **cosmopolitan** country. More than 250 languages are spoken in London.

The UK has **contributed** greatly to the world science, technology, literature and music. In the 1960s Britain became the world centre of popular music. The Beatles is the best-known and most **influential** of the many British rock groups. But perhaps Britain's greatest export has been the English language, which is spoken now in every corner of the world.

England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland maintain their own unique customs, traditions, **cuisine**, and festivals.

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**'.



### 3. Put the right word in the gaps.

*parliament, House of Lords, Conservative Party, Prime Minister, GDP,  
monarch, financial service sector, House of Commons*

1. ... is the total value of all the goods, which the country has produced and the services, which it has provided in a particular year.
2. In 2017, ... contributed £119 billion to the UK economy.
3. The lower house, called ..., 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.
6. The ... is the leader of Her Majesty's Government and is ultimately responsible for the policy and decisions of the government.
7. The ... and the monarch only meet together on symbolic occasions, such as coronation of a new monarch or the opening of the parliament.
8. The ... logo is an oak tree, the national tree of England, which is meant to represent endurance, strength and growth.

#### 4. Agree or disagree with 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. The Queen is the de facto leader of the UK government and exercises executive functions.
3. Legislative power is vested in the two chambers of the Parliament - the House of Lords and the House of Representatives.
4. The House of Lords is the publicly elected chamber of Parliament, opposed to the House of Commons, the seats in which are inherited.
5. The UK political system is a one-party system.
6. The leader of the political party that wins a majority of seats in the House of Commons is the leader of the 'Shadow Cabinet'.

#### 5. Discuss the following questions with a partner.

1. What three elements does the Parliament consist of?
2. How often are parliamentary elections held?
3. Why do we say that the GB political system is based on the two-party system?
4. What are Britain's greatest contributions to the world science and culture?
5. Why are cultural life and social customs of Great Britain rich and diverse?

#### 6. Make presentations on Great Britain.





## Unit 8. Great Britain: Higher Education

### 1. Discuss with a partner.

Do you know of any British universities?

### 2. Read the following text.

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

Universities offer full-time or part-time courses. Full-time study mode means that most of teaching and assessment takes place during the day time on weekdays. Part-time courses are studied over a longer period of time than their full-time equivalents, but students spend fewer hours per week in a classroom. Part-time courses can involve **day release**, day plus evening, or evening only study. Some courses are offered via flexible learning or distance learning.

**Undergraduate** courses allow students to develop academic and work-related skills. A Bachelor's degree is the most common and widely available type of undergraduate qualification. Bachelor's degree courses are usually taught through 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). Bachelor's degree courses mostly take three years to complete. Some undergraduate degrees, such as a science and engineering, can take up to four years to complete.

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).

Masters degrees usually involve one or two years of study. 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 subject area. A Master's degree is the **requirement** for entry into a Ph.D. course.

### 3. Match the words from the text with the definitions.

1. degree	a) working or attending school on less than a full-time schedule;
2. day release	b) a system of allowing employees days off work to go on educational courses.
3. part-time	c) a student with a first degree from a university who is studying or doing research at a more advanced level;
4. full-time	d) an academic title given upon completion of studies;





5. undergraduate	e) a quality or performance demanded of a person in accordance with certain fixed regulations;
6. obtain	f) for the entire time appropriate to an activity;
7. graduate	g) a person studying in a university for a first degree;
8. postgraduate	h) to get;
9. requirement	i) a person who has been awarded a first degree from a university or college;

#### 4. Put the right word in the gaps.

*academic excellence, skills, lecture courses, Bachelor's degrees, higher education, terms, specializes, postgraduate degree, undergraduate degree, requirements, attend, tutor*

- Once students have obtained their undergraduate degree, they can apply for a ... .
- British education focuses heavily on developing writing and analytical ... .
- First degrees are called ... .
- In the UK about one-third of all students go on to some form of ... .
- Oxford and Cambridge, the oldest universities, are world known for their ... .
- Each student has a ... whom he can consult on any matter whether academic or personal.
- The academic year is divided into three ... .
- In the UK most ... programs take three years to finish; however, the 'sandwich course' is four years and involves one year in the work place.
- Universities may have certain ... that all students will have to meet.
- The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge generally require all students to ... an interview, other universities will not require this.
- Teaching is done through ... (large groups of students), tutorials (a one-to-one session with a tutor) and seminars (a group discussion session).
- Colleges of education provide two-year courses in teacher education or sometimes three years if the graduate ... in some particular subjects.

#### 5. Match the sentence beginnings with the correct endings.

##### Organisation of the Academic Year

1. The academic year in the UK runs ...	a) but is not considered compulsory.
2. The year is traditionally divided by breaks ...	b) into three teaching terms (autumn, spring and summer terms).
3. Semesters, when the academic year is split into two ...	c) is a specific requirement for all courses.
4. Some universities have a 'reading week' in the middle of a term, ...	d) delivered via evening and weekend classes, day release or study breaks, helping you to manage study around your life.
5. Teaching normally takes place ...	e) during which no teaching is done and students are expected to work



	independently.
6. Many colleges and universities offer part-time degree courses, ...	f) is becoming much more common in the UK.
7. Lecture attendance is strongly encouraged, ...	g) between 9.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m., from Monday to Friday.
8. Tutorial attendance ...	h) Christmas, Easter and the summer holidays.
9. The main vacation times in the UK are ...	i) from September to July.

### 6. Discuss the following questions with a partner.

1. What higher education opportunities are there in Great Britain?
2. What subject areas are available in British universities?
3. What courses do British universities offer?
4. How are undergraduate courses organized?
5. What degrees are awarded by British universities?
6. Who can take a Master's degree course?
7. How does a Master's course differ from an undergraduate degree?
8. How does the organization of the academic year in Great Britain differ from that in Belarus?

## Unit 9. The United States of America: General and Economic Outline

### 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. Match the following words with their Russian equivalents.

1. latitude	a) власть; держава
2. wealth	b) движение вперёд; успех
3. power	c) нефть
4. output	d) благосостояние, богатство
5. influential	e) прерия, степь
6. consumer	f) продукция; выпуск продукции
7. advance	g) широта
8. petroleum	h) поглощать; абсорбировать;
9. prairie	i) потребитель
10. absorb	j) влиятельный; важный



### 3. Read the following text.

#### THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**General outline.** 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, and it is little more than 240 years old. America was the first of the European colonies to 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.

**Economic outline.** 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 is mostly due to the highly developed industry of the country.

The economy of the United States is divided into three broad categories including the service sector, the manufacturing sector, and the agricultural sector. Recently services (health care, entertainment and finance) have grown faster than other sectors of the economy. But, though manufacturing jobs have declined, manufacturing **output** has remained rather constant due to **advances** in productivity. Heavy industry dominates in the USA, including mining, metallurgical, engineering, chemical and high-tech industries. The manufacture of transportation equipment (motor vehicles, aircraft and space equipment) is a leading industry too. US computer and telecommunications firms are among the world's top telecommunications companies. Other important fields 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.

#### 4. Put the right word in the gaps to complete the definitions.

*latitude, output, refined, petroleum, advances, prairie, wealth, consumer, gross national product, power.*

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. ... refers to a country that is very rich or important, or has strong military forces.
8. ... a large area of flat, grassy land in North America with very few trees.
9. ... of a place is its distance from the equator.
10. ... is found under the surface of the earth or under the sea bed. Petrol is obtained from petroleum.

### 5. Agree or disagree with the following statements.

1. The United States of America is washed by the Pacific Ocean in the east and the Atlantic Ocean in the west.
2. The United States is the world's fourth-largest nation by total area, ranking behind Russia, Canada and China.
3. The USA is a country composed of 52 states and a federal district of Columbia.
4. The US has very diverse geography, climate, and wildlife .
5. Extreme weather is rather common — most of the world's tornadoes occur here, mainly in Tornado Alley in the Midwest and South, and hurricanes are frequent too.
6. The United States emerged from the fourteen British colonies located along the East Coast.
7. The United States celebrates the Independence Day on July 4, as the birthday of the country, because the Declaration of Independence was signed on this day in 1776.
8. The U.S. economy is characterized by the dominance of the manufacturing sector followed by the services sector and knowledge-based activities.
9. Characteristic dishes such as apple pie, fried chicken, French fries, pizza, hamburgers, and hot dogs were derived from cuisines of various immigrants.

## Unit 10. The United States of America: Political Outline and Population

### 1. Match the following words with their Russian equivalents.

1. Senate ['senɪt]	a) коллегия выборщиков
2. electoral college	b) отпрыск, потомок
3. to impeach	c) голосование
4. vote	d) Сенат (верхняя палата Конгресса США)
5. amendment	e) выдвигать обвинения; объявлять импичмент
6. Supreme Court	f) осуществлять; приводить в исполнение
7. to enforce	g) поправка (к резолюции; законопроекту)
8. 'melting pot'	h) гонение; преследование
9. persecution	i) (рас)плавиться; соединяться; смешиваться
10. to fuse	j) Верховный суд
11. descendant [dɪ'sendənt]	к) плавильный котел



## 2. Read the following text.

### THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**Political Outline.** 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 branch — the Congress — is made up of two houses — the **Senate** and the House of Representatives. There are 435 members 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, and has the right to **impeach** the president.

*The executive branch* is headed by the president. The president is elected indirectly. Each state selects electors to vote in the **Electoral College**, which elects the President of the United States. The president is elected to a four-year term with a limit of two terms of office. He serves as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. The President's official residence and office is the White House. The executive branch is responsible for **enforcing** laws.

*The judiciary 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 compete for presidency and the majority of seats in the Congress.

**Population.** The population of the United States is large by world standards (more than 328 mln, as of 2019), and is very diverse. It is probably the most multicultural and multinational country in the world. In the 19th century it was called a '**melting pot**'. It means that all ingredients (nations, ethnic groups, peoples) are mixed and **fused** together. 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 to find greater opportunities or to escape **persecution** for political or personal beliefs they had in their native land. They, as well as Native Americans (American Indians) and **descendants** of Africans taken as slaves to the New World, formed what is known as the American national character.

## 3. Put the right word in the gaps to complete the definitions.

*Senate, electoral college system, to impeach, persecution, to vote, to enforce, amendment, Supreme Court, Congress, descendant, 'melting pot'*



1. ... is the system when the President is not elected directly by the voters but is elected by 'electors' who are chosen by popular vote on a state-by-state basis.
2. ... is a choice made by a particular person or group in a meeting or election.
3. ... is the elected group of politicians that is responsible for making the law in the United States.
4. ... is the smaller and more important of the two parts of the parliament in some countries, including the USA
5. ... are the people in later generations.
6. ... charge (the President or a holder of a public office) with misconduct.
7. ... the highest judicial court in a country or state.
8. ... is added to a law or rule in order to change it or improve it.
9. ... oppression because of race or political or religious beliefs.
10. ... means to force or cause something to be done or to happen.

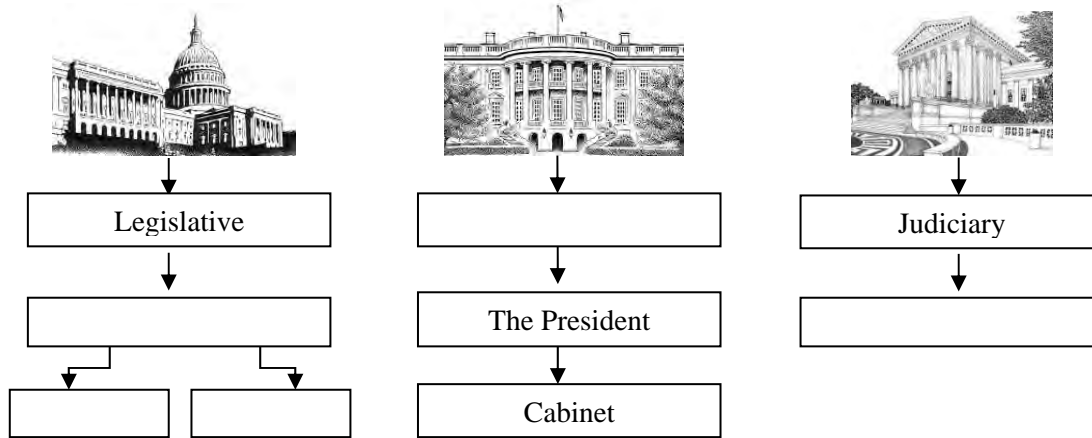
#### 4. Match the sentence beginnings with the correct endings.

1. The United States is the world's fourth largest nation by total area,	a) and they are separate from one another.
2. The United States, with its large size and geographic variety,	b) which is fueled by rich natural resources and high productivity.
3. The United States has a capitalist mixed economy,	c) is the supreme law of the United States of America.
4. The constitution of the United States	d) ranking behind Russia, Canada and China.
5. There are three branches of the national government – executive, legislative and judicial,	e) has 435 representatives; the number of congressmen from each state depends on the number of people living in this state.
6. The Congress, which meets in the US Capitol,	f) the 13 colonies that rebelled against British rule.
7. The Senate has 100 senators, two from every state,	g) has the power given by the Constitution to make laws and to control finances.
8. The House of Representatives	h) includes most climate types.
9. The President is elected every four years	i) implies 'melting together or fusion' of different nationalities and cultures.
10. 'Melting pot'	j) through an electoral college system.
11. The original 13 states were	k) one third of them is elected every two years for a six-year term.





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



**6. Refer the following to the corresponding column to describe both Houses of the Congress.**

Senate	House of Representatives
--------	--------------------------

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. a) upper house;</p> <p>2. a) 435 voting members;</p> <p>3. a) number of members proportional to the population;</p> <p>4. a) members serve a 2-year term;</p> <p>5. a) originally, it was designed to represent the people directly.</p> | <p>b) lower house</p> <p>b) 100 voting members</p> <p>b) two congressmen regardless of the population</p> <p>b) members serve a 6-year term.</p> <p>b) was designed to represent the states.</p> |
|--|--|

**7. Look at the following functions performed by different federal bodies and put them in the right column.**

Congress as Legislative branch	President and Executive branch	Judicial branch
--------------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------

- a) creates laws that all Americans must obey;
- b) approves the budget proposed by President and the executive branch;
- c) executes the spending authorized by Congress;
- d) signs a bill after both houses agree on its final wording, making it a law;
- e) supervises the actions of both executive and judicial branches;
- f) can impeach a President;
- g) can declare laws unconstitutional;
- h) approves appointments to the federal judiciary and executive departments made by the President;
- i) is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces;
- j) can veto bills passed by Congress (but the veto may be overridden by a two-thirds majority of both houses);
- k) its members represent the whole American society;





- l) can declare acts of the executive branch unconstitutional;
- m) writes, debates, and passes bills, which are then sent to the president for his approval or veto;
- n) negotiates foreign treaties with other countries that are later must be ratified by Congress;
- o) controls the federal budget;
- p) decides the meaning of laws, how to apply them to real situations, and whether a law breaks the rules of the Constitution.

### 8. Discuss the following questions with a partner.

1. Where is the United States of America situated?
2. Is the USA the world's fourth-largest country by size?
3. What climatic types does the USA have due to its large size and geographic variety?
4. What mineral resources is the USA rich in?
5. What manufacturing industries are among the most important?
6. How many states does the USA comprise?
7. What branches does the US state system comprise?
8. What bodies are they represented by?
9. How is the US President elected?
10. Why do we say that the US Congress is bicameral?
11. What does the number of seats in the House of Representatives assigned to a definite state depend on?
12. How many seats per state does the upper house, the Senate, comprise?
13. What are the two major political parties in the USA?
14. When do Americans celebrate their Independence Day?

## Unit 11. The United States of America: Higher Education

### 1. Discuss with a partner.

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. Match the following words and word combinations with their Russian equivalents.

1. Associate degree	преддипломное обучение (курс на соискание степени бакалавра)
2. Bachelor's degree	2-годичный колледж низшей ступени, присваивает степень ассоциата (младший специалист)
3. Chancellor	степень бакалавра (ученая степень, присваивается после 4-х лет обучения в вузе)
4. community college (the same thing as	профилирующая дисциплина, выбранная в качестве специализации



junior college)	
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	профессиональное обучение
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	степень ассоциата (присваивается окончившим двухгодичный колледж)
14. vocational training	гуманитарные науки

### 3. Read the following text.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE USA

The US has a large and diverse higher education system. There are more than 4,360 higher education institutions (as of 2016). School leavers can continue their education in junior or community colleges, four-year colleges, universities, 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 'community colleges', originally known as 'junior colleges', which provide two years of training. They are less expensive and more oriented toward vocational training than the typical four year college or university and 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.

Higher education in the US differs from that in Europe in a number of ways. One of the differences is the great variety 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 higher schools abroad is governance. Most US schools are private, non-governmental, and self-governing. Others are affiliated with governmental agencies, but even they have some of these characteristics. US Universities are headed by presidents and/or chancellors. Deans,



provosts, and/or vice-presidents are responsible for academic affairs within this system.

A marked feature of American education is the de-emphasis on lecture and examination. Discussion and written essays are important components of the education process.

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.

#### 4. Put the right word or word combination from Task 2 in the gaps.

- 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 vocational 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) ... is 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.
- 13) ... is job-specific training for work and prepares people to work mainly as a technician in a particular profession.

#### 5. Find in this text at least four features of the American higher education system that differ it from higher education systems in other countries.

#### 6. Read the text.

##### 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.

## 7. Put the right word in the gaps.

*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.

## Unit 12. English as a Global Language

### 1. Look at the points and explain 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

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

*corporate language* – корпоративный язык

*evening course* – вечерний курс

*fluent speaker* – бегло говорящий

*handle enquires* – заниматься

запросами

*interpreter* – переводчик

*language skills* – языковые навыки

*leave a message* – оставить сообщение

*level of competence* – уровень компетенции

*native speaker* – носитель языка



*official language* – официальный язык  
*put smb through* – соединять (по телефону)  
*take a call* – принять звонок  
*working knowledge* – практические знания  
*common language* – общий язык

*intensive training program* – программа интенсивного обучения  
*mother tongue* – родной язык  
*self-study* – самостоятельное обучение  
*total immersion* – программа полного погружения

## 2.1 Match the sentence beginnings with the correct endings.

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-	program in London.

## 2.2 Put the right word in the gaps.

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

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

## 3. Listen to three people talking about using English (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.

- Where did Danuta study? What was her major?
- 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 on the Internet?

### 3.2 Listen to Jorma and fill in the gaps.

I work as an <sup>(1)</sup>... in the Helsinki <sup>(2)</sup>... of a multinational company. I am in contact with our offices all around the world and the <sup>(3)</sup>... 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 <sup>(4)</sup>... in email <sup>(5)</sup>... . I don't feel very comfortable speaking English on the phone. When we have visitors from <sup>(6)</sup>... and we go and <sup>(7)</sup>..., 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.

1. provincial language	a) a language that comes from or relates to a country that is not your own
2. world language	b) a language of a country or a public body and its duties, actions, and responsibilities
3. foreign language	c) a language known or spoken in many countries
4. first language	d) a language used by people of many nations in specific areas and fields
5. second language	e) a language spoken in the parts of the country outside the capital or big cities
6. official language	f) a language that is used by two or more people who have different native languages
7. international language	g) a language that one learned first and speaks best
8. common language	h) a language which is not one's native language but which they use at work or at school





## ENGLISH AS A GLOBAL LANGUAGE

It is only in the course of the last hundred years that English has become a **world language**. The English language dates back to the fifth century, when Germanic tribes invaded Britain and their languages combined to form Old English. 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.

Out of the world's approximately 7.7 billion inhabitants (2019), 1.75 billion speak English. However, most of those people aren't native English speakers. About 360 million people speak English as their first language. In addition to being widely spoken, English is by far the most commonly studied foreign language in the world (750 million people), followed by French at a distant second.

English 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.

English has **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. Match the sentence beginnings with the correct endings.

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 360 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. Discuss the following questions with a partner.**

1. When did 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?



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