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**Around the World**

Pre-Intermediate English

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САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

## **ВОКРУГ СВЕТА**

Учебное пособие по английскому языку  
для студентов неязыковых специальностей

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

*Учебное пособие предназначено для развития навыков чтения специальных текстов и устной речи, проведения аудиторных занятий и организации самостоятельной работы студентов неязыковых специальностей.*

*Предназначается для студентов 1-2 курса всех факультетов неязыковых специальностей.*

**Text №1**

**FRANCIS DRAKE (1540-1596)**

**Part I**

Francis Drake was a famous English sea-captain. He was born in in Tavistock - an ancient market town within [West Devon](#), England. At fifteen the boy was taken as a sailor on a small ship. Francis did his work so well that the captain said he was born to be a great sailor. When Francis Drake was twenty-five years old, he began to help the captain of the ship. He crossed the Atlantic Ocean many times with this captain and then was made the captain of another ship.

At that time England and Spain were enemies. Spanish ships carried much gold from South America to Spain. English ships in the Atlantic Ocean often attacked Spanish ships and took the gold. Those English pirate captains gave much gold to their country. With the Spanish gold England built many good strong ships. This made England much stronger on the seas and oceans.

One day some Spanish ships attacked six English ships and only two of them came back to England. Francis Drake was the captain of one of those ships. Drake sailed back into the Atlantic Ocean. With two small ships he attacked some Spanish ships which carried gold. Drake took much gold from those ships. Francis Drake became a pirate, too.

He sailed across the Atlantic again and again, and many Spanish ships did not sail back to Spain.

In November 1577 Francis Drake with five ships left Plymouth. He wanted to cross the Atlantic Ocean and find the way to the Pacific Ocean. The ships came to South America in winter, the wind was very strong and it snowed. Drake lost some of his ships in the wind and snow. At last the sailors saw the Pacific Ocean. In August of 1578 they came to Cape Horn and then had a short rest on some islands near Cape Horn.

## Part II

After a rest in 1579 the ships crossed the Pacific Ocean and visited in the same year the island of Java in the South of Asia. Then the ships crossed the Indian Ocean and in June 1580 they came to the Cape of Good Hope in the South of Africa. Drake did not stop there but sailed to the north and in September 1580 the sailors saw England again. The voyage took almost three years. Francis Drake was the first Englishman who sailed round the world.

In 1585 Drake with twenty-nine ships sailed to the Atlantic Ocean. He attacked Spanish ships there and brought much gold to England. In 1588 many Spanish ships with hundreds of soldiers on each of them sailed into English waters to attack England. This was the famous Spanish Armada; there were one hundred and thirty ships in it. The English ships did not attack the enemy. They let the great Spanish Armada sail past Plymouth and far into English waters.

The Spanish ships were very large; the English ships were much smaller, but they could sail faster and the sailors on them were better than the Spanish ones. Eight ships under Francis Drake's command went into the middle of the Spanish Armada and attacked the ships. Soon many of the Spanish ships were on fire. Drake took twelve Spanish ships and carried them off.

This was a great victory for England. Only fifty Spanish ships came back to their country. In 1595 English ships with Francis Drake as captain sailed into the Atlantic Ocean to attack the Spanish ships again. Drake hoped to get a lot of gold. They crossed the Atlantic Ocean in a month, but Francis Drake was ill and in January 1596 he died.

## EXERCISES

- Find the following in the text:

- When Francis Drake was a boy, he liked the sea.
  - Drake was a good sailor.
  - Drake was made captain of a ship.
- Show the itinerary of Francis Drake's voyage round the world on the map.
  - Find in Part II of the text and read the sentences showing Francis Drake's tactics during the attack of Spanish Armada.

**Text №2**

**JAMAICA**

In 1655, Jamaica, a Spanish colony, was taken by the British and became notorious as a base for piracy. The unofficial capital, Port Royal, was the biggest port in the English colonies at that time, populated by pirates, slave traders, runaway slaves and criminals.

**Welcome to Port Royal**

Once called "the richest and wickedest city in the world", Port Royal was also the virtual capital of Jamaica. To it came men of all races, treasures of silks, doubloons and gold from Spanish ships looted on the high seas by the notorious "Brethren of the Coast" as the pirates were called. From here sailed the fleets of Henry Morgan, later lieutenant-governor of Jamaica, for the sacking of Camaguey, Maracaibo and Panama, and died here despite the ministrations of his Jamaican folk doctor.

Admirals Lord Nelson and Benbow, the chilling Edward "Blackbeard" Teach were among its inhabitants. The town flourished for 32 years until at 20 minutes to noon, June 7, 1692, it was partially buried in the sea by an earthquake.

## INFORMATION FILE

### JAMAICA

Total area: 11,000 sq. km

Total population: 2.7 million

Ethnic mix: 91% Black, 9% Other

Capital: Kingston

Population of Capital: 600, 000

Government: democracy with a prime minister.

Granted independence from the UK: in 1962

Climate: coast: tropical, hot, humid

Interior: milder

### Montego Bay

Begin your tour at Sam Sharpe Square named after the slave who led the Christmas Rebellion of 1831. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Jamaica was the largest producer of sugar in the world and British plantation owners imported 700,000 slaves from West Africa. Although the slave trade was officially abolished by the British government in 1807, Jamaican plantation owners refused to give up their slaves. Sam Sharpe was an educated slave and a Baptist preacher who lived in Montego Bay. By reading newspapers, he learned about the abolition movement and he spread the word among his fellow slaves. He organized a strike for the 28<sup>th</sup> December, just after the Christmas holiday. Sharpe hoped to inspire a peaceful resistance, indeed he encouraged the slaves to only fight physically if the managers didn't agree to their demands. The rebellion lasted for 8 days and resulted in the death of around 186 slaves and 14 white overseers or planters. The government sent soldiers to end the rebellion. 300 slaves were executed for their part in the protest, including Sharpe, who was hanged in this square in 1832.

Take a look at 'The Cage' in the northwest corner of the square – a prison built in 1806 for runaway slaves and drunk British sailors. Its bell was rung at 2pm every afternoon to warn slaves from the country that they had an hour in which to leave the town.

### EXERCISES

- Do you know anything about Jamaica? Can you name any Jamaican towns or any

famous Jamaicans? What type of music is the country famous for?

- Look at the maps and read the information file on Jamaica.

Answer the questions:

- 

- Does Jamaica share a border with any other countries?
- Where is the capital city in the country ?
- How many people live in the capital city?
- When did Jamaica become an independent state?
- Is it hotter on the coast or inside the country?

- Read about Port Royal and answer the questions:

- What did people call Port Royal in the 17<sup>th</sup> century?
- The text mentions four names: Morgan, Nelson, Benbow and Teach. Which two of the people do you think were pirates and which two do you think were officers in the navy?
- How was the town destroyed?

- Read the extract about Montego Bay from the tourist guide. Are the following statements true or false?

- Sam Sharpe was a free man.
- He knew about the abolition of slavery in Britain.
- He wanted to make a violent protest against slavery.
- He organized a strike at the end of January.
- He was killed during the rebellion.
- Slaves from the country had to leave Montego Bay at 3pm every day.

- Complete the sentences with nouns formed from the words in brackets.

- The main business of Port Royal was..... (pirate)
- Slaves were imported to work on British..... (plant)
- Slaves were the property of their..... (own)

- During a....., slaves attacked their masters. (rebel)
  - The.....of..... in Jamaica didn't happen until 1838. (abolish/slave)
  - Jamaica celebrates..... Day on the first Monday in August. (independent)
  - Jamaica now has 2.7 million..... (inhabit)
- Do you think that Jamaica sounds like an interesting place to visit? If you went there, would you be more interested in its history, or in its hot weather and beaches?

### Text №3

#### A SHORT HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

Australia's first people were the Aborigines. They occupied the continent for at least 50,000 years, and before the Europeans arrived in 1788. Their population was probably between 300,000 and 750,000. They occupied a lot of the northern territory.

Although Captain James Cook had sailed the length of the east coast in 1770 the British did not settle in Australia until 1788. The first ships arrived and brought 1,000 convicts from England. They called the area where they landed New South Wales.

Historians still argue today about why the British settled in Australia. Some say that Britain was trying to find new places to send convicts because British prisons were too crowded. Others say that the British wanted to use Australia's natural resources or that they were attempting to stop other Europeans from claiming Australia.

Australia's white population grew slowly after 1788. Most of the people were either convicts or former convicts who had finished their sentences.

In the 1830s, more migrants arrived in Australia from Britain looking for a new life. Sheep farming had already developed and many people found jobs on farms. New colonies appeared called Victoria, Western, Australia, Tasmania and Queensland. They later became the States of the Commonwealth of Australia.

#### EXERCISES

- Read the text "A short history of Australia" quickly and say why the British first settled in Australia.
- Complete the text below with the correct form of the verb in brackets (past simple, past continuous or past perfect).



The Aborigines (1) were (be) the first Australians. There are fewer aborigines now than when the European settlers (2).....(arrive) because a lot of Aborigines (3)..... (die) from diseases brought by the settlers. In 1921, there (4).....(be) only 61,000 Aborigines in Australia. By 1991, this number (5).....(increase) to 270,000, which is approximately 1,5% of the Australian population. After the European settlement in Australia in 1788, almost 5 million people from 200 different countries (6)..... (immigrate) to Australia. They (7).....(look) for new lives away from problems in their own countries and they (8).....hope to start new lives. They (9).....(find) new lives in Australia and (10).....(make) it their home. If the British (11).....(not invade) Australia in 1788 it could have been very different.

- Read the text again and match the paragraphs (1-5) with the topics below:
- Why the British settled in Australia.
- Growth of the white population.
- Development of the States of the Commonwealth.
- Australia's first people.
- The British settlement of Australia.

#### **Text №4**

#### **SARATOV**

Saratov is one of the oldest cities of the Volga Region. In the course of 400 years of its development Saratov has progressed from a little fortress and an agricultural community to a big industrial center with the population of about 1 million inhabitants. Now it stretches out for 59 km along the bank of the Volga river.

People of about 75 nationalities live in Saratov.

Modern Saratov is one of the biggest industrial centers of Russia. Airliners and refrigerators are produced here, automatic machine-tools and glass and, of course the world-famous garmoshka (a kind of concertina).

Saratov has earned the reputation of being a major agricultural center, trading in corn and flour. It is also one of the biggest educational centers of the Volga Region. Saratov has a recognition as a city of students with its State University and a great number of educational establishments.

The Russian circus has its beginnings in Saratov. Saratov is a home town of the famous writers – Chernyshevskiy and Fedin. It became the second Motherland of the first

cosmonaut in the world – Yuriy Gagarin, who studied in Saratov Flying Club and later on landed successfully after having orbited the Earth for the first time in the history of mankind. He landed 40 km away from Saratov, and now a memorial devoted to this event stands there.

The bridge is a symbol of Saratov. The construction of it was finished in 1965 after 5 years of struggle with the powerful river. The extension of the bridge is about 3 km. It links together 2 big cities of the Volga Region – Saratov and Engels. In the arms of Saratov you can see 3 sterlets, because Saratov has always been famous for its fish products.

The name «Saratov» suggests its Tatar origin. It means «A yellow mountain».

The construction of any Russian town always began with the building of a church. The Trinity Cathedral forms the heart of Museum Square. A small wooden church was built in its place at the beginning of the 17th century. The stone Cathedral was constructed in 1689, and the final trimming of it was finished only in 1724.

Saratov has earned the reputation of being a major cultural center of the Volga Region. There are 5 theaters, the conservatoire, many cinemas and a circus in Saratov.

Kirov Avenue is a pedestrian zone of the city and the most beautiful one. The building of the conservatoire is the pride of all the citizens and the tourists due to its extraordinary architecture, which is very much different from the architecture of other buildings in Saratov. Many great singers and composers took part in concerts in Saratov conservatoire. Among them were Shaliapin, Prokofyev, Sobinov, Rahmaninov and others.

## EXERCISES

• Answer the questions:

1. What is the population of Saratov?
2. How many km does it stretch?
3. What can you say about nationalities living in our city?
4. What is Saratov famous for?
5. Are there any educational establishments?
6. What do you know about Yuriy Gagarin?
7. When did the bridge build?
8. How can you explain the name «Saratov»?
9. What can you say about churches of Saratov?
10. How many theatres are there in the city?
11. What places of interest do you know?

- Find in the text the following descriptions:
  1. The industrial centre of Russia
  2. The agricultural centre of Russia
  3. The city of students
  4. Main symbols of Saratov
  5. Places of interest you like
- Make up a dialogue using the following prompts:  
a big industrial centre, 75 nationalities, a major agricultural centre, a city of students, the Russian Circus, Yuriy Gagarin, a bridge, a church, a theatre, Kirov Avenue
- What is your favorite place? Speak about it.

#### **Text №5**

### **FOUR NATIONS**

In 1922 the south of Ireland was made independent from Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and became the Republic of Ireland. Northern Ireland remained joined politically to Britain, and the United Kingdom was born. While this was a popular decision with most Irish Protestants, it was unpopular with most of the Catholic population, who wished Ireland to remain a united country. Conflict between these two groups came to crisis point in the 1970s with the terrorist activities of the IRA and the arrival of British soldiers. Even today, the Northern Irish population remains divided between Unionists (or Loyalists), who want to remain a part of the United Kingdom, and Republicans, who oppose it.

#### **INFORMATION FILE**

##### **SCOTLAND**

Total population: 5 million

Capital: Edinburgh

National day: November 30<sup>th</sup> (St Andrew's Day)

National symbols: thistle, tartan

## ENGLAND

Total population: 49 million

Capital: London

National day: April 23<sup>rd</sup>(St George's Day)

National symbols: red rose, lion, bulldog

## WALES

Total population: 2,5 million

Capital: Cardiff

National day: March 1<sup>st</sup>(St David's Day)

National symbols: dragon, leek, daffodil

## EXERCISES

- Answer the question: What's the difference between England, Great Britain and the UK?

- List the national symbols from the Information Files under these categories:

Plants:

Real animals:

Mythical animals:

Abstract patterns:

- Read the Information Files on England, Scotland and Wales. Which of the countries:

- has the largest/smallest population?

- has a national day in spring?

- has a national day in autumn?

- has a blue and white flag?

- has a red, green and white flag?

- Read the text about Northern Ireland and answer the questions:

- How many countries are there in Great Britain?

- When did the south of Ireland become independent from Britain?

- How many countries are in the UK?

- What do Northern Irish Republicans want?
- What do Northern Irish Unionists want?

### **Text №6**

## **WHO ARE THE BRITISH?**

The UK is a confused nation when it comes to national identity, especially in relation to major sporting events. Commentators proudly refer to the country's internationally successful sportspeople as 'English' if they come specifically from England. Welsh and Scottish athletes, however, are usually given the general label 'British' without any recognition of their individual homelands.

But it is when the countries compete individually, especially against each other, that the idea of a 'united kingdom' becomes completely lost.

At football and rugby matches there has been a strong revival of the individual flags, songs and symbols of England, Scotland and Wales and there often isn't a Union Jack to be seen. Away from the sports pitch, the national saints' days of St David in Wales and St Andrew in Scotland are starting to be marked with large celebrations in the same way that St Patrick's Day has always been celebrated in Ireland. And the flag of St George can be seen in England on public buildings and churches where the Union Jack used to be. With Scotland and Wales now having their own parliaments, there is even extreme talk of an 'English Independence Movement', and some people are wondering if the United Kingdom will last into the next century.

### **EXERCISES**

- Read the article. Match the beginnings and the endings of the sentences:
  - Welsh and Scottish sportspeople get annoyed when
  - If England and Scotland play a rugby match,
  - People enjoy St Andrew's Day and St David's Day now, but
  - Some buildings in England used to display the Union Jack, but now
- Write a paragraph about your country. Write about the national flag, the national day and the national symbols. Is your country 'united', or are there any parts of it that have a separate identity?

## Text №7

### INFORMATION FILE

#### SOUTH AFRICA

Total area: 1,2 million sq. km

Total population: 43 million

Ethnic mix: 75/ Black, 14% White Afrikaans , 3% Indian

Capital: Pretoria (government)

Cape Town, Bloemfontein (law)

Population: Pretoria: 650.000

Cape Town: 1,000,000

Bloemfontein: 150,000

Government: A republic with a president

Climate: West coast: dry and arid

East coast: wetter, with forest vegetation

### EXERCISES

- Do you know anything about South Africa? Can you name any South African cities or any famous South Africans? What sports is the country famous for?
- Look at the map and read the Information File of South Africa, then answer Look at the map and read the Information File on South Africa, then answer the questions:
  - What is the second biggest ethnic group in South Africa?
  - How many capital cities does South Africa have?
  - Which is the largest of the capital cities
  - Where is it in the country?
  - Which part of South Africa gets the most rain?
- Read the information about Izak Ford. Complete Izak Ford's fact file below the information.

My name's Izak Ford. I go to Swanepoel Boys School in the suburbs of Cape Town, and this is my school's website. Here's a picture of one of our classrooms. There

are 25 students in my class. Before 1994, when we had the apartheid system, black students and white students were educated separately, but my school is now multi-racial.

We go to school from Monday to Friday. Our school day starts at 7.40 am, so I get up at about 6 o'clock, but that's OK, because it's hot and sunny then. We have to wear a uniform. I hate it! We study the usual subjects - Science, History, Geography, etc., but we also study Afrikaans (which is our first language), English and Xhosa, a local African language. We have two short breaks, one at half past ten and one at half past twelve. The school day finishes at 2.15. After lessons we can do sports such as rugby, hockey and swimming, or artistic activities like music and photography. In the evening we do homework and watch TV. My favourite shows are ER and Friends.

For dinner we always have meat or chicken with rice and vegetables such as sweet potato. At the weekends we go to Tyger Valley, which is a huge shopping mall in Cape Town, and we often have braais (barbecues). South Africans eat a lot of meat!

Name:

Nationality:

Town/City:

Name of school:

Number of schooldays per week:

School day:

First language:

Other languages studied:

Evening activities:

Favourite TV programmes:

Usual dinner:

Weekend activities:

## EXERCISES

- Answer the questions:
  - Is Izak's school for white students only?
  - What time does Izak get up?
  - What does he think of his school uniform?
  - When does he have breaks at school?
  - What can students do at his school after lessons?
  - What is a braai?

- Complete your own fact files:

Name:

Nationality:

Town/City:

Name of school:

Number of schooldays per week:

School day:

First language:

Other languages studied:

Evening activities:

Favourite TV programmes:

Usual dinner:

Weekend activities:

- Answer the question: What similarities and differences are there between you and Izak?
- Write about your school. Describe your school and the daily routine there. Remember to mention everything that might sound interesting or different to a student from another country.

### **Text №8**

## **CANADA AND WALES**

### **INFORMATION FILE**

#### **CANADA**

Total area: 10,000,000 sq. km.

Total population: 32 million

Ethnic mix: 59 % White (English-speaking) , 23 % White (French- speaking)

2 % Native American, 16 % Other

Capital: Ottawa. Population of capital: 1 million

Government: Democracy with a prime minister

Canada was a British colony until 1867. Canada is independent but the British monarch is still head of state.



Climate: South – moderate, North – subarctic and arctic.

## **QUEBEC – FRENCH BY FORCE**

In the 1960s, the French speakers of the Quebec region of Canada gained political power there. Since then they have passed many laws designed to protect the French language. In 1977, Bill 101 made French the official language of Quebec, imposed French language test for admission to many professions and ruled that most businesses with more than fifty employees must operate in French. It also prohibited the use of English on commercial signs, although this was modified in 1993, when it was decided that English could appear on outdoor signs as long as the French words were more prominent. There is still, however, an official language police, the Office Quebecois de la Langue Francaise, who constantly check that these language laws are not broken.

Most controversially, Bill 101 made it obligatory for almost all students, particularly those moving to Quebec from outside the region, to attend French-only a new law even closed the loophole that had allowed children who had been previously educated at anglophone schools, or those in private education, to continue to attend English-speaking schools. Although all pupils at francophone schools in Quebec have English lesson, they do not start them until the fifth grade. Critics of the system say that this puts them at a serious disadvantage if they want to study or try to get a job outside of Quebec when they leave school.

### **INFORMATION FILE**

#### **WALES**

Total area: 21.000 sq. km.

Total population: 2.9 million

Ethnic mix: 76% White (English-speaking)

20% White (Welsh-speaking)

4% Other

Capital: Cardiff

Population of capital: 320,000

Government: Part of the UK. but has its own

National Assembly and First Minister

Climate: Mild, wet

## **WELSH – A LESSON IN SURVIVAL**

Welsh, the native Celtic Language of Wales, is one of the oldest languages in Europe. In spite of a variety of pressures over the centuries, the language has survived into the present day. One of the worst times for the Welsh language was the 19th century. Reforming Victorian educators reported that the Welsh people were backward, and that Welsh-speaking children were uneducated. English-only schools were established in Wales, especially near the border with England, and English teachers were specially imported. Children speaking Welsh in school received severe punishments. They were made to stand in a corner of the classroom for hours, to pay fines to the teacher or, most notoriously of all, forced to wear the “Welsh Not” or carry the “Welsh Stick”. A plaque or a stick carved with Welsh Not or W.N. was passed to the next child who spoke Welsh in the classroom, and the child who had it at the end of the lesson received a punishment. However, after the Second World War the tide started to turn, and Welsh-only schools began to be built. These days, about 25% of children in Wales go to Welsh-only schools. The 1967 and 1993 Welsh Language Acts in parliament stated that Welsh must have equal status with English in Wales, and the 1998 Education Reform Act made Welsh language an obligatory subject for all children aged 5 to 16, whether they go to English-speaking or Welsh-speaking schools.

### **EXERCISES**

• Read the Information Files, look at the maps and answer the questions about Canada and Wales:

- What countries do Canada and Wales share a border with?
- What percentage of the Canadian population speak French?
- Is Canada governed by the British government?
- What percentage of the Welsh population speak Welsh as their first language?

- What title does the leader of the Welsh National Assembly speaking schools in Wales have?
- Find five ways that Bill 101 affected day-to-day life in Quebec.
- What modification to the Bill was made in 1993?
- Do children at French-speaking schools in Quebec study English?
- Why could children at French-speaking schools be at a disadvantage?

### Text №9

### CHOICES, CHOICES...

I am a student at a sixth-form college in Cambridge. I've just finished my AS level exams in Geography, Biology, English and French but I haven't received the results yet. I still haven't finished my studies because I have to do my A level exams next summer. I haven't decided yet what to do after A levels: go to university, get a job or do a gap year and then go to university after that.

On the one hand, I could go to university immediately after my A levels. I could continue my studies and then find a well-paid job. The main advantage of a well-paid job is that I could pay back my loan quickly. However, I've heard that lots of students end up borrowing even more money. One of the disadvantages of going to university is that I couldn't afford to leave home so I'd end up having to stay at home for another three years with my parents.

On the other hand, I could get a job straight after my A levels. There are two main advantages to this. The first is that I could earn my own salary and be independent very quickly. The second is that I could save up and buy a flat. I've seen flats for £50,000 in the centre of town. However, there are also disadvantages to getting a job straight away. The main one is that I'd miss my friends. Since my friend Matthew started work last month, I've only seen him about three times. He's stuck in an office from 9.00 am until 6.00 pm every day.

Then again, I could wait for a year before going to university and do a gap year. One big advantage is that it would be a good experience to see a different country and its lifestyle. I've never been abroad before and I could even learn another language. I've searched the Internet recently and found a lot of good organizations.

On the other hand, if I do this I would need money to pay for the trip. This would mean getting a part-time job while studying for A levels. In conclusion, I think that I might wait and see what results I get in my exams next summer and I think I'll probably go to university straight after school. I'm not keen to get a job straight away and miss out

on my youth and I don't think a gap year is a good option because I'm not sure I could work and study at the same time.

### EXERCISES

- Read the text "Choices, choices ..." quickly and find out what John thinks he will do after he leaves school.
- Look at the verbs in the text. Which tense are they? Can you say why this tense is used in each case?
- Read the paragraph and put the verbs in the correct tense: present simple, past simple or present perfect.

I (1) study (study) at a school in Manchester. There (2).... (be) 25 students in my class and we (3)... (just take) our GCSE exams. We (4)... (not receive) the results yet. They usually (5) ... (arrive) some time in August. Last year (6)... (study) eight subjects altogether and now (7) ... (have to) choose three of those subjects to study for A levels. I (8)... (still not decide) which four subjects to choose for AS levels. (9)... (never have) good results in Maths so I don't think I'll choose Maths. However, I (10) ... (have) a great teacher last year Physics, and (11) ... (enjoy) Art since I was little, so (12)... (think) I might study those subjects next year.

#### Text №10

### SWIMMING THE CHANNEL

Every summer many people, girls and women as well as boys and men, try to swim from England to France or from France to England. The distance at the nearest points is only about twenty miles, but because of the strong tides, the distance that must be swum is usually more than twice as far.

There is a strong tide from the Atlantic Ocean. This divides in two in order to pass round the British Isles. There is a strong tide which goes round the north of Scotland, then into the North Sea, and then south, towards the Dutch and Belgian coast. There is a strong tide up the English Channel. The two tides meet near the mouth of, the Thames, and the strong currents they cause make it impossible to swim in a straight line across the Channel.

The first man to succeed in swimming the Channel was Captain Webb, an Englishman. This was in August 1875. He landed in France 21 hours 45 minutes after entering the water at Dover. Since then there have been, many successful swims and the time has been shortened. One French swimmer crossed in 11 hours and 5 minutes. Numerous Egyptian swimmers have been successful.

Because the sea is usually cold, swimmers cover their bodies with grease. This, they say, helps to keep out the cold. They are fed during the swim by men who go with them in small boats.

### EXERCISES

- Now answer these questions:
- How far is it from England to France at the nearest points?
- When a man swims from England to France, does he swim only twenty miles, or more than twice this distance?
- Why has he to swim more than twice the distance?
- What is the narrowest part of the English Channel called?
- Are there strong currents in the Strait of Dover?
- Which is easier, to swim with the current or against the current?
- What does the strong tide that comes from the Atlantic do when it reaches the British Isles?
- Where do the two tides meet?
- What do they cause when they meet?
- When did Captain Webb swim the Channel?
- How long did it take him?
- Has the Channel ever been swum in under twelve hours?
- Do only British and French people try to swim the Channel or do people of many different nationalities?
- What is your nationality?
- Why do Channel swimmers cover their bodies with grease?
- Do Channel swimmers set out alone, or do men go with them in small boats?
- What do the men in these boats do during the crossing?
- Has the Channel been swum only by men, or have women been successful, too?
- Do you think they swim the Channel at all seasons of the year or only in the summer?
- Where is long-distance swimming popular in your country?

- Correct the sentences:
- Every summer many people try to swim from England to Russia.
- There is a weak tide from the Atlantic Ocean.
- There is a strong tide which goes round the south of Scotland.
- The first man to succeed in swimming the Channel was Captain Webb, a Russian man.
- Because the sea is usually warm swimmers cover their bodies with grease.
- Make the sentences negative:
- The distance at the nearest points is only about twenty miles.
- There is strong tide from the Atlantic Ocean.
- This divides in two in order to pass round the British Isles.
- The two tides meet near the mouth of the Thames.
- He landed in France after entering the water at Dover.

### **Text №11**

FRIEDA: I shall never forget, as long as I live, the day when I first set foot in London. I had come from a quiet little town in Switzerland. I had never before lived in a big city, so London was a new world to me and I was dying to find out more about it for myself.

The general opinion abroad is that London has fog or rain, or both, every day of the year, but on the day that I arrived it was fine and warm, there was a bright sun and a cloudless sky. The next day was just as beautiful; there was a slight wind that gently moved the leaves on the trees, and you could smell the spring in the air. "Life is grand," I thought, as I took Anthony, the little boy out of the house, for a walk in Kensington Gardens. It was a straight road and I found the way quite easily. When I got my first sight of the gardens, the beauty nearly took my breath away. The trees were just bursting into leaf, fresh and green and lovely, and there were beds of spring flowers, red and yellow and blue, in the beautiful, smooth grass under the trees.

People in light spring clothes were walking about, and, to my surprise, they walked not only along the path but also across the grass, and no one said a word to them about it. I had never seen such a thing before. We passed a pool in which ducks were swimming, a

children's playground with crowds of happy children, a figure of Peter Pan in bronze, more water with boats on it, and everywhere people – people whose language I could not understand.

Well, it was time for us to go home; but which way was it? We hurriedly turned down one path that I thought would take us back – and found ourselves in Hyde Park. My mind was quite confused now and I was rather frightened. I ran to the left and to the right and asked several old ladies for the way to Addison Road, but I found to my horror that I could not understand a single word they said in reply. I wandered on till I came to a big open place where I saw men standing on a chair, or on a platform, or on the ground speaking or preaching, and people of all kinds were listening or asking questions or making remarks and sometimes laughing at the speaker. Other groups were singing loudly and earnestly. Of course, I could not understand a word and was greatly surprised, but now I know this is the famous Hyde Park meeting; there is perhaps nothing else like it in all the world.

Meanwhile, the sun had gone behind a cloud, I was terribly tired and wanted nothing in the world so much as to be at home. At last we got to the park gate at Marble Arch, but this was worse than ever; there were buses, high and fearfully red, motor cars, bicycles, people, and again in an endless line buses everywhere and people climbing in them or hurrying along, while I stood lost in the midst of them.

I was ready to cry, but there was little Anthony who had waited two hours for his tea. In despair I crossed the street on to an island, where I found a policeman. He was a head taller than any other man, and I took my last bit of courage in both hands and said, "Please, sir, where is Addison Road?" He began to explain, but when he saw that I couldn't understand he became helpless too. "Are you French?" he said. "No, Swiss," I replied, "but I speak French".

"Wait a moment. I learned French at school, mais j'ai, Presque tout oublie. Prenez cette route, allez tout droit, et la onzieme rue a gauche c'est Addison Road" He smiled and then he raised his hand. How wonderful! The traffic stopped; even the red buses stood still and waited until I crossed the road. I soon found myself in streets and roads that I recognized again. Life was grand once more. The sun came out from behind the cloud and London was a beautiful city; but for me, the best thing in it was the blue policeman at Marble Arch.

- Write questions to which the following are answers:

- There was a bright sun and a cloudless sky.
- I had never been in a big city before.
- There was a slight wind that moved the trees.
- Anthony, the little boy of house, was with me.
- The general opinion abroad is that English weather is always bad.
- As I walked in the I thought, «Life is grand.»
- The beauty of the gardens nearly took my breath away.
- There were beds of flowers in the grass under the trees.
- I had never seen such a thing before.
- I passed a pool and a children's playground.
- I ran to the left and to the right.
- I asked several old ladies the way.
- Because they couldn't understand my language.
- There were ten children playing by the pool.
- It was about five o'clock then.
- The people were listening and asking questions.
- Most of the buses were red.
- Anthony had waited two hours for his tea.
- The best thing in London was the big policeman.

## **Text №12**

### **Part I**

R=Rosa M=Mark

R: So anyway, we decided to have a really good holiday – a 'dream holiday' in the Caribbean, because we'd always wanted to go there. So, we saved our money up for months and months, and booked this holiday in a place called San Antonio. It costs over a thousand pounds each, but we wanted to do something really special so we booked it for two weeks in May, because all the brochures said that the weather's beautiful there in May ....

M: We were flying from Gatwick airport, and the flight was overnight ... leaving Gatwick late at night, and arriving in San Antonio the next morning, or that was the idea, anyway! But when we arrived at the airport they told us that because of bad weather in the Caribbean, the flight was delayed until the next morning. So we had to spend the night at the airport, sleeping on the floor, and we finally got on the plane the next morning twelve hours late!



R: But that was just the beginning. On the plane they told us that the bad weather over the Caribbean was actually a hurricane – Hurricane George – and that we couldn't fly to San Antonio. We had to go to the capital city instead, and stay in a hotel there for the night, until the hurricane passed. Anyway, we weren't too worried, we thought – it's only one night... and they told us that we were going to a five-star hotel, next to the beach, with a swimming pool, so we were quite happy at that point....

## **Part II**

M: Anyway we arrived at the hotel, the Hotel Paradiso it was called, what a joke! They said it was a five-star hotel, but I wouldn't give it one star! It was just awful.... I don't know how to describe it...it was an awful building, yes, it was next to the sea, but it wasn't a beach! Just a few rocks, and the sea was so dirty you couldn't swim in it. There were big ships travelling past, and the sea was all polluted and brown. It looked horrible.

R: So we went to look at the swimming pool, but that was no better. It wasn't a nice blue colour, like you'd expect. It was a sort of greeny-black colour and as we looked more closely and we realised it was full of frogs. There were hundreds and hundreds of frogs in it. So, after that obviously we didn't use it.

M: And then there was the food. Do you remember the flood?

R: I'll never forget it! The first morning, we went downstairs for breakfast, expecting to have you know, the usual things you get in hotels, bread, marmalade, fruit, coffee and we were very surprised instead to see lots of different types of vegetables, carrots, peas, cabbage and a big bowl of lettuce! But anyway, I was really, really hungry so I decided to have some of the lettuce until I saw that it was moving! The leaves of lettuce were slowly moving around the bowl, and I looked a bit more closely and saw that the lettuce bowl was full of ants, hundreds of them, and there were so many that they were actually moving the lettuce leaves! After that, we didn't eat in the hotel again. We didn't want to.

M: The worst part though, was when the hurricane arrived. That was really frightening. It was a fifteen-storey hotel so you felt really terrified with all that wind, and rain, and the windows banging, and the trees crashing outside... It was terrible.

R: And then they told us that because of the hurricane, there were no flights to San Antonio, and that we had to stay for another three more days in that place! There was nothing to do! Nowhere to go! We couldn't eat the food! It was noisy and dirty. We just couldn't believe that it could happen.

M: so when we finally arrived in San Antonio, we were five days late. And the worst thing was that Hurricane George had never arrived there. The weather had been perfect in San Antonio all the time!

## EXERCISES

- Work in pairs (A and B) and act out the following conversation:  
A is Mark/Rosa. Tell a friend about the holiday you are planning (invent any details that you do not know from the brochure above)  
B is Mark/ Rosa's friend. Ask about the holiday, for example:  
Where are you going?  
What's the hotel like?  
How long is the journey?

- Complete the sentences about Part I:

- The holiday cost ... each.
- They went in the month of ... because the brochure said ...
- Their flight was delayed because ...
- The flight was ... hours late.
- They couldn't fly to San Antonio because ...
- They flew to ... instead .

- Part 2: Say if the statements are true or false?

- Then Hotel Paradiso was a typical five-star hotel
- There was a sandy beach next to the hotel.
- The swimming pool was empty.
- They had vegetables for breakfast.
- There were lots of ants in the bowl of lettuce.
- The most frightening part of the holiday was the flight to San Antonio.
- They arrived in San Antonio five days late.
- Hurricane George never got to San Antonio.

- Write seven sentences about yourself on a piece of paper, using the ideas below:

- My home is in the city centre/town centre/near the town centre/in the suburbs.
- At 2 p.m I'm usually at home/at school/at university/at work/other.
- I prefer to study in the morning/in the afternoon/in the evening/at night.

- My favourite place to go on holiday is on the coast/in the north (south/east/west) of (my country).
- My school/ college/office is in the centre/in the east (west/north/south) of (my town).
- I usually sit on the right/on the left/in the middle of the class.

## **Text №12**

### **ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES**

#### **Part I**

English is the language of the people of England. England is in the south of the island of Great Britain. In the north of this island Scotland lies. To the west of England is Wales. The island of Ireland lies to the west of Great Britain. More than a thousand years ago the people who lived in these four countries were different and they spoke different languages.

Great Britain is not a large country. It is much smaller than France or Norway and smaller than Finland. England is the largest part of Great Britain and it has always been the strongest. Today the official name of Great Britain is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. English is the official language in all parts of the country.

In the United States of America English is called the national language, the language of the American nation. Four hundred years ago some English people sailed to North America to live there, and they brought the English language to this new country. After them people came from all the countries of Europe. And they all learned English, but they made it a little different from British English. In the USA now people speak American English. Very many words are the same in American and in British English, but the American people do not speak the English language in the same way as people do in England.

#### **Part II**

Canada is to the north of the United States of America. It is a very large country, larger than the United States. In Canada many people speak English because they also came from England many years ago. But in some parts of Canada they speak French. The people who live in these parts came to Canada from France. Canada has two official languages – English and French.

If you look at Australia on the map of the world, you will see that it is to the south of the Equator. It is the smallest continent and the largest island on the map. It is sometimes called the fifth continent. Australia is also an English-speaking country. In all countries which lie to the south of the Equator, the seasons are not the same as they are in the countries to the north of the Equator. In Australia the hottest summer month is January. And the coldest winter month is June. But June is not very cold. Snow falls only on the mountains there, and there are not many mountains in Australia. It is colder in the south of Australia and hotter in the north.

New Zealand is not far from Australia, but it is a great distance from Britain. When it is the middle of the night in Britain, it is the middle of the next day in New Zealand. The seasons in New Zealand are also different from what they are in Britain. From December to February it is summer, from March to May it is autumn, from June to August it is winter, and from September to November it is spring. The weather in summer is not very hot in the greater part of the country and the days in winter are not very cold. Snow falls on the mountains and sometimes in the far south of the country. The national language in New Zealand is also English. Many people from England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland came to live in Australia and New Zealand many years ago.

### EXERCISES

- Answer the questions:
  - What are the four parts of Great Britain?
  - Which part of Great Britain is the largest?
  - What is the official language in Great Britain?
  - What is the national language in the United States of America?
  - Who brought the English language to America?
  - Where is Canada?
  - What languages do people speak in Canada?
  - What are the winter and summer months in Australia?
  - Where is New Zealand?

### Text №13

### GLASGOW

Glasgow is the third largest city in Great Britain. It lies on the river Clyde in

Scotland. Glasgow is a very old city. The University of Glasgow was founded in 1450. The famous English writer Daniel Defoe said that Glasgow was the cleanest and most beautiful city in Great Britain. James Watt studied at Glasgow University. He became a famous engineer and constructed a steam engine. Scotland is rich in coal and iron, so Glasgow grew into a large city. There are big engineering plants and textile factories in Glasgow. Ships which are built in the shipyards of Glasgow sail in many seas and oceans. Glasgow port is the fourth important port in Britain.

Glasgow University is the centre of culture in the city. People from different countries visit the old university. They see the examination halls, the Library and the Museum with old books and pictures.

The centre of the city is George Square. In the middle of it there is a monument to Walter Scott – a great English writer. There are a lot of parks and squares in Glasgow.

### EXERCISES

- Answer the questions:
- Where is Glasgow?
- What English writer liked Glasgow very much?
- When was the University of Glasgow founded?

#### Text №14

### CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge is the second oldest university city in Great Britain after Oxford. Cambridge is on the river Cam and takes its name from this river. There are twenty-nine colleges in Cambridge. A large part of the population of the city are teachers and students. All students have to live in Cambridge while they study there. In the streets of Cambridge you can see many young men wearing dark blue or black clothes and black square caps. The tradition goes back to the old times when the students had to wear dark clothes. They could not play games or sing song and dance in those days, they could not fish either.

Many great men have studied at Cambridge: Cromwell, Newton, Byron, Darwin and others. The great Russian scientist I. P. Pavlov came to Cambridge in 1912 to receive the degree of Honorary Doctor of Cambridge. The students made him a present of a toy dog. Cambridge is known all over the world. Many famous scientists have worked there:

Rutherford, Kapitza and others.

### EXERCISES

- Find in the following in the text:
  1. Edinburgh lies on seven hills.
  2. The modern town is planned well.
  3. Many great men lived and worked in Edinburgh.
- Answer the questions:
  - Where is Cambridge?
  - How many colleges are there at Cambridge?
  - What kind of clothes do the students at Cambridge wear?
  - What great men studied at Cambridge?
  - Why did I. P. Pavlov come to Cambridge in 1912?

### ADDITIONAL READING

#### NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand is in the South Pacific, about one thousand hundred miles south-east of Australia. It's not a very big country, about the same size as Great Britain, or Japan but it has a much smaller population, only 3.5 million. There are two official languages, English and Maori. I suppose when most people think of New Zealand they think of New Zealand lamb or butter and it's true that a lot of the country is farmland. There are a lot of sheep and cows! But there's a lot more to it than that. There are people who say that it's the most beautiful, unspoilt country in the world. I don't know about that, but it's certainly an amazing place to visit. There are so many different types of scenery and climate. We

have almost everything. In the north there are fantastic beaches, mountains, volcanoes, even a small area of desert, and the climate is pleasant and warm, usually around twenty-five degrees in the summer, while in the south of the country the temperatures are lower, especially in winter, and the scenery is almost like Norway or Canada. There are glaciers, fjords, and lots of snow-covered mountains where you can go skiing. There are so many different things to see and to do.

New Zealand is divided into two main islands, North Island and South Island. Then to the south of South Island there's a much smaller island called Stewart Island, but anyway the most important islands are North and South Island and between them there's a small sea called the Cook Straits. Most people live on the North Island, and that's where the two biggest cities are, Wellington the capital city, and Auckland which is actually the biggest city in terms of population: over one million people live there. Wellington is on the south coast of North Island, on the Cook Straits to the west side. It's a very nice place with a beautiful harbor. Auckland is in the north east of North Island, on the coast too. People call it 'the city of sails' because of all the sailing boats there, and all the region to the north of Auckland is known as Northland. It's the hottest part of the country with lots and lots of beaches, very popular for holidays. Both North and South Island are very mountainous. There are several volcanoes on North Island, and South Island is really divided into two halves by a big range of mountains that runs from north to south, called the Southern Alps. They're very, very beautiful, with lots of lakes and fjords in the south. That's the area where most people go skiing, or do other adventure sports such as climbing or bungee jumping.

## **LONDON**

London is the British capital and one of the biggest cities in the world. The oldest part of London is called the City. It is small, but it is very important. Two thousand years ago a town was built here. For hundreds of years people lived and worked there, but now very many of the old houses have gone. Thousands of people come here every morning to work in large offices.

To the east is the large area called the East End. This is London's poorest part, where people of all colours live. The very large riverside docks in the East End make London one of the three largest ports in the world.

To the west are the fine shops and theatres of the area known as the West End. This part is best known to rich tourists. Oxford Street with its great department stores is the favorite street for shopping. In the West End there are beautiful parks, too. The largest

of all London's parks is the Hyde Park.

The Houses of Parliament are along the bank of the Thames and Parliament Square is one of many London squares. Some of them are small, others are large and busy, like Trafalgar Square.

## WASHINGTON

Washington is the capital of the United States of America. It has been the seat of the American government since 1800. George Washington, the first American president, chose the place where the city now stands to build the capital, and the city was named after George Washington.

Washington has a lot of interesting things to see and it is difficult to find a park, a square or an open area there without a monument or a memorial. The best-known ones are the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument.

Washington has many other famous buildings and monuments – the Library of Congress, the Capitol, the National Gallery of Art and others.

The Capitol rises in the centre of the city. Not far from the Capitol is the Library of Congress, which is the largest library in the USA. The National Gallery of Art is one of the finest picture galleries in America.

The White House is the home of the president.

Tourists usually see only one, the smaller part of Washington – its north-west district, where rich people live. They are not taken to the slums.

Washington has always been the place of working people's demonstrations. They come to the capital to protest against unemployment, and to take part in demonstrations against war.

## RUSSIA

Our country, which is called Russia, is the largest country in the world. It lies both in Europe and Asia. The shortest distance from west to east is more than nine thousand kilometers, and the shortest distance from north to south is more than four and a half thousand kilometers. Russia is bounded by twelve countries on land, and it is washed



by three oceans. The largest seaports are Murmansk, Leningrad, Odessa, Vladivostok. The Black Sea coast is a very popular place for people who prefer to spend their holidays at the seaside.

The climate of our great country differs from one part to another. The eastern part of the country is warmer in summer than the western part, but the winter is much colder in the east. The climate on the Black Sea is subtropical. Some northern and southern parts are very cold or very hot.

Some parts of the country are covered with mountains and hills. Large regions in the north, in the south and in the east are not very good for man and few people live there. It is difficult to develop agriculture and industry in these regions, but many young people go there to build new towns, factories, railways and canals.

Russia has many rivers. Twenty-two of them are more than one thousand kilometers long. They flow into seas or oceans carrying ships and boats to large and small ports to develop new industrial centres.

### **DARING SAILORS**

About five hundred years ago at a seaport in Italy, a little boy was helping his father in a workshop. The boy's name was Christopher Columbus. Little Christopher Columbus was not fond of his work. He loved the sea, he loved to watch the ships that came from many parts of the world. He loved to watch the sailors as they unloaded the monkeys, the bright parrots, the elephant tusks and the other wonderful things which they had brought from the new strange land of Africa. He liked to talk to the sailors about the countries they had sailed to. The sailors used to tell him a lot about their adventures and about the dangers they had met with when they were sailing to Asia around Africa.

Then the boy learned how to make maps, and he soon became very clever at his work. After a time, it became Columbus's dream to sail to the countries he had heard of. He read Marco Polo's book and other books which explained how to travel to China and India. He studied hard the map of the world as sailors and travelers knew it then.

At last he felt that he could not stay at home any longer and when he was 14 years old he went off to sea. As time went on Columbus made many voyage to different countries, but his dream was to discover new continents and lands which people had not yet been to.

At that time the seamen did not sail very far from land as it was very dangerous and they knew very little about seas and oceans. They also believed that the Earth was flat, and that those who sailed across the ocean to the west would come to the edge of the

earth and fall off.

It was about this time that some astronomers said that the Earth was a ball. "If that is true," Columbus thought, "then I can sail to the west and reach the east." So he made up his mind to sail to the west and to find a new way to India. That was his great dream. But he needed ships and money, and he had nothing. Columbus told kings and queens what he wanted to do, but they did not believe him that it was possible to sail to the west and to reach India.

At last the king and queen of Spain agreed to help Columbus. They gave him three small ships and about a hundred men. On August 3, 1492 the three sailed from Spain to the west.

They sailed into the Atlantic Ocean and soon reached the Canary Islands. People then thought that these islands were the end of the world. Seamen had never sailed beyond them and Columbus's men were afraid to sail farther west, but Columbus made them do it.

"In my time," said an old sailor, "I have heard stories about ships which fell off the earth at the end of the sea. I believe they are true stories."

"They are true," said another sailor, "and so are many other, just as bad."

While the men were telling one another these stories, the three ships sailed on and on. The sailors thought of Spain behind them. Columbus thought of Asia, which he thought was in front of him.

They sailed for more than forty days and still they saw no land. The sailors tried to make Columbus turn and sail back home, but he didn't want to and made them go on. As the days went by, there were many signs that land was not far off and the sailors felt happier. Sometimes birds flew in the blue summer sky. Once a sailor cried, "Look, a tree!" There in the water they saw a branch of a tree with fresh berries on it. The sailors knew that land could not be far away.

A few days later Columbus and some of his men got into their boats and landed on a shore. On the shore they saw strange trees, plants, animals and birds. They saw strange men, some of them had painted their bodies red, others had blue faces.

It was October the twelfth, 1492. Columbus's three ships had crossed the Atlantic Ocean. It had taken them about three months to do it. A new unknown world lay before the men's eyes, but Columbus thought it was India. He gave the name of San Salvador to the island where they landed.

Columbus made several more voyages across the Atlantic Ocean. He discovered a few more islands, but he never knew that he had made one of the most wonderful voyages in the history of the world. He never knew that he opened the way to the

discovery of a new continent.

A few years later a man named Amerigo Vespucci sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and explored the lands which Columbus had discovered. He found it was not India.

“It is a new world,” he said. For a long time the land had no name and people called it “The New World”. But later they gave it the name of America after Amerigo Vespucci.

### **NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE TO A WILLING HEART!**

Since the day Greta came into his life Paul has had no time to feel lonely. After their unforgettable trip by Eurostar train to Paris Paul and Greta spend every weekend together. Greta is such a wonder! Whenever Paul sees her, his spirits rise. But the thing he loves most about Greta is that you don't have to make yourself out to be a big man. She just takes you as you are, with all your bad points as well as good. And what a good traveling companion she is! With Greta at his side Paul could go anywhere!

His most cherished dream has always been to visit the United States of America. There's so much to do, see and discover there. The trip is rather expensive, so Paul can't afford it at the moment. But some day he'll make it! In his mind Paul can already see himself riding a cable car in San Francisco and winning a fortune in the casinos of Las Vegas. What an exciting trip it is going to be! He'll have an opportunity to see both magnificent Grand Canyon and the wonderful world of Disneyland, to say nothing of Universal States Florida, the largest working film and television production studio outside Hollywood. He'll enjoy breathtaking views from the Pacific Coast highway and see a lot of other places, big and small, each with its own character. Paul is going to get the most out of his holiday and experience the special atmosphere of the Golden West.

As far as Paul knows, Transatlantic Airways offers another way to explore America – “East Coast fly-drive” from Boston. It's the perfect way to see the land of the motel and the freeway: America is made for drivers. American cars are easy to drive, big, comfortable, and the petrol is much cheaper than in Europe. You book your first night's accommodation in a hotel near the airport and they deliver your car in the morning. Then you can go wherever you like. You can drive either west across New York State to Niagara Falls or south through the beautiful hills of Connecticut. True, the journey is quite tiring for a person at the wheel but if Greta chooses to keep Paul's company, they can take it in turns to drive, so the distances won't seem too long. Neither he nor Greta has ever gone on a trip like that. It will be the chance of a lifetime. How can you miss it?

Driving a car won't be a problem. Paul loves it. The thing he really hates is flying. He prefers trains. Paul doesn't even remember the last time he travelled by plane. In his opinion trains are much better than planes: they are cheaper, safer and more comfortable. You can walk around, look out the window, get off at the stops to stretch your legs and eat the food you like. Yes, trains are slower but speed isn't everything after all. Comfort and safety are much more important. And you won't suffer from jet lag. But this time Paul has no choice. Whether he likes it or not, he'll have to take the plane. He doesn't know when he'll save up enough money to pay his travelling expenses. But he is sure that sooner or later his dream will come true. As they say, nothing is impossible to a willing heart!

## **EDINBURGH**

Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland and one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. It lies on seven hills and goes down those hills to the sea. The highest hill is three hundred metres above the sea. From the street in the centre of the city you can see ships coming to Edinburgh from different countries of the world.

In the "old town" the streets are narrow. The tall houses with narrow windows go up the hills to Edinburgh castle which is one thousand years old. The modern town lies at the foot of the hills. The streets here are straight and well planned, so it is easy to walk in the city when you go sightseeing in Edinburgh. The people say that only two cities in the world are so well planned – Edinburgh and Leningrad.

Many great men have lived and worked in Edinburgh. Robert Burns, the great Scottish poet, published his first book of poems in Edinburgh. There is a monument to him in the city. Walter Scott, the father of the historical novel in world literature, was born in Edinburgh. The monument to Walter Scott is in the main street of the city. Robert Louis Stevenson, a famous English writer, was born and lived in Edinburgh. He loved the city and wrote about it in his best novels.

## **DICKENS AND A DOLL**

Charles Dickens was very fond of children. One morning he was walking in the little square opposite his house in London. On a bench he saw a little girl who was playing with a big doll. Suddenly the doll fell to the ground and broke. The girl began to cry. Dickens went up to her and said: "Come to my house, little girl, and we shall see if we can find another doll there."

So, they went to Dickens's house and into the children's room, where there were a lot of dolls. Dickens took a big pretty doll and gave it to the little girl. She was happy to have a new doll. She thanked Dickens and ran home.

The girl's parents did not know who the kind man was. But they wanted to send him a present and thank him. So, the next day they sent their daughter to Dickens with a book. When Dickens opened the book, he saw that it was "David Copperfield", one of his novels.

### **A CAT CAN FIND ITS WAY HOME**

For some years I lived in London and had a small room in the house of Mrs Brown who had two daughters; they were school-girls. In summer when school was over, she usually sent the girls to their grandmother, who lived on a farm a hundred kilometres from London.

There was a cat in Mrs. Brown's house which had a kitten seven months old. Mrs. Brown decided that the cat and its kitten must go to the country, too. They put the cat and the kitten into a basket and the girls left London by the morning train. Two days later, Mrs. Brown got a letter from her mother, which said that the girls were on the farm, the cat was there too, but the kitten ran away the same evening.

A month passed and one morning a dirty cat ran into Mrs. Brown's kitchen. Mrs. Brown tried to catch it, but she could not; the cat ran into a corner under the cupboard. Then Mrs. Brown called it by the kitten's name and the poor cat came out of the corner and went up to her. Mrs. Brown brought the kitten into my room and showed it to me. We decided that it was her kitten, but it was very dirty and very thin. How the cat could run a hundred kilometers over the country and then find its way in the streets of London we did not understand.

### **JAMES COOK**

**(1728—1779)**

James Cook was a great English sailor who discovered many new lands and gave them English names. James Cook was born in a small village near the sea. At the age of thirteen he left school and helped his father on the farm. When the boy was seventeen, he found work in a shop. At that time James decided to be a sailor. He went to a small town in the south of England, got work there on a ship and learned his profession.

After he worked for some years on different ships, James Cook joined the navy

and began to learn astronomy. He explored the coasts of England, crossed the Atlantic Ocean and explored some rivers in Canada.

In 1768 Captain Cook sailed from England to the Pacific Ocean. The ship was small. For many months the sailors did not see land. One day they came near some islands. They were the islands of New Zealand. Captain Cook found a strait between the two islands. Some years later it was called "Cook Strait". The sailors did not stop in New Zealand, but sailed to find new lands.

In April 1771 the sailors saw land and found a place where they could stop. It was Australia. The sailors saw many different trees and beautiful flowers on the coast. And that part of Australia was named New South Wales as it was very much like Wales in England. Captain Cook put up the English flag there.

The ship visited the island of New Guinea and in 1771 came back to England.

Captain Cook sailed to the South Seas again and in 1779 died on the Hawaiian Islands.

### **HOLIDAYS IN PORTUGAL**

(The writer of this letter is a Portuguese girl who is in London. The letter is to a French girl who was studying in London with her, but who is now back in France.)

27 \_\_\_ Road,  
London, N.W.5.

3 July 19 \_\_\_

Dear Lucille,

I've been very busy the last two or three months, so please forgive me for not answering your letter sooner. I've had to prepare for my examinations. Now they're over, and I'm anxiously waiting to see the results. I worked very hard. I even gave up my tennis. The weather didn't help me at all. We've had weeks of warm, sunny weather, and it was hard having to stay indoors at a desk covered with books. When I say the weather was warm, I mean warm for England, of course. It hasn't been as hot as in my country or yours.

Now that the exams are over I'm trying to catch up with my letter writing. I'm afraid I fell behind with it during the spring. But I'm not giving all my time to correspondence. I've had some short holidays – one up the Thames by motor-boat to Oxford, another by motor-boat to Stratford, where I went to the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, and another (by train this time) to North Wales, where I climbed Snowdon.

Snowdon's the highest mountain in England and Wales. It's only about 3,000 feet, but there's some good rock climbing.

You tell me you'd like to visit Portugal this summer for a holiday, and ask me what places you should visit. I'm delighted you know you're likely to have a few weeks in my country, and I wish I could be at home to welcome you and take you round. But I'm spending the summer here. I want to see the Lake District and Scotland before I go back to Lisbon and start teaching.

It's a pity you have to visit Portugal in the summer, but now that you're a college teacher you probably have to take your holidays in July and August. Spring is the best time. There are wonderful wild flowers everywhere in the late winter and spring. When the summer comes, the hot sun bakes the earth brown. And the summer heat in Portugal is not so unbearable as in some parts of southern Europe. You'll find Portugal hotter than many parts of France, perhaps, but no part of Portugal is far from the sea. There's usually a fresh breeze, and the nights are generally cool.

You must visit Lisbon. The best approach to Lisbon is, I think, by sea. You sail up the Tagus past Estoril and see the city, which is really beautiful, built on hills sloping down to the wide river. The houses have brightly-coloured walls, yellow, green, tomato-red, and, of course, white. The streets are bordered with flowering trees. Many of the older houses and churches are covered with blue and white tiles, some with patterns on them and others with pictures. This kind of tile was introduced into Portugal by the Moors, but we've improved it. We use the tiles for decoration both indoors and out.

If you want good bathing, there are several good beaches between Lisbon and Estoril, fifteen miles down the river. There are plenty of public tennis courts, and plenty of good restaurants. If you'd like to see a fishing town, go to Cascais, about a mile from Estoril. You'll enjoy seeing the fishermen's nets laid out on the streets to dry, and their boats drawn up on the beach.

You must go to Sintra in the hills, nine miles behind Estoril. It's a wonderful place for anyone interested in architecture like you are. There are two lovely royal palaces. The eighteenth-century Seteais Palace is interesting, too, but it has been made into a luxury hotel, and is, I'm sure, too expensive for you. Teachers are not often well paid, are they?

Have you ever seen bull-fights? You can see them in Portugal. Go to Villa Franca if you want to see a bull-fight. Our bull-fights are not like those in Spain. The bull's horns are padded, so there's no danger to life. The bulls are not killed.

I envy you your cycling and camping holiday. It's much more fun than flying, or going by train. You'll be going through the Douro region on your way south, but you'll

be too early for the grape harvest. The Douro region is where port wine comes from. Did you know that we've been sending port wine to England for three hundred years, and that it's one of our most valuable exports?

One day I want to have a holiday in your country. I travelled through France on my way to Rome in 1950. It was the Holy Year, you remember, and I was taken to Rome by my parents. We went by train and I particularly remember the journey along the Mediterranean coast. But what a lot of tunnels there are between Spezia and Genoa! That part of the coast has some of the most beautiful scenery I know. The tunnels succeed each other every fifty or sixty metres and the train rushes into and out of the sunshine. You catch sight of blue sea and a brown sandy beach. You see a group of half-naked people. For one second you see a woman in a red bathing dress throwing a large yellow rubber ball to a girl in a green bathing dress. You see the ball flying through the air and then the train rushes into a dark tunnel, and you can never know whether the ball was caught by those outstretched arms. It's like seeing still photographs from a film instead of seeing the film on the screen.

Well, I must stop. I hope you enjoy your holiday. Do write and tell me all about it when you get back. By the way, do you like cats? In Portugal we're very fond of cats, so I hope you like them. People leave bits of food on a newspaper outside their doors for homeless cats! Our family cook, Florentina argues every day with the fish-seller who comes to the back door. She enjoys trying to get his price down. After she's bought fish for the family, she starts another argument – this time about the price of the fish tails and heads she buys for our two cats.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Miranda

## LONDON

When we think of Paris, Rome, Madrid, Lisbon, Athens and other European capitals, we think of them as 'cities'. When we think of the whole of modern London, that great area covering several hundred square miles, we do not think of it as "a city", not even as a city and its suburbs. Modern London is not one city that has steadily expanded through the centuries; it is a number of cities, towns and villages that have, during the past centuries, grown together to make one vast urban area.

London today stretches for nearly thirty miles from north to south and for nearly



thirty miles from east to west. This is the area known as 'Greater London', with a population of nine million. The 'City of London' is a very small part of the whole; it is only one square mile in area, and the number of people who live and sleep in 'the City' is only about ten thousand.

If you could fly low over London, in a helicopter, for example, you would see below you the winding course of the River Thames, flowing from west to east and dividing London into the two parts known as the north bank and the south bank. The division between 'the City' and the 'West End', much more important, would be less obvious from this bird's-eye view.

If, from the air, we can pick out a few landmarks, we shall find it easier to understand how London has grown. Two landmarks stand out clearly: St Paul's Cathedral in the City, and, about two miles westwards, the group of buildings near Westminster Bridge, the Palace of Westminster (with the Houses of Parliament) and Westminster Abbey. Linking them we may see, if we are low enough, a main street called the Strand. It was so named because it followed the northern bank (or strand) of the Thames.

These two landmarks are a guide to the growth of London. Round St Paul's is the original London, the oldest part, with a history of almost two thousand years. Westminster, with its Palace and Abbey is six hundred years younger.

When the Romans came to Britain in the first century A.D., London was a small village. Many of the roads built by the Romans met at the point where London Bridge now stands. Parts of the Roman Wall, built in the second century, can still be seen. Today when deep foundations are dug for new buildings, Roman remains are sometimes found.

The first Norman King, William the Conqueror, was crowned in 1067 in Westminster Abbey, which had been built by Edward the Confessor, one of the last of the Saxon Kings. William built the Tower, still one of the most famous sights of London. For hundreds of years the Tower was used as a prison, and visitors today may see the exact spot where many great nobles were executed. The most popular sight, however, is probably the strongly guarded room in which the Crown Jewels are kept and displayed.

Old St Paul's was also built during Norman times. It was burnt down in the Great Fire that destroyed London in 1666. The cathedral that replaced it, the most striking building in the City today, was designed by Sir Christopher Wren, the architect who designed so many of the other City churches. Many of these were destroyed or badly damaged by bombing during the Second World War. St Paul's, though it was hit, escaped the fires that destroyed many of the buildings all round it.

As, during the Middle Ages, London increased in size and wealth, the old City and the area round the Royal Palace at Westminster became the two chief centres. The

nobles, bishops, judges, and others who were connected with the Court lived in or near Westminster. This explains how the part of London that we now call the West End came into being.

The Court moved to St. James's in the eighteenth century, and to Buckingham Palace in the nineteenth century. Both of these are in the City of Westminster. Here, and farther west, are the finest theatres, cinemas and concert halls, the largest museums, the most luxurious hotels, the largest department stores, and the most famous shops. The name 'West End' came to be associated with wealth, luxury, and goods of high quality. Perhaps you have seen, in your own country or in other countries in Europe, cigarettes and other articles with the trade-mark 'West End' used because it suggests high quality.

Visitors with plenty of money to spend and who come chiefly for enjoyment are likely to pass most of their time in the West End. Those who come to learn about London's history will find much to interest them in the City. Here most of the streets are narrow, and traffic is often very slow. Many of these narrow streets run down to the Thames, and at the end of many of them ware-houses can be seen. The City is concerned with finance, but it is also a market for goods of almost every kind, from all parts of the world.

The port of London is to the east of the City. Here, today, are miles and miles of docks, and the great industrial areas that depend upon shipping. This is the East End of London, unattractive in appearance, but very important to the country's commerce. On the river there are ocean-going ships, and lines of barges pulled along by tugs. Ships up to 6,000 tons can come as far as London Bridge, below which is the part of the river called the Pool. They can pass under Tower Bridge. It takes only five minutes to raise the two halves of the roadway to allow a ship to pass.

If you walk westwards from St Paul's, you reach Fleet Street, a name familiar to people in many parts of the world. Here, and in the side streets running from it, the most important newspapers and news-agencies have their offices. If you are told that someone works in Fleet Street, you know that he is a journalist, or is in some way or other connected with journalism. At most hours of the day or night there are hundreds of motor vans leaving the newspaper offices with their heavy loads, some for the railway stations and others off to news-agents throughout London.

The ancient City of London has always governed itself and has not shared in the government of the rest of London. It has never been willing to take responsibility for the great metropolis that has grown up around it. The City has its own Lord Mayor and its own Corporation. Ever since 1215 the Lord Mayor has been chosen annually. He begins his duties on 8 November, and on the following day there is a pageant and procession

which is known as the Lord Mayor's Show.

The London County Council is comparatively young, for it was established only in 1889. Within the boundaries of the County of London there are twenty-eight metropolitan boroughs, each with its own mayor and its own council. It is the London County Council, however, not the separate boroughs, that is responsible for many of the public services. The L.C.C. is responsible for housing, education, and town-planning. It used to be responsible for London's trams, but trams have now disappeared from the streets. The buses, trolley-buses, and coaches are now the responsibility of London Transport.

Some of the boroughs in the County of London are probably known to few people outside Great Britain. Chelsea is known to many because of the great writers (for example Turner and Whistler) who have lived there. The Royal Borough of Kensington, too, is well known, partly because of the royal palace and Kensington Gardens, and partly because of the large museums within its boundaries. Greenwich is known because Greenwich time, the time for the meridian of Greenwich, is standard time in Britain and some other countries.

Some of these boroughs were, in the past, towns that stood in the country, surrounded by open fields. They still have their own market places and their own High Streets. The people who live in them like to think of themselves not as Londoners but as citizens of Southwark, Battersea, Lambeth, or Woolwich.

Greater London, with its nine million population, includes not only the City and the County of London, but the outer suburbs and much land that still looks, here and there, more rural than urban. It has no definite boundaries, like the County of London, but covers an area of about twenty-mile radius from Oxford Circus. Because London has grown so large, the Government has decided that it must spread no [farther](#). It is now surrounded by a 'green belt', a belt of agricultural and wooded land on which new buildings may be put up only with the permission of the planning authorities.

## GRAMMAR REFERENCE

### ИМЯ СУЩЕСТВИТЕЛЬНОЕ (THE NOUN)

Имена существительные в английском языке имеют два числа: единственное и множественное:

There is a lamp on the desk. There are lamps on the desks.

Имена существительные образуют множественное число путем прибавления к форме единственного числа окончания -s или -es. Это окончание читается [s] после глухих согласных, [z] после звонких согласных и гласных и [ɪz] после шипящих и свистящих звуков.

Исключения:

man-men

woman-women

foot-feet

child-children

Нарицательные имена существительные делятся на исчисляемые и неисчисляемые. Исчисляемые существительные обозначают объекты, которые можно пересчитать. Они употребляются как в единственном, так и во множественном числе:

There are seven days in a week.

Неисчисляемые существительные обозначают понятия, которые нельзя пересчитать. К ним относятся названия веществ и слова, обозначающие отвлеченные понятия. Они употребляются в единственном числе:

Bring me some water, please! We fight for peace.

Имена существительные, обозначающие вещества, и отвлеченные существительные могут употребляться как исчисляемые, когда речь идет об отдельных предметах из данного вещества (материала) или конкретных объектах:

The house was built of stone. They have brought stones in the bag.

Для обозначения принадлежности предмета какому-либо лицу (лицам) в английском языке употребляется специальная, так называемая притяжательная форма существительных.

Jack's father. My brother's friend. George's sister.

Существительные во множественном числе с окончанием - (e)s, образуют притяжательную форму прибавлением только апострофа ' :

The boy's hands were cold.

### СТРАДАТЕЛЬНЫЙ ЗАЛОГ (THE PASSIVE VOICE)

Когда в центре внимания говорящего находится лицо или предмет, который подвергается действию, или когда нет необходимости упоминать лицо, совершающее действие, глагол употребляется в страдательном залоге:

Our country is washed by many seas.

This question was discussed by the students at the meeting.

These poems were written in 1816.

Страдательный залог образуется при помощи вспомогательного глагола to be и третьей основной формы смыслового глагола (Participle 2).

Временные формы страдательного залога употребляются согласно тем же правилам, что и соответствующие им временные формы действительного залога.

Например:

Present Indefinite Passive

I am always asked to come to the meetings of the English Club.

This paper is used for writing letters

Past Indefinite Passive

The exhibition was opened before Victory Day.

We were given a new time-table.

## THE PRESENT SIMPLE TENSE

The simple Present Tense is used:

1. To state simple facts in the present.

I study at the institute.

2. To express a habitual (repeated) action which is often indicated by the adverbs of frequency: always, usually, often, sometimes, seldom, rarely, whenever, occasionally,

He usually goes to work by bus. I always get up early.

The structure of the sentences which have adverbs of frequency:

Subject – Adverb – Verb.

I always speak English. You often do it. We seldom play chess. They sometimes watch TV. He never asks questions. She usually reads English books.

The structure of the sentences with the verb 'to be':

Subject – be – Adverb:

I am always in time for class. She is usually late for classes. You are often tired after work. They are never sick.

Note: Adverbs of indefinite tenses stand before the verb but usually follow the verb to be.

3. To express an action going on at the present moment with the verbs of feeling and perception and some other verbs which are not used in the Continuous Tense (Knowledge/Perception/Absolute Feelings/ Possession Verbs):

know, love, have, understand, like, belong, believe, hate, own, see, dislike, hear, want, seem, need.

## THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

The Present Continuous Tense is used:

1. To express an action going on at the moment of speaking. The time of the action is either indicated by an adverbial of present time (now, today, at the present moment, these days, this week) or understood.

She is watching TV now. I am doing my homework at the present moment.

2. To emphasize one's unfavorable attitude towards the action often repeated. In such a case the adverbs 'always', 'constantly' are generally used. The Russian equivalents are постоянно, вечно. He is always coming late.

3. To express an action referring to the nearest future (usually with verbs of motion: go, come, leave, start, arrive). They are leaving this week.

## ИМЯ ПРИЛАГАТЕЛЬНОЕ (THE ADJECTIVE)

Имена прилагательные в английском языке, в отличие от русского языка, не изменяются ни по родам, ни по числам, ни по падежам:

My brother is a fine boy.

Nina is a fine friend.

They spend a few fine days at the seaside.

Имена прилагательные в английском языке, как и в русском, имеют сравнительную и превосходную степень сравнения. Основная форма прилагательного не выражает сравнения и называется положительной степенью:

The Dnieper is a long river.

The Volga is a longer than the Don.

The Lena is the longest river in the USSR.

Односложные прилагательные (old, young, tall и др.) и двусложные, оканчивающиеся на -y, -er, -ow, -ble (heavy, yellow и др.), а также несколько других двусложных прилагательные образуют сравнительную степень путем прибавления к положительной степени суффикса -er, а превосходную степень - прибавлением суффикса -est:

She is younger than her sister.

This is the oldest building in our town.

Многосложные прилагательные и большинство двусложных (difficult, interesting, comfortable, active, famous и др.) образуют сравнительную степень при помощи слова more, а превосходную степень при помощи слова most, которые ставятся

перед прилагательным в положительной степени:

Tanya is more active than her brother.

Which is the most difficult exercise in this lesson?

## DEGREES OF COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES

Adjectives have three degrees of comparison: positive, comparative and superlative.

The comparative degree denotes a higher degree of a quality.

I am taller than my friend. The superlative degree denotes the highest degree of a quality.

She is the tallest girl among her friends.

The comparative and the superlative degrees are formed in the following way:

- by adding the suffixes -er, -est (synthetic way);
- by placing more and most before the adjective (analytical way);
- some adjectives have irregular forms of degrees of comparison ( see the table below).

Positive:

- long; big; easy; narrow; clever; simple; polite;
- interesting; modern;
- good; bad; many, much; little;
- far; old.

Comparative:

- longer; bigger; easier; narrowest; cleverer; simpler; politer;
- more interesting; more modern;
- better; worse; more; less;
- father; further; older; elder.

Superlative:

- (the) longest; (the) biggest; (the) easiest; (the) cleverest; (the) simplest; (the) politest;
- the most interesting; the most modern;
- (the) best; (the) worst; (the) most; (the) least;
- farthest; furthest; oldest; eldest;

Notes:

- monosyllabic adjectives; dissyllabic adjectives ending in -y, ow, er, le and those having a stress on the last syllable;
- most of disyllabic and polysyllabic adjectives;
- adjectives which have irregular forms of degrees of comparison;
- denote distance; denote time and distance; used to denote age; used when speaking about the members of the same family;

e) older (not elder) is used with the conjunctive than.

Nouns modified by an adjective in the superlative degree are used with the definite article.

She is the prettiest girl in her group.

The forms of the comparative degree of adjectives may be emphasized by the word 'much'.

She is much taller than her sister.

The film is much more interesting than the play.

Remember that most can be used to emphasize an adjective as well. In that case the noun in the singular has the indefinite article and it has no article in the plural. Most in this case means 'чрезвычайно', 'крайне'.

This is the most beautiful rose (самая красивая).

This is a most beautiful rose (чрезвычайно красивая).

These are the most beautiful roses.

These are most beautiful roses.

Way of Expressing Equal Degree of Quality:

She is as pretty as her sister.

My sister is as young as her friend.

Ann's friend is as clever as her cousin.

Way of expressing equal degree of quantity:

Mary has (got) as many (or few) books as her sister.

John has as much (or little) money as his friends (have).

Ways of expressing unequal degree of quality:

My room is not (isn't) so (as) large; good; comfortable; light; larger; as his room (Tom's room). John's room - is better; more/less; comfortable; lighter - than - their room.

Ways of expressing degree of quantity:

Mary hasn't so (as) many (few) relatives as I have (he has).

They haven't so (as) much (little) chalk as we have.

John has more (much (fewer)) relatives than Mary has (we have).

Ann has more (less) money in the purse than in the pocket.

Spelling:

1. If an adjective ends in a consonant preceded by a stressed short vowel the consonant is doubled.

thin-thinner-the thinnest

But: clean-cleaner- the cleanest

2. If an adjective ends in e the e dropped before -er, -est.



nice-nicer-the nicest

3. If an adjective ends in -y preceded by a consonant y is changed into i.

busy-busier-the busiest

But: gay-gayer-the gayest

## DEGREE OF COMPARISON OF ADVERBS

Degrees of comparison of adverbs are formed in the following way:

a) by adding -er, -est

b) by placing more and the most

c) some adverbs have irregular forms of comparison

Three adverbs form their comparative and superlative degrees in two ways:

often-oftener-more often-oftenest

quickly-quicker-quickest

slowly-more quickly slower-most quickly slowest-more slowly-most slowly

## SENTENCES WITH INTRODUCTORY "THERE"

There is/are sentences are used when speaking about some thing or person that is in a definite place.

There is a student in the classroom (В аудитории студент).

There are students in the classroom (В аудитории находятся студенты).

As the aim of the speaker is to inform about a thing or person such sentences can be answers to "what/who" -questions.

What is there on the table? – There is a book on the table.

Who are there in the sitting-room? – There are students in the sitting-room.

Remember! Don't mix up there is/are sentences with those speaking about the place that can be answers to "where/"-questions like the one.

The book is on the table.

Compare:

What? There is a book on the table. Where? the book is on the table.

Sentences with there is/are can be referred to the Past:

Last winter there was much snow.

And to the Future:

There will be lots of people at the party.

## THE SIMPLE PAST TENSE

Haydn was born in 1732. He died in 1809.

I went to school when I was seven.

He left for London yesterday (last month, two weeks ago etc.).

She put on her coat and hat, took her bag and left the room.

I often came (used to come) to that park to have a rest when I lived in that town.

When I was a child we always went (used to go) to the seaside in August.

The Simple Past is used:

- 1) To express an action which took place in the past. The action is cut off from the present. The time of the action is either indicated by some adverbial of past time (yesterday, yesterday evening, last week/month/Monday, an hour/week/month ago, formerly, the other day, in 1986, etc.) or understood. When speaking about past actions, it is used after when – an interrogative adverb, and also after when – a conjunctive adverb.
- 2) To express a succession of past actions.
- 3) To express habitual actions in the past. Such actions are also expressed by used to + Infinitive.

The Simple Past is translated into Russian by the Past Tense of either the perfective or the imperfective aspect.

I wrote a composition yesterday. Я (на)писал сочинение вчера.

## THE PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE

1) What were you doing a) at 3 o'clock yesterday? b) when I came? – I was writing a letter to my friend.

2) It was snowing the whole day yesterday.

The past Continuous Tense is used:

1) To express an action taking place at a fixed moment in the past. The moment is fixed: a) by stating the time or b) by another past action.

2) To express an action which was taking place during a certain period of time in the past.

Notes: the past Continuous Tense is very often used in a sentence together with the Past Simple. When this happens, The Past Continuous usually refers to a longer "background" action or situation; the Simple Past usually refers to another action that happened in the middle of the longer one, or interrupted.

Hiddas was dancing, but when she saw me she stopped.

## THE SIMPLE FUTURE TENSE

The Simple Future Tense is formed by means of the auxiliary verb 'shall' for the first person singular and plural and the infinitive of the notional verb without the particle to.

I/ we shall arrive tomorrow.

He, she, you, they will arrive tomorrow.

The contracted forms are: I'll, he'll, she'll, we'll, you'll, they'll.

The auxiliary verbs shall and will are used to build the interrogative and the negative forms.

Shall we be back in time?

We shall not be back in time.

## THE PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

The Present Perfect Tense is formed by Simple Present of the auxiliary verb to have and Participle II (2) (the third form) of the notional verb.

I/we/you/they have listened to this text.

He/she has listened to this text.

The Present Perfect Tense is used to express an action completed by the present moment.

1) We often use the Present Perfect Tense to talk about actions and situations which began in the past and which have continued up to the present moment (up to the moment when we speak or just before).

I have lived in Greece since in 1986.

We've known each other for a long time.

We also use the Present Perfect to talk about repeated or habitual actions which have happened up to the present.

I've often wondered where she gets her money.

He has attended lectures regularly (this term).

3) We also use the Present Perfect to talk about indefinite events which have happened in a period leading up to the present time.

Have you ever been to London?

4) The Present Perfect is often used to talk about past actions and events with results in the present time.

The taxi has arrived (it's now here). Her doll has been broken (it's still not mended).

## VERBS WITH TWO OBJECTS

- Envy

I envy you your new scooter.

He envied me my holiday in Greece.

I don't envy him his bad-tempered wife. (i.e. I'm glad she isn't my wife).

I don't envy you the job (i.e. I'm glad I haven't to do the work).

- Ask

May I ask you a question?

Shall we ask that policeman the way to the station?

Ask him his name.

The second object may be a clause:

Ask them what they want.

He asked me where I'd come from.

- Save (make unnecessary)

That will save me a lot of trouble.

Can't I save you the trouble of doing that?

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