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Саратовского государственного университета им. Н.Г. Чернышевского

Л.П.ОСТАШЕВА

Man in the micro-and macrocosm

Учебное пособие

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Учебное пособие "Man in the micro-and macrocosm" адресовано широкой аудитории, изучающей английский язык: студентам, изучающим английский язык в качестве второго иностранного, студентам неязыковых специальностей вуза а также учащимся старших классов, находящимся на среднем и продвинутом уровнях языковой компетенции. Спектр затрагиваемых тем - микро и макрокосм человека, его характер и стиль жизни, отношения с людьми и родителями, проблемы в учебе и в карьере, судьба людей "больших" и "маленьких" - в нашей стране и в англоязычных странах.

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**Учебное пособие по английскому языку
"Man in the micro-and macrocosm"**

(автор-составитель Осташева Л.П.)

Учебное пособие "Man in the micro-and macrosm" адресовано широкой аудитории, изучающей английский язык: студентам неязыковых специальностей вуза а также учащимся старших классов, находящимся на среднем и продвинутом уровнях языковой компетенции. Само название пособия - "Микро-и макрокосмос человека" - указывает на круг затрагиваемых в нем тем: это сам человек и мир вокруг него, его характер и стиль жизни, отношения с людьми и родителями, проблемы в учебе и в карьере, судьба людей "больших" и "маленьких" - в нашей стране и в англоязычных странах. Пособие, по замыслу авторов-составителей, будет способствовать осознанию читающего его человека себя как единицы глобальной социо-и этно культуры. Все пособие выдержано в гуманистическом формате, оно провозглашает общечеловеческие ценности.

Корпус материала подобран по широкому тематическому спектру, выбор тем диктуется, во-первых, их универсальной значимостью для всех категорий изучающих английский язык, и, во-вторых, современным тезисом, что понимание реалий жизни зарубежных стран вносит вклад во владение самим языком (подборка текстов по англоязычным странам). Тексты занимательны по характеру.

Тексты носят не столько инструктивно-дидактический и информативный характер, сколько познавательный, полемически заостренный, вызывающий живое, искреннее стремление к дискуссии, узнаваемые жизненные ситуации (иногда негативного плана, что снимает налет менторского тона, зачастую присутствующего в пособиях аналогичного рода).

Выбор конкретного материала продиктован его *аутентичностью* и *адресной адаптированностью*, *современностью* языкового материала, наличием *культурологических и страноведческих* сведений, предоставляющих широкое поле для обсуждений и формирования кросс-культурных представлений и выработки ценностных жизненных ориентиров учащихся, *динамичностью* и *занимательностью сюжета*, что придает академическому процессу *дополнительную учебную мотивацию*. Комплекс указанных параметров способствует не только формированию языковых и речевых навыков и умений, но также и расширению общеобразовательного и гражданского кругозора.

Постулируется тезис, что язык является *средством* общения, а не самоцелью. Содержится много заданий дискуссионной направленности, предполагающих развитие навыков чтения разного вида и продуцирование неподготовленной речи.

Т.к. пособие не заменяет основной учебник, его *сопутствующими* базисными задачами являются закрепления навыков перевода, интериоризация лексики и синтаксических моделей, окказиональное обращение к грамматике (на перцептивном и репродуктивном уровнях).

Пособие составлено таким образом, что позволяет преподавателям реализовать собственную творческую манеру проведения урока, используя плюралистичекий подход.

Отдельные тексты прошли успешную апробацию как среди студенческой аудитории, так и у школьников старших классов лицеев.

UNIT I
WHO IS WHO?
THE WAY WE ARE

Grammar Material:

1. Indefinite tenses
2. General and Special Questions
3. Noun Noun word combinations ("stone wall" model) (adjectivisation of nouns)
4. Parts of Speech Conversion
5. Gerund
6. Degrees of Comparison

Text Material: A Teacher in Salisburg

- Additional Texts:**
1. A Life in the day of Chris Baines
 2. A Letter from America
 3. Diana Ross
 4. Superheroes
 5. A Life in the Day of Linda McCartney
 6. Six Dinner Sid
 7. Country Studies: The Royal Family
 8. Just for Fun Text ("Problems with Parents" Test)

Pre-Reading

Grammar and Vocabulary Exercises

Exercise 1. In the combination of Noun and Noun ("NN combination") (or in the in of nouns) the noun is the basic one and is translated as a noun;
the previous noun (nouns) are used and translated attributively:
e.g. stone (n.) - wall (n.) -> stone wall

School teacher, university student, Oxford professor, computer programm, instrument laboratory, laboratory head, headache (боль), folk dance, town folk, language school, terrace house, language course, cross country runner, weight lifter, lunch break (перерыв), spring term (четверть, семестр), summer holidays, treasure (сокровище) island, midsummer night dream, midsummer knight's (рыцарь) dream, log (бревно) fire, copybook marking (оценка), holiday time, book worm (червь), party leader, company president

Exercise 2. Form the degrees of comparison (positive and negative) according to the model:

Model: intelligent, more intelligent, the most intelligent
less intelligent, the least intelligent

bright, brighter, the brightest
less bright, the least bright

Kind, clever, efficient, happy, dear, talkative, curious, frank, expressive, professional, enthusiastic, rich, smart, important, cute, devoted, elegant, young, small, magnificent, keen, wonderful

Exercise 3. Compose the sentences, putting the adjectives in the positive or negative comparative degree. You can use adjectives from ex.2 or find them in the dictionary.
example: I wish my son were more serious.

my parents my friend(s) (friendly, close, tact ful, open-hearted,

my boy-friend	oppressive, talkative, caring,
I wish my brother/ sister	were considerate, rich, silly, objective, strict, grumbling,
my teachers	understanding, attentive, insistent, naughty
my group/room mates	cooperative, tactful, self-centred

Exercise 4. Translate the text. Do you want to have Vicky as a friend? Explain why.

The Nicest Person.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are very proud of their daughter Vicky. She's a very nice person. She's friendly, she's polite, she's smart, and she's talented. She's also very pretty.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith's friends and neighbours always compliment them about Vicky. They say she's the nicest person they know. They say, she's the friendliest, the most polite, the smartest and the most talented girl in the neighbourhood. They also think she's the prettiest.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith agree.

Exercise 5. In English a word can function as any part of speech. This phenomenon is called conversion. Mind the word order in the sentence and the position of the word under consideration.

Translate the sentences:

Example: In summer people prefer to drink cold water. (here "water" is a noun and is translated as "вода").

I *water* flowers every day ("water" is a verb and is translated as "поливаю").

Water lilies are very beautiful ("water" here is an adjective - "водяные").

- School teachers *work* hard.
School teachers' *work* is hard.
Work habits must be developed in childhood.
- Books for children are printed on good *paper* ..
We *paper* the walls every year.
I don't like *paper* flowers.
- Mr. Twister wanted to buy a *house* in Leningrad.
St. Petersburg's hotels can *house* thousands of tourists.
To be a *housewife* (homemaker) is a difficult job.
- A "Rothman" car won the first prize in the difficult Paris-Dakar *race*.
Borzoi dogs *race* at a speed of 90 km.p.h.
Race horses are usually very beautiful to look at.
- "My *own* garden is my own garden" said the Selfish Giant in the famous Oscar Wilde's fairy-tale.
The Royal family *own* great areas of land.
- I *wish* I could go home now.
Your *wish* will come true some day. Believe it.
- I *hope* you have understood the material by now. If not, there is no *hope* with you.

Exercise 6. The Indefinite (Simple) tenses often go with such adverbs of regularity/frequency as "often, always, seldom, etc", adverbial phrases and combinations every summer, from year to year: every 2 hours, etc". Remember that only Indefinite (Simple) is used with any adverbial of past time - "e.g." an hour ago, yesterday, last year", etc.

From "Never" to "Always"

Never - seldom- rarely -occasionally - from time to time - sometimes- as a rule- normally
- usually - regularly - frequently - often - Always.
Learn these words.

Exercise 7. Insert one of the corresponding adverbs of regularity/frequency in the sentences (see "From Never to Always", exercise 6).

1. Boys... cry. 2. Girls are... keen on heavy athletics. 3. My relatives... enjoy watching football. 4. A sick person must take medicines... 5. Now my friend lives far from me and I see him... 6. After leaving school many classmates continue to meet... 7. We remain friends and ... speak on the phone. 8. ... a dog lives 15-17 years. 9. I...congratulate my first teacher on the 1st of September. 10. It's bad that you visit your granny so...: she feels very lonely.

Exercise 8. Tell us what Jerry Lewis talks about. Begin each sentence with "J.L. says (that)...", "He thinks (that)..." or "He adds (that)...". Remember that in the Present Indefinite the 3d person Sing. verbs have the "s" ending.

Model: He says "I am 44".

He says (that) he is 44.

Jerry Lewis says: "I am 44. I am unmarried. I have my own house outside the centre of the town. I have got two younger brothers. I teach English in a local school. In the evening I often do marking and meet parents. I am also a keen runner and train the school team. Besides, we produce drama plays every year. This year the boys wrote and performed their own play. I also enjoy walking. I am very fond of gardening too. Then, I like cooking very much. Sometimes I go to the cinema, but I prefer the theatre. During holidays I love to sit and read, or relax. Sometimes I make a trip with my friends to Switzerland to ski. In summer I always go to France, because I like everything there. But I am happy where I am, in Salisbury: most of my friends are here and the city is a beautiful place. And of course, my work keeps me here. I shall stay here forever".

Exercise 9. Say the Past Indefinite form of the following verbs:

be, have, teach, do, meet, train, produce, enjoy, like, prefer, love, make, keep, say, think, add.

Exercise 10. Tell what Jerry Lewis talked about (see the text in exercise 8). Begin each sentence with "J.L. said (that)..." "He thought (that) ..." "He added (that)..."

Model: He says "I am 44".

He said (that) he was 44.

Exercise 11. Answer these questions about the future.

Recollect your answers in the year 2010.

Personal

1. How old will you be in the year 2010?
2. Where do you think your home will be?
3. Will you be married or single?
4. Will you have any children?
5. How often will you speak English? (a)every day; b)often; c)sometimes; d)not very often; e)never).

Work

1. What kind of job do you think you will have in the year 2010?
2. How important will these things be for you? (very important, not important).
a)a computer; b)the opportunity to retire early;

- c) the opportunity to share your job with another person;
- d) the opportunity to work abroad.

3. How many hours a week will you work?

Leisure

1. What will your hobbies be?
2. Will you be a vegetarian? (Yes, no)
3. Which of these things will you have in your house?
 - a) a video telephone; b) satellite TV; c) a robot;
 - d) solar heating.
4. What kind of clothes will be in fashion in 2010?

Technology

1. Will humans be on Mars by the year 2010? (Yes, no)
2. Will pollution be : a) a more serious problem than now?
 - b) a less serious problem than now?
3. Will there be a cure for a) AIDS; b) cancer?
4. How many nuclear weapons will be there?
 - a) more than today; b) the same number than now;
 - c) fewer than today; d) none.

Exercise 12. Put general and special questions to the sentences.

Example: My brother is a keen runner.

- Is your brother a professional runner?
- What sort of a runner is your brother (barrier runner, cross country runner)?

1. My mother is a teacher too. 2. She is keen on sports. 3. Some people are never serious. 4. Children are always happy. 5. The name of Pushkin is immortal. 6. The fate of Motherland is dear to every heart. 7. I was not right in this discussion, I am sorry.

Example: My brother teaches English to foreign students.

- Does your brother teach also German?
- Where does he teach foreign students?

1. I take on extra duties. 2. To keep myself fit, I take aerobics. 3. The theatre repertoire varies from year to year. 4. Sherlock Holmes enjoyed playing violin. 5. The teachers usually work hard. 6. She didn't go to France this year. 7. Only interesting work keeps me in the laboratory.

Exercise 13. Gerund . (Ving) means activity in progress, and not a completed act or separate phenomenon. Compare Russian "тяние, свечение, горение". The gerund can be preceded by "the, a" (the singing of birds); by possessive pronouns or nouns (his singing, Shalyapin's singing); by a preposition (without singing). The Gerund can be: the subject (Swimming is my favourite sport); part of the predicate (My favourite sport is swimming); the object (I am fond of swimming). The gerund can be translated as different parts of speech.

A funny poem by S. Silverstein can serve as a beautiful and helpful illustration for the use of Gerunds in the function of subjects:

STANDING IS STUPID

Standing is stupid,
Crawling's a curse,
Skipping is silly,
Walking is worse.
Hopping is hopeless,
Jumping's a chore,

Sitting is senseless,
Leaning's a bore.
Running's ridiculous,
Jogging's insane –
Guess what I'll do next?–
I'll go downstairs and
Lie down again.

Translate the sentences with the gerunds:

1. Thank you for calling . 2. We learn much by listening 3 Do your job without talking.
4. Think instead of crying . 5. I take learning English seriously. 6. I prefer reading to seeing movies. 7. Collecting stamps became the aim of his life. 8. Speaking without thinking is shooting without aiming . 8. What do you enjoy doing? As well as running , I like scuba diving.

Exercise 14. Form gerunds from the verbs: mark (проверять, оценивать), play, breath (дышать), attend (посещать), think (думать, мыслить), look.
Insert these gerunds into the sentences. Translate the sentences.

1. People can't live without... . 2. ... pupils' work takes much time. 3. Paganini was unsurpassed in... the violin. 4. Prof. Mendeleyev's lectures were always worth... . 5. They understand each other by ... into the eyes. 6. is a difficult process.

Exercise 15. Translate these words without a dictionary. Say a word in Russian with the same root. (e.g. local - локальный, т.е. местный).

local, modern, terrace, centre, private, extra, area, cross, group, drama, vary, adaptation, produce, serious, medal, classify, veteran, idea, collection, mark, colour, occasion, compensation, history, favourite.

Exercise 16. There are many ways to express your attitude to some action or thing. Translate the sentences and you'll see it.

1. My mother enjoys cooking. 2. I like walking in rainy weather. 3. Pushkin was fond of reading historic documents. 4. I'm glad you prefer classics to detective stories. 5. My brother is a keen footballer. 6. He was keen on L. Gumilev's books. 7. Sometimes I love just sitting and listening to music. 8. You must take his words seriously . 9. Your life is fine, when you are happy with your job.

Text

"A TEACHER IN SALISBURG"

Word-list

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. extra-curricular work- | работа сверх программы |
| 2. there's always marking to be done | всегда надо проверять тетради |
| 3. to take on extra duties- | брать на себя дополнительные обязанности |
| 4. a keen runner- | заядлый бегун |
| 5. "Treasure Island" by R.L. Stevenson and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by W. Shakespeare- | "Остров сокровищ" Р.Л.Стивенсона и "Сон в летнюю ночь" В.Шекспира |
| 6. to take running seriously- | серьезно заниматься бегом |

7. to keep oneself fit-	поддерживать форму
8. my idea of a perfect day is-	мое представление о том, что такое хороший день, это....
9. it's very satisfying-	приносит большое удовлетворение
10. to entertain to dinner-	приглашать на обед
11. he is often to be found-	его часто можно найти
12. to be keen on-	увлекаться чем-либо
13. Easter-	пасха
14. to catch up on reading-	восполнить пробелы в чтении
15. on one's own-	сам по себе, по своему выбору
16. within easy reach of...-	недалеко от

A TEACHER IN SALISBURG

1. (Nick McIver spoke to Jerry Lewis, a secondary school teacher in the city of Salisbury, southwest of England).

2. When I went to Jerry's home to talk to him, I asked him first just to tell me something about himself.

3. **J.L.:** Well, I am 44 years old, unmarried, and I teach English in a local secondary modern school. I own my own house - a smallish terrace house just outside the centre of the city, with three bedrooms and a small garden. I've got two younger brothers, one of them, Julian, also lives in Salisbury. He's a teacher too, but he works in a private language school teaching English to foreign students.

4. **N.M.:** How much extra-curricular work do you do?

J.L.: Quite a lot, actually. There's always marking to be done and evening when I meet parents and so on. And then I take on extra duties, mainly in the areas of sport and drama. I'm a keen cross country runner myself, and I train the school cross-country team, which means taking groups of children out running during their lunch breaks, usually a couple of times a week. And then, on the drama side, I produce the annual school play. We normally have to start preparing this in spring term to have it ready by the summer.

5. **N.M.:** What plays have your pupils performed?

J.L.: It varies from year to year. We've done an adaptation of "Treasure Island" by Robert Louise Stevenson, and we've done Shakespeare - "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Last year the boys wrote and produced their own play.

6. I could see from Jerry's house that he took running very seriously. His shelves are covered with medals and cups that he has won over the years in various races. Since he is now over 40, he is classified as a "veteran" - a term he doesn't like - but he still continues winning. To keep himself fit, he usually runs from forty to fifty kilometres a week and more if he's training for a race. What else does he enjoy doing?

7. **J.L.:** As well as running, I like walking. The countryside around Salisbury is magnificent, and there are some wonderful walks. My idea of a perfect day is to walk out of town and stop for a lunch and a drink at a small village pub - in the summer you can sit outside, or in winter by a log fire. Then there is my garden, and I'm fond of gardening. Every year add to my collection of roses, and it's very satisfying to sit outside on a summer's evening doing my school marking, surrounded by wonderful colours and scents.

8. Jerry also likes cooking. On a Saturday he goes down to the market early in the morning to catch the best of the produce, and frequently entertains friends and relatives to dinner in the evening. When not at home, he is often to be found in his local pub, where he has many friends. Occasionally he goes to the cinema, but he prefers the theatre.

9. **J.L.:** I go by myself, with friends, or with groups from school. Last week we went and saw Noel Coward's "Relative Values". I'm not keen on Coward myself, but the kids loved it.

10. School teachers work hard, but it is a compensation that they have long holidays. There are three school terms in the year - autumn, spring and summer. Each term has a one-week break in the middle, called half-term, and then there is a two-week holiday at Christmas, two weeks at Easter and two months in the summer. What does Jerry do with his holiday time?

11. **J.L.:** I love just to sit and relax, or catch up on my reading. I have some good friends who run skiing trips to Switzerland, and I sometimes go along and help them. And in summer I always try to go over to France, either on my own or with family or friends.

12. **N.M.:** Why France?

J.L.: Oh, I just love the place. I like everything about it : the food, the language, the people, the countryside.

13. **N.M.:** One last question, Jerry. You've lived and worked in Salisburg for over 20 years. What keeps you here?

J.L.: That's a difficult one. My job, I suppose. I often complain, but who doesn't? On the whole, though, I'm happy with it. The most of my friends live here or nearby. And the city itself; it's a beautiful place, full of history, surrounded by amazing countryside and within easy reach of some of my favourite places. No, I wouldn't change it.

Post-Reading Comprehension Exercises.

Exercise 17. Are these statements true or false?

1. Jerry's house stands alone. 2. His pupils always write their own plays. 3. Jerry goes running only before important races. 4. He goes to the pub with his pupils. 5. He has lived in Salisburg for nearly 20 years. 6. Jerry is fond of gardening. Every two years he adds to his collection of tulips. 7. He loves the food, the language, the people, the countryside of Switzerland. 8. Jerry never complains of his job. 9. Being a "veteran" in running, Jerry stopped winning races. 10. To keep himself fit, he usually goes to disco dances. 11. Contrary to running, Jerry dislikes walking. 12. Mr.Lewis' idea of a perfect day is to stay in town, rest on the sofa, watch a football match on TV and then go to a pub. 13. Jerry is fond of rosy flowers because of their wonderful colour and scent. 14. Jerry never cooks.

Exercise 18. Answer the questions.

1. How old is Jerry Lewis? 2. What subject does he teach? 3. Has he got any relatives? 4. What town does Jerry live in? 5. What is his curricular and extra-curricular work? 6. What extra duties does he take? 7. Why does J.Lewis train the school cross country team? 8. Is Mr.Lewis a good athlete? 9. What does he do in the area of drama at school? 10. Does the teacher choose good playwrights whose plays they perform? 11. What does Mr.Lewis enjoy doing? 12. What is his idea of a perfect day? 13. Is Jerry romantic? 14. What Jerry's hobby is not usual for men? 15. How does Mr.Lewis spend his holiday time? 16. Why does he like to go to France? 17. What keeps Jerry Lewis in Salisburg? 18. Is he a happy man? Why?

Exercise 19. Complete the official form for Mr.Lewis, when he goes to France, Paris.

Name...	Place of residence...
Age...	Family status...
Nationality...	Private ownship...

Citizenship...	Hobbies...
Birth date...	Country of destination...
Occupation...	Aim of the tour...
Relatives...	Return date...

Exercise 20. Translate the following Noun Noun combinations:

world war - war world; battle field - field battle; mother tongue, drama performance; peace agreement - agreement peace; cell structure; language phenomenon; sound barrier; model behaviour; school teacher; vegetable food; wave motion; folk song; gold medal; silver spoon; water resources; memory failure; brain storm; heart attack; office manager; department head.

Exercise 21. Find the examples of N+N combinations in the text and translate them. (They are 9). See paragraphs 3,4,5,7,10.

Exercise 22. Find all adjectives in paragraph 7 and 13 (they are 14). Form their positive and negative degrees of comparison.

Exercise 23. Translate the text "Teenagers - Parents Problems". Say, who is right.

teenager-	человек в возрасте от 13 до 19 лет
no matter how-	независимо от того
to try-	стараться
to be satisfied-	быть удовлетворенным, довольным
should-	зд. должен, следует
grades-	ам. оценки, баллы
according to-	в соответствии с..., зд; по ... словам

Teenagers - Parents Problems.

"I try to be good, but no matter how hard I try, my parents are never satisfied. They think I should eat healthier food, should wear nicer clothes, and I should get better grades. And according to them, my hair should be shorter, my room should be neater, and my friends should be more polite when they come to visit. You know.. it isn't easy to be a teenager.

We try to be good parents, but no matter how hard we try, our children are never satisfied. They think we should wear more modern clothes, we should buy a faster car, and we should listen to livelier music. And according to them, we should be more sympathetic when they talk about their problems, we should be friendlier when their friends come to visit, and we should be more understanding when they come home late.

You know.. it isn't easy to be parents."

Exercise 24. Give your title to this text. Say what is different these days?

Everything was better when we were younger. It seems to me they are building staircases steeper than they used to be. May be this is because it is so much father today from the first to the second floor, but I've noticed it's getting harder to make two steps at a time any more.

Another thing I've noticed is the small print they are using lately. Newspapers are getting father and father away when I hold them... Everything is father than it used to be. It's twice the distance from my house to the station now. The trains leave sooner,

too. I've given up running for them because they start faster these days when I try to catch them.

A lot of other things are different nowadays. Revolving doors revolve much faster than they used to. It's the same with golf, I'm giving it up because these modern golf balls are so hard to pick up.

Even the weather is changing. It's colder in winter and the summers are hotter than they used to be. Snow is heavier when I try to shovel it, and I put on rubbers whenever I go out, because rain today is wetter than the rain we used to get. Draughts are more severe, too. It must be the way they build windows now.

People are changing, too. They seem to be more polite than in my time. They call me "Sir" and help me cross the street.

While I was shaving this morning, I stopped for a moment and looked at my own reflection in the mirror. They don't seem to use the same kind of glass in mirrors any more.

(By Corey Ford "How to guess your age?" // Каджазнуни Л.К., Фролова И.Е. Dive and Swim. -Moscow, Linka-Press, 1994- p.120.)

Exercise 25. What parts of speech are the underlined words?

Translate the sentences.

1. I own my own house.
2. It's a small terrace house.
3. I produce annually a play.
4. School children like to play modern drama.
5. He is training for aces.
6. He won cups and medals in various aces.
7. But he continues to ace.
8. Men walk quickly.
9. There are some wonderful walks around Manchester.
10. They can stop and drink in a little village.
11. Jerry likes to stop for a lunch and a drink in a small village pub.
12. On Summer days beautiful colours and scents surround us.
13. The sun colours land by its last rays.
14. In the native town we all have our favourite place.
15. Place this sentence in the beginning of the text!

Exercise 26. Form gerunds of these verbs. Translate them.

to teach, to mark, to run, to prepare, to walk, to garden, to cook, to read, to ski, to understand.

Exercise 27. Form gerunds of the verbs given in the brackets and insert them into the sentence. Translate the sentences.

1. ... for a performance usually takes them a year (to prepare).
2. ... the right person on the right place is a difficult and important problem (to place).
3. It isn't good... of other people, when you are not perfect yourself! (to complain)
4. Many Englishmen are fond of... (to garden).
5. Your idea of... instead of... by bus is wonderful in such a nice day! (to walk, to go).
6. Teachers give much time to... the students' works (to mark).
7. ... computer games became one of the popular children's hobbies (to play).

Exercise 28. What questions did the journalist ask "the teacher from Salisbury"?

Exercise 29. What questions would you ask Jerry Lewis?

Exercise 30. Ask Jerry Lewis about...

plays he will produce next year; time he spends on marking; the reason he likes visiting pub; the reason of his being unmarried, money he gets for extra-curricular work; reasons he keeps himself fit; the location of his friends; sort of roses he likes, his favourite playwright, his dislike of the term "veteran", his idea of a perfect pupil/school/teacher.

Exercise 31. Find in the text the words expressing the positive attitude to some occupation, hobby.

Exercise 32. Insert these words or expressions in the sentences:

1. Many young people are... heavy metal music. The others... pop music to it. 2. It's a pity you don't... science fiction seriously. 3. I... watching ballet with Maximova. 4. It seems strange, but he... knitting. 5. Little children usually don't... washing.

Exercise 33. Say what you like or dislike to do.

Exercise 34. What parts of speech are the underlined words?

Translate the sentences.

1. I saw the flowers in Covent Garden Market. It is a market day today. They make cotton goods in Lancashire and market them all over the world.
2. Our telephone is out of order. Phone me if you need me; My number is in the phone book
3. It is beginning to snow now; the snow is very thick. The children will soon make a snowman
4. What is the use of having a thing if you can't use it.
5. The ship has just come to land. The passengers are going land at Dover.
6. "There are land thieves and water theives" (Shakespeare)
7. This is the crown Prince of Ruritania. He wears a crown on his head.
8. They crown the Kings of England in Westminster Abbey.

Exercise 35. Do this exercise. Mind the use of Indefinite tenses.

Last night there was a robbery at the bank. Only five men knew how to open the safe. Can you find which man was alone last night: which man has no alibi? Fill in the information in the table, it will help you to find the robber.

	Jones	Smith	Poole	Kent	Bright
Suit					
Nationality					
Size					
Car					
Alibi					

1. Mr. Jones is fat and drives a VW.

2. Mr. Smith drives a Jaguar; he is English.
3. The thin man drives a Fiat.
4. Mr. Poole is Scottish.
5. Mr. Kent wears a blue suit.
6. The fat man wears a black suit.
7. The thin man is Irish.
8. Mr. Bright wears a green suit and drives a Renault.
9. The short man is Scottish.
10. The thin man wears a blue suit.
11. The man who is average size is Canadian.
12. The man who wears a grey suit drives a Metro.
13. The man who wears a black suit is Welsh.
14. The tall man wears a brown suit.
15. Last night the Welsh man was with the Canadian.
16. Last night the tall man was with the man who drives a Metro.
What's the name of the robber?

Exercise 36. Tell about the five men (in the Present Indefinite), as if you knew them. Begin the story: "I know Mr. Poole. He is..."

Exercise 37. The director of the bank recollects this story five years after the robbery. He begins it so: "Five years ago worked in the bank with 5 men. Mr. Poole was...". Finish the story in the director's name. Use Past Indefinite.

Exercise 38. Enjoy the love song. Guess and insert the adjectives in the corresponding degree of comparison. In groups of three you could also make up the tune for it and sing the poem.

A Bigger Heart

His arms are stronger than mine
 His legs are ___ than mine
 His car's always cleaner
 And his grass is always ___

But my heart is ___ than his
 And love for you is stronger than his.

His shirts are ___ than mine
 His souffles are lighter than mine
 His video is ___
 And his faults are fewer.

But my heart is ___ than his
 And love for you is stronger than his.

He's more ___, much more elegant
 More charming and polite than me
 He's more responsible, much more dependable
 He's everything I long to be.

His office is ___ than mine

His martinies are drier than mine
His roses are ____
And his overdraft is smaller

But my heart is ____ than his
And love for you is stronger than his.

ADDITIONAL TEXTS

A Life in the Day of Chris Baines.

(Compare the life of the two British teachers: Mr Jerry Lewes and Mr Chris Baines. Which ways are they and their lives similar and different ?

I actually *like* lying in bed in the mornings, but I wake up with the radio alarm and the *today* programme -and the coffee machine. I get up at half past seven or eight and my first reaction is to go outside and into my own immediate bit of countryside. I wander round the garden, looking at the pond to see what the frogs are doing. There's always something to see that wasn't there the day before. Working from home makes a huge difference to me because the inspiration for so much of what I do is right here.

After breakfast I have a mound of mail to get through every day -hundred of letters after television programmes. Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays revolve around raising public consciousness about environmental matters - nature. I have an emotional sense of *needing* nature and I justify it intellectually by the survival argument. The secret thing which motivates me , though, is the fact that I don't have children. I have a natural inclination to children. I love them and spend a lot of time working directly with other people's children. People who go for short-term financial gain and spoil our environment make me so angry because I feel strongly that we owe it to the children of the future not to be the last generation to know what a cowlip or a hareball looks like.

Most of my BBC television work is on location - a lot in the Midlands. But even if I've been in London or further away during the day, I will try and get home for the night. I like my own bed and I find hotels very uncomfortable and hot. Home is very precious to me because of the disparity and insecurity of everything else in life. It really is the anchor and it's the ultimate sharing thing - which is back to the importance of family, I suppose.

If it's Thursday or Friday, it's a total immersion in teaching - my ultimate luxury in life. I'm a communicator, a teacher like my father. I teach postgraduate landscape architecture students who come to Birmingham Polytechnic from Newcastle, South Wales and Kent for a day a week for three years in groups of 25. They are the people who give me the greatest satisfaction in later years.

The Polytechnic is very close to the main Pakistani area, Hadsworth, which I travel through. One of my great delights is to stop off and buy all those wonderful fruits and vegetables for the evening. I enjoy the people one meets in those circumstances, too. My major relaxation is cooking - I love all the flavours and smells, the creative side of food, trying to turn it into something interesting.

I have the students all day from 10 until 6.30 pm, so it's very draining, it's all I can stand. When I finish, I come home and have a gin and tonic. In the car I either sing to folk music or listen to the *The Archers* -I rarely miss it because I'm amused by it in a light sort of way.

If I've done the shopping, I'll cook. Things have changed because Liz has taken a year off teaching; she was just exhausted by the inner city under-funded situation. So now she's home all the time. Liz is involved in my work, but there is a resistance to that on both parts because she is too talented to waste on working just for me. We have generally finished eating by 7.30 and I'm back in my office. I'm consumed by my work, but it's enjoyable. I *try* to stop at 9.30 and then I unwind by talking to Liz, or listening to music - often Yorkshire folk music which again is heritage, roots.

Very often I'm working on Saturdays, speaking at conferences. I spent years accepting every invitation for nothing, but now I say the fee is £ 200 and a first-class hotel overnight. I have learned by experience to work the system we live in. People value you, sadly - it's a great regret of mine - by how much you cost.

Sometimes at the weekend I just go into Stourbridge to walk through the high street. I find something very comforting about being anonymous in a great crowd of people. Nature gives me that perspective, too, of being very unimportant.

In the winter we drag up the Sunday papers and read those in bed; in the summer I would be out in the garden reading them. Last Sunday we actually set off on a walk and we turned round after 200 yards because we decided that where we really wanted to be was this garden, our own perfect bit of countryside. The ideal Sunday is when we just garden all day, but that only happens five or six times a year. In the evenings, when we can, we cook in the garden just for pleasure of it - smoked fish on a barbecue with a bottle of wine. Wonderful.

I go to bed about 10.30 and that's a moment when I would sometimes switch the television on, but if I did it would be pure escapism because of exhaustion - something like *Hill Street Blues*. I like reading recipe books in bed, and books about organic gardening. I read perhaps one novel a year. Then I sleep like a log - always.

(The Sunday Times Magazine, 1987)

A Letter from America.

(Read the text without using a dictionary)

Hello. How are you? I was glad you wrote back. I was born in a small town on Long Island named Elmont.

Right now I am in the ninth grade at Sewanhara high school. Sewanhara has about one thousand, four hundred students. In the United States all children start school at the age of five. We stay in a lower school for seven years. Then you go on to high school for six years. Most people finish secondary school at the age of seventeen. Most people choose to go to university after secondary school. Most stay at a university from four to eight years.

After secondary school, I would like to become a doctor. My father is a computer printer and my mother sets up displays in a furniture store. My sister, Tammy, goes to a University and wants to be a teacher for the deaf.

Our year begins on the 6th of September and ends on the 8th of June. We have holidays on the 9th of October, 7th of November, from the 23d of November to the 26th of November. We also have holidays from the 22nd of December to January first, January 19, February 17th to February 29th, from April 7th to April 17th, and May 28th.

I also like to read. My favourite authors include Jack London, Agatha Christie, and Edgar Allan Poe. Right now at school, we are reading a novel called "Animal Farm" by John Steinbeck. One of my hobbies is dancing. In my high school there is a dancing group called the Rookets. I am trying to join the group. It is very difficult to join

the group because there are 700 girls trying to join and only 40 can join. Do you have any groups like this in your high school? Someday I hope to go to Russia. Hope to hear from you.

Monique.

(from personal correspondence)

COMPREHENSION TEST.

1. Who is the author of the letter?
a)an English housewife b)an Indian student c)an American student d)an American teacher
2. When do all children in the USA start school?
a)at the age of 4 b)5 c)6 d)7
3. How long do they stay in a lower school?
a)for 3 years b)5 years c)6 years d)7 years
4. When do most people finish secondary school?
a)at 17 b)at 18 c)at 15 d)later
5. What profession would she like to choose?
a)a computer printer b)interior designer c)a teacher d)a doctor
6. When does the school year in America begin?
a)on the 1st of September b)on the 6th of September c)on the same day as in Russia d)on the 30th of August
7. Does the girl like to a)read b)listen to modern music c)skate d)go to the movies
8. What is her hobby?
a)playing tennis b)dancing c)watching TV d)learning Russian
9. Why is it difficult to join the dancing group?
a)there are no girls b)there are too many girls c)too many boys d)no boys

(Read the text using a dictionary)

DIANA ROSS

There are lots of superstars these days, but one person who really deserves the name is Diana Ross. At thirty-nine, she's been making hit records for nearly twenty years. Her career began in the 1960s with The Supremes. Then she left The Supremes and became a solo performer. Now, in the 1980s, Diana Ross is more successful than ever before. She describes the 1980 as: "The Golden Age. There's so much opportunity. This is the information age, the computer age, the age of the future".

Things haven't always looked so good. Diana Ross started singing with school groups in a very poor area of Detroit, the home of America's motor industry. Together with two friends she approached the Motown record label. The Supremes, as they were called, impressed Motown's boss, Barry Gordy, and he decided to add them to the other artists on his label.

It was the start of an enormously successful period for Motown. Smokey Robinson, Stevie Wonder, The Four Tops, Marvin Gaye and The Temptations were just some of their stars in the 1960s. But none were as successful as The Supremes. Diana Ross, Mary Wilson and Sindy Birdsong had fifteen number one hits around the world, including songs like Baby Love, Stop in the Name of Life and Reflections.

Diana Ross was the lead singer from the start, and after The Supremes became Diana Ross and The Supremes, no one was very surprised when Diana Ross decided to go solo at the end of the 60s. In the years that followed she made TV

appearances, three movies (Lady Sings the Blues, Mahogany and The Wiz) and recorded several albums. But it wasn't until she moved into disco in the late 70s that Diana Ross really caught the public's imagination.

Songs like My Old Piano, Upside Down and Work that Body were big international hits. So, at an age when many performers begin to think about slowing down, Diana Ross' career seems to be at its peak. She's married with three children, needs only six hours per night and is working harder than ever.

Many people thought: what made Diana Ross a superstar? Her voice? Her elegance? Her looks? Her ability to make us feel emotions? Diana Ross says: "I just know that I'm still here and I'm still working".

Exercise 38. Choose the correct variant

1. Diana Ross is
a)20 b)39 c)60 d)48
2. Her career began in 1960s with
a)the Beatles b)the Mettalica c)the Deep Purple d)ABBA e)the Supremes
3. She began as:
a)a soloist b)a guitar-player c)a choir-girl d)a dancer
4. The climax of her success was in:
a)the 1960s b)the 1970s c)the 1980s d)the 1990s
5. Diana began singing in Detroit, the home of America's
a)motor industry b)computer business c)finances d)artistic industry
6. In the 70s she: a)made TV appearances b)made three films c)recorded some albums d)performed at the theatre
7. She really caught public imagination because she
a)became beautiful b)married a film-producer c)moved into disco d)won a million-dollar lottery prize
8. The big international hit was her song
a)My Old Guitar b)Her Old Piano c)My Old Piano d)My New Piano
9. She needs only ... hours sleep
a)3 b)6 c)8 d)7
10. She is married with ... children
a)4 b)2 c)3 d)6
11. Diana has plans for
a)records b)TV work c)films d)tours
12. What makes Diana Ross a superstar?
a)her voice b)her elegance c)her looks d)her talent to make us feel emotions

Exercise 39. Find 20 pieces of false information in the text.

Correct the wrong statements.

One of the superstars, Ross Diana, 20, began her career in the 1970s with "the Mettalica" as a solo performer. That was the peak of her success.

She began singing with the institute group in a very rich area of Detroit, the centre of American cotton industry. But she and her group didn't impress the Motown's record boss. It was the decoy period for them. So she decided to go solo at the end of the 70s. In the following years she was busy only with singing. At last, in the late 70s, she got real fame, when she moved into hard rock. So at the age, when many performers are at their peak, Diana Ross began to slow down. None of the songs were big international hits. She was married three times with six children. But she will star in a new film, the story of an English flower girl. She has plans for records,

tours, money-making, TV work and divorce. Many people thought: what prevented Diana Ross to be a superstar? Her voice? Her elegance? Her looks? Her disability to make us feel emotions? Diana Ross says: "I just know that I'm still here and I'm still working".

For Reading and Telling

SUPERHEROES

(pay special attention to the translation of such N N combinations as "drag car, sky diving, high-speed water-skiing, world record, water skier, dune-buggy races, motor-cycle racing, world-class speed motor-cycle competitor, 48,000 horse-power engine, etc.)

Kitty O'Neil has a strange kind of job. She "falls" off buildings, she gets "drowned", she is "set on fire". She's a stunt woman (женщина-каскадер) and she's deaf.

O'Neil lost her hearing as a baby. Her mother taught her how to lip-read and how to swim and she began swimming in races at the age of twelve. She wanted to learn to dive but her teachers taught her deafness would make this impossible: part of the inner ear is important in diving as it helps people keep their balance.

When O'Neil was studying diving in high school, she would often land the wrong way because of her ear problem. Her sense of balance wasn't very good and she often got hurt. But she wouldn't quit, and reached a very high standart, coming twelfth in diving for the US. Then she decided to try other sports. She raced boats. She raced drag cars. She tried sky diving and scuba diving and high-speed water-skiing. In 1970 she set a world record, becoming the fastest woman water skier at a speed of 104.85 m.p.h. Then she entered dune-buggy races and took up cross-country motor-cycle racing. She is the only woman who is a world-class speed motor-cycle competitor.

O'Neil married stunt man Duffy Hambleton in 1972. From her husband and other stunt men she learned the right way to fall, how to fake a fight, becoming accomplished at all kinds of stunts. She joined Stunts Unlimited, a group of professional stunt people who work in movies and TV. O'Neil began film work, appearing in the movie flooded airplane to rescue a child from the water. She has appeared in various TV shows, including scene, where she was thrown to the ground. She was supposed to land sitting up, but fell on her head. "I saw stars", she says.

In September 1976, O'Neil broke the World Land Speed Record for women. She drove a thirty-eight foot long, three-wheeled car with a 48,000 horse-power engine. The driver's seat was so small that she had almost to fold herself up to drive. She fired up the rocket engine and took off like a shot. In a few seconds the car has disappeared. After the first drive the car was tested, then she raced away again. She finished her second drive with an official speed of 322 m.p.h. But O'Neil wanted to go faster, to set another record. On December 6, 1976, she did, taking her rocket car up to 512,706 m.p.h. It took her five miles just to stop the car. She's still no satisfied, however, and would like to break the sound barrier - 739 m.p.h. "I guess I like danger", says O'Neil. "But mostly, I want to always have a goal. I want to have some dream that I can try for".

(Sandra Gardner from "Current")

(Translate the text in writing with the help of a dictionary.)

Why is the text not entitled "A Day in the Life...?"

A LIFE IN THE DAY OF LINDA McCARTNEY.

(to her memory)

Now Paul's wife Linda talks about a typical day in the McCartney household.

"We live in a two-bedroom house so as soon as James (2) starts calling "Mummy, mummy", around seven every morning, he wakes everyone up. Being his mother I like to be the first to greet him, so up I get. I take him downstairs and start getting breakfast ready. Before long the other kids - Heather (almost 17), Mary (10) and Stella (8) - are almost down. If Paul is recording or we are touring I try not to disturb him. But if he isn't working he gets up at the same time and joins the kids at breakfast. He is an excellent father.

The kids travel everywhere with us. When we were playing up north during our British tour we all stayed at Paul's dad's house in Liverpool. And when we played down south Paul and I commuted from home for each concert which meant two-and-a-half-hour car journey before and after each concert, with Paul driving. When touring abroad we usually rent a house and make it our base so we can return to the kids each night.

Quite often Paul comes with me when I drive the girls to school. Mary and Stella go to a local primary school and Heather attends an art school. I drive a Mini because being American I'm used to wide roads.

Because we have a big breakfast and a big dinner about six we don't have lunch. So about that time I'm doing jobs around the house. Paul never helps me. He likes tidiness but is not too tidy himself! I have a woman in to do the cleaning. But I always do the cooking because I enjoy it. I cook for six every day. One interest we share is football. We rarely go to see matches but we always watch it on television. Paul is a great Liverpool fan but I support Liverpool and Everton.

Because we live in the country we don't socialise much. But I think that's also partly because I'm lazy. Before I go to bed I always go to the kids' bedroom and give them all a kiss. Trouble is, James often wakes up and doesn't want to go back to sleep.

(ж."Англия", Adapted from the Sunday Times Magazine, 3 February, 1989)

(For translation without a dictionary)

SIX DINNER SID

(Children's Story)

What do you think the story will be about?

" Sid lived at number one, Aristotle Street. He also lived at number two, number three, number four, number five and number six.

Sid lived in six houses so that he could have six dinners. Each night he would slip out of number one, where he might have had chicken, into number two for fish, on to number three for lamb, mince at number four, fish again at number five, rounding off at number six with beef and kidney stew.

Since the neighbours did not talk to one another on Aristotle Street, they did not know what Sid was up to. They all believed the cat they fed was theirs and theirs alone.

But Sid had to work hard for his dinners. It wasn't easy being six people's pet. He had six different names to remember and six different ways to behave.

When being Scaramouche, Sid put on swanky (щеголеватый) airs. As Bob he had a job. He was naughty as Satan and silly as Sally. As Sooty he smooched but as Schwartz he had to act rough and tough.

All this work sometimes wore Sid out. But he didn't care, as long as he had his six dinners. And besides he liked being scratched (чесать) in six different places and sleeping in six different beds.

In fact, life in Aristotle Street was just about perfect for Sid until one cold day he caught a nasty cough."

--Guess what will happen next? --

"The next thing he knew he was being taken to the vet. Poor Sid, he was taken not once, not twice but six times. He went with six different people in six different ways.

The vet said Sid's cough wasn't nearly as nasty as it sounded; but, to be on the safe side, he should have a spoonful of medicine. Of course, Sid didn't have just one spoonful of medicine. He had six.

Now one black cat does look much like another, but nobody, not even a busy vet, could see the same cat six times without becoming suspicious. Sure enough, when he checked in his appointment book, the vet found six cats with a cough - all living in Aristotle Street!

So he rang the owners at once and, oh dear, Sid was found out! When they discovered what he had been up to, Sid's owners were furious. They said he had no business eating so many dinners. They said in the future, he would have only one dinner a day. But Sid was a six-dinner-a-day cat.

So he went to live at number one, Pythagoras Street. He also went to live at number two, three, four, five and six. Unlike Aristotle Street, the people who lived in Pythagoras Street talked to their neighbours.

So, right from the start, everyone knew about Sid's six dinners. And, because everyone knew, nobody minded. "

(from "English Panorama" by Felicity O'Dell, Cambridge University Press, 1997, p. 105)

Country Studies Text THE ROYAL FAMILY

The Queen has always been very popular with the British people. The first big royal television event was her coronation in 1953. The ceremony was a fantastic spectacle in Westminster Abbey. Twenty million people watched. She works very hard, with a busy program of engagements every year.

The Queen's husband is the son of Prince Andrew of Greece, who spent years in exile in England. But Philip changed his surname to Mountbatten when he became a British citizen. He was a Navy officer when he first met Princess Elisabeth. She was only twenty-one when they married. Prince Philip is also called The Duke of Edinburgh. He is famous for talking openly about his very strong views on many subjects. Traditionally, the eldest son of the British monarch has the title The Prince of Wales. Prince Charles went to school in England, Scotland and Australia, went to Cambridge University and later also went to a Welsh university. He has many

intellectual interests but also loves adventure. He was trained as a driver, parachuted from aeroplanes, climbed mountains and served in the Navy.

When Lady Diana Spencer, or "Lady Di", married Prince Charles in July 1981 she became the Princess of Wales. The British people loved her from the beginning, and she became famous for her fashion sense. The wedding took place a month after Lady Diana's twentieth birthday. Prince Charles was thirteen years older. The Prince and Princess of Wales have two children. Prince William was born in June 1982 and Prince Henry was born in September 1984. Lady Di passed away last year.

Prince Andrew is also called the Duke of York. He served in the Royal Navy and was on board the aircraft carrier during the Falklands War in 1982. In July 1986 he married Sarah Ferguson - the British people called her "Fergie" - and she became the Duchess of York. The marriage was almost as spectacular as Charles and Di's. They have two children, Princess Beatrice(1988), and Princess Eugenie (1990).

Princess Ann works very hard for charity, especially in the Save the Children Fund. She separated from her husband Mark Phillips in 1989, but their two children are ninth and tenth in the line of succession.

The youngest Royal Prince has not had a military career like his brothers. He loves the theatre and helped the composer Andrew Lloyd Webber in some of his productions. The line of succession is the list of the order in which people alive at the moment can become King or Queen. It's very important that everyone knows who is next in the line of succession.

1. The Prince of Wales (1948)
2. Prince William (1982)
3. Prince Henry (called "Harry") (1984)
4. Prince Andrew (1960)
5. Princess Beatrice (1988)
6. Princess Eugenie (1990)
7. Prince Edward (1964)
8. Princess Ann (1950)
9. Peter Phillips (1977)
10. Zara Phillips (1981)

Exercise 39. Do you understand the principle according to which the British Royal Line is built? What is the difference from the Russian Royal Order of succession?

JUST FOR FUN TEXT

"Problems with Parents" Test

(answer the questions , and see how your parents score. Just how *bad* are your parents? Are they normal? Compare their scores with other people's))

- 1) What happens when there's something on your plate at mealtimes that you don't want to eat?
 - a) Your parents call an ambulance.
 - b) They say you have to eat it - for your own good.
 - c) They say "OK, don't worry - have a really big bowl of icecream".
- 2) What do your parents say about coming home in the evenings?

- a) It doesn't matter - you can come home when you like.
 - b) You can only go out if at least three adults come with you .
 - c) You must usually be home by a certain time, unless there is a very good explanation.
- 3) What do your parents say about the way you dress?
- a) You can wear anything you like , anywhere you like. In fact, they buy chains, leather jackets, dirty jeans and old T-shirts for you.
 - b) You must wear exactly what everyone in your family has worn since the fourteenth century.
 - c) You can wear fashionable clothes, but they like you to be neat and tidy, especially for school/university or formal occasions.
- 4) What do they say about your music?
- a) You can't play any music except Beethoven.
 - b) They like to know what music you're buying. They usually don't mind, but there are some groups they don't want you to listen to.
 - c) It doesn't matter what you play - you can't hear it because of your parents' New Kids On The Block records anyway.
- 5) What are their feelings about television, videos and films?
- a) There are certain things they don't want you to watch.
 - b) Their own favourite film is *Blood And Car Accidents* and they keep asking you to take them to see it.
 - c) You must not watch any films, videos or TV until you are thirty-five, and then a doctor must be with you.
- 6) How do they feel about University work?
- a) You cannot eat if you don't get top marks in every test.
 - b) They like you to try your best. If you don't get good marks all t time, it's not so bad.
 - c) What University work?

Score your parents as follows:

1. a) 3 (b) 2 (c) 1
2. (a) 1 (b) 3 (c) 2
3. (a) 1 (b) 3 (c) 2
4. (a)3 (b) 2 (c) 1
5. (a)2 (b) 1 (c) 3
6. (a)3 (b) 2 (c) 1

Score 6-10: Oh dear. Are your parents doing their jobs properly? They are a bit soft, aren't they? You might think this is wonderful, but actually you need a few rules in life. Without rules, you'll grow up into a big softie too, and life will be a shock. Ask your parents to give you some rules, and start telling you off more often.

Score 11-14: This is good, believe it or not. Your parents are thinking about you and your future and would like you to grow up happy and normal - and you probably will. It's a strange world, isn't it?

Score 15-18: Wow! Your parents are incredibly strict. If they really are this strict, then you are a member of a royal family or something, and all these rules are necessary for your safety. If not, try telling them you don't need that much protection. But you have to show them that you can be responsible and that you're beginning to think and act like an adult. Then they won't worry so much.

(taken from "Clockwork", No 5, 1995, pp. 3, 14)

UNIT II
WORLD AROUND US
DIFFERENT FOLKS HAVE DIFFERENT WAYS

Grammar Material:

The Infinitive. Infinitive Constructions:

The Objective-with-the-Infinitive Construction

The Subjective Infinitive Construction

Reading Material:

Text: National Characters and Traditions of Americans

Additional Texts: 1. British Ways

2. Time and its Value

3. First Impressions

4. Clothes They Wear

Young British Style - out to Shock

5. Time Off: Fitness or Fun? (British lifestyle)

Recreation (in America)

6. American and British Dinner Manners

7. A Scholar's View on National Stereotypes

8. Cultural Comparisons. Ethnocentrism.

9. Character and Behaviour: the English versus the Americans
How to be an Alien

10. Superstitions in Britain and America

11. Quick Cultural Quiz

Pre-Reading
Grammar Exercises

The Infinitive

There are some constructions with the Infinitive. The first is the Objective-with-the - Infinitive Construction. It is called so because this construction has the function of an object in the sentence (answers the question "what?" = кого? что?). But, as it is a construction (it consists of two parts) it is a *complex* object. It should be translated into Russian by subordinate clauses which usually begin with "что", "чтобы" или "как":

"The British want *the foreigners to study English*, but are slow to study foreign languages themselves- Британцы хотят, *чтобы иностранцы учили английский язык*, но сами не спешат учить иностранный язык."

Exercise1. Translate the sentences.

1.Many students of the English language wish its spelling to be made simpler. 2. .People consider the English to be very unemotional. 3. Britons believe their singers to be the best in the world, because eight of the top 10 best-selling CDs of all time were recorded by British artists. 4. They hate their rights to be violated (нарушать). 5. Some nations think British friendliness to be deceitful (обманчивый).

If the Objective- with-the-Infinitive Construction is used after the verbs of *sense perception* (to see, to hear, to feel, etc) or *compulsion* (to make -заставить) there is no "to" before the Infinitive: "It's difficult to make a person study unless he wants it - трудно заставить, чтобы человек учился, если он сам этого не хочет", "I heard him speak with an accent - я слышал, что он говорит с акцентом".

Exercise 2. Translate the sentences commenting on the use (or lack) of "to".

1. Englishmen expect their guests to come on time. 2. We heard Americans be very punctual. 3. Many parents want their children to know foreign languages. 4. He asked me to translate the text for him. 5. The Britons seldom make their kids eat everything on the plate. 6. I know many English streets to have unusual names.

The second construction with the Infinitive is called The Subjective Infinitive Construction, because it serves as a subject to the inclusion which breaks it into two parts and serves as a predicate: "*Italians* are known *to be very expressive* in their body language -Известно, что итальянцы очень выразительны в своих жестах и мимике". To translate a sentence correctly, you should firstly translate this inclusion as "indefinite personal" sentence (неопределенно-личное предложение), then put "что\как", and then translate the construction itself as a separate subordinate sentence (see the sentence above).

Exercise 3. Translate the sentences containing the Subjective Infinitive Construction.

1. The national character of the Britons is considered to be paradoxical. 2. Englishmen are almost never heard to laugh loudly. 3. Swiss banks were believed to be very reliable. 4. Football is supposed to be invented in England. 5. The British are said to be very tolerant to other people's behaviour. 6. The American students are known to address their professors very unofficially, by their first names. 7. They seem to like fast food better than the self cooked one. 7. People are supposed not to judge other nation' s traditions and manners by their own customs.

Exercise 4. While reading the text below, find the sentences containing constructions with the Infinitive. They are 8.

Text

National Characters and Traditions of Americans

Word-list

1. Background - зд. обстановка
2. "Melting pot of nations" - "плавильный горшок наций"
3. to entail - влечь за собой
4. to treat - зд: относиться к кому-либо
5. "reversed racism" - "расизм наоборот"
6. a make - зд.: модель, марка
7. irrespective of - независимо от
8. tycoon - магнат
9. to encourage - поощрять
10. volunteerism - "добровольничество", добровольная деятельность.
11. to raise money - собирать деньги
12. endangered species - виды животных, которым грозит вымирание
13. to treasure - высоко ценить
14. to value - ценить, оценивать

15. outspoken - откровенный в высказываниях, чистосердечный, прямой.
16. to challenge one's opinion- оспаривать мнение
17. a competitive spirit - дух соревновательности, соперничества
18. a peer - ровня, равный.

National Character and Traditions of Americans

America is a relatively new nation, so its traditions are also newly formed, and are seldom or never based on old standing historical events (like ravens in the Tower in London, for example). American traditions and ways of living, some peculiar American styles are grounded on and connected with the country's geographical position, its eventful, though comparatively short, history, social and cultural background.

America is known as a "*melting pot*" of nations, which has different consequences. The first is, the Americans seldom consider it important to learn foreign languages seriously. The second result entailed very peculiar, yet dynamic attitude towards ethnic minorities. During the period of America's formation and technical development non-whites were treated very rudely (we can't but mention the Ku-kluks-klan racist movement). But nowadays things have radically changed. Americans are becoming anxious at the so-called "reversed racism". They don't say "Negroes" or "blacks" now, they speak of colored people as "Americans of Afro-American origin" (or "Afro-Americans"). They try not to hurt different kinds of minorities by their language itself (so-called "Political Correct" English).

America is geographically a very big country and it used to develop very fast, that is why a *car has become an idol of American life*. The whole country is "on wheels", and the make of a car is the sign of well being and prosperity. Americans like to travel very much, especially people of age. American tourists are said to be everywhere. So, a car is a fetish and symbol of the USA. No wonder that Henry Ford is a national hero of America.

But buying cars needs *money*. Americans like making money, saving money and spending money. But it is extremely impolite to ask how much money a person earns. It is considered to be vulgar.

The biggest legend of America is that any American can become a millionaire through persistence, talent and especially hard work. The fairy tale that any shoe -blacker, irrespective of his color, can become a financial tycoon is a great stimulus for work. Working hard is regarded in a very positive light in the United States. Students are often encouraged to work after classes, on weekends or vacations to earn extra money.

"*Volunteerism*" is one of the basic aspects of American society. Volunteering activities take place after working time, outside the working place, they are not paid. People provide services or assistance to others or they serve a cause in which they believe (raising money to help fund medical researches, protect endangered species, help the children learn and build skills in sports, music; participating in highway litter control program).

Americans seem to be very hospitable, friendly and welcoming. They seem to be always smiling. They say, "I am fine/great/OK", even if it is not so. And some people think their friendliness to be deceitful and not sincere.

Most Americans are *religious*. They often attend church on Sundays.

They treasure the idea of America being a country of *liberty*. "Free man in a free country", so they use to say and behave. They know their rights and hate them to be violated.

They are very *patriotic*. Many American families have a national flag at home (small or even big). They are sure their home country is the best one. But they never hesitate to criticize the government or even the President.

Americans appreciate *humor* and have the ability to laugh at themselves and the nation's weaknesses. Indeed, a good sense of humor is highly valued.

Americans are often *outspoken* and openly share their opinions on a variety of subjects. They ask questions and challenge other people's opinions. Public criticism is not considered improper, unless it is highly personal.

Americans value innovations, hard work and *independence*. In fact, independence is a basic value in the United States. Young people work to achieve financial independence from their parents. Extended families generally do not live together. Political debates in the country often focus on the rights of the individual. The stress on *individualism* in the US is greater than in any other nation. A competitive spirit commonly pervades the relationship between friends, schoolmates, business associates and even family members. Children in one family can have separate toys and separate bedrooms. Even when operating as a team (in sports, business, and so forth), Americans usually think in terms of several distinct individuals combining their efforts rather than a group working as one unit.

Americans are aware of social class difference, but they attach tremendous importance to the concept of human *equality*. This concept means both (1) that one tries to treat other people as peers, even when one knows very well they are not peers (for example, people in serving professions -taxi drivers, waiters, shoe shiners - expect to be treated with basic respect by those they are serving); and (2) everyone has an equal opportunity to achieve his/her goal in life. This opportunity for social mobility is often referred to as the "American Dream".

Post-Reading Comprehension Exercises.

Exercise 5. Name the correct variant.

1.America is an a) old nation b) new nation c) ancient nation. 2.Its traditions are a) seldom b) never c) always d) sometimes based on its history? 3.America is called a) a national pot b) a melting pot c) a hot pot? 4."PC " English is a) governmental policy b) strategy of police c) language tendency. 5.An idol of life is a) its president b) a car c) football d) Henry Ford. 6. Americans like a) making money b) spending money c) saving money. 7. The biggest legend of America praise a) money b) strong voice c) positive light d) hard work. 8. Volunteering activities take place a) during working time b) after work c) inside the working place d) outside the working place e) at home. 9.Americans value a) individualism b) collectivism c) behaviorism.

Exercise 6. Answer the questions.

1.How do we call America, in the capital of which more Italian people live than in Rome, more Jewish people live than in Tel Aviv, more Irish people live than in Dublin? 2. What is a fetish of American life? 3. Do you believe that any colored American shoe blacker can become a millionaire? 4.Why are American students (not only poor) encouraged to work after classes or during their holidays? 5. What volunteering activities in the USA do you know about? 6. Do you like that the Americans seem to be always smiling? Why? 7.Where do many Americans go on Sundays, in the morning? 8.What kind of criticism is considered to be improper in the US? 9.Do you consider independence as a basic value? Why? 10. In what ways is individualism expressed? 11.Does the concept of human equality work in the States to your mind?

ADDITIONAL TEXTS

British Ways

There is no end of myths about Britain and Britons. They live in fog all the time... All their riches come from the colonies...They are so stand-offish that one can't have a heart-to-heart talk with them...

There is no other nation that *clings to the past* with the tenacity of the British. The Briton has a sense of continuity of history. He loves to go through the ancient ceremonies. Today Queen Elisabeth II appoints sheriffs of England by pricking holes in the listing of their names just as Queen Elisabeth I had first done with her knitting needles because no pen had been handy at the moment. The brilliant parades and spectacles preserve the colours of medieval times.

The British value their *home life* much more than work. It is considered rude and improper to ring home and speak about work affairs. They are very inventive in spending their *free time*. Much leisure time is spent in individualistic pursuits, of which the most popular is gardening. Flower-shows and vegetable-shows, with prizes for the best exhibits, are immensely popular. To many gardeners the process of growing plants seems more important than merely aesthetic pleasure of looking at the flowers or the prospect of eating the vegetables.

The Britons take sports and sporting activities very seriously. It's a well-known saying of General Wellington, popular all over Britain "The victory at Waterloo was won in the golf fields of Eton".

The Britons scan kilograms of the *press* every day. In no other country does 90% of population read local population and 60% of national newspapers. The total circulation is 20 million copies of morning newspapers and 48 million copies of evening, weekly and free-of-charge newspapers printed in a country with a 60 million population!

A Briton takes for granted that a foreigner should have a fluent command of English. They are seldom burning to learn a *foreign language* themselves.

British *houses* are not very big, mostly two-storied with many little gardens behind them. Central heating is found in very few houses in London. In most rooms there is a fireplace which is a symbol of happy family life. *Streets* often have unusual names, Milk Street or Honey Lane, for example. The *traffic regulation* in GB is very peculiar - cars keep to the left side of roads. *Roads* in Britain ignore the laws of geometry and logic, because they are rarely straight.

The Britons are great animal lovers. It was in Britain that the first Royal animal protection society had been formed -in 1824! And in 1884 only- the Society of Children Defense.

The Britons are rather strict to their children. "Spare the rod and you will spoil the child" they use to say. A well-bred child has to be quiet, undemanding, not interfere into his parent's life, best of all - not to be seen and even heard! Nobody tries to help a child who has fallen off a bike. Tears are considered shameful. Parents seldom get worried how well their child has eaten. Very often pets get better meals than children do. Britain is the country where dogs don't bark and children don't cry.

Morality problem is treated in a peculiar way in GB. No one will rebuke a Major if he has a lover. But everybody will turn away from him if he lies that she doesn't exist.

The *national character* of the Britons is very stable, but controversial and even paradoxical. On the one hand, they are truly materialistic - on the other, it's the nation of idealists and mystics. The nation of colonists - they love their own country and their

homes. Being the nation of sailors and discoverers, they are ardent gardeners. They are a law-abiding nation, but they delight in reading about crimes and violence! Being the embodiment of conformism, they are at the same time long-standing individualists and eccentric people! They use to speak in a low, a kind of tired voice. Englishmen hate being private, poking noses into other people's life. Being tolerant to other people, they expect the same attitude to themselves.

The English have many customs and ways and strong points they can be proud of, the English humour is one of them. It is ironical, often self-critical.

Exercise 7. What is similar and different in attitudes of Americans and Englishmen to: sports? home facilities? traditions? traffic regulation? humor?

Exercise 8. Answer the questions:

1. Do you agree that all British riches come from their colonies? 2. What are the biggest British colonies? 3. What is the unique trait of the English? 4. How is the ceremony of the sheriffs' appointment connected with English history? 5. Why is it impolite to ring home to a Briton and consult about work affairs? 6. Is it a longstanding tradition in Britain to take sports seriously? 7. Prove that the Britons are the greatest newspaper readers. 8. What substitutes central heating in British homes? 9. What is the most peculiar thing in the British traffic? 10. Why do you think roads in Britain are rarely straight? 11. What differs British pubs from continental cafes and restaurants? 12. How do British citizens usually spend their Sundays? 13. How can you compare British attitudes to pets and children? 14. Which British national traits are controversial?

ADDITIONAL TEXT (for discussion)

Time and its Value

In the USA and Britain most people are careful about time. To see a friend or meet a business colleague, they telephone first to make an appointment. A lot of people don't like surprises. They want to know when a visitor is going to arrive.

It's polite to arrive a few minutes early. If you are late, just say sorry, and explain what happened. If you don't arrive, call to explain.

Some people sometimes drink tea or coffee before they start a business meeting - but not in Britain and the USA. They talk about business first, and chat later - if there is time!

Time is of the essence at the workplace. In large companies, workers have time cards that must insert into time clocks. The hours they arrive and leave are punched onto them so that weekly wages can be calculated and employee punctuality can be monitored. An innovation called flex-time has also been introduced to increase efficiency. Employees still put in a 40-hour work week, but they are free to arrive and leave between certain hours so as to better accommodate their work schedules to their home lives. If the computerized record shows below-average performance, they are given "pep talk" or warning their supervisors. Also in GB some employees don't come to work, they sit at home sipping beer and contact by modem their supervisors or subordinates. They think there is no sense in driving to one's office through traffic jams, and labor productivity increases many times. This method is recommended as progressive and is being introduced everywhere.

A must for punctuality can be summed up in the old adage "Time is money". In some cases just a few minutes may be worth millions.

ADDITIONAL TEXT

Read what two visitors think of aspects of life in Britain, compared to those in the US and Japan. Concentrate your attention on these comparisons.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

(Diana Weston from Brooklyn, New York)

"My first impression of Britain is that people are much more formal. For example, in the States we use first names almost immediately but here I have to be more careful. And British people are more polite. A New Yorker says: "Give me the check, will you!" when he finishes a meal but here in Britain they say: "Excuse me. Do you think you could give me the bill?"

I don't find a lot of difference in prices. They're about the same as in the States, I guess. It's the same with accommodation. I think it's a bit cheaper in London than in New York but there's not a lot of difference. One thing is certain, though, London is not as violent¹ as New York. Some friends of mine who live in the Bronx have four locks on their door! I also prefer subway here. It's cleaner and quieter, although the service isn't as efficient. On the whole, though, London is more polluted than New York because everyone there has to use lead-free² petrol but in Britain it is not compulsory.

When it comes to work and business, my impression is that the British are much less hardworking than Americans. Sometimes I think the British don't know what a day's work means".

(MrYama from Osaka)

"The prices here are about the same as in Japan, except for accommodation. In Japan the cost of accommodation is very high, much higher than in Britain. You also get more for your money here. For example, the houses, the flats and the gardens are much bigger. There is more open space here, too. In London there are lots of parks and the city is not so polluted as Tokyo. However, I think, society here is more violent. You read every day in the newspapers about some violence on the streets.

As for people, I think the British are less formal, not only in the way they behave, but also in the way they dress. People wear much more casual dress here than in Japan.

When it comes to business, the Japanese work longer hours than the British, often twelve hours a day. But the amusing thing is that the British change their jobs much more frequently than we do. In Japan you usually stay in the same company for your whole working life."

Task:

Complete the chart to compare the two impressions. Give your ratings to the three countries in the areas written down below in the chart (out of 3 scores). If for example, one of the countries is the most formal in dress, score it 3 points. The country going next receives 2 points, and the least formal country gets 1 point. If the countries are equal in some area, give them all 1 point. If it's impossible to find out the most outstanding country in some area, operate with 1 point and 2 points.

	Britain	USA	Japan
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¹ Зл. Криминогенный, преступный

² Бензин, не содержащий свинец.

People being formal			
Prices			
Pollution			
Violence			
Working hard			

ADDITIONAL TEXT
Clothes They Wear
(For reading without a dictionary)
Compare Russian ways of dressing with that in GB and the USA

These days, most people in Britain and the USA don't wear very formal clothes.

Many British people don't think about clothes very much. They just like to be comfortable. When they go out to enjoy themselves, they can wear almost anything. At theatres and concerts you can put on what you like - from elegant suits and dresses to jeans and sweaters. Anything goes, as long as you look clean and tidy.

But, in Britain, as well as the USA, men in offices usually wear suits and ties, and women wear dresses or skirts (not trousers). Doctors, lawyers and business people wear quite formal clothes. In some hotels and restaurants jeans and open skirts are sometimes not allowed.

In many ways, Americans are more careful with their clothes. At home, or on holidays, most Americans wear informal or sporty clothes. But when they go out in the evening, they like to look elegant.

If you are not sure what to wear, watch what other people do and then do the same. Or ask the advice of a friend or your host.

Young British Style - out to Shock

(For information search)

Number the most noticeable stages of British youth fashion

British culture puts less emphasis on appearance than some other European cultures, where to dress badly is social death. Yet its youth style is radical beyond that of any other nation. British women were the first to bare their knees when Mary Quant produced the mini-skirt in the sixties. Since then, British youth fashion has often been anti-fashion; punk style, for example, was never about looking pretty. As punk hit the street in the mid-seventies, British teenagers stuck safety pins through their noses and wore black ripped bin liners. With their hair coloured bright green or orange and fixed into hard spikes with glue, the first punks shocked the adult world. Later, the Goths arrived, also shocking with their white, powdered faces, dyed black hair, and black clothes. Bright colours came back with the Acid House movement; followers wore T-shirts with big smiley faces. Nineties New Agers adopted long hippie skirts and loose clothes, and the Grunge movement from Seattle, USA, added its eclectic mix of colours and styles. British street style has had a downbeat glamour that speaks of neither elegance nor wealth, but has an energy and identity of its own.

(Taken and shortened from ПС "Bits about the Brits"/ Windows on Britain, 22/1998, p.7)

ADDITIONAL TEXT

TIME OFF

Fitness or Fun? (British lifestyle)

We British as a nation do all kinds of things in our spare time: we go shopping or jogging, we play darts or football, we collect records or stamps, we go to the church or to the pub. The average working person has 40 hours of free time a week, sleeps for 49 hours, spends 45 hours at work or travelling to and from work. The remaining hours are spent on "essential activities" (food shopping, housework, childcare, cooking, etc.). Of course, some of our free time activities, like visiting relatives or taking driving lessons, may not be fun, but whatever we do, the way we spend our free time is probably providing other people with work. Leisure is our fastest growing industry.

According to the latest figures, during the past years, the most popular activity of all was walking: 35 million British people regularly walked two miles or more. More energetically, ten million people went to keep fit classes or took in aerobics or yoga and half as many did some kind of weight training in a gym. Not only did nine million people go cycling but four million went jogging and the same number played football and played golf. Other popular sports were bowling³ (six million), badminton (five million), tennis (four million) and squash⁴ (three million). Less actively, twelve million people played snooker⁵ or pool⁶, seven million played darts and three million went fishing.

Watching other people playing is also a popular leisure activity: the favourite sports among TV viewers are football, horseracing, snooker, cricket and tennis. But although millions watch the matches on TV, not so many regularly go to watch football matches. "New" television sports like American football, basketball and even darts are attracting loyal armchair experts.

The fitness boom of the eighties led to a big rise in the number of people participating in sports. To cater for this boom and provide the up-to-date facilities people want, over 1,500 private health and fitness clubs and the same number of public leisure centres have been built during the past twenty years. These modern centres, with their swimming pools (22 million people went swimming last year), squash courts, gyms and indoor courts for tennis and other sports, are competing with clubs, pubs and cinemas as places for people to go to spend their leisure time - and their money. Now practically every town has a leisure pool, often with a wave machine, water slides and tropical plants. Families can even spend their holidays at huge indoor water parks, where they can play or relax all day long in warmth and comfort without worrying about the weather outside. But this may not be helping us to get fitter: we may be becoming a nation of splashers, but not a nation of swimmers. The big question fitness experts are asking is: should sport be taken seriously or should it be just fun?

(Taken from "New Progress to First Certificate" by Leo Jones// Cambridge University Press. 1996 - p.33)

Exercise 9. Fill the gaps in this chart with information from the article.

³Игра в кегли, боулинг

⁴ сквош, род упрощенного тенниса

⁵ снукер, игра на бильярде

⁶ пул, разновидность бильярда

Number of people who took part in sports and leisure activities in the last year:

Walking	darts.....	weight training
Swimming.....	golf.....	badminton.....
Snooker and pool.....	bowling.....	squash.....
Cycling.....	running and jogging.....	tennis
Keep fit, aerobics and yoga.....	football	fishing

Recreation (in America)

Baseball, basketball, and American football are the most popular spectator and team sports in the country. Public schools provide team sports for the youth. Professional sports are an important part of American culture and professional athletes are paid very high salaries. Americans enjoy cycling, tennis, swimming, golf, bowling, jogging, and aerobic exercise. Physical activity is considered important for a long and healthy life. Leisure activities include watching television, going to movies, eating out, having picnics, attending concerts, and travelling.

(Taken from ПС No36/1997, p.14)

Exercise 10. Compare British and American preferences in sports. What is common in their attitude to sports? Are there uniquely British and American sports or/and ways of other leisure activities?

ADDITIONAL TEXT

American and British Dinner Manners

Find answers to the following questions:

Are the British, American and Russian people alike in their attitude to punctuality? 2) What is the simple rule to use numerous forks, knives and spoons? 3) In which hand do the British and American people keep the knife during dinner? 4) When do they drink coffee? 5) Which nation likes to overstay as guests? 6) What is "a bread-and-butter" letter? 7) What might people bring when they go to a dinner if they want to be polite?

Every land has its own peculiar dinner manners, and the USA is no exception. Americans feel that the first rule of being a courteous guest is to be prompt.⁷ If a person is invited to dinner at six-thirty, the hostess expects him to be there at six-thirty or not more than a few minutes after. When the guest cannot come on time, he calls his host or hostess on the telephone, gives the reason, and tells at what time he thinks he can come. British people actually are very punctual and respect time.

Even an American may be confused by the number of knives, forks, and spoons beside his plate when he sits down to a formal dinner. The rule is simple, however. Use them in the order in which they lie, beginning from the outside. The small fork on the outside on the left is for salad, which is often served with the soup. The spoon the outside at the right is for the soup, and so on. Sometimes there is a separate little knife,

⁷ Prompt - зд.: точный, пунктуальный.

called a butter spreader, on a small bread-and-butter plate at the left. As the bread is passed, each guest puts his piece on the bread-and-butter plate.

There is a difference between American and European customs in using the knife and fork. The European keeps the knife in the right hand, the fork in the left. The American, on the contrary, may use just one hand when possible, and keep his other hand on his lap. He constantly changes his fork to the left hand when he has to cut his meat. Between bites he lays his fork on his plate while drinking his coffee or buttering his bread. The British, like other Europeans, usually drinks his coffee after the meal, and keeps his knife and fork in his hand until he finishes eating.

Since Americans lay their silverware down a great deal during the meal, certain customs have developed. It is not considered good manners to leave a spoon in a soup bowl or coffee cup or any other dish. It is put where it will lie flat (a coffee spoon on the saucer, a soup spoon on the service plate under the soup bowl, etc.).

Another difference in customs is that the American uses the side of his soup spoon, not the tip like the Briton.

In a good British home with traditions, it is not a custom today to use a fork for bread. Americans don't use silverware for eating bread, either. They hold it in their fingers, usually breaking it first. Other things that Americans eat with their fingers are corn on the cob, celery, radishes and olives. In Britain you eat celery and the like in the same way, but Britons do not as a rule eat corn on the cob.

When the meal is finished, the guests put their napkins on the table and rise, the men again helping the ladies with their chairs.

After the dinner, the guests usually stay for two or three hours, but the thoughtful person is careful not to overstay. The host and hostess may ask him or her to stay longer in order to be polite, but most dinner parties break up about eleven o'clock. In both countries neither men nor women do smoke at table. It is considered bad manners for a formal dinner party.

As the guests leave, it is the custom to thank the hostess for a very pleasant evening. Common expressions are "Good-bye. It's been an enjoyable evening," or "Thank you. I've had such a good time."

If one stays overnight, or in case of a weekend visit, it is customary in the USA and in GB to send a thank-you note. It is often called a "bread-and-butter letter". Quite often people later send a small gift such as a box of candy or some flowers as a sign of their appreciation.

Flowers and a bottle of good wine is always welcome in any British or American home whenever you come for a visit.

(taken and shortened from ПС, No2/98, p.1)

ADDITIONAL TEXT

A Scholar's View on National Stereotypes.

(text for translation with a dictionary in writing)

There are experimental ways of investigating stereotypes. One of the most simple is to ask a group of people what traits characterize the Germans, the Americans, the English and so forth.

There is agreement between different nations; for instance, the Americans and English agree with respect to other groups, and even, though less markedly, themselves.

The English consider themselves sportsmanlike, reserved, tradition-loving, conventional and intelligent; surprisingly enough, Americans agree, adding that the English are also sophisticated, courteous, honest, industrious, extremely nationalistic, and ...humourless!

The Americans consider themselves industrious, intelligent, materialistic, ambitious, progressive, pleasure-loving, alert, efficient, straightforward, practical and sportsmanlike; the English agree that Americans are materialistic and pleasure-loving, but also consider them generous, talkative and ... boastful.

(Quoted, shortened and adapted from H.J.Eysenck. Uses and Abuses of Psychology. Penguin Books, 1953)

ADDITIONAL TEXT

(for written translation with the help of a dictionary)

CULTURAL COMPARISONS

Ethnocentrism.

Ethnocentrism is the name given to a tendency to interpret or evaluate other cultures in terms of one's own. This tendency has been, perhaps, more prevalent in modern nations than among preliterate tribes. The citizens of a large nation, especially in the past, have been less likely to observe people in another nation or culture than have been members of small tribes who are well acquainted with the ways of their culturally diverse neighbours. Thus, the American tourist could report that Londoners drive "on the wrong side of the street" or an Englishman might find some customs on the Continent "queer" or "boorish," merely because they are different.

Ethnocentrism became prominent among many Europeans after the discovery of the Americas, the islands of the Pacific, and the Far East. Even anthropologists might characterize all preliterate peoples as being without religion (as did Sir John Lubbock) or as having a "prelogical mentality" (as did Lucien Levy-Bruhl) merely because their ways of thinking did not correspond with those of the culture of western Europe. Thus, inhabitants of non-Western cultures, particularly those lacking the art of writing, were widely described as being immoral, illogical, queer, or just perverse.

(Copyright 1994-1998 Encyclopaedia Britannica)

Here goes a little text illustrating the "Ethnocentrism" tendency. Translate this text ad-lib.

FUNNY

"I heard an English woman exclaim about me: "They are funny, the Yanks!" And I thought:

"They wallpaper their ceilings! They put little knitted bobble-hats on their soft-boiled eggs to keep them warm! They don't give their bags in supermarkets! They say sorry when they step on their toes! Their government makes them a hundred dollar

license every year for watching television! They issue driving licences that are valid for 30 or 40 years - mine expires in the year 2011! They charge you for matches when you buy cigarettes! They smoke on buses! They drive on the left! They still have milk bottles and milkmen! They love candy! They have amusing names, like Mr. Eatwell, and Lady Inkpen! And they think were funny?"

(Paul Theroux. The Kingdom by the Sea.//уч.Сафоновой X-XI кл, p.64)

ADDITIONAL TEXT

Character and Behaviour

Text 1

(Use a dictionary while translating the text)

What wet blankets the Englishmen could be!

"Mustn't grumble!" was the most English expression.

Americans were *show-offs* - and they often fell on their faces.

The English seldom showed off, so they seldom looked like fools.

In America you were *admired for getting ahead*, elbowing forward, rising, pushing in. In England this behaviour was hated - it was the way the wops acted. Making a quick buck was a form of queue jumping, and getting ahead was a form of ruddiness - a "bounder" was a person who had moved out of his class. It was not a question of forgiving things; it was, simply, that they were never forgotten. The English had long, merciless memories.

(An extract from Paul Theroux. The Kingdom by the sea) Англ.язык Уч.пособие для X-XI классов с углубл. изуч.Ч.1, М., Просв.6 1995, стр.63.

Text 2

A Warning to Beginners

How to be an Alien (Enjoy the text without a dictionary)

In England everything is the other way round.

On Sundays on the Continent even the poorest person puts on his best suit, tries to look respectable, and at the same time the life of the country becomes cheerful (веселый, оживленный); in England even the richest peer or motor-manufacturer dresses in some peculiar rags (лохмотья, тряпки), does not shave, and the country becomes dull (скучный) and dreary (вялый).

On the Continent there is one topic which should be avoided (избегать) - the weather; in England, if you don't repeat the phrase "Lovely day, isn't it?" at least two hundred times a day, you are considered a bit dull.

On the Continent Sunday papers appear on Monday; in England they appear on Sunday.

On the Continent people use a fork as though a fork were a shovel; in England they turn it upside down and push everything - including peas - on top of it.

On the Continent stray cats are judged individually on their merit (достоинства)- some are loved, some are only respected; in England they are universally worshipped (поклоняться) as in ancient Egypt. On the Continent people have good food; in England people have good table manners.

Continental people are sensitive and touchy (ранимый); the English take everything with an exquisite sense of humour - they are only offended (обижены) if you tell them they have no sense of humour. On the Continent the population consists of a small percentage of criminals, a small percentage of honest people and the rest are a transition (переходный слой) between the two; in England you find a small percentage of criminals and the rest are honest people. On the other hand, people on the Continent either tell you the truth or lie; in England they hardly ever lie, but they would not dream of telling you the truth.

It is easy to be rude (грубый) on the Continent. You just shout and call people names of a zoological character. In England rudeness has quite a different technique. If somebody tells you an obviously (явно) untrue story, on the Continent you would remark, "You are a liar (лжец), Sir, and a rather dirty one at that." In England you just say, "Oh, is that so?" or "That's rather an unusual story, isn't it?"

Many continentals think life is a game; the English think cricket is a game.

It is a shame and bad taste to be an alien (иностранец), and it's no use pretending (притворяться) otherwise. A criminal may improve and become a decent (приличный) member of society. A foreigner cannot improve. Once a foreigner, always a foreigner. He may become British; he can never become English.

(Extracts from George Mikis' How to be an Alien", taken from ПС No 13/1998, p.11)

ADDITIONAL TEXT

Superstitions in Britain

(Text for reading without a dictionary and discussion)

Do you believe in good luck or bad luck? Most people in the world have some superstitions. These are a few British superstitions with long standing traditions.

Good luck.

- Black cats are lucky.
- Clover is a small plant. Usually it has three leaves, but a few have four. A clover with four leaves brings good luck.
- A horseshoe over the door of a new home brings good luck. But the horseshoe must be the right way up. The luck runs out of a horseshoe if it is upside down.
- On the first day of the month it's lucky to say, "White rabbits".
- It's good luck to see two magpies (large black and white birds).
- Catch falling leaves in autumn and you'll have good luck. Every leaf means a lucky month in the next year.

Bad luck.

- Never open an umbrella in the house. That's very bad luck.
- Never break a mirror - that means seven year's bad luck.
- It's bad luck to see one magpie.
- Don't walk under a ladder.
- Don't walk past somebody on the stairs.
- The number thirteen is very unlucky (and Friday the 13th is a very unlucky day).

(Taken from *Let's Learn English*)

Superstitions in America

After you finish reading the text, get ready to speak about similar and uniquely British and American superstitions.

You have probably heard that Americans are not superstitious. It is not so. Here are some of the widely spread superstitions.

- A rabbit's foot brings luck (elementary school pupils bring it everywhere as a "charm" and put them into their desks during test works). The students consider the old tie brings you good luck in an examination.
- A horseshoe hung with its ends to the door brings good luck and wealth, if hung the other way round - it brings poverty.
- It bad luck if you walk under the ladder.
- A broken mirror brings seven years of unhappy life.
- If a bird flies into the room, someone will die.
- An umbrella opened inside the room will bring bad luck.
- "13" is an unhappy number, so there often are no 13th floors in American houses.
- If you see a falling star, think of a wish and it will come true.
- If you find a penny, you'll be lucky the whole day
"See a penny
Pick it up
All day long
You'll have good luck".

This penny is called "a lucky penny", and it brings good luck to carry it everywhere with you. A lucky penny is especially good, if it has a hole in it, or if it is bent.

- A good omen is when a red stray dog follows you
- It's a good omen when you sneeze three times at a time.
- It's an unhappy event if you step on a crack in the pavement:

SIDEWALKING

They say if you step on a crack,
You will break you mother's back.
But that's just silly, ha-ha-ha -
Oops-Plop- Sorry, Ma.

(S.Silverstein)

(Taken and translated from Г.Д. Томахин "Реалии - американизмы")

Quick Culture quiz

How much you know about American culture?

- 1) It is a common practice in the U.S. for young people to move out of their parents' home after graduating from high school and :
 - a. travel around the world.
 - b. get a job or go to college.
 - c. Live in a relative's home.

- 2) one of the first things an American often asks in the first few minutes of a conversation is:
 - a. where do you live?
 - b. Which way to Disneyland?
 - c. What do you do?

- d. How much money do you make?
- 3) In the U.S. educational system copying someone's paper in an examination or doing someone's homework for him/her is:
- okay, as long as both people agree to it.
 - is considered cheating and carries a penalty if the cheater is discovered.
 - an acceptable way to get help.
 - common practice.
- 4) A guest giving a gift to an American should expect the American to:
- unwrap it immediately
 - put it aside and unwrap it after the guest has left.
 - Ask if it is okay to unwrap it immediately.
- 5) A student addressing an American teacher should say:
- "Teacher" - without saying his/her first or last name.
 - The teacher's first name only.
 - The title -Ms., Miss, Dr., ... and the last name.
 - "Hey, you!"
- 6) An American response to a compliment (i.e. I like your hair style) would commonly be:
- Thank you, I just got it cut and styled a few days ago.
 - Oh, you can't mean it! It's a mess!
 - Is that some kind of a joke?
 - Okay.
- 7) When good friends (female) haven't seen each other for a long time, they probably would do which of the following when meeting:
- shake hands.
 - Kiss each other on both cheeks.
 - Hug each other.
 - Take each other by the shoulders.
- 8) When an American is asked, "How are you?", s/he generally replies which of the following ways even though s/he be sad or upset about something:
- Okay
 - Great
 - Fine
 - So-so
- 9) When Americans are feeling sad or upset, they generally:
- frown
 - complain
 - smile and hide their true feelings.
 - Hug their teddy bear.
- 10) At the end of a conversation, an American might say, "I've got to go now. Let's get together soon." This usually means:
- the people will *definitely* make an arrangement to see each other again soon.
 - the people will *perhaps* make an arrangement to see each other again soon.
 - the people will *not make* an arrangement to see each other again soon.

- 11) In the U.S. visitors coming to someone's house:
- a. usually telephone before going over to the house.
 - b. Usually stop in without calling in advance.

- 12) When an American is a dinner guest in a home and s/he doesn't like the food served, s/he would:
- a. explain that s/he doesn't care for this particular food.
 - b. eat a small portion of it.
 - c. Push it around on the plate and pretend to take bites.
 - d. Slip bits and pieces into his/her pocket or purse.

(Taken from Prof.J. Portreid's handout materials)

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