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Факультет повышения квалификации  
и переподготовки кадров

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## **ПРАКТИКА УСТНОЙ И ПИСЬМЕННОЙ РЕЧИ**

**ПОСОБИЕ**

**для слушателей факультета повышения квалификации  
и переподготовки кадров специальности 1-21 06 74  
«Современный иностранный язык (английский)»**

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Р70

Практика устной и письменной речи : пособие для слушателей фак. повышения квалификации и переподготовки кадров специальности 1-21 06 74 «Современный иностранный язык (английский)» / Г. В. Ромичева, К. А. Четырева. – Гомель : ГГТУ им. П. О. Сухого, 2009. – 75 с. – Систем. требования: PC не ниже Intel Celeron 300 МГц ; 32 Mb RAM ; свободное место на HDD 16 Mb ; Windows 98 и выше ; Adobe Acrobat Reader. – Режим доступа: <http://lib.gstu.local>. – Загл. с титул. экрана.

Содержит задания для формирования умений и навыков практического владения английским языком, чтения и понимания текстов по специальности, совершенствования навыков письменной и устной коммуникации. Включены тексты по профилю, комплексы упражнений на развитие произносительных, речевых и грамматических навыков.

Для слушателей факультета повышения квалификации и переподготовки кадров специальности 1-21 06 74 «Современный иностранный язык (английский)».

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## UNIT 1 FAMILY

### I. Study the meaning of the following words:

1. family – 1) a group of people who are related to each other  
*Do you know the family next door?*  
Close-knit family  
*We're a very close-knit family.*  
Family home/business/holiday etc  
*He grew up knowing that he would take over the family business.*  
Nuclear family  
Extended family  
One-parent family/single-parent family  
Family background  
To be in smb's family
- 2) children  
To start a family (= have children)  
*They're getting married next year, and hope to start a family straight away.*  
To bring up/raise a family
2. engaged – having agreed to get married  
to be engaged to smb  
to get engaged (to agree to marry someone)  
*Have you met the man she is engaged to?*  
*Helen and John have just got engaged.*
2. bride – the woman whom a man is going to marry and whom he is engaged to
3. bridegroom – the man whom a woman is going to marry and whom she is engaged to
4. marry – take or join marriage; enter into marriage  
to marry smb  
to be married to smb  
to get married (to)  
*She married her former fellow student.*  
*John is married to Nancy.*  
*They got married three years ago.*
5. marriage – 1) the state of being married  
*My parents disapprove of sexual relations before marriage.*

- 2) the ceremony at which two people are legally married, whether it involves relation or not.  
*The marriage took place at St. Paul's Cathedral.*
6. divorce – (n) the legal ending of marriage  
*In Britain one in three marriages ends in divorce.*  
to get a divorce  
to sue for a divorce  
to obtain a divorce from smb  
divorce settlement (= the legal decision about how much money, property etc you get after a divorce)  
(v) if two people divorce, they legally end their marriage  
*David's parents divorced when he was six.*
7. divorcee – someone who is no longer married to their former wife or husband
8. relation – a word meaning a relative, used especially in spoken English  
*She took me back home to meet all her friends and relations.*  
*Is Stella a relation of yours?*  
close/distant relation  
no relation (= not a relative)  
*His name's Johnson too – no relation.*
9. widow – a woman whose husband has died and who hasn't married again
10. widower – a man whose wife has died and who hasn't married again
11. bachelor – a man who has never been married  
*confirmed bachelor* (= a man who intends never to marry)  
*eligible bachelor* (= a rich young man who hasn't yet married)
12. spinster – a woman who has never been married

## II. Put the correct word in the gap:

To marry, to get married, to be married, got married, married, marriage.

- A: Are you \_\_\_\_\_?  
B: No, I'm single.
- I'm never going to \_\_\_\_\_. I prefer being on my own.
- I see Susan is happy in her \_\_\_\_\_. She is \_\_\_\_\_ to Mrs Johnson's son, isn't she?
- Darling, I love you! Will you \_\_\_\_\_ me?

5. We had a lovely wedding. We \_\_\_\_\_ in spring. There were a lot of flowers.
6. Did you hear? James and Kate \_\_\_\_\_ last week.
7. She \_\_\_\_\_ to an architect. They \_\_\_\_\_ last year.
8. They say Ann's \_\_\_\_\_ is a lucky one. When did she \_\_\_\_\_ Robert?

**III. Put each of the following words in its correct place in the passage below.**

Widow, stepchildren, bridegroom, brother, widower, relations, name, younger, close, spinster, get married, cousins, bachelor, stepmother, distant.

My ... is Tom Smiles. I'm the eldest of all the children. My second ... is Jack. The youngest is Michael. My ... sister is two years younger than me. Some time ago she got engaged. Her ... is Mr. Brown. They are going to ... next month. I have many .... My grandparents are dead. But I have a number of ... and ... relatives: two uncles, four aunts and about a dozen cousins. One of my ... has lost her husband. She is a .... An uncle of mine has been a ... for many years, but he married recently. His wife is very kind to her ... and treats them as a real mother would do. They love and respect their .... My second aunt has remained unmarried and therefore she is what the English call a ... or a single lady. An uncle of mine has also remained single. He is an old ....

**My Family**

People are searching for things in life. Nothing else but the family can be an emotional centre of people's lives, can be transmitter of culture and raising children. This process is a difficult one. It requires work, much respect, tolerance. In happy families parents are frankly honest with their children without moralizing, and children in their turn learn how to encounter other people, how to form relationships among themselves.

Families give us a sense of tradition. Families give us strength and purpose. Our families show us who we are. The things we need most deeply in our lives – love, communication, respect and good relationships – have their beginnings in the family.

Families serve many functions. They provide a setting in which children can be born and reared. Families help educate their members. Parents teach their children values – what they think is important. They teach their children daily skills, such as how to ride a bicycle. They also

teach them common practices and customs, such as respect for elders and celebrating holidays. The most important job for a family is to give emotional support and security.

It was a lyrical digression and now I'm going to tell you about my closest relatives.

My parents have been married for 25 years.

My father is a middle-aged, active, energetic and sociable man. He is tall and strong both in body and character, but rather stout. He has a plump oval face with an aquiline nose. He is nearly bald and the hair that remains is grey. My father is a born artist and his profession is very interesting. He is an architect, a very talented, hard-working and experienced specialist. He has two hobbies: painting and automobiles. We have a large collection of his pictures at home.

My mother turned 50 this year. She is rather tall, slender and doesn't look her age. She has long chestnut hair, kind green eyes and a charming smile. When she smiles you can see nice dimples in her cheeks. My mother is a woman of character, well-bred, tactful and fair. She's warm-hearted and at the same time practical, reserved and full of common sense. She is usually well-dressed. She is the sort of person who always looks quite smart. My mother is a housewife, she runs the house and takes care of the family.

My elder brother is 25 years old. He is married and has a family of his own. He has two children: a son and a daughter. They are twins. My nephew is a spitting image of my brother, and the niece takes after her mother, my sister-in-law. My parents adore their grandchildren and try to spend much time with them.

My sister is 21 years old. She is a lovely sweet girl, intellectual and well-mannered. She's a student, a future architect. She decided to follow in our father's footsteps. She has a boyfriend, to whom she has engaged recently. Now they are bride and bridegroom. They are going to get married soon.

My younger brother is 15 years old. He does quite a lot of sport so he's quite strong and has well developed muscles. He has straight brown hair which refuses to lie flat and is always stroking up. He has bluish grey eyes and a little nose.

He is clever and quiet and spends a lot of time at his computer. People sometimes think that he is morose and sullen but I don't think that's the case - he just prefers to think rather than to talk. When he does talk he has a deep voice. He doesn't pronounce his words very clearly, but just mutters

them - he can't be bothered to speak clearly. This is typical of boys of his age I think.

Our grandparents are rather old but full of life and energy. They are both on pension and live in the country. But all our family come to see them as often as possible.

We have a lot of close and distant relatives, because my mother has five sisters and a brother. So I've got many aunts, uncles and cousins. We are all on friendly terms.

#### **IV. Say what relation is**

Your mother's sister to you	your brother's wife to you
Your father's brother to you	your husband's parents to you
Your mother's brother to you	your sister's daughter to you
Your sister's son to you	your parents' parents to you
Your brother's daughter to you	your mother to your cousin
Your aunt's son to you	your sister to your uncle
Your aunt's daughter to you	your husband to your parents
Your sister's husband to you	your sister to your children
Your husband's brother to your children	your grandparents' parents to you

#### **V. Read the following information about Kate's relatives and make her family tree.**

- 1) Margaret and Amanda are sisters.
- 2) Kate's parents are called Colin and Emily.
- 3) Emily's brother is called David.
- 4) David is Kate's uncle.
- 5) Rose and Paul have three grandchildren: Kate, Margaret and Amanda.
- 6) Amanda's grandparents are called Paul and Rose.
- 7) Kate is Margaret's cousin.
- 8) Paul and Rose have two children: Emily and David.

#### **VI. Draw your family tree and speak about your relatives.**

## **UNIT 2 CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE**

### **I. Study the meaning of the following words:**

1. deceptive – deceiving  
*How a person dresses is often deceptive.*  
*deceptive appearances*
2. appearance – the way someone or smth looks to other people  
*You mustn't worry about your appearance – you look fine.*  
To judge by appearances  
To/by all appearances (= based on the way someone or smth seems to most people)  
*He was, to all appearances, a respectable, successful businessman.*  
Against all appearances (= in spite of the way they appear)  
*Against all appearances, she's actually quite funny when you get to know her.*  
Give/create the appearance of (= seem)  
*He gives the appearance of being confident, but he isn't really.*  
For appearances' sake (= if you do smth for appearances' sake, you are trying to make people think you are still happy, successful, etc.)
3. brave – courageous, fearless  
*a brave soldier*  
*For six days they made a brave defence.*
4. cowardly – not brave  
*He's a cowardly man.*
5. fragile – (about a person) ill, weak, feeling unwell  
*Her mother was a fragile woman.*
6. complexion – natural colour, texture and appearance of skin, esp. of face  
*Drinking lots of water is good for the complexion.*  
*You've got a sallow complexion, you should spend more time outdoors.*
7. lavish – very generous  
*He is never lavish of praise.*
8. ugly – extremely unattractive and unpleasant to look at  
*He's just so ugly.*
9. build – style or form of construction; proportions of human body  
*He's of medium build and height, with dark curly hair and blue eyes.*
10. constitution – build  
*His constitution was far from robust.*
11. harsh – severe, cruel, unkind, rough  
*He's too harsh with the children.*
12. clash – not to go well with each other, not to correspond each other



*These colours clash.*

*The orange curtains clash with the red furniture.*

13. bore – (n) dull or tiresome person or thing

*He is such a bore!*

Football, etc. bore (= someone who talks too much about football etc.)

14. boring – (adj) tiresome, dull

*The film is so boring, I'd rather listen to music.*

15. bored – tired or impatient because you don't think smth is interesting or because you have nothing to do

*I'm bored with the same old routine day after day.*

**II. In the list given below find antonyms and synonyms for each word in the box.**

ugly	boring	fragile	harsh
brave	deceptive	lavish	

Cruel, honest, monotonous, strong, plain, bold, greedy, attractive, gentle, exciting, severe, kind, misleading, cowardly, delicate, generous.

**III. Make up word-combinations.**

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. fragile    | a) appearance   |
| 2. ugly       | b) children     |
| 3. hockey     | c) punishment   |
| 4. bored      | d) constitution |
| 5. boring     | e) features     |
| 6. lavish     | f) complexion   |
| 7. courageous | g) lady         |
| 8. deceptive  | h) bore         |
| 9. pale       | i) book         |
| 10. harsh     | j) decision     |

**Character and appearance**

Appearances are deceptive. It is a common truth; practically everyone has met at least someone whose character and appearance differ radically.

When one sees a tall, broad-shouldered youth, one expects him to be strong-willed and brave. One thinks: a model to follow! How often a good

looking individual turns out to be petty, weak-willed or even cowardly. Then one thinks: a mediocrity!

At the same time everyone knows that a lot of great people were of a poor build: short and fragile. It didn't stop them from displaying intelligence and courage. Ingenuity does not depend on one's complexion or constitution.

Plump or fat people create an impression of generous and kind personalities. Strangely enough, rarely they may be thrifty, even greedy. One usually thinks: a scrooge!

On the other hand, thin or slim nervous ladies tend to be lavish. They like to buy and never think twice when they pay.

Has it ever happened to you that you come to an important office and see an important boss? You immediately evaluate his looks: round-faced, small narrow eyes, dimples on the cheeks and an upturned nose. What a kind-hearted person! A simpleton! You tell the boss of your troubles and expect immediate help. But the boss appears to be rude, harsh and wilful. You never get your help and think: a stone heart and an iron fist.

When someone sees a delicately built pretty blonde with curly hair, blue eyes, a straight nose and a high forehead, one is inclined to think that the beauty is intelligent and nice. It may be disappointing to think later: what a stupid, capricious, impolite bore!

On the contrary, when one sees a skinny brunette with ugly irregular features – a hooked nose, a pointed chin, close-set eyes and thin lips, strange thoughts come to one's head; because it is the image of evil people – cruel and cunning. It may be a relief some time later to find her a clever, gentle and good-mannered lady.

Nature likes to play tricks on us. But don't you think it is a present on the part of nature? Life becomes not a boring routine, but a brilliant kaleidoscope of characters and appearances which often clash.

**IV. Look at the words in the box and match them to the questions which aims to decide whether a person is like that.**

- ◆ Example: If you arrange to meet at 7 p.m., do you arrive at 7 p.m.? *Punctual*

polite	lavish	brave	capricious	cunning
strong-willed	kind	intelligent	wilful	generous

1. Is it easy for you to read sophisticated science magazines?

2. Are you always willing to give money and presents to other people?
3. Are you willing to suffer pain and danger if it helps someone?
4. Do you always remember to say “please” and “thank you”?
5. Do you often change your mind?
6. Are you clever in deceiving people?
7. Will you buy something unnecessary just because it’ll look nice in your room?
8. Is it difficult to make you change by argument, to make you obey?
9. Are you willing to help people, to make them happy?
10. Are you always resolute when you make decisions?

**V. Complete the sentences by describing the person’s appearance.**

1. He is the kind of man you go for at once .....
2. Richard is quite good-looking ...
3. She is nice to look at ...
4. Her husband is over 50, but he doesn’t look his age.
5. When you meet him, the first thing you notice is ...
6. Little Cathy is as cute as a doll.

**VI. Role-play the following situations.**

1

Somebody had come to see you at home/in the office, etc. while you were away. Unfortunately s/he didn’t introduce himself. You ask your mother/colleague several questions so that to guess who it was.

2

Your friend asks you to meet his/her aunt at the railway station and gives her description.

**UNIT 3  
HOMES AND HOUSES**

**I. Study the meaning of the following words:**

1. comfortable – feeling physically relaxed and satisfied  
*make oneself comfortable*  
*get comfortable*  
*It’s very comfortable living in this house.*  
*I’d like to change into some comfortable clothes.*

2. convenient – serving one’s comfort or interests, suitable; available at a suitable time or place  
*I find it much more convenient to live near my place of work.*
3. cosy – comfortable and warm  
*I wish I were at home in a nice cosy bed.*  
*There was a cosy atmosphere in the bar.*
3. home – (n) the house, apartment, or place where you live  
*They have a comfortable home on the outskirts of the town.*  
 at home  
 work from home (= do your work at home instead of at a company)  
 make one’s home somewhere  
 be/feel at home  
 leave home  
 be back home  
 make yourself at home  
 make smb feel at home  
 (adv) to or at the place where you live  
*Is Sue home from work yet?*  
 go home  
 get home  
 return home  
 drive home  
 (adj) connected with or belonging to your home or family  
 home address  
 home life  
 home bird (= someone who prefers to stay at home rather than going to parties, travelling, etc)  
 home body (= someone who enjoys being at home)
5. house – building for human habitation; building for special purpose or for keeping animals or goods  
*Why don’t you all come back to our house and we’ll continue the party there.*
7. neighbour – someone who lives next to you or near you  
 next-door neighbour  
*Our next-door neighbours are so noisy that we can hardly sleep some nights.*
8. suburb – outlying district of city  
 in a suburb  
*They bought a house in a quiet suburb of London, called Bromley.*

9. suburbs – the parts of a city that are outside its centre

*Most of the people in my office live in the suburbs.*

Suburbs = outskirts (= the area around the edge of a town or city or just outside it)

*There is a big factory on the outskirts of the city.*

face – (v) 1) to be opposite a person, building etc. so that you are pointing towards them, or to point in a particular direction

*Rita's flat faces the school.*

face north/east etc.

*My bedroom faces south.*

south-facing/west-facing: a south-facing garden

2) be faced with stone/concrete etc. (= to be covered in stone, concrete etc)

9. view – inspection by eye or mind, range of vision

*You get a beautiful view of the hills from here.*

**Syn:** sight; panorama, scene

10. space – the amount of an area, room, container etc, that is empty or available to be used

*There is little space in my room.*

## **II. Insert “comfortable”, “convenient” or “cosy”.**

- 1) Will it be \_\_\_\_\_ for you to start working tomorrow?
- 2) The whole atmosphere was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) My brother has a very \_\_\_\_\_ car.
- 4) Are you \_\_\_\_\_?
- 5) I never feel \_\_\_\_\_ with him.
- 6) This is a \_\_\_\_\_ tool for the job.
- 7) Your little room is very \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) The flat is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9) They are having a \_\_\_\_\_ chat.
- 10) Make yourself \_\_\_\_\_.
- 11) We must arrange a \_\_\_\_\_ time and place for the meeting.
- 12) Will the 4.30 train be \_\_\_\_\_ for you?

## **III. Insert “house” or “home”.**

- 1) My \_\_\_\_\_ is my castle.
- 2) There is no place like \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) East or West \_\_\_\_\_ is best.
- 4) Men make \_\_\_\_\_, women make \_\_\_\_\_.

- 5) Dried bread at \_\_\_\_\_ is better than roast meat abroad.
- 6) People who live in glass \_\_\_\_\_, shouldn't throw stones.
- 7) Mary, go and call the cattle \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) When a child, I used to keep the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9) San Francisco was \_\_\_\_\_ to them for years.
- 10) Gomel is my \_\_\_\_\_ town.

#### **IV. Comment on the proverbs above (1 – 6).**

##### **My Home**

Our family lives in a new block of flats in the suburbs. It is a new nine-storeyed building which is located in a quiet district. We live on the fifth floor. There is a shop on the ground floor. Our flat is large and comfortable. There are four rooms in the flat. It has all modern conveniences: running (cold and hot) water, electricity, gas, a lift, a rubbish chute and telephone.

The flat we live in is really lovely. Though there are four rooms in our flat the living-room we like best because in the evenings we gather here, have tea, watch TV, have a pleasant chat and rest. It is the largest and most comfortable room in our flat. The big window faces the lake. The curtains on the window match the wall-paper and it makes the room lovely. The living-room is well furnished. There are two comfortable armchairs and a sofa, a small coffee-table, a TV-set in the corner of the room, a wall unit and a folding table. There's an antique standard lamp between the sofa and the arm-chair. On the right there is a large aquarium with exotic fishes. On the floor there is a lovely Persian fitted carpet. On the walls you can see two pictures and some bookshelves. There is a nice modern chandelier on the ceiling.

We have two bedrooms: one is for our parents and another one is for children. Our bedrooms are a bit smaller than the living-room and not so light. The bedrooms' windows are also smaller. They look out onto the yard. In my parents' room there is a double-bed, two bedside tables, a built-in wardrobe and some pictures on the walls. An alarm-clock and a small lamp with a pink lamp-shade are on the bedside table. At the opposite wall there is a dressing-table with a dressing stool near it.

My bedroom serves me as a study, too. There isn't much furniture in it. Here you can see a single bed, a desk with a computer on it. A desk-armchair is standing before it. There are thick blinds on the window. There are books on the shelves all round the walls of the room. In the right-hand corner there is a bookcase full of books. Among them you can find classical

and contemporary literature, detective and historical novels, lyric poems, professional and technical literature. A small table with a TV-set is standing in the left-hand corner.

The kitchen is the most important room in many houses, but it is particularly so in our house because it's not only where we cook and eat but it's also the main meeting place for family and friends. The kitchen is conveniently arranged. Here you can see a kitchen table, four stools, a cupboard for dishes, a fridge and a number of shelves for pans, frying-pans and other kitchen utensils. The gas stove is opposite the entrance door. We also have a dish washer and a microwave oven.

Then we have a bathroom. In it there is a bath with a shower and a wash basin with a mirror over it. To the right of the mirror there is a towel-rail, to the left of it there is a shelf to keep tooth-brushes, tooth-paste and soap on. The washing machine is also here.

The hall is not very large. There is a hall-stand, a wardrobe, a round mirror on the wall and a shag rug on the floor in front of the door. The telephone is on the small table under the mirror.

We try to do our best to keep our flat tidy, cosy and comfortable.

### **The House of My Dreams**

I think that everybody has imagined his dream house. Very few of us have such an opportunity to live in a house of their dreams. Sometimes I really feel bored with living in the block of flats because there isn't much space, we must get on well with our neighbours. For me, my home is the place where I can do what I want, feel safe, relax and enjoy spending my time with my family. If everyone could choose the house where he would like to live, I'm sure, it would be very different houses because we have different tastes, needs, and preferences.

Some day I would like to live in my own house, on the outskirts. There wouldn't be many houses in the neighbourhood, the place would be very calm and the landscape very picturesque. The house would be very beautiful, made of wood. It shouldn't be very big and not high. Near this house there would be a small forest and a lake or a river. There would also be a beautiful and big garden near my house, where I would plant a lot of different flowers. The forest, lake and the garden would make this house very attractive and beautiful. There would be about eight rooms in my house. First of all, there would be a modern kitchen, a big living room, decorated traditionally. I would like to have a small library full of interesting books in my house. Of course, I would have my bedroom with a

magnificent view through the window. I would like to see something very beautiful like a forest, lake or river.

That's the description of the house of my dreams. I hope that some day I will be able to afford myself to live in a house like this.

**V. Explain the difference between the following items.**

- 1) a standard lamp, a lamp, and a chandelier
- 2) a stool, a chair and an armchair
- 3) a desk, a dining table, a coffee table
- 4) a washing machine and a dishwasher
- 5) a wardrobe and a cupboard
- 6) curtains and blinds
- 7) a single bed and a double bed
- 8) a rug and a carpet
- 9) a bedside table and a coffee table
- 10) a stove and a microwave

**VI. Play a guessing game. What article of furniture is being described?**

*Model:* It's very convenient. It has a lot of drawers on the right and on the left. It doesn't take much room. I usually do my homework sitting at it. (a writing table)

**VII. Expand the following statements. Make use of the prompts in brackets.**

1. Robert says he is quite happy about his new cottage (to be located, to face smth, to be spacious, to be modern).
2. Jane is not fully satisfied with her new flat (to be situated, to be inconvenient, to look down on, to lack sunshine).
3. Bob is so glad they've moved into a new house (to overlook, to be close to, to be good-sized, to have modern conveniences, to have a room to oneself).
4. Claire dislikes her present home (to leave much to desire, to leak, to creak, to need decorating).
5. Richie is pleased with his parents' flat (to be situated in a quiet location, not to take much time to get to one's work, to be a well-planned flat, to have papered/tiled walls).
6. Maggie would like to move into the country and live in the sort of house she'd really enjoy living in (to be surrounded by fields and meadows, to



catch a lot of sunshine, to be really old with lots of land, to have an open fire).

**UNIT 4**  
**FOOD**  
**BRITISH AND BELARUSIAN CUISINE**

**I. Study the meaning of the following words.**

1. cuisine (n) – 1) a particular style of cooking  
*French cuisine, vegetarian cuisine*
- 2) the food cooked in a particular restaurant or hotel especially when it is very good  
*Enjoy the delicious cuisine created by our award-winning chef.*
2. meal (n) – 1) an occasion when you eat food, for example breakfast or lunch  
*Dinner is the main meal of the day for most people.*
- 2) the food that you eat on a particular occasion  
*Michael cooked us a lovely French meal.*
3. food (n) – 1) things that people and animals eat, such as vegetables and meat  
*The food's great and it's not that expensive.*
- 2) a particular type of food  
*All he ever eats is junk food.*
- 3) the type of food that is typical of France, Japan etc.  
*I've never tried Korean food – what is it like?*
4. dish (n) – food cooked in a particular way as a meal  
*Lasagne is one of my favourite Italian dishes.*
5. course (n) – one of the separate parts of a meal  
*Dinner is usually a three-course meal.*
6. serve (v) – to give someone food or drink as part of a meal  
*Serve the dish with rice and green salad.*
7. smell (n) – something that you notice by using your nose  
*I opened the window to get rid of the smell of fried meat.*  
Synonym: flavour
8. treat (n) – a delicious dish  
*Ice-cream is a wonderful treat for both children and grown-ups.*
9. garnish (v) – to add smth to food in order to decorate it  
Garnish each dish with a slice of lemon.

10. seasoning (n) – spices that you add to food in order to give it special taste and flavour

This dish should be cooked without any seasonings.

11. gravy (n) – sauce made from the meat juices.

*The meat was stewed in its own gravy.*

## II. Insert the right word (meal, food, course, dish).

1. We have three \_\_\_\_\_ a day: breakfast, dinner and supper.
2. I like to cook my \_\_\_\_\_ myself.
3. This \_\_\_\_\_ tastes bad. Don't eat it.
4. Breakfast in England is generally a bigger \_\_\_\_\_ than they have on the continent.
5. The most common third \_\_\_\_\_ at our canteen is compote.
6. Why don't you take a \_\_\_\_\_ of meat and vegetables?
7. Dinner consists of several \_\_\_\_\_.
8. I like to have a nice hot \_\_\_\_\_ in the evening.
9. Which \_\_\_\_\_ is tastier: boiled or fried?
10. Yesterday I tried to prepare a very special \_\_\_\_\_ from a French cookery book.

## III. Make up word-combinations.

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. British     | a) cheese     |
| 2. fried       | b) sandwiches |
| 3. potato      | c) milk       |
| 4. pork        | d) cuisine    |
| 5. whole       | e) drinks     |
| 6. cottage     | f) dishes     |
| 7. thick       | g) fat        |
| 8. special     | h) bacon      |
| 9. traditional | i) gravy      |
| 10. take-out   | j) seasonings |

## British Food

British cuisine varies widely, depending on what part of the country you're visiting. The cuisine of London, for example, is far different from the cuisine of Yorkshire, or the cuisine of tiny, unfamiliar regions scattered across the country and virtually unknown to the rest of the world. Many hold the opinion that the true cuisine of the British is not what is found in

the big cities, but the unknown treasures of the table that are hiding in the farmlands and countrysides and old villages across the U.K.

If you wander the British countryside, and you stop at a local pub or restaurant for breakfast, prepare yourself for an experience. As discussed above, the classic British breakfast is a large meal, bigger than what we're used to, and most of it tends to be fried (terrible for your health). Fried bacon and eggs, fried bread, and fried tomatoes are standards in country cooking.

Asking for coffee with your breakfast in the UK is a big no-no. Give tea a try. British cuisine leans heavily on tea, served with milk and sugar, the latter of which is usually coarse, brown, and unrefined. Tea is served for any meal and any time in between. It's just as quintessentially British as it sounds.

Any typical British meal, whether it's breakfast, lunch or dinner, tends to have some form of potatoes. The British rely heavily on potatoes in the countryside, and they serve them in very traditional manners. A wonderful British treat is something called a pasty. Meat, potatoes, vegetables and warm gravy are wrapped in a flaky bakery crust and sold ready to eat. Pasties are treated like take-out sandwiches or fast food, as you can walk down the street with a paper cone or napkin wrapped around them. They keep your hands warm too, which is a must during the cold winters or rainy days.

The other major staple of typical British country food is fish and chips. Fish and chip shops abound in all cities in England. British fish and chips are amazingly crackly, cooked until the coating is rich brown and salty, and the meat inside tender, white, and flaky. Chips, or potato wedges, are served hot and crispy on the side, and generally the whole thing is smothered in as much vinegar and salt as the consumer's mouth and stomach can stand. There is something distinctly British about malt vinegar, which sits on the tables at restaurants like American ketchup.

The smells and flavours of traditional English cuisine are well worth experiencing. If you find yourself in Britain, take time out to explore the sites, the back pathways and rolling fields. And stop at a bakery for a pasty, stop at a shop for fish and chips. Order tea instead of coffee, if you drink that horrible stuff.

The British experience just isn't the same if you miss out on the marvelous tradition of authentic British food.

## **Belarusian cuisine**

Modern Belarusian cookery is based on old national traditions which have undergone a long historical evolution. But the main methods of traditional Belarusian cuisine are carefully kept by the people.

Common in Belarusian cuisine were dishes from potato which is called among people "the second bread". The Belarusians bring fame to their beloved potato in their verses, songs, dances. There are special potato cafes in the country where you can try various potato dishes. Potato is included into many salads, it is served together with mushrooms, meat; different pirazhki (patties) and baked puddings are made from it. The most popular among the Belarusians are traditional draniki, thick pancakes, prepared from shredded potatoes. A wide spread of potato dishes in Belarusian cuisine can be explained by natural climatic conditions of Belarus which are propitious for growing highly starched and tasty sorts of potatoes.

A lot of place in the diet of the Belarusians belongs to meat and meat products, especially to the pork and salted pork fat. One of the people's proverbs says: "There is no fish more tasty than tench, as well as there is no meat better than pork". The salted pork fat is used slightly smoked and seasoned with onions and garlic. Pyachysta is one of the traditional holiday dishes. This is boiled, stewed or roasted sucking pig, fowl or large chunks of pork or beef. Dishes prepared from meat are usually served together with potatoes or vegetables such as carrot, cabbage, black radish, peas, etc. It is characteristic that many vegetable and meat dishes are prepared in special stoneware pots.

Among dishes from fish the Belarusians prefer yushka, galki and also baked or boiled river-fish without special seasonings. In general, what concerns the most common seasonings such as onions, garlic, parsley, dill, caraway seeds, pepper, they are used very moderately in Belarusian cookery.

The choice Belarusian food is fresh, dried, salted and pickled mushrooms, and also berries such as bilberry, wild strawberries, red whortlberry, raspberries, cranberry and some others.

Of flour dishes the most popular is zacirka. Pieces of specially prepared dough are boiled in water and then poured over with milk.

The Belarusians prefer to use whole milk which affected some methods of making yoghurt and the so called klinkovy cottage cheese. In Belarusian cuisine the milk is widely used for mixing in vegetable and flour dishes.

Myadukha, berezavik, kvas, beer are traditional Belarusian drinks.

#### IV. Find English equivalents in the texts.

Подавать традиционным образом; нечто недозволенное (табу); чудесное лакомство; настоящая британская еда; белорусская кулинария; попробовать различные блюда; измельченный картофель; тонкие блинчики; приправленный луком и чесноком; лучшая белорусская еда; мучные блюда; глиняные горшочки.

#### V. Answer the questions.

1. What does the variety of British food depend on?
2. Where can you find British cuisine which is considered to be true?
3. What does the classical British breakfast consist of?
4. Is coffee a typical drink in Britain?
5. What is a pasty?
6. What is modern Belarusian cookery based on?
7. Why are potatoes called the second bread?
8. What are the most famous fish dishes?
9. How is zacirka cooked?
10. What are the traditional Belarusian drinks?

#### VI. Speak about British and Belarusian food.

### UNIT 5 EATING OUT TABLE MANNERS

#### I. Study the meaning of the following words:

1. brunch – a meal eaten in the late morning, as a combination of breakfast and lunch.  
*I'm a late riser. I usually have brunch at ten o'clock.*
2. taste – (n) the special feeling that is produced by a particular food or drink when you put it in your mouth  
*Sugar has a sweet taste.*  
(v) (1) to have a particular kind of taste  
*This wine tastes too acidic.*  
*What does pumpkin taste like?*  
(2) to put a small amount of food or drink into your mouth to see what it is like

- *What are you doing? – I'm tasting the pie.*  
 (3) to experience the taste of food or drink  
*I can hardly taste what I'm eating because of my cold.*
3. spirits – alcoholic drinks  
*You can buy almost all kinds of spirits in any pub.*
  4. helping – the amount of food that someone gives you or that you take  
*a huge helping of potatoes*
  5. menu – a list of all the kinds of food available for a meal, especially in a restaurant  
*Is there any fish on the menu?*  
*Could we have the menu, please?*
  6. digestion – 1) the process of digesting food  
 2) your ability to digest food easily  
*I've always had a poor digestion.*
  7. sip – to drink smth slowly, taking very small mouthfuls  
*Don't sip your soup!*
  8. swop – to change (for smth/with smb)  
*I want to swop my ice-cream for your cake.*
  9. bill – a written list showing how much you have to pay (for food, etc.)  
*When I finished eating, the waiter brought me the bill.*
  10. pick at – to eat only small amounts of food because you don't feel hungry or don't like it  
*The children have no appetite. They just pick at their food.*
  11. swallow – to make food or liquid go down your throat and towards your stomach
  12. chew – to bite food several times before swallowing it  
*My mother always used to say to me, "Make sure you chew meat carefully before you swallow it".*
  13. tip – the money you give the waiter in a restaurant (porter at the railway station, chambermaid at a hotel) for his/her good service  
*The porter will expect a tip.*
  14. snack – a small amount of food that is eaten between main meals or instead of a meal  
*I only had time to grab a quick snack.*
  15. starter – food (usually cold) served before the main part of a meal

## **II. Explain the difference between the words in the following pairs.**

- 1) a helping and a course
- 2) a starter and a dessert
- 3) a snack and a dinner
- 4) a tip and a bill
- 5) a brunch and a breakfast

### **Eating out**

Eating out in Britain is no problem at all. There are many places to eat. Their names are so different - a restaurant or cafe, cafeteria or coffee shop, pancake house or steakhouse, pizza place or sandwich shop, eatery or simply grill.

Some of them have proper names like «The Pines». Others are named after their owners like «Marie's» or former owners if the place has earned a good reputation. You can also eat at a take away place. When you buy something they ask «Here or to go?». The competition is so strong that you can always find a good meal you can afford. From time to time nearly all restaurants make «Special offers» of cheaper meals. On Sunday one can find in the local paper and take advantage of a «Sunday brunch special».

All restaurants in Britain serve table d'hote and a la carte dinners. Table d'hote dinners are cheaper than a la carte ones. When you dine a la carte you order course by course, as you desire. But table d'hote dinner consists of several dishes, the choice is limited, and it is served at a fixed price.

In the middle of the day when employees or workers have a short break for lunch, they find it impossible to get home for this meal and so they take it in a self-service cafe, or a fast food restaurant as they just want to eat up quickly and are not much interested in its quality. There are a lot of such places to suit every taste and purse.

There are quite a large number of vegetarians in Britain and an even larger number who are concerned about their health. For them “Health food shops” are abundant in the country as well as delicatessens, or deli for short.

We can't but mention the so-called fish-and-chips shops, which serve this traditional English dish (fish is deep fried in oil and served with chips). Housewives find it convenient to buy it in the evening and take the meal home thus avoiding the process of cooking.

And, of course, the British pub (short for a «public house»). It is unique. This is not because it is different in character from bars and cafes in other countries. It is because it is different from any other public place in Britain itself. Without pubs, Britain would be a less sociable country. A pub with forty customers in it is nearly much noisier than a cafe or restaurant with the same number of people in it. Pubs used to sell almost nothing but beer and spirits. These days you can get wine, coffee and some hot food as well. At one time it was unusual for women to go to pubs. These days parents can even take children with them if there is a garden at the back and the pub has a special children's certificate. One of their notable aspects is that there is no waiter service. In pubs you have to go and fetch your drinks yourselves, you can get up and walk around - it is like being in your own house. Unlike other eating or drinking place, the staff are expected to know the regular customers personally and chat with them if they are not serving someone. It is also helped by the availability of pub games and, frequently, a television. It is notable that very few pubs have tables outside because the Victorians thought it was somehow not proper for people to be seen drinking.

**III. Explain the difference between the words that mean ‘a place to eat’. Use a dictionary if necessary.**

Restaurant	Pancake house	Pizza place	Wine bar
Pub	Snack bar	Bistro	Steakhouse
Coffee shop	Takeaway	Fast food restaurant	Refreshment room
Canteen	Grill bar		

**IV. Make up questions with the following expressions, ask your groupmates to answer them.**

Specific character, availability, to be named after, to suit every taste and purse, the choice is limited, a regular customer, fish and chips, children’s certificate.

**V. Compare eating and drinking places in Britain and Belarus.**

**Eating out.**

**Some rules for diners**

If you don’t very often eat out in a restaurant, you may need some advice — as the latest issue of the *Good Food Guide* points out. Several



rules for people eating out are given, some of which seem perhaps to favour restaurant staff more than they are likely to help diners! For example the *Guide* tells its readers to be sure to phone up and cancel any booking they make which they can't keep. The restaurant may otherwise be holding a table and turning away customers at its busiest time. The *Guide* also advises you to ring up if you're going to be delayed by more than a quarter of an hour; if you don't, your table may be given to someone else and it's only polite according to the *Guide*.

Another rule they give is to let the restaurant know in advance if a member of your party has any special needs. So if you're eating with a small child, a very old person, a disabled person, a vegetarian or a Moslem let the restaurant know at least a day ahead so that you can all be sure of having better food and a happy time. A good restaurant owner will be only too happy to look after his guests' individual requirements.

Before you go inside the restaurant, make sure you spend some time reading the menu outside quite carefully. Try to notice what the prices include and what they don't include. In particular look for any mention of cover charges, service charge and VAT. You might be in for a nasty shock when the bill comes if you haven't budgeted for these 'extras' and not all the menus you're shown at table mention these items. Once inside and seated comfortably at a table that suits you (and if you want a table by the window or in a quiet corner, do say so when you book) look at the menu carefully and insist that you're allowed enough time to decide at leisure what to order and to discuss with your companions what you're each going to have. There's nothing worse than being rushed into making a choice you'll regret later. By the way, don't be afraid to order two different dishes and to swop with a companion half-way through.

Another rule is to ask the staff questions: how is this dish cooked? what goes with what? what's that rather tasty looking dish the people at the next table are having? and so on. The *Guide* stresses that the people at the next table deserve consideration, too. If you want to smoke, you should ask them if they mind. This is more than just a polite formality since many people do object to breathing in other people's cigarette or, worse, cigar smoke while they're trying to appreciate good food.

While you're eating, someone will probably ask you 'Everything all right?' and probably expect the answer 'Fine, lovely!' but experienced diners should treat this as a serious enquiry and be prepared to offer compliments, criticisms (or both) honestly. Don't take any notice of companions who urge you not to 'make a fuss'. The trouble is, however,

that you're usually asked this question when you have a mouth full of food which makes it difficult to do more than nod and go 'Mmm'.

Finally, at the end of the meal, when you've been given the bill and are ready to pay you should thank the staff. Giving the waiter a big tip is no substitute for a warm thank you and a smile — if you've been served professionally and cheerfully you should reward the waiter with both gratitude and money! And if the food was poor, don't blame the waiter (it probably wasn't his fault — he wasn't the one who cooked the food) and don't refuse to give him a tip, either. In this case ask to see the manager and tell him you didn't really enjoy the meal and make sure you explain why.

By following these rules and guidelines, says the *Good Food Guide*, you can help yourself and others to enjoy better food. And if you do have a really good meal locally, tell your friends about it and encourage them to go to the same place. If you have a disastrous one, tell them about that, too. After all, a good restaurant deserves to do good business and a bad one shouldn't be in business at all, perhaps.

#### **VI. Find the answers to these questions in the text.**

Why should you...

- a) ring up to cancel a booking?
- b) ring up if you're going to be late?
- c) inform the restaurant if you're going to eat there with a young child?
- d) read the menu outside?
- e) spend plenty of time reading the menu at your table?
- f) ask the staff questions?
- g) worry about the other diners in the restaurant?
- h) criticise the way the meal was prepared, if it was poor?
- i) tip the waiter even if you had a bad meal?
- j) tell your friends about your eating experiences?

#### **VII. Do you (or would you) follow the rules suggested in the article? Give your reasons.**

#### **VIII. Describe the last meal you ate in a restaurant.**

##### **Table manners**

Although rules regarding table manners are not very strict in Britain, it is considered rude to eat and drink noisily. At formal meals, the cutlery is

placed in the order in which it will be used, starting from the outside. The dessert spoon and fork are usually laid at the top of your place setting, not at the side.

After each course, the knife and fork should be laid side by side in the middle of the plate. This shows that you have finished and the plate can be removed. If you leave the knife and fork apart, it will show that you have not yet finished eating.

It is considered impolite to smoke between courses unless your hosts say otherwise. It is polite to ask permission before you smoke in people's homes.

In Britain smoking is now forbidden in many public places, e.g. in the underground, at the stations, in shops, in theatres and in cinemas.

### **The list of do's and don'ts**

1. Do not attract undue attention to yourself in public.
2. When eating, take as much as you want, but eat as much as you take.
3. Do not eat too fast or too slowly, cut as you eat.
4. Take a little of every dish that is offered to you.
5. Sit up straight and face the table, do not put your elbows on the table while eating.
6. Do not reach across the table – simply say: “Would you please pass the salt”, etc.
7. At a small party do not start eating until all are served. At a large party it is not necessary to wait for all. The hostess gives a signal to her guests by saying: “Start eating, please (your food will get cold)”.
8. There is no rule about eating everything on your plate, to indicate that you have had enough place knife and fork together, not criss-cross.
9. When refusing a dish simply say: “No, thank you”, when accepting – “Yes, please”.
10. Do not leave the spoon in your cup, when drinking tea or coffee.
11. Do not empty your glass too quickly.
12. Take a slice of bread from the bread-plate by hand, don't harpoon your bread with a fork.
13. Do not bite into the whole slice, break it off piece by piece.
14. Never spoil your neighbour's appetite by criticising what he is going to eat or telling stories which are not conducive for good digestion.
15. Chicken requires special handling. First cut as much as you can, and when you can't use a knife and fork any longer, use your fingers.
16. Never read while eating (at least in company).
17. When a dish is placed before you, do not eye it suspiciously as though it

is the first time you have seen it, and do not give the impression that you are about to sniff it. No matter how surprised you are, take all in your stride.

18. Don't use a knife for fish, cutlets or omelettes.
19. When you are being served, don't pick. One piece is as good as the next.
20. In between courses don't make bread-balls to while the time away and do not play with the silver.
21. Don't lick your spoon. If you really feel that way about it, ask for a second helping.
22. Don't use a spoon for what can be eaten with a fork. The forks are placed at the side of the dish in the order in which they are to be used (salad fork, fish fork, meat fork).
23. When eating stewed fruit use a spoon to put the stones on your saucer.
24. Vegetables, potatoes, macaroni are placed on your fork with the help of your knife.
25. If your food is too hot, don't blow on it as though you were trying to start a campfire on a damp night.
26. Your spoon, knife and fork are meant to eat with, they are not drumsticks and should not be banged against your plate.
27. Don't sip your soup as though you wanted the whole house to hear.
28. Don't pick your teeth in company after the meal even if tooth-picks are provided for the purpose.
29. And, finally, don't forget to say "Thank you" for every favour of kindness.

**IX. Which of the following habits do you consider rude and why? Which of them, if any, do you consider acceptable only at home, and which do you consider completely unacceptable?**

- Helping yourself to food without asking;
- Starting to eat before everyone is served;
- Picking at food with your hands;
- Reading at the meal table;
- Resting your elbows on the table;
- Reaching across the table in front of people;
- Leaving the table before other people have finished;
- Not thanking the cook;
- Wiping your plate with bread.

**X. Role-play the following situation: You've invited your friends to dinner but you're afraid that your little brother (sister) will break table manners. Explain to him (her) what she/he should do to follow table manners.**

## UNIT 6 SHOPPING

### I. Study the meaning of the following words:

afford – to have enough money to buy or pay for something or to do something

to afford to do smth (not doing!)

*We can't afford to go on vacation this year.*

bargain – (n) smth bought cheaply or for less than its usual price

*I might buy a TV set, if I can find a bargain in the sales.*

*I got this shirt when I was in Thailand – it was a real bargain*

*Those shoes are a bargain at \$22.*

*Bargain hunting* (= looking for things to buy at a cheap price)

(v) to discuss the conditions of a sale, agreement

*He always manages to bargain for better pay.*

cash – money in the form of coins or notes rather than cheques, credit cards

*May I pay by Visa? – I'm sorry, we only take cash.*

*Is there any discount if I pay in cash?*

cash desk – the desk in a shop where you pay

cash register (AmE)/till (BrE) – a machine used in shops to keep the money in and record the amount of money received from each sale.

cashier – a person whose job is to receive or pay out money in a shop, bank, hotel, etc)

change – 1. the money that you get back when you have paid for something with more money than it costs

*I waited for the shopkeeper to hand me my change.*

2. money in the form of coins

In change

*I have about a dollar in change.*

Change for £1/\$10 (= coins that you give somebody in exchange for the same money in a larger unit)

*Excuse me, have you got change for a pound?*

consumer – somebody who buys and uses products and services

*The consumer is interested in high quality goods, not just low prices.*

customer – somebody who buys things from a shop or company, or who uses a restaurant, bar, etc.

*We offer a 10% discount to regular customers.*

display – (n) an attractive arrangement of objects for people to look at or buy

*a display of goods*

*be on display*

(v) to show goods for sale in a shop

*Shop windows are displaying the latest fashions.*

purchase – (n) something that has been bought

*Thank you for your purchases!*

(v) to buy smth, especially smth large and expensive

*A loan to purchase a new car.*

queue – (n) a line of people waiting to enter a building, buy smth, etc.

*We were stuck in a queue for half an hour.*

*Jump a queue* (= go unfairly to the front of a queue instead of waiting)

*Join a queue* (= start waiting in it)

(v) to form or join a line of people waiting to do smth) *people queuing for tickets*

receipt – a written statement that you give to smb showing that you have received money or goods from them

*Keep any receipts you are given.*

cheque – one of a set of printed pieces of paper that you can sign and use instead of money to pay for things

*a cheque for £200*

*write a cheque*

*How much should I write a cheque for?*

*Can I pay by cheque?*

*Cash a cheque* (= get cash by writing a cheque)

*Cheque book*

refund – to give smb their money back, especially because they are not satisfied with the goods or services they have paid for

*I took the TV set back and they refunded me my money.*

trolley – a large metal basket or frame on wheels that you push along used for carrying bags, shopping, etc.

*a supermarket trolley*

counter – the place where you pay or are served in a shop, bank, restaurant  
*at a shop counter*  
*over the counter* (= drugs, medicines, etc. that are bought over the counter are ones that you can buy in a shop without a prescription)  
*under the counter* (= if you buy smth under the counter, you buy it secretly and usually illegally)  
*It's risky, but you can get alcohol under the counter.*

**II. Match the words below (1 – 15) with the correct definitions (a – o).**

1. chemist's	a) a place that sells a wide range of plants, seeds and things for your garden
2. newsagent's	b) an area in a town where there're a lot of shops that have all been built together in the same place
3. supermarket	c) a shop that sells equipment and tools that you can use in your home or garden
4. pharmacy	d) one of a group of shops that have the same name and are owned by the same company
5. mall	e) a very small shop in a street, which has an open window where you can buy newspapers, cigarettes, chocolates, etc.
6. hardware shop	f) a very large shop which is divided into several big parts, each of which sells one type of thing such as clothes, furniture or kitchen equipment.
7. garden centre/nursery	g) a shop that sells newspapers and magazines, cigarettes, chocolates, etc.
8. news-stand	h) a very large shop that sells equipment and tools for repairing and decorating your home (do-it-yourself)
9. department store	i) a very large modern shop, especially one that is built outside the centre of a city

10. kiosk	j) a very large building with a lot of shops inside it and often also cinemas, restaurants, etc.
11. DIY store/home centre	k) a shop where you can buy food, alcohol, magazines, etc., that is open 24 hours each day
12. shopping centre	l) a small movable structure in a street which sells newspapers and magazines
13. chain store	m) a shop or part of a shop where medicines are made and sold
14. boutique	n) a shop that sells medicines, beauty and baby products
15. convenience store/corner shop	o) a small shop selling fashionable clothes

### III. Match the words in column A with the definitions in column

#### B.

##### A.

- 1) go shopping
- 2) go to the shop(s)
- 3) go window-shopping
- 4) do the shopping
- 5) shop around

##### B.

- a) go to the shop(s) near your house in order to buy food or to buy one or two other small things that you need
- b) compare the price of smth in several shops before deciding where to buy it
- c) go to shops in order to look at things and buy things
- d) go to shops in order to buy the things that you need regularly, esp. food
- e) to look at the things that are shown in shop windows without intending to buy anything

### Shopping

Many shops generally deal in certain goods displayed in shop windows and a lot of stores called department stores sell various items of consumer goods under one roof. The department store is a great convenience for customers because it saves our time. In the store customers go to the counters, choose the goods they want and pay at the cash desk. Salesmen or salesgirls stand behind the counters but there are self-service departments with no salesmen but only cashiers who sit at the cash desks just in the departments.



In the department store a customer can find: stationery, household goods, electric appliances, crockery and glassware, textiles and other departments. The hats department sells caps, kerchiefs, wide-brimmed (fur, felt, straw) hats, berets.

The hosiery handles socks (cotton, woolen, nylon), stockings, tights and knitted goods: knitted underwear (slips, singlets, panties), cardigans, jackets, jumpers, pullovers, sweaters, knitted caps, mittens, scarves.

In the drapery one can get a length of cloth (linen, cotton, cotton print, pure silk, rayon, nylon, velvet, all-wool, thick wool cloth).

The ready-made clothes for men's department is stocked well with everything a man needs in the way of clothes: shirts, trousers, coats, waist coats, two-piece and three-piece suits, overcoats, raincoats.

If a woman wants to buy ready-made clothes (dresses, aprons, skirts, blouses, costumes, trouser suits, coats trimmed with fur of mink (fox, nutria, muskrat) she goes to the ready-made clothes for women department.

Sports goods is supplied with trainers, T-shirts, bathing trunks, bathing suits, sports shoes, sports equipment.

Haberdashery handles handkerchiefs, lace, ribbon, tape, thread, needles, safety pins, umbrellas, while men's haberdashery is stocked with braces, collars, mufflers, shaving-sets, electric razors. There is also perfumery having face cream, powder (loose and compact), eye shadow, lipstick in various shades, perfume (scents), eau de cologne, lotion, shampoo, soap, nail polish on sale.

Jewellery sells ornaments, bracelets, rings, earrings, brooches, necklaces, beads.

Brief-cases, handbags, gloves, wallets are sold at leather goods.

At the shoe department one can buy footwear: boots, high boots, fur-lined booties, shoes (made of leather, patent leather, suede), low shoes, high (medium, low)-heeled shoes, rubber shoes, sandals, slippers, canvas shoes, high (low) platform shoes.

In big department stores they have information bureaus, where a customer can inquire about any goods he would like to buy. If a customer is overloaded with packages the department store can take care of delivery by means of home delivery service and the customer can have his purchases delivered at any time and place he/she wishes.

### **At the Supermarket**

I usually do my shopping once a week at the local supermarket or at the big self-service food store. These large self-service stores are brightly-lit and usually well laid out. The goods are tidily arranged on trays and long shelves on which the various prices are clearly marked. There is plenty of room for the customers to walk about. The shelves are

well stocked with a very wide selection of attractively packed goods - everything from quick-frozen food to washing powder, from shoe polish to new-laid eggs, from tinned fish to toothpaste.

I walk from shelf to shelf, filling my wire basket. But if I want a lot of things I usually use a trolley. I always write a shopping list of things I need to buy. If I can't find anything on the shelves, I ask an assistant for help. I have to be careful when shopping in a self-service store for the goods are so attractively displayed that I am tempted to buy things I do not need or cannot really afford.

When I have everything, I go to the cash desk, where there is a short queue. When it is my turn the cashier reckons up the bill on a cash register. Then she tells me the total and I pay cash. The cashier gives me the change and the receipt. Before going home, I sometimes drop in at the market.

The market is large, with over a hundred different stalls, part of it is covered, part of it open-air. A wide range of clothes, household goods, fruit and vegetables is on sale and prices are often considerably lower than in the ordinary shops.

#### **IV. Read the dialogue and then do task V.**

— Excuse me, I bought this colour TV here last week and I'm not satisfied with the picture. I'd like to have my money back, please.

—I'm sorry, sir, but I'm afraid we don't give refunds. May I see your receipt? We can give you a credit note for this amount, sir, or you can exchange it for something of equal value.

—All right, I'll take the exchange.

—Actually, sir, you are very lucky. We've got a sale this week. We have some really great bargains. Now this Zandy 3000 is a great deal. It's 40 per cent off the normal retail price. It has remote control and it has a one year guarantee.

—It still seems expensive to me.

—No, no, sir, that's a fantastic price. It's cheap, believe me. We've sold hundreds of them and this, I believe, is the last one.

—The last one? O.K. I'll take it. How much extra do I owe?

—Just 125 pounds.

—And can I pay by credit card or would you prefer a cheque?

—Credit card will be fine, thank you.

—... Bring out another Zandy 3000, will you?

**V. Decide if the following statements are true or false according to the dialogue.**

- 1) The man returned the TV because it was broken.
- 2) The man wanted a refund.
- 3) The salesman offered him a credit note.
- 4) Every TV in the store was reduced.
- 5) The Zandy 3000 was being sold at half price.
- 6) If the Zandy 3000 breaks in the next year, the man will get his money back.
- 7) The Zandy 3000 cost more than the TV that the man had returned.
- 8) The man paid by cheque.
- 9) The man bought the last Zandy 3000 in the store.
- 10) The salesman was very good at his job.

**VI. Work in pairs. Act out the following situations.**

1. You are having a party on Sunday and you need a lot of things. At the moment your wife (husband) and you are making a shopping list.
2. Tomorrow is your mother's birthday. You've come to the grocery. You want to buy a lot of food. The grocer is eager to help you.

**UNIT 7  
SEASONS**

**I. Study the meaning of the following words:**

1. Bloom – in (full) bloom (= a plant that is in bloom has flowers that are open)  
*The azaleas are in full bloom.*
2. blossom – in (full) blossom (= a bush or tree that is in blossom has flowers on it)
3. breeze – a gentle wind  
*A nice cool breeze came in off the sea.*
4. changeable – likely to change, or changing often  
*We have changeable weather here, especially in winter.*
5. downpour – a lot of rain that falls in a very short time  
*The downpour had caused a flood.*
6. frost –
  1. ice that looks white and powdery and covers things outside when the temperature is very low  
*The grass and trees were white with frost.*
  2. very cold weather, when water freezes

*The Ohio valley is expecting the first frost of the season by Monday morning.*

frost-bite (= a condition caused by extreme cold, that makes your fingers, toes, etc. swell, become darker and sometimes fall off)

to be frostbitten

7. heat – 1. very hot weather

*I'm just not used to this kind of heat.*

The heat of the day (= the hottest part of the day)

2. warmth or hotness

*Black surfaces absorb heat from the sun.*

Heat wave (= a period of unusually hot weather, especially one that continues for a long time)

*The heat wave continued throughout August and into September.*

8. rainfall – the amount of rain that falls on an area in a particular period of time.

*An area with very low rainfall*

9. set in – if something sets in, especially something unpleasant, it begins and seems likely to continue for a long time

*Winter seems to be setting in early this year.*

10. shower – a short period of rain or snow

*It was just a shower, so we didn't get too wet.*

Heavy showers (= when a lot of rain falls during short periods)

Heavy showers are forecast for the weekend.

11. snowball – a ball made of snow that someone has pressed together

*The kids were having a snowball fight outside.*

12. snowfall – an occasion when snow falls from the sky, or the amount that falls in a particular period of time

*There was very little snowfall last year.*

13. snowstorm – a storm with strong winds and a lot of snow

14. suntan – attractively brown skin which you get when you spend a lot of time in the sun

*to get suntanned*

## **II. Paraphrase the following using the verbs in proper tense forms.**

Example: The rain fell heavily last night. – It rained heavily last night.

1. There was a good fall of snow last night.
2. There is often a lot of sun in the morning.
3. There was a thaw yesterday.
4. There was a dense fog in the morning.
5. There is a hard frost these days.
6. There were heavy showers last summer.
7. I hear claps of thunder.

### III. Make up word-combinations.

- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. begin      | a) weather   |
| 2. severe     | b) wind      |
| 3. heavy      | c) clouds    |
| 4. oppressive | d) snowballs |
| 5. changeable | e) to bloom  |
| 6. piercing   | f) frost     |
| 7. play       | g) summer    |
| 8. Indian     | h) heat      |
| 9. thick      | i) downpour  |
| 10. grey      | j) fog       |

### Seasons

In my opinion the most beautiful season in Europe is spring. In May the weather is finest, and all nature is loveliest. The trees put forth little buds and new leaves: the meadows grow green again. The first spring flowers snowdrops, primroses make their appearance. The sky is blue, the sun is bright and the air is fragrant with the sweet scent of lilacs and jasmine.

The trees break into blossom, the flowers begin to bloom, the busy bees are at work. The first birds, rooks and starlings build their nests, and every morning there is loud singing of the nightingales in the trees.

I like summer, in fact I prefer it to any other season. In June the trees, the flowers are in full blossom, I like "Leafy June", "the Month of Roses". A sweet smell rises from the blooming roses, daisies and green grass. A warm soft breeze stirs the leaves of birch-trees. How beautiful are the fields around! The wheat is golden, the grass is green.

If the heat gets too oppressive, we enjoy bathing in the river. What a pleasure it is to lie on the sandy beach and get suntanned or splash in the water and swim. August is the very crown and perfection of summer. The hot sun ripens the corn and the fruit, and the collective farmers get ready

for the harvest. There are plenty of strawberries, cherries, gooseberries, raspberries, blackberries, plums, apricots, peaches which are ripe and afford a treat for old and young.

And what pleasure can be compared with that of watching the glorious sunrise and sunset! It's a real delight!

Strange as it may seem, I like autumn. Is there anything more beautiful than Indian Summer!

Nature looks beautiful then. The golden trees change their colour from green to dark brown and bright yellow. It is usually cool and sunny. In rainy weather there's nothing more pleasant for me than to sit comfortably in my armchair and read a book.

When autumn is over, winter sets in. It is the season of snowstorms and ice, of frozen rivers and ponds, and of slippery streets, but I don't mind it all. I enjoy skating on the ice, or skiing in the woods. In snowy weather tobogganing is my favourite pastime. Then think of the joy of the children! At the first snowfall they are out making snowmen, building snowhuts, and playing snowballs. Of course, if the winter is severe, one must take care not to get snow-bitten. To me, winter has its own peculiar beauty, and there's no reason to feel bored when there are so many books, theatres, cinemas and concerts to enjoy.

### **Nature signs**

Every aspect of Nature reflects changes in the atmosphere which govern climatic conditions. Insects, frogs, bats, bees, butterflies, birds and animals by their appearance, mood or movements indicate the weather that could be expected in the day or weeks ahead.

Some animals are good weather indicators. On winter evenings when the fox is heard crying in the distance a heavy fall of snow is forthcoming. The hedgehog seen, slowly and laboriously moving on paths or gardens in early autumn, is a sign of a period of good sunny weather. In autumn, when the badger is seen making his sett and leaves and branches are strewn at its opening, an early winter is to be expected.

Our feathered friends are most sensitive to those changes, and people who study them minutely can foretell changes in weather conditions. The robin, sparrow or finch seen washing and preening their feathers in a pool of water are a sign of fine weather. If wagtails can be seen fluttering about street or farmyard, heavy rain may be expected. The magpies, for instance, when they gather together and chatter loudly presage storm and rain. In late winter or early spring the gulls flying inland are a sign of a bad season.

Swallows arriving early are a sign of a good summer. When swallows fly low, rain is imminent. If they migrate in early autumn, an early winter with harsh conditions can be expected.

Insects, butterflies, bees and frogs are also sensitive to changes of weather.

Ants, known as flying ants, when seen flying in multitudes and settling on window-sills, railings, ledges, or even on roofs and bonnets of cars, are a sure sign of approaching rain. A sting from a flying ant can be very painful, and, the more painful it is, the nearer the rain.

Spiders, patiently threading their webs outside doors and windows presage bad weather, but, when they weave their webs on tops of rushes or whin bushes in early spring, good weather is on the way.

Our domestic animals, although not regarded by humans as being over-burdened with brains, understand climatic conditions much better than we do. The dog eating grass is a sign of a change in the weather. The cat is very wise in forecasting the weather. If she sits with her back to the fire, cold weather with frost is imminent. If she sits at the fire washing her face with her paw, rain is approaching, but when seen washing behind and over her ears with her paw, floods are on the way. If the cat is seen clawing at the legs of chairs or door posts, high winds are forthcoming, and, that is a sign that fishermen took very seriously.

Trees or shrubs beginning to sprout at the end of March or early April are a sign of a good summer on the way. Early growth of grass in February or early March is a bad sign for the remainder of the spring. A heavy crop of berries on the rowan tree, or innumerable haws on the hawthorn predicts a severe winter with hard frost and heavy snowfalls.

**IV. Match the following nouns with the suitable adjectives.  
(There may be more than one combination).**

Wind	strong	dense
Rain	weak	damp
Fog	heavy	oppressive
Snow	light	thick
Frost	nasty	lovely
Weather	severe	fine
Heat	sharp	hard

**V. Match the words with their definitions.**

1. snowdrift                      a) snow blown by high winds

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 2. snowflakes | b) soft white pieces of frozen water that fall from the sky in cold weather |
| 3. snow       | c) deep banks of snow against walls, etc.                                   |
| 4. thaw       | d) frozen raindrops that fall as small balls of ice                         |
| 5. melt       | e) weather when the temperature is below the freezing point                 |
| 6. sleet      | f) frozen water   |
| 7. slush      | g) change from hard, frozen state to normal                                 |
| 8. blizzard   | h) rain and snow mixed  |
| 9. frost      | i) change from solid to liquid under heat                                   |
| 10. hail      | j) dirty, brownish, half-water, half-snow                                   |
| 11. ice       | k) white powder that covers the ground when it's very cold                  |

**VI. Complete the following sentences.**

1. We'd better stay at home. There's a thunderstorm approaching. Look...
2. It's pouring. What a pity I've left my umbrella at home, now...
3. I don't like autumn because...
4. The air is wonderfully fresh because...
5. What is the weather forecast for tomorrow? They say ...
6. When the thaw sets in, it's extremely unpleasant to walk because...
7. How fresh the air is! It comes from the orchards...  
What nasty weather! It has been drizzling since morning, and...

**UNIT 8**  
**WEATHER IN GREAT BRITAIN**  
**WEATHER FORECAST**

**I. Study the meaning of the following words:**

1. weather - state of the air and atmosphere at a certain time  
*What's the weather like today?*  
*We've had some cold weather lately.*
2. climate – 1) the typical weather conditions in a particular area  
*Queensland has a warm tropical climate.*  
2) an area with particular weather conditions  
*These flowers will not grow in cold climates.*



3. thunder – the loud noise that you hear during a storm, usually after a flash of lightning  
*They could hear thunder rumbling in the distance.*
4. lightning – a powerful flash of light in the sky caused by electricity and usually followed by thunder  
*A flash of lightning lit up the whole sky.*
5. storm – a period of very bad weather, when there's a lot of rain, wind or snow  
*A storm was gathering.*
6. forecast – the weather forecast (= a statement in a newspaper, on TV or on the radio, saying what the weather will be like during the next few days)  
*According to the weather forecast, it's going to stay hot for the rest of the week.*
7. rainfall – the amount of rain that falls on an area in a particular period of time  
*an area with very low rainfall*
8. shower – a short period of rain or snow  
*It was just a shower, so we didn't get too wet.*  
heavy showers (= when a lot of rain falls during short periods)  
*Heavy showers are forecast for the weekend.*
9. mist – a light cloud low over the ground that makes it difficult for you to see very far  
*A light mist descended on the mountain.*
11. fog – thick cloudy air near the ground that is difficult to see through  
*The fog has almost cleared – our plane will be able to take off soon.*
10. damp – slightly wet, sometimes in a cold way that is not nice  
*The ground was too damp to sit on.*
11. wet – 1) covered in or full of water or another liquid  
*wet grass*  
to get (something) wet  
*Try not to get your feet wet.*  
2) rainy  
*It's very wet outside.*  
The wet (= rainy weather)  
*Come in out of the wet.*
12. prophecy – prediction, forecast  
*A prophecy comes true.*

## II. Correct the mistakes in the following sentences.

1. We had a lovely weather while we were on holiday.
2. The climate in Tokyo tomorrow will be wet and humid.
3. It is advisable to find out what the climate will be like if you're thinking of going sailing next week.
4. It was a lot of heavy rain last week.
5. The weather in Sweden and Norway is unsuitable for growing grapes.
6. Your health would improve if you moved to a warmer and drier weather.
7. The climate in Britain is often very changeable.
8. We're having a wet and windy climate at the moment.
9. It's still very rainy today.

## III. Choose between "thunder", "lightning", "storm".

1. A flash of \_\_\_\_\_ lit up the whole sky.
2. They could hear \_\_\_\_\_ rumbling in the distance.
3. A flash of ... was immediately followed by a clap of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We were caught in a \_\_\_\_\_ I'd never experienced before. It was pouring with rain and a strong wind was blowing. We could hardly see anything.
5. We are in for a big \_\_\_\_\_. The sky is covered with dark clouds. There was the first flash of \_\_\_\_\_ just now.

### On English climate

The climate of England is milder than that of other countries. English people are apt to complain of it as being damp and rainy, and foreigners laugh at it and say that the English summer is made up of three fine days and a thunderstorm.

British people say: "Other countries have a climate, in England we have weather."

The weather in Britain changes very quickly. One day may be fine and the next day may be wet. The morning may be warm and the evening may be cool.

People talk about the weather more in Britain than in most parts of the world. When two Englishmen are introduced to each other, if they can't think of anything else to talk about, they talk about the weather. The weather is also considered a safe topic of conversation. If you do not know each other well enough to talk about personal matters, you can at least, sound friendly by talking about the weather. When two

people meet in the street they will often say something about the weather as they pass, just to show their friendliness.

It is hard to say that England has typical weather because of the sudden changes that occur — showers from what was only a few hours before a clear blue sky; sunshine that makes you want to leave off most of your clothes followed by winds that set you wishing for two overcoats.

The winter fogs in London are, indeed, awful; they surpass all imagination. In a fog the air is hardly fit for breathing; it is grey, yellow, of deep orange, and even black because of the smoke of many thousands of chimneys. In a dense fog all traffic is stopped, no vehicle can move from fear of dreadful accidents.

The three things that chiefly determine the climate of England are: (1) the position of the island in the temperature belt; (2) the fact that the prevailing winds blow from the west and southwest; (3) the warm current - the Gulf Stream that flows from the Gulf of Mexico along the western shores of England.

All this combined, makes the climate more moderate - that is, the winters warmer and the summer cooler. The winters are never cold enough to freeze the rivers and the summers are seldom hot.

The coldest part of the country is the Highlands of Scotland. It is as frosty in Scotland as in St. Petersburg. In January south-western England is the warmest part in Great Britain. The snow is rare and it never lies for long. In summer the south-eastern part of England is the warmest.

### **Weather Forecasting**

A region's weather may change greatly from day to day. People tried to predict the weather for thousands of years. A correct prediction was of paramount importance to sailors and soldiers, airmen and fishermen, travellers and farmers.

Nowadays scientists with their ultra-modern equipment can make weather forecasting somewhat more accurate, but in the past, people in rural Ireland, who depended so much on the weather for sowing, reaping and harvesting of crops had a fairly reliable system of their own to predict the weather. They understood that all life on earth depended on the sun so they looked at the sun and planets, wind and water, bird and beast which all depended on the sun, for guidelines. The heavenly bodies were studied very carefully by our forefathers for any changes in the weather.

Everyone is acquainted with the St. Swithin's day story which says that rain on that day brings forty days of similar weather, but another prophesy, which may not be so well known, foretells that the twelve days before St. Swithin's day are a guideline for the twelve months which follow.

When studying weather you will remember, of course, that the direction of the wind will help you to forecast what weather is on the way. You know that the wind from West or South-West is likely to bring the rain and the unsettled weather. The east wind is colder, but in summer it generally brings fine days. In winter the east wind is a prophet of frost and snow storms. The north-eastern is the coldest wind we know.

On a summer night, if the stars seem brighter than usual, then wind and rain are on the way. In winter, when the wind blows from North or East and the stars blaze and twinkle, then the weather will turn colder and the earth will be gripped with great frosts.

When the moon shines clear without a misty rim it will be fine weather. When it is compassed round with a halo, the wind or rain follows soon.

When the sun arises red and fiery, wind and rain are on the way. If at sun-rising it is cloudy and the clouds vanish as the sun rises, it will be a fine day.

A red sunset foretells fine weather, unless it is muddy and misty, then rain will follow.

**IV. Find the word with the strongest meaning in each of these groups of words. Use a dictionary if necessary.**

- 1) unpleasant – bad – beastly – wretched – nasty;
- 2) breeze – squall – gust – storm – hurricane;
- 3) cold – chilly – cool – frosty – freezing;
- 4) downpour – rain – shower – drizzle;
- 5) evening – twilight – sunset – dusk – night;
- 6) stuffy – warm – close – sultry – hot;
- 7) waterfall – flood – stream – whirlpool;
- 8) splendid – glorious – fine – pleasant – nice
- 9) haze – dim – fog – mist – smog.

**V. Ask questions the answers to which are given below.**

1. I think it will keep fine.
2. Yes, it's a sin to stay indoors.

3. No, I don't think it will rain tomorrow.
4. It rained most of the time, we had to stay indoors.
5. It was very quiet and cool in the country.
6. It has been raining for a fortnight at least.
7. I don't expect it'll be long.
8. Well, I'm so glad we're in for a spell of fine weather.

**VI. What kinds of weather do you think caused the following to happen? Write a sentence which could go before each of these.**

1. We had to sit in the shade every afternoon.
2. The sweat was pouring out of us.
3. I can hardly breathe; I wish it would rain to cool us down.
4. Cars were skidding out of control.
5. They had to close the airport; the snow was a meter deep.
6. We were able to sit in the garden in the middle of the winter.
7. The earth became rock-hard and a lot of plants died.
8. It blew the newspaper out of my hands.
9. A row of big trees had been uprooted like matchsticks.
10. I could hardly see my hand in front of my face.

**UNIT 9  
CITY TRANSPORT  
PUBLIC PLACES**

**I. Study the meaning of the following words**

hail a taxi – call to a taxi-driver to try to attract his attention

*I was in a hurry and hailed a taxi in the street.*

fare – the money a passenger on the public transport has to pay

*Bus fares have shot up by 10%.*

*Children under 4 travel half-fare.*

rush hour – the time of day when the road, buses, trains, etc are most full because people are traveling to or from work.

*At the end of the working day the rush hour starts all over again.*

cab – 1) a taxi

*The red London buses and black cabs were moving along Piccadilly.*

2) the place where the driver sits in a bus, train or lorry

coach – a bus with comfortable seats used for long journeys

*They went to London by coach.*

route – 1) a way from one place to another

*Which route is the railway station?*

2) a way between two places that buses, trains, ships, etc regularly travel

*The coach driver follows his usual route making stops every two hours.*

vehicle – a thing that is used for carrying people or things from one place to another on land

*“Is this your vehicle, sir?” asked the policeman.*

journey – the act of going from one place to another, usually taking a long time

*She had to make the journey alone.*

9. queue - (n) a line of people waiting to enter a building, buy smth, etc.

*We were stuck in a queue for half an hour.*

*Jump a queue* (= go unfairly to the front of a queue instead of waiting)

*Join a queue* (= start waiting in it)

(v) to form or join a line of people waiting to do smth)

*people queuing for tickets*

traffic – the vehicles moving along the road or street

*heavy traffic*

*to be stuck in traffic*

deliver – to take letters, packages, etc to a particular place or person

*They delivered the goods to us.*

parcel – an object wrapped in paper or put in a special envelope especially so that it can be sent by post

*The post office attendant helped me to wrap the parcel.*

package – something wrapped in paper, packed in a box and then sent by mail or delivered

*The package was so heavy that I could hardly lift it.*

charge – (v) to ask payment for

*If you don't check out on Friday, an extra day must be charged.*

(n) cost; payment; expense

*She had to pay an excess luggage charge as it was 3 kilos overweight.*

in advance – beforehand

*If you want to get good seats, you should buy the tickets in advance.*

## II. Fill in the missing words.

- 1) Use the map to find the best \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Avoid the \_\_\_\_\_ when you drive somewhere: you may be stuck in a \_\_\_\_\_ jam.
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ on the London underground are not fixed.
- 4) We went by \_\_\_\_\_ and sat up the whole night.
- 5) The man who \_\_\_\_\_ letters is the postman.
- 6) I was in a hurry and decided to \_\_\_\_\_ a taxi.
- 7) I had to wait in a \_\_\_\_\_ before getting on a bus.

## III. Explain the difference between the following words:

1. charge and fare
2. transport and vehicle
3. coach and bus
4. package and letter
5. to deliver and to send

## CITY TRANSPORT

Britain has a well-developed transport service. It includes buses, coaches, trains, planes, etc. Most buses in Britain are operated by the local Council. Others are owned by companies which often receive financial help from the Government.

On many routes you will see both single-decker and double-decker buses. There is often only one man in charge of the bus and you pay him the fare when you get on. Most buses have a two-person crew: the driver, who drives, of course, and the conductor who takes your money. Keep your ticket because an inspector might want to check it.

If you want to catch a bus, you wait at a bus stop. Here there's a board with the routes, numbers and times of buses. But be careful. Sometimes there's a sign "Request stop" which means that buses only stop if you put out your hand.

If there are other people waiting at the bus stop you must queue behind them and allow them to get on the bus first. (Some people believe that the British habit of queuing first began with the introduction of public transport.)

Quicker than the bus is the underground (called the Tube in London, the subway in New York and the Metro in Paris and many other cities). You buy your ticket at the ticket-office. Go down to the platform on the

escalator. The train comes. The sliding doors open. You get on. You look at the map of the underground system. Very simple.

A taxi, sometimes called a cab is the most comfortable way to travel. Taxis in London are usually big black vehicles. Sometimes they may be ordinary cars with a "Taxi" sign on top. You can find taxi ranks (places where taxis wait) at airports, stations, and in the centre of the city. You can also telephone for a taxi or hail one in the street. A taxi can be cheaper than the bus fares for two or more people. However, long journeys by taxi are expensive — be careful at ports and airports. You can ask the driver to give you an idea of the cost before you leave. Drivers must charge the metered fare for all journeys within London (including Heathrow) regardless of duration and distance. Taxi drivers expect to be tipped for all journeys.

For longer distances take a train or a long distance bus, usually called a coach, which is slower but cheaper. The train is very fast. Put your luggage on the rack, take your seat and wait till you arrive.

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

### **At the Railway Station**

A big railway station is a very busy and interesting place.

There are a lot of platforms at which trains come in and go out. Some passengers are getting out, others are getting in. Those who haven't got their tickets in advance are waiting in queues at the booking-office.

There are a lot of notices in a big railway station. There is a WAITING-ROOM where you can relax until it's time to board your train. If you are hungry or thirsty, go to the REFRESHMENT ROOM. If you don't know the number of the platform from which your train leaves, look for the notices ARRIVALS and DEPARTURES.

When you arrive in a large town you may leave your heavy luggage at the LEFT LUGGAGE OFFICE.

You will also see the notice BOOKING OFFICE. This is where you buy your ticket. If you don't know the time or the platform your train leaves from, you'll go to the INQUIRY OFFICE.



### **At the Post-office**

The Post-office is a great service industry in Britain. It's made up of four large businesses, Posts, Telecommunications, Giro, and Data Processing Services.

The post-office gives the services which customers require. Its main task is to deliver mail: newspapers, magazines, telegrams, parcels. Here you can also buy envelopes, stamps, postcards, pay communal services. At a post-office you can have some services similar to those available in banks known as the "National Savings Bank".

Now let us pay a visit to a local post-office. There are many windows with a notice showing the operation handled. The first one is marked "Parcel Post", the next one is "Money Orders". Then there's one marked "Post Restante". Going down the line you will see: "Stamps", "Post Cards", "Stamped Envelopes", "Registered Letters", "Air Mail". In some conspicuous places you will find a board with the postal rates. This will give you information about how many stamps are needed for inland and foreign letters, that is how much postage must be paid on those letters. Then somewhere near the entrance you will see a notice giving the hours of delivery. The windows marked "Parcel Post" handles all parcels or packages. Don't forget to insure your parcel if you've got something really valuable in it. The larger post-office even maintains a wrapping and packing service.

If you want to send printed matter (newspapers, magazines, books) you'll have to go to the window marked "Book Post".

The "Poste Restante" window keeps mail until it is called for. The post-office maintains this service for those who prefer to pick up their mail in person.

When sending a letter of particular value you should have it registered. The advantage of this service is that registered letters are not left with the ordinary mail in the letter box, delivered personally (the addressee has to sign them). The sender is given a receipt at the post-office so he can always trace a letter. Of course, there will be a special charge.

The "Money Orders" window needs almost no explanation. You may send money orders by mail or by telegram and whatever you do, don't lose the receipt.

### **IV. Insert the right prepositions.**

London cabbies have the reputation (1)\_\_\_\_\_ being the best trained taxi-drivers (2)\_\_\_\_\_ the world. To become a taxi driver in London, you have to pass a very difficult exam called "The Knowledge". This is a test (3)\_\_\_\_\_

the driver's knowledge (4)\_\_\_\_\_ London – all its streets and major buildings, as well as every club, hotel, hospital, police station and library. It can take a person up (5)\_\_\_\_\_ three years to study (6)\_\_\_\_\_ this exam, and the result is that London cabbies can usually take you anywhere you want to go (7)\_\_\_\_\_ the most direct route, and without having to look (8)\_\_\_\_\_ a map. A cabbie must also have a medical examination and have no criminal conviction.

#### **V. Answer the questions**

1. Do you like to receive letters? Why? Why not?
2. In what cases do people send telegrams? Postcards? Is it a common practice in our country?
3. Have you ever send a telegram by telephone? How is it done?
4. Do people send e-mails or faxes instead of writing letters? Why?

#### **VI. Speak on the topic “Transport in Big Cities”**

### **UNIT 10**

### **LONDON. SIGHTSEEING**

#### **I. Study the meaning of the following words:**

1. Dome – a round roof with a circular base  
the dome of St. Paul's
2. Glimpse – (n) a look for a very short time  
To catch a glimpse of smth/smb  
We got a glimpse of the history of an English town.  
Syn: look, glance  
(v) to see smb/smth for a moment but not very clearly  
I have read your letter and glimpsed at your beautiful sonnet.
3. Landmark – smth that you can see clearly from a distance  
The Empire State Building is a familiar landmark on the New York skyline.
4. Luxurious – smth that is magnificent and very expensive  
Luxurious cars/hotels
5. motley – consisting of many different types  
syn: mixed, diverse  
a motley group/collection/crew

6. sights – interesting places that are visited by tourists  
syn: scenes, views  
to do/see the sights  
You may go and see sights the whole day
7. site – a place where a building, town, etc. is/was situated  
the site of a 16<sup>th</sup> century abbey  
the site of the battle  
a camping site
8. skyline – the outline of buildings, trees, hills, etc. seen against the sky  
on the London skyline  
dominate the skyline
9. stroll – (v) to walk in a slow relaxed way  
to stroll through the park  
to stroll along the beach  
(n) to go for a stroll, to take a stroll
10. throng – to be thronged with = to be full of smth  
The streets were thronged with people.
11. tomb – a large grave , especially one made of stone  
the tombs of the pharaohs
12. attraction – 1) an interesting or enjoyable place to go or thing to do  
a tourist attraction  
2) a feature, a person that makes smth interesting or enjoyable  
City life holds little attraction for me.
13. boast – 1) to talk with too much pride about smth  
to boast of/about smth  
2) to have smth that is impressive and you can be proud of  
The town boasts a grandeur castle.

## II. Complete the sentences using the words from the vocabulary.

1. The streets were \_\_\_\_\_ with Christmas shoppers.
2. The hotel suite looked very \_\_\_\_\_ in the brochure.
3. She took the children for an evening \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I only caught a \_\_\_\_\_ of the thief, so I can't really describe him.
5. His friends were a \_\_\_\_\_ crew.
6. Famous \_\_\_\_\_ like St. Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London, the Houses of Parliament will always be popular tourist \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Nearby is Tower Bridge, one of the river Thames most famous \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Richmond \_\_\_\_\_ elegant mansions which are open to the public.

**III. Give the words and word combinations synonymous to the given ones.**

1. to go for a walk
2. to look briefly at the baby
3. the grave of the Unknown Warrior
4. a habit requiring lots of money
5. to be full of people
6. the location of an ancient town
7. a diverse collection
8. the views of the city

**A Day Trip to London**

It's hard to imagine a journey more guaranteed to please than a day trip to London, with all the excitement and variety that one of the world's greatest capital cities has to offer.

There's so much to see in London that it is well worth planning your day carefully before you set off.

The tour departs from **Piccadilly Circus**.

It's difficult to say what is the real centre of London, but many people would choose Piccadilly Circus. This is because it is not only central but also the heart of London's entertainment world. Within a few hundred yards of it we find most of London's best known theatres and cinemas, the most famous restaurants and the most luxurious night-clubs.

In the middle of Piccadilly Circus there is a statue said to be of Eros, the god of love. Few people know that it really represents the Angel of Christian Charity. On New Year's Eve it is boarded up to prevent over-enthusiastic revellers from climbing onto it.

It is particularly in the evening that Piccadilly Circus is thronged with people going to the theatre or the cinema, or perhaps to a restaurant. Many others have come to an evening stroll. The crowd is a motley one, for it is composed of people of many nationalities. The atmosphere is distinctly cosmopolitan, and one hears around a great variety of languages. It has been said that if you listen carefully, you may even hear English!

It is out of the question to tour London without catching a glimpse of Nelson standing high over his **Trafalgar Square**, anything from 167 – 185 feet high. What is certain, however, is that the column was built during the

early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to commemorate Nelson's victory in 1805, and there's no doubt that this national hero still draws the crowds. Crowds of tourists as well as those famous pigeons still flock there in all seasons, and at Christmas time a vast tree stands there surrounded every evening by scores of carol singers.

You don't have to search for history in London, there is history around virtually every corner. The most obvious landmarks are the **Tower of London, Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament.**

**The Tower of London** is an open history book of England. It has been a fortress, palace, home of the Crown Jewels and national treasures, arsenal, mint, prison, observatory and tourist attraction.

The Tower of London was started by William the Conqueror who invaded Britain in 1066. He built the White Tower to impress and frighten the English. The Tower of London brings to the visitor's mind a vision of imprisonment, torture and violent death at the hands of a masked executioner with an axe. Many prisoners laid their heads on the chopping block. Among the victims were noblemen, politicians, traitors and two of Henry VIII's wives.

The men who guard the Tower are Beefeaters. They can tell you everything about its history. Their clothes are the uniform of royal guards of the year 1500.

The ravens with their clipped wings are another famous sight. The Legend says "Only as long as the ravens stay, will the White Tower stand". Kings and queens have come and gone, some even lost their heads on Tower Green, but the Tower of London has survived them all.

Happy ghosts haunt the aisles of the superb Gothic **Westminster Abbey**, where a succession of English monarchs from William I have been crowned and many are buried in magnificent tombs recently restored to their original colours. But it's not only the crowned heads that are worthily remembered here. George Frederick Handel, Sir Walter Scott and Oliver Goldsmith are elaborately commemorated in the Poets' Corner. Over a thousand monuments are crowded into the building; they not only commemorate prominent men and women from every walk of life, but also give a breathtaking view of English monumental sculpture. However, it is perhaps the simple grave of the Unknown Warrior, which is the most poignant. His tomb symbolizes the sacrifice of more than a million British who lost their lives in World War I.

**The Houses of Parliament** and **Westminster Abbey** face each other across Parliament Square, where statues of Sir Winston Churchill, Abraham Lincoln and several other statesmen stand.

Every day when people in the UK and overseas switch on their radio to listen to BBC news, they can hear one of the most famous sounds in London. On the hour, the bells of Big Ben ring loud and clear. Many people think that Big Ben is the clock or the whole tower next to the Houses of Parliament. In fact, it is the largest of the five bells at the top of the tower.

No visit to London would be complete without a look at **St. Paul's Cathedral**, which was built after the Great Fire of 1666. It stands in the heart of the City. The architect was Sir Christopher Wren. It took him thirty-five years to finish St. Paul's. Wren designed St. Paul's to give a feeling of space and light. You can climb 627 steps to the dome, which houses the famous Whispering Gallery. If you whisper close to the wall on one side of the dome, you can be heard on the other side.

St. Paul's was the burial place of Wren, who died at the age of 91, having changed London's skyline with some 50 exquisite churches.

To make sure you make the most of London, go to **Buckingham Palace**, the London home of the kings and queens of Britain, and watch the Changing of the Guard, one of the most popular tourist sights. First the band marches through the Gates of the Palace. The job of the police is to keep the tourists from following the guards! The guardsmen wear their traditional uniform: a tweed coat and a black helmet. The helmet is called "bearskin" and it's made of fur.

If you want to look deep into the essence of things, be sure to visit at least one of London's museums and galleries.

**The British Museum** is an incomparably rich treasure-chest, brimming with things of world historical importance. It was founded in 1753 and, since then, has grown to include every conceivable kind of artifact from all over the world.

**The Victoria and Albert Museum** is equally impressive, with an outstanding collection of fine and applied arts housed in a grand building opened in 1909 by Edward II. Just next door, and especially popular with children, is **the Natural History Museum**. Within this vast and elegant building unsuspecting visitors may come face to face with anything from huge dinosaurs to working displays of their own insides!

London is equally rich in art galleries, from **the National Gallery** in Trafalgar Square, which houses one of the world's finest collections of

European art, to the smaller galleries, such as **the Wallace Collection**, with its unrivalled representation of 18<sup>th</sup> century French art. **The Tate Gallery** houses the national collection of British painting and modern sculpture. It's necessary to mention **the National Portrait Gallery** with its fine collection of portraits spanning six centuries.

If you'd like to see a bit of London greenery, you can enjoy the delights of London's parks, green islands of peace and quiet in the middle of the noisy sea.

The best-known parks are, of course, the central ones: St. James's Park, Hyde Park, Regent's Park, and Kensington Gardens. They have many attractions. **Hyde Park** has the Serpentine, a little lake, where, if one feels inclined, one may take a swim or go for a row, and Speaker's Corner where one gets up and says anything (or almost anything!) one wishes. **Kensington Gardens** has the Round Pond where "dry land sailors" of all ages sail every kind of yacht. **St. James's Park** boasts a truly elegant lake on which lives a great variety of wild ducks.

As evening falls, shops and museums close, but restaurants open. So it's time to hop on the first sightseeing bus at the nearest bus stop and it will bring you to Piccadilly Circus, your starting point. London's entertainment scene is colourful and diverse. All tastes are catered for in theatre, music and dance. Whether classical music, Shakespearean theatre, raucous comedy or disco are your preference, London has something for everyone.

There is so much to see in this, the largest city in Europe that is sure to exhaust you before you exhaust its possibilities.

#### **IV. Say in other words:**

1. a political and government figure, especially one who is respected as being wise, honorable and fair;
2. to speak in a very quiet voice;
3. to be very full of something;
4. an object that was made in the past and is historically important;
5. extremely beautiful and very delicately made;
6. to start something, such as an organization, city, etc;
7. to contain;
8. someone who is having fun, singing, dancing, etc. in a noisy way;
9. a place where coins were officially made;
10. the spirit of a dead person that some people think they can see in a place.

## **V. Answer the questions:**

1. What is the best way to see London?
2. Why is Piccadilly Circus called the centre of London?
3. What is there in the middle of the Circus?
4. Why are there so many people in the Circus in the evening?
5. What makes Trafalgar Square so popular with tourists?
6. Why is the Tower of London called an open history book?
7. What legend is associated with the Tower of London?
8. What people are commemorated in Westminster Abbey?
9. What is Big Ben?
10. What is St. Paul's Cathedral famous for?
11. Where does the ceremony of the Changing of the Guard take place?
12. Why is the Natural History Museum especially popular with children?
13. Where are London's best-known parks situated?
14. Why do you think are the parks sometimes called London's lungs?
15. What do people use the Round Pond in Kensington Gardens for?

## **VI. Plan your sightseeing tour of London.**

### **UNIT 11**

### **LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

#### **I. Study the meaning of the following words.**

1. language – a system of communication by written or spoken words, which is used by the people of a particular country or area  
*It took him several years to master the Chinese language.*  
*She had lived in Italy for years, and her command of the language was excellent.*
2. tongue – (*literary*) a language  
*Anton lapsed into his own tongue when he was excited.*  
mother/native tongue (= the language you learn as a child)  
*She felt more comfortable talking in her native tongue.*
3. multilingual – using, speaking, or written in several different languages  
*the problems of a multilingual classroom*  
*a multilingual phrasebook*



4. dictionary – a book that gives a list of words in alphabetical order and explains their meanings in the same language, or another language  
*a German-English dictionary*
5. vocabulary – a) all the words that someone knows or uses  
*Reading is one of the best ways of improving your vocabulary.*  
b) all the words in a particular language  
*English has the largest vocabulary of any language.*  
c) the words that are typically used when talking about a particular subject  
*Most technical jobs use a specialized vocabulary.*
6. learn – to gain knowledge of a subject or skill by experience, by studying it, or by being taught  
*What's the best way to learn a language?*  
*I learnt to drive when I was 17.*
7. study – 1) to spend time reading, going to classes etc in order to learn about a subject  
*I can't study with that music playing all the time.*  
*I've been studying English for 6 years.*  
2) to watch and examine something carefully over a period of time, in order to find out more about the subject  
*He was studying the behaviour of chimpanzees in the wild.*
8. interact – if people interact with each other, they talk to each other, work together, etc  
*Lucy interacts well with other children in the class.*
9. communicate – 1) to exchange information or conversation with other people, using words, signs, writing, etc  
*We communicated mostly by e-mail.*  
2) if two people communicate, they are able to talk about and understand each other's feelings or desires  
*Many couples make themselves miserable by not communicating.*
10. socialize – to spend time with other people in a friendly way  
*People don't socialize with their neighbours as much as they used to do.*

**II. Complete the sentences using the words from the vocabulary.**

1. Russian is my mother \_\_\_\_\_.
2. His speech is immature, his \_\_\_\_\_ limited.

3. They are \_\_\_\_\_ how to dance.
4. My brother is \_\_\_\_\_ to be an accountant.
5. Did you have to use a \_\_\_\_\_ while translating this article?
6. I didn't speak much Japanese, and I was worried that the \_\_\_\_\_ barrier might be a problem.
7. Most people in the world are \_\_\_\_\_.

### III. Discuss the following questions in class:

1. How long have you been learning English?
2. Have you passed any examinations in English? If so, which ones?
3. Are you going to take any examinations? If so, when?
4. Have you ever visited an English-speaking country? If so, which one?
5. Do you ever use your English? If so, on what occasions?
6. Have you read any books in English?
7. Have you ever seen any films in English?
8. Have you heard any records in English?
9. How would you describe your own English?
  - ◆ fair    quite good    good    very good    fluent
10. Is your written English better than your spoken English, or vice versa?
11. What do you hope to achieve by studying?
12. How important are these things to you?
  - Listening comprehension
  - Reading comprehension
  - Oral fluency
  - Writing in English
13. Do you use a dictionary? If so, is it monolingual or bilingual?
14. How useful do you find it?
15. Do you enjoy learning English? If so, why? If not, why not?

### Learning a foreign language

Learning a foreign language takes time and dedication. The reasons below may help to convince you to take the plunge, if such persuasion is needed. Some reasons are practical, some intellectual and others sentimental, but whatever your reasons, having a clear idea of why you're learning a language can help to motivate you in your studies.

If your work involves regular contact with speakers of foreign languages, being able to talk to them in their own languages will help you

to communicate with them. It may also help you to make sales and to negotiate and secure contracts. Knowledge of foreign languages may also increase your chances of finding a new job, getting a promotion or a transfer overseas, or of going on foreign business trips.

You may find that information about subjects you're interested in is published mainly in a foreign language. Learning that language will give you access to the material and enable you to communicate with fellow students and researchers in the field.

Maybe you're interested in the literature, poetry, films, TV programs, music or some other aspect of the culture of people who speak a particular language and want to learn their language in order to gain a better understanding of their culture.

Most people in the world are multilingual, and everybody could be; no one is rigorously excluded from another's language community except through lack of time and effort. Different languages protect and nourish the growth of different cultures, where different pathways of human knowledge can be discovered. They certainly make life richer for those who know more than one of them.

Sometimes learning a foreign language helps you understand your own language and culture better through comparison, or through the relationship between the foreign language and your mother tongue.

Language is an aspect of humanity, and learning what a fellow human speaks teaches you more about humankind as a whole. The more languages you know, the more you understand our species, and that is beneficial no matter what the situation is.

Language influences culture, so learning a language helps you to understand how other people think, and it also helps you to get a general understanding of our world and the many people and cultures that inhabit it.

My reasons for learning foreign languages is because I just love to do it, it's all the different ways people express themselves, and it shows that there really are other people out there. It's also a way to learn how people interact and socialize with each other, and how each society works. Learning languages to me is much more than making myself able to communicate with others. To me it's like getting some nice new surprise and a whole new level of understanding.

Learning a foreign language is not a matter of reading some grammar rules and memorizing some vocabulary words – although those are important activities, not to be ignored. Acquiring a language is learning a

skill, not a body of information. It's as much like learning to swim or ride a bike as it is like learning about the Revolutionary War. That is, you must not only understand the ideas and concepts, have information at hand, but you must also make your body accustomed to using that information in physical activity: in this case the physical activity involved is speaking, listening, writing and reading.

The most difficult thing for a person who learns a foreign language is that a foreign language is very different from his own. A person's native language has a powerful influence on him, as he has been speaking his language since before he can remember. Under such circumstances it is natural that a person has the feeling that his language is the most beautiful, the most perfect, the most logic of most languages. Therefore the first thing that one must learn as he begins to study a foreign language is that each language is the best possible language for the people who use it.

There are some other things which have to be accepted in order to learn a language successfully. The most important for these is that learning a foreign language requires constant practice. You must not think that if you have seen or heard a word or phrase one time or even five times, you really know how to use it. You must be ready to repeat new words again and again until you can really use them automatically without having to think about them. Some people have the idea that if they memorize long lists of vocabulary they will learn the language. Learning a language is much more than that. In the early stages of studying a language we must learn more important things such as pronunciation and grammar. After you can use grammatical structures, you can enrich your vocabulary. Learning new vocabulary without knowing the grammatical structures of the language is something like when you try to build a house without a plan.

And the most important thing of all in learning a foreign language is patience. If you keep working steadily, day after day, constantly practicing the language and using it as every opportunity, you are sure to learn to speak a language well.

#### **IV. Find English equivalents in the text.**

Сделать решительный шаг; добиться лучшего понимания; получить продвижение по службе; дает возможность общаться с ...; поддерживать развитие различных культур; запоминать новые слова; овладение языком; требует постоянной практики; обогатить словарный запас; постоянно работать.

**V. Comment on the following:**

1. You live a new life for every new language you speak.
2. If you know only one language, you live only once.
3. Language is the archives of history.
4. Those who know no foreign language know nothing of their mother tongue.
5. The limits of my language are the limits of my universe.

**VI. Speak on the topic “Learning a Foreign Language”.**

**UNIT 12**

**Pastime and leisure. Hobbies. Weekend.**

**I. Study the meaning of the following words:**

1. hobby – an activity you enjoy doing in your free time  
*My hobbies are windsurfing and playing the guitar.*
2. habit – something that you do regularly, often without thinking about it because you’ve done it so many times before  
*Dalton was a man of regular habits.*  
Out of habit/from habit  
Be in the habit of doing something  
Get into/out of the habit  
Have a habit of doing something
3. interest – a subject or activity that you enjoy studying or doing  
*Ben has shown an interest in learning French.*  
Have an interest in smth  
Express an interest (in smth)  
Take an interest (in smth)  
Great/keen interest  
Abiding interest  
Lack of interest
4. pastime – something that you do in your free time because you find it enjoyable or interesting  
*Reading was her favourite pastime.*
5. leisure – time when you are not working or studying and can relax and do things you enjoy  
*Most people now enjoy shorter working hours and more leisure time.*

Leisure activities

Leisure facilities

At (your) leisure

Gentleman/lady of leisure (someone who doesn't have to work)

6. activity – something that you do for interest or pleasure or because you want to achieve something  
*Rebecca has always loved horse riding and other outdoor activities.*
7. outing – a short trip that a group of people take for pleasure  
*a class outing to the ballet*  
*They went on an outing to the pool.*
8. festivity – 1. festivities (pl) – things such as drinking, eating or dancing that are done to celebrate a special occasion  
*The festivities started with a procession through the town.*  
2. a happy feeling that exists when people celebrate smth  
*There was an air of festivity in the village.*
9. festival – 1. an occasion when there are performances of many films, plays, pieces of music etc, usually happening in the same place every year  
*the Swansea Festival of Music and the Arts*  
2. a special occasion when people celebrate smth such as religious event, and there is often a public holiday  
*Christmas is one of the main festivals in the Christian Calendar.*
10. entertainment – things such as films, television performances etc, that are intended to amuse or interest people  
*The town provides a wide choice of entertainment.*

**II. Fill in the leisure questionnaire. Put your top four of the following leisure time activities in order of preference. (1 = favourite; 2 = next favourite; etc.)**

- Participating in some kind of sport or physical exercise – which?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Watching sport at a stadium or on TV – which sport? \_\_\_\_\_
- Playing some other game (computer, cards, etc) – which?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Reading – what? \_\_\_\_\_
- Some kind of hobby – what? \_\_\_\_\_

- Listening to music at home or in a concert hall – what kind of music? \_\_\_\_\_
- Playing a musical instrument – which? \_\_\_\_\_
- Going to the cinema or watching video
- Going to the theatre or opera
- Watching TV – which programmes? \_\_\_\_\_
- Dancing – where? \_\_\_\_\_
- Eating out (going to cafes, restaurants with friends)
- Other – what? \_\_\_\_\_

### **III. Discuss the following questions:**

1. What do you normally do at the weekend?
2. Did you go out last weekend?
3. Do you ever go camping (climbing, cycling, fishing) at the weekend?
4. Do you ever go to the cinema, theatre at weekends? Which do you prefer?
5. Do you enjoy going to discos? Why? Why not?
6. What do you think of doing next Sunday?
7. Are you (your friends) fond of picnics? Where do you go on picnics?
8. Where would you go for the weekend if the weather is lovely and warm?
9. Where do people usually go for the weekend in winter/in summer?
10. How do you see an ideal weekend?

### **Enjoying Yourself in Britain**

Typical popular pastimes in Great Britain include listening to pop music, going to pubs, having and watching sport, going on holidays, doing outdoor activities and watching TV. There's almost every kind of entertainment you can imagine. You can go sightseeing, either on your own or in a group, or on an open bus, or by horse and cart, and if you like walking you can go on organized walks, which could include sightseeing too. You may simply find a seat outdoor – sit and watch people hurrying past.

If the weather is cold and wet, it needn't be a big problem because there's plenty going on indoors. You may go to different entertainment centers such as disco, pub, restaurant, bar, club, art centres including

exhibitions, cinema, theatre, music, etc. The parts of the city or town where people go to enjoy themselves are often near the centre and easy to find. You can meet your friends at your place and have a nice time together.

If you haven't got much money to spend on entertainment, you can do much of what is cheap or even costs nothing. To begin with, lots of events that are organized outside or in the street are free! There are street festivities and public processions. Some people play modern music and instruments on the street and you can see modern theatre and dancing too.

Parks are another place where you'll often find things going on, from hot-air balloon festivals to musical entertainments of various kinds. You may simply relax on the grass, listening to a band perhaps. You can visit many museums and art galleries without having to pay, and some also show films. Some churches have free concerts, particularly at lunch-time.

There are particular days (e.g. Monday) or particular time of the day (e.g. the afternoon) that tickets for the theatres, concerts are cheaper. Prices may be reduced for students, for groups and if you buy them in advance. Pubs, clubs, wine bars and discos may have a "Happy Hour" - a time when you can buy drinks more cheaply than usual. This is often early in the evening.

If you feel like spending a night having a drink, a meal, dancing, seeing a show, or combining some of these things you can go to pubs, bars, restaurants. Pubs are important part of British social life (more than restaurants) and more money is spent on drinking than on any other form of leisure activity. A very pleasant place to visit is a wine bar. You can buy a glass or a bottle of wine and there may be a lot of different prices and qualities to choose from. Most wine bars have cold food, such as salad, cheese and pies, with perhaps one or two hot things too. These are usually comfortable, fairly quiet places where you can relax with a drink, sit and watch people hurrying past. There are other kinds of bars too, selling cocktails (drinks, made by combining spirits, fruit juice, cream, etc.) and similar drinks.

A lot of different places that offer entertainment in the evening are clubs. Most of them have two things in common: you have to pay to get in, and you may have to become a member to go there. Some are no more than discos; some are for very rich; with expensive meals and cabarets; some won't let you in if you're not wearing a suit and tie, and others won't let you in if you are!

Discos: they go on till late at night and there are plenty of them: some playing all kinds of pop and rock music, and others playing only a



particular kind. Discos are usually clubs, like other places mentioned here, they are mostly for people aged 18 or over, though some discos open at special times for younger age-groups.

There's a lot of entertainment organized specially for children:

a) children's shows and family shows which may include singing, dancing, games, jokes, puppets, etc.;

b) theatre, music and dance with special plays, concerts, etc. for children;

c) cinema, there is lots to choose from - especially during the holiday;

d) museums, animals (zoos and safari parks), fun fairs (games, machines to ride, noisy fun, etc.), parks, sports centers, entertainment centres, etc.

Many people entertain themselves by taking up hobbies, millions look to television, cinema, music and reading. In Britain watching television is one of the most popular leisure activities. There are four TV stations where BBC 1 and BBC 2 do not carry advertisements, but TV and channel 4 are commercially run.

Despite the increase of TV watching, reading is still an important leisure activity in Britain and there are a very large number of magazines and books published on a wide variety of subjects. The biggest-selling magazines in Britain are women's and pop music publications.

The best-selling books are not great works of literature but stories of mystery and romance which sell in huge quantities. It has been estimated that only about 3 per cent of the population read "classics" such as Charles Dickens or Jane Austen, whereas the figures for popular book sales can be enormous, particularly if the books are connected with TV shows or dramatizations.

In most places local education authorities organize classes connected with your hobbies, such as photography, painting, folk dancing, dog training, cake decoration, local history, car maintenance, and other subjects. All this, together with the popularity of amateur dramatics, can provide some comfort for those who fear that modern mass entertainment is producing a passive society.

Other groups meet regularly for a mixture of social and religious purposes or for the pursuit of hobbies. For young people there are youth clubs, some, but not all, of them connected with churches.

Young and old spend leisure time working together for good causes, raising money for the benefit of victims of famine, flood or misfortune. All of this demands a good deal of organization and innumerable committees.

England is famous for its gardens, and most people like gardening. This is probably one reason why so many prefer to live in houses rather than in flats. Particularly in suburban areas it is possible to pass row after row of ordinary small houses, each one with its neatly kept patch of grass surrounded by a great variety of flowers and shrubs. Some people who have no garden of their own have patches of land or "allotments" in special areas. Enthusiasts of gardening - or do-it-yourself activities - get ever-growing help from radio programmes, magazines and patient shopkeepers.

Although the task of keeping a garden is essentially individual, gardening can well become the foundation of social and competitive relationships. Flower shows and vegetable shows, with prizes for the best exhibits, are popular, and to many gardeners the process of growing the plants seems more important than the merely aesthetic pleasure of looking at the flowers or eating the vegetables.

### **Interests and Hobbies**

There are many people around you who may have special interests and hobbies. Some of them are interested in particular places to see, in history, English (or other) writers, gardening and so on. For them there are all kinds of tours and day trips available by coach or by trains. Those who are interested in walking or cycling tours are offered the most exciting routes.

Thousand of different activities are provided for all ages and abilities; young people, children, disabled people or anyone. You can do something you've never done before, such as hang-gliding. You can go pony-trekking or diving, climb mountains or play golf. You can choose a holiday with lots to do, or, if you prefer, you can do something quieter such as stay on a large boat: and do fishing. If you want to improve your English while you're on holiday, there are outdoor and sport holidays that include English lessons.

There are also very special interests which are called environmental. They concern people who care much for things like air, the land, the sea, rivers, animals and plants, buildings and people. They have their practical holidays such as cleaning canals or planting trees. They are not paid for this work.

A lot of people are interested in art. These are amateur painters, musicians or actors. To be better painters or musicians they join courses, sometimes on more usual subjects, e.g. batik (a way of printing colours on cloth) or making cloth, their own paper, ink, working with wood, etc.

There are plenty of other kinds of activities too: you can learn to use a computer, do archeology. In Scotland for example you can go on a "whisky trail". This is a special tour of the whisky distilleries, which are the places where whisky is made.

In Britain many schools, language summer schools, colleges and universities organize all sorts of holidays with accommodation, for all ages at holiday time.

People's special interests and hobbies are very important. They can be things not only to do but to talk about, which help you make friends, and make it easier for everyone to get along together.

#### **IV. Act out the dialogues making the suggested substitutions.**

##### **Note the difference in prepositions.**

1. – What do you think of doing at the weekend?  
-- Well, I'm planning to go on a trip to the seaside (on a picnic to the woods; on an excursion to Brest; on a day journey to Kiev; on a visit to a friend of mine).
2. – Where did you go for the weekend?  
-- Well, I actually went for an outing to the woods (for a walk to the hills; for a run in the country; for a drive in the country).
3. -- Where's Kate?  
-- She's out. She's gone to the pictures (to a concert; to see her friend; to the theatre; out with a friend).
4. – Where's Olga?  
-- She's away. She's gone on a day trip to Vilnius (on a business trip to Moscow; on an excursion to Kiev; on a visit to her grandparents).

#### **V. Jill is talking on the telephone to her friend Maggie, a woman with two children. You only read Jill's side. Complete the conversation with Maggie's words.**

Jill: Hi, Maggie. Yeah, it's me, Jill.

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: Fine, and you? ... Good. Listen. I'm just calling to see what you and the kids would like to do tomorrow. You are still coming over, aren't you? ... Well, I thought we could go on a

trip somewhere... Oh, I don't know. Drive into the country and go for a walk.

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: No? Well, would you like to be a tourist for the day and go sightseeing in the city?

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: Oh, you think, you've seen all the sights ... Well, since you are bringing the kids, perhaps we should go to the circus or to the zoo. There's a new baby elephant that's just been born.

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: Well, Ok. Are they interested in visiting a museum or an art gallery? There's a very good exhibition of the 19<sup>th</sup> century French painting.

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: No? Boring? Well, what do you think you would all like to do?... I see. You want to go window-shopping.

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: No, that's fine with me. I don't mind at all.... No, I'm sure. But what about the evening? I thought we could go out for dinner.

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: No, I thought the kids could stay at home watching TV..... Well, I thought we could also go to the cinema.

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: Really? How about some music? A concert?

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: No? The ballet or the opera?...No? The theatre to see a Shakespeare play?...No? Well, what do you want to do in the evening?

Maggie: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_

Jill: You'd like to go to a disco and dance and then to a casino and play roulette ...Um, yes, well, no, I've just remembered that I had promised to visit my mother tomorrow...Yes, what a pity. Another time perhaps ... Bye then. Love to the kids.

- 
- a) I don't think I feel like listening to music
  - b) Do you mind?
  - c) The kids are much too old for the circus and the zoo.
  - d) How are you?
  - e) I'd like to go dancing first and then play roulette.

- f) Would we take the children with us to the restaurant?
- g) I don't want to go to the country.
- h) There's no film on that I really want to see at the moment.

- i) I've been sightseeing there plenty of times.
- j) No. I'm sure the kids don't want to go to any museums or art gallery.

**VI. Act out the following situations:**

1

A husband and a wife are discussing their plans for the weekend. One is fond of working in the garden, the other feels like going on a day trip to Riga.

2

Discuss your plans for the weekend with your friend taking into consideration the weather.

**UNIT 13**

**Going out: at the theatre/cinema/exhibition**

**A: The Theatre**

**Ex. 1 Study the meaning of the following words:**

1. curtain call – the time at the end of a performance when the actors come to the front of the stage to receive applause

2. cast – all the people who perform in a play, film etc  
*Films like 'Ben Hur' have a cast of thousands.*

3. first night – the evening when the first public performance of a show, play, etc is given

4. stage – 1) the raised area in a theatre which actors or singers stand on when they perform

*She appeared on stage with George Michael.*

2) acting as a profession, especially in theatres

I wanted to go on the stage (= become an actor).

5. scene – 1) part of a play during which there is no change in time or place

*Hamlet, Act 5, Scene 2*

2) a single piece of action that happens in one place in a film, book, etc.

*The film contains some violent scenes.*

6. spectator – someone who is watching an event or game

*The match attracted over 40,000 spectators.*

7. audience – a group of people who come to watch and listen to someone speaking or performing in public

*The audience began clapping and cheering.*

8. usherette – a woman who shows people to their seats at a theatre, cinema, etc.

9. stalls – the seats on the main level of a theatre or cinema

*a good seat in the front row of the stalls*

10. boxes – a small area of a theatre that is separate from where other people are sitting

*a box at the Palace Theatre*

### **Ex. 2 Discuss the following questions:**

1. Are you keen on theatre?
2. Which do you prefer: theatre or cinema? Why?
3. Do you think theatre is becoming less popular nowadays?
4. Do cinema and theatre have an educational role? If so, what?
5. Have you ever performed? Did you enjoy doing it?

### **My visit to the theatre**

I've never given a thought to the reason why I go to the theatre. My parents took me when I was a child, and the habit stuck.

With me, the theatre is rest, work and a festive occasion. A good play makes me think: is it true to life? What should I have done in his place?

The theatre is not only my favourite pastime. It occupies an immense part of my life. I think it is the greatest of the arts, I believe it to be the school of life, and the happiest moments of my own life have certainly been lived in theatres.

Sometimes one hears that the days of the theatre are over because it cannot successfully compete with the films and TV. I think that is nonsense. How can the theatre be compared with the cinema! In the latter you just stare at flat dead shades on the screen. In the theatre you communicate with living breathing people who share with you their joys and sorrows, and — what is

more — their joys and sorrows are also your joys and sorrows. In their problems you recognize your own, and you are no longer alone. The drama properly staged and acted is not only communication but communion.

There are two theatres in Gomel. They show dramas, tragedies, and comedies. I enjoy every opportunity to see a new play there. As a rule I go to the evening performances (usually they begin at 7 p.m.). I usually go there with my friends or parents. We have to book the tickets in advance for a first night because the house is usually full. So we leave our coats in the cloak-room and buy a programme to know who is in the cast. The usherette shows us to our seats. Usually we take places in the stalls, but also people like to watch the performance from the boxes, balconies and pits. Boxes, of course, are the most expensive. After the 3rd ring the lights go down and the curtain drops.

Last year during my stay in Moscow I was lucky to see the play “My Fair Lady” at The Bolshoy Theatre. It was a first night. Everything was performed so realistically, so true to life that I began to feel for them like in real life. The play, the acting, the staging were beyond any description. The audience in times couldn't take their eyes off the stage. All the actors had wonderful dresses and the scenery was out of ordinary. The spectators were deeply impressed by the play and the cast. All the actors were at their best and captivated the audience. When the final curtain fell and the lights went up, the theatre burst into storm of applause. I have never seen the audience applaud so much before. Many people couldn't help throwing flowers onto the stage. Curtain call followed curtain call. As for me, I was actually crying. The emotional impact was immense. I still remember every detail of that performance.

Shakespeare said: "The world is the theatre and we are the actors." I think I can agree with his words. During all our life we play different roles - we are children at home, pupils at school and customers in the shop. Life gives us a great variety of scenery and situations. For all our life we depend on people, surrounding us, happenings, time, and place where we are now, just like an actor depends on the director, and script. But I need to add that our life can't be fully called the theatre because I think life is much more interesting, dangerous and unexpected.

Many people believe that it's much more convenient to watch a performance on TV at home, because you don't have to bother about the tickets, a baby-sitter and transport and so on. As for me I think that it is dull and boring to death. The main parts of the theatre and theatrical performance are the atmosphere of a play, scenery and people. If you see it

on TV you only see the movement, just like a bad film and you only waste your time. The other thing is cinema. The films are specially made to attract public by scenery, beauty of animation and special effects. As for me-I go to the theatre to see the emotions, to the cinema to see well-made beautiful movement and switch on the TV-set to see news.

### **B: The Cinema**

#### **Ex. 4 Match the definitions below with the types of films.**

1. Film dealing with major disasters, such as earthquakes, large fires, plane crashes, etc.
2. In this film love and romance are the key elements.
3. Films dealing with some aspect of war.
4. In this film excitement is generated from action sequences.
5. Film aimed at children and young people.
6. Film which makes the audience laugh.
7. Film about the American Wild West, usually with cowboys, Indians and gunfights.
8. Film set in the future and often dealing with space travel, robots, etc.
9. Film where the characters and/or situations could not exist in real life. Often deals with magic and mystery, fantastic voyages, etc.
10. A very dramatic film where tension is deliberately maintained and is a central feature of the plot.
11. In this film the focus is on human relations rather than actions.
12. Film where the main aim is to terrify the audience.
13. Also called an animated film. Here the film is made by photographing drawings rather than using live actors.
14. Film where the emphasis is on music. It usually contains lots of songs.

- a) drama
- b) juvenile film
- c) cartoon
- d) comedy
- e) science fiction film
- f) disaster film
- g) western
- h) love story



- i) musical
- j) horror film
- k) war film
- l) fantasy film
- m) thriller
- n) action film

**Ex. 5 Agree or disagree with the following statements. Develop your idea.**

1. Going to the cinema occupies time that could be spent in more wholesome recreation.
2. I'm tired of films – I have seen too many poor ones.
3. The cinema is the best civilized device ever developed.
4. Films are the most important cause of crime.
5. I think films are fairly interesting.
6. Going to the cinema for me is just a way to kill time.
7. Films increase one's appreciation of beauty.
8. I'd never miss a cinema if we didn't have it.
9. There would be very little progress without the cinema.
10. Films are wholly bad for children.
11. Films are to blame for the increase of sexual offence.
12. The cinema is one of the great educational institutions for common people.
13. Young people are learning to smoke and drink from films.
14. The cinema is the best cheap entertainment.
15. There's too much violence on screen.
16. A film is one of the few things I can enjoy by myself.
17. Cinema is the most vital form of art today.

**Ex. 6 Many people prefer to read a film review before they choose a film to see. Read two different reviews of one and the same film and make a list of expressions which can be used in positive and negative reviews of a film.**

## *City Life*: ONE OF THIS YEAR'S WORST MOVIES

Lee Young is now appearing in *City Life*, one of the year's most uninteresting, unrealistic movies. Young is usually a terrific actor who makes excellent movies, but in *City Life* his acting is extremely poor. The plot is so uncomplicated that it is stupid and unbelievable. It deals specifically with problems of a big and industrialized city. Barbara Martin, of course, is beautiful, but not very profound or even amusing in her role as Young's girl friend.

The movie is called a comedy, but it is rarely truly funny. Other reviewers have said that this movie is good because it is nonviolent; at the same time it shows realism in a stimulating way. We agree that very few movies nowadays have plots that are lacking in violent, hateful, cruel and fearful plots. But, unfortunately, this movie also lacks realism and good acting.

The cinematography is quite good, however. Jeffrey Langley, the cinematographer, used his camera well. The movie may have a weak plot and poor acting, but artistically it is a joy to see.

But a beautiful movie is not enough. It must also be well acted and have a strong plot.

### **Ex. 7 Write a movie review. Don't forget to give this information.**

1. What is the name of the movie?
2. Where is it on?
3. How long does it last?
4. Who are the principal actors?
5. What is the plot?
6. Who were the best actors? Why?
7. How good were the filmmaking techniques for producing special effects?
8. What didn't you like?
9. Should people go to see this film or not?

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**Ромичева Галина Васильевна  
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## **ПРАКТИКА УСТНОЙ И ПИСЬМЕННОЙ РЕЧИ**

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