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ФГБОУ ВО «Красноярский государственный аграрный университет»

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COUNTRY STUDY: THE USA

Рекомендовано учебно-методическим советом федерального государственного бюджетного образовательного учреждения высшего образования «Красноярский государственный аграрный университет» для внутривузовского использования в качестве учебно-методического пособия для обучающихся по направлениям подготовки 38.03.02 «Менеджмент», 38.03.03 «Управление персоналом»

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Пособие по формированию целостного представления об истории и культуре страны изучаемого языка (английский язык) «Country study: the USA» для дисциплины «Страноведение» состоит из 10 глав. Издание представляет собой комплекс учебного и методического материала для аудиторной работы студентов, блок контрольных заданий для самопроверки и грамматический справочник.

Предназначено для аудиторной и самостоятельной работы студентов направлений подготовки 38.03.02 «Менеджмент», 38.03.03 «Управление персоналом» очной и заочной форм обучения и имеющих партнеров по бизнесу в России и за рубежом, выезжающих на стажировки за рубеж, где необходимы основные знания обычаев и традиций партнерских стран и народов.

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INTRODUCTION

Учебно-методическое пособие разработано в соответствии с рабочей программой по учебной дисциплине «Страноведение (английский язык)» для студентов 3-го курса, обучающихся по направлениям подготовки 38.03.02 «Менеджмент» и 38.03.03 «Управление персоналом».

Издание представляет собой комплекс учебного и методического материала, включающий программу обучения для аудиторной работы студентов и блок контрольных заданий, охватывающий основные разделы курса дисциплины «Страноведение (английский язык)» по модулю 2 «США». Материал распределяется по 6 модульным единицам: модульная единица 1 «История США», модульная единица 2 «Политическая система США», модульная единица 3 «Американское образование. Высшее образование», модульная единица 4 «Экономика и транспорт в США», модульная единица 5 «Национальные праздники и культура США», модульная единица 6 «Вашингтон». Подбор заданий проведен с опорой на современные коммуникативные методики, позволяющие комплексно осуществить входной и поэтапный контроль знаний, умений и навыков студентов за весь период обучения.

Издание ставит своей целью помочь обучающимся неязыковых институтов университета сформировать целостное представление об истории и культуре страны изучаемого языка, английском языке как средстве межкультурного общения в мировом масштабе, а также выйти на более высокий уровень общения с носителями языка, предоставляющий возможность знакомить иностранцев с богатым историческим и духовным наследием России и современными достижениями в сфере науки, культуры и образования.

Unit 1. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE USA

Exercise 1.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

district – округ, район

contiguous – соприкасающийся, смежный, граничащий, прилегающий

insular – островной, изолированный

assistance – помощь, поддержка, содействие

mild – мягкий, умеренный

settler – поселенец, колонист

liberty – свобода, право

community – община, местное сообщество, население

shrewdness – проницательность, дальновидность, практичность

thrift – бережливость, экономность

ingenuity – избирательность, находчивость, мастерство

rifle – винтовка, нарезное оружие

iron – железо

Dutch – голландский, нидерландский

hub – центр, ядро

devastate – разорять, опустошать, расхищать

bypass – обходить, идти обходным путем

fertile – плодородный, богатый, изобильный

oats – овес

breadbasket – главный зерновой район, житница страны

pepper – перчить, усеивать, осыпать

dense – густой

tribe – племя

heritage – наследие, традиция

dam – дамба, плотина

scenic – живописный

moisture – влажность

hardy – выносливый, стойкий

refuge – убежище, пристанище, прибежище

courage – мужество, храбрость

rod – прут, лоза, хлыст

claw – коготь, лапа с когтями

twig – веточка, прут

torch – факел

Exercise 1.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts.

The United States of America (commonly called the United States, the U.S., the USA, America, and the States) is a federal constitutional republic comprising fifty states and a federal district. The country is situated mostly in central North America, where its forty-eight contiguous states and Washington, D.C., the capital district, lie between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, bordered by Canada to the north and Mexico to the south. The state of Alaska is in the northwest of the continent, with Canada to the east and Russia to the west across the Bering Strait. The state of Hawaii is an archipelago in the mid-Pacific (picture 1).



Picture 1 – The map of the United States

The country also possesses several territories in the Pacific and Caribbean. The federal capital is Washington, D.C.

The national language is English. And English is the official language of at least 28 states – some sources give higher figures, based on differing definitions of “official”. English and Hawaiian are both official languages in the state of Hawaii. English is the de facto language of American government and the sole language spoken at home by 80 percent of

Americans age five and older. Spanish is the second most commonly spoken language [6].

The land area of the contiguous United States is 2,959,064 square miles (7,663,941 km²). The United States is the world's third or fourth largest nation by total area (land and water), ranking behind Russia and Canada and just above or below China. The ranking varies depending on how two territories disputed by China and India are counted and how the total size of the United States is measured: calculations range from 3,676,486 square miles (9,522,055 km²) to 3,717,813 square miles (9,629,091 km²) to 3,794,101 square miles (9,826,676 km²). Including only land area, the United States is third in size behind Russia and China, just ahead of Canada.

The USA is made up of 50 states and the District of Columbia, a special federal area where the capital of the country, Washington, is situated.

The United States also holds several other territories, districts, and possessions, notably the federal district of the District of Columbia and several overseas insular areas, the most significant of which are American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands. Palmyra Atoll is the United States' only incorporated territory; but it is unorganized and uninhabited. The United States Minor Outlying Islands consist of uninhabited islands and atolls in the Pacific and Caribbean Sea. In addition, since 1898, the United States Navy has leased an extensive naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

In addition to the actual states and territories of the United States, there are also nations which are associated states of the U.S. The Federated States of Micronesia (since 1986), Palau (since 1994), and the Marshall Islands (since 1986) are associated with the United States under what is known as the Compact of Free Association, giving the states international sovereignty and ultimate control over their territory. However, the governments of those areas have agreed to allow the United States to provide defense and financial assistance.

Traditionally the USA is divided into several regions, but there is nothing official about these regions:

- ***New England***, made up of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

The smallest region, New England has not been blessed with large expanses of rich farmland or a mild climate. Yet it played a dominant role in American development. From the 17th century until well into the 19th,

New England was the country's cultural and economic center. The earliest European settlers of New England were English Protestants of firm and settled doctrine. Many of them came in search of religious liberty. They gave the region its distinctive political format – the town meeting (an outgrowth of meetings held by church elders) in which citizens gathered to discuss issues of the day. Only men of property could vote. Nonetheless, town meetings afforded New Englanders an unusually high level of participation in government. Such meetings still function in many New England communities today. New Englanders found it difficult to farm the land in large lots, as was common in the South. By 1750, many settlers had turned to other pursuits. The mainstays of the region became shipbuilding, fishing, and trade. In their business dealings, New Englanders gained a reputation for hard work, shrewdness, thrift, and ingenuity. These traits came in handy as the Industrial Revolution reached America in the first half of the 19th century. In Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, new factories sprang up to manufacture such goods as clothing, rifles, and clocks. Most of the money to run these businesses came from Boston, which was the financial heart of the nation. New England also supported a vibrant cultural life. The critic Van Wyck Brooks called the creation of a distinctive American literature in the first half of the 19th century 'the flowering of New England.' Education is another of the region's strongest legacies. Its cluster of top-ranking universities and colleges – including Harvard, Yale, Brown, Dartmouth, Wellesley, Smith, Mt. Holyoke, Williams, Amherst, and Wesleyan - is unequaled by any other region. In the 20th century, most of New England's traditional industries have relocated to states or foreign countries where goods can be made more cheaply. In more than a few factory towns, skilled workers have been left without jobs. The gap has been partly filled by the microelectronics and computer industries [3].

- ***The Middle Atlantic***, comprising New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland – business states of the USA.

If New England provided the brains and dollars for 19th-century American expansion, the Middle Atlantic states provided the muscle. The region's largest states, New York and Pennsylvania, became centers of heavy industry (iron, glass, and steel). The Middle Atlantic region was settled by a wider range of people than New England. Dutch immigrants moved into the lower Hudson River Valley in what is now New York State. Swedes went to Delaware. English Catholics founded Maryland, and an English Protestant sect, the Friends (Quakers), settled Pennsylvania. In time, all these settlements fell under English control, but the region con-

tinued to be a magnet for people of diverse nationalities. Early settlers were mostly farmers and traders, and the region served as a bridge between North and South. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, midway between the northern and southern colonies, was home to the Continental Congress, the convention of delegates from the original colonies that organized the American Revolution. The same city was the birthplace of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and the U.S. Constitution in 1787. As heavy industry spread throughout the region, rivers such as the Hudson and Delaware were transformed into vital shipping lanes. Cities on waterways – New York on the Hudson, Philadelphia on the Delaware, Baltimore on Chesapeake Bay – grew dramatically. New York is still the nation's largest city, its financial hub, and its cultural center [9].

- ***The South***, which runs from Virginia south to Florida and west as far as central Texas. This region also includes West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and parts of Missouri and Oklahoma.

The South is perhaps the most distinctive and colorful American region. The American Civil War (1861-65) devastated the South socially and economically. Nevertheless, it retained its unmistakable identity. Like New England, the South was first settled by English Protestants. But whereas New Englanders tended to stress their differences from the old country, Southerners tended to emulate the English. Even so, Southerners were prominent among the leaders of the American Revolution, and four of America's first five presidents were Virginians. After 1800, however, the interests of the manufacturing North and the agrarian South began to diverge. Especially in coastal areas, southern settlers grew wealthy by raising and selling cotton and tobacco. The most economical way to raise these crops was on large farms, called plantations, which required the work of many laborers. To supply this need, plantation owners relied on slaves brought from Africa, and slavery spread throughout the South. The South could point with pride to a 20th-century regional outpouring of literature by, among others, William Faulkner, Thomas Wolfe, Robert Penn Warren, Katherine Anne Porter, Tennessee Williams, Eudora Welty, and Flannery O'Connor. As southerners, black and white, shook off the effects of slavery and racial division, a new regional pride expressed itself under the banner of "the New South" and in such events as the annual Spoleto Music Festival in Charleston, South Carolina, and the 1996 summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. Today the South has evolved into a manufacturing region, and high-rise buildings crowd the skylines of such

cities as Atlanta and Little Rock, Arkansas. Owing to its mild weather, the South has become a mecca for retirees from other U.S. regions and from Canada.

- ***The Midwest***, a broad collection of states sweeping westward from Ohio to Nebraska and including Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, parts of Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, and eastern Colorado.

The Midwest is a cultural crossroads. Starting in the early 1800s easterners moved there in search of better farmland, and soon Europeans bypassed the East Coast to migrate directly to the interior: Germans to eastern Missouri, Swedes and Norwegians to Wisconsin and Minnesota. The region's fertile soil made it possible for farmers to produce abundant harvests of cereal crops such as wheat, oats, and corn. The region was soon known as the nation's 'breadbasket'. Most of the Midwest is flat. The Mississippi River has acted as a regional lifeline, moving settlers to new homes and foodstuffs to market. The river inspired two classic American books, both written by a native Missourian, Samuel Clemens, who took the pseudonym Mark Twain: *Life on the Mississippi* and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Midwesterners are praised as being open, friendly, and straightforward. Their politics tend to be cautious, but the caution is sometimes peppered with protest. The Midwest gave birth to one of America's two major political parties, the Republican Party, which was formed in the 1850s to oppose the spread of slavery into new states. The region's hub is Chicago, Illinois, the nation's third largest city. This major Great Lakes port is a connecting point for rail lines and air traffic to far-flung parts of the nation and the world. At its heart stands the Sears Tower, at 447 meters, the world's tallest building.

- ***The Southwest***, made up of western Texas, portions of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, and the southern interior part of California [6].

The Southwest differs from the adjoining Midwest in weather (drier), population (less dense), and ethnicity (strong Spanish-American and Native-American components). Outside the cities, the region is a land of open spaces, much of which is desert. The magnificent Grand Canyon is located in this region, as is Monument Valley, the starkly beautiful backdrop for many western movies. Monument Valley is within the Navajo Reservation, home of the most populous American Indian tribes. To the south and east lie dozens of other Indian reservations, including those of the Hopi, Zuni, and Apache tribes. Parts of the Southwest once belonged

to Mexico. The United States obtained this land following the Mexican-American War of 1846-48. Its Mexican heritage continues to exert a strong influence on the region, which is a convenient place to settle for immigrants (legal or illegal) from farther south. The regional population is growing rapidly, with Arizona in particular rivaling the southern states as a destination for retired Americans in search of a warm climate. Population growth in the hot, arid Southwest has depended on two human artifacts: the dam and the air conditioner. Las Vegas is renowned as one of the world's centers for gambling, while Santa Fe, New Mexico, is famous as a center for the arts, especially painting, sculpture, and opera. Another system of dams and irrigation projects waters the Central Valley of California, which is noted for producing large harvests of fruits and vegetables.

- *The West*, comprising Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Utah, California (Golden state of the USA), Nevada, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Hawaii.

Americans have long regarded the West as the last frontier. Yet California has a history of European settlement older than that of most mid-western states. Spanish priests founded missions along the California coast a few years before the outbreak of the American Revolution. In the 19th century, California and Oregon entered the Union ahead of many states to the east. The West is a region of scenic beauty on a grand scale. All of its 11 states are partly mountainous, and the ranges are the sources of startling contrasts. To the west of the peaks, winds from the Pacific Ocean carry enough moisture to keep the land well-watered. To the east, however, the land is very dry. Parts of western Washington State, for example, receive 20 times the amount of rain that falls on the eastern side of the state's Cascade Range. In much of the West the population is sparse, and the federal government owns and manages millions of hectares of undeveloped land. Americans use these areas for recreational and commercial activities, such as fishing, camping, hiking, boating, grazing, lumbering, and mining. Alaska, the northernmost state in the Union, is a vast land of few, but hardy, people and great stretches of wilderness, protected in national parks and wildlife refuges. Hawaii is the only state in the union in which Asian Americans outnumber residents of European stock. Beginning in the 1980s large numbers of Asians have also settled in California, mainly around Los Angeles. Los Angeles – and Southern California as a whole – bears the stamp of its large Mexican-American population. Now the second largest city in the nation, Los Angeles is best known as the home of the Hollywood film industry. Fueled by the growth of Los Angeles and the “Silicon

Valley”, area near San Jose, California has become the most populous of all the states. Western cities are known for their tolerance. And the western economy is varied. California, for example, is both an agricultural state and a high-technology manufacturing state [9].

Design of the flag

The American flag is often called “The Stars and Stripes”, it is also called “Old Glory” (picture 2). It represents the growth of the nation. It has 13 horizontal stripes, 7 red and 6 white which stand for the original 13 states. In the top left hand corner there are 50 white stars on a blue background: one star for each state. The red stripes proclaim courage, the white – liberty, and the field of blue stands for loyalty. It was adopted in 1777.



Picture 2 – The American flag



Picture 3 – The coat of arms of the US

The coat of arms of the US

The coat of arms of the US represents an eagle with wings outspread, holding a bangle of rods (the symbol of administer) in the left claw and olive twig (the emblem of love) in the right claw. Besides the eagle became the national emblem of the country in 1782. It has an olive branch (a symbol of peace) and arrows (a symbol of strength). You can see the eagle on the back of a dollar bill (picture 3).



Picture 4 – Motto of the USA

Motto of the USA:

In God We Trust – official, adopted on July 30, 1956 (picture 4).

E Pluribus Unum (traditional) (from Latin: out of many, one).

Anthem:

“The Star-Spangled Banner” is the national anthem of the United States of America (picture 5). The lyrics come from “Defence of Fort M’Henry”, a poem written in 1814 by the 35-year-old lawyer and amateur poet Francis Scott Key after witnessing the bombardment of Fort McHenry by British ships of the Royal Navy in Baltimore Harbor during the Battle of Fort McHenry in the War of 1812.

The song gained popularity throughout the 19th century and bands played it during public events, such as July 4th celebrations. On July 27, 1889, Secretary of the Navy Benjamin F. Tracy signed General Order 374, making “The Star-Spangled Banner” the official tune to be played at the raising of the flag.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson ordered that “The Star-Spangled Banner” be played at military and other appropriate occasions. But there were various versions of the song in popular use. Seeking a singular, standard version, President Wilson tasked the U.S. Bureau of Education with providing that official version. In response, the Bureau enlisted the help of five musicians to agree upon an arrangement. Those musicians were Walter Damrosch, Will Earhart, Arnold J. Gantvoort, Oscar Sonneck and John Philip Sousa. The standardized version that was voted upon by these five musicians premiered at Carnegie Hall on December 5, 1917. An official

handwritten version of the final votes of these five men has been found and shows all five men's votes tallied, measure by measure.



Picture 5 – The national anthem of the USA

“The Star-Spangled Banner” is traditionally played at the beginning of public sports events and orchestral concerts in the United States, as well as other public gatherings. Performances at particularly large events are often ended with a military flypast, but have also featured Challenge the eagle flying over the stadium before landing on his handler’s gloved hand.

The 200th anniversary of the “Star-Spangled Banner” occurred in 2014 with various special events occurring throughout the United States. A particularly significant celebration occurred during the week of September 10-16 in and around Baltimore, Maryland. Highlights included playing of a new arrangement of the anthem arranged by John Williams and participation of President Obama on Defender’s Day, September 12, 2014, at Fort McHenry. In addition, the anthem bicentennial included a youth music celebration including the presentation of the National Anthem Bicentennial Youth Challenge winning composition written by Noah Altshuler.

“The Star-Spangled Banner”

The Defense of Fort McHenry (September, 20, 1814)

by Francis Scott Key

Oh, say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hail’d at the twilight’s last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O’er the ramparts we watch’d, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
 O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?
 On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
 Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
 What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
 As it fitfully blows, now conceals, now discloses?
 Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
 In full glory reflected now shines on the stream:
 'Tis the star-spangled banner! O long may it wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.
 And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
 That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
 A home and a country should leave us no more?
 Their blood has wiped out their foul footsteps' pollution.
 No refuge could save the hireling and slave
 From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:
 And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.
 Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
 Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
 Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
 Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
 Then conquer we must, for our cause it is just,
 And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
 And the star-spangled banner forever shall wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Official Currency

The **United States dollar** (sign: \$; code: **USD**; also abbreviated **US\$** and referred to as the **dollar**, **U.S. dollar**, or **American dollar**) is the official currency of the United States and its overseas territories (picture 6). It is a Federal Reserve Note and consists of 100 smaller cent units.

The U.S. dollar is fiat money. It is the currency most used in international transactions and is the world's most dominant reserve currency. Several countries use it as the official currency, and in many others it is the de facto currency. Besides the United States, it is also used as the sole currency in two British Overseas Territories in the Caribbean: the British Virgin Islands and the Turks and Caicos islands. A few countries use only the U.S. Dollar for paper money, while the country mints its own coins, or also accepts U.S. coins that can be used as payment in U.S. dollars [13].



Picture 6 – The United States dollar

The Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty is the symbol of American democracy (picture 7). It stands on Liberty Island in New York. It's one of the first things people see when they arrive in New York by sea. This National Monument was a present from France to the USA. France gave the statue to America in 1884 as a symbol of friendship. Liberty carries the torch of freedom – in her right hand. In her left hand she is holding a tablet with the inscription “July 4, 1776” – American Independence Day.



Picture 7 – The Statue of Liberty

The Liberty Bell is a huge bronze bell that symbolizes freedom in the United States of America (picture 8). This historic bell is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the USA. The bell was originally cast in 1752 in London, England. It was commissioned as a bell for the Pennsylvania State House (now called Independence Hall). The bell was originally called the State House Bell or the Province Bell. And it was first called the Liberty Bell around 1839 by abolitionist (anti-slavery) publications.



Picture 8 – The Liberty Bell

Mt. Rushmore National Memorial is a huge mountain sculpture of four US Presidents, located near Keystone, in the Black Hills of South Dakota (picture 9). The Presidents depicted are: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln. These four Presidents were chosen to represent the founding, growth and preservation of the United States. The work was designed by the sculptor John Gutzon Borglum. The monument was sculpted by Borglum and about 400 stone workers. Construction began on August 10, 1927. Funding was provided by private donations and the Federal Government.

The sculpting was done by first blasting away tons of rock with dynamite. Workers then sat in hanging “swing seats,” and used jackhammers, drills, hammers, and other tools to do the finishing work. Bad weather and a lack of funding slowed work; although it took 14 years to finish the project, work was done for only about 6 of those years.

After Borglum’s death, soon before the sculpture was done, the completion of the giant sculpture was overseen by his son, Lincoln Borglum. The monument was completed in 1941 (after Borglum’s death).



Picture 9 – Mt. Rushmore National Memorial

The Washington Monument is an obelisk-shaped building in Washington, D.C. that was built to honor the first President of the United States of America, George Washington (picture 10). This 555-foot-tall obelisk is the tallest building in the District of Columbia – by law, no other building in D.C. is allowed to be taller.



Picture 10 – The Washington Monument

The Lincoln Memorial commemorates the life of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States. It is located in Potomac Park, Washington, D.C.

The Lincoln Memorial was designed by Henry Bacon; the style is that of a Greek Doric temple with 36 enormous columns (picture 11).



Picture 11 – The Lincoln Memorial

Inside the building is a huge statue of a sitting Lincoln (picture 12). Over Lincoln’s head is the inscription:

“In this temple
As in the hearts of the people
For whom he saved the union
The memory of Abraham Lincoln
Is enshrined forever.”



Picture 12 – The statue of Lincoln

Also in the Memorial are two murals, and stone engravings of Lincoln's second inaugural address and the Gettysburg Address.

In the very centre of Washington also rises the huge dome of *the Capitol* – a big white dome standing on a circle of pillars (picture 13). The 535 members of the Congress meet here to discuss the nation's affairs. It's easy to get lost in this huge building, full of paintings and statues.

Not far from the Capitol is the Library of Congress, the largest library in the States. It contains more than 13 million books and more than 19 million manuscripts, including the personal papers of the US Presidents.



Picture 13 – The Capitol

The White House is the official residence of the US President (picture 14). He works in the Oval Office. And if we speak about Washington one can hardly find a park, a square or an open area in this city without a monument or a memorial.



Picture 14 – The White House

Disneyland Park, originally **Disneyland**, is the first of two theme parks built at the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, California opened on July 17, 1955 (picture 15). It is the only theme park designed and built under the direct supervision of Walt Disney. It was originally the only attraction on the property; its name was changed to Disneyland Park to distinguish it from the expanding complex in the 1990s. Disneyland Park consists of eight themed “lands” and a number of concealed backstage areas, and occupies approximately 85 acres (34 ha). The park opened with Main Street, USA, Adventureland, Frontierland, Fantasyland, and Tomorrowland, and has since added New Orleans Square in 1966, Bear Country (later Critter Country) in 1972, and Mickey’s Toontown in 1993. In 1957, Holidayland, opened to the public with a 9 acres (3.6 ha) recreation area including a circus and baseball diamond, but was closed in late 1961. It is often referred to as the “lost” land of Disneyland. Throughout the park are ‘Hidden Mickeys’ , representations of Mickey Mouse heads inserted subtly into the design of attractions and environmental decor. An elevated berm supports the 3 ft (914 mm) narrow gauge Disneyland Railroad that circumnavigates the park. A new 14-acre land to be constructed at the park, Star Wars Land, was announced on August 15, 2015. Disneyland has a larger cumulative attendance than any other theme park in the world, with over 650 million guests since it opened. In 2013, the park hosted approx-

imately 16.2 million guests, making it the third most visited park in the world that calendar year [9].



Picture 15 – Disneyland Park

Exercise 1.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions.

1. Where is the USA situated? Can you describe its geographical position?
2. What is the official language of the USA? What other languages are spoken in the country?
3. What is the land area of the USA? What place does the United States take among all the countries by its total area?
4. How many states is the USA made up of?
5. What is the capital of the country? Where is it situated?
6. Can you name any territories and districts that are possessed to the USA?
7. What regions is the USA traditionally divided into?
8. Can you give the examples of New England states and their capitals? What are the peculiarities of these states?
9. Can you name the Middle Atlantic states and their capitals? What are the peculiarities of these states?

10. What is the nation's largest city? Can you find it on the map of the USA?
11. Can you name the Southern states and their capitals? What are the peculiarities of this region?
12. What are the peculiarities of the Midwestern region?
13. What can you tell about the Southwest?
14. Can you name the Western states and their capitals? What are the peculiarities of this region?
15. What cities of the USA do you know? Where are they situated? What facts do you know about these cities?
16. Can you describe the flag of the USA?
17. Can you describe the Coat of Arms?
18. What can you tell about the motto of the USA?
19. What is the national anthem of the United States of America? What do you know about the history of this anthem?
20. What is the national currency of the United States of America?
21. What national symbols of the country do you know? Can you describe them?

Exercise 1.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| a) district; | 1) moderately warm, especially less cold than expected; |
| b) mild; | 2) destroy or ruin, cause (someone) severe and overwhelming shock or grief; |
| c) motto; | 3) producing or capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; |
| d) liberty; | 4) a short sentence or phrase chosen as encapsulating the beliefs or ideals of an individual, family, or institution; |
| e) devastate; | 5) providing or relating to views of impressive or beautiful natural scenery; |
| f) community; | 6) a region defined for an administrative purpose |
| g) bypass; | 7) the state of being free within society from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority on one's behaviour or political views; |

- h) fertile; 8) go past or round;
- i) scenic. 9) a group of people living together and practising common ownership or the people of a district or country considered collectively, especially in the context of social values and responsibilities; society.

Exercise 1.5 Say if it's true or false.

1. The United States of America is a constitutional monarchy.
2. In the USA the national language is English. And English is the official language of at least 28 states.
3. Russian is the second most commonly spoken language in the USA.
4. The USA is made up of 51 states and the District of Columbus.
5. New England is made up of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.
6. The earliest European settlers of New England were Romans.
7. New England provided the brains and dollars for 19th-century American expansion, and the Middle Atlantic states provided the muscle.
8. Los Angeles is the nation's largest city, its financial hub, and its cultural center.
9. Southerners were prominent among the leaders of the American Revolution, and four of America's first five presidents were Virginians.
10. The Midwest is a cultural crossroads.
11. The magnificent Grand Canyon is located in the Midwestern region.
12. Such states as Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Utah and California are situated in the Western region.
13. The American flag is often called Union Jack, it is also called 'Young Glory'.
14. The American flag has 13 horizontal stripes, 7 red and 6 white which stand for the original 13 states and in the top left hand corner there are 50 white stars on a blue background.
15. The coat of arms of the US represents a swan with wings outspread, holding a bangle of rods in the left claw and olive twig in the right claw.
16. The Motto of the USA is *In God We Trust*.
17. 'God save the Queen' is the national anthem of the United States of America.

18. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson ordered that ‘The Star-Spangled Banner’ be played at military and other appropriate occasions.
19. The Statue of Liberty is the symbol of American pop culture.
20. Mt. Rushmore National Memorial is a huge mountain sculpture of four US Presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, George W. Bush and Barack Obama.
21. The Washington Monument is an obelisk-shaped building in Washington, D.C. that was built to honor the first President of the United States of America, Abraham Lincoln.
22. The Capitol is a big white dome standing on a circle of pillars where 535 members of the Congress meet to discuss the nation's affairs.
23. Disneyland is the official residence of the US President.

Exercise 1.6 Tell your friend who is planning to spend his/her summer holidays in the USA some interesting facts that you know about the USA.

Use the key words:

North America, 50 states, Washington, D.C., language, territories, districts, regions, “The Stars and Stripes”, eagle, “In God We Trust”, anthem, American dollar, Liberty Island in New York, The Liberty Bell, Mt. Rushmore, the Capitol, The Lincoln Memorial, the White House, Disneyland.

UNIT 2. GEOGRAPHY OF THE USA

Exercise 2.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

share – делить, разделять; часть, доля

boundary – граница

the Gulf of Mexico – Мексиканский залив

the Bering Strait – Берингов пролив

temperate – умеренный

mangrove – мангровое дерево

tributary – приток

valley – долина

plain – равнина

elevation – возвышение, возвышенность

abrupt – крутой, обрывистый

slope – склон, откос

solid – сплошной, однородный, цельный, однородный

intermittent – прерывающийся, прерывистый

arid – сухой, засушливый

rugged – пересеченный, труднопроходимый

untapped – нетронутый, неиспользованный

gorge – ущелье

humid – влажный

alpine – горный, высокогорный

hurricane – ураган

vascular plants – сосудистые растения

endangered species – исчезающие виды

mining – горное дело, добыча полезных ископаемых

logging – лесозаготовка

Exercise 2.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts.

Forty nine states in the United States (all except Hawaii) lie on the North American continent; 48 of these (all except Alaska and Hawaii) are contiguous and form the continental United States.

The United States shares land borders with Canada (to the north) and Mexico (to the south), and territorial water boundaries with Canada, Russia, the Bahamas, and numerous smaller nations. It is otherwise bounded by the Pacific Ocean on the west, the Atlantic Ocean on the east, and the Gulf of Mexico to the southeast. Alaska borders the Pacific Ocean

to the south, the Bering Strait to the west, and the Arctic Ocean to the north, while Hawaii lies far to the southwest of the mainland in the Pacific Ocean.

The eastern United States consists largely of rolling hills and temperate forests. The Appalachian Mountains form a line of low mountains separating the eastern seaboard from the Great Lakes (the biggest of them are Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario) and the Mississippi Basin. And the Mississippi – Missouri River, the world's fourth longest river system, runs mainly north – south through the heart of the country [6].

The five Great Lakes are located in the north-central portion of the country, four of them forming part of the border with Canada. The southeast United States contains subtropical forests and, near the coast, mangrove wetlands, especially in Florida. West of the Appalachians lies along the Mississippi River basin and two large eastern tributaries, the Ohio River and Tennessee River. The Ohio and Tennessee Valleys and the Midwest consist largely of rolling hills and productive farmland, stretching south to the Gulf Coast.

The Great Plains lie west of the Mississippi River and east of the Rocky Mountains. A large portion of the country's agricultural products are grown in the Great Plains. Before their general conversion to farmland, the Great Plains were noted for their extensive grasslands, from tallgrass prairie in the eastern plains to shortgrass steppe in the western High Plains. Elevation rises gradually from less than a few hundred feet near the Mississippi River to more than a mile high in the High Plains. The generally low relief of the plains is broken in several places, most notably in the Ozark and Ouachita Mountains, a region known as The Ozarks.

The Great Plains come to an abrupt end at the Rocky Mountains (picture 16). The Rocky Mountains form a large portion of the Western U.S., entering from Canada and stretching nearly to Mexico. The Rocky Mountains generally contain fairly mild slopes and low peaks compared to many of the other great mountain ranges, with a few exceptions (such as the Teton Mountains in Wyoming and the Sawatch Range in Colorado). In addition, instead of being one generally continuous and solid mountain range, it is broken up into a number of smaller, intermittent mountain ranges, forming a large series of basins and valleys.



Picture 16 – The Rocky Mountains

West of the Rocky Mountains lies along the Intermontane Plateaus (also known as the Intermountain West), a large, arid desert lying between the Rockies and the Cascades and Sierra Nevada ranges. The large southern portion, known as the Great Basin, consists of salt flats, drainage basins, and many small north-south mountain ranges. The Southwest is predominantly a low-lying desert region. A portion known as the Colorado Plateau, centered around the Four Corners region, is considered to have some of the most spectacular scenery in the world. It is accentuated in such national parks as Grand Canyon, Arches, and Bryce Canyon, among others.

The Intermontane Plateaus come to an end at the Cascade Range and the Sierra Nevada. The Cascades consist of largely intermittent, volcanic mountains rising prominently from the surrounding landscape. The Sierra Nevada, further south, is a high, rugged, and dense mountain range. It contains the highest point in the contiguous 48 states, Mount Whitney (4,421 m). These areas contain some spectacular scenery as well, as evidenced by such national parks as Yosemite and Mount Rainier. West of the Cascades and Sierra Nevada is a series of valleys, such as the Central Valley in California and the Willamette Valley in Oregon. Along the coast there is a series of low mountain ranges known as the Pacific Coast Ranges. Much of the Pacific Northwest coast is inhabited by some of the densest vegetation outside the Tropics, and also the tallest trees in the world (the Redwoods).

Alaska contains some of the most dramatic and untapped scenery in the country. Tall, prominent mountain ranges rise up sharply from broad, flat tundra plains. On the islands off the south and southwest coast are

many volcanoes. Hawaii, far to the south of Alaska in the Pacific Ocean, is a chain of tropical, volcanic islands, popular as a tourist destination for many from East Asia and the mainland United States [9].

The geography of the United States varies across its immense area. Within the continental U.S., eight distinct physiographic divisions exist, though each is composed of several smaller physiographic subdivisions. These major divisions are the:

- Laurentian Highlands – part of the Canadian shield that extends into the northern United States Great Lakes area.
- Atlantic Plain – the coastal regions of the eastern and southern parts includes the continental shelf, the Atlantic Coast and the Gulf Coast.
- Appalachian Highlands – lying on the eastern side of the United States, it includes the Appalachian Mountains, Adirondacks and New England province.
- Interior Plains – part of the interior continental United States, it includes much of what is called the Great Plains.
- Interior Highlands – also part of the interior continental United States, this division includes the Ozark Plateau.
- Rocky Mountain System – one branch of the Cordilleran system lying far inland in the western states.
- Intermontane Plateaus – also divided into the Columbia Plateau, the Colorado Plateau and Range Province, it is a system of plateaus, basins, ranges and gorges between the Rocky and Pacific Mountain Systems. It is the setting for the Grand Canyon, the Great Basin and Death Valley.
- Pacific Mountain System – the coastal mountain ranges and features in the west coast of the United States.

The Atlantic coast of the United States is, with minor exceptions, low. Here, lie the Atlantic Plain and Appalachian Highlands. The Appalachian Highland owes its oblique northeast-southwest trend to crustal deformations which in very early geological time gave a beginning to what later came to be the Appalachian mountain system.

➤ Lowest point: Death Valley, Inyo County, California -86 m below sea level.

➤ Highest point: Mount McKinley, Denali Borough, Alaska 6,194 m above sea level.

The United States, with its large size and geographic variety, includes most climate types. To the east of the 100th meridian, the climate ranges from humid continental in the north to humid subtropical in the south. The southern tip of Florida is tropical, as is Hawaii. The Great Plains west of the 100th meridian are semi-arid. Much of the Western mountains are alpine. The climate is arid in the Great Basin, desert in the

Southwest, Mediterranean in coastal California, and oceanic in coastal Oregon and Washington and southern Alaska. Most of Alaska is subarctic or polar. Extreme weather is not uncommon – the states bordering the Gulf of Mexico are prone to hurricanes, and most of the world's tornadoes occur within the country, mainly in the Midwest's Tornado Alley [8].

The U.S. ecology is considered “megadiverse”: about 17,000 species of vascular plants occur in the contiguous United States and Alaska, and over 1,800 species of flowering plants are found in Hawaii, few of which occur on the mainland. The United States is home to more than 400 mammals, 750 birds, and 500 reptiles and amphibian species. About 91,000 insect species have been described. The Endangered Species Act of 1973 protects threatened and endangered species and their habitats, which are monitored by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. There are fifty-eight national parks and hundreds of other federally managed parks, forests, and wilderness areas. Altogether, the government owns 28.8% of the country's land area. Most of this is protected, though some is leased for oil and gas drilling, mining, logging, or cattle ranching; 2.4% is used for military purposes [14].

Exercise 2.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions.

1. Where is the USA situated? Can you describe its geographical position?
2. What countries does the United States share land and water borders with?
3. What mountain chains of the USA do you know? Where are they situated?
4. Can you describe the region of the Great Lakes?
5. What river basins of the USA do you know?
6. What Plains of the USA do you know? Where are they situated?
7. What eight distinct physiographic divisions exist in the USA? Can you describe them?
8. What is the lowest point of the USA? Where is it situated?
9. What is the highest point of the USA? Where is it situated?
10. What are the peculiarities of the US climate?
11. What are the peculiarities of the US flora and fauna?

Exercise 2.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| a) boundary; | 1) marked by a relatively high level of water vapour in the atmosphere; |
| b) temperate; | 2) a low area of land between hills or mountains, typically with a river or stream flowing through it; |

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| c) valley; | 3) a storm with a violent wind, in particular a tropical cyclone; |
| d) arid; | 4) the process or industry of obtaining coal or other minerals; |
| e) humid; | 5) a line which marks the limits of an area; a dividing line; |
| f) hurricane; | 6) having little or no rain; too dry or barren to support vegetation; |
| g) mining; | 7) a surface of which one end or side is at a higher level than another; a rising or falling surface, a part of the side of a hill or mountain, especially as a place for skiing; |
| h) slope. | 8) relating to or denoting a region or climate characterized by mild temperatures. |

Exercise 2.5 Say if it's true or false.

1. Forty nine states in the United States (all except Hawaii) lie on the South American continent.
2. The United States shares land borders with Canada (to the north) and Mexico (to the south), and territorial water boundaries with Canada, Russia, the Bahamas.
3. The Mississippi–Missouri River is the world's longest river system.
4. The Rocky Mountains form a large portion of the Western U.S., entering from Canada and stretching nearly to Mexico.
5. Alaska is a series of valleys, such as the Central Valley in California and the Willamette Valley in Oregon.
6. Hawaii is a chain of tropical, volcanic islands, popular as a tourist destination for many from East Asia and the mainland United States.
7. Within the continental U.S., eleven distinct physiographic divisions exist.
8. The highest point of the USA is Mount McKinley.
9. Most of Alaska is subtropical or tropical.
10. There are fifty-eight national parks and hundreds of other federally managed parks, forests, and wilderness areas in the USA.

Exercise 2.6 Tell your friend what you know about geographical position, climate, fauna and flora of the USA. Use the key words:

North American continent, to share, land borders, Canada, Mexico, water boundaries, the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Appalachian Mountains, the Great Lakes, the Mississippi Basin, the Great Plains, the Rocky Mountains, Alaska, Hawaii, divisions, humid continental, humid subtropical, species.

UNIT 3. HISTORY OF THE USA

Exercise 3.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

indigenous – коренной, местный, аборигенный

smallpox – оспа

settlement – поселение

fur – мех, шерсть

convict – заключенный, каторжник, осужденный, преступник

devotion – преданность, сильная привязанность

to fuel – зд. разжигать, подливать масла в огонь

to seize – захватывать, завладеть

convene – созывать

endow – наделять, одарять

ratify – утверждать, скреплять подписью

restriction – ограничение

slave – раб

defeat – поражение

abolish – отменять

eagerness – пыл, рвение

grievance – недовольство, жалоба

incursion – вторжение, нападение

to be opposed – быть против

secede – отделяться

hasten – ускорять

treaty – договор

unilateralism – односторонность

isolationism – изоляционизм

prosperity – процветание

trigger – инициировать, приводить в действие

nuclear – атом

lawsuit – судебный процесс

launch – давать старт

guerrilla – партизанский

oust – вытеснять

devastate – истощать, опустошать, разорять

pullout – выдвижение, выход

troop – отряд

Exercise 3.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts:

- ***Native American and European settlement***

The indigenous peoples of the U.S. mainland, including Alaska Natives, are believed to have migrated from Asia, beginning between 40,000 and 12,000 years ago. Some, such as the pre-Columbian Mississippian culture, developed advanced agriculture, grand architecture, and state-level societies. After Europeans began settling the Americas, many millions of indigenous Americans died from epidemics of imported diseases such as smallpox.

In 1492 while under contract to Spanish crown, Christopher Columbus discovered several Caribbean islands and making first contact with the indigenous people (picture 17).



Picture 17 – Spanish Fleet

On April 2, 1513, Spanish conquistador Juan Ponce de León landed on what he called “La Florida” – the first documented European arrival on what would become the U.S. mainland. Spanish settlements in the region were followed by ones in the present-day southwestern United States that drew thousands through Mexico. French fur traders established outposts of New France around the Great Lakes; France eventually claimed much of the North American interior, down to the Gulf of Mexico. The first successful English settlements were the Virginia Colony in Jamestown in 1607 and the Pilgrims’ Plymouth Colony in 1620. The 1628 chartering of the Massachusetts Bay Colony resulted in a wave of migration; by 1634, New England had been settled by some 10,000 Puritans. Between the late 1610s and the American Revolution, about 50,000 convicts were shipped to Britain's

American colonies. Beginning in 1614, the Dutch settled along the lower Hudson River, including New Amsterdam on Manhattan Island [10].

In 1674, the Dutch ceded their American territory to England; the province of New Netherland was renamed New York. Many new immigrants, especially to the South, were indentured servants – some two-thirds of all Virginia immigrants between 1630 and 1680. By the turn of the 18th century, African slaves were becoming the primary source of bonded labor in many regions. With the 1729 division of the Carolinas and the 1732 colonization of Georgia, the thirteen British colonies that would become the United States of America were established. All had local governments with elections open to most free men, with a growing devotion to the ancient rights of Englishmen and a sense of self-government stimulating support for republicanism. All legalized the African slave trade. With high birth rates, low death rates, and steady immigration, the colonial population grew rapidly. The Christian revivalist movement of the 1730s and 1740s known as the Great Awakening fueled interest in both religion and religious liberty. In the French and Indian War, British forces seized Canada from the French, but the francophone population remained politically isolated from the southern colonies. Excluding the Native Americans (popularly known as “American Indians”), who were being displaced, those thirteen colonies had a population of 2.6 million in 1770, about one-third that of Britain; nearly one in five Americans were black slaves. Though subject to British taxation, the American colonials had no representation in the Parliament of Great Britain [1].

- ***Independence and expansion***

Tensions between American colonials and the British during the revolutionary period of the 1760s and early 1770s led to the American Revolutionary War, fought from 1775 to 1781. On June 14, 1775, the Continental Congress, convening in Philadelphia, established a Continental Army under the command of George Washington. Proclaiming that “all men are created equal” and endowed with “certain unalienable Rights”, the Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, drafted largely by Thomas Jefferson, on July 4, 1776 (picture 18). That date is now celebrated annually as America’s Independence Day.

In 1777, the Articles of Confederation established a weak confederal government that operated until 1789 [12].



Picture 18 – Adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Congress

After the British defeat by American forces assisted by the French and Spanish, Great Britain recognized the independence of the United States and the states' sovereignty over American territory west to the Mississippi River. Those wishing to establish a strong federal government with powers of taxation organized a constitutional convention in 1787. The United States Constitution was ratified in 1788, and the new republic's first Senate, House of Representatives, and president – George Washington –took office in 1789. The Bill of Rights, forbidding federal restriction of personal freedoms and guaranteeing a range of legal protections, was adopted in 1791.

Attitudes toward slavery were shifting; a clause in the Constitution protected the Atlantic slave trade only until 1808. The Northern states abolished slavery between 1780 and 1804, leaving the slave states of the South as defenders of the “peculiar institution”. The Second Great Awakening, beginning about 1800, made evangelicalism a force behind various social reform movements, including abolitionism.

Americans' eagerness to expand westward prompted a long series of Indian Wars. The Louisiana Purchase of French-claimed territory under President Thomas Jefferson in 1803 almost doubled the nation's size. The War of 1812, declared against Britain over various grievances and fought to a draw, strengthened U.S. nationalism. A series of U.S. military incur-

sions into Florida led Spain to cede it and other Gulf Coast territory in 1819. The Trail of Tears in the 1830s exemplified the Indian removal policy that stripped the native peoples of their land. The United States annexed the Republic of Texas in 1845, amid a period when the concept of Manifest Destiny was becoming popular. The 1846 Oregon Treaty with Britain led to U.S. control of the present-day American Northwest. The U.S. victory in the Mexican-American War resulted in the 1848 cession of California and much of the present-day American Southwest. The California Gold Rush of 1848-1849 further spurred western migration. New railways made relocation easier for settlers and increased conflicts with Native Americans. Over a half-century, up to 40 million American bison, or buffalo, were slaughtered for skins and meat and to ease the railways' spread. The loss of the buffalo, a primary resource for the plains Indians, was an existential blow to many native cultures [8].

- ***Civil War and industrialization***

As new territories were being incorporated, the nation was divided over the issue of states' rights, the role of the federal government, and – by the 1820s – the expansion of slavery, which had been legal in all thirteen colonies but was rarer in the north, where it was abolished by 1804. The Northern states were opposed to the expansion of slavery whereas the Southern states saw the opposition as an attack on their way of life, since their economy was dependent on slave labor. The failure to permanently resolve these issues led to the Civil War, following the secession of many slave states in the South to form the Confederate States of America after the 1860 election of Abraham Lincoln. The 1865 Union victory in the Civil War effectively ended slavery and settled the question of whether a state had the right to secede. The event was a major turning point in American history, with an increase in federal power.

After the Civil War, an unprecedented influx of immigrants, who helped to provide labor for American industry and create diverse communities in undeveloped areas-together with high tariff protections, national infrastructure building, and national banking regulations-hastened the country's rise to international power. The growing power of the United States enabled it to acquire new territories, including the annexation of Puerto Rico after victory in the Spanish-American War, which marked the debut of the United States as a major world power.

- ***World War I, Great Depression, and World War II***

At the start of the World War I in 1914, the United States remained neutral. In 1917, however, the United States joined the Allied Powers,

helping to turn the tide against the Central Powers (picture 19). For historical reasons, American sympathies were very much in favor of the British and French, even though a sizable number of citizens, mostly Irish and German, were opposed to intervention. After the war, the Senate did not ratify the Treaty of Versailles because of a fear that it would pull the United States into European affairs. Instead, the country pursued a policy of unilateralism that bordered at times on isolationism.



Picture 19 – The World War I

During most of the 1920s, the United States enjoyed a period of unbalanced prosperity as farm prices fell and industrial profits grew. A rise in debt and an inflated stock market culminated in a crash in 1929, triggering the Great Depression. After his election as President in 1932, Franklin Delano Roosevelt instituted his plan for a New Deal, which increased government intervention in the economy in response to the Great Depression [3].

The nation did not fully recover until 1941, when the United States was driven to join the Allies against the Axis Powers after a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan. World War II was the costliest war in economic terms in American history, but it helped to pull the economy out of depression because the required production of military materiel provided much-needed jobs, and women entered the workforce in large numbers for the

first time (picture 20). During this war, scientists working for the United States federal government succeeded in producing nuclear weapons, making the United States the world's first nuclear power. Toward the end of World War II, after the end of World War II in Europe, the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. The Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs were the second and third nuclear devices detonated and the only ones ever employed as weapons. Japan surrendered soon after, on 2 September 1945, which ended World War II [4].



Picture 20 – The World War II

- ***Cold War and civil rights.***

After World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union became superpowers in an era of ideological rivalry dubbed the Cold War. The United States promoted liberal democracy and capitalism, while the Soviet Union communism and a centrally planned economy. The result was a series of proxy wars, including the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the tense nuclear showdown of the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the Soviet war in Afghanistan.

The perception that the United States was losing the space race spurred government efforts to raise proficiency in mathematics and science in schools and led to President John F. Kennedy's call for the United

States to land “a man on the moon” by the end of the 1960s, which was realized in 1969.

Meanwhile, American society experienced a period of sustained economic expansion. At the same time, discrimination across the United States, especially in the South, was increasingly challenged by a growing civil-rights movement headed by prominent African Americans such as Martin Luther King, Jr., which led to the abolition of the Jim Crow laws in the South.

After the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, the United States continued to intervene in overseas military conflicts such as the Gulf War. It remains the world's only superpower [5].

- ***September 11, 2001 and the War on Terrorism***

Under President George H.W. Bush, the United States took a lead role in the UN – sanctioned Gulf War. The longest economic expansion in modern U.S. history – from March 1991 to March 2001 – encompassed the Bill Clinton administration. A civil lawsuit and sex scandal led to Clinton’s impeachment in 1998, but he remained in office. The 2000 presidential election, one of the closest in American history, was resolved by a U.S. Supreme Court decision – George W. Bush, son of George H.W. Bush, became president.

On September 11, 2001, al-Qaeda terrorists struck the World Trade Center in New York City and The Pentagon near Washington, D.C., killing nearly three thousand people (picture 21). In response, the Bush administration launched the global War on Terror, invading Afghanistan and removing the Taliban government and al-Qaeda training camps. Taliban insurgents continue to fight a guerrilla war. In 2002, the Bush administration began to press for regime change in Iraq on controversial grounds. Forces led by the U.S. invaded Iraq in 2003, ousting Saddam Hussein. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina caused severe destruction along much of the Gulf Coast, devastating New Orleans. In 2008, amid a global economic recession, the first African American president, Barack Obama, was elected. Major health care and financial system reforms were enacted two years later. In 2011, a raid by Navy SEALs in Pakistan killed al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. The Iraq War officially ended with the pullout of the remaining U.S. troops from the country in December 2011 [9].



*Picture 21 – Terrorists’ attack of the World Trade Center
in New York City*

Exercise 3.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions.

1. What important events in the USA history do you know?
2. When did European conquistadors make first contact with the indigenous people of the U.S. mainland? Who were these first European conquistadors? Can you give their names?
3. How can you describe the first European settlements on the U.S land?
4. What were the results of the American Revolutionary (Independence War) from 1775 to 1781?
5. When was The Bill of Rights adopted?
6. Who was the first President of the U.S.?
7. What is meant by abolitionism in the U.S. history?
8. What situation led to the Civil War?
9. What President abolished slavery?
10. What were the results of the Civil War?
11. What was the role of the USA in the World War I?
12. What were the reasons of the Great Depression in 1929?

13. How did the country overcome the Great Depression? Who was the President of the U.S. during that period of time? What plan did he institute in response to the Great Depression?
14. What was the role of the USA in the World War II? What were the results?
15. How can you describe the situation between the United States and the Soviet Union after the World War II?
16. What important events in the history of the U.S. at the beginning of the 21st century can you describe?

Exercise 3.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| a) indigen-ous; | 1) formally put an end to (a system, practice, or institution); |
| b) convict; | 2) sign or give formal consent to (a treaty, contract, or agreement), making it officially valid; |
| c) abolish; | 3) destroy or ruin; cause (someone) severe and overwhelming shock or grief; |
| d) treaty; | 4) originating or occurring naturally in a particular place; native; |
| e) ratify; | 5) the group of people with the authority to govern a country or state; a particular ministry in office; the system by which a state or community is governed; |
| f) devastate; | 6) a formally concluded and ratified agreement between states; |
| g) govern-ment. | 7) a person found guilty of a criminal offence and serving a sentence of imprisonment. |

Exercise 3.5 Say if it's true or false.

1. The indigenous peoples of the U.S. mainland, including Alaska Natives, are believed to have migrated from Russia, beginning between 40,000 and 12,000 years ago.
2. After Europeans began settling the Americas, many millions of indigenous Americans died from epidemics of imported diseases.

3. The first successful English settlements were the Columbia Colony in Jamestown in 1607 and the Pilgrims' Massachusetts Colony in 1620.
4. The Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 and that date is now celebrated annually as America's Independence Day.
5. The Bill of Rights, forbidding federal restriction of personal freedoms and guaranteeing a range of legal protections, was adopted in 1791.
6. The Southern states were opposed to the expansion of slavery whereas the Northern states saw the opposition as an attack on their way of life during 1820-1860.
7. During most of the 1920s, the United States enjoyed a period of unbalanced prosperity.
8. After his election as President in 1932, Theodore Roosevelt instituted his plan for a New Deal, which increased government intervention in the economy in response to the Great Depression.
9. World War II was the costliest war in economic terms in American history, but it helped to pull the economy out of depression.
10. After World War II the United States promoted communism and a centrally planned economy, while the Soviet Union liberal democracy and capitalism.
11. In 2008 the first African American president, George W. Bush, was elected.

Exercise 3.6 Tell your friend who is a student of Historical Department some facts from the history of the USA that impressed you and listen to the comments of your friend. Use the key words:

Indigenous peoples, Christopher Columbus, to discover, Caribbean islands, New France, New England, New Amsterdam, revolutionary period, Revolutionary War, the Congress, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, the Constitution, Confederate States, Abraham Lincoln, the Civil War, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the Great Depression, attack on Pearl Harbor, workforce, atomic bombs, superpowers, space race, John F. Kennedy, George H.W. Bush, president, terrorists, the World Trade Center, the Pentagon.

UNIT 4. POLITICAL SYSTEM OF THE USA

Exercise 4.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

majority – большинство

minority – меньшинство

split – разделенный, разделение

plurality – большинство голосов

legislative – законодательный

the House of Representatives – Палата Представителей

bicameral legislature – двухпалатная законодательная власть

apportion – распределять, разделять

first-past-the-post – отдающий победу кандидату, набравшему простое большинство голосов

executive – исполнительный

legislation – законопроект, закон

treason – измена, предательство

bribery – взяточничество, подкуп

misdemeanor – правонарушение, мисдиминор

dissolve – распускать, прекращать

resignation – отставка, отказ от должности

evolve – развивать(ся), устанавливать

judiciary – судебный

deem – полагать, считать

the Supreme Court – Верховный суд

justice – судья

nullify – аннулировать, уничтожать

courts of appeals – апелляционный суд

district court – окружной суд

writ of habeas corpus – приказ/предписание о представлении арестованного в суд

amend – вносить изменения, вносить поправки

violation – нарушение

void – аннулировать, делать недействительным

nominee – кандидат

subsequent – последующий, следующий

ticket – зд., разг. программа политической партии

Exercise 4.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts.

The United States is the world's oldest surviving federation. It is a constitutional republic and representative democracy, “in which majority rule is tempered by minority rights protected by law”. The government is regulated by a system of checks and balances defined by the U.S. Constitution, which serves as the country’s supreme legal document. In the American federalist system, citizens are usually subject to three levels of government, federal, state, and local; the local government's duties are commonly split between county and municipal governments. In almost all cases, executive and legislative officials are elected by a plurality vote of citizens by district. There is no proportional representation at the federal level, and it is very rare at lower levels.

The federal government comprises three branches, which are designed to check and balance one another’s powers:

- ***Legislative:*** The Congress, made up of the Senate and the House of Representatives, which makes federal law, declares war, approves treaties and has powers of impeachment (picture 22).



Picture 22 – The Symbol of the legislative branch

The United States Congress is a bicameral legislature. The House of Representatives has 435 members, each representing a congressional district for a two-year term. House seats are apportioned among the states according to population every tenth year. Each state is guaranteed at least one representative: currently, seven states have one each; California, the most populous state, has 53. Each state has two senators, elected at large to six-year terms; one third of Senate seats are up for election every second year. Each House has particular exclusive powers – the Senate must give “advice and consent” to many important Presidential appointments, and

the House must introduce any bills for the purpose of raising revenue. However, the consent of both Houses is required to make any law. The powers of Congress are limited to those enumerated in the Constitution; all other powers are reserved to the states and the people. The Constitution also includes the “necessary-and-proper clause”, which grants Congress the power to ‘make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers.’

Members of the House and Senate are elected by first-past-the-post voting in every state except Louisiana and Washington, which have runoffs [2].

- **Executive:** The President, who appoints, with Senate approval, the Cabinet and other officers, who administers and enforces federal law, can veto bills, and is Commander in Chief of the military (picture 23).

The President is both the head of state and head of government, as well as the commander-in-chief of the military, and the chief diplomat. The President, according to the Constitution, must “take care that the laws be faithfully executed.” The President may sign or veto legislation passed by Congress. He may be impeached by a majority in the House and removed from office by a two-thirds majority in the Senate for ‘treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.’ The President may not dissolve Congress or call special elections, but does have the power to pardon criminals convicted of federal offenses (though not crimes against a state), give executive orders, and (with the consent of the Senate) appoint Supreme Court justices and federal judges.



Picture 23 – The Symbol of the executive branch

The Vice President of the United States is the second-highest executive official of the government. As first in the presidential line of succession, the Vice President becomes the new President of the United States upon the death, resignation, or removal of the President, which has happened nine times. His only other constitutional duty is to serve as the President of the Senate and break any tie votes in that chamber, but over the years the office has evolved into a senior advisor to the President

All executive power in the federal government is vested in the President of the United States, although power is often delegated to his/her Cabinet members and other officials. The President and Vice President are elected as ‘running mates’ for four-year terms by the Electoral College, for which each state, as well as the District of Columbia, is allocated a number of seats based on its representation (or ostensible representation, in the case of D.C.) in both houses of Congress.

The day-to-day enforcement and administration of federal laws is in the hands of the various federal executive departments, created by Congress to deal with specific areas of national and international affairs. The heads of the 15 departments, chosen by the President and approved with the ‘advice and consent’ of the U.S. Senate, form a council of advisors generally known as the President’s “Cabinet”. In addition to departments, there is a number of staff organizations grouped into the Executive Office of the President. These include the White House staff, the National Security Council, the Office of Management and Budget, the Council of Economic Advisers, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Office of Science and Technology Policy [7].

- **Judiciary:** The Supreme Court and lower federal courts, whose judges are appointed by the President with Senate approval, that interpret laws and their validity under the Constitution, and can overturn laws they deem unconstitutional (picture 24).

The highest court is the Supreme Court of the United States, which currently consists of nine justices, who are appointed for life. The court deals with matters pertaining to the Federal Government, disputes between states, and interpretation of the United States Constitution, and can declare legislation or executive action made at any level of the government as unconstitutional, nullifying the law and creating precedent for future law and decisions. Below the Supreme Court are the courts of appeals, and below them in turn are the district courts, which are the general trial courts for federal law.



Picture 24 – The Symbol of the judiciary branch

Separate from, but not entirely independent of, this federal court system are the individual court systems of each state, each dealing with its own laws and having its own judicial rules and procedures. The supreme court of each state is the final authority on the interpretation of that state's laws and constitution. A case may be appealed from a state court to a federal court only if there is a federal question (an issue arising under the U.S. Constitution, or laws/treaties of the United States). The relationship between federal and state laws is quite complex; together, they form the law of the United States.

The original text of the Constitution establishes the structure and responsibilities of the federal government and its relationship with the individual states. Article One protects the right to the “great writ” of habeas corpus, and Article Three guarantees the right to a jury trial in all criminal cases. Amendments to the Constitution require the approval of three-fourths of the states. The Constitution has been amended twenty-seven times; the first ten amendments, which make up the Bill of Rights, and the Fourteenth Amendment form the central basis of Americans' individual rights. All laws and governmental procedures are subject to judicial review and any law ruled in violation of the Constitution is voided. The principle of judicial review, not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution, was declared by the Supreme Court in *Marbury v. Madison* (1803) [11].

The United States has operated under a two-party system for most of its history. For elective offices at most levels, state-administered primary elections choose the major party nominees for subsequent general elections. Since the general election of 1856, the major parties have been the Democratic Party, founded in 1824, and the Republican Party, founded in 1854. Since the Civil War, only one third-party presidential candidate – former president Theodore Roosevelt, running as a Progressive in 1912 –

has won as much as 20% of the popular vote. But there are no clear differences between the Republican and Democratic parties. In general, the Republicans tend to be more conservative and to have more support among the upper classes, while the Democrats tend to be more liberal and to have more support among the working class and the poor.

Steps to Become President of the United States

U.S. Constitution Requirements for a Presidential Candidate:

The President must:

- Be a natural-born citizen of the United States.
- Be at least 35 years old.
- Have been a resident of the United States for 14 years.

Once the requirements are met, a candidate for President can declare candidacy and register with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) once you receive contributions or make expenditures in excess of \$5,000. Within 15 days of reaching that \$5,000 requirement, candidates then may file a Statement of Candidacy.

Step 1: Primaries and Caucuses:

Before the election, most candidates for President go through a series of state primaries and caucuses.

State primaries occur through a secret ballot. There are two types of primaries:

- Open: You can vote for a candidate from any political party.
- Closed: You can only vote for a candidate belonging to your same political party.

Caucuses give political parties the chance to persuade undecided voters to support their chosen candidate. At the end of the caucus, party organizers count the voters in each candidate's group and calculate how many delegates each candidate has won.

Step 2: National Convention:

After the primaries and caucuses, most political parties hold a national convention to select their presidential and vice presidential nominees.

E.g. In July 2016, Philadelphia will host the 47th Democratic National Convention and Cleveland will host the 41st Republican National Convention.

Step 3: General Election:

The presidential candidates participate in debates and general election campaigns throughout the country to explain their views and plans to the general population and win the support of potential voters.

Step 4: Electoral College:

When you cast your vote for president, you are actually voting for a group of people known as electors. They are part of the Electoral College, the process used to elect the U.S. President and Vice President. Each elector casts one electoral vote following the general election.

Number of Electors:

There are a total of 538 electors. A candidate needs the vote of more than half (270) to win the presidential election.

Each state's number of electors is equal to the number of its U.S. Senators plus the number of its U.S. Representatives. Washington D.C. is given a number of electors equal to the number held by the smallest state.

In 48 states, when a candidate receives the majority of votes, he or she receives all of the state's electoral votes.

Maine and Nebraska are the only two states that use the congressional district method.

For example: Nebraska has five electoral votes (one for each of the three congressional districts plus two for the state's senate seats). The winner of each district is awarded one electoral vote, and the winner of the statewide vote is then awarded the state's remaining two electoral votes.

U.S. territories are not represented in the Electoral College.

It is possible for a candidate to receive the majority of the popular vote but not of the electoral vote and lose a presidential election.

For example: If the United States had only three states each with a population of 100, each state would have three electoral votes (2 Senators plus one House of Representatives member) so a candidate would need 5 electoral votes to win the election.

Candidate 1 wins the first two states with 51 votes each but loses the third state with just one vote giving them 103 popular votes ($51 + 51 + 1$) BUT winning the popular vote in the first two states means candidate 1 has earned six electoral votes.

Candidate 2 receives 49 votes in the first two states and wins 99 votes in the third state to bring their total popular vote count to 197 ($49 + 49 + 99$). But having won only one state, candidate 2 receives only three electoral votes and therefore loses the election [7].

And the United States presidential election of 2016 was the 58th quadrennial American presidential election, held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. The Republican ticket of businessman Donald Trump and Indiana Governor Mike Pence defeated the Democratic ticket of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and U.S. Senator from Virginia Tim Kaine. Trump

took office as the 45th President, and Pence as the 48th Vice President, on January 20, 2017. Trump is the fifth person in U.S. history to become president despite losing the nationwide popular vote. He is the first president without any prior experience in public service or the military, while Clinton was the first woman to be the presidential nominee of the Democratic Party [13].

Exercise 4.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions:

1. What is the political system of the USA?
2. What branches does the federal government of the U.S comprise?
3. What body is the legislative branch of the government represented by?
4. Which two parts does Congress consist of?
5. What are the functions of Congress?
6. Who is the head of the executive branch?
7. What powers does the President of the country have?
8. Who is the second-highest executive official of the government?
9. How is the President's "Cabinet" formed?
10. What staff organizations does the Executive Office of the President comprise?
11. What is the most important body of the judiciary branch?
12. How many members does it have?
13. What are the powers of the Supreme Court?
14. Can you describe the state and federal court systems?
15. What is the role of the Constitution for the U.S.?
16. What political parties of the USA do you know?
17. How is President of the USA elected? Describe the steps to become a president of the US.
18. What are the results of the 2016 presidential election?

Exercise 4.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1) majority; | a) a body of people presided over by a judge, judges, or magistrate, and acting as a tribunal in civil and criminal cases; |
|--------------|--|

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 2) legislative; | b) a person who is nominated as a candidate for election or for an honour or award; |
| 3) treason; | c) the system of rules which a particular country or community recognizes as regulating the actions of its members and which it may enforce by the imposition of penalties; |
| 4) court; | d) having the power to make laws; |
| 5) amend; | e) the greater number; |
| 6) nominee; | f) the group of people with the authority to govern a country or state; a particular ministry in office; |
| 7) law; | g) make minor changes to (a text, piece of legislation, etc.) in order to make it fairer or more accurate, or to reflect changing circumstances; |
| 8) government. | h) the crime of betraying one's country, especially by attempting to kill or overthrow the sovereign or government. |

Exercise 4.5 Say if it's true or false.

1. The United States is the world's youngest surviving federation.
2. In the American federalist system, citizens are usually subject to three levels of government, federal, state, and local.
3. The federal government comprises three branches, which are designed to check and balance one another's powers.
4. Legislative branch comprises the Congress, made up of the Senate and the House of Lords.

5. The House of Representatives has 435 members, each representing a congressional district for a four-year term.
6. Members of the House and Senate are elected by first-past-the-post voting in every state except Louisiana and Washington, which have runoffs.
7. Executive branch comprises the President, who appoints, with Senate approval, the Cabinet and the House of Lords.
8. The President is both the head of state and head of government, and as the commander-in-chief of the military, and the chief diplomat.
9. The President has no right to sign or veto legislation passed by Congress.
10. Judiciary branch comprises the Supreme Court and lower federal courts, whose judges are appointed by the Sovereign with Senate approval.
11. The highest court is the Supreme Court of the United States, which currently consists of nine justices, who are appointed for 15 years.
12. The United States has operated under a two-party system for most of its history.
13. It is possible for a candidate of US president not to be a natural-born citizen of the United States.
14. Before the election, most candidates for President do not go through a series of state primaries and caucuses.
15. There are two types of primaries: open and closed.
16. The winner of the US presidential election, 2016 is Tom Cruise.

Exercise 4.6 Tell your friend who is interested in political events of the world what you know about the world's oldest surviving federation. Use the key words:

Constitutional republic, democracy, branches, legislative, the Congress, the Senate, the House of Representatives, Executive, the President, the Cabinet, Judiciary, the Supreme Court, Government, Constitution, two-party system, natural-born citizen, resident, Primaries, Caucuses, open, closed, vote, National Convention, Election, electors, senators, representatives, candidate.

UNIT 5. ECONOMY OF THE USA

Exercise 5.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

foremost – передовой

domestic – внутренний; отечественный, находящийся в пределах страны

safety net – «страховочная сетка», гарантия

fiscal – фискальный; денежный, финансовый

ideal – образец

prominent – заметный, видный

fertile – плодородный; изобилующий, богатый

bind – связывать, соединять

immediate descendant – прямой потомок

withdraw – удерживать, взимать

raw – сырой

beverage – напиток

commodity – товар, продукт для продажи

constitute – составлять

sulfur – сера

Exercise 5.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts.

The United States has the largest national economy in the world, with a GDP for 2014 of 15.1 trillion dollars. It is the world's foremost economic power. In this mixed economy, corporations and other private firms make the vast majority of microeconomic decisions, and governments prefer to take a minimal role in the domestic economy. Because of this, the U.S. has a small social safety net, and business firms in the U.S. face considerably less regulation than those in many other nations. The fiscal policy of the nation since the New Deal has followed the general ideals of Keynesian economics, which replaced Hamiltonian economics following the Great Depression. Neoliberal ideals have become more prominent since the presidency of Ronald Reagan and with the growing influence of globalization. Since the early 1980s, the United States has transformed from being the world's largest creditor to world's largest debtor. As of 2014, the gross external debt has exceeded 10 trillion dollars or 70% of GDP, and continues to grow fueled by large current account and federal government deficits (collectively termed twin deficits) [3].

Basic ingredients of the U.S. economy

The first ingredient of a nation's economic system is its natural resources. The United States is rich in mineral resources and fertile farm soil, and it is fortunate to have a moderate climate. It also has extensive

coastlines on both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, as well as on the Gulf of Mexico. Rivers flow from far within the continent, and the Great Lakes-five large, inland lakes along the U.S. border with Canada-provide additional shipping access. These extensive waterways have helped shape the country's economic growth over the years and helped bind America's 50 individual states together in a single economic unit.

The second ingredient is labor. The number of available workers and, more importantly, their productivity help determine the health of an economy. Throughout its history, the United States has experienced steady growth in the labor force, and that, in turn, has helped fuel almost constant economic expansion. Until shortly after World War I, most workers were immigrants from Europe, their immediate descendants, or African Americans who were mostly slaves taken from Africa, or slave descendants. Beginning in the early 20th century, many Latin Americans immigrated; followed by large numbers of Asians following removal of nation-origin based immigration quotas. The promise of high wages brings many highly skilled workers from around the world to the United States.

Labor mobility has also been important to the capacity of the American economy to adapt to changing conditions. When immigrants flooded labor markets on the East Coast, many workers moved inland, often to farmland waiting to be tilled. Similarly, economic opportunities in industrial, northern cities attracted black Americans from southern farms in the first half of the 20th century [7].

Third, there is manufacturing and investment. In the United States, the corporation has emerged as an association of owners, known as stockholders, who form a business enterprise governed by a complex set of rules and customs. Brought on by the process of mass production, corporations such as General Electric have been instrumental in shaping the United States. Through the stock market, American banks and investors have grown their economy by investing and withdrawing capital from profitable corporations. Today in the era of globalization American investors and corporations have influence all over the world. The American government has also been instrumental in investing in the economy, in areas such as providing cheap electricity (such as the Hoover Dam), and military contracts in times of war.

While consumers and producers make most decisions that mold the economy, government activities have a powerful effect on the U.S. economy in at least four areas. Strong government regulation in the U.S. economy started in the early 1900s with the rise of the progressive movement; prior to this the government promoted economic growth through protective

tariffs and subsidies to industry, built infrastructure, and established banking policies, including the gold standard, to encourage savings and investment in productive enterprises.

Some statistics:

Unemployment – 8.2% (May 2012).

GDP growth – 1.9% (1Q 2012), 1.7% (2011).

CPI inflation – 1.7% (May 2011 – May 2012).

Poverty – 15.1% (2010).

Public debt – \$15.78 trillion (June 25, 2012).

Household net worth – \$58.5 trillion (4Q 2011).

Agriculture – products: wheat, corn, other grains, fruits, vegetables, cotton; beef, pork, poultry, dairy products; forest products; fish.

Exports – commodities: capital goods, automobiles, industrial supplies and raw materials, consumer goods, agricultural products.

Imports – commodities: crude oil and refined petroleum products, machinery, automobiles, consumer goods, industrial raw materials, food and beverages.

The United States is the largest importer of goods and third largest exporter, though exports per capita are relatively low. In 2010, the total U.S. trade deficit was \$635 billion. Canada, China, Mexico, Japan, and Germany are its top trading partners. In 2010, oil was the largest import commodity, while transportation equipment was the country's largest export. China is the largest foreign holder of U.S. public debt [1].

In 2009, the private sector was estimated to constitute 86.4% of the economy, with federal government activity accounting for 4.3% and state and local government activity (including federal transfers) the remaining 9.3%. While its economy has reached a postindustrial level of development and its service sector constitutes 67.8% of GDP, the United States remains an industrial power. The leading business field by gross business receipts is wholesale and retail trade; by net income it is manufacturing. Chemical products are the leading manufacturing field. The United States is the third largest producer of oil in the world, as well as its largest importer. It is the world's number one producer of electrical and nuclear energy, as well as liquid natural gas, sulfur, phosphates, and salt. While agriculture accounts for just under 1% of GDP, the United States is the world's top producer of corn and soybeans. Coca-Cola and McDonald's are the two most recognized brands in the world.

In August 2010, the American labor force comprised 154.1 million people. With 21.2 million people, government is the leading field of employment. The largest private employment sector is health care and social

assistance, with 16.4 million people. About 12% of workers are unionized, compared to 30% in Western Europe. The World Bank ranks the United States first in the ease of hiring and firing workers. In 2009, the United States had the third highest labor productivity per person in the world, behind Luxembourg and Norway. It was fourth in productivity per hour, behind those two countries and the Netherlands. Compared to Europe, U.S. property and corporate income tax rates are generally higher, while labor and, particularly, consumption tax rates are lower [11].

Exercise 5.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions.

1. What are the main industries of the USA?
2. What products does the U.S. supply to other countries?
3. What products does the U.S import from other countries?
4. What countries are the U.S. top trading partners?
5. What is the largest import commodity of the U.S.?
6. What is the country's largest export?
7. What can you tell about employment sector of the country?
8. What are the main natural resources of the country?

Exercise 5.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1) domestic; | a) relating to financial matters; |
| 2) fiscal; | b) remove or take away (something) from a particular place or position; |
| 3) fertile; | c) the process by which businesses or other organizations develop international influence or start operating on an international scale; |
| 4) bind; | d) put (money) into financial schemes, shares, property, or a commercial venture with the expectation of achieving a profit; |
| 5) withdraw; | e) existing or occurring inside a particular country; not foreign or international; |

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 6) globalization; | f) producing or capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; |
| 7) commodity; | g) a raw material or primary agricultural product that can be bought and sold, such as copper or coffee; |
| 8) invest. | h) tie or fasten (something) tightly together. |

Exercise 5.5 Say if it's true or false.

1. The United States has the smallest national economy in the world, with a GDP for 2014 of 2 trillion dollars.
2. In the mixed economy of the US governments prefer to take a minimal role in the domestic economy.
3. The first ingredient of the US economic system is developing of new technologies.
4. The United States is poor in mineral resources.
5. The promise of high wages brings many highly skilled workers from around the world to the United States.
6. Labor mobility has been important to the capacity of the American economy to adapt to changing conditions.
7. American government and politicians have grown their economy by investing and withdrawing capital from profitable corporations.
8. Today in the era of globalization American investors and corporations haven't any influence on the world.
9. The United States is the largest exporter of goods and third largest importer.
10. In the USA chemical products are the leading manufacturing field.
11. The largest private employment sector of the US is health care and social assistance, with 16.4 million people.

Exercise 5.6 Tell your friend who is interested in the economy of foreign countries about basic ingredients of the U.S. economy. Use the key words:

Economy, GDP, resources, foremost, domestic, raw, commodity, labor, manufacturing, investment, corporations, globalization, government, agriculture, exporter, importer, service sector, chemical products, employment sector.

UNIT 6. THE SYSTEM OF EDUCATION IN THE USA

Exercise 6.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

dropout – человек, бросивший работу или учебу; человек без определенных занятий

average – средний

ordinal – порядковый

enrol – зачислять, поступать

proponent – защитник, сторонник

invoke – ссылаться, взывать

intrusion – вмешательство

tailor – адаптировать, приспособливать

curriculum – учебный план, курс обучения

bully – запугивать, издеваться

deviate – отклоняться

core – основной

threshold – порог, пороговая величина

bachelor's degree – степень бакалавра

enrollment – зачисление

apprenticeship – обучение, срок обучения

internship – интернатура

bar exam – юридический экзамен

Exercise 6.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts:

American public education is operated by state and local governments, regulated by the United States Department of Education through restrictions on federal grants. Children are required in most states to attend school from the age of six or seven (generally, kindergarten or first grade) until they turn eighteen (generally bringing them through twelfth grade, the end of high school); some states allow students to leave school at sixteen or seventeen.

The United States has an educated population although the attainment is lower, and the dropout rate in the USA is the highest among developed nations. 76.6 million students were enrolled in nursery through undergraduate study. Of these, 72 percent aged 12 to 17 were judged academically 'on track' for their age (enrolled in school at or above grade level). Of those enrolled in compulsory education, 5.2 million (10.4 percent) were attending private schools. Among the country's adult population, over 85 percent have completed high school and 27 percent have received

a bachelor's degree or higher. The average salary for college graduates is \$45,400, exceeding the national average by more than \$10,000, according to a 2012 study by the U.S. Census Bureau.

However, the country has a low literacy rate as compared to other developed countries, with a reading literacy rate at 86-98% of the population over age 15, while ranking below average in science and mathematics understanding. The poor performance has pushed public and private efforts such as the No Child Left Behind Act. In addition, the ratio of college-educated adults entering the workforce to general population (33%) is slightly below the mean of other developed countries (35%) and rate of participation of the labor force in continuing education is high [13].

School grades

The U.S. uses ordinal numbers for naming grades, unlike Canada and Australia, where cardinal numbers are preferred. Thus, when asked what grade they are in, typical American children are more likely to say 'fourth grade' rather than "Grade 4." The following are the typical ages and grade groupings in public and private schools. Many different variations exist across the country.

Most parents send their children to either a public or private institution. According to government data, one-tenth of students are enrolled in private schools. Approximately 85% of students enter the public schools, largely because they are "free" (tax burdens by school districts vary from area to area). Most students attend school for around eight hours per day, and usually anywhere from 175 to 185 days per year. Most schools have a summer break period for about two and half months from June through August. This break is much longer than in many other nations. Originally, "summer vacation", as it is colloquially called, allowed students to participate in the harvest period during the summer. However, this is now relatively unnecessary and remains largely by tradition; it also has immense popular support.

Parents may also choose to educate their own children at home; 1.7% of children are educated in this manner. Proponents of home education invoke parental responsibility and the classical liberal arguments for personal freedom from government intrusion. Few proponents advocate that homeschooling should be the dominant educational policy. Most homeschooling advocates are wary of the established educational institutions for various reasons. Some are religious conservatives who see nonreligious education as contrary to their moral or religious systems. Others feel that they can more effectively tailor a curriculum to suit an individual student's academic strengths and weaknesses, especially those with learning disabili-

ities or gifted students. Still others feel that the negative social pressures of schools (such as bullying, drugs, crime, and other school-related problems) are detrimental to a child's proper development. Parents often form groups to help each other in the homeschooling process, and may even assign classes to different parents, similar to public and private schools.

Opposition to homeschooling comes from varied sources, including teachers' organizations and school districts. The National Education Association, the largest labor union in the United States, has been particularly vocal in the past. Opponents' stated concerns fall into several broad categories, including fears of poor academic quality, loss of income for the schools, and religious or social extremism, or lack of socialization with others.

Education is relatively not standardized at this level. Teachers, most of whom are women, receive a book to give to the students for each subject and brief overviews of what they are expected to teach. In general, a student learns basic arithmetic and sometimes rudimentary algebra in mathematics, English proficiency (such as basic grammar, spelling, and vocabulary), and fundamentals of other subjects.

Social studies and sciences are often underdeveloped, largely because most elementary teachers have a degree in English or education. Social studies may include basic events and concepts in American and world history and, in some places, state or local history; science varies widely [2].

High school (Grades 9 through 12)

High school runs from grades 9 through 12. Some school districts deviate from this formula. The most widely seen difference is to include 9th grade in middle school, though it is a relatively old practice which is disappearing. Also, many districts will use an older high school as a separate campus for 9th grade, allowing these students to adjust to a high school environment. In high school, students obtain much more control of their education and often may even choose their core classes.

College and University

Post-secondary education in the United States is known as college or university and commonly consists of four years of study at an institution of higher learning. Like high school, the four undergraduate grades are commonly called freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior years (alternately called first year, second year, etc.). Students traditionally apply to receive admission into college, with varying difficulties of entrance. Schools differ in their competitiveness and reputation; generally, the most prestigious schools are private, rather than public. Admissions criteria involve the rigor and grades earned in high school courses taken, the students

GPA, class ranking, and standardized test scores (such as the SAT or the ACT tests). Most colleges also consider more subjective factors such as a commitment to extracurricular activities, a personal essay, and an interview. While numerical factors rarely ever are absolute required values, each college usually has a rough threshold below which admission is unlikely.

Once admitted, students engage in undergraduate study, which consists of satisfying university and class requirements to achieve a bachelor's degree in a field of concentration known as a major (Some students enroll in double majors or 'minor' in another field of study). The most common method consists of four years of study leading to a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), a Bachelor of Science (B.S.), or sometimes (but rarely) another bachelor's degree such as Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.), or Bachelor of Philosophy (B.Phil.) Five-Year Professional Architecture programs offer the Bachelor of Architecture Degree (B.Arch.)

Unlike in the British model, degrees in law and medicine are not offered at the undergraduate level and are completed as graduate study after earning a bachelor's degree. Neither field specifies or prefers any undergraduate major, though medicine has set prerequisite courses that must be taken before enrollment [3].

Some students choose to attend a community college for two years prior to further study at another college or university. In most states, community colleges are operated either by a division of the state university or by local special districts subject to guidance from a state agency. Community colleges may award Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree after two years. Those seeking to continue their education may transfer to a four-year college or university (after applying through a similar admissions process as those applying directly to the four-year institution). Some community colleges have automatic enrollment agreements with a local four-year college, where the community college provides the first two years of study and the university provides the remaining years of study, sometimes all on one campus. The community college awards the associate's degree, and the university awards the Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

Graduate study, conducted after obtaining an initial degree and sometimes after several years of professional work, leads to a more advanced degree such as a master's degree, which could be a Master of Arts (MA), Master of Science (MS), Master of Business Administration (MBA), or other less common master's degrees such as Master of Educa-

tion (MEd), and Master of Fine Arts (MFA). After additional years of study and sometimes in conjunction with the completion of a master's degree, students may earn a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) or other doctoral degree, such as Doctor of Arts, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Theology, Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Pharmacy, Doctor of Physical Therapy, or Doctor of Jurisprudence. Some programs, such as medicine, have formal apprenticeship procedures post-graduation like residency and internship which must be completed after graduation and before one is considered to be fully trained. Other professional programs like law and business have no formal apprenticeship requirements after graduation (although law school graduates must take the bar exam in order to legally practice law in nearly all states) [14].

Entrance into graduate programs usually depends upon a student's undergraduate academic performance or professional experience as well as their score on a standardized entrance exam like the GRE (graduate schools in general), the LSAT (law), the GMAT (business), or the MCAT (medicine). Many graduate and law schools do not require experience after earning a bachelor's degree to enter their programs; however, business school candidates are usually required to gain a few years of professional work experience before applying. Only 8.9 percent of students ever receive postgraduate degrees, and most, after obtaining their bachelor's degree, proceed directly into the workforce.

And if we speak about types of Higher Educational Institution in the USA, they are:

Liberal Arts Colleges in the USA

A liberal arts college is one with a primary emphasis on undergraduate study in the Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Students in the liberal arts generally concentrate their studies in a particular field of study, while receiving exposure to a wide range of academic subjects, from the sciences to humanities subjects.

Encyclopaedia Britannica defines liberal arts as a “university curriculum aimed at imparting general knowledge and developing general intellectual capacities, in contrast to a professional, vocational, or technical curriculum.” Liberal arts institutions can be either private or public.

Private Universities

Private universities are universities not operated by governments, although many receive public monies, especially in the form of favorable tax considerations and governmental student loans and grants. They receive private funding through alumni donations, faculty research grants, and tuition fees. American students enjoy studying in private institutions in

the USA for their technological resources, research facilities, and small class sizes.

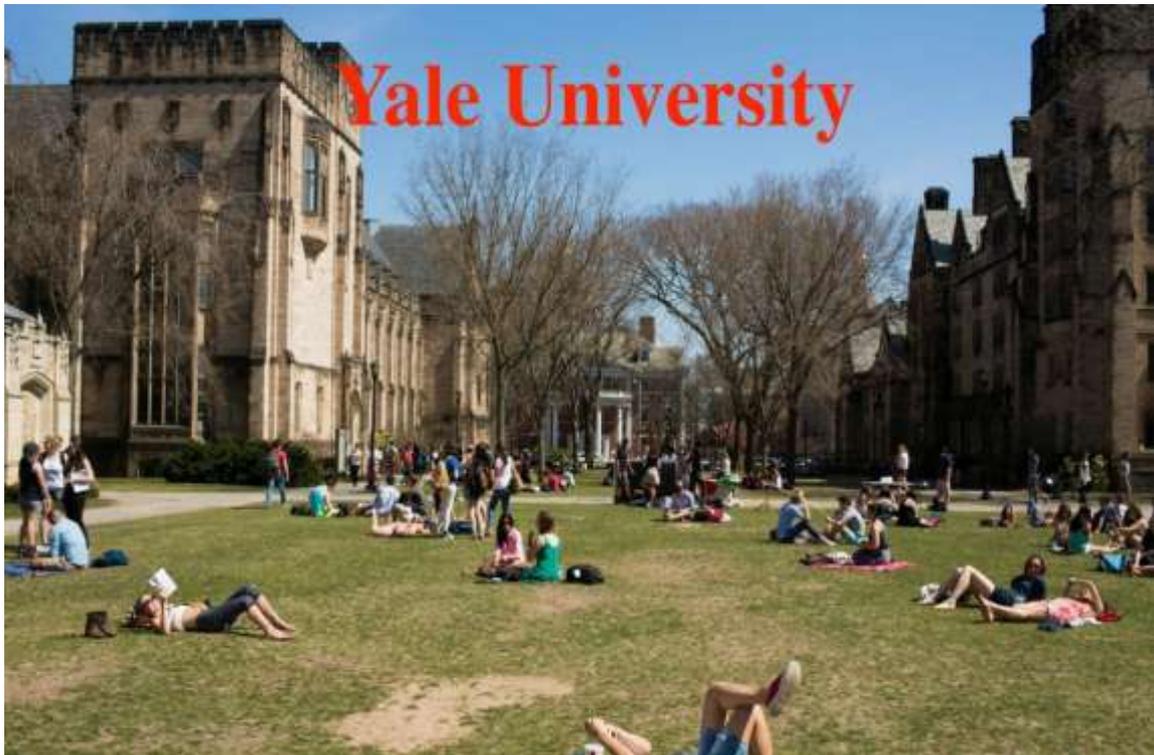
Private universities are able to attract and retain teaching staff well-known in their academic fields. The teaching experience is enriched by the staff's varying experiences outside of the classroom. Unusual and innovative academic programs may be found on private university campuses. Some of the most competitive and selective institutions of higher education in the United States are private. For example, U.S. News & World Report ranks the top ten universities in the United States for 2015 (in numeric order) as: Harvard University (picture 25), Princeton University (picture 26), Yale University (picture 27), Columbia University, California Institute of Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania and Duke University.



Picture 25 – Harvard University



Picture 26 – Princeton University



Picture 27 – Yale University

Public Universities

A public institution, often referred to as a state university, is one that receives funding from the state and/or federal government, although tuition revenue and private funding also contribute to its financial stability. These institutions may follow state-wide admission requirements, or have their own individual requirements. Faculty research grants typically are important to state university teaching staff and bring numerous practical research opportunities to you. These public universities often have large departments which offer numerous degree options. Public or state universities generally are less costly than private institutions, but still offer outstanding learning opportunities [13].

Exercise 6.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions.

1. What governments and Department is American public education operated and regulated by?
2. What age are children required in most states to attend schools?
3. Can you describe the peculiarities of education at American schools?
4. What other sources of education can parents choose in opposition to public schools?
5. What advantages and disadvantages of homeschooling do you know?
6. What peculiarities of American school curriculum do you know?
7. What peculiarities of high school education do you know?
8. What admissions criteria for the students do American universities and colleges take into account?
9. What are the peculiarities of studying at American universities and colleges?
10. What divisions of degrees are there in post-secondary education in the United States?
11. How can an associate's degree be obtained by the students?
12. How can a bachelor's degree be earned by the students?
13. How can a master's degree be obtained by the students?
14. What are the peculiarities of earning doctoral degrees?
15. What types of Higher Educational Institution in the USA do you know? Can you describe them?
16. Can you name the most competitive and selective institutions of higher education in the United States?

Exercise 6.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1) education; | a) a person who has abandoned a course of study or who has rejected conventional society to pursue an alternative lifestyle; |
| 2) school; | b) the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university; |
| 3) curriculum; | c) a person who holds a first degree from a university or other academic institution; |
| 4) freshman; | d) a first-year student at university; |
| 5) Bachelor; | e) an academic rank conferred by a college or university after examination or after completion of a course; |
| 6) degree; | f) the subjects comprising a course of study in a school or college; |
| 7) dropout; | g) the position of a student or trainee who works in an organization, sometimes without pay, in order to gain work experience or satisfy requirements for a qualification; |
| 8) internship. | h) an institution for educating children. |

Exercise 6.5 Say if it's true or false.

1. American public education is operated by state and local governments, regulated by the United States Agency of State Education through restrictions on federal grants.
2. Children are not required in most states to attend school from the age of six or seven.
3. The U.S. uses cardinal numbers for naming grades.

4. Most parents send their children to either a public or private institution.
5. High school runs from grades 9 through 15.
6. Post-secondary education in the United States is known as college or university and commonly consists of four years of study at an institution of higher learning.
7. Schools differ in their competitiveness and reputation; generally, the most prestigious schools are public, rather than private.
8. The most common method of post-secondary education consists of four years of study leading to a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), a Bachelor of Science (B.S.).
9. Community colleges may award Bachelor of Arts (AA) or Bachelor of Science (AS) degree after two years.
10. Graduate study, conducted after obtaining an initial degree and sometimes after several years of professional work, leads to a more advanced degree such as a Doctor's degree.

Exercise 6.6 Compare in discussion with your friend the systems of education in Russia and in the USA. Use the key words:

Education, government, state, local, public, private, institution, school, summer break period, home education, social studies, high school, post-secondary education, admission, bachelor's degree, master's degree, Doctor of Philosophy, entrance exam, Liberal Arts Colleges, private universities, public universities.

UNIT 7. POPULATION IN THE USA

Exercise 7.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

population – население

to estimate – оценивать

to increase – увеличивать(ся)

average – средний, среднестатистический

diverse – разнообразный

ancestry – предки, прародители, родословная

racial minority – расовое меньшинство

approximately – около, примерно, приблизительно

descent – происхождение

growth – рост, увеличение

urban – городской

advocate – пропагандировать, выступать в защиту

law – закон, законодательство

jurisdiction – юрисдикция, органы власти

amendment – поправка

decline – понижаться, снижаться

increasingly – все больше и больше, в большей степени

Exercise 7.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts.

The U.S. Census Bureau currently estimates the country's population to be 322,001,000. The U.S. population almost quadrupled during the 20th century, from about 76 million in 1900. The third most populous nation in the world, after China and India, the United States is the only major industrialized nation in which large population increases are projected. In the 1800s the average woman had 7.04 children, by the 1900s this number had decreased to 3.56.

The United States has a very diverse population; 37 ancestry groups have more than one million members. German Americans are the largest ethnic group (more than 50 million) – followed by Irish Americans (circa 37 million), Mexican Americans (circa 31 million) and English Americans (circa 28 million) [1].

White Americans are the largest racial group; Black Americans are the nation's largest racial minority, and third largest ancestry group. Asian Americans are the country's second largest racial minority; the three largest Asian American ethnic groups are Chinese Americans, Filipino Americans, and Indian Americans.

The United States has a birth rate of 13 per 1,000, which is 5 births below the world average. Its population growth rate is positive at 0.7%, higher than that of many developed nations. In fiscal year 2012, over one million immigrants were granted legal residence. Mexico has been the leading source of new residents since the 1965 Immigration Act. China, India, and the Philippines have been in the top four sending countries every year since the 1990s. As of 2012, approximately 11.4 million residents are illegal immigrants.

In 2010, the U.S. population included an estimated 5.2 million people with some American Indian or Alaska Native ancestry and 1.2 million with some native Hawaiian or Pacific island ancestry. The census counted more than 19 million people of ‘Some Other Race’ who were ‘unable to identify with any’ of its five official race categories in 2010.

The population growth of Hispanic and Latino Americans is a major demographic trend. The 50.5 million Americans of Hispanic descent are identified as sharing a distinct “ethnicity” by the Census Bureau; 64% of Hispanic Americans are of Mexican descent. Between 2000 and 2010, the country's Hispanic population increased 43% while the non-Hispanic population rose just 4.9%. Much of this growth is from immigration; in 2007, 12.6% of the U.S. population was foreign-born, with 54% of that figure born in Latin America.

About 82% of Americans live in urban areas (including suburbs); about half of those reside in cities with populations over 50,000. In 2008, 273 incorporated places had populations over 100,000, nine cities had more than one million residents, and four global cities had over two million (New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Houston). There are 52 metropolitan areas with populations greater than one million. Of the 50 fastest-growing metro areas, 47 are in the West or South. The metro areas of San Bernardino, Dallas, Houston, Atlanta, and Phoenix all grew by more than a million people between 2000 and 2008.

Language

English (American English) is the de facto national language. Although there is no official language at the federal level, some laws – such as U.S. naturalization requirements – standardize English. In 2010, about 230 million, or 80% of the population aged five years and older, spoke only English at home. Spanish, spoken by 12% of the population at home, is the second most common language and the most widely taught second language. Some Americans advocate making English the country's official language, as it is in 28 states.

Both Hawaiian and English are official languages in Hawaii, by state law. Alaska recognizes many Native languages. While neither has an official language, New Mexico has laws providing for the use of both English and Spanish, as Louisiana does for English and French. Other states, such as California, mandate the publication of Spanish versions of certain government documents including court forms. Many jurisdictions with large numbers of non-English speakers produce government materials, especially voting information, in the most commonly spoken languages in those jurisdictions.

According to the Center for Immigration Studies, Arabic and Urdu (Pakistan's national language) are the fastest growing foreign languages spoken at American households. According to the survey, more than 63.2 million US residents speak a language other than English at home. In recent years, Arabic speaking residents increased by 29%, Urdu by 23% and Persian by 9% [3].

Religion

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees the free exercise of religion and forbids Congress from passing laws respecting its establishment. Christianity is by far the most common religion practiced in the U.S., but other religions are followed, too. In a 2013 survey, 56% of Americans said that religion played a 'very important role in their lives', a far higher figure than that of any other wealthy nation. In a 2009 Gallup poll 42% of Americans said that they attended church weekly or almost weekly; the figures ranged from a low of 23% in Vermont to a high of 63% in Mississippi.

As with other Western countries, the U.S. is becoming less religious. Irreligion is growing rapidly among Americans under 30. Polls show that overall American confidence in organized religion is declining, and that younger Americans in particular are becoming increasingly irreligious. According to a 2012 study, Protestant share of U.S. population dropped to 48%, thus ending its status as religious category of the majority for the first time.

According to a 2014 survey, 70.6% of adults identified themselves as Christian, Protestant denominations accounted for 46.5%, while Roman Catholicism, at 20.8%, was the largest individual denomination. The total reporting non-Christian religions in 2014 was 5.9%. Other religions include Judaism (1.9%), Islam (0.9%), Buddhism (0.7%), Hinduism (0.7%) [14].

Exercise 7.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions.

1. How many people do live in the USA?
2. What racial and ethnic groups can you call?
3. Which is the largest of them?
4. What per cent of Americans live in urban areas?
5. What is the national language in the country?
6. How many people speak English?
7. What other languages are presented in the USA?
8. What is the most common religion practiced in the US?

Exercise 7.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1) population; | a) become or make greater in size, amount, or degree; |
| 2) to increase; | b) (typically of something regarded as good) become smaller, fewer, or less; decrease; |
| 3) descent; | c) showing a great deal of variety; very different; |
| 4) urban; | d) all the inhabitants of a particular place; |
| 5) decline; | e) a particular system of faith and worship; |
| 6) diverse; | f) a person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country; |
| 7) immigrant; | g) in, relating to, or characteristic of a town or city; |
| 8) religion. | h) the origin or background of a person in terms of family or nationality. |

Exercise 7.5 Say if it's true or false.

1. The USA is the second most populous nation in the world, after China.
2. The United States has a very diverse population.
3. White Americans are the smallest racial group.
4. Asian Americans are the country's fourth largest racial minority.
5. About 92% of Americans live in urban areas.

6. English (American English) is the de facto national language of the USA.

7. Both Hawaiian and Spanish are official languages in Hawaii, by state law.

8. Alaska recognizes many Native languages.

9. Islam is by far the most common religion practiced in the U.S.

Exercise 7.6 What can you say in general about American population?

Use the key words:

Population, to estimate, to increase, average, diverse, ancestry, racial minority, descent, growth, urban, advocate, law, jurisdiction, decline, languages.

UNIT 8. CULTURAL LIFE IN THE USA

Exercise 8.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

ancestors – предки, прародители
influence – влияние
source – источник
slave – раб
descendant – потомок
distinctive – характерный, отличительный
derive – происходить
core – основной, коренной
frontier – расовый признак, отличие
competitiveness – конкуренция
creed – кредо, убеждение
perception – ощущение, восприятие, осмысление
achievement – достижение
average – средний
cuisine – кухня
mainstream – основной, господствующий
indigenous – местный
venison – оленина
occasion – случай, возможность, причина, повод
consumption – потребление
intake – потребление, поглощение
cue – признак
distinctive – отличительный, характерный
to recognize – распознавать
experience – опыт
to develop – развивать
exhibition – выставка
entertainment – развлечение
to emerge – появляться, возникать, выясняться
to approach – подходить, быть равным
essential – существенный
capturing – фиксация, сбор
distinguishing – характерный, отличительный
celebrity – знаменитость
district – район
merchandising – сбыт, стимулирование

redefine – переопределять
grittier – неприукрашенный

Exercise 8.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts. General information

The United States is home to many cultures and a wide variety of ethnic groups, traditions, and values. Aside from the Native American, Native Hawaiian, and Native Alaskan populations, nearly all Americans or their ancestors settled or immigrated within the past five centuries. Mainstream American culture is a Western culture largely derived from the traditions of European immigrants with influences from many other sources, such as traditions brought by slaves from Africa. More recent immigration from Asia and especially Latin America has added to a cultural mix that has been described as both a homogenizing melting pot, and a heterogeneous salad bowl in which immigrants and their descendants retain distinctive cultural characteristics.

Core American culture was established by Protestant British colonists and shaped by the frontier settlement process, with the traits derived passed down to descendants and transmitted to immigrants through assimilation. Americans have traditionally been characterized by a strong work ethic, competitiveness, and individualism, as well as a unifying belief in an ‘American creed’ emphasizing liberty, equality, private property, democracy, rule of law, and a preference for limited government. Americans are extremely charitable by global standards. The American Dream, or the perception that Americans enjoy high social mobility, plays a key role in attracting immigrants. Americans’ self-images, social viewpoints, and cultural expectations are associated with their occupations to an unusually close degree. While Americans tend greatly to value socioeconomic achievement, being ordinary or average is generally seen as a positive attribute [14].

Food

Mainstream American cuisine is similar to that in other Western countries. Wheat is the primary cereal grain with about three-quarters of grain products made of wheat flour and many dishes use indigenous ingredients, such as turkey, venison, potatoes, sweet potatoes, corn, squash, and maple syrup which were consumed by Native Americans and early European settlers. These home grown foods are part of a shared national menu on one of America's most popular holidays; Thanksgiving, when some Americans make traditional foods to celebrate the occasion.

Roasted turkey is a traditional menu item of an American Thanksgiving dinner.

Characteristic dishes such as apple pie, fried chicken, pizza, hamburgers, and hot dogs derive from the recipes of various immigrants. French fries, Mexican dishes such as burritos and tacos, and pasta dishes freely adapted from Italian sources are widely consumed. Americans drink three times as much coffee as tea. The American fast food industry, the world's largest, pioneered the drive-through format in the 1940s. Fast food consumption has sparked health concerns. During the 1980s and 1990s, Americans' caloric intake rose 24%; frequent dining at fast food outlets is associated with what public health officials call the American “obesity epidemic”. Highly sweetened soft drinks are widely popular, and sugared beverages account for nine percent of American caloric intake.

Literature and the Arts

In the 18th and early 19th centuries, American art and literature took most of its cues from Europe. Writers such as Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, and Henry David Thoreau established a distinctive American literary voice by the middle of the 19th century. Mark Twain and poet Walt Whitman were major figures in the century's second half; Emily Dickinson, virtually unknown during her lifetime, is now recognized as an essential American poet. A work seen as capturing fundamental aspects of the national experience and character—such as Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick* (1851), Twain's “*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*” (1885), and F. Scott Fitzgerald's “*The Great Gatsby*” (1925) – may be dubbed the “Great American Novel”.

Eleven U.S. citizens have won the Nobel Prize in Literature, most recently Toni Morrison in 1993. William Faulkner and Ernest Hemingway are often named among the most influential writers of the 20th century. Popular literary genres such as the Western and hardboiled crime fiction developed in the United States.

In the visual arts, the Hudson River School was a mid-19th-century movement in the tradition of European naturalism. The realist paintings of Thomas Eakins are now widely celebrated. The 1913 Armory Show in New York City, an exhibition of European modernist art, shocked the public and transformed the U.S. art scene. Major artistic movements such as the abstract expressionism of Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning and the pop art of Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein developed largely in the United States. The tide of modernism and then postmodernism has brought

fame to American architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright, Philip Johnson, and Frank Gehry [8].

One of the first major promoters of American theater was impresario P.T. Barnum, who began operating a lower Manhattan entertainment complex in 1841. The team of Harrigan and Hart produced a series of popular musical comedies in New York starting in the late 1870s. In the 20th century, the modern musical form emerged on Broadway; the songs of musical theater composers such as Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, and Stephen Sondheim have become pop standards.

Though little known at the time, Charles Ives's work of the 1910s established him as the first major U.S. composer in the classical tradition, while experimentalists such as Henry Cowell and John Cage created a distinctive American approach to classical composition. Aaron Copland and George Gershwin developed a new synthesis of popular and classical music. Choreographers Isadora Duncan and Martha Graham helped create modern dance, while George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins were leaders in 20th-century ballet.

Music

The rhythmic and lyrical styles of African-American music have deeply influenced American music at large, distinguishing it from European traditions. Elements from folk idioms such as the blues and what is now known as old-time music were adopted and transformed into popular genres with global audiences. Jazz was developed by innovators such as Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington early in the 20th century. Country music developed in the 1920s, and rhythm and blues in the 1940s. Elvis Presley and Chuck Berry were among the mid-1950s pioneers of rock and roll. In the 1960s, Bob Dylan emerged from the folk revival to become one of America's most celebrated songwriters and James Brown led the development of funk. More recent American creations include hip hop and house music. American pop stars such as Presley, Michael Jackson, and Madonna have become global celebrities, as have contemporary musical artists such as Taylor Swift, Katy Perry, and Beyoncé as well as hip hop artists Jay Z, Eminem and Kanye West.

Cinema

Hollywood, a northern district of Los Angeles, California, is one of the leaders in motion picture production. The world's first commercial motion picture exhibition was given in New York City in 1894, using Thomas Edison's Kinetoscope. The next year saw the first commercial screening of a projected film, also in New York, and the United States was in the fore-

front of sound film's development in the following decades. Since the early 20th century, the U.S. film industry has largely been based in and around Hollywood, although in the 21st century an increasing number of films are not made there, and film companies have been subject to the forces of globalization.

Director D.W. Griffith, American's top filmmaker during the silent film period, was central to the development of film grammar, and producer/entrepreneur Walt Disney was a leader in both animated film and movie merchandising. Directors such as John Ford redefined the image of the American Old West and history, and, like others such as John Huston, broadened the possibilities of cinema with location shooting, with great influence on subsequent directors. The industry enjoyed its golden years, in what is commonly referred to as the "Golden Age of Hollywood", from the early sound period until the early 1960s, with screen actors such as John Wayne and Marilyn Monroe becoming iconic figures. In the 1970s, film directors such as Martin Scorsese, Francis Ford Coppola and Robert Altman were a vital component in what became known as 'New Hollywood' or the 'Hollywood Renaissance', grittier films influenced by French and Italian realist pictures of the post-war period. Since, directors such as Steven Spielberg, George Lucas and James Cameron have gained renown for their blockbuster films, often characterized by high production costs, and in return, high earnings at the box office, with Cameron's *Avatar* (2009) earning more than \$2 billion [13].

Exercise 8.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions.

1. What is the US home to?
2. Where is American culture derived from?
3. Who established core American culture?
4. What is actually "the American dream"?
5. What are the main features of American cuisine?
6. Name the traditional course of an American Thanksgiving dinner.
7. When did the American fast food industry pioneer?
8. What famous American writers do you know?
9. How many citizens have won the Nobel Prize in Literature?
10. Who was one of the first major promoters of American theatre?
11. What styles have deeply influenced American music?
12. Where is Hollywood located?
13. What famous screen actors do you know?

Exercise 8.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1) slave; | a) the action of using up a resource, the action of eating or drinking something; |
| 2) indigeneous; | b) the action of providing or being provided with amusement or enjoyment; |
| 3) consumption; | c) grow or cause to grow and become more mature, advanced, or elaborate; |
| 4) to develop; | d) originating or occurring naturally in a particular place; native; |
| 5) exhibition; | e) a person responsible for the financial and managerial aspects of the making of a film or broadcast or for staging a play, opera; |
| 6) entertainment; | f) an area of a country or city, especially one characterized by a particular feature or activity; |
| 7) district; | g) (especially in the past) a person who is the legal property of another and is forced to obey them; |
| 8) producer. | h) a public display of works of art or items of interest, held in an art gallery or museum or at a trade fair. |

Exercise 8.5 Say if it's true or false.

1. The United States is home to many cultures and a wide variety of ethnic groups, traditions, and values.

2. Core American culture was established by Protestant Dutch colonists.

3. The American Dream, or the perception that Americans escape high social mobility, plays a key role in attracting immigrants.

4. Mainstream American cuisine is similar to that in other Asian countries.

5. The American fast food industry, the world's largest, pioneered the drive-through format in the 1940s.

6. In the 18th and early 19th centuries, American art and literature took most of its cues from India.

7. The rhythmic and lyrical styles of African-American music have deeply influenced American music at large, distinguishing it from European traditions.

8. Hollywood, a northern district of Los Angeles, California, is one of the leaders in motion picture production.

9. The world's first commercial motion picture exhibition was given in Los Angeles in 1894.

10. Director Walt Disney, American's top filmmaker during the silent film period, was central to the development of film grammar.

Exercise 8.6 What can you say in general about American culture?

Use the key words:

Ancestors, influence, source, slave, descendant, distinctive, competitiveness, creed, perception, achievement, average, cuisine, mainstream, occasion, consumption, cue, distinctive, to recognize, experience, to develop, exhibition, entertainment, essential, celebrity, merchandising.

UNIT 9. SPORTS IN THE USA

Exercise 9.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

to evolve – развиться

invention – изобретение

Lacrosse – лакросс(игра индейского происхождения)

to predate – предшествовать

Iroquois – ирокезы(индейское племя)

roughly – приблизительно

measure – мера, мероприятие

attendance – присутствие

to occupy – занимать

overlapping – совмещенный

to eclipse – вытеснить

mixed martial arts – смешанные боевые искусства

decorated – титулованный

Exercise 9.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts.

While most major U.S. sports have evolved out of European practices, basketball, volleyball, skateboarding, and snowboarding are American inventions, some of which have become popular in other countries. Lacrosse and surfing arose from Native American and Native Hawaiian activities that predate Western contact. The Iroquois field their own separate national team, the Iroquois Nationals, in recognition of the confederacy's creation of lacrosse. Eight Olympic Games have taken place in the United States. The United States has won 2,400 medals at the Summer Olympic Games, more than any other country, and 281 in the Winter Olympic Games, the second most behind Norway. The market for professional sports in the United States is roughly \$69 billion, roughly 50% larger than that of all of Europe, the Middle East, and Africa combined. Baseball has been regarded as the national sport since the late 19th century, with Major League Baseball (MLB) being the top league, while American football is now by several measures the most popular spectator sport, with the National Football League (NFL) having the highest average attendance of any sports league in the world and a Super Bowl watched by millions globally. Basketball and ice hockey are the country's next two leading professional team sports, with the top leagues being the National Basketball Association (NBA) and the National Hockey League (NHL). These four major sports, when played professionally, each

occupy a season at different, but overlapping, times of the year. College football and basketball attract large audiences. Boxing and horse racing were once the most watched individual sports, but they have been eclipsed by golf and auto racing, particularly NASCAR. In the 21st century, televised mixed martial arts has also gained a strong following of regular viewers. While soccer is less popular in the United States compared to many other nations, the country hosted the 1994 FIFA World Cup, the men's national soccer team has been to the past six World Cups. The United States women's national soccer team won the women's world cup three times, highest in the world. Major League Soccer is the professional soccer league in the United States. In the USA there are many good sportsmen who are known throughout the world. Swimmer Michael Phelps is the most decorated Olympic athlete of all time [9].

Exercise 9.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions.

1. What American inventions in sport can you name?
2. How many Olympic Games have taken place in the USA?
3. How many medals has the country won in the Summer Olympic Games?
4. Since what time has baseball been regarded as the national sport?
5. What are the most watched individual sports?
6. When did the country host the FIFA World cup?
7. Who is the most decorated sportsman of all time?

Exercise 9.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1) to evolve; | a) the action or state of going regularly to or being present at a place or event; |
| 2) predate; | b) the assembled spectators or listeners at a public event such as a play, film, concert, or meeting; |
| 3) attendance; | c) a group of players forming one side in a competitive game or sport; |
| 4) team; | d) a person who is proficient in sports and other forms of physical exercise; |
| 5) league; | e) exist or occur at a date earlier than (something); |

- 6) audience;
- 7) athlete.

- f) develop gradually;
- g) a group of sports clubs which play each other over a period for a championship.

Exercise 9.5 Say if it's true or false.

1. Basketball, volleyball, skateboarding and snowboarding are European inventions.
2. Lacrosse and surfing arose from Native American and Native Hawaiian activities.
3. Tenth Olympic Games have taken place in the United States.
4. Football has been regarded as the national sport since the late 19th century.
5. Basketball and ice hockey are the country's next two leading professional team sports.
6. The USA hosted the 2002 FIFA World Cup.
7. The United States women's national soccer team won the women's world cup three times, highest in the world.
8. Swimmer Michael Jordan is the most decorated Olympic athlete of all time.

Exercise 9.6 What can you say in general about sports in the USA?

Use the key words:

To evolve, invention, to predate, measure, attendance, to occupy, overlapping, to eclipse, Olympic Games, mixed martial arts, decorated.

UNIT 10. CELEBRATIONS IN THE USA

Exercise 10.1 Learn the Topical Vocabulary:

to behave – вести себя
stocking – чулок
fireplace – камин
chimney – труба, дымоход
reindeer – северный олень
date back – уходить корнями
settler – поселенец, колонист
starvation – голод, истощение
struggle – борьба
harvest – урожай
feast – пир, празднование
to unit – объединять(ся)
pattern – пример, образец
core – основа
pumpkin pie – тыквенный пирог
belief – вера, верование
heaven – рай
pagan – языческий
ghost – привидение
to false face – надеть маску
pumpkin – тыква
to play tricks – разыграть, выкинуть шутку

Exercise 10.2 Read the text and divide it into logical parts.

The USA is so multi-cultural that you will find many different ways of celebrating Christmas. All year long children are told to behave, or they will get coal in their stocking. On Christmas Eve, they hang highly stylized stockings on the mantle of the fireplace, then go to bed early so that they will find presents in the morning. They are told that at midnight Santa will come, bringing a huge bag of toys. He will come down through the chimney, leave candy in the stockings and presents under the Christmas tree (anything from a Pine or Fir to a Spruce), then plug one nostril and shoot up through the chimney. Cookies are traditionally left for him, and a carrot is commonly left for Rudolph the Red-nosed reindeer, very much a part of Christmas tradition (Santa will land on the roof with his sleigh and nine reindeer). On Christmas morning, things such as cinnamon rolls or coffee cake are served for breakfast, and for dinner there is typically ham (and occasionally regal plum pudding) [10].

Thanksgiving Day is an annual holiday observed on the fourth Thursday of November and dating back to the beginning of the 17th century. This day was first celebrated by those Englishmen who founded New England's first Colony of Plymouth in 1620. During their first winter over half of settlers died of starvation and epidemics. But in spring the other ones continued their struggle for life. The harvest in autumn was rich beyond expectations. The settlers had turkey and different fruit for their feast. After the first celebration this holiday was observed irregularly. A national Thanksgiving Day came only after the Thirteen Colonies had been united. The Thanksgiving Day decorations follow a traditional pattern: there are always ears of Indian corn, apples, oranges, chestnuts, berries and a lot of bunches of flowers. The core of Thanksgiving dinner is the traditional roast turkey and pumpkin pie.

Unlike many other holidays, Halloween has a very rich past. It dates back to the Druid festival of Samhain, Lord of the Dead and Prince of the Darkness. According to the Celtic belief, he gathered up the souls of all those who had died during the year to present them to Druid Heaven on October 31. As Christianity replaced the pagan religions, the church made November 1 a special day to honor all saints (all hallows) and called it All Hallow' Day. The evening before, October 31, became All Hallow's Even, later shorted to Halloween. Halloween was not widely celebrated in America until immigrants from Ireland and Scotland arrived in 1840s. Today Halloween is mainly children's holiday. They wear ghost costumes, false faces; carry jack-o-lanterns made of pumpkins. In the evening of October 31 they go from door to door, ring the bell and shout: "Trick or Treat?" If the children do not get any treat – chocolates, candy, fruit, small coins – they are ready to play tricks [13].

Exercise 10.3 Read the text once again and answer the questions.

1. How do Americans celebrate Christmas?
2. When does Santa come?
3. What do children get as Christmas presents?
4. Where do they hang their stockings?
5. What is the usual Christmas breakfast?
6. When do American people celebrate Thanksgiving Day?
7. What are the Thanksgiving Day decorations?
8. What time does Halloween date back?
9. Since what time is it celebrated in America?
10. How do children celebrate this holiday?

Exercise 10.4 Match the words and their explanations:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1) behave; | a) a vertical channel or pipe which conducts smoke and combustion gases up from a fire or furnace and typically through the roof of a building; |
| 2) chimney; | b) a forceful or violent effort to get free of restraint or resist attack; |
| 3) starvation; | c) the day or period of time immediately before an event or occasion; |
| 4) struggle; | d) a mischievous practical joke; |
| 5) feast; | e) a large rounded orange-yellow fruit with a thick rind, the flesh of which can be used in sweet or savoury dishes; |
| 6) pumpkin; | f) a large meal, typically a celebratory one |
| 7) trick; | g) act or conduct oneself in a specified way, especially towards others; |
| 8) eve. | h) suffering or death caused by lack of food. |

Exercise 10.5 What can you say about Christmas celebration in the USA? Do you like this tradition or not? Why? Use the key words:

Stocking, fireplace, chimney, reindeer, date back, settler, starvation, struggle, harvest, feast, to unite, pumpkin pie, belief, heaven, pagan, ghost, to false face, pumpkin, to play tricks.

VOCABULARY

Unit 1. General Information about the USA

district – округ, район

contiguous – соприкасающийся, смежный, граничащий, прилегающий

insular – островной, изолированный

assistance – помощь, поддержка, содействие

mild – мягкий, умеренный

settler – поселенец, колонист

liberty – свобода, право

community – община, местное сообщество, население

shrewdness – проницательность, дальновидность, практичность

thrift – бережливость, экономность

ingenuity – избирательность, находчивость, мастерство

rifle – винтовка, нарезное оружие

iron – железо

Dutch – голландский, нидерландский

hub – центр, ядро

devastate – разорять, опустошать, расхищать

bypass – обходить, идти обходным путем

fertile – плодородный, богатый, изобильный

oats – овес

breadbasket – главный зерновой район, житница страны

pepper – перчить, усеивать, осыпать

dense – густой

tribe – племя

heritage – наследие, традиция

dam – дамба, плотина

scenic – живописный

moisture – влажность

hardy – выносливый, стойкий

refuge – убежище, пристанище, прибежище

courage – мужество, храбрость

rod – прут, лоза, хлыст

claw – коготь, лапа с когтями

twig – веточка, прут

torch – факел

Unit 2. Geography of the USA

share – делить, разделять; часть, доля
boundary – граница
the Gulf of Mexico – Мексиканский залив
the Bering Strait – Берингов пролив
temperate – умеренный
mangrove – мангровое дерево
tributary – приток
valley – долина
plain – равнина
elevation - возвышение, возвышенность
abrupt – крутой, обрывистый
slope – склон, откос
solid – сплошной, однородный, цельный, однородный
intermittent – прерывающийся, прерывистый
arid – сухой, засушливый
rugged – пересеченный, труднопроходимый
untapped – нетронутый, неиспользованный
gorge – ущелье
humid – влажный
alpine – горный, высокогорный
hurricane – ураган
vascular plants – сосудистые растения
endangered species – исчезающие виды
mining – горное дело, добыча полезных ископаемых
logging – лесозаготовка

Unit 3. History of the USA

indigenous – коренной, местный, аборигенный
smallpox – оспа
settlement – поселение
fur – мех, шерсть
convict – заключенный, каторжник, осужденный, преступник
devotion – преданность, сильная привязанность
to fuel – зд. разжигать, подливать масла в огонь
to seize – захватывать, завладеть
convene – созывать

endow – наделять, одарять
ratify – утверждать, скреплять подписью
restriction – ограничение
slave – раб
defeat – поражение
abolish – отменять
eagerness – пыл, рвение
grievance – недовольство, жалоба
incursion – вторжение, нападение
to be opposed – быть против
secede – отделяться
hasten – ускорять
treaty – договор
unilateralism – односторонность
isolationism – изоляционизм
prosperity – процветание
trigger – инициировать, приводить в действие
nuclear – атом
lawsuit – судебный процесс
launch – давать старт
guerrilla – партизанский
oust – вытеснять
devastate – истощать, опустошать, разорять
pullout – выдвижение, выход
troop – отряд

Unit 4. Political System of the USA

majority – большинство
minority – меньшинство
split – разделенный, разделение
plurality – большинство голосов
legislative – законодательный
the House of Representatives – Палата Представителей
bicameral legislature – двухпалатная законодательная власть
apportion – распределять, разделять
first-past-the-post – отдающий победу кандидату, набравшему простое большинство голосов
executive – исполнительный

legislation – законопроект, закон
treason – измена, предательство
bribery – взяточничество, подкуп
misdemeanor – правонарушение, мисдиминор
dissolve – распускать, прекращать
resignation – отставка, отказ от должности
evolve – развиваться(ся), устанавливать
judiciary – судебный
deem – полагать, считать
The Supreme Court – Верховный суд
justice – судья
nullify – аннулировать, уничтожать
courts of appeals – апелляционный суд
district court – окружной суд
writ of habeas corpus – приказ/предписание о представлении арестованного в суд
amend – вносить изменения, вносить поправки
violation – нарушение
void – аннулировать, делать недействительным
nominee – кандидат
subsequent – последующий, следующий

Unit 5. Economy of the USA

foremost – передовой
domestic – внутренний; отечественный, находящийся в пределах страны
safety net – «страховочная сетка», гарантия
fiscal – фискальный; денежный, финансовый
ideal – образец
prominent – заметный, видный
fertile – плодородный; изобилующий, богатый
bind – связывать, соединять
immediate descendant – прямой потомок
withdraw – удерживать, взимать
raw – сырой
beverage – напиток
commodity – товар, продукт для продажи
constitute – составлять
sulfur – сера

Unit 6. The System of Education in the USA

dropout – человек, бросивший работу или учебу; человек без определенных занятий

average – средний

ordinal – порядковый

enrol – зачислять, поступать

proponent – защитник, сторонник

invoke – ссылаться, взывать

intrusion – вмешательство

tailor – адаптировать, приспособливать

curriculum – учебный план, курс обучения

bully – запугивать, издеваться

deviate – отклоняться

core – основной

threshold – порог, пороговая величина

bachelor's degree – степень бакалавра

enrollment – зачисление

apprenticeship – обучение, срок обучения

internship – интернатура

bar exam – юридический экзамен

Unit 7. Population in the USA

population – население

to estimate – оценивать

to increase – увеличивать(ся)

average – средний, среднестатистический

diverse – разнообразный

ancestry – предки, прародители, родословная

racial minority – расовое меньшинство

approximately – около, примерно, приблизительно

descent – происхождение

growth – рост, увеличение

urban – городской

advocate – пропагандировать, выступать в защиту

law – закон, законодательство

jurisdiction – юрисдикция, органы власти

amendment – поправка

decline – понижаться, снижаться

increasingly – все больше и больше, в большей степени

Unit 8. Cultural Life of the USA

ancestors – предки, прародители
influence – влияние
source – источник
slave – раб
descendant – потомок
distinctive – характерный, отличительный
derive – происходить
core – основной, коренной
frontier – расовый признак, отличие
competitiveness – конкуренция
creed – кредо, убеждение
perception – ощущение, восприятие, осмысление
achievement – достижение
average – средний
cuisine – кухня
mainstream – основной, господствующий
indigenous – местный
venison – оленина
occasion – случай, возможность, причина, повод
consumption – потребление
intake – потребление, поглощение
cue – признак
distinctive – отличительный, характерный
to recognize – распознавать
experience – опыт
to develop – развивать
exhibition – выставка
entertainment – развлечение
to emerge – появляться, возникать, выясняться
to approach – подходить, быть равным
essential – существенный
capturing – фиксация, сбор
distinguishing – характерный, отличительный
celebrity – знаменитость
district – район
merchandising – сбыт, стимулирование
redefine – переопределять
grittier – неприукрашенный

Unit 9. Sports in the USA

to evolve – развиться

invention – изобретение

Lacrosse – лакросс (игра индейского происхождения)

to predate – предшествовать

Iroquois – ирокезы (индейское племя)

roughly – приблизительно

measure – мера, мероприятие

attendance – присутствие

to occupy – занимать

overlapping – совмещенный

to eclipse – вытеснить

mixed martial arts – смешанные боевые искусства

decorated – титулованный

Unit 10. Celebrations in the USA

to behave – вести себя

stocking – чулок

fireplace – камин

chimney – труба, дымоход

reindeer – северный олень

date back – уходить корнями

settler – поселенец, колонист

starvation – голод, истощение

struggle – борьба

harvest – урожай

feast – пир, празднование

to unite – объединять(ся)

pattern – пример, образец

core – основа

pumpkin pie – тыквенный пирог

belief – вера, верование

heaven – рай

pagan – языческий

ghost – привидение

to put on a false face – надеть маску

pumpkin – тыква

to play tricks – разыграть, выкинуть шутку

GRAMMAR SUPPLEMENT

Conditional Sentences

A conditional sentence is a complex sentence with a subordinate clause of condition that usually begins with the conjunction *If*. The clause of condition (the *if*-clause) indicates the conditions under which the action in the main clause may be realized.

For the purposes of studying, conditional sentences are usually divided into three main types: 1) structures with real condition (first type of conditional sentences, or first conditional); 2) structures with unreal condition referring to the present or future (second type of conditional sentences, or second conditional); 3) structures with unreal condition referring to the past (third type of conditional sentences, or third conditional).

Conditional sentences of the first type (real condition, indicative mood) are described for comparison with conditional sentences of the second and third type (unreal condition, subjunctive mood).

Real condition

Conditional sentences with real condition express real, true to fact / factual conditions under which the action in the main clause can be realized. The tenses of the indicative mood are used. In most cases, conditions in the future are expressed, but other situations and tenses are also possible. Note that the future tense with the verb *Will* is not allowed after *If* in clauses of condition. The future idea is usually expressed by the Simple Present in the *if*-clause of condition.

She will talk to him if she sees him. – Она поговорит с ним, если увидит его.

If I have enough time tonight, I will help you. – Если у меня будет достаточно времени сегодня вечером, я помогу вам.

They will bring his book if they find it. – Они принесут его книгу, если найдут ее.

If he doesn't do his home assignment, he will not watch TV. – Если он не сделает домашнее задание, он не будет смотреть телевизор.

If you want to pass your exams, you must study. – Если вы хотите сдать экзамены, вы должны заниматься.

You may go home if you have finished your work. – Вы можете идти домой, если вы закончили свою работу.

Will and Would after If

There are certain cases in which the use of *Will* or *Would* after *If* is allowed in clauses of condition. *Will* can be used after *If* to make a polite request to do something. *Would* can be used after *If* to express a very polite request to do something, especially in formal style. Though such constructions are in the form of conditional sentences, there is actually no condition in them, and the verb *Will* (or *Would*) after *If* in such constructions expresses volition to do something, i.e., if you will / if you would = if you wish, if you want.

If you will excuse me, I have to leave now. – Прошу меня извинить, мне надо уйти сейчас.

If you will please wait here, the doctor will see you as soon as he is free. – Если вы будете так любезны подождать здесь, доктор примет вас, как только освободится.

If you would kindly wait here, I would be very much obliged to you. – Если бы вы были так любезны подождать здесь, я был бы вам очень обязан.

I would be very grateful if you would send me your catalogue.

Also, *Will* can be used after *If* in such constructions to insist strongly on doing something, to refuse to do something, or to emphasize the result of the future action. Compare these examples:

If you go on smoking so much, you will ruin your health. – If you will go on smoking so much, you will ruin your health. – Если вы будете продолжать так много курить, вы подорвете свое здоровье. – Если вы будете упорно продолжать так много курить, вы подорвете свое здоровье.

If Mike doesn't help her, Tom will help her. – If Mike won't help her, Tom will. – Если Майк ей не поможет, Том ей поможет. – Если Майк откажется ей помочь, Том поможет.

I can make your favorite cherry pie for you if you buy sugar on your way home. – I can make your favorite cherry pie for you if it will make you feel better. – Я могу сделать твой любимый вишневый пирог, если ты купишь сахар по пути домой. – Я могу сделать твой любимый вишневый пирог, если это улучшит твоё настроение.

Unreal condition

Supposition in English is expressed with the help of the past tense, usually by the verbs *Would*, *Should*, *Could*, and *Might*. There are various types of supposition, for example, hypothesis, assumption, possibility,

probability. Also, suggestions, offers, and polite requests are often made in suppositional form.

Conditional sentences with unreal condition in the subordinate clause of condition (if-clause) express hypothetical, unlikely, improbable, unreal, contrary to fact conditions under which the action in the main clause might be realized or might have been realized. The forms in the subjunctive mood are used. The Past Subjunctive is used in the subordinate clause to express unreal condition in the present or future. The Past Perfect Subjunctive is used in the subordinate clause to express unreal condition in the past.

Unreal condition in the present or future (Second type of conditional sentences)

The situation refers to the present or future, and there still exists a hypothetical possibility of realizing the indicated action, but this possibility is unlikely or unreal because the condition of its realization is unlikely or unreal.

To show unreal condition in the present or future, the verb in the subordinate clause (i.e., where the condition is stated) is used in the Past Subjunctive, which is the same in form as the Simple Past Tense (e.g., knew, wanted). The construction *would* + simple infinitive (without 'to') is used in the main clause. In speech, *Would* may be contracted to 'd.

I would call him now if I knew his telephone number. (I don't know his telephone number.)

Я позвонил бы ему сейчас, если бы я знал его номер телефона. (Я не знаю его номер телефона.)

If she had friends, she would not feel so lonely. (But she doesn't have friends.) – Если бы у нее были друзья, она бы не чувствовала себя такой одинокой. (Но у нее нет друзей.)

If I had enough time tonight, I'd help you. (If I had enough time tonight, I would help you) – Если бы у меня было достаточно времени сегодня вечером, я бы помог вам.

If he repaired his car tomorrow, he would go to the summer house on Friday.

What would you do if you found a thousand dollars on the street? – Что бы вы сделали, если бы вы нашли тысячу долларов на улице?

If I found a thousand dollars on the street, I would buy presents and sweets for all the children in our apartment house. – Если бы я нашел тысячу

долларов на улице, я бы купил подарки и конфеты для всех детей в нашем доме.

The verb *Be* in the Past Subjunctive

The verb *Be* in the if-clauses with unreal condition referring to the present or future is used in the form *Were* for all persons. *Were* is the form of the verb *Be* in the Past Subjunctive. The form *Was* may be used in informal everyday speech for the first and third person in the singular, especially in British English.

If I were rich, I would take a trip around the world. (But I'm not rich) – Если бы я был богат, я бы поехал в кругосветное путешествие. (Но я не богат)

If she were at home, she would pick up the phone. – Если бы она была дома, она бы подняла трубку.

If I were you, I'd do it. (If I were you, I would do it) – Если бы я был на вашем месте, я бы сделал это.

I wouldn't do it if I were you.

Я бы не делал этого, если бы был на вашем месте.

The construction *Were to* emphasizes the hypothetical character of the condition and indicates that the action is even less likely to happen. Compare these sentences:

What would you do if you lost your job? – What would you do if you were to lose your job?

Что бы вы делали, если бы вы потеряли работу? – Что бы вы делали, если бы (случилось так, что) вы потеряли работу?

If he died tomorrow, there would be no one left to continue his work. – If he were to die tomorrow, there would be no one left to continue his work.

Если бы он умер завтра, не осталось бы никого, кто продолжил бы его работу. – Если бы (случилось так, что) он умер завтра, не осталось бы никого, кто продолжил бы его работу.

Note that the phrase "If I were you" which is often used for giving advice is the same in the second and third types of if-clauses with unreal condition. Compare:

If I were you, I would buy a new car.

Если бы я был на вашем месте, я бы купил новую машину.

If I were you, I would have bought a new car a long time ago.

Если бы я был на вашем месте, я бы давно купил новую машину.

Unreal condition in the past (Third type of conditional sentences)

The situation refers to the past, the time is gone, and there is no possibility of realizing the indicated condition and the action that depends on this condition because they are already in the past. Thus, the condition indicated in the if-clause is unrealizable, unreal, and contrary to fact.

To show unreal condition in the past, the verb in the subordinate clause (i.e., in the part where the condition is stated) is used in the Past Perfect Subjunctive, which is the same in form as the Past Perfect (e.g., had known, had wanted). The construction would + perfect infinitive (i.e., would + have + past participle) is used in the main clause. *Had* and *Would* may be contracted to 'd in speech.

If I had known his telephone number then, I would have called him. (But I didn't know his telephone number then, and I didn't call him.)

Если бы я знал его номер телефона тогда, я бы позвонил ему. (Но я не знал его номер телефона тогда, и я не позвонил ему.)

If she had wanted to visit us yesterday, she would have found the time for it. – Если бы она хотела навестить нас вчера, она бы нашла время для этого.

If you had told me about it at that time, I would not have believed you. – Если бы вы рассказали мне об этом в то время, я бы вам не поверил.

If he had asked her to help him before his exam, she would certainly have helped him. – Если бы он попросил ее помочь ему перед его экзаменом, она бы конечно помогла ему.

If I'd had enough time yesterday, I'd have done it. (If I had had enough time yesterday, I would have done it) – Если бы у меня было достаточно времени вчера, я бы сделал это.

If he had not told me, I would never have guessed what he was up to. – Если бы он мне не сказал, я бы никогда не догадался, что он задумал.

What would he have done if he hadn't been sick last week? – Что бы он сделал, если бы он не был болен на прошлой неделе?

If he hadn't been sick last week, he would have gone to the lake with his friends. – Если бы он не был болен на прошлой неделе, он бы поехал к озеру со своими друзьями.

***Could* and *Might* in conditional sentences**

Modal verbs *Could* and *Might* are often used in the main clause of conditional sentences with unreal condition, and *Could* is sometimes used in the if-clause with unreal condition. The verb *May* is generally not used in conditional sentences with unreal condition.

She might go for a walk in the park if it stopped raining. – Она могла бы пойти на прогулку в парк, если бы дождь кончился.

I could invite her if I saw her tomorrow. – Я мог бы пригласить ее, если бы я увидел ее завтра.

If we left before five, we could catch the six o'clock train. – Если бы мы выехали до пяти, мы могли бы успеть на шестичасовой поезд.

If we had left before five, we could have caught the six o'clock train. (We didn't leave before five, and we didn't catch the six o'clock train) – Если бы мы выехали до пяти, мы могли бы успеть на шестичасовой поезд. (Мы не выехали до пяти, и мы не успели на шестичасовой поезд)

If I could ask him about it, I would certainly do so. – Если бы я мог спросить его об этом, я бы конечно сделал это.

She might get a better job if she could speak English. – Она могла бы получить работу лучше, если бы умела говорить по-английски.

Should can be used after *If* in clauses with real or unreal condition referring to the future to show that the indicated action is even less likely to happen. Compare these pairs of standard conditional sentences and those in which *Should* adds more uncertainty to the supposition about the indicated condition.

Real condition (first type): If he comes before five o'clock, I will ask him to wait for you. – If he should come before five o'clock, I will ask him to wait for you. – Реальное условие (первый тип): Если он придет раньше пяти часов, я попрошу его подождать вас. – Если случится так, что он придет раньше пяти часов, я попрошу его подождать вас.

Unreal condition (second type): If he came before five o'clock, I would be very surprised. – If he should come before five o'clock, I would be very surprised. – Нереальное условие (второй тип): Если бы он пришел раньше пяти часов, я был бы очень удивлен. – Если случилось бы так, что он пришел бы раньше пяти часов, я был бы очень удивлен.

***Should* in the main clause**

Constructions like “If you asked me, I would help you” (unreal condition in the present or future) and “If you had asked us, we would have helped you” (unreal condition in the past) are standard constructions used in conditional sentences with unreal condition. They are very common in both British English and American English.

Constructions like “If you asked me, I should help you” and “If you had asked us, we should have helped you” are also used in British English. In such constructions, *Should* after the pronouns *I* and *We* in the main clause has the same meaning as *Would*.

Absence of *If*

The conjunction *IF* is sometimes omitted in the conditional sentences in which the *if*-clause contains *Should*, *Were* or *Had*. In such cases, *Should*, *Were*, or *Had* is moved to the beginning of the sentence and stands before the subject of the *if*-clause. In the negative sentences without *IF*, the negative particle *Not* is not contracted with the auxiliary verb and stands after the subject of the subordinate clause. Examples of conditional sentences with and without the conjunction *IF*:

Real condition (first type): If Mr. Rox should call, ask him to call me again after five. – Should Mr. Rox call, ask him to call me again after five.

Реальное условие (первый тип): Если (вдруг) позвонит Мистер Рокс, попросите его позвонить мне снова после пяти.

Unreal condition (second type): If you should want to go to a restaurant, I would be glad to keep you company. – Should you want to go to a restaurant, I would be glad to keep you company.

Нереальное условие (второй тип): Если вы (вдруг) захотели бы пойти в ресторан, я был бы рад составить вам компанию. – Если вы (вдруг) захотели бы пойти в ресторан, я был бы рад составить вам компанию.

Unreal condition (second type): If I were younger, I would go to the mountains with you. – Were I younger, I would go to the mountains with you.

Нереальное условие (второй тип): Если бы я был помоложе, я бы поехал в горы с вами. – Будь я помоложе, я бы поехал в горы с вами.

Unreal condition (third type): If he had known about it, he would have refused to go there. – Had he known about it, he would have refused to go there.

Нереальное условие (третий тип): Если бы он знал об этом, он бы отказался идти туда. – Знай он об этом, он бы отказался идти туда.

Unreal condition (third type, negative form): If he hadn't known about it, he would have agreed to go there. – Had he not known about it, he would have agreed to go there.

Нереальное условие (третий тип, отрицательная форма): Если бы он не знал об этом, он бы согласился идти туда. – Не знай он об этом, он бы согласился идти туда.

Mixed conditionals

Generally, both parts of conditional sentences with unreal condition refer to the same time. But there may be cases in which one part refers to

the present or future, and the other part refers to the past. Such constructions are called mixed conditionals.

If he were a good specialist, he would have found the problem with my computer quickly enough yesterday. – Если бы он был хорошим специалистом, он бы нашел проблему с моим компьютером достаточно быстро вчера.

If he had sold his paintings when he had good offers, he could buy a house for his family now. – Если бы он продал свои картины, когда у него были хорошие предложения, он мог бы сейчас купить дом для своей семьи.

Implied condition

In the examples below, unreal condition is implied, not stated directly. The context makes the meaning clear, and the verb is used in the same form as in the main clause of the full conditional sentence with unreal condition.

I talked with Tom and Nina today. They would be glad to see you. – Я разговаривала с Томом и Ниной сегодня. Они были бы рады увидеть тебя.

Why didn't you call me? I would have come to your house right away. – Почему вы не позвонили мне? Я бы сразу приехал к вам домой.

I would have visited them, but I didn't know their address. – Я бы навестил их, но я не знал их адрес.

But for and If not for

Sometimes, the if-clause of unreal condition is replaced by the construction *but for* (or *if not for*) + noun or pronoun. Such structures can be used in situations referring to the past or present. Compare these pairs of conditional sentences:

But for the children, they would have divorced years ago. – If it hadn't been for the children, they would have divorced years ago. – Если бы не дети, они бы давно развелись. – Если бы не дети, они бы давно развелись.

But for the traffic jams, I'd like it here very much. – If it weren't for the traffic jams, I'd like it here very much. – Если бы не транспортные заторы, мне бы очень нравилось здесь. – Если бы не транспортные заторы, мне бы очень нравилось здесь.

If not for her, he would never have become such a good doctor. – If it hadn't been for her, he would never have become such a good doctor. – Если бы не она, он никогда не стал бы таким хорошим врачом. – Если бы не она, он никогда не стал бы таким хорошим врачом.

What if and Suppose that

After “*What if; Suppose that; Let’s suppose that; Supposing that*”, either real condition (indicative mood) or unreal condition (subjunctive mood) can be used, depending on the meaning and context. (The conjunction “that” is often omitted after *Suppose / Supposing*.) Compare these sentences:

What if he decides to go there? What will you do? – Что если он решит пойти туда? Что вы будете делать?

What if she lost your diamond ring? Would you forgive her? – Что если она потеряла бы ваше бриллиантовое кольцо? Вы бы простили ее?

Suppose he refuses to help us? – In that case, we will ask someone else. – Предположим, что он откажется помочь нам. – В таком случае, мы попросим кого-то другого.

Supposing it rained tomorrow. What would you do? – In that case, we would stay home. – Предположим, завтра пошел бы дождь. Что бы вы делали? – В таком случае, мы остались бы дома.

Suppose that he had told her about his past before their wedding five years ago. Do you think she would have married him? – Предположим, что он рассказал бы ей о своем прошлом перед их свадьбой пять лет назад. Вы думаете, она вышла бы за него замуж?

The Past Subjunctive is the same in form as the Simple Past Tense, and the Past Perfect Subjunctive is the same in form as the Past Perfect Tense. Moreover, the situations in which they are used may be similar.

Conditional sentences with real and unreal condition are widely used in English, but they are difficult for language learners. Use standard constructions with real and unreal condition and make your conditional sentences simple and short.

POSSIBLE EXAM QUESTIONS IN COUNTRY STUDY

1. История Великобритании.
2. Общая информация по Великобритании.
3. Лондон – столица Великобритании.
4. Политическая система Великобритании.
5. Образование в Великобритании.
6. Экономика и транспорт Великобритании.
7. Традиции и культура Великобритании.
8. История США.
9. Политическая система США.
10. Высшее образование в США.
11. Экономика и транспорт США.
12. Национальные праздники и культура США.
13. Вашингтон.
14. Географическое положение и климат Австралии.
15. История Австралии.
16. Символика Австралии.
17. Политическая система Австралии.
18. Экономика Австралии.
19. Образование в Австралии.
20. Национальные праздники и культура Австралии.
21. Географическое положение и климат Канады.
22. История Канады.
23. Оттава – столица Канады.
24. Политическая система Канады.
25. Образование в Канаде.
26. Жизнь в Канаде.

FINAL TEST PAPER

1. The capital of the USA is:
 - a) New York;
 - b) Los Angeles;
 - c) Washington;
 - d) London.
2. Arnold Schwarzenegger is the governor of the state:
 - a) Colorado;
 - b) Alaska;
 - c) California;
 - d) Nevada.
3. ... were the allies of the USSR during World War II:
 - a) the USA and Great Britain;
 - b) Italy and France;
 - c) Japan and China;
 - d) France and Spain.
4. The name of the man who wrote the text of the Declaration of Independence is:
 - a) Thomas Jefferson;
 - b) Theodore Roosevelt;
 - c) Jimmy Carter;
 - d) George Washington.
5. The portrait of ... we can see on 100\$ banknote:
 - a) Bill Clinton;
 - b) George Bush (Sr.);
 - c) George Washington;
 - d) Benjamin Franklin.
6. The street of New York, center of theatres, cabarets, cinema houses and other kind of entertainment, is called:
 - a) Broadway;
 - b) Wall Street;
 - c) 5th Avenue;
 - d) Downing Street.
7. ... was the youngest President of the USA:
 - a) George Bush (Jr.);
 - b) John F. Kennedy;
 - c) Bill Clinton;
 - d) Barack Obama.
8. The USA consist:
 - a) of 40 states;
 - b) 60 states;

c) 52 states;

d) 50 states.

9. Famous Russian hockey players I. Larionov and V. Fetisov played in NHL Club called:

a) Miami Panthers;

b) Detroit Red Wings;

c) New York Lakers;

d) Manchester United.

10. ... was the first President of the USA:

a) George Washington;

b) Theodore Roosevelt;

c) Ulysses S. Grant;

d) Thomas Jefferson.

11. Bermudan triangle is situated in shore:

a) of Great Britain;

b) Australia;

c) New Zealand;

d) the USA.

12. Department of Defense of the USA is called:

a) White House;

b) Empire State Building;

c) Capitol;

d) the Pentagon.

13. Statue of Liberty in harbour of New York was presented to the USA:

a) by France;

b) Italy;

c) Great Britain;

d) Germany.

14. The official residence of American President is:

a) Capitol;

b) Downing Street;

c) Empire State Building;

d) White House.

15. Official currency of the USA is:

a) Euro;

b) pound (sterling);

c) dollar;

d) Australian dollar.

Keys

1c, 2c, 3a, 4a, 5d, 6a, 7c, 8d, 9b, 10a, 11d, 12d, 13a, 14d, 15c

CONCLUSION

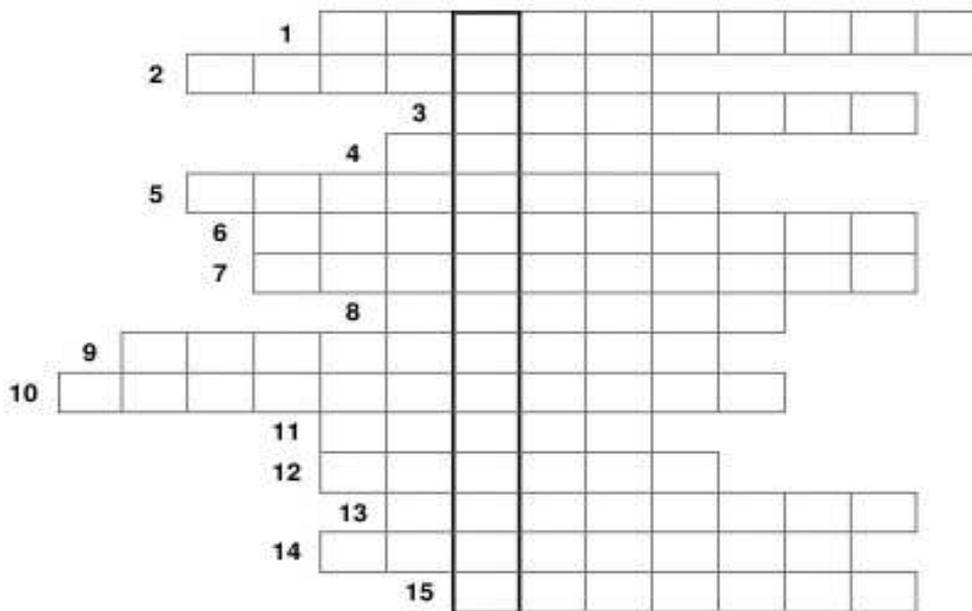
Учебно-методическое пособие представляет собой курс, рассматривающий основные исторические и культурные события страны изучаемого языка от прошлого до настоящего времени. В спецкурсе представлен краткий исторический материал с необходимым содержанием фактологической и лексической информации для приобретения обучающимися социально-культурной компетенции. Степень освоения теоретического материала проверяется контрольными вопросами и тестовыми заданиями. Изучение теоретического материала рекомендуется начать с освоения необходимого лексического и терминологического минимума, на его базе продолжить работу с текстами и упражнениями в определенной структуре пособия последовательности.

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APPENDIX INFORMATION FOR FUN CROSSWORD PUZZLE

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



- 1 This man's name was given to the capital of the USA
- 2 The third most populated city in the USA
- 3 The most famous waterfalls in North America
- 4 Honolulu, the capital of Hawaii, is situated on that island
- 5 The highest mountain top in the USA
- 6 An extensive chain of mountains in North America
- 7 A national park in the USA rich in alligators
- 8 A neighbouring country of the USA
- 9 The national bird of the USA
- 10 The oldest national park in the world
- 11 The number of stars on the US flag
- 12 The largest state in area in the USA
- 13 One of the Great Lakes
- 14 The Grand Canyon is carved by this river
- 15 A significant percentage of this natural phenomenon occurs in the USA

- Three Texas plastic surgeons were playing golf together and discussing surgeries they had performed.

One of them said, "I'm the best plastic surgeon in Texas.

A concert pianist lost 7 fingers in an accident, I reattached them, and 8 months later he performed a private concert for the Queen of England."

Another one said, "That's nothing. A young man lost both arms and legs in an accident, I reattached them, and 2 years later he won a gold medal in five-field events in the Olympics."

The third surgeon said, "You guys are amateurs. Several years ago a cowboy who was high on cocaine and alcohol rode a horse head-on into a train traveling 80 miles an hour. All I had left to work with was the horse's ass and a cowboy hat. Now he's President of the United States!"

- Doctor: "I'm sorry but you suffer from a terminal illness and have only 10 to live."

Patient: "What do you mean, 10? 10 what? Months? Weeks?!"

Doctor: "Nine."

- A man asks a farmer near a field, "Sorry sir, would you mind if I crossed your field instead of going around it? You see, I have to catch the 4:23 train."

The farmer says, "Sure, go right ahead. And if my bull sees you, you'll even catch the 4:11 one."

- Two Elephants meet a totally naked guy. After a while one elephant says to the other: "I really don't get how he can feed himself with that thing!"

- My dog used to chase people on a bike a lot. It got so bad, finally I had to take his bike away.

- Doctor: Hello, did you come to see me with an eye problem?

Patient: Wow, yes, how can you tell?

Doctor: Because you came in through the window instead of the door.

- My wife's cooking is so bad we usually pray after our food.

- I'd like to buy a new boomerang please. Also, can you tell me how to throw the old one away?

- Q. What's the worst thing about being lonely?

A. Playing Frisbee.

- It is so cold outside I saw a politician with his hands in his own pockets.

- Pessimist: “Things just can’t get any worse!”
Optimist: “Nah, of course they can!”
- “I wasn’t that drunk yesterday.” “Oh boy you took the shower head in your arms and told it to stop crying.”
- Why do women live on average two years longer? Because the time they spend parking doesn’t count.
- The 21st century: Deleting history is often more important than making it.
- A naked women robbed a bank. Nobody could remember her face.
- I can’t believe I forgot to go to the gym today. That’s 7 years in a row now.
- Guest at a restaurant: “I refuse to eat this roastbeef. Please call the manager!”
Waiter: “That’s no use. He won’t eat it either.”
- “You are so kind, funny and beautiful.”
“Oh come on. You just want to get me to bed.”
“And smart, too!”
- I’m selling my talking parrot. Why? Because yesterday, the bastard tried to sell me.
- A wife complains to her husband: “Just look at that couple down the road, how lovely they are. He keeps holding her hand, kissing her, holding the door for her, why can’t you do the same?”
“Are you mad? I barely know the woman!”
- Two guys are out hunting in the woods when one of them collapses. He doesn’t appear to be breathing, his eyes are glazed over. The other man pulls out his phone with trembling fingers and calls 911. He gasps, “My friend is dead! What can I do?”
The operator says “Please stay calm. I will help you. First of all, let’s make sure he’s dead.” There’s a silence, then a gun shot. The guy gets back on the phone and says “OK, now what?”
- I’ve decided to run a marathon for charity. I didn’t want to do it at first, but apparently it’s for blind and disabled kids so I think I’ve got a good chance of winning.
- “How much do the potatoes cost?”
“2.50.”
“And the bag?”
“The bag is free.”
“Ok, give me the bag.”

- “Grandpa, why don't you have any life insurance?”
"So you can all be really sad when I die.”
- Patient: Oh doctor, I'm just so nervous. This is my first operation.
Doctor: Don't worry. Mine too.
- Doctor: You're obese.
Patient: Whoa, for that I definitely want a second opinion.
Doctor: You're quite ugly, too.
- It is important to make breaks between individual exercises. I personally stick to breaks of about 3-4 years.
 - ... and out of the chaos, a sentence came to me:
“Laugh and be happy, it could be worse!”
... and so I laughed and was happy and it really became worse.
 - If you had to decide between a diet and a piece of chocolate, would you prefer dark, white or milk chocolate?
 - My relationship is like an iPad. I don't have an iPad.
 - I am nobody. Nobody is perfect. I am perfect.
 - There are people who are a living proof that total brain failure does not always lead to physical death.

The most ridiculous US laws ☺

And finally, if you decide to go to the USA, it's necessary to know the laws of this country. Here are some examples of American laws. Be patient and learn them before going abroad.

Bingo games cannot last more than 5 hours (North Carolina).

Chickens are not allowed to cross the road (Quitman, Georgia).

If you cut down a cactus, you could be sentenced to 25 years in prison (Arizona).

Policemen are allowed to bite a dog if they think it will calm the dog down (Paulding, Ohio).

It's illegal to sell your eyeballs (Texas).

It's against the law to sing off-key (North Carolina).

You may not sell toothpaste and a toothbrush to the same customer on a Sunday (Rhode Island).

You are not allowed to eat fried chicken any other way than using your hands (Gainesville, Georgia).

Marriage between cousins is against the law only if they are younger than 65 (Utah).

Red cars may not drive down Lake Street (Minneapolis, Minnesota).

It's forbidden for a female to appear unshaven in public (Carrizozo, New Mexico).

You may not take a picture of a rabbit from January to April without an official permit (Wyoming).

You cannot buy meat of any kind on Sunday (Washington).

It's illegal to attend a public event or use public transport within 4 hours of eating an onions or garlic (Indiana).

In San Antonio, flirting is against the law (Texas).

A motorist with criminal intentions must stop at the city limits and telephone the chief of police as he is entering the town (Washington).

If you are found stealing soap, you must wash yourself until the bar of soap has been completely used up (Arizona).

If you have mustaches, it's illegal for you to kiss a woman (Eureka, Nevada).

It's against the law for a woman to drive a car in Main Street unless her husband is walking in front of the car waving a red flag (Waynesboro, Virginia).

In the state of New York, you may have to pay a \$25 fine for flirting. This old law mainly forbids men from turning their heads around on any city street and look at any women 'in that way'. You may also be forced to wear a pair of 'horse-blinders', if you are a man caught doing so while you are out for a walk.

New York citizens are not allowed to greet each other by "putting one thumb in the nose and wiggling the other fingers"!

If you plan to jump off a building in New York, they will give you a death penalty!

You cannot wear slippers after 10:00 p.m.

It is illegal for a woman to wear body hugging clothes in the streets of New York; however, there is another stupid law that states that 'women may go topless in public, provided it is not being used as a business.'

While riding in an elevator, you must not speak with anyone and you should fold your hands while you look forward the door!

In Woodstock, New York, it is illegal for a person to walk their bear on the street without a leash.

The owner of every hotel in Hastings, Nebraska, is required to provide each guest with a clean and pressed nightshirt. No couple, married or unmarried, may sleep together nude. Nor may they have sex unless they are wearing one of these clean, white cotton nightshirts.

In Washington, people are not allowed to buy any kind of meat or mattress on a Sunday.

When two trains happen to come to the same crossing at the same time, neither shall go until the other has passed.

A sex law in Florida states: "If you're a single, divorced, or widowed woman, you can't parachute on Sunday afternoons."

In Illinois, animals can be sentenced to imprisonment. A monkey served 5 days in a Chicago jail for shoplifting. Also, in South Bend, Indiana, a monkey was convicted for smoking a cigarette and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 in addition to the cost of the trial.

In West Virginia, a person may be placed behind the bars for up to 6 months for making fun of someone who refuses to accept a challenge.

It is legal for a male to have sex with an animal unless it ain't more than 40lbs. This is the law in the state of West Virginia.

Also, no children may attend their school if their breath smells of 'wild onions'!

No man in Alaska must **never** be completely naked.

It is illegal to snooze on a train.

Eating a neighbor's baby is strictly forbidden in Alaska!

In Alaska, bar owners must not allow their bartenders to serve drinks unless they are drunk themselves!

If you want to eat live eels and don't want to be punished, you must shout "Warning – *Idiot eating eels*" before you start.

Alaska seems to have some fancy towards moose. Look at some of the stupid laws mentioned below which are strictly "Moose based ". Looking at the moose from an airplane is against the law. Feeding alcoholic beverages to a moose is considered to be offensive. You are forbidden to push a moose out of a plane which is already in motion. While someone is moose hunting, it is illegal to whisper in the hunter's ear. No moose is allowed to have sex on the city streets!

Stealing snow from your neighbors garden for making an igloo is permitted, however if you change your mind and make a snowman from it, you are in trouble as it is against the law.

Beware of introducing your dating partner as your married spouse in Texas! If you publicly introduce a person as your husband or wife at least 3 times, you can be considered as legally married!

The entire Encyclopedia Britannica is completely banned in the state of Texas as it contains the formula of making beer at home!

Speaking of beer, it is illegal in Texas to take more than 3 sips of beer at a time while you are standing and sipping it!

As per the crime laws of Texas, criminals should give their victims a 24 hr notice in writing or verbally. He should also explain the nature of crime he intends to commit.

It is illegal for a person to shoot a buffalo from the second floor of a hotel in Texas!

No woman may have sex with a man while riding in an ambulance within the boundaries of Tremonton, Utah. If caught, the woman can be charged with a sexual misdemeanor and “her name is to be published in the local newspaper.” The man isn’t penalized nor is his identity revealed.

Under The California state law, “it is illegal to peel an orange in a hotel room.”

Saying ‘Oh boy’ in public may get you into trouble in Georgia as there exists a law that forbids to do so.

You can't get a fish drunk in Oklahoma!

Any city in the state of Missouri can impose a tax to support a band, as long as the mayor plays piccolo and each band member is able to eat peas with a knife.

Country study: the USA

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