

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НАУКИ И ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ

ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОЕ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОЕ АВТОНОМНОЕ
ОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНОЕ УЧРЕЖДЕНИЕ ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ
«САМАРСКИЙ НАЦИОНАЛЬНЫЙ ИССЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬСКИЙ
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THE CITIES OF THE UK AND THE USA (дискурсивные практики современной англоязычной коммуникации)

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Пособие состоит из трех разделов, в которых представлены аутентичные тексты о городах Великобритании и США на английском языке, сопровождающиеся теоретическим материалом, освещающим особенности употребления актуальных для осуществления коммуникации конструкций английского языка и комплексом разработанных упражнений, направленных на овладение обучающимися лексико-грамматическими навыками ведения межкультурной коммуникации.

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INTRODUCTION

The book is designed to provide learners with a comprehensive understanding of the linguistic and cultural nuances found in the urban landscapes of the United Kingdom and the United States.

The theoretical section of this resource delves into essential grammar concepts that underpin effective communication. By exploring key grammatical structures, students will gain the foundational knowledge necessary for constructing coherent and articulate discourse.

In addition to the theoretical framework, this guide offers a diverse array of exercises aimed at enhancing vocabulary, grammar, and overall language proficiency. These activities are designed to engage learners in practical applications of the concepts discussed, encouraging them to think critically and creatively about language use in various contexts.

To maximize the benefits of this resource, we recommend the following strategies for working with the exercises:

1. **Regular Practice:** Consistent engagement with the exercises will reinforce learning and help solidify grammatical concepts and vocabulary.
2. **Collaborative Learning:** Whenever possible, work with peers to discuss and complete exercises. This collaborative approach can enhance understanding and provide different perspectives on language use.
3. **Reflective Review:** After completing each exercise, take time to reflect on your responses and the grammar rules applied. This reflective practice will deepen your comprehension and retention of the material.
4. **Contextual Application:** Try to apply what you learn in real-life situations, whether through writing, speaking, or engaging in discussions about the cities of the UK and the USA. This contextual application will help bridge the gap between theory and practice.

We hope this guide serves as a valuable resource in your journey to mastering the discursive practices of contemporary English communication, enriching your understanding of the vibrant cities that shape the English-speaking world. Enjoy your learning experience!

1. THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

1.1. Geographical Position and Scenery of the UK

***Pre-reading questions:** Can you share what you have heard of the British Isles location, borders and landscape? What is the difference between Great Britain, the United Kingdom and the British Isles? What countries make up the UK? What is the name of the Sovereign State Capital? How many other capitals of the UK do you know? Have you ever heard of other big cities of the UK? What waters wash the borders of the UK? What rivers and lakes are there?*

The United Kingdom, also known as the UK, consists of a group of islands off the northwest coast of Europe. The British Isles consist of more than 5,500 islands. The biggest island is Great Britain. There are also the Shetland Islands, the Hebrides, the Orkney Islands, the Isle of Man, Anglesey, Wight, etc.

Great Britain stretches for 1000 kilometres from the south to the extreme north, and for 500 kilometres in the widest part. It is washed by the Atlantic Ocean in the north-west, north and south-west, and is separated from the European continent by the North Sea, the Strait of Dover and the English Channel.

The country occupies the area of 242,500 square kilometres. The territory of Great Britain is small, yet the country has a wide variety of scenery. England, which is the richest, the most fertile and the most populated part of the country, is a vast plain. It is separated from Scotland by the Cheviot Hills running from east to west. In Northwest England there are many picturesque lakes with green, wooded or grassy shores

and grey mountains all around. It is famous Lake District, the real tourist attraction.

England, Wales and Scotland together are also known as Great Britain. Most of the northern and western part of the UK is covered in high ground and mountain ridges separated by deep valleys. This terrain was formed in the last ice age when thick glaciers covered it completely.

In the south part of England, the countryside is filled with hills. North west England and the Scottish Highlands are home to dozens of lakes known as Loch these remained in existence, when the ice age glaciers melted the locks tend to be long and narrow and some are very deep.

Wales and Scotland are mountainous areas. In Wales the mountains are rocky and difficult to climb. The highest mountain is Snowdon. The Highlands of Scotland are among the oldest mountains in the world. The highest of them is Ben Nevis. By the way, Scotland is a land of famous lakes. They are called «lochs» there. The beautiful Loch Lomond is the largest one and Loch Ness attracts millions of tourists by its legendary monster.

The rivers are not long in Britain. The largest of them are the Severn (350 km), the Clyde and the Mersey. They flow into the Irish Sea. The Thames (346 km), the Trent (274 km), the Ouse keep their way to the North Sea. The Thames is the busiest and the most important river in Great Britain. The capital of Great Britain, London, stands on the Thames.

The climate of Great Britain is temperate and mild due to the influence of the warm waters of the Gulf-Stream. The summers are usually cool and rainy. There is much rain and fog in autumn and in winter. Great Britain is a damp country. The weather is very changeable and it is the favourite topic of conversation in Britain [1].



Figure 1. The Map of the UK

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

Isles

island

Europe

Shetland

Hebrides

Orkney

Anglesey

Wight

the Strait of Dover

the Cheviot Hills

mountain ridges

terrain

glaciers

Snowdon

Loch Lomond

Loch Ness

the Severn

the Clyde

the Mersey

the Thames

the Trent

the Ouse

the Gulf-Stream

Task 2. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. у северо-западного побережья –
2. простирается на ... –
3. от юга до крайнего севера –
4. омывается Атлантическим океаном –
5. отделен от –
6. занимает территорию в ... –
7. большое разнообразие пейзажей -
8. плодородный –
9. простирается от востока до запада –
10. покрываться возвышенностями и горными хребтами –
11. быть наполненным –

12. продолжать существовать –

13. легендарное чудовище –

Task 3. Study the given text with the map of the UK (Figure 1. The Map of the UK [2]). You can use an electronic version of the map. Try to find all geographical locations mentioned in the text. Can you answer all of the pre-reading questions now? Imagine you live in London, where the nearest countries are according to the map? What is there to the north or to the south of the UK? What is the location of mountain ridges? Where do the biggest rivers flow? What cities are located at the banks of the rivers?

Task 4. Scan the text below for a minute, write down 5 short phrases which can be useful for further close to text retelling. Imagine you need to dub a short video about Great Britain using your notes and knowledge to make suitable content, you can record yourself and listen to it with your group.

The United Kingdom is a wonderful land with diverse scenery. Owing to its geographical position, the country has everything from sandy beaches on the southern coast to dramatic mountains in the North. The United Kingdom is located off the northwestern coast of Europe between the Atlantic Ocean and the North Sea. It is separated from the continent by the Strait of Dover and the English Channel, and from the Irish Republic by the Irish Sea and the St George's Channel; on land the UK borders on Ireland alone.

The capital and the largest city, London, is in the southeast, on the River Thames, England's longest river. Besides Great Britain, the biggest island, which is about 1,000 miles long from north to south, the United Kingdom contains a number of small islands. These include the Isle of Wight, which lies off England's southern coast; Anglesey, off the

northwestern coast of Wales; the Hebrides archipelago to the west of Scotland, consisting of the Inner and the Outer Hebrides, and others [3].

Remember: in the north = на севере
to the north (of) = к северу (от)
north of = к северу (от)

Task 5. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases.

1. у южного побережья Англии –
2. на юго-востоке –
3. географическое положение на южном побережье –
4. граничить с ... с севера на юг –
5. к западу от Шотландии –
6. у северо-западного побережья –

Task 6. Translate the following prepositional phrases.

1. располагаться на западном побережье –
2. находиться на севере –
3. между скалами –
4. к северу –
5. к югу от острова в Атлантическом океане –
6. с запада на восток у восточного побережья –
7. на юге на юго-востоке; вдоль горной цепи –

Task 7. Play a game.

Your teacher has been caught by you (the students) who ask her questions to find out where she hid the treasures. However, the teacher is uncooperative and refuses to give the information the students need.

Using the map (Figure 2. The Treasure Map [4]), ask as many yes / no questions as possible. Make use of prepositional phrases.

e.g.

1. Is the treasure / it on the Ironsand Islands or on the mainland?
2. Have you hidden the trunk / the treasure / it in the south of the Great Plains?



Figure 2. The Treasure Map

Task 8. Project work: *The Geography of Russia.*

- a) Scan the previous texts about the British Isles to help you build a speech on peculiarities of the geography of Russia.

- b) Mention the location and size of the country, the names of neighboring countries, the landscape of Russia: waters, mountains, the most populated parts, the names of the biggest cities; etc.
- c) Use the vocabulary from the previous texts.
- d) Check your spelling and pronunciation of geographical names, mind the articles.
- e) Provide images to support your speech.

Task 9. Go to p. 181 and learn more about the capital of Russia.

1.2. Why Do Brits Talk About the Weather So Much?

More than nine in ten Brits have talked about the weather in the last six hours.

Pre-reading questions: Bearing in mind facts about geographical position of the British Isles, guess what kind of weather the British experience during the seasons. How do you think locals react to cold or warm days? Do they experience a lot of sun light? Do they even care for weather? Have you ever heard how much the British are obsessed about the weather?

But is this unusual – and if so, is it their culture or the climate that makes them so obsessed?

Oscar Wilde said conversation about the weather was the last refuge of the unimaginative, while Bill Bryson noted that its most striking characteristic is that there isn't much of it. The weather – and the British obsession with talking about it – has been puzzling outsiders for decades.

According to recent research, 94% of British respondents admit to having conversed about the weather in the past six hours, while 38% say

they have in the past 60 minutes. “This means at almost any moment in this country, at least a third of the population is either talking about the weather, has already done so or is about to do so,” says social anthropologist Kate Fox, who performed the studies in 2010 for an update of her book *Watching the English*.

So why do the British do it? Is there something about the nation’s weather that makes it worthy of discussion, or is it simply a cultural foible? And do any other nationalities share this peculiar conversational trait [5]?

Task 1. Try to guess the answers to pre-reading questions. Find some information about Oscar Wilde, Bill Bryson, Kate Fox. Why do you think these names appear in the article on British culture and weather? Have you heard these names before?

Task 2. Study and translate the following grammar patterns.

1. British respondents *admit to having conversed* about the weather in the past six hours

Most, almost all, *admit to having done* whatever it is that a got them here (from “The New Yorker”)

The statistic most gripping for Andy, who is now 13 and lives in Manhattan, is that 80 percent of teenagers *admit to having done* something illegal (from The New York Times”)

2. ... a third of the population *is either talking* about the weather ... *or is about to do so*

Note! the example above has two grammatical patterns: 1. *either...or*; 2. *to be about to do smth*

a) We use **either... or...** to connect items which are the same grammatical type, e.g. words, phrases, clauses

e.g.: **Either** I drive to the airport **or** I get a taxi.

John's wife Mary was **either** driving their children to school **or** doing shopping, so she shouldn't have been at home.

The opposite of **either... or...** is **neither... nor....** We use it to make negative statements connecting items:

e.g.: We got so wet. We had **neither** umbrellas **nor** raincoats with us!

- I **don't like** rainy weather.

- **Neither do I!**

Note! if you need to agree to a positive statement use **So, am I; So do I; etc.**

e.g.: - I agree with his opinion

- So do I

b) We use **to be about to do smth.** when we are going to start doing smth. very soon

e.g.: I **was about to** phone Joe at work when he walked into the house.

Write two positive sentences and two negative sentences about your likes and dislikes

e.g. I like enjoying rainy days at home with a book and a cup of tea.
and

I don't like being indoors for too long

Listen to each other and support an opinion when you agree

e.g. Student A: - I like cats more than dogs.

Student C, D, I: - So do I.

or

Student B: - I don't tolerate being ignored!

Student A, I, F: - Neither do I!

Continue reading:

It's well known that the weather in Britain is unpredictable, but mostly rainy and wet... and it's hard to say the time it starts or how long it will last... and the amount and quality of it is also a riddle for every British resident. The British are used to it but those who've just paid a visit to the UK find this obsession about the weather weird...

Stormy Skies

Several features of Britain's geography make the weather the way it is: mild, changeable, and famously unpredictable.

Britain's position at the edge of the Atlantic places it at the end of a storm track – relatively narrow zones over oceans that storms travel down, driven by the prevailing winds.

"These storms are feeding on the temperature difference from the equator to the pole," says Douglas Parker, joint Met Office professor of meteorology at the University of Leeds.

As the warm and cold air fly towards and over each other, the earth's rotation creates cyclones – and the UK bears the tail end of them.

Then there is the Gulf Stream, which makes the British climate milder than it should be, given its northern latitude, and the fact that the UK is made up of islands, meaning there is a lot of moisture in the air.

"Water in the atmosphere makes the weather particularly unpredictable," Parker says.

The variability means residents never know quite what to expect. Snow in summer? T-shirts in winter? Recently, the hottest-ever November day was recorded in mid-Wales, with temperatures hitting a balmy 22.4C.

“It’s much more unpredictable than the climate of many countries,” says Trevor Harley, chair of cognitive psychology at the University of Dundee, runs a website devoted to the British weather.
“There’s always something happening – and if there isn’t, there is the promise.”

It is these types of extremes that generate much of the debate on online forums about the British weather (yes, they do exist!). The British Weather Newsgroup, for example, has been running since the mid-1990s and was started as a forum for enthusiasts to discuss scientific aspects of the British weather.

Today, almost all aspects of the weather are up for debate, although there are two major themes, says Harley. One is speculation about – and a desire for – severe weather, such as a traditional white Christmas – never mind the fact the UK has only experienced a widespread, Dickensian-like Christmas snow four times in the past 51 years.

The other theme is nostalgia for the weather of the past, which Harley notes is often at odds with the reality.

“In my memory, every summer’s day in the 60s was hot and sunny with unbroken sunshine. In fact, this could only have been a few days in a few months; summers in the 60s were unusually cool and unsettled,” he says [5].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

refuge

latitude

foible

moisture

trait

variability

meteorology

cyclone

rotation

moisture

cyclone

unimaginative

Task 2. Find in both parts of the article the English equivalents of the following word combinations.

1. последнее прибежище тех, кто лишен воображения –
2. слабость, обоснованная культурой страны –
3. странная особенность ведения беседы –
4. движение ветров –
5. вращение Земли –
6. северная широта –
7. температура достигает приятных 22.4.С –
8. провоцировать жаркие споры –
9. не совпадать с реальностью –

Task 3. Study and translate the following grammar patterns.

- a) ... *storms* travel down, *driven by* the prevailing winds.
He refused to take *the money earned by* his father.
Jenny keeps all *the photos taken by* her family members.

b) They (*weather forums*) **do exist!**

Jack **did buy** the house when he was 17!

She **does love** gardening she has a green thumb!

Practice the pattern.

Think what you know about your group mates and begin sharing it with each other:

e.g. Student A: - Liza does love reading English detectives.

Liza: - Yes, I do.\ No, I don't. Misha did call me yesterday.

Misha: Yes, I did. Vera does know all grammar rules

... etc.

Task 4. Project work: *Cities and Universities.*

a) Scan the text “Stormy Skies” to find the names of Universities mentioned there.

b) Find the cities with the Universities on the map and tell the group where each city is located.

c) Find other British Universities you know on the map and name the cities and their location on the UK's map.

d) Find some additional information about the location of these cities.

e.g. *The University of Oxford is located in the city of Oxford. Oxford is a historic county of Oxfordshire and situated between the upper River Thames and the Cherwell. Oxfordshire is located almost within the Thames basin. The river flows northeastward along the Oxford Clay Vale, receiving the Rivers Windrush, Evenlode, and Cherwell from the north.*

1.3. Coded Conversations

Pre-reading questions: *Can you guess what the most common and safest topic for a small talk in Britain is? Can we say that climate influences the culture? Do you know how to react when a British person mentions that the weather's wet or too sunny these days? Have you heard there are rules the British follow when they exchange their 'hello'?*

Many of the day-to-day conversations British people initiate about the weather, however, are more mundane. Comments like “cold, isn’t it?” don’t even particularly demand a full response; a grunt of agreement will suffice. It is, I dare say, the last hope to keep the peace among fellows on the island full of different regions, dialects, religious, traditions. All the rest topics including politics, migration policy and marital status are far from safe there.

“Weather talk helps us overcome social inhibitions,”
says Kate Fox.

Fox has eavesdropped on hundreds of such weather-related conversations as part of her research. She concludes that they’re less about the weather and more akin to the kind of physical grooming that occurs among our primate cousins.

“Weather talk is a kind of code that we have evolved to help us overcome social inhibitions and actually talk to one another,”
says Fox.

In some situations, weather talk is an icebreaker. In others it’s used to fill awkward silences, or divert the conversation away from uncomfortable topics. Often it’s an excuse for a good old grumble, which can

be a bonding experience in itself, but we can also use weather speak to gauge other people's moods:

"Depending on their response to your weather greeting, you can tell if someone is in the mood for a chat, or is feeling grumpy and negative," says Fox.

But there are certain unwritten rules that the British follow when conducting these weather-related conversations. Firstly, the topic will almost always be introduced as a form of question, even if only in the intonation (e.g., "Raining again?"). Secondly, the person answering must agree.

"Failing to agree is quite a serious breach of etiquette. Or at least if you disagree, you have to express it in terms of a sort of personal foible," says Fox.

If someone says: 'Cold, isn't it?' and you say: 'Well actually, no,' the person would be a bit taken aback, and feel that that was a discourteous thing to say [5].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

initiate

mundane

suffice

inhibitions

eavesdropped

akin

awkward

gauge

etiquette

foible

discourteous

Task 2. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. начать разговор –
2. достаточно лишь пробормотать в знак согласия –
3. общественные запреты –
4. сородичи-приматы –
5. прервать неловкую тишину в разговоре –
6. сменить тему беседы –
7. оправдание чему-либо –
8. способ сплотить беседующих –
9. определить настроение другого человека –
10. вести беседы о погоде –
11. серьезное нарушение этикета –
12. быть слегка ошеломленным –
13. невежливое замечание\высказывание –

Task 3. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Для того чтобы ваш собеседник *не был ошеломлен* вашей бестактностью, старайтесь *не начинать разговор* с личных тем.

2. Майкл попытался сменить тему разговора, чтобы прервать неловкую тишину за столом.

3. Её *невежливое высказывание* вызвало *недовольное бормотание* среди участников конференции.

4. *Ворчание о плохой погоде* является старым проверенным способом *наладить связь* с другими людьми.

5. В наши дни многие темы *провоцируют жаркие споры*, даже если эти темы объективно *не имеют ничего общего с реальностью* (*не отражают реальность*).

1.4. Are They So Different?

Pre-reading questions: *Can you think of the reasons why citizens of the UK prefer to say 'I'm from Cardiff' or 'I'm from Kent' rather than 'I'm Welsh' or 'I'm an Englishman'? What differ Wales, Scotland, England and Northern Ireland from each other? Do people living in these parts have their own capitals, anthems or symbols? What are they?*

The title of the British National Anthem is “God Save the Queen” (in fact the final words of the verse). In the reign of a king the word “Queen” changes King. It has been accepted as the British national anthem since 1745, adopted in early 1800s.

The national tree of the UK is an oak. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has four historic parts: England with its capital in London, Scotland with its capital in Edinburgh, Wales with its capital in Cardiff and Northern Ireland with its capital in Belfast.

England

The floral symbol of England is the RED ROSE. Earlier, it decorated the arms of the House of Lancaster. The Lancastrians argued for the throne of England with the Yorkists whose arms had a white rose. The war for the throne between the Lancastrians and the Yorkists became known in the history of the country as the War of the Red and White Rose. It lasted 30 years (1455 – 1485).

Scotland

The Scottish symbol is a wild plant, called the thistle. At one point, the Scandinavians planned to attack a Scottish village. But since the Scots knew they were coming, they started to prepare for war. Late at night, the Scandinavians came in their bare feet so as to not awaken the Scottish warriors in the village. But the thorns of the thistle hurt their bare feet. Their howls of pain pierced the silence and the Scots awoke to fight the enemy.

Wales

The Welsh symbol is a vegetable called the leek (or, on occasion, the flower, the daffodil). The patron saint of Wales, David, ate only leeks and bread. In memory of this Christian saint, the leek became the symbol of Wales. Daffodils which burst into flames by the 1st of March celebrate the revered Welsh saint.

Northern Ireland

The Irish symbol is another wild plant called the shamrock. This plant helped St. Patrick explain to the people of his country what the Holy Trinity is.

The historic colours of the parts are: England – WHITE, Scotland – BLUE, Wales – RED, Northern Ireland – GREEN. Sport teams of the nation wear these colors [6].

Task 1. For each question choose the right answer.

1. According to the passage, which country's national anthem refers to the "Queen"?

- a England
- b Scotland
- c Wales
- d The United Kingdom

2. What was the historic dispute between the Lancastrians and the Yorkists known as?

- a The War of the Red Rose
- b The War of the White Rose
- c The War of the Red and White Rose
- d The War of the Thistle

3. Which part of the United Kingdom is associated with the shamrock as a national symbol?

- a England
- b Scotland
- c Wales
- d Northern Ireland

4. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a national symbol of any part of the United Kingdom?

- a The oak tree
- b The daffodil
- c The leek
- d The maple leaf

5. Who used the shamrock to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity to the people of their country?

- a The Queen
- b St. David
- c The Scandinavians
- d St. Patrick

6. What was the purpose of the Scandinavians' nighttime attack on the Scottish village?

- a To steal from the villagers
- b To surprise the Scottish warriors
- c To destroy the thistle plants
- d To capture the village chief

7. Which part of the United Kingdom has a capital city named Edinburgh?

- a England
- b Scotland
- c Wales
- d Northern Ireland

Task 2. Answer the questions:

1. What four historic parts does the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland consist of?
2. What are their capitals?
3. What is England's floral symbol?
4. Why did the War of the Red and White Roses start?
5. What is the Scottish symbol?
6. How did this plant once save the country?
7. What is the floral symbol for Wales?
8. Why is the leek the Welsh floral symbol?
9. Who is St. David?
10. When do the Welsh celebrate their patron saint day?
11. What is the Irish floral symbol?
12. Who is the Irish national saint?
13. How did St Patrick use the shamrock?
14. What are the historic colours of the parts of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland?

1.5. London

Pre-reading questions: What facts about London do you remember? Can you tell where Kings and Queens have been crowned, married and even buried? Where to go for a pre-show bite or drink in the city centre? Who built the Tower of London? And, finally, do you know what Big Ben really means?

“From 'Rule Britannia' to 'Cool Britannia',
... this city is forever turning over a new page”

London is situated in the South-East of England in the Thames Valley. Home to over 8 million people, the capital of the UK has been an important financial, educational and cultural center for hundreds of years. Of the many gifts England has given to the world, none has been greater than her language and literature. And if ever there's a city that reads like an epic saga, it's London. The story of London began in the Bronze Age, but it didn't really get going until the Romans withdrew in the 5th century. Growing into one of the great medieval trading cities, she truly came of age in the 11th century, when William the Conqueror built the Tower of London, which was to become one of England's grimmest prisons.

London is very easy to navigate around, and is compact enough to explore on foot. This world city is filled with iconic symbols, and one of the most easily recognizable is Tower Bridge, an impressive reminder of London's rapid expansion during the industrial revolution. Just upriver, at the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben's reassuring chimes peal across the city every hour, on the hour.

Buckingham Palace, perhaps the most famous palace in the world, is the official residence of Queen Elizabeth. It's a popular London attraction, offering tours of staterooms and gardens. Nearby, Kensington Pal-

ace is open to the public year-round. The palace and gardens will be remembered as the home of Princess Di and Prince Charles, and have recently undergone a multimillion-pound refurbishment. Another legacy of England's monarchy are the Royal Parks of London. They were once reserved as private hunting grounds for the royal family, but nowadays they're open for everyone to enjoy. There are eight Royal Parks, and many of them are in central London, and close to royal palaces and other historic monuments. Green Park and St. James's Park are right next to Buckingham Palace, Admiralty Arch and The Mall. Hyde Park is perhaps the most famous with its man-made lake, The Serpentine, and on the other side, Kensington Gardens is a beautiful open expanse that stretches east towards Kensington Palace.

The Albert Memorial is at the southern end of Kensington Gardens, and the striking bronze statue looks towards the Royal Albert Hall just across the road. The hall is yet another reminder of Queen Victoria's great love for her husband, Prince Albert.

Many of London's greatest stories have begun in her houses of worship, and none is so impressive and important as Westminster Abbey. This is where kings and queens have been crowned, married and even buried. London was rebuilt after The Great Fire in 1666, and St. Paul's Cathedral is the most enduring monument to the city's transformation. It's a great testament to British strength and resilience.

The West End in central London is a story in itself. Here the streets are lined with ancient buildings, but the throngs of people are out to have fun. By day, the charming boutiques and cafés hum with shoppers, and by night the bars along Carnaby Street are packed with patrons enjoying pre-show drinks. This is one of the largest theater districts in the world. And at times it can feel like you're on a Monopoly board, with Coventry Street, Trafalgar Square and Piccadilly Circus all close by. Moving away from the historic center, London's trendy suburbs offer a different kind of story. The Portobello Road Markets in Notting Hill attract thousands of visitors, especially to the antiques markets that's held on Saturdays,

while the edgier Camden Town features six popular markets that are open every day of the week, and operate along her streets, the canal, and in her historic stables. London is a city that honors not only her own story, but also the story of humankind.

The British Museum is one of the finest in the world, and her treasures cover thousands of years of history and number in the millions. The museum is open every day, and best of all, it's free. From the ancient to the modern, The London Eye offers a complete change of pace and perspective. The massive wheel is over 400 feet high, and takes 30 minutes to complete one rotation. From here you can see the London of old, as well as some of the city's newest additions, all in air-conditioned comfort. London will always be a city that looks towards the past and the future in equal measure. From 'Rule Britannia' to 'Cool Britannia', the fabric and the skyline of this city is forever turning over a new page. Which is, after all, what every great story should do [7].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

Thames

valley

literature

withdraw (V1,V2,V3)

medieval

conqueror

iconic

symbol

parliament

Buckingham Palace

refurbishment

legacy

monarchy

royal

Admiralty Arch

antique

honor

humankind

treasure

cover

ancient

equal

measure

Task 2. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. финансовый, образовательный и культурный центр –
2. город, который повествует эпическую сагу –
3. средневековый торговый город –
4. самая мрачная тюрьма –
5. по Лондону легко передвигаться –
6. достаточно компактный для прогулок пешком –
7. легко узнаваемый –
8. быстрое увеличение размеров –
9. впечатляющее напоминание –
10. индустриальная революция –
11. успокаивающие/убеждающие куранты –
12. популярная достопримечательность Лондона –
13. предлагать тур-прогулки по государственным палатам и садам –
14. открыт круглый год –
15. самый долголетний монумент –
16. великое свидетельство силы и стойкости британцев –
17. на улицах веселятся толпы людей –
18. очаровательные бутики и кафе гудят от посетителей –
19. аперитив перед представлением –
20. уходя дальше от центра –
21. модный Лондонский пригород –
22. от древнего к современному –
23. полная смена темпа и видов –
24. в прохладном комфорте –
25. равноценно смотреть в прошлое и будущее –
26. постоянно переворачивает новую страницу –

Task 3. Study and translate the following speech patterns.

a) London is very *easy to navigate* around, and is *compact enough to explore* on foot

The task was *challenging to perform*, and was *complicated to comprehend* at first.

The book is *interesting to read*, and is *engaging to analyze*.

b) London is a story *in itself*.

The diet *in itself* will not get you well.

A peaceful talk *in itself* is a huge contribution to any relationships.

c) London is a city that honors *not only* her own history, *but also* the story of humankind.

I was *not only charmed by* the lady's beauty, *but also fascinated by* her speech.

He takes care *not only for* his elderly mother, *but also for* his younger sister.

Make up your own examples with each speech pattern.

Task 4. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Карлов университет, также известный как Пражский университет, являлся *важным образовательным, культурным и финансовым центром средневековой Европы*, это место стало источником религиозной революции.

2. *Сила и стойкость* нашего руководителя вселяли уверенность в успехе нашего предприятия.

3. В центре Москвы множество *бутиков и ресторанов, которые гудят от покупателей.*

4. Изучение истории позволяет не только *читать* прошлое своих предков, но помогает *равноценно смотреть как в прошлое, так и в будущее.*

5. Несмотря на то, что Самара *быстро разрастается, по городу легко перемещаться, а исторический центр города достаточно компактный для прогулок пешком.*

6. Как правило, каждая столица в мире может *рассказать эпическую сагу* целого народа.

7. Когда я путешествую по городам, я всегда стараюсь заглянуть в *антикварные магазинчики* в поисках *древних сокровищ.*

8. Библиотеки хранят *вековое наследие* человеческой мысли, которое невозможно *измерить* материальными благами (Use passive).

9. В музее собраны экземпляры, являющиеся *впечатляющим напоминанием о скорости индустриальной революции* не только страны, но и всего мира.

10. *Продвигаясь дальше от центра города, вы ощутите смену темпа и видов – от древнего к современному.*

Task 5. Give full answers to the following questions. The answers will help you to make the summary of the text.

1. Where is London situated? What has Britain given to the world?
2. When did the story of London begin?
3. Who built the Tower of London?
4. When and what the Tower of London was built for?
5. What iconic symbols of London can you name?
6. What is the official residence of Kings and Queens of the UK?

7. What are the names of famous London parks? Where are most of them situated?

8. Where was the legal place for Royal hunting in London? What is there now?

9. What are the other landmarks of London? (Buildings, cathedrals, monuments, etc.)

10. What is Westminster Abbey?

11. What happened in London in 1666?

12. What does Saint Paul's Cathedral represent?

13. What is West End of London famous for?

14. What do people do in Carnaby street?

15. What are other most recognizable streets of London?

16. What do London suburbs offer for those who like shopping?

17. What kind of museums of London do you know?

18. What kind of exhibitions do they have?

19. What is London Eye?

20. Why is London one the greatest cities of the world?

Task 6. Imagine that you are a London guide, summarize what you have learnt from the text and tell your partner what attractions can be explored in the city.

Task 7. Project Work: *Names and Marks in history.*

Find out information on the given historical names or events.

Boadicea

Christopher Wren

William the Conqueror

The Great Fire of London

Elizabeth I

Queen Victoria, Prince Albert

1.6. Edinburgh

Pre-reading questions: *Can you tell what Scotland has given to the UK? What can people of Scotland be proud of? What kind of spirit do the Scots have? Why is it so?*

“Edinburgh shows us that all parts of the human experience
the sciences and the arts, the past and the present,
the sacred and the light-hearted all have equal value”

There are cities that are more than just bricks and mortar, cities built on ideals, cities shaped by a belief that the human experience can be greater tomorrow than it is today. Edinburgh, is one of those places. Graced with over four and a half thousand heritage-listed buildings, the Scottish capital is one of the world’s most beautiful cities. Edinburgh’s Old Town, with its Royal Mile, is filled with the ghosts of medieval merchants, body snatchers, and poets. While its Georgian-styled New Town, still shines with the glories of the Scottish Enlightenment.

Edinburgh is studded with lofty crags and spectacular gardens, and throughout the year, hosts parties and festivals like no other. To see Edinburgh in all her glory, walk, ride, or even climb to Arthur’s Seat. Some historians believe this peak was the site of King Arthur’s legendary castle Camelot, which is hardly surprising, as Edinburgh has been at the clashing crossroads of history for millennia. Nearby, on another volcanic crag, rise the battlements of Edinburgh Castle, the very symbol of Scotland itself. Over the last eleven centuries, this castle has been laid siege to 26 times as opposing clans, kings and countries battled with broadsword and cannon. But still it stands, a testimony to the indomitable spirit of the Scots.

Edinburgh has a special place in the hearts of today’s monarchy. The last of a long line of royal yachts, Her Majesty’s Yacht Britannia

sailed over one million miles before she was decommissioned in 1997. Today she is permanently moored at Ocean Terminal, a symbol the Royal Family's affection for Scotland and the people of Edinburgh. Edinburgh has been the jewel in the crown of chieftains and royals for centuries, but it's also a place where old-world chivalry continues today. Beneath the crown spire of St Giles' Cathedral, is Thistle Chapel, which honors the 16 living Knights and Ladies of Scotland's oldest order, as well as those who came before. It's not just the brave and chivalrous who are celebrated in Edinburgh, this is a city that has given the world some of its best-loved writers and stories. In Princes Street Gardens, rises the world's largest monument to a writer, dedicated to Sir Walter Scott, who penned epics such as *Ivanhoe* and *Rob Roy*.

Nearby, at the Writers Museum, learn more about Scott, and two more of Scotland's most cherished literary adventurers, Robert Burns and Robert Louis Stevenson. Edinburgh continues to cast her spell over contemporary writers too. JK Rowling wrote the first two of her Harry Potter series in cozy Old Town nooks, such as the Elephant House Café. But history and literature aside, perhaps the greatest gifts that Edinburgh has given humankind is in the field of knowledge, which once earned the city the title, The Athens of the North. For over four centuries, the University of Edinburgh has given us intellectual giants such as Charles Darwin, David Hume and Alexander Bell. Explore centuries of innovation at the Scottish Museum, or head to South Queens ferry to see the Forth Bridge, an engineering marvel when it opened in 1890, and one which still takes the breath away today.

Knowledge and beauty go hand in hand at the Royal Botanic Gardens too. Established in 1670, this is one of the world's oldest and most important centers of botanical science, yet it's a place which invites even the most hurried heart to slow down and swoon. Beauty is honored at every turn in Edinburgh, whether it be the elegant interiors of the Geor-

gian House, ...the priceless treasures within the Scottish National Gallery, ...or the simple flower boxes which adorn the city's pubs. Edinburgh is a city that has given the world countless gifts, but perhaps her greatest is this: she shows us that all parts of the human experience the sciences and the arts, the past and the present, the sacred and the light-hearted all have equal value. And that when brought together, these things can create a beauty, a state of mind, a city, like no other [7].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

Edinburgh

medieval

merchants

snatchers

Georgian-styled

Enlightenment

spectacular

throughout

siege

broadsword

cannon

Majesty

yacht

affection

chieftain

royal

chivalry

honor

contemporary

treasure

knight

Task 2. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. bricks and mortar –
2. a testimony of the indomitable spirit of the Scots –
3. to be graced with –
4. the jewel in the crown of chieftains and royals for centuries –

5. a hurried heart –
6. to slow down and swoon –
7. to be studded with smth –
8. the clashing crossroads of history –
9. to be decommissioned –
10. simple flower boxes adorn the city's pubs –
11. countless gifts –
12. to be brought together –

Task 3. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. оформляться в веру –
2. завтрашний человеческий опыт превосходит вчерашний –
3. здания вошедшие в список наследия –
4. сиять славой шотландского просвещения –
5. быть хозяином праздников и фестивалей –
6. вулканическая скала –
7. на протяжении последних одиннадцати веков –
8. подвергаться осаде около 26 раз –
9. жемчужина на короне –
10. быть посвященным кому-либо –
11. наиболее почитаемый –
12. околдовывать современных писателей –
13. более 4 веков –
14. интеллектуальные гиганты –
15. захватывать дух –
16. знание и красота идут рука об руку –
17. красота читится на каждом повороте –
18. элегантные интерьеры –

Task 4. Study the following speech patterns.

a) Edinburgh is studded with lofty crags and spectacular gardens, and throughout the year, hosts parties and festivals *like no other*.

And that when brought together, these things can create a beauty, a state of mind, a city *like no other*.

Dr. Huston can perform a heart operation *like no other*.

b) *But still it stands*, a testimony to the indomitable spirit of the Scots.

St. Paul's Cathedral has been rebuilt many times during the history, *but still it exists* as a symbol of the British culture.

Even though Susan tries to avoid troubles, *but still she has* a lot to deal with.

c) *Whether* it is the elegant interiors of the Georgian House, *or* the simple flower boxes which adorn the city's pubs.

Decide *whether* you're going *or* staying.

Whether you like the idea *or* not, I'm going ahead with it.

d) But *history and literature aside*, perhaps the greatest gifts that Edinburgh has given to the humankind is in the field of knowledge.

In all seriousness now - *joking aside* - I do think there's a problem here that we've got to get sorted.

I hardly watch any television, *aside from* news and current affairs.

Task 5. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Она проживала в небольшом загородном доме, украшенном простыми корзинами с цветами и клумбами.

2. *Бесчисленное множество даров* античной культуры принадлежат Национальному Археологическому Музею Греции в Афинах. К главным *жемчужинам* музея относят находки из неолитических поселений Фессалии и других регионов – сосуды, статуэтки, украшения, инструменты и оружие, выполненные из глины, камня и кости.

3. В мире существует множество мест, где *красота почитается в каждом уголке*, такие места вынуждают замедлиться и *замереть даже самых торопливых и суетливых* из нас.

4. Иностранных гостей *встречали в элегантных интерьерах государственных палат*, здесь же проводили празднования и собрания государственного значения.

5. Великий Новгород веками *находился на перекрестке торговых путей и исторических событий*. На территории города находится *бесчисленное количество сооружений, вошедших в список национального наследия*.

6. *На протяжении восьми веков* библиотека Оксфорда хранит работы интеллектуальных *гигантов древности и современности*, чьи труды по сей день *захватывают дух* ученых гуманитарных и естественно-научных направлений.

7. Средневековая красота Эдинбурга *идет рука об руку* с вековыми знаниями, накопленными в его древнейшем университете. Эта атмосфера *околдовывает современных писателей*, создающих свои труды в уютных кофейнях города.

8. *Сам по себе*, магазин из кирпичей и цемента может оказаться неуспешным, *нравится тебе или нет*, но онлайн магазины словно *околдовали* покупателей быстротой и легкостью осуществления покупок.

Task 6. Answer the questions:

1. Have you heard what ideals such cities as Edinburgh are built on?
2. How many heritage-listed buildings is Edinburgh graced with? Can you list them?
3. What place is filled with ghosts of medieval merchants, body snatchers and writers?
4. Where can you feel the shining of the Scottish Enlightenment?
5. What entertainments does Edinburgh host?
6. Where can you take a picturesque view over the city?
7. What is the Arthur's Seat famous for?
8. Where's King Arthur's legendary castle Camelot?
9. What Castle is the symbol of Scotland itself?
10. How many times has the castle been laid siege?
11. What does the castle represent?
12. How many miles did Her Majesty's Yacht Britannia sailed? Where is it now? What does She represent now?
13. Where can a visitor find Thistle Chapel? What does it honor?
14. What writers have been given to the world by Scotland?
15. Where can a visitor to Edinburgh learn more of Scotland's most cherished literary adventures?
16. What are cozy Old Town nooks? What are they best for?
17. What's Elephant House Café famous for?
18. Why did Edinburgh earn the title "The Athens of the North"?
19. Where can one explore centuries of innovations?
20. What does the speaker name an engineering marvel? When was it opened?
21. Where is one of the world's oldest and most important centers of botanical science?

Task 7. Imagine that you work as a guide in Edinburgh, summarize what you have learnt from the text and stroll with a group around the city to explore it even better.

Task 8. Project Work: *Names and Marks in history.*

Find out information on given historical names or events.

Hadrian's Wall

Sir Walter Scott

David Hume

King Arthur

Robert Burns

Alexander Bell

Mary Stuart

Robert Louis Stevenson

JK Rowling

James VI

Charles Darwin

1.7. Cardiff

Pre-reading questions: *What do you know about Wales and the Welsh or, should we say, Cymric? Have you ever seen road signs written in Welsh? Can you guess why the English find it rather difficult to travel around Wales? What connections do the Celts have with the Welsh?*

*“You'll be treated to sweeping vistas of the lush
Welsh countryside”*

Cardiff's Centenary Walk offers a delightful way to dive into the city's captivating history and vibrant culture. This leisurely stroll introduces you to some of Cardiff's most iconic spots, letting you truly absorb its charm on foot.

Start your journey at the awe-inspiring Cardiff Castle, where centuries of captivating history come to life amidst impressive architecture. The nearby National Museum Cardiff beckons with its mesmerizing

treasures, and don't miss catching a show at the renowned Wales Millennium Centre.

As you continue along the Centenary Walk, be enchanted by the fairytale-like Castell Coch, nestled amidst picturesque surroundings. And for some visual delights, check out the Bute Park Sculpture Trail. Plus, a visit to Cardiff Market means diving into the heart of the local culture.

Get ready to travel back in time as you step through the grand gates of Cardiff Castle. This place is oozing with a history that spans over 2000 years! Its majestic facilities, such as the 11th-century Norman Keep and lavish 19th-century staterooms, offer a glimpse into the lives of lords who once ruled Glamorgan county. And guess what? There are even underground tunnels to uncover, shrouded in mystery! Nestled within lush parklands, this iconic landmark holds a significant place in Wales's historical narrative. From its strategic importance during World War II to hosting the Euro 2016 celebrations, the castle has witnessed pivotal moments in history. As you stroll through the imposing walls, each stone whispers a different story, making it an exciting experience for history enthusiasts and casual visitors alike.

Mermaid Quay is an alluring waterfront retail and leisure district that will enchant you with its stunning views and lively atmosphere.

The district's cosmopolitan blend is a magnet for both locals seeking a trendy place to unwind and visitors in search of dynamic cultural experiences amidst their shopping spree. Additionally, don't miss the chance to take in astonishing views of Cardiff Bay while strolling along the Woodland Play Trail or exploring the invigorating Sculpture Trail adorned with outdoor sculptures.

Delve into Cardiff's rich cultural heritage at the St Fagans National Museum of History. Located in the village of St Fagans, this open-air museum allows you to experience centuries of Welsh life and historical architecture. Wander through meticulously preserved buildings,

brimming with engaging artifacts, creating an interactive experience that history buffs will adore.

Known to many simply as "St Fagans", this place isn't just about history; it's a feast for the eyes too. The surrounding landscapes are nothing short of picturesque, adding to the allure of this educational destination. Located in the heart of Cardiff's bustling city center, Cardiff Market is a historic Victorian structure that promises a lively shopping experience for visitors like you. Dating back to the 1700s, this Grade II listed building will envelop you in the city's rich cultural heritage. Its bustling aisles are home to independent shops, quirky cafes, and even the world's oldest record shop (Spillers Records).

From fresh local produce to unique crafts and clothing, the market offers diverse shopping options for every taste. But it's not just about shopping – Cardiff Market also boasts an energetic atmosphere where you can soak up the local vibes and indulge in delicious cuisine.

Castell Coch is an entrancing castle sitting high above a charming village near Cardiff. It's seriously a jaw-dropper! The Marquess of Bute had it built in the 19th century, and the architect, William Burges, totally outdid himself with the Gothic Revival style.

Imagine walking through those grand halls, surrounded by history that goes way back, like over 2,000 years! The Normans originally built it to keep Cardiff safe, and now it's a top-notch tourist attraction. Inside, you'll find lavish decorations, striking stained glass windows, and rooms dripping with elegance and charm. You'll feel like royalty yourself! And the cherry on top? The views from up there are just unreal! You'll be treated to sweeping vistas of the lush Welsh countryside [7].

Task 1. Divide the text among group members. For each part of the text find visuals to support the information (e.g. photos of sights\people\places/etc.) and find at least two more facts about the places and history of the city for each part of the text. Present your

part of the text with visuals and additional facts as if you're walking around the city with your group.

Task 2. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

awe-inspiring

mesmerizing

enchant

enchanted

oozing

lush

pivotal

allure

alluring

stunning

astonishing

invigorating

meticulously

engaging

buffs

bustling

aisles

quirky

Task 3. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. vibrant culture –
2. absorb the city charm on foot –
3. fairytale-like Castell –
4. to dive into the heart of the local culture –
5. majestic facilities –
6. lavish 19th-century staterooms –
7. Wales's historical narrative –
8. pivotal moments in history –
9. history enthusiasts and casual visitors –
10. a district's cosmopolitan blend –
11. shopping spree –

12. meticulously preserved building –
13. the allure of this educational destination –
14. soak up the local vibes –
15. a jaw-dropper –
16. a top-notch tourist attraction –
17. stained glass windows –

Task 4. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. увлекательная история города –
2. неторопливая прогулка –
3. история сочится отовсюду –
4. охватывает свыше 2000 лет –
5. взглянуть на жизнь лордов –
6. окутанный тайной –
7. поворотные моменты истории –
8. модное место для отдыха –
9. украшенный скульптурами со стороны улицы –
10. праздник для глаз –
11. разнообразие возможных покупок –
12. насладиться вкусной кухней –
13. излучать элегантность и очарование –
14. вишенка на торте –
15. любоваться потрясающими сельскими видами –

Task 5. Verbs and prepositions. Phrasal verbs. Study the prepositions which follow each verb. Find the sentences in the text with them, read the sentences out loud and translate them into Russian, give 3 forms for each verb:

to dive into
to beckon with
to continue along
to check out
to step through
to stroll through
to take in

to delve into
to brim with
to soak up
to outdo oneself with
to go back
to drip with
to be treated to

Task 6. Divide the verb phrases among the group members and make up a story. The first student begins with the names and a setting of the story, don't forget to use a verb phrase in your part of the story, try to say less than four sentences.

Task 7. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Перед любым путешествием необходимо *убедиться*, что взял с собой удобную обувь для комфортного *пешего созерцания* очаровательной красоты незнакомого города.

2. Я *бродил* по узким городским улочкам в поисках *модного местечка*, которое *излучало бы элегантность* и *очаровывало* своими интерьерами, а также удивляло бы *изысканной и вкусной едой*.

3. *Погрузись* в атмосферу местных замков и крепостей, и ты *напитаешься местным духом* и *сможешь взглянуть* на то, как жили лорды и крестьяне в этих краях в средние века.

4. *Разнообразие предложенных товаров* в самом *космополитном районе города* привлекает на *шопинг* не только местных жителей, но и многих посетителей из за рубежа.

5. История культуры кельтских народов, проживавших на территории Британии, *охватывает более 2000 лет*, отголоски древней эпохи *тщательно охраняются* Валлийским народом и по сей день.

6. Уэльс – настоящая вишенка на торте для любителей истории, которые стремятся услышать историческое повествование города о жизни кельтов и увидеть места решающих событий в истории этого народа и его потомков своими глазами.

Task 8. Answer the questions:

1. What are some iconic spots in Cardiff that you can explore on the Centenary Walk?

2. How does Cardiff Castle showcase centuries of history and impressive architecture?

3. What historical significance does Cardiff Castle hold during World War II and Euro 2016 celebrations?

4. What attractions can visitors enjoy at Mermaid Quay?

5. What unique experience does St Fagans National Museum of History offer to visitors?

6. What makes Cardiff Market a historic Victorian structure worth visiting?

7. What architectural style is Castell Coch built-in, and who was the architect behind it?

1.8. Belfast

Pre-reading questions: Which historic ship is Belfast famous for its connection to? What do you already know about the story of this ship? If you could visit either an ancient castle, a Victorian prison, or a floating museum, which would you choose and why?

Have you ever wondered what it's like to walk in the footsteps of giants, explore the birthplace of the Titanic, and immerse yourself in the

rhythm of vibrant street art? Here are the best things to do in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Number 13:

Start your Belfast adventure at Belfast Castle, a historic landmark perched 400 ft (121 m) above sea level in Cave Hill Country Park. This captivating site will immerse you in the rich heritage of Northern Ireland while offering breathtaking vistas of Belfast.

Built in the 1860s, it not only boasts a fascinating history but also serves as a sought-after venue for weddings and conferences, adding to its allure. But the castle is just the beginning.

Take the time to wander through the expansive estate surrounding it, where you'll stumble upon ancient archaeological sites and discover a thrilling playground nestled among picturesque walking trails.

Number 12:

Learn about Belfast's rich maritime history at Titanic Belfast. This world-class attraction stands on the very grounds where the legendary Titanic was built, making it a significant part of the city's heritage. No need to worry about being bored here – Titanic Belfast offers nine interactive galleries that will ignite your imagination.

Dive deep into the Titanic's story, from its conception and construction to its ill-fated voyage. There is more to enjoy here! This museum also surrounds you with a waterfront atmosphere and brings the ship-building era to life through dynamic exhibits and historical artifacts.

Take a guided tour for an enlightening experience and gain insights into the tragic sinking of this iconic ocean liner.

Number 11:

Prepare to be enchanted by the SS Nomadic, also known as Titanic's little sister. This historic ship, built in 1911 at Belfast's renowned Harland and Wolff Shipyard, invites you to go on a maritime adventure unlike any other.

Stepping aboard the SS Nomadic, you'll be immersed in a bygone era of luxurious travel and intriguing stories. As you explore its decks, you'll gain insights into over 100 years of social history, discovering the grandeur that once filled its cabins and lounges.

This living relic showcases the excellent craftsmanship of local shipbuilders and preserves the grandeur of the legendary White Star Line. Also, knowing that SS Nomadic was once used in ferrying passengers to the ill-fated Titanic, will add an extra layer of significance to your visit.

Number 10:

Crumlin Road Gaol holds a special allure for history enthusiasts and curious visitors. Dating back to 1845, this magnificent structure, designed by Sir Charles Lanyon, stands as the sole surviving Victorian prison in Northern Ireland.

Step inside this Grade A-listed building, which played a pivotal role during The Troubles in the country. As you traverse its corridors, you'll come face-to-face with the ghosts of famous inmates and soak in the rich historical significance that permeates every nook and cranny.

You will also be engrossed by its enthralling past through guided tours, which have earned this attraction numerous accolades. Brace yourself for gripping tales of daring escapes, dramatic executions, exportations, and even the impact of World War II bombings.

Number 9:

Have a memorable adventure at Cave Hill Country Park, a true haven of natural beauty that will leave you awestruck. You will find this place attractive whether you're seeking thrilling outdoor activities, peaceful moments in nature, or a delightful day out with loved ones.

Take in the astonishing panoramic views of Belfast City and its environment, which make this park a beloved spot in the region. As you venture through the park, you will love its diverse landscapes, from

charming hiking trails that take you through striking natural surroundings to ancient archaeological sites waiting to be explored.

While you're there, take a moment to learn about the park's alluring history, dating back to ancient times, and feel a deep connection to the land.

Number 8:

To enhance your Belfast exploration, make sure to swing by St. George's Market. It's not your average market—it's a vibrant hub of activity that'll tickle your senses and leave you with a smile.

With over 200 stalls to explore, you'll find everything from fresh produce to quirky crafts and antiques. Picture yourself stepping into the market and being greeted by a lively atmosphere, filled with enticing aromas and irresistible sights.

As you wander around, you'll be treated to the sweet sounds of live music that add an extra dash of excitement to your visit. Take a breather and treat yourself to delicious snacks and a hot cuppa while you peruse the wide variety of offerings.

Number 7:

Looking for a more thrilling adventure? Look no further than the Belfast Black Cab Tour! This activity comes highly recommended for a reason. It's not just a tour; it's a journey that immerses you in the rich culture and historical significance of the city. As you hop in one of the iconic black cabs, get ready to be captivated by the stories and insights shared along the way.

Your knowledgeable guide will take you to various murals, including the famous ones on Shankill Road, unveiling the political history that shaped Belfast. But the highlight of the tour is the Peace Wall. Here, you can leave your mark by signing your name, symbolizing peace and unity.

Number 6:

You've got to check out St Anne's Cathedral! It's a true masterpiece, showcasing a harmonious blend of architectural styles like classical and

Gothic. This beautiful cathedral is steeped in history and has become one of the main religious monuments in the city. Wander through its charming cobbled streets and absorb the tranquil atmosphere. Inside, you'll be awestruck by the beautiful craftsmanship and intricate details.

Also, take a moment to appreciate the skill and dedication that went into creating this magnificent structure. To make the most of your visit, plan your trip during the time when St. Anne's Cathedral hosts its regular music concerts and choral performances.

Number 5:

Welcome to Belfast City Hall! This magnificent structure, built back in 1906 when Belfast became a city, is a true testament to the history and culture of this vibrant city. As you approach the building, you'll be greeted by its greatness, surrounded by beautiful green spaces that invite you to relax and take in the atmosphere.

Once inside, you will discover a treasure trove of exhibitions that delve into Belfast's interesting past. You will love to learn about the stories and artifacts that showcase the city's rich heritage. Don't forget to admire the spectacular architecture as you wander through the halls.

Number 4:

Ensure to check out HMS Caroline, an incredible decommissioned C-Class light cruiser from the Royal Navy. What's cool is that the ship adds another layer to Belfast's maritime heritage. They've done an amazing job restoring it and turning it into a floating museum. Seriously, stepping aboard feels like stepping back in time to World War I. Once you step aboard, you will have the chance to explore various historic spaces that are sure to captivate your imagination.

From the Captain's Cabin to the Royal Marines Mess and Seamen's Wash, you will get a glimpse into the daily lives of the sailors who served on this attractive vessel. Additionally, take a moment to appreciate the exceptional engineering found in the engine rooms. It's truly awe-inspiring!

Number 3:

The Ulster Folk Museum & Transport Museums offer a unique way to explore the vibrant heritage of Northern Ireland.

At the Ulster Folk Museum, you will have a glimpse of what the 19th century looked like as you wander through meticulously reconstructed villages, schools, and houses. Don't miss the chance to experience a working farm and witness the daily activities of that time.

On the other hand, the Ulster Transport Museum takes you on a journey through the evolution of transportation. Gaze at vintage cars, trams, and locomotives that once ruled the roads and railways of Ulster. Discover the technological advancements that shaped the way the residents now travel and connect with the world.

Number 2:

If you're looking for a serene getaway, head to Divis and the Black Mountain. These majestic peaks are like a breath _____ away from the city's chaos, treating you to _____ views of Belfast's skyline.

Whether you're _____ or an adventure enthusiast, these mountains will have you _____ no time. Take _____ along the Black Mountain or Divis Mountain walk, and get ready to _____ by the mesmerizing scenery that unfolds before your eyes. Keep your _____ for fascinating wildlife sightings too.

The mix of lush grasslands and heathland bogs only adds to the natural beauty of this place, making it an _____ worth exploring.

Number 1:

Located just _____ Belfast, a day trip to the Gobbins Cliff Walk is a highly recommended.

This revived dramatic cliff walk in East County Antrim offers _____ excitement as you explore nature's _____ and thrills. Carved into the _____ rock on the eastern side of Islandmagee Peninsula, this unique experience allows you to take in Northern Ireland's _____ landscape.

It offers an exciting day trip for everyone, regardless of their hiking _____. Enjoy the beauty of the cliffs, feel _____ of the ocean on your face, and be _____ by playful seagulls along the way [7].

Task 1. Fill in the gaps in passages above with the given words:

Number 2: eyes peeled; a leisurely stroll; of fresh air; idyllic sanctuary; jaw-dropping; a nature lover; hooked in; be spellbound.

Number 1: entertained; gripping beauty; preferences; impressive coastal; 40 minutes from; pulse-pounding; the refreshing mist; towering.

Task 2. Match the headlines with the passages in the text

- a) Divis and the Black Mountain
- b) Belfast City Hall
- c) Gobbins Cliff Walk Day Trip
- d) SS Nomadic
- e) Titanic Belfast
- f) HMS Caroline
- g) Ulster Folk & Transport Museums
- h) Crumlin Road Gaol
- i) St Anne's Cathedral
- j) Belfast Castle
- k) St. George's Market
- l) Belfast Black Cab Tour
- m) Cave Hill Country Park

Task 3. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

perched
archaeological
ignite
intriguing
grandeur
traverse
enthralling

accolades
enticing
mural
unveiling
cobbled
tranquil
choral

Task 4. Match the phrases from the text (1–10) with their definitions (A–J).

1. a sought-after venue
2. to stumble upon
3. a bygone era
4. permeates every nook and cranny
5. a vibrant hub of activity
6. steeped in history
7. a harmonious blend
8. enticing aromas
9. a daring escape
10. a living relic

- A. A place filled with rich historical significance.
- B. A successful but risky act of breaking free.
- C. A popular location for events.
- D. A well-preserved object from the past.
- E. A time period that has passed.
- F. A pleasant mix of different elements.
- G. To find something unexpectedly.
- H. Delicious smells that attract attention.
- I. Spreads completely through a space.
- J. A lively center with lots happening.

Task 5. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. a sought-after venue –
2. to stumble upon –
3. to be enchanted –
4. a maritime adventure –
5. a bygone era –
6. a living relic showcase –
7. a special allure –
8. to permeate every nook and cranny –
9. to be engrossed by –
10. a daring escape –
11. a dramatic execution –
12. an exportation –
13. an astonishing panoramic view –
14. to swing by –
15. a vibrant hub of activity –
16. a quirky craft –
17. enticing aromas –
18. an extra dash of –
19. to hop in –
20. showcasing a harmonious blend –
21. to be steeped in history –

Task 6. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Замок Белфаста – популярное место для проведения свадеб благодаря потрясающим видам и историческому очарованию.

2. Гуляя по парку Кейв-Хилл, мы *наткнулись* на древнее археологическое место, спрятанное среди развалин.

3. Посетители часто *очарованы* красотой SS Nomadic, маленькой сестры "Титаника".

4. Титаник Белфаст предлагает гостям *морское приключение*, перенося их в золотой век кораблестроения.

5. Экскурсия по тюрьме Крамли-Роуд – словно погружение в *ушедшую эпоху* викторианского правосудия и наказаний.

6. Ольстерский музей народного быта – *живая выставка реликвий* жизни Северной Ирландии XIX века.

7. Белфастские муралы обладают *особой притягательностью* для туристов, интересующихся политической историей.

8. Аромат свежего хлеба *наполнил каждый уголок* рынка Святого Георгия.

9. Мы *были поглощены* рассказами гида о *дерзких побегах* из тюрьмы Крамли-Роуд.

10. С вершины Кейв-Хилл открывается *потрясающий панорамный вид* на весь город.

Task 7. Answer the questions:

1. What are three major attractions mentioned in the text that are related to Belfast's maritime history?

2. Why is Belfast Castle a popular destination for tourists?

3. What can visitors expect to see and do at Cave Hill Country Park?

4. How many interactive galleries does Titanic Belfast have, and what do they focus on?

5. Why is the SS Nomadic called "Titanic's little sister"?

6. What makes the SS Nomadic an important part of Belfast's history?

7. Why is Crumlin Road Gaol significant in Northern Ireland's history?
8. What kinds of stories can visitors hear during a guided tour of Crumlin Road Gaol?
9. What is special about the Belfast Black Cab Tour, and what famous landmark does it include?
10. What types of products can visitors find at St. George's Market?
11. How does St. Anne's Cathedral combine different architectural styles?
12. What events can tourists enjoy at St. Anne's Cathedral?
13. When was Belfast City Hall built, and why is it historically important?
14. What can visitors explore inside HMS Caroline, and why is it considered a floating museum?
15. How do the Ulster Folk Museum and the Transport Museum differ in what they showcase?

Task 8. Work in pairs. Student A is a tourist visiting Belfast; Student B is a local guide. Using the text, the guide must:

- recommend two attractions;
- use at least five phrases from the vocabulary list in the conversation;
- explain why the tourist should visit these places.

1.9. Birmingham

Pre-reading questions: *Do you know that residents of Birmingham have a special nickname for the city? Can you guess it? When and how did the story of the city begin? Have you ever heard that the settings of*

the Middle-Earth in the novel “Lord of the Rings” were inspired by a real place?

*“And the crossroads, as every traveler knows,
is the most exciting place to be”*

Beneath an ever-evolving skyline is a city where history, craft and innovation flow through graceful streets and canals. Birmingham truly is one of Britain’s great surprises. Birmingham, or Brum as the locals call it, sits in the U.K.’s West Midlands, halfway between London and Liverpool.

Most cities are the product of bricks and mortar, but Birmingham is built on innovation and imagination. Birmingham is a place of constant renewal, yet the city’s people remain ever-proud of their regal history and industrial heritage. Delve into Birmingham’s past at the age-old stronghold of kings and conquerors, Warwick Castle. The story-soaked walls of this medieval fortress date back over 1000 years and have witnessed Birmingham’s steady growth into the powerhouse it is today.

The city itself began in the 12th century as a small market village at the crossroads of Britain’s early trading routes. Merchants and craftsmen brought wealth and knowhow to Birmingham, earning it the title, “The City of a Thousand Trades.” During the industrial revolution, over 170 miles of transport canals were built, that’s more canals than Venice. Water became the lifeblood of a city which would soon boom into the U.K.’s second largest metropolis.

At Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum, get close to the cogs, pistons and pulleys that powered Birmingham during the industrial revolution, then catch a glimpse into the city’s newest technological frontiers. Change has been a constant in Birmingham’s history. Rising from that first muddy crossroads market, is the Bullring, one of the city’s many futuristic retail and restaurant utopias. While Birmingham has redefined

modern shopping, the city remains the proud custodian of traditional hand-crafted riches too.

Wander along canals and parks to the Jewellery Quarter, a thriving urban village which sits at the edge of the city. Goldsmiths began smelting, soldering and selling their wares here in the mid-16th century, fusing the craft into Birmingham's DNA forever. At the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, learn about the riches that Birmingham has brought to the world and witness traditional techniques in perfectly preserved workshops.

After a few pints in the Jewellery Quarter's swanky bars and microbreweries, head to Digbeth, the city's bohemian heart and soul. Savor the funky flavors at the Digbeth Dining Club, where artisans simmer, fry and sauté a smorgasbord of innovative goodness. Follow aromas of coriander and cardamom to the Balti Triangle, where innovative Pakistani chefs helped make Birmingham one of the UK's most popular curry hotspots. Birmingham is also the birthplace of one of the world's most beloved confectionary brands. Cadbury World can be found four miles outside of the city, where the pioneering Cadbury Brothers created their worker village of Bournville and large chocolate factory in 1870s.

A banquet of a different kind awaits at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery which exhibits creative treasures from across the ages. One of Birmingham's greatest masterpieces is rendered in brick. Aston Hall was commissioned in the early 17th century by Sir Thomas Holte. Once the high sheriff of Warwickshire, Holte believed that he needed the grandest residence money could buy to show off his power and wealth. Today the structure is a heritage listed reminder of the Birmingham's history of architectural innovation. A few centuries later, Winterbourne House and Garden was built for John and Margaret Nettlefold. This restored estate is now one of the UK's finest examples of an Edwardian arts and crafts villa.

The tradition of architectural innovation continues into the present at the magnificent Library of Birmingham, the perfect place to ignite your imagination. Once your literary passions have been fired up, take the drive to Sarehole Mill, the birthplace of one of the world's greatest stories. J.R.R. Tolkien spent his childhood around this mill, which inspired his fictional realm of Middle Earth, the setting of The Lord of the Rings and other novels.

Whether it's sustenance for the soul, fuel for the mind, or food for the body, Birmingham is sure to satisfy every appetite. From high-end shopping to hand-crafted riches... from the red bricks of history to the gleaming shapes of tomorrow, Birmingham sits forever at the crossroads of a proud past and a future of endless possibilities. And crossroads, as every traveler knows, are the most exciting places to be [7].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

Birmingham

Brum

beneath

evolve

metropolis

Thinktank

frontiers

futuristic

retail

utopias

custodian

thriving

pint

microbrewery

swanky

bohemian

artisan

sauté

smorgasbord

Pakistani

confectionary

banquet

to exhibit

pioneering

banquet

Task 2. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) to delve into –
- 2) stronghold of kings and conquerors –
- 3) to flow through graceful streets and canals –
- 4) the product of bricks and motor –
- 5) to be built on innovation and imagination –
- 6) to bring wealth and knowhow to –
- 7) water is the lifeblood of a city –
- 8) to boom into smth bigger –
- 9) to catch a glimpse –
- 10) muddy crossroads market –
- 11) a swanky bar –
- 12) to simmer, fry and sauté-
- 13) a smorgasbord of innovative goodness –

Task 3. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) место постоянных обновлений –
- 2) промышленное наследие –
- 3) пропитанные историями стены средневековых крепостей –
- 4) маленькая торговая деревня –
- 5) взглянуть на новые технологические границы –
- 6) на перекрестке торговых маршрутов –
- 7) прогуливаться вдоль каналов и парков –
- 8) гордый хранитель традиционных богатств ручного мастерства –

- 9) располагаться на краю города –
- 10) навсегда внедрить мастерство в ДНК Бирмингема –
- 11) следовать за ароматом кориандра и кардамона –
- 12) популярное место для любителей карри –
- 13) демонстрировать творческие сокровища с многовековой историей –
- удовлетворять любой аппетит –
- 14) сверкающее очертание будущего –

Task 4. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Когда-то *маленькая торговая дереvушка* *разрослась* в огромный экономический центр целой страны, а может быть, и всего мира.

2. Считается, что любая столица в мире – *место постоянных изменений*, однако очень важно сохранять *сокровища прошлых веков*.

3. Влюбленные парочки *прогуливаются вдоль каналов и парков*, уличные кафе полны посетителями, привлеченными *ароматами кориандра и кардамона*, в музеях собраны шедевры мировой культуры, и даже *стены жилых зданий хранят в себе историю*. Этот город может удовлетворить аппетит любого искушённого.

4. В ресторанах нашего отеля Вас ожидают завтраки и обеды в формате *шведского стола*.

Task 5. Read and give a brief translation on the given text. Practice reading the text. Be careful with pronunciation and intonation.

In the heart of the bustling city everyone knows that there once was a stronghold of kings and conquerors. This place, with its rich history,

offers more than just stories of ancient battles. As you begin to delve into its past, you see how the city was truly built on innovation and imagination of locals.

Canals that flow through graceful streets demonstrate the city's unique beauty. Water is the lifeblood of the city, and here, it not only sustains life but also inspires possibilities. Over the years, these waters have helped the city boom into something bigger, offering new opportunities for commerce and culture. Old and once muddy crossroads markets, now stand transformed, buzzing with energy and vibrancy.

At every corner, there's the mesmerizing scent of dishes that simmer, fry, and sauté, while creating a smorgasbord of innovative goodness that attracts food lovers. Residents and visitors alike catch a glimpse of the city's dynamic character as they explore its many offerings. Local entrepreneurs have turned old warehouses, the product of bricks and mortar, into thriving hubs of activity. These places bring wealth and knowhow to the community, pushing the limits of creativity and business.

After a long day, visitors can unwind at a swanky bar, sipping on cocktails that reflect the city's modern flair. Here, every structure tells a story, every meal sparks a memory, and every street corner offers a new adventure, ready for anyone willing to explore.

Task 6. Outline the structure of the text in exercise 5 and prepare its plan; follow the main ideas of your plan and give a close-to-text retelling.

Task 7. Answer the questions:

1. How do locals call Birmingham?
2. Where does Brum sit?

3. What's the best place in Birmingham to delve into past age-old stronghold of kings and conquerors? Explain why this place is the best for it.

4. When and how did the city begin itself?

5. How does Brum earn the title "The City of a thousand trades"?

6. Why is Brum compared to Venice?

7. What is a think-tank? Who would be interested in a think-tank and why?

8. What's the Jewellery Quarter? When was the start of this village?

9. Where can a person, who loves jewelry, observe the riches and the workshops?

10. What is bohemian heart and soul of Brum? Why is it called so?

11. Is there a place in Birmingham one can try Pakistani food?

12. What place would you recommend a sweet tooth to visit?

13. Where can a history lover feed his hunger in Brum? What about a book lover? Where can he follow the first literature steps of young JRR Tolkien?

14. Why is the name "Holte" so famous in Brum? Who are John and Margaret Nettlefold?

15. Why do you think Birmingham is one of Britain's great surprises?

16. How do you understand the following: "Birmingham sits forever at the crossroads of a proud past and a future of endless possibilities"?

1.10. Manchester

Pre-reading questions: What is the Industrial Revolution marked by? What features should a city have if it has always been amid new inventions and scientific discoveries? What kind of people would be attracted by the city?

“What Manchester thinks today the world thinks tomorrow”

In the 1800’s Manchester England was the epicenter of the Industrial Revolution. Manchester’s story is often shrouded in the smog and soot of Charles Dickens’ novels, but this is a city with a glorious past, and perhaps, an even a greater future. It’s been said, “What Manchester thinks today, the world thinks tomorrow.” Manchester is a city of firsts. This is the world’s first truly modern city, the place where mankind first split the atom, the birthplace of the first modern computer.

Manchester’s story began here, in Castle field, where the many chapters of the city’s story merge into one. Explore the remains of the Roman fort, built to guard an ancient river crossing. Wander the banks of Bridgewater canal, whose completion in 1761 is regarded as the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. Admire the warehouses and mills which once numbered in the thousands and generated incredible wealth for the city.

While in the background, is Beetham Tower, the symbol of a city once again on the rise. As the city’s fortunes swelled in the 19th century, so too did its civic pride. Manchester’s elite saw their city as the new Venice, and commissioned grand buildings and monuments, taking architectural inspiration from across the ages. Manchester’s crowning glory is its Town Hall, built to rival the great buildings of London. Admire the incredible Victorian Gothic exterior, lavish staterooms, and murals which celebrate the city’s history. This is a building that proclaimed, “this is Manchester, and we’ve arrived!” For two centuries, Manchester’s merchants went on a spending spree, scouring the world in search of cultural treasures to fill their stately homes. Many of these treasures now reside in the city’s museums and galleries.

At the Manchester Art Gallery, explore the works of the Pre-Raphaelites Britain’s first radical art movement and more contemporary works which continue to challenge. At the Manchester Museum, step into a

Gothic Revival time-capsule housing millions of items, from a T-Rex skeleton called Stan, to one of the UK's most important Egyptology collections. This city enjoys a proud philanthropic tradition. Perhaps the city's greatest was Enriqueta Rylands, whose gift to the city was the John Rylands Library. Dedicated to Manchester's largest textile magnate, in the ten years it took to create this neo-gothic masterpiece, the widow acquired 40 000 books and oversaw every last detail a labor of love for her late husband, and the people of Manchester. Manchester has long understood the power of knowledge. In 1653 the Chetham Library became the country's first free public library and has been open to all ever since. Let your fingertips wander the Tudor era shelves, then step into the room where Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx began to write the Communist Manifesto, a work inspired by the crushing conditions the city's workers once endured. Revolution and reform run deep in Manchester's waters. Housed in a restored Edwardian pump house is The People's History Museum, which celebrates those who challenged Britain's rigid political and class systems. Stand before the simple desk where Thomas Paine penned *The Rights of Man*, a book that helped ignite the revolutionary fires in America and France. At the world's oldest surviving railway station, you'll find The Museum of Science and Industry. In the museum's Power Hall, feel the heat and steam that powered the shafts and wheels which once made Manchester the Empire's engine room. From textile looms to locally produced aircraft and motor vehicles, this museum is a both fascinating journey through the city's glory days, and a peek into the future. The Imperial War Museum North is designed to resemble the shards of a world shattered by conflict. Manchester knows well the horrors of war. During the Manchester Blitz, thousands of German bombs rained down upon the city. In typical Mancunian fashion, this museum strips away the pomp and glory of war and reminds us instead, of its human cost. After the 1950s, Manchester's fortunes went into a serious decline and the city was all but written off as a post-industrial basket-case. But in recent decades, the city began to awaken once more, largely

thanks to its youthful creativity. A succession of bands like Joy Division, the Smiths, The Stone Roses and Oasis shook up the foundations of popular music and put Manchester back on the map.

Explore the city's incredible musical heritage in areas like the Northern Quarter, and pick up some rare vinyl along the way. Then head to "The Village" around Canal Street which perfectly encapsulates the Mancunian ideals of tolerance, self-expression and good times. But if there's one source of pride that truly unites this city, it's its two football clubs, Manchester City and Manchester United. In 1968, Manchester United, became the first English club to become European Champions. Today, the club enjoys a global fan base in the millions. Learn more at the National Football Museum in the city center, or better still, time your visit for a match at Old Trafford, Manchester's "Theatre of Dreams" since 1910. Manchester may no longer be England's industrial powerhouse, but it's a city that's never stopped dreaming. Right across the city, daring new projects, innovations and ideas continue to capture the world's attention. In this city of firsts, the only question is, what will Manchester do next [7]?

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

mankind

guard

wander

completion

warehouse

elite

lavish

gothic

proclaim

reside

Raphaelites

skeleton

Egyptology

ignite

succession

vinyl

bomb

Manchester

Task 2. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) расщепить атом –
- 2) создать невероятное богатство города –
- 3) успех города начал приумножаться в 19 веке –
- 4) общественная гордость –
- 5) архитектурное вдохновение всех веков –
- 6) соревноваться с великолепными зданиями Лондона –
- 7) прочесывать мир в поисках сокровищ культуры –
- 8) еще больше современных работ –
- 9) продолжать бросать вызов –
- 10) гордая филантропическая традиция –
- 11) работа, вдохновленная чем-то\кем-то –
- 12) плачевное положение городских рабочих –
- 13) разжечь революционные восстания –
- 14) увлекательное путешествие сквозь прославленные дни –
- 15) заглянуть в будущее –
- 16) осколки разбитого конфликтом мира –
- 17) город начал пробуждаться –
- 18) изобретательность молодёжи –
- 19) вернуть на карту мира –
- 20) музыкальное наследие –
- 21) смелые, новые проекты, инновации и идеи –
- 22) похищать внимание мира –

Task 3. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) to be shrouded in the smog –
- 2) to merge into –
- 3) to be regarded –
- 4) the building proclaimed “this is Manchester and we’ve arrived”
- 5) a spending spree –
- 6) stately homes –
- 7) first radical art movement –
- 8) A Gothic Revival time-capsule –
- 9) to house millions of items –
- 10) rigid political and class systems –
- 11) textile looms –
- 12) motor vehicles –
- 13) reign down upon the city –
- 14) Mancunian fashion –
- 15) to strip away the pomp and glory of war –
- 16) to be written off –
- 17) to shake up –
- 18) to encapsulate the Mancunian ideals of tolerance –

Task 4. Can you tell what sentences are True and False?

- a. Manchester was the birthplace of the first modern computer.
- b. The John Rylands Library was built in honor of Manchester's first mayor.
- c. The People's History Museum is located in a former railway station.
- d. Manchester's Town Hall was designed to be more impressive than London's buildings.
- e. The Manchester Museum houses a significant collection of Egyptology artifacts.

f. Manchester United was the first English club to win the European Championship.

g. The text suggests that Manchester's future is uncertain and bleak.

Task 5. Act out the given dialogue with your partner:

Dan: Hey, Sarah, have you been to the Manchester Art Gallery? I heard they have some amazing works from the Pre-Raphaelites.

Sarah: Yeah, I have. It's an interesting place. You should also check out the Manchester Museum while you're there. They have a T-Rex skeleton named Stan and a huge collection of Egyptian artifacts.

D: Wow, that sounds cool. I didn't know Manchester had such diverse museums.

S: That's not all. Did you know Enriqueta Rylands gifted the city with the John Rylands Library? She was really dedicated to her husband and the people of Manchester when she created it.

D: That's incredible. What about the Chetham Library? That sounds like a pretty important part of Manchester's history too.

S: Definitely. It was actually the country's first free public library. And in The People's History Museum, you can see where Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx wrote their Communist Manifesto after seeing how poorly workers were treated in Manchester.

D: That's definitely a side of history people don't often talk about. I'd love to visit these places next time I'm in Manchester. Speaking of history, do you know which museum has the power hall and showcases Manchester's industrial past?

S: Oh yeah, that would be the Museum of Science and Industry. It's really fascinating to see how much this city has changed over the years.

D: It's amazing how much impact war has on shaping a city too. Have you been to the Imperial War Museum North?

S: Yes, it's designed to look like the shards of a shattered world. But instead of glorifying war, it focuses on the human cost of conflict.

D: That's powerful. It's good that Manchester didn't let itself stay down though. The music scene here is iconic thanks to bands like Joy Division, the Smiths and Oasis.

S: Absolutely. It goes to show that even in tough times, creativity can bring a city back to life.

Task 6. Answer the questions on the text Manchester:

1. Why is Manchester the city of great interest? How do you understand the saying: "What Manchester thinks today the world thinks tomorrow"? Support your opinion.

2. Where did Manchester story begin? What did Romans build there? What is regarded as the beginning of the Industrial Revolution?

3. Describe the Beetham Tower in your own words. What does it look like?

4. What is Town Hall? What kind of buildings are there?

5. Count all museums and galleries which are mentioned. How many of them are there? Can you make a list of them and tell the group what kinds of treasures each of them keeps?

6. What is music for Manchester citizens?

7. What does football mean for the city? Tell about the main football clubs of the city. Where should a football lover go first in Manchester?

8. Why do they say that Manchester never stops dreaming?

9. What fascinated you the most about Manchester? Tell the group about the places to visit in the city. What kind of atmosphere does the city keep? What are your impressions about it?

Task 7. Project Work: *The City of Oxford and Cambridge.*

Imagine you have to choose where to set off for a day trip to Oxford or to Cambridge; find out what city you would like to visit first, make a list of your reasons, discuss your ideas with the group.

Phonetics: the diphthong [ei] (in standard British pronunciation)

Note the pronunciation of the following words:

Cambridge ['keimbridʒ], not ['kæmbridʒ];

Thames, which is [temz], not [teimz].

1.11. Ten UK Landscapes That Took My Breath Away

Scholar Blog

9 May 2019

Whether it's the glens and lochs in Scotland, the rolling hills in Yorkshire, or the gentle (and sometimes not-so-gentle) waves in Cornwall, the UK is filled with landscapes to take away the breaths of even the most difficult to please. Our scholars have been living in and exploring the UK for many months now but what were the specific landscapes that took their breaths away and etched themselves as lifelong memories? Let's find out together.

1. CONQUERING SCOTLAND

Legend has it, Arthur's Seat is one of the possible locations of Camelot – King Arthur's legendary castle. Whilst we have no facts to substantiate this legend, we do know that Arthur's Seat is the main

peak of the group of hills in Edinburgh's Holyrood Park. Formed by an extinct volcano, samples from the peak were taken and dated to 341-335 million years ago.

'The first time I came to visit Scotland, I came to Edinburgh in the middle of winter and I was very impressed by the spectacular natural beauty of the city. We got up early one morning to hike up to Arthur's Seat which is one of the best things I did in Scotland during this trip. Arthur's Seat is the main peak of the group of hills in Edinburgh and the remains of an extinct volcano that erupted 350 million years ago.'

It was surprisingly cold and windy in the early morning and I saw small patches of ice on the road to the top of the hill. However, it was worth the cold, fatigue, and strenuous hike to see Edinburgh from this beautiful vantage point and to feel the fresh air. I looked out at the sun which looked like a giant fireball slowly ascending from the east. The ancient city twinkled under the sunrise and when the sun eventually peaked, the light reached further out dying the sky with the mighty colours of pink and orange before becoming mesmerizingly blue to signify a new day.'

Phuong Anh Nguyen, Vietnam

Standing 1,345 metres tall, Ben Nevis is the highest mountain in the UK and is located in the Scottish Highlands. With an estimated 100,000 ascents each year, it's a popular climbing location however, still one that requires a lot of preparation and physical ability. We recommend always taking special care when taking part in physical activities and not doing more than your body will comfortably allow.

'During my second trip to Scotland, Chevening helped me achieve my dream. I was born in a tropical country where snow is strange and I have harboured a longstanding dream of seeing the snow, holding the snow in my hand, and feeling the cold air that comes with snow.'

I visited Forth William to climb the 1,345 metres to the top of Ben Nevis – the highest mountain in the UK. Luckily, it was a beautiful day with sunshine and endless blue skies.

The landscapes here took my breath away for many reasons. Firstly, I was on my way to the top of the UK, secondly, the hike was highly strenuous and fatiguing, and the biggest reason of all, for the first time in my life, I stood in front of a snowy mountain!

It was so majestic, spectacular, and mesmerising and the closer I got to the peak, the more I was surrounded by the pure white; under my feet, in the sky, in front of me, behind me, on the right, and on the left. It looked like scenes I'd seen in National Geographic – unbelievable! I was tired and I was cold but I was also content – my dream had come true.'

Phuong Anh Nguyen

2. DRAMATIC SHEFFIELD VIEWS

The Peak District is an upland area in the southern end of the Pennines in England. Spanning more than 1,440 km², the area covers much of northern Derbyshire as well as parts of Cheshire, Manchester, Staffordshire, and West and South Yorkshire. We haven't visited the entire area but feel it's probably safe to say there are beautiful landscapes all over the Peak District.

'I'm lucky to be studying in Sheffield, a great city that also has beautiful greenery right on its doorstep. This was taken from one of the most dramatic viewpoints of the Peak District – Mam Tor in Castleton. A few Cheveners in and around Sheffield decided on this day to take a break from our studies and go on a road trip to explore the Peak District. We had a good time walking through many farms, stopping at the local villages, and sampling their delicacies.'

Loshana K Shagar, Malaysia

3. HIDDEN GEMS IN THE UK

The UK has many hidden (and many not-so-hidden) gems dotted throughout the country. Two of these not-so-hidden gems are Ben Nevis in Scotland and Snowdon in Wales. Both offer views that stretch as far as the eyes can see and they are both popular with experienced climbers. Scafell Pike, the highest peak in England, is also a popular choice to climb. The National Three Peaks Challenge is an event which combines the three peaks and challenges participants to climb all three peaks within a 24 hour period.

'There have been a lot of landscapes in the UK that have taken my breath away. Each time I travel within this country, I discover something unique.'

Ben Nevis, the highest peak in Scotland but also the UK at 1,345 metres and Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa), the highest peak in Wales at 1,085 metres are good examples of my trips where I discovered unique views and elements.

With a history dating back many years, every single city, town, and village I have visited are exclusive and are unique. I like being in the UK and I love discovering these hidden gems across the UK.'

Jonibek Rakhmonov, Uzbekistan

4. GROWING INTO A BRIGHTON FRIENDSHIP

Since we started the scholar blogs series almost one year ago, Brighton and especially Brighton seafront/Pier has featured in nearly every blog. This alone shows how captivating a place it is to scholars and how breath-taking it is.

'I have been to quite a few places in the UK over the past 6 months. I could have chosen the lovely UNESCO heritage city of Canterbury, the Sussex countryside, Lewes, or the astonishing Seven Sisters for UK landscape that took my breath away. However, it is the marvellous sunset at Brighton Beach that does so. Every time.'

I'm still unsure what it is exactly that moves me so much about the sunset here, but the truth is that since I arrived in Brighton, it is the moment when I feel most connected to the city and feel happiest. It's also the moment where I can organise my thoughts and chill.

I'm usually accompanied during this time by friends, Cheveners, or others and it is in these moments that I believe we get to know one another better – this is what my picture is about. It is one of my favourites from the dozens I have taken and a very special one. It was my first sunset at Brighton Beach. The picture features Maria from Colombia, Junaid from Pakistan, and Clelia from France. We were sitting in front of the West Pier – now just a poetic background for pictures. We were waiting for the sunset, growing into our friendship, and sharing good laughs.

These are the special moments I will remember from my time in the UK. How breathless I am with every sunset and the moments I share with the amazing people I have met here. '

Emerson Zotti, Brazil

5. NOT BEING BLOWN OFF THE EDGE

Great Cumbrae, the larger of two islands known as The Cumbraes in Scotland and is roughly 2.5 miles long by 1.2 miles wide. It has a population of under 1,400 – smaller than our 2018 cohort of scholars! On a clear day, views from Great Cumbrae can extend as far as Ailsa Craig which is roughly the halfway point to Northern Ireland and even to the edges of Northern Ireland itself!

'These pictures are from my trips to the island of Great Cumbrae and from a hike at Conic Hill by Loch Lomond – both in Scotland.

Great Cumbrae is a small island on the west coast of Scotland, just off the coast of Largs; the nearest township. The island has just under 1,400 inhabitants and the landscape is dotted with stretches of snowy patches and bright green vegetation. In the distance, you're

able to see the snowy hills of Arran with wind turbines overlooking the white mountains.

With a breathtaking landscape littered with small islands that fill the nearby bay, the view from Conic Hill is one to see. From the highest point, you are given a panoramic view of the highland plains and water bodies around the surrounding area. Reaching this point however, means having to withstand the 40 m/s wind which can blow you over the edge.'

Damian Ohienmhen, Nigeria

6. A PLEATED KILT IN THE INNER HEBRIDES

The largest and northernmost of the major islands making up the Inner Hebrides, the Isle of Skye is not always the easiest location in the Scottish Highlands to reach, with access from the mainland limited to either a ferry from Malaig or via the Skye Bridge between the island and Kyle of Lochalsh – both of which may not be operational during high winds.

Once you arrive however, you will be glad you made the journey. Popular attractions include The Storr, Quiraing, Dunvegan Castle, the Fairy Pools, Sligachan, and Kilt Rock amongst many others.

'The Scottish Highlands are widely known for being stunning and people from all over the world come to admire the scenery and hike the mountains here. But me, I'm simply lucky enough to live only hours away from the magic!

In mid-March, my friends and I decided to go on an adventure road trip to the Isle of Skye – the largest island in the Inner Hebrides archipelago. There are beautiful landscapes to be explored in literally every corner of the island. For me, this picture I took on top of the Kilt Rock is simply mesmerising.

The ancient cliff, named for its resemblance to a pleated kilt, emits grace and mystery.

If you are wondering where to go next and explore the UK, Isle of Skye is the place to see. From vivid-coloured mountains and medieval castles to funny-looking cattle (also known as moo floofs and Heilan coos), you will come across panoramas that will take your breath away. Of that, you can be sure!’

Flaka Siqeca, Kosovo

7. HIKING TO THE YORKSHIRE DALES

North of the Peak District is the Yorkshire Dales which is made up of attractive hiking trails, waterfalls, and picturesque villages. The area is still known as being a rural area where agriculture is strong. The dales have something to appease everyone and this contributes to their beauty.

‘The spring term was coming to an end, assignment deadlines were starting to approach, and the stress from this was reaching high levels. So, what better way to deal with it than to happily escape to nature for the day!’

Hiking the Yorkshire Dales and enjoying the stunning landscapes were a fantastic way to keep myself motivated and energised. The impressive landscape of lush dales and windswept hills such as those of the Three Peaks have left permanent memories within me.

Despite the windy day and the fear that it would rain from moment to moment, nothing could stop me walking alongside the river and enjoying the unique viewpoint of the breath-taking waterfall.’

Anxhela Bruci, Albania

8. WINDSWEPT IN SWANSEA

Three Cliffs Bay is on the south coast of the Gower Peninsula in Wales near the city of Swansea. The name comes from the three sea cliffs that extend out into the bay. Close to the beach here, is Pennard Castle which was built in the early 12th century.

'I went to visit the only other Bahamian Chevening Scholar, Therell Smith, in Swansea for a weekend during a time when the weather was exceptional. We planned a weekend of adventures to take advantage of the nice weather... but the weather had other plans. Luckily, that didn't stop us!

We started the journey to Three Cliffs Bay through heavy rain and wind gusts that made the rain sting as it hit our faces. But we didn't care – it made the adventure more adventurous. We approached our destination, and after realising the gravity of the hike down to the bay... well, that stopped us! We decided to take the safe choice of viewing the bay from a distance and captured this photo of almost-Three-Cliffs-Bay. Amazingly, the rain and the fact that I am fighting to stand straight against the wind isn't evident at all in this photo. The view and the landscape here was one of many breathtaking views throughout Swansea.'

D'Andra Johnson, Bahamas

9. WEATHER CYCLES IN THE UK

If there is anything our scholars learn within weeks of arriving in the UK, it's that the weather is not always what they expected. Whether they expect the sun, non-stop rain, or even snow, they are typically both right and wrong. In the UK, the weather can be any of these at any given moment. We can have blaring hot sunshine in October/November, and a month of cold rain in June. Sometimes even on the same day. No matter how much you prepare, you eventually realise you cannot prepare too far in advance.

'This photo was taken at the peak of Dun Na Cuaiche, Inveraray, Scotland. Despite the distance only being 2.5 km, I took 2.5 hours to climb up.

During my ascent, I experienced a range of different weather elements; I was soaked by the rain, slightly frozen by snow, stoned with hail,

beaten by the wind, glided by the fog, and soothed with the sun. It's safe to say, Mother Nature had a field day with me.

The view from the top was incredibly amazing and it reminded me of the picturesque views seen in my Caribbean Island of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. I felt like I was on top of the world. However, I appreciated it even more after the struggle I experienced before getting to the top. I wanted to turn back so many times (the struggle was real folks) but I didn't!

This walk up made me smile as it reminded me of how tough, but totally worth it, my Chevening application was and the joy I felt at the end!'

Kelsey Cambridge, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

10. BEACHES, MOUNTAINS, AND CITYSCAPES

Part of the popular North Norfolk Coast, Sheringham Beach is sandy when the tide is out and covered in pebbles at high tide – one thing remains the same however, it is always beautiful. Nearby, there are independent cafes and tea rooms, a steam railway, a museum, and a golf course to keep you entertained after your visit to the beach.

'Making the most of my year in the UK, I travelled to Sheringham Beach near Norwich from London. It was cloudy when we arrived, but the sun came out as we were strolling along. It's the same with my experience here in UK – pleasant surprises and the sun springing out here and there as we progress through our Chevening journey, making it a beautiful picture at the end of the journey.

On another trip, having left the buzzing London for the Peak District, the sight of sheep everywhere amidst the rolling green hills with no humans in sight was such a welcome break from London which I desperately needed.

But, despite its hectic nature, this photo captured at dusk represents what London is to me – always busy and buzzing, but with a certain beauty, grandiose, and old world charm to it.'

Maven Ten, Malaysia [8]

Task 1. Get acknowledged with the impressions of travellers who got the chance to discover unique places of the UK and share their experience in Scholar Blog. Be ready to give an overview of the information you have read. Follow the plan:

1. Introduction

Hook: Briefly mention the UK's diverse natural beauty and how it leaves visitors in awe.

Source: Reference the Chevening blog as inspiration for the list.

Purpose: Share 10 stunning UK landscapes that highlight the country's scenic variety (mountains, coasts, forests, etc.).

2. Overview of the Landscapes

List the 10 locations (adjust based on the blog's exact list if needed):

The Scottish Highlands – Rugged mountains and dramatic glens (e.g., Glen Coe).

The Lake District – Serene lakes and poetic hills (inspiration for Wordsworth).

Giant's Causeway – Northern Ireland's volcanic hexagonal columns.

Snowdonia (Wales) – Epic peaks like Mount Snowdon and lush valleys.

The White Cliffs of Dover – Iconic chalk cliffs symbolizing England.

The Jurassic Coast – Fossil-rich coastline with unique rock formations.

The Peak District – Rolling moorlands and quaint villages.

The Isle of Skye – Mystical landscapes (Fairy Pools, Quiraing).

The Cotswolds – Idyllic countryside with honey-stone cottages.

The Norfolk Broads – Peaceful waterways and wetlands.

3. Retelling Approach

For each location, include:

Key Feature: What makes it unique (geology, history, culture).

Personal Touch (if inspired by the blog): Quotes or reactions from the author (e.g., “The Scottish Highlands made me feel tiny against nature’s grandeur”).

Practical Tip: Suggest a best time to visit or activity (e.g., hiking in Snowdonia, fossil hunting in Dorset).

4. Structure Options

Option 1: Thematic Grouping

Coastal Wonders: Giant’s Causeway, White Cliffs, Jurassic Coast.

Mountain Majesty: Highlands, Snowdonia, Lake District.

Countryside Charm: Cotswolds, Peak District, Norfolk Broads.

Mystical Escapes: Isle of Skye.

Option 2: Geographic Order

Start in Scotland (Highlands, Skye), move south through England, end with Wales/Northern Ireland.

5. Conclusion

Summary: Reiterate the UK’s natural diversity.

Call to Action: Encourage readers to explore these places or share their own favorites.

Final Thought: Reflect on how landscapes connect people to nature and history.

2. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2.1. Geographical Position and Scenery of the USA

Pre-reading questions. *What other names of the USA do you know? Study the US map (Figure 3. The Map of the United States [9]). Which of the names sound familiar to you? Have you already heard about some of the geographical features or landmarks that are presented? How can the US area be compared with that of other countries?*

The United States is a country in North America, a federal republic of 50 states. Besides the 48 conterminous states that occupy the middle latitudes of the continent, the United States includes the state of Alaska, at the northwestern extreme of North America, and the island state of Hawaii, in the mid-Pacific Ocean. The conterminous states are bounded on the north by Canada, on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south by the Gulf of Mexico and Mexico, and on the west by the Pacific Ocean. The United States is the fourth largest country in the world in area (after Russia, Canada, and China). The national capital is Washington, which is coextensive with the District of Columbia, the federal capital region created in 1790.

The major characteristic of the United States is probably its great variety. Its physical environment ranges from the Arctic to the subtropical, from the moist rain forest to the arid desert, from the rugged mountain peak to the flat prairie. Although the total population of the United States is large by world standards, its overall population density is relatively low. The country embraces some of the world's largest urban concentrations as well as some of the most extensive areas that are almost devoid of habitation.

Relief

The centre of the conterminous United States is a great sprawling interior lowland, reaching from the ancient shield of central Canada on the north to the Gulf of Mexico on the south. To east and west this lowland rises, first gradually and then abruptly, to mountain ranges that divide it from the sea on both sides. The two mountain systems differ drastically. The Appalachian Mountains on the east are low, almost unbroken, and in the main set well back from the Atlantic. From New York to the Mexican border stretches the low Coastal Plain, which faces the ocean along a swampy, convoluted coast. The gently sloping surface of the plain extends out beneath the sea, where it forms the continental shelf, which, although submerged beneath shallow ocean water, is geologically identical to the Coastal Plain. Southward the plain grows wider, swinging westward in Georgia and Alabama to truncate the Appalachians along their southern extremity and separate the interior lowland from the Gulf.

West of the Central Lowland is the mighty Cordillera, part of a global mountain system that rings the Pacific basin. The Cordillera encompasses fully one-third of the United States, with an internal variety commensurate with its size. At its eastern margin lie the Rocky Mountains, a high, diverse, and discontinuous chain that stretches all the way from New Mexico to the Canadian border. The Cordillera's western edge is a Pacific coastal chain of rugged mountains and inland valleys, the whole rising spectacularly from the sea without benefit of a coastal plain. Pent between the Rockies and the Pacific chain is a vast intermontane complex of basins, plateaus, and isolated ranges so large and remarkable that they merit recognition as a region separate from the Cordillera itself.

These regions—the Interior Lowlands and their upland fringes, the Appalachian Mountain system, the Atlantic Plain, the Western Cordillera, and the Western Intermontane Region—are so various that they require further division into 24 major subregions, or provinces.

Climate

Climate affects human habitats both directly and indirectly through its influence on vegetation, soils, and wildlife. In the United States, however, the natural environment has been altered drastically by nearly four centuries of European settlement, as well as thousands of years of Indian occupancy.

Wherever land is abandoned, however, “wild” conditions return rapidly, achieving over the long run a dynamic equilibrium among soils, vegetation, and the inexorable strictures of climate. Thus, though Americans have created an artificial environment of continental proportions, the United States still can be divided into a mosaic of bioclimatic regions, each of them distinguished by peculiar climatic conditions and each with a potential vegetation and soil that eventually would return in the absence of humans. The main exception to this generalization applies to fauna, so drastically altered that it is almost impossible to know what sort of animal geography would redevelop in the areas of the United States if humans were removed from the scene [10].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

conterminous

Washington

Canada

latitude

coextensive

rugged

flat prairie

to embrace

sprawling

interior lowland

abruptly

the Appalachian Mountains

swampy

submerged

to truncate

extremity

Cordillera

commensurate

intermontane

plateau

the Coastal Plain
dynamic
mosaic

fauna
climate
altered

Task 2. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. граничить на севере –
2. по мировым стандартам –
3. плотность населения –
4. городской –
5. кардинально отличаться –
6. в южном направлении –
7. расширяться –
8. Тихоокеанский бассейн –
9. одна третья –
10. прерывистый –
11. заслуживать признания –
12. особые климатические условия –
13. беспощадный / неизбежный –

Task 3. Find the words and phrases in the text that match the following definitions. Use them in the sentences of your own.

1. completely without something
2. to vary between two particular amounts, sizes, etc., including others between them
3. to a fairly large degree, especially in comparison to something else
4. extremely complicated and difficult to follow
5. very strong and powerful

6. additional process or result of breaking smth into separate parts
7. very large or important administrative units
8. plants in general, especially the plants that are found in a particular area or environment
9. to be changed in an extreme way
10. a state of balance, especially between different forces or influences
11. made or produced to copy something natural; not real
12. to change the appearance of an area with smth new

Task 4. Project. Imagine you're planning a road trip across the United States, starting from the Atlantic Ocean and ending at the Pacific Ocean. Your goal is to create a travel itinerary that takes you through at least 10 different states, covering a variety of geographical regions, including mountains, deserts, and coastal areas.

Requirements:

Choose a starting point on the Atlantic coast and an ending point on the Pacific coast.

Identify at least 10 states you'll visit along the way, including their capital cities.

Describe the geographical features of each state, including mountains, rivers, lakes, and deserts.

Plan your route, including the highways and roads you'll take, and estimate the distance and travel time between each stop.

Write a short paragraph about each state, highlighting its unique attractions, landmarks, and cultural experiences.

Tips and resources:

Use online mapping tools, such as Google Maps or Roadtrippers, to plan your route and estimate travel times.

Research each state's official tourism website and travel guides to find unique attractions and experiences.

Consider the time of year and weather conditions when planning your trip.

Don't forget to include rest stops, meal breaks, and accommodations in your itinerary!

Have fun planning your road trip across America!



Figure 3. The Map of the United States

2.2. Washington D.C.

Pre-reading questions: What does the National Mall located in Washington D.C. represent? Where is the nation's seat of federal government situated? Where did Martin Luther King Jr. make his famous 'I

Have a Dream' speech? Have you ever heard of the Smithsonian Institution? What is it renowned for?

Washington D.C., the District of Columbia, is situated on the east coast of the USA, along the banks of the Potomac River. The city has an area of just under 70 square miles, but it surely packs a lot in!

Washington was founded as the nation's capital in 1791. As soon as you land here you get a sense of the power and history that this metropolis represents. Most visitors start at the National Mall, a two-mile green strip often referred to as "The Nation's Front Lawn". Clearly there's no shopping to be done at this Mall. What it does offer is a sweep of the country's most famous monuments and museums, all in one place.

Begin your tour of the Mall at the Zero Milestone, the proposed reference point for distances on all US maps. To the north you'll see America's most famous residence, The White House. To the south stands the Washington Monument. Rising 555 feet, this marble obelisk is the centrepiece of the National Mall.

The US Capitol Building, on top of Capitol Hill, is the nation's seat of federal government. Rest a while by the Reflecting Pool. Surrounded by America's most iconic tributes to its heroes and founding fathers, it's easy to let your mind wander back through the various chapters of America's history.

Nestled in the trees is the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Engraved on its walls are the names of tens of thousands of soldiers who lost their lives in the battlefields of Vietnam.

The nearby Lincoln Memorial is where Martin Luther King Jr. made his famous 'I Have a Dream' speech. Admire the many sculptures and waterfalls at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial further along the Mall.

Across the Tidal Basin, Thomas Jefferson keeps a watchful eye on the White House from his own memorial, built in the style of ancient

Rome. The Mall is also home to many of the nation's Smithsonian buildings. To learn more about this interesting collection of museums and galleries, stop by at the Information Centre in the Smithsonian Institution Building called the Castle.

The whole family will enjoy the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, where you can let your imagination fly high among historic airplanes and spacecraft.

Create your own headlines at the Newseum, an interactive museum dedicated to the world of news media.

The Botanic Garden of the Capitol Building offers an escape from monuments and museums. But the Mall is not the only attraction in D.C.. To explore many attractions outside of the Mall, the convenient Capital Bikeshare system is available all over the city.

In picture-perfect downtown neighbourhoods such as DuPont Circle, browse bookstores by day and try the cafés by night.

Another charming central suburb is Foggy Bottom, named after the fog that rises from the Potomac River.

Here you'll find the Watergate Hotel and the Kennedy Center. Pass Washington Circle to get to Georgetown. With its eighteenth-century buildings, it is the oldest district in D.C., and today university students give it a lively atmosphere.

Wisconsin Avenue and M Street offer many boutique stores and galleries.

North from here is the National Cathedral, one of the largest churches in the United States.

In the nearby Smithsonian National Zoo, the residents are sure to delight monument-weary children.

Another family favourite is the International Spy Museum. Play an undercover agent in an interactive game where nothing is as it seems!

Just across the river in neighbouring Virginia is the nation's most hallowed ground, Arlington National Cemetery. Wander among rows of

tombstones dedicated to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. President John F. Kennedy's final resting place, marked by an 'eternal' flame, is one of the most visited graves.

From Arlington House you can look back over D.C. and its surrounding suburbs. Washington has a lot more to offer than the political buildings and stately monuments that it is so famous for. And no matter how often you've seen these landmarks in the news or in movies, nothing beats the real thing [7]!

Did you know?

Martin Luther King (1928-1968) – a black US religious leader who became the most important leader of the Civil Rights Movement and worked hard to achieve social changes for African-American people. He was known for being a great public speaker, and many people remember his famous speech that starts with 'I Have a Dream'. His speech became the landmark statement of civil rights in America – a dream of all people, of all races and colours and backgrounds, sharing in America marked by freedom and democracy. He encouraged people to try to achieve changes without using violence, and in 1964 he won the Nobel Peace Prize. In 1968 he was shot and killed in Memphis, Tennessee. In the USA there is a national holiday on the third Monday in January to celebrate his birthday.

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) – the third President of the US, from 1801 to 1809, Jefferson was an important member of the Continental Congress and wrote most of the Declaration of Independence. When he was president, the US bought the Louisiana Purchase, and the slave trade officially stopped being legal.

The Smithsonian Institution, also the Smithsonian, – a large group of different museums and scientific institutions in Washington D.C.,

which was established in 1846 using money left by James Smithson, an English scientist.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy (1917 – 1963) – a US politician in the democratic party, also known as Jack Kennedy or JFK, who was the President of the US from 1961 to 1963. He was an extremely popular president, and he planned to improve education, the system of medical care, and the civil rights in the US, although it was Lyndon B/ Johnson who achieved most of these plans after Kennedy's death. In 1961 Kennedy ordered the Invasion of the Bay of Pigs in Cuba, and he was strongly criticised for this. Two years later he was shot in Dallas, Texas, and Lee Harvey Oswald was accused of killing him. Kennedy was very much admired, especially because he was young, wealthy, attractive, and good at speaking in public, and many people say they remember what they were doing when he was shot [11].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

coast

Washington

nation

national

metropolis

tour

iconic

nestled

Vietnam

soldiers

battlefields

nearby

media

cafés

pass

weary

neighbouring

Virginia

cemetery

wander

rows

tombstones

Task 2. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) the city surely packs a lot in –
- 2) to offer a sweep of the country's most famous monuments and museums –
- 3) the proposed reference point for distances –
- 4) to be the centrepiece of –
- 5) iconic tributes to its heroes and founding fathers –
- 6) to let your mind wander back through the various chapters of America's history –
- 7) to be nestled in the trees –
- 8) to be engraved on the walls –
- 9) monument-weary children –
- 10) to play an undercover agent –
- 11) the nation's most hallowed ground –
- 12) nothing beats the real thing –

Task 3. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) внимательно следить за чем-то –
- 2) дайте волю своему воображению –
- 3) предложить возможность отвлечься от памятников и музеев –
- 4) безупречные районы в центре города –
- 5) разглядывать книги в книжных магазинах днем –
- 6) посещать кафе ночью –
- 7) быть названным в честь кого-то –
- 8) придать оживленную атмосферу –

- 9) увидеть достопримечательности в новостях или фильмах –
- 10) пожертвовать жизнью ради своей страны –
- 11) величественные памятники –

Task 4. Fill in the gaps with appropriate prepositions from the text (by, after, from, on, for).

1. He wanted *to escape* _____ the small town where he grew up.
2. Many women *sacrifice* interesting careers _____ their families.
3. Will you *keep* your eye _____ my suitcase while I go to get the tickets?
4. The jeweller skilfully *engraved* the initials _____ the ring.
5. Paul was *named* _____ his grandfather.
6. I prefer travelling _____ day.
7. They have been staying at a wonderful hotel _____ *the coast* with breathtaking views.

Task 5. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Охранник музея внимательно следил за туристами, которые
2. Изучали выгравированные на стене надписи.
3. Не каждый смог бы пожертвовать жизнью ради своей страны.
4. Дайте волю своему воображению и постарайтесь отвлечься от памятников и музеев.
5. Днем мы любим разглядывать книги в книжных магазинах, а вечером мы с радостью посещаем различные кафе и рестораны.
6. То, что вы видели эти достопримечательности в новостях или фильмах, не сравнится с тем, что вы *увидите своими глазами*!

Task 6. Study the following grammar notes, find the sentences in the text with a possessive determiner ('its') and do the task below.

It's or its?

It's is the contracted form of it is or it has:

Can you hear that noise? Where do you think it's (it is) coming from?

It's (it is) nearly the end of the month. It's (it has) gone really quickly.

Its is a possessive determiner (like my, your, his) which we use when referring to things or animals:

Every house in the street has got its own garage.

He joined the New York Tribune (1868), becoming its editor-in-chief and eventually its principal owner (1872–1905) [12].

Fill in the gaps with 'it's' or 'its':

1. _____ not surprising that tourists flock here to see _____ impressive collection of monuments and renowned museums.

2. The city's rich history means _____ full of iconic landmarks and museums, making it the perfect place to explore the country's heritage.

3. _____ not just a statue; _____ a tribute to the nation's most cherished values.

4. Surrounded by America's most iconic tributes to _____ heroes and founding fathers, _____ easy to let your mind wander back through the various chapters of America's history.

5. _____ design was inspired by the monuments that stood as symbols of freedom and strength.

Task 7. Answer the questions:

1. Where is Washington D.C. situated? When was it founded as the nation's capital?
2. What is the National Mall and what does it comprise?
3. What is the top of Capitol Hill famous for?
4. Who is Martin Luther King Jr. and what is he famous for?
5. What does the Smithsonian Institution represent?
6. What makes the process of exploring many attractions outside the Mall convenient?
7. What is Foggy Bottom named after?
8. What is the oldest district in Washington D.C?
9. Where can you find a lot of boutique stores and galleries in Washington?
10. What is one of the largest churches in the United States and where is it situated?
11. Why is Arlington National Cemetery the nation's most hallowed ground? Whose grave is considered to be the most visited one there?

Task 8. Find out additional information on the following. Make a report or a presentation on the chosen topic.

The White House

The National Mall

The Newseum

The Smithsonian Institution

The International Spy Museum

2.3. New York City

Pre-reading questions: What nicknames of New York City do you know? Where are the most iconic symbols of New York located? What street is renowned for the most expensive boutiques in New York? Which borough of New York is considered to be the melting pot?

New York is situated in the Northeast region of the United States of America. Over eight million people call the Big Apple home, and the city attracts up to fifty million visitors a year.

Ever since the Colonists arrived in 1624, New York has been continuously shaped by the waves of immigrants drawn here by the promise of hope, and liberty. Every newcomer arrived with a cultural suitcase that contributed to the sounds, tastes and textures of New York. But it is their dreams which built the city. A city like no other!

New York touches not only the heavens with its mythic skyline, its influence radiates to every corner of the globe. Every street corner it seems, is familiar through documentary, movie and song. New York's straightforward grid system makes it an easy city to explore by foot, taxi, or on its subway, which, just like the city - never sleeps!

In Manhattan's Midtown, you'll find many of The Big Apple's most iconic symbols. The Art Deco-designed Empire State Building is one of the most impressive and endearing skyscrapers ever created. The skyline may have grown up around it, but the view from the 102nd floor is as breathtaking today as it was when it first opened in 1931.

New York has always been a place where "when the going got tough, the tough got going". The Rockefeller Center, a visionary city within a city, rose during the darkest days of the Great Depression. Today, it's still a place of creativity, inspiration and even more incredible views of the city.

Closer to earth is Grand Central Terminal. Step into the Main Concourse, and feel the echo of every tearful farewell and joyous greeting throughout the station's history.

New York has always been the gateway to the Land of the Free, but it is also the city of the spree – the shopping spree! This city is shopaholic heaven, and Fifth Avenue with its eye-popping window displays is the high temple of the retail world.

Times Square – one of the most visited tourist attractions on the planet. Stand here, on the corner of Broadway and Seventh Avenue, and you stand at the crossroads of the world. It's also the place to snap up a half-price ticket to a Broadway show.

New York has been blessed with generous civic spaces. But there is no greater chill-out space in the Big Apple than Central Park, a beautiful 850-acre network of meadows and lakes. This is the place where New Yorkers come to rest, romance, and express themselves.

Over the decades many New Yorkers made it big, and much of that fabulous wealth was reinvested into collecting some of the greatest artworks on the planet. Nowadays, much of this art is available for everyone to enjoy. A walk through the Metropolitan Museum of Art is a walk through 5000 years of humankind's greatest creative moments. The Frank Lloyd Wright designed-Guggenheim is a different kind of walk, one which spirals ever-upward through a dizzying collection of 20th and 21st Century masterpieces.

Newcomers to New York spend much of their time looking skyward, but since the 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, a new attraction gives locals and visitors a chance to pause and bow their heads. The Reflecting Absence memorial and museum honors the 3000 people who lost their lives on that darkest of September days.

New York resonates with the sounds of over 800 language groups, and nothing epitomises this diversity like the city's neighbourhoods. Little Italy packs all the tastes and flavours of Italy into just a couple of

streets, while Soho attracts cool cats and well-heeled bohemians from all over the world. A few streets away, Greenwich Village proudly retains the cafés and bars where creative residents like Bob Dylan first performed before becoming American icons. And then there are the boroughs. Walk across the Brooklyn Bridge to the melting pot of Brooklyn. With its own distinctive neighbourhoods, museums, open spaces – and who could forget Coney Island!

So welcome to New York City, The Big Apple. You've only just been given a bite-sized taste of what this incredible city has to offer. But if you've got an appetite for the very best things that life has to offer, this is the destination for you – there's enough to feast on here for a lifetime [7]!

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

contribute

heavens

mythic

iconic

endearing

skyscrapers

breathhtaking

concourse

echo

tearful

farewell

meadows

acre

decades

metropolitan

spiral

bow

epitomize

Greenwich

Borough

neighbourhood

appetite

feast

Task 2. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) the waves of immigrants drawn by the promise of hope and liberty –
- 2) a cultural suitcase that contributed to the sounds, tastes and textures of New York –
- 3) straightforward grid system makes it an easy city to explore –
- 4) to feel the echo of every tearful farewell and joyous greeting throughout the station's history –
- 5) to be the gateway to the Land of the Free –
- 6) It is also the city of the shopping spree. –
- 7) its eye-popping window displays –
- 8) the high temple of the retail world –
- 9) dizzying collection of masterpieces –
- 10) to give the locals and visitors a chance to pause and bow their heads –
- 11) New York resonates with the sounds of over 800 language groups. –
- 12) Greenwich Village proudly retains the cafés and bars. –
- 13) to give a bite-sized taste of smth –
- 14) There's enough to feast on here for a lifetime! –

Task 3. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) город, не похожий ни на один другой –
- 2) его влияние распространяется на каждый уголок земного шара –
- 3) каждый уголок улицы знаком по документальным фильмам, кино и песням –
- 4) Этот город – рай для шопоголиков. –

- 5) Место, где можно купить билет на бродвейское шоу за пол-цены –
- 6) в Нью-Йорке нет лучшего места для отдыха, чем Центральный парк –
- 7) за несколько десятилетий –
- 8) баснословные богатства –
- 9) смотреть на небо –
- 10) чтить память 3000 человек –
- 11) модники и представители богатой интеллигенции –
- 12) «плавильный котел» Бруклина –
- 13) это место идеально подходит для вас –

Task 4. Find the following idiom in the text, comment on its meaning:

"When the going got tough, the tough got going"

Task 5. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. В Самаре *нет места для отдыха лучше, чем* набережная.
2. Если вы *любите ходить по магазинам*, то Пятая Авеню *со своими потрясающими витринами – это место для вас! Это настоящий рай для шопоголиков!*
3. Новый Орлеан – *один из величайших плавильных котлов Америки.*
4. *За несколько десятилетий* в этом музее была собрана *голов-вокружительная коллекция шедевров* мирового искусства.
5. Вам может показаться, что вы уже бывали здесь раньше, так как *каждый уголок улицы знаком вам по документальным филь-мам, кино и песням.*

Task 6. Study the following grammar notes and translate the sentences below.

Indirect Questions

We use Indirect questions when we ask for information. Indirect questions are introduced with *Could you tell me...?, Do you know...?, I wonder..., I want to know ...etc.* and their verb is in the affirmative.

If the Indirect question starts with *I wonder ... or I want to know ...*, then the question mark is omitted.

Special questions are transformed into the indirect question in the following way:

Who is that woman?	know / I can't remember / Could you tell me /	When do they have dinner?
What does he need?	who <i>that woman</i> is.	I wonder (etc.)
Do you know / I don't know / I	what <i>he needs</i> .	when <i>they have dinner</i> .

Translate the following indirect questions using the vocabulary from the text:

1. Мне интересно, каким образом влияние Нью-Йорка распространяется на каждый уголок земного шара.
2. Вы не подскажете, где находится Бруклинский мост?

3. Вы знаете, что нам лучше посетить после площади?
4. Я не знаю, чем известен Рокфеллер-центр.
5. Мне интересно, где в Нью-Йорке можно походить по магазинам?

General questions are transformed into the indirect question in the following way:

Does Mary speak French?	<i>Do you know / I don't know / I wonder / Could you tell me / Tell me / I can't remember</i>	Mary speaks French.
Are they at home?	<i>IF / WHETHER</i>	they are at home.
Has Nick got a car?	<i>(etc.)</i>	Nick has got a car [13].

Translate the following indirect questions using the vocabulary from the text:

1. Я не знаю, захочет ли он вспоминать о событиях, которые произошли в Нью-Йорке 11 сентября 2001 г.
2. Мне интересно, будет ли открыт музей *Метрополитен*, когда мы приедем в Нью-Йорк?
3. Скажите мне, удалось ли вам *купить билет на бродвейское шоу за полцены*?
4. Я не помню, есть ли в *Нью-Йорке* лучшее место для отдыха, чем *Центральный парк*.
5. Вы не подскажете, планирует ли наша туристическая группа посетить сегодня *квартал «Маленькая Италия»*?

Task 7. Answer the questions:

1. Where is New York situated and when was it founded?
2. What is Empire State Building famous for?
3. What office centre is known as the city within a city?
4. Which tourist attraction is located on the corner of Broadway and Seventh Avenue? Why is it so popular?
5. What is the name of the oldest commuter rail terminal in New York?
6. Which street in New York is considered to be the high temple of the retail world?
7. What place do New-Yorkers associate with the greatest chill-out space in the Big Apple?
8. What New-York museums are mentioned in the text? What is special about them?
9. What happened in New York on the 11th of September in 2001? What were the consequences of it?
10. What is meant in the text by “the melting pot of Brooklyn”?
11. What neighbourhoods of New York are described in the text? What are their distinctive features?

Task 8. Find out additional information on the following. Make a report or a presentation on the chosen topic.

The Empire State Building

The Great Depression

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001

The Melting Pot

2.4. Los Angeles

Pre-reading questions: *Did you know that Hollywood is the district within the city of Los Angeles? What is Union Station located in Los Angeles famous for? Did you know that in Los Angeles you can climb aboard the World War II battleship?*

Los Angeles is situated in Southern California, on the West Coast of the USA. Home to 18 million people, Los Angeles is a collection of distinct cities that rolls out from the dry Santa Monica Mountains to the Pacific Ocean.

L.A.'s sunshine, her entertainment industry and her openness to newcomers and new ideas have made the city a magnet to dreamers. Many of those whose dreams become reality, like Walt Disney and John Paul Getty, poured their wealth back into the city, helping make L.A. one of the great culture capitals of the world.

Downtown Los Angeles is a centre of global business and home to some of the finest examples of American civic architecture. It's also the birthplace of the city. Wander down Olvera Street, one of the oldest surviving areas in L.A., to experience the colours and tastes of Old Mexico.

Just across the road from Olvera Street is Union Station, one of the world's great railway stations. You'll be forgiven if you experience a sense of déjà vu here; Union Station has been featured in almost 30 big-budget movies, including Pearl Harbor and Blade Runner.

Stroll south to Little Tokyo, or J-Town as the locals know it, which is home to Buddhist temples, galleries and museums. While you're there, why not try some super-fresh sushi? After all, the California Roll was invented right here!

Half a mile to the west is the Walt Disney Music Hall. Looking like pieces of sheet music thrown to the wind, this stainless steel wonder is home to L.A.'s Philharmonic Orchestra.

Hail a taxi for the short ride west to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. The one-hundred-thousand-piece collection at LACMA houses works that span the ages, from the classical periods through the edgiest street art.

Right next door is a very different kind of gallery. At the La Brea Tar Pits and George C. Page Museum the remains of incredibly preserved mammals, insects and plants are continually excavated and brought once more into the Californian sunshine.

Heading further west, along Wilshire Boulevard, the aroma changes from the smell of tar pits to money. Welcome to Rodeo Drive, in the heart of Beverly Hills. This is the world's most expensive and exclusive three blocks of shopping. But you don't have to be a star to enjoy Rodeo Drive, most folks are content to window shop.

But there's more to Beverly Hills than just bling! Only a street or two away awaits a world of leafy boulevards and incredible homes and gardens.

Head north to Hollywood, the epicentre of the world's entertainment industry. Track down your favourite star on the historic Hollywood Walk of Fame, and catch a movie at Grauman's Chinese Theatre, the most famous first-run movie theatre in the world.

Take a walk on the wilder side of L.A., to West Hollywood. WeHo is a haven for artists and designers.

As evening falls, boogie on down to Sunset Strip, home to iconic clubs.

Griffith Park is the largest and wildest urban park in America. Here, perched high on the slopes of Mount Hollywood, and offering superb views of L.A., you'll find the Griffith Observatory. Built on land donated

by mining magnate Griffith J. Griffith. Admission to the main building and grounds is still free of charge, according to his wishes.

Universal Studios is the oldest continually running movie studio in America. It features a theme park based around its blockbuster movies and popular TV shows, however the star attraction is the studio tour, which winds its way through acres of sound stages and back lots. And if you have that sense of *déjà vu* again, it's no wonder - some of the sets have been featured in dozens of movies and are still in use today.

20 miles southeast of downtown is Knott's Berry Farm. Originally a berry farm in the 1930's, this theme park has grown into a family favourite with child-friendly rides, short queues and offers a real taste of America's pioneering heritage.

Just down the road, in Anaheim, is Disneyland Park. Since its opening in 1955 over 600 million guests have delighted in seeing Disney's much-loved characters brought to life.

The Port of Los Angeles, the biggest container port in the USA, sits on San Pedro Bay. Climb aboard the USS Iowa, a World War II battleship which saw service in some of the most dramatic episodes in world history.

Nearby at the Aquarium of the Pacific, 500 marine species sway, swirl and dive through the various marine systems of the vast Pacific, from the sun-drenched coast of Baja to the frigid waters of the Arctic.

Long Beach was once the birthplace of California's surfing scene, but a breakwater has now tamed the wild waves, making the beach an ideal destination for families.

From Long Beach, hop aboard a ferry, and take a one-hour trip to Catalina Island. Once the home of otter hunters, smugglers and gold prospectors, these days day-trippers and weekenders are far more interested in working on their golden tans and escaping the frantic pace of the mainland.

Heading west from L.A., Santa Monica is one of the most popular resort towns in the US. Santa Monica epitomises the California lifestyle of sun, sand and the body beautiful! And right at her heart is her iconic pier.

Things get a little funkier just down the coast at Venice Beach. Long the centre of L.A.'s counterculture, Venice is more than just a beach, however. The main attraction here is the promenade. So pull on your inline skates and join the colourful and sometimes bizarre human parade.

After the craziness of Venice Beach, head 5 miles north to the tranquility of the Santa Monica Mountains. The Getty Center houses the extraordinary art collection of billionaire John Paul Getty. Water features prominently throughout the complex, encouraging quiet reflection.

Hire a convertible and follow the scenic Pacific Coast Highway to Malibu; 21 miles of prime Californian coastline scented with salt and coastal sage. Many of L.A.'s stars live in homes that cling to these dramatic hillsides by the Pacific, which is the perfect metaphor for L.A..

A city built on an unshakable optimism and a devotion to creation - both human and natural. Welcome to the City of Angels [7]!

Did you know?

Personal pronoun "She" and possessive pronoun "her" are sometimes used instead of "it" to refer to something, such as a country, vehicle, or ship, that has already been mentioned:

e.g. Look at my new car – isn't she a beauty?

God bless this ship and all who sail in her.

Find more examples in the text.

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

southern

wealth

architecture

wander

Buddhist
wonder
orchestra
epicentre
haven
wind
climb
aquarium
species

Baja
frigid
bizarre
parade
quiet
scenic
scented
epitomize
promenade

Task 2. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) to be a magnet to dreamers –
- 2) to be featured in big-budget movies –
- 3) the aroma changes from the smell of tar pits to money –
- 4) most folks are content to window shop –
- 5) There's more to Beverly Hills than just bling. –
- 6) land donated by mining magnate –
- 7) some of the sets have been featured in dozens of movies –
- 8) to see Disney's much-loved characters brought to life –
- 9) a breakwater has now tamed the wild waves –
- 10) to take a one-hour trip –
- 11) day-trippers and weekenders –
- 12) to be right at the heart of smth –
- 13) to pull on one's in-line skates –
- 14) to encourage quiet reflection –
- 15) prime Californian coastline scented with salt and coastal sage –

Task 3. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) мечты воплощаются в жизнь –
- 2) испытать чувство дежавю –
- 3) поймать такси для короткой поездки –
- 4) охватывать века –
- 5) двигаться дальше на запад –
- 6) пристанище для художников и дизайнеров –
- 7) с наступлением вечера –
- 8) вход в главное здание и на территорию бесплатный –
- 9) аттракционы для детей –
- 10) залитое солнцем побережье –
- 11) сесть на пароход –
- 12) работать над золотистым загаром –
- 13) все становится немного интереснее –
- 14) размещать необыкновенную коллекцию произведений искусства –
- 15) взять кабриолет напрокат –
- 16) город, построенный на стойком оптимизме и преданности творению –

Task 4. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. *С наступлением вечера* туристы направляются в кафе и рестораны.
2. *Все становится немного интереснее*, когда вы, находясь в Лос-Анджелесе, начинаете неоднократно *испытывать чувство дежавю*.

3. Посмотрите не это *залитое солнцем побережье*! Это *настоящий магнит для мечтателей*!
4. Это радует, что *вход в главное здание и на территорию музея по-прежнему бесплатный*.
5. Пирс расположен *прямо в центре* города Санта-Моника.

Task 5. Study the grammar notes and do the tasks below.

Complex Object

Active Voice: to make (заставлять) + noun/ pronoun + infinitive without 'to'

We made him visit this museum.

BUT:

Passive Voice: Noun/ pronoun + to be made + infinitive

He was made to visit this museum.

Translate the following sentences using this grammar structure:

1. Что заставляет вас приезжать в Лос-Анджелес снова и снова?
2. Наши родители заставили туристическую группу ждать их полчаса около входа в галерею.
3. Друзья заставили нас *взять напрокат кабриолет*.
4. Моя племянница всегда заставляет меня ходить с ней в тематические парки с *аттракционами для детей*.
5. Можно сказать, что нас просто заставили *сесть на паром и отправиться в часовую поездку на остров*.

Make the following sentences passive:

1. These day-trippers and weekenders always make me feel jealous.
2. Photographers make their models work on their golden tan.

3. The greatness of Union Station makes it be featured in big-budget movies.

4. Walt Disney makes the tourists admire their much-loved characters brought to life.

5. The extraordinary art collection of billionaire John Paul Getty made me visit the Getty Center.

Task 6. Answer the questions:

1. Where is Los Angeles situated and what is its population?

2. Why is Los Angeles considered to be a magnet to dreamers? What makes it special?

3. What is the name of one of the world's great railway stations that is situated in Los Angeles?

4. What is a common name for Japanese communities in cities and towns outside Japan? What can you see there?

5. What is LACMA and what is it famous for?

6. Which museum exhibits the remains of incredibly preserved mammals, insects and plants?

7. What is the name of the street in Beverly Hills where the world's most expensive and exclusive blocks of shopping are situated?

8. Why is Los Angeles called the epicentre of American Film Industry?

9. What is WeHo?

10. What is Sunset Strip famous for?

11. What is the name of the wildest urban park in America?

12. Why can you experience a sense of déjà vu in some parts of Los Angeles?

13. What is the name of the oldest continually running movie studio in America?

14. What city is Disneyland Park located in? What is special about it?

15. Which battleship located in Los Angeles saw service in World War II?

16. Where can you admire various marine species that sway, swirl and dive through the various marine systems of the vast Pacific?

17. Why is it worth taking a trip to Catalina Island?

18. What is the main attraction at Venice Beach?

19. Where is the Getty Center located and what does it represent?

20. Which sight in Los Angeles attracts you most of all and why?

Task 7. Find out additional information on the following. Make a report or a presentation on the chosen topic.

The Walt Disney Music Hall

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Rodeo Drive

West Hollywood

Universal Studios

2.5. San Francisco

Pre-reading questions: *Did you know that in San Francisco there is one of the largest Chinese communities in the USA? What former maximum-security prison was located on the island in San Francisco Bay? What is the name of an iconic bridge connecting the city of San Francisco to Marin County, California? Do you know that some ancient redwoods of Muir Woods National Monument date back almost 800 years?*

San Francisco is a spectacular, fun city on the central coast of California about 350 miles from L.A. It's bursting with a youthful energy that will guarantee you have an amazing and unforgettable adventure.

On the northern end of the San Francisco peninsula, the city invites you to explore hip neighbourhoods, elegant buildings, beautiful parks and gardens, and enjoy a liberal, relaxed atmosphere. And there's no end of things to see.

Union Square, in the heart of downtown, is San Francisco's finest shopping region. The neighbourhood is famous for wide streets, clanging cable cars and some amazing shopping. And don't forget about the Square itself, which is a great place to sit back, relax and do some serious people-watching.

Just a few minutes north, San Francisco's Chinatown is 8 blocks of bustling activity with storefronts and alleyways selling all manner of strange and exotic goods. One of the largest Chinese communities in the US, San Francisco's Chinatown is filled with exotic sights and sounds and a little bit of eastern mystique.

Less than a mile to the east, the Embarcadero is a busy waterfront roadway that runs right around the port area, with some of San Francisco's most famous landmarks, including Market Street, the Bay Bridge and the San Francisco Ferry Building. Fisherman's Wharf is at the northern end of the Embarcadero and has a great assortment of shops, bars and restaurants, and is right on the bay. Here you can grab a relaxed meal and a cool drink and be entertained by colourful street performers, or just enjoy the views along the waterfront.

A short stroll away is Pier 39 which has some of the best views of San Francisco Bay, and a resident sea lion community that has been basking in the sun at the Pier for more than 20 years.

The island fortress of Alcatraz sits ominously in the bay and is now a popular attraction, with tours departing from Fisherman's Wharf several times a day. Up until 1963, The Rock was home to America's hardest prisoners but where there was once only concrete, steel and barbed wire, there are now gardens and wildflowers. If you listen carefully, the eerie passages and cramped cells still echo with footsteps from the past.

Not far from downtown is the Haight-Ashbury district where Victorian-styled buildings echo with memories of the hippy days of the 60s. There are still many pockets of counterculture where the Summer of Love lives on.

Halfway between Fisherman's Wharf and the Golden Gate Bridge is the Palace of Fine Arts. A survivor from the 1915 Panama-Pacific Expo, and built in the Beaux-Arts style, it's covered in greenery and surrounded by a peaceful lagoon. It's a perfect place for a quiet afternoon stroll.

At more than a thousand acres, Golden Gate Park stretches almost halfway across the peninsula and contains the Conservatory of Flowers and the tranquil Japanese Tea Garden. The park is the perfect place to enjoy the outdoors, or just relax and recharge in some peaceful surroundings.

The Golden Gate Bridge sits majestically over the mouth of the bay, and invites millions of visitors to the city each year. Almost 2 miles long and 750 feet high, the Golden Gate Bridge connects San Francisco to the nearby Marin Headlands. The pedestrian walkway spanning the length of the bridge is a superb way to see sweeping views across the bay and out over the Pacific Ocean.

Baker Beach is located just to the west of the Golden Gate Bridge and has spectacular views across the mouth of the bay to the distant Marin Headlands. It enjoys a reputation as San Francisco's best sandy beach, but the views alone are worth the trip.

Just north of San Francisco in Marin County, the ancient redwoods of Muir Woods National Monument tower up to 260 feet high with some dating back almost 800 years. Local rangers can provide guided tours along pathways that loop through the forest, or visitors can enjoy the hush sounds of nature and explore one of America's natural treasures at their own pace.

On the eastern side of Marin County is the charming bayside hamlet of Sausalito. In its early days it was a small artist colony, but now it's a

relaxed bayside community filled with cafés and art galleries. A short stroll down any street will bring you to some of the most beautiful views across the bay. And over there, in the distance, beckoning like a siren's song is dazzling San Francisco – tempting you back for another taste. A temptation you'll find hard to resist [7].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

San Fransico

northern

peninsula

north

waterfront

wharf

Alcatraz

ominously

concrete

eerie

echo

acres

rangers

pathways

treasures

beckoning

siren

Task 2. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) there's no end of things to see –
- 2) clanging cable cars –
- 3) to do some serious people-watching –
- 4) bustling activity –
- 5) storefronts and alleyways selling all manner of strange and exotic goods –
- 6) to echo with memories –
- 7) to be halfway between smth –

- 8) the pedestrian walkway spanning the length of the bridge –
- 9) local rangers can provide guided tours –
- 10) pathways that loop through the forest –
- 11) to explore one of America's natural treasures at one's own pace –
- 12) the charming bayside hamlet –
- 13) a short stroll down any street –
- 14) to beckon like a siren's song –
- 15) to tempt smb back for another taste –

Task 3. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) полон молодой энергии –
- 2) большой выбор магазинов, баров и ресторанов –
- 3) перекусить в спокойной обстановке –
- 4) в нескольких минутах ходьбы –
- 5) греться на солнышке –
- 6) Алякатрас зловеще возвышается в заливе –
- 7) жуткие коридоры и тесные камеры до сих пор хранят отголоски прошлого –
- 8) очаги контркультуры –
- 9) это идеальное место для спокойной дневной прогулки –
- 10) растянуться почти на половину полуострова –
- 11) отдохнуть и восстановить силы в спокойной обстановке –
- 12) величественно возвышаться над устьем залива –
- 13) прекрасный способ насладиться потрясающими видами –
- 14) одни только виды стоят поездки –
- 15) посетители могут наслаждаться тихими звуками природы –
- 16) искушение, которому вам будет трудно противостоять –

Task 4. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Поверь мне, *одни только виды стоят поездки* на Бейкер-Бич.
2. После многочисленных активных экскурсий мы хотели бы *отдохнуть и восстановить силы в спокойной обстановке*.
3. *Посетителям парка* позволили исследовать *природные сокровища Америки в своем собственном темпе* и насладиться *тихими звуками природы*.
4. Посмотри, как *Алькатрас злоеюще возвышается в заливе*. Его *жуткие коридоры и тесные камеры до сих пор хранят отголоски прошлого*.
5. В *нескольких минутах ходьбы* от площади находится ресторан с местной кухней. Мы можем *пообедать там в спокойной обстановке*.

Task 5. Study the grammar notes and do the tasks below.

“Do you think ... ?” structure

If the second part is a general question, then the question «Как ты думаешь?» is constructed according to the following scheme:

Do you think + direct word order?

e.g.

General Question

Is it Nick's brother?

Do they smoke?

“Do you think...?” Question

Do you think it is Nick's brother?

Как ты думаешь, это брат Ника?

Do you think they smoke?

Как ты думаешь, они курят

[13]?

Transform the following general questions using “Do you think...?” structure.

1. Can local rangers provide guided tours along pathways that loop through the forest?
2. Is Baker Beach located to the west of the Golden Gate Bridge?
3. Is Union Square San Francisco's finest shopping region?
4. Was the Palace of Fine Arts built in the Beaux-Arts style?
5. Does Baker Beach have a reputation of San Francisco's best sandy beach?

If the second part is a special question, then the question «Как ты думаешь?» is constructed according to the following scheme:

Question word + do you think + direct word order?

e.g.

Special Question

Why are they late?

When does he get up?

How many books have they got?

Who does he want to marry?

“Do you think...?” Question

Why **do you think** they are late?

Как ты думаешь, почему они опоздали?

When **do you think** he gets up?

Как ты думаешь, во сколько он встает?

How many books **do you think** they have got?

Как ты думаешь, сколько у них книг?

Who **do you think** he wants to marry?

Как ты думаешь, на ком он хочет жениться?

How is she?

How **do you think** she is?

Как ты думаешь, как она поживает?

Who knows the answer?

Who **do you think** knows the answer?

Как ты думаешь, кто знает ответ?

What is going on there?

What **do you think** is going on there?

Как ты думаешь, что там происходит [13]?

Transform the following special questions using “Do you think...?” structure.

1. Where is the island fortress of Alcatraz located?
2. What activities does Golden Gate Park offer?
3. Why does San Francisco invite tourists to explore the northern end of the peninsula?
4. What is Pier 39?
5. Where can we grab a relaxed meal?

Translate the following sentences using “Do you think...?” structure and the vocabulary from the text.

1. Как ты думаешь, где туристы *смогут насладиться тихими звуками природы*?
2. Как вы думаете, набережная – *подходящее место для спокойной дневной прогулки*?
3. Как вы думаете, почему создается впечатление, что *город полон молодой энергии*?

4. Как вы думаете, где можно найти большой выбор магазинов, баров и ресторанов в Сан-Франциско?
5. Как вы думаете, очаги контркультуры хиппи все еще остались в Сан-Франциско?

Task 6. Answer the questions:

1. Where is San Francisco situated?
2. What is Union Square famous for?
3. What does San Francisco's Chinatown represent?
4. Why is Embarcadero considered to be one of the popular places to visit in San Fransisco?
5. What is the distinctive feature of Pier 39?
6. What did the island fortress of Alcatraz look like until 1963 and what does it look like now?
7. Which district in San Francisco is known as one of the main centres of the counterculture of the 1960s?
8. What is special about Golden Gate Park?
9. Why does the Golden Gate Bridge attract tourists?
10. What place will you visit in San Francisco if you want to loop through the forest and enjoy the hush sounds of nature?
11. Why was the charming bayside hamlet of Sausalito chosen by artists in its early days?

Task 7. Find out additional information on the following. Make a report or a presentation on the chosen topic.

The Prison of Alcatraz

Victorian architecture

The Palace of Fine Arts

The Beaux-Arts style

Muir Woods National Monument

2.6. Chicago

Pre-reading questions: Did you know that Chicago began as a tiny trading post? What is the most widely recognized nickname of Chicago? What is the name of the central business district in Chicago? Did you know the museum that was the home base for Indiana Jones is located in Chicago? What is the name of Chicago's iconic sculpture? Which US President is one of the largest Chicago's parks named after?

Chicago is situated in the Great Lakes region of the American Midwest, in the state of Illinois. Rising from the edges of Lake Michigan, Chicago began as a tiny trading post at the mouth of the Chicago River, and has boomed into a modern global centre of commerce and culture. The Windy City has always been driven by an unshakable optimism and can-do attitude.

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which destroyed half the city, was seized upon as an opportunity for the metropolis to reinvent itself. What followed was the biggest building boom in US history and a skyline that is almost beyond beautiful.

Start your visit in the Loop – the central business district encircled by the 'L', Chicago's elevated train line. The streets within the Loop are a showcase of architecture, from the world's first high-rises, to the cloud-piercing towers of today.

Willis Tower held the title of world's tallest building for almost 25 years. Take the 60-second ride to the Skydeck. On a really windy day you might even feel the building sway a little, but don't panic, it was designed to do just that.

The Loop also contains some amazing outdoor sculpture and a historic theatre district which makes the area feel like a cross between a museum and a film set.

Running north from the Loop is the Magnificent Mile, where you'll be able to gaze up at even more wonders from the Chicago School of architecture. Looking a little out of place is the Old Water Tower, a lone, but much-loved survivor from the Chicago Fire.

Shop until you drop in the upscale boutiques which line the Magnificent Mile's wide boulevards.

And when it's time to refuel, sink your teeth into a deep dish pizza – an Old Chicago favourite.

Following the south bank of the Chicago River and winding between the canyons of glass and steel, the Riverwalk offers a relaxing change of pace from the downtown bustle.

Still within the Loop is Millennium Park. Once the site of railway yards and car parks, the area has been transformed into what critics have hailed as 'the future of parks'. The centrepieces of this visionary space are the Frank Gehry-designed Jay Pritzker Pavilion and the BP Footbridge. The park showcases a number of public sculptures, including a futuristic stainless steel archway to the city, Cloud Gate, or as it's affectionately known to locals - 'The Bean'.

Just across the road is the Art Institute of Chicago which exterior is a work of art in itself. Set aside at least a day to explore this treasure-house of European, American and Asian masterpieces.

There are plenty of treasures to be found outside the Loop. Just to the west is one of Chicago's hidden gems, the Garfield Park Conservatory, an inner-city haven for nature lovers and a first-date favourite for Chicago couples.

In nearby Oak Park, step inside Frank Lloyd Wright's home and studio, where for 20 years he pioneered an entirely new architectural vision for America. Unity Temple is just a short stroll away. Completed in 1908, this Lloyd Wright masterpiece is widely regarded as the world's first modern building.

While you're in Oak Park, stop by the birthplace of one of Chicago's most famous sons, Ernest Hemingway. In the nearby museum, fans of the novelist can read from his childhood diary and original manuscripts.

Down by the Loop's waterfront, the historic Navy Pier offers entertainment for all ages. The pier is also the place to climb aboard one of the many lake and river cruises on offer.

Just south of Navy Pier, The Field Museum houses over 20 million specimens from the world of natural history. Say hello to Sue, the largest and most intact skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus Rex ever unearthed. The museum might look a little familiar, after all, it was the home base for Indiana Jones in the blockbuster movie series.

A little further south along the waterfront you'll find the Museum of Science and Industry – known by generations of school children as 'the best field trip ever!'. Here you'll get to explore the inner workings of man and machine, and discover the secrets of natural phenomena like tornadoes, lightning and avalanches.

Chicago's largest green space is Lincoln Park, a seven mile stretch of shoreline which runs north from the Loop. It's home to nature reserves, a conservatory, and monuments to many of the nation's heroes, including the park's namesake – Abraham Lincoln. The park also features the Lincoln Park Zoo which has been entertaining and educating visitors since 1868. The zoo features two sections specifically designed for children, and best of all it's free.

The park is also home to the Chicago History Museum. From gangsters to baseball, this is the place to visit if you really want to know what makes this unique city tick.

As the sun sets, Chicago truly lights up. But don't plan on going to bed early, the city offers some of the best jazz, blues and theatre in America.

So come on over to Chicago, the memories you'll take away will last a lifetime - no matter how hard the wind blows [7].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

Chicago

Illinois

Michigan

commerce

seize

metropolis

architecture

winding

futuristic

treasure

haven

oak

waterfront

pioneer

cruises

specimens

unearthed

phenomena

tornado

avalanches

conservatory

blues

Task 2. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) a showcase of architecture –
- 2) a much-loved survivor –
- 3) when it's time to refuel –
- 4) to sink one's teeth into a deep dish pizza –
- 5) to offer a relaxing change of pace from the downtown bustle –
- 6) the centrepieces of this visionary space –
- 7) to explore the treasure-house of European, American and Asian masterpieces –
- 8) an inner-city haven for nature lovers –
- 9) to pioneer an entirely new architectural vision for America –
- 10) the museum houses over 20 million specimens –
- 11) 'the best field trip ever' –

- 12) the park's namesake –
- 13) Chicago truly lights up –

Task 3. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) превратиться в современный мировой центр торговли и культуры –
- 2) движимый непоколебимым оптимизмом и уверенностью в своих силах –
- 3) нечто среднее между музеем и съемочной площадкой –
- 4) совершать покупки до упаду в элитных бутиках –
- 5) в парке представлены многочисленные городские скульптуры –
- 6) выделить хотя бы день –
- 7) скрытое сокровище –
- 8) любимое место для первого свидания –
- 9) открыть тайны природных явлений –
- 10) с заходом солнца –
- 11) воспоминания, которые вы увезете с собой, останутся на всю жизнь –

Task 4. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Правда, что Оранжерею Гарфилд Парка *называют скрытым сокровищем Чикаго*, и она считается одним из *любимых мест влюбленных парочек для первого свидания*?
2. Когда Чикаго *превратился в современный мировой центр торговли и культуры*?

3. Ты тоже считаешь, что это место представляет собой *нечто среднее между музеем и съемочной площадкой*?

4. С заходом солнца Чикаго начинает светиться по-настоящему!

5. Я думаю, что речная прогулка *позволит* нам *немного отдохнуть от городской суеты*.

6. Предупредите нас заранее, когда захотите *подкрепиться*.

Task 5. Study the grammar notes and do the tasks below.

to be worth + smth

Worth is used after verbs such as *be, seem, look* (as a predicative adjective). It means ‘having a particular value’, especially in money:

A: *I wonder how much the house is worth?*

B: *About half a million, probably.*

to be worth + smth/ doing smth

To be worth doing something is a common expression. It means **that something is useful or important enough to do**:

A: *I haven't had a reply to my email to Jane. Is it worth phoning her, do you think?* (Would it be useful to phone her?)

B: *You could try, I suppose. We decided it wasn't worth going all the way to London to buy books we could get on the Internet.*

to be worth it (idiom)

To be worth it means ‘enjoyable or useful despite the fact that you have to make an effort’:

It was a long climb to the top of the hill, but the view from the top was worth it.

Translate the following sentences.

1. Вчера мы до упаду ходили по элитным бутикам, но наши эксклюзивные покупки стоят этого.
2. Этот уголок для любителей природы, расположенный в центре города, стоит посетить!
3. Вам стоит выделить хотя бы один день, чтобы ознакомиться с сокровищницей европейских и американских шедевров.
4. Если вы окажетесь в Чикаго, вам обязательно стоит попробовать пиццу с высокими бортиками!
5. Сколько стоит эта «лучшая в мире экскурсия»?
6. Не жалейте денег на поездку в Чикаго. Воспоминания, которые вы увезете с собой, стоят этого!

Task 6. Answer the questions:

1. Where is Chicago situated? How has it changed over the centuries?
2. What consequences did the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 lead to? Which building was not ruined in the course of the fire?
3. Why is the central business district of Chicago called “The Loop”? What is the peculiar feature of the streets that are within it?
4. What is the Skydeck and what is special about it?
5. Which district of Chicago is famous for its upscale boutiques?
6. What dish should you definitely taste when you are in Chicago?
7. Why is Millennium Park hailed as 'the future of parks'? Which iconic sculpture is located there and what is its dubbed name?
8. Which place in Chicago should the nature lovers visit?
9. What places of interest can you visit in Oak Park?
10. Where can you see the skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus Rex? What is its nickname?

11. What is the Navy Pier? Why is it a must-see on any visit to Chicago?
12. What does the Museum of Science and Industry have to offer?
13. How can you entertain yourself in Chicago at night?

Task 7. Find out additional information on the following. Make a report or a presentation on the chosen topic.

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871

The Art Institute of Chicago

Frank Lloyd Wright

Ernest Hemingway

Abraham Lincoln

2.7. Philadelphia

Pre-reading questions: *Did you know that Philadelphia is considered to be the birthplace of the United States? What is the reason for it? Did you know that Al Capone spent his first prison sentence in Philadelphia? What architectural treasures are located in Philadelphia?*

Philadelphia is located in the Northeast of the United States, in between New York and Washington D.C. The Pennsylvanian city is home to over one and a half million people and is the nation's fifth largest city.

Philadelphia is considered to be the birthplace of the United States. It was here that the nation's Declaration of Independence from Britain was first read publicly back in 1776. The tolling of a two-thousand-pound bell marked the occasion. The bell has since become a symbol of freedom and can be admired in the Liberty Bell Centre.

Philadelphia is also the birthplace of the Constitution, which was debated eleven years later across the road in the State House, which is now the Independence Hall.

America's Founding Fathers walked these Old City streets, and the many heritage buildings in this area are preserved as part of the Independence National Historical Park.

While you are at the National Constitution Centre, take in the rollicking story of prohibition in the Roaring Twenties. Protest against the anti-liquor law was fierce and the many arrests threw the justice system off balance. Perhaps the most infamous bootlegging gangster was Al 'Scarface' Capone, who spent his first prison sentence in the Eastern State Penitentiary in 1929. The notorious mob leader seems to have made himself well at home. Take an audio tour to hear gripping stories that bring the world-famous jail back to life.

To hear more voices from the city's past, head to the African American Museum. Its audiovisual projections and artifact collection are aimed at preserving the heritage of African Americans.

Within Washington Square lies the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution. The city's colonial past is still apparent, but nowadays Philadelphia is a modern city, with plenty of art, shopping and culture.

Do as locals do and explore the city by bike or public transport, or hop on and off a sightseeing bus. Fairmount Park is the city's public backyard. It's great for a walk and it showcases many architectural treasures. Admire outdoor art on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, or check out the Smith Memorial Arch, dedicated to the military heroes of the Civil War. Strike Rocky's pose on the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Set upon a hill, the neoclassical building is one of the largest museums in the country. It has over 200 themed galleries displaying nearly 230,000 paintings, sculptures and objects.

The Please Touch Museum means play time for the kids. Even toddlers will love this hands-on museum, where they are never hushed. Who doesn't want to get lost in Wonderland for a while? The interactive displays in the museum are fun and educational.

Children can also learn a great deal in the Academy of Natural Sciences on Logan Square. Admire the displays of the various species that roam the far North and take the opportunity to pet live animals. For more interaction with animals visit the Philadelphia Zoo across the river. Imitate the monkeys, encounter big birds, or admire any of the other wild residents of America's oldest zoo.

To sample the local food, head straight to the old Reading Terminal Market. Find out why the locals love their Cheesesteaks so much, or handpick deli treats from the colorful stalls. For more culinary discoveries visit Philadelphia's Italian Market on Ninth Street. The district's Italian community was established in the 1880s. Their love for quality food and organic produce still prevails today.

Philadelphia's climate is very pleasant in springtime and fall. Those colorful seasons bring out the best of the city, but it's fair to say that Philadelphia is stunning all year round.

Come to Philly any time you like! You'll soon discover why Philly is so cherished by Americans [7].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

Philadelphia

roaring

infamous

notorious

artifact

soldier

prohibition

liquor

penitentiary

audiovisual

tomb

architectural

neoclassical

species

encounter

stalls

produce

academy

roam

deli

culinary

Task 2. Give the Russian equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) the birthplace of the United States –
- 2) to take in the rollicking story –
- 3) infamous bootlegging gangster –
- 4) to hop on and off a sightseeing bus –
- 5) to showcase many architectural treasures –
- 6) a hands-on museum –
- 7) to be hushed –
- 8) to handpick deli treats from the colorful stalls –
- 9) culinary discoveries –
- 10) it's fair to say –
- 11) Philadelphia is stunning all year round –
- 12) to be cherished by Americans –

Task 3. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) звон колокола ознаменовал событие –
- 2) отцы-основатели Америки –
- 3) сухой закон в «ревушие двадцатые» –
- 4) многочисленные аресты вывели систему правосудия из равновесия –

- 5) печально известный глава мафии –
- 6) захватывающие истории –
- 7) направленный на сохранение наследия –
- 8) любоваться искусством на открытом воздухе –
- 9) тематические галереи, в которых представлены картины и скульптуры –
- 10) попробовать местную еду –
- 11) Их любовь к качественной еде и органическим продуктам сохраняется и сегодня. –
- 12) Эти красочные времена года раскрывают все лучшее, что есть в городе. –

Task 4. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

- 1. *Можно смело сказать, что американцы любят Филадельфию всей душой.*
- 2. *В интерактивном музее “Please Touch” даже маленьким детям разрешено все трогать руками.*
- 3. *Красочные времена года раскрывают все лучшее, что есть в городе. Однако я думаю, вы согласитесь с тем, что Филадельфия прекрасна круглый год.*
- 4. *Если вы хотите узнать захватывающие истории о сухом законе в «революционные двадцатые», то вы можете сделать это в Национальном Центре Конституции в Филадельфии.*
- 5. *Не удивительно, что многочисленные аресты, происходившие во время сухого закона, выводили систему правосудия из равновесия.*

Task 5. Study the grammar notes and do the tasks below.

So that/ in order that or to/ in order to?

We use *so that* and *in order that* to talk about purpose. We often use them with modal verbs (*can, would, will, etc.*). *So that* is far more common than *in order that*, and *in order that* is more formal:

I'll go by car so that I can take more luggage.

We left a message with his neighbour so that he would know we'd called.

We often leave out *that* after *so* in informal situations:

I've made some sandwiches so (that) we can have a snack on the way.

When referring to the future, we can use the present simple or will/'ll after *so that*. We usually use the present simple after *in order that* to talk about the future:

I'll post the CD today so that you get it by the weekend. (or ... so that you will get it ...)

We will send you a reminder in order that you arrive on time for your appointment. (or ... so that you arrive on time ... or ... so that you'll arrive on time...)

***In order to* is a subordinating conjunction.**

We use *in order to* with an infinitive form of a verb to express the purpose of something. It introduces a subordinate clause. It is more common in writing than in speaking:

[main clause] *Mrs Weaver had to work full-time* [subordinate clause] *in order to* *earn a living for herself and her family of five children.*

We all need stress in order to *achieve and do our best work.*

The negative of *in order to* is *in order not to*:

*They never parked the big van in front of the house **in order not to** upset the neighbours.*

NB!

We do not use *for -ing* to say why somebody does something:

*I went into the kitchen **to wash** the dishes. (**not for washing**)[12]*

Translate the following sentences.

1. Чтобы полюбоваться искусством на открытом воздухе, посетите бульвар Бенджамина Франклина.

2. Мы проводим вас до самого старого рынка Филадельфии, чтобы вы могли попробовать местную еду или выбрать понравившийся *деликатес с красочных прилавков*.

3. В бывшем здании тюрьмы создана аудиоэкскурсия для того, чтобы туристы могли послушать захватывающие истории, повествующие о событиях, ранее происходящих в её стенах.

4. Поторопитесь, чтобы не пропустить тематические галереи, в которых представлено около 300 тысяч картин и скульптур.

5. Посетите зоопарк в Филадельфии, чтобы ваши дети смогли полюбоваться дикими обитателями старейшего зоопарка Америки.

6. Для более быстрого передвижения по городу, я планирую взять в аренду велосипед.

Task 6. Answer the questions:

1. Where is Philadelphia situated? Why is it considered to be the birthplace of the United States?

2. What is the name of the most infamous American Prohibition-era gangster? What is his nickname? Why is he connected with Philadelphia? What is the Prohibition-era famous for?

3. Where would you go to if you wanted to see the heritage of African Americans?
4. Which war memorial honouring the soldiers who died during the American Revolutionary War is situated in Philadelphia?
5. What sights can you admire walking in Fairmount Park?
6. Which places would you visit in Philadelphia to spend time with children?
7. Why is it recommended to visit Reading Terminal Market and Italian Market? What is special about them?
8. Which seasons are the best ones to visit Philadelphia and why?

Task 7. Find out additional information on the following. Make a report or a presentation on the chosen topic.

Declaration of Independence

Al 'Scarface' Capone

The Eastern State Penitentiary

The Roaring Twenties

American Revolutionary War

2.8. Houston

Houston is situated near the Gulf of Mexico, on the bayous and shorelines of Galveston Bay. It is the most populous city in Texas and one of the largest cities in the USA. Named after the general who led the territory to independence from Mexico in 1836, Houston began life as tiny outpost in America's old west. Just one hundred and twenty-five years later, the city would become the center for exploring a new frontier - Space. In fact, the first official words transmitted from the Moon's surface were, "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed."

Yet despite Houston's size and star-bound aspirations, this metropolis remains refreshingly down to Earth. And for a city built on the big business of energy, shipping and aerospace, it is surprisingly cultural too. Beneath Houston's downtown skyline, the parklands of Discovery Green are filled with striking public art. While nearby, the Museum District is home to 18 cultural, historic, and science museums, all within walking distance of one another. Here you'll find one of the world's great private art collections. The Menil Collection showcases treasures from antiquity through to the works of modern masters like Picasso, Warhol and Rothko. Displayed simply within this Renzo Piano designed gallery, the collection prides itself on being accessible, friendly and free. Nearby, continue your journey through the artistic ages at the Museum of Fine Arts. While just a few blocks away at the Houston Zoo, come face to face with some of Planet Earth's living treasures. Still within the Museum District is historic Hermann Park, home to the soaring Pioneer Memorial and the Reflecting Pool. If Hermann Park is the place Houstonians go to relax, Memorial Park is the place they go to get active, and back to nature. Set within the park is the Houston Arboretum and Nature Center, over 150 acres of tranquil forest, meadow, and wetlands habitats.

Flowing gently through the heart of Houston is Buffalo Bayou. At its mouth rises the San Jacinto Memorial, marking the site where in just 18 minutes, General Sam Houston's army won the Lone Star State its independence. Nearby, walk the decks of another reminder of past conflict, Battleship Texas. Commissioned in 1914 and serving through the two World Wars, this much-feared, former flagship of the US Navy now serves a much quieter role - as a museum ship.

Houston's most popular ships of all, however, are its spacecraft. Don't miss Space Center Houston, where you'll experience humankind's greatest adventure; from the moon landings, to the International Space Station, and beyond. One of the reasons NASA chose Houston as the center for its spaceflight activities is the almost perfect year-round

weather. But be prepared, it can get hot on the Gulf Coast. When the temperature rises, cool off at Houston's beaches, water-parks and old-school fun fairs. Catch the sea breeze at Kemah Boardwalk which serves up the simple pleasures of yesteryear. Or, hurl through time and space at the Galveston Historic Pleasure Pier. Meet Houston's coolest residents at Moody Gardens: this futuristic complex of pyramids houses an aquarium, rainforest, and discovery center, and is a total celebration of our living planet. When the sun starts to set, take a walk by the gulf. Then refuel on some fiery Tex Mex cuisine, before launching into another day in the brightest star in Texas – Houston [7].

Task 1. Read the text, make notes according to the table (Table 1. A Tour About Houston) and discuss the information with your group.

Table. 1. A Tour About Houston

Houston						
History	Culture	Parks and Nature	Landmarks and Attractions	Space	Weather	Leisure

Task 2. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

Bayous

star-bound

populous

Picasso

the Gulf of Mexico Galveston

Warhol

Bay

Rothko

frontier

treasure

tranquility

Arboretum

soaring

meadow

NASA

site

yesteryear

hurl

fiery

cuisine

launching

Task 3. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text where they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) “орел приземлился” –
- 2) простой / приземленный –
- 3) находясь поблизости –
- 4) всего в нескольких кварталах –
- 5) жители Хьюстона –
- 6) расположенный внутри парка –
- 7) устье –
- 8) играть роль –
- 9) высадка на Луну –
- 10) остыть / охладиться –
- 11) ярмарки –
- 12) морской ветерок –
- 13) через время и пространство –

Task 4. Paraphrase / give synonyms to the following words and word combinations:

On the shorelines; tiny outpost; the first official words transmitted from the Moon's surface; downtown skyline; within walking distance; wetlands habitats; spacecraft; the almost perfect year-round weather; this

futuristic complex of pyramids houses an aquarium, rainforest, and discovery center; to refuel.

Task 5. Find and translate the imperative structures in the last paragraph of the text. Write a similar paragraph encouraging tourists to visit your city.

Task 6. Imagine you are a tourist visiting Houston for the first time. Write a journal entry about your experiences and impressions of the city.

3. EXTRA PRACTICE

3.1. Grammar exercises on articles, comparative and superlative forms of adjectives

Task 1. Study the following rules of using articles with geographical names.

NO ARTICLE:

- 1) The names of continents, countries, cities, states, provinces, villages.
- 2) The names of peninsulas, separate islands and mountains.
- 3) The names of lakes.

DEFINITE ARTICLE:

- 1) Names of the countries which include words like *republic*, *state*, *kingdom*, etc.
- 2) Rivers, straits, channels, canals, oceans and seas.
- 3) Groups of islands.
- 4) Mountain ridges.
- 5) Deserts.

Complete the sentences with the articles where necessary.

1. There are _____ two countries in _____ British Isles: _____ UK and _____ Irish Republic.
2. _____ Great Britain is _____ island, not _____ country. It does not include _____ Northern Ireland.
3. _____ highest mountain in _____ British Isles is _____ Ben Nevis in _____ Scotland.

4. _____ longest river in _____ UK is _____ River Severn (220 miles; 350 km) which flows through both _____ Wales and _____ England.

5. _____ first "humans" arrived in _____ British Isles almost _____ million years ago.

6. _____ Snowdon lily is _____ flower found only in _____ mountains of _____ Wales.

7. _____ USA or t_____ United States of _____ America is _____ second largest country on _____ North American continent - after _____ Canada.

8. _____ Alaska is a bit more than twice _____ size of _____ Texas and four times _____ size of _____ California.

9. _____ Alabama is _____ only state with all _____ major natural resources needed to make _____ iron and _____ steel.

10. _____ Hawaii is _____ only state that is _____ archipelago, _____ chain of _____ islands situated in _____ central Pacific Ocean.

11. _____ Washington is _____ only state named after _____ president, _____ George Washington who was _____ first president of _____ United States.

12. _____ South Dakota is _____ only state that houses _____ geographic center of _____ entire U.S., near _____ town of _____ Belle Fourche.

Choose the correct answers and add articles where necessary.

Crater Lake

North America

Ben Nevis

Yorkshire

English Channel

South Dakota

Pacific Ocean

Wales

Mississippi

North Sea

Severn

Appalachian Mountains

1. What do you have to cross to travel from England to France?....
.....
2. Where is Mount Rushmore situated?
3. Which river flows through the USA?
4. Of which country is Cardiff the capital?
5. Which sea separates England from Europe?
6. On which continent is America situated?
7. Which is the highest mountain in the UK?
8. What ocean separates America from Asia?
9. Which is the longest river in the UK?
10. What lake is the deepest in the USA?
11. What mountains extend from Canada to the centre of the US?...
.....
12. Which is the largest county of the UK?

Task 2. Study the ways of making comparative and superlative forms of adjectives.

COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES

1. One-syllable adjectives – add *-er*: old**ER**, long**ER**.
2. One-syllable adjectives ending in one vowel and one consonant – double the consonant and add *-er*: big**GER**, wet**TER**.
3. One- or two-syllable adjectives ending in *-y* – delete the *-y* and add *-ier*: funn**IER**, friendl**IER**.
4. Adjectives with two or more syllables – put *more* before the adjectives: more interesting, more dangerous.
5. Some irregular adjectives: good – better, bad – worse, far – far-ther/further, little – less.

SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES:

1. One-syllable adjectives – add *-est*: old**EST**, long**EST**.

2. One-syllable adjectives ending in one vowel and one consonant – double the consonant and add *-est*: big**G**EST, wet**T**EST.

3. One- or two-syllable adjectives ending in *-y* – delete the *-y* and add *-iest*: funn**I**EST, friendl**I**EST.

4. Adjectives with two or more syllables – put *the most* before the adjectives: the most interesting, the most dangerous.

5. Some irregular adjectives: good – the best, bad – the worst, far – the farthest/furthest, little – the least.

Study the data and make up 12 sentences with the comparative form of adjectives. You can use any facts from the table (Table 2. Geographical Features of the UK and the USA).

Table 2. Geographical Features of the UK and the USA

	The United Kingdom	The United States
<i>Location</i>	Western Europe, islands - including the northern one-sixth of the island of Ireland - between the North Atlantic Ocean and the North Sea; northwest of France	North America, bordering both the North Atlantic Ocean and the North Pacific Ocean, between Canada and Mexico
<i>Geographic coordinates</i>	54 00 N, 2 00 W	38 00 N, 97 00 W
<i>Map references</i>	Europe	North America
<i>Area</i>	total: 243,610 sq km land: 241,930 sq km	total: 9,833,517 sq km land: 9,147,593 sq km

Table 2 (continued)

	The United Kingdom	The United States
	<p>water: 1,680 sq km</p> <p>note 1: the percentage area breakdown of the four UK countries is: England 53%, Scotland 32%, Wales 9%, and Northern Ireland 6%</p> <p>note 2: includes Rockall and the Shetland Islands, which are part of Scotland</p>	<p>water: 685,924 sq km</p> <p>note: includes only the 50 states and District of Columbia, no overseas territories</p>
<i>Land boundaries</i>	<p>total: 499 km</p> <p>border countries (1): Ireland 499 km</p>	<p>total: 12,002 km</p> <p>border countries (5): Canada 8,891 km (including 2,475 km with Alaska), Mexico 3,111 km</p> <p>note: US Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba is leased by the US and is part of Cuba; the base boundary is 28.5 km</p>
<i>Coastline</i>	12,429 km	19,924 km
<i>Climate</i>	temperate; moderated by prevailing southwest	mostly temperate, but tropical in Hawaii and Florida, arctic in Alaska,

Table 2 (continued)

	The United Kingdom	The United States
	winds over the North Atlantic Current; more than one-half of the days are overcast	semiarid in the great plains west of the Mississippi River, and arid in the Great Basin of the southwest; low winter temperatures in the northwest are ameliorated occasionally in January and February by warm chinook winds from the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains
<i>Terrain</i>	mostly rugged hills and low mountains; level to rolling plains in east and southeast	vast central plain, mountains in west, hills and low mountains in east; rugged mountains and broad river valleys in Alaska; rugged, volcanic topography in Hawaii
<i>Elevation extremes</i>	<p>highest point: Ben Nevis 1,345 m</p> <p>lowest point: The Fens -4 m</p> <p>mean elevation: 162 m</p>	<p>highest point: Denali 6,190 m (Mount McKinley) (highest point in North America)</p> <p>lowest point: Death Valley (lowest point in North America) -86 m</p> <p>mean elevation: 760 m</p>

Table 2 (continued)

	The United Kingdom	The United States
<i>Land use</i>	agricultural land: 71% (2018 est.) arable land: 25.1% (2018 est.) permanent crops: 0.2% (2018 est.) permanent pasture: 45.7% (2018 est.) forest: 11.9% (2018 est.) other: 17.1% (2018 est.)	agricultural land: 44.5% (2018 est.) arable land: 16.8% (2018 est.) permanent crops: 0.3% (2018 est.) permanent pasture: 27.4% (2018 est.) forest: 33.3% (2018 est.) other: 22.2% (2018 est.)
<i>Natural hazards</i>	winter windstorms; floods	tsunamis; volcanoes; earthquake activity around Pacific Basin; hurricanes along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts; tornadoes in the Midwest and Southeast; mud slides in California; forest fires in the west; flooding; permafrost in northern Alaska, a major impediment to development

Make up the superlative forms of the adjectives and adverbs given.

1. The 10 _____ (*high*) mountains in England are all in the Lake District.

2. The 3 km Tay Bridge in Scotland is the _____ (long) bridge in the British Isles.

3. The _____ (*deep*) lake is Loch Morar in Scotland. It's 310 meters deep.

4. The _____ (*small*) city is St. David's in Wales. Less than 2,000 people live there.

5. London Underground is the _____ (*old*) tube network in the world. It opened in 1863.

6. At its _____ (*wide*) the United Kingdom is 300 miles (500 km) across.

7. Mauna Kea, which is located in the Hawaii Islands, is the _____ (*tall*) mountain in the world – technically speaking. Although its visible top is only 4,205 feet above sea level, it measures over 32,000 feet from the seafloor.

8. Death Valley receives the _____ (*little*) amount of rain on the continent and is also the _____ (low) point in the United States, measuring -279 feet below sea level.

9. The US is made up of 50 states, with the _____ (*small*) state being Rhode Island at 1,545 square miles, and the _____ (*large*) being Alaska at 663,268 square miles.

10. Lake Superior, which borders Canada and the United States, is not only the _____ (*big*) of the five great lakes but is also the _____ (*large*) fresh water lake in the world.

3.2. Pronunciation exercises on geographical names

Task 1. Read the article and answer the questions. What do you think about names being so difficult to pronounce? Are there any names like this in your language?

Frome Tops List of Most Difficult to Pronounce Place Names
in the UK

24 September 2019

A market town in Somerset has topped a list of the 10 most difficult-to-pronounce place names in the UK.

Frome is the most mispronounced town in England, according to a team of linguists behind a language learning app. Ballachulish in Scotland, Beaulieu in Hampshire and Woolfardisworthy in Devon also made the top 10. The list's makers said British English was "famous for some of the most confusing pronunciations on earth".

'How do you say?': The Top 10 'most difficult' place names

Frome, Somerset, England
Ballachulish, Highland, Scotland
Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire, England
Omagh, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland
Woolfardisworthy, Devon, England
Beaulieu, Hampshire, England
Bicester, Oxfordshire, England
Ynysybwll, Cwm Clydach, RCT, Wales
Rampisham, Dorset, England
Quernmore, Lancashire, England

Source: Babbal

The name Frome is thought to come from the ancient Brythonic word "ffraw". It means fair, fine or brisk, and describes the flow of the river that runs through the town, which dates to the 7th Century.

Paul Wynne, of Frome Town Council, said the name was most commonly mispronounced as rhyming with "home". He said: "We're not a town that toes the line. Now it seems that even the way we pronounce Frome is different too. Ours is the right way, obviously. We always know who is new to the town by the way they pronounce Frome.

Tourists 'struggle'

"But this is a good thing, as it's easy for us identify and welcome newcomers, who are then immediately part of the community." Kent Barker, owner of Eight Stony Street wine bar and restaurant in the town, said: "It doesn't surprise me at all. We have a lot of tourists who visit in the summer, and certainly the majority struggle with the name. "Probably more the Mediterranean visitors and all the Americans get it wrong. But I love them being here and don't mind what they call it as long as they come and visit Frome."

There are two places in Devon called Woolfardisworthy - both equally difficult to pronounce. Woolfardisworthy in Devon also featured on the list, but which one? There are two places in Devon called Woolfardisworthy.

Woolfardisworthy West - the bigger of the two Woolfardisworthys near Bideford - has adopted the easier to say version of its name Woolsery. However post office manager Andy Fryatt said people sometimes still struggled to pronounce the shortened version. "When you know it and you use it every day, then obviously you wonder why people can't (say it), especially with the shortened version," he said.

Longer name

"Maybe it is just something that gets lost in translation over the telephone, or people just don't hear properly, or they think it is something that is spelt wrong and they are pronouncing it correctly."

The smaller Woolfardisworthy east near Crediton has kept the longer version of its name. The two villages are just over an hour apart, and Alison Evans, who runs two holiday rentals in the village, said people used to get the two places confused. "Thank God for postcodes," she said, adding that sat navs now meant people usually navigated to the correct Woolfardisworthy.

Ms Evans said she had been living there for 25 years, which was not that long in local terms. "When we first arrived people would look at you blankly if you said Woolfarisworthy (phonetically)," she said.

Another place on the list, Babergh in Suffolk, is apparently so hard to pronounce that the district town council is planning to rename it at a cost of £10,000. Council leader John Ward said: "Babergh has a proud history but we know that people from further afield are often unaware of exactly where Babergh is and even struggle over its pronunciation."

The top 10 has been compiled by the creators of language app Babbel. One of its editors, Ted Mentele, said: "British English is famous for some of the most confusing pronunciations on earth. "The main reason that these are difficult to pronounce is that they're not spelled phonetically - there are a lot of silent letters and letters that are pronounced differently depending on where they are in the word. Many people in the UK, particularly locals to these areas, have grown up hearing these names and naturally don't find them so hard to get their tongues around. Others attempt to pronounce them as they're spelled, and without knowing the origins of the word, can get it far from correct [14]."

How to pronounce the place names in the top 10

Frome – "Froom"

Ballachulish – "Ball - a - hoolish"

Godmanchester – 'Godmunchester' (Gumster has also been offered as an alternative, but now little-used, pronunciation)

Omagh – "Oh-ma"

Woolfardisworthy – "Woolzery"

Beaulieu – "Bew-lee"

Bicester – "Bister"

Ynysybwl – "An-is-abull"

Rampisham – "Ran-som"

Quernmore – "Kwor-mer"

Try to find British towns in the wordsearch (Figure 4. Wordsearch) based on the way they are pronounced. If stuck, look at the key at the back of the book!

/'bɑ:kʃər/

/'bʌkɪŋəm/

/'dʌrəm/

/'glɒstər/

/,ɡrenɪʃ/

/'hæmpʃər/

/'lestər/

/,nɒrɪʃ/

/'pɔ:tsməθ/

/reddɪŋ/

/,sɔ:lzbəri/

/tɒtnəm/

/'wɒrɪk/

/,wʊstə/

/'jɔ:kʃər/

Table 3 (continued)

<u>Arkansas</u>	/ˈɑːrkənsoː/		<u>New Hampshire</u>	/ˈhæmpʃər/
<u>California</u>	/ˈkæləˈfɔːrnjə/		<u>New Jersey</u>	/ˈnuː ˈdʒiːzi/
<u>Colorado</u>	/ˈkɒləˈrædoʊ, - ˈrɑːdoʊ/		<u>New Mexico</u>	/ˈnuː ˈmeksɪkoʊ/
<u>Connecticut</u>	/kəˈnetɪkət/		<u>New York</u>	/ˈnuː ˈjɔːrk/
<u>Delaware</u>	/ˈdeləwer/		<u>North Carolina</u>	/nɔːrθ kærəˈlaɪnə/
<u>Florida</u>	/ˈflɒrɪdə/		<u>North Dakota</u>	/nɔːrθ dəˈkəʊtə/
<u>Georgia</u>	/ˈdʒɔːrdʒə/		<u>Ohio</u>	/oʊˈhaɪ.oʊ/
<u>Hawaii</u>	/həˈwaɪ.i/		<u>Oklahoma</u>	/ˌoʊkləˈhoʊmə/
<u>Idaho</u>	/ˈaɪdəhoʊ/		<u>Oregon</u>	/ˈɔːrɪɡən, -ɡən/
<u>Illinois</u>	/ˌɪlɪˈnɔɪ/		<u>Pennsylvania</u>	/ˌpensɪlˈveɪniə/
<u>Indiana</u>	/ˌɪndiˈænə/		<u>Rhode Island</u>	/ˌroʊd- ˈaɪ.lənd/
<u>Iowa</u>	/ˈaɪ.əwə/		<u>South Carolina</u>	/saʊθ kærəˈlaɪnə/
<u>Kansas</u>	/ˈkænzəs/		<u>South Dakota</u>	/saʊθ dəˈkəʊtə/
<u>Kentucky</u>	/kənˈtʌki/		<u>Tennessee</u>	/ˌtenɪˈsiː/
<u>Louisiana</u>	/luɪˈziːənə/		<u>Texas</u>	/ˈteksəs/
<u>Maine</u>	/meɪn/		<u>Utah</u>	/ˈjuːtɑː/
<u>Maryland</u>	/ˈmerɪlənd/		<u>Vermont</u>	/vərˈmɒnt/

Table 3 (continued)

<u>Massachusetts</u>	/ˌmæsəˈtʃuːsɪts/		<u>Virginia</u>	/vəˈdʒɪnjə/
<u>Michigan</u>	/ˈmɪʃɪɡən/		Washington	/ˈwɑːʃɪŋtən/
<u>Minnesota</u>	/ˌmɪnəˈsoʊtə/		West <u>Virginia</u>	/ˌwest vəˈdʒɪn.jə/
<u>Mississippi</u>	/ˌmɪsəˈsɪpi/		<u>Wisconsin</u>	/wɪˈskɒnsɪn/
<u>Missouri</u>	/mɪˈzuəri/		<u>Wyoming</u>	/waɪˈoʊmɪŋ/

3.3. How to Make a Report on the Topic “Cities”

Report

Living in Milton Keynes

(cf. Figure 5. Milton Keynes plan [15])

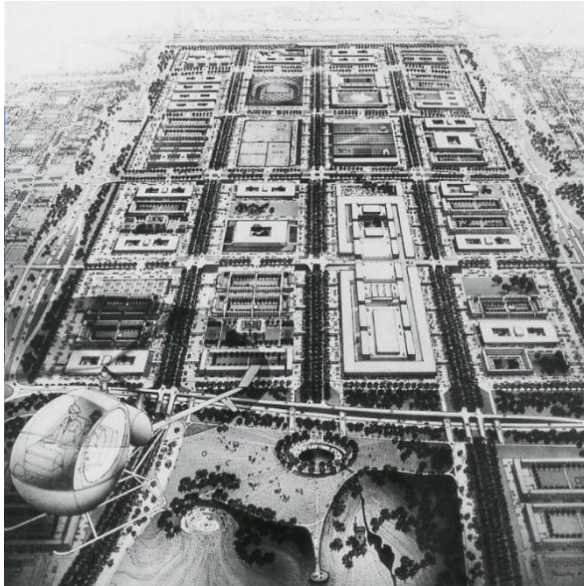


Figure 5. Milton Keynes Plan

Introduction

This report describes the town of Milton Keynes. It gives some information about the history of the town and some of its features and facilities, and includes a personal view of what it is like to live there.

1 _____

In the 1960s, town planners wanted to encourage people to move out of London. Their idea was to create a modern, efficient town with good facilities that would be easy to travel around and healthy to live in. So, the “new town” of Milton Keynes was built in the south-east of England.

2 _____

The town now has a population of around 250,000. Wide, straight roads join the different living districts, with many lakes and green spaces between them. The centre is a business and shopping district. In terms of transport, Milton Keynes is particularly well-connected; it is near the M1 motorway and is mid-way between London, Birmingham, Oxford, and Cambridge.

3 _____

In general, it is a town that is easy to walk or cycle around. For those who enjoy more challenging sports, there are some superb facilities. These include Treetop Extreme, the biggest “high rope” adventure course in the UK, and Snozone, an indoor real snow slope where you can learn to ski and snowboard.

4 _____

Milton Keynes was the first place in the UK to have a multiscreen cinema, and there is also a large concert venue called The Bowl. It has an international orchestra and over 200 works of public art - it is particularly famous for the sculpture of concrete cows.

Conclusion

To sum up, it seems that _____. Some people feel that new towns lack atmosphere and a sense of community, but the majority of residents

here are proud of their town. “Things teird to be more modern and spectacular in Milton Keynes than anywhere else,” says Simon Clawson, who has lived there since he was four years old. On balance, the planners of the 1960s have achieved their aims [16].

Task 1. Read the introduction to the report. What is it going to cover?

Task 2. Read the rest of the report. With a partner, match the headings to paragraphs 1-4.

Activities

Culture

History

Present day

Task 3. Tick (✓) the kinds of information that are mentioned in the main paragraphs of the report.

what the town planners wanted to achieve

transport connections

the cost of accommodation

the size of the town

things to see

the layout of the town

things to do

where people work

Task 4. Choose the best option to complete the conclusion of the report.

some people aren't happy living in Milton Keynes

the new town of Milton Keynes has been a success

Milton Keynes has the best facilities in the UK

Task 5. Match the adjectives used to describe places and their meanings from Table 4. Adjectives.

Table 4. Adjectives

Vibrant	very old; having existed for a very long time
Run-down	not interesting; making you feel tired and impatient
Unspoilt	full of people moving about in a busy way
Touristy	very pleasant or attractive
Neglected	belonging to the present time, modern
Thriving, prosperous, flourishing	containing people of different types or from different countries, and influenced by their culture
Picturesque	having a lot of people or too many people
Derelict	full of life and energy; active and enthusiastic
Crowded	pretty, especially in a way that looks old-fashioned
Charming	attracting or designed to attract a lot of tourists
Shabby	in very bad condition; that has not been taken care of
Bustling	full of life and energy
Cosmopolitan	famous and respected
Overrated	beautiful because it has not been changed or built on
Scenic	given too high an opinion
Boring	rich, strong and successful
Contemporary	(of buildings, clothes, objects, etc.) in poor condition because they have been used a lot
Renowned	(especially of land or buildings) not used or cared for and in bad condition
Ancient	having beautiful natural scenery
Lively	not receiving enough care or attention

Task 6. You have been asked to write a report for an English language magazine on life in a modern city. Plan the content. Decide...

- 1) which city you are going to write about;
- 2) what headings you can use to divide up your report;
- 3) what information to include under each heading;
- 4) the aim and content of the introduction.

Task 7. Write 140-190 words, including an introduction, and three or four paragraphs with headings. Summarize the main point(s) in your conclusion.

Use a neutral / formal style, and use expressions from Useful language.

Useful language

Introductions and conclusions:

This report describes... / The purpose of this report is to...

To sum up / To conclude / In conclusion

To introduce a topic:

In terms of (transport)...

To emphasize sth:

(Milton Keynes) is particularly / especially (well positioned)

To generalize:

In general / Generally speaking,

(it's a town that's easy to walk around) On balance,... / On the whole,...

The majority of / Most (residents)... Things tend to be / are usually...

3.4. The USA Cities Nicknames

Match the city and its nickname based on the description.

New York

Montgomery, Alabama

Phoenix, Arizona

Sacramento, California

San Francisco, California

Los Angeles, California

San Diego, California

Denver, Colorado

Atlanta, Georgia

Honolulu, Hawaii

Chicago, Illinois

Boston, Massachusetts

Nashville, Tennessee

Seattle, Washington

a. City of Angels

*** is widely recognized as the “City of Angels.” This nickname, derived from its Spanish translation, reflects the city’s name and pays homage to its full title, “El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Ángeles del Río de Porciúncula,” meaning “The Town of Our Lady the Queen of Angels of the Porciúncula River.”

b. The Golden City

This nickname pays homage to the city’s historical ties to the California Gold Rush of the mid-19th century, during which the city experienced a rapid influx of fortune seekers in search of gold.

c. The Emerald City

This enchanting nickname pays homage to ***’s lush greenery, surrounded by forests and parks, as well as the city’s eco-conscious initiatives. The title “The Emerald City” conjures images of natural beauty, sustainability, and a vibrant urban landscape nestled in the heart of the Pacific Northwest. ***’s nickname reflects its reputation as a haven for

outdoor enthusiasts, a hub of innovation, and a cultural melting pot where creativity thrives.

d. The Big Peach

*** is playfully referred to as “The Big Peach.” This nickname is a nod to ***’s famous fruit, the peach, and adds a touch of Southern charm and whimsy to ***’s identity. The moniker emphasizes ***’s significance as a major city in the South, known for its rich history, diverse culture, and bustling metropolitan vibe.

e. Beantown

*** is famously referred to as “Beantown.” This endearing nickname dates back to colonial times when *** was a hub for baked beans, a popular dish in the region. The nickname “Beantown” reflects ***’s culinary history, emphasizing its cultural roots and traditions. Over time, it has evolved into a symbol of local pride and identity, capturing the city’s historic charm and vibrant character.

f. The Big Apple

*** state is America’s top apple grower, after the state of Washington, but ***’s nickname has nothing to do with fruit production. In fact, the Big Apple moniker first gained popularity in connection with horseracing. Around 1920, *** newspaper reporter John Fitz Gerald, whose beat was the track, heard African-American stable hands in New Orleans say they were going to “the big apple,” a reference to ***, whose race tracks were considered big-time venues. Fitz Gerald soon began making mention of the Big Apple in his newspaper columns. In the 1930s, jazz musicians adopted the term to indicate *** was home to big-league music clubs. However, it wasn’t until a tourism campaign in the 1970s that the nickname came to be synonymous with ***.

g. Cradle of the Confederacy

*** is often referred to as the “Cradle of the Confederacy.” This nickname reflects ***’s historical significance as the first capital of the Confederate States of America during the Civil War. The moniker underscores the city’s role in the formation and early governance of the Confederacy, highlighting its place in American history during a pivotal period.

h. The City of Trees

*** is often affectionately called “The City of Trees.” This nickname highlights the abundance of trees that line the streets and adorn the parks of ***. It showcases the city’s commitment to urban forestry and its lush greenery, making it a refreshing and vibrant place to live and visit.

i. The Music City

*** has earned the well-deserved nickname “The Music City.” This iconic moniker reflects the city’s deep-rooted connection to music, particularly country music, and its status as a major center for music production and performance. ***’s vibrant music scene, legendary music venues, and rich musical history have solidified its reputation as a cultural hub where artists and music lovers converge. The nickname encapsulates ***’s rhythmic soul, creative energy, and enduring legacy as a mecca for all things musical.

j. Mile High City

*** is commonly known as the “Mile High City.” This nickname stems from the city’s elevation of exactly one mile above sea level, giving it the distinction of being situated at a high altitude. The moniker highlights ***’s unique geographical position and serves as a point of

pride for residents, symbolizing the city's lofty status and setting it apart as a destination that quite literally stands above the rest.

k. The Windy City

*** is famously known as “The Windy City.” This iconic nickname has its origins in the city's reputation for blustery winds that sweep off Lake Michigan, shaping its weather patterns and urban landscape. While the name originally referred to the city's weather conditions, it has come to symbolize ***'s vibrant energy, resilience, and dynamic spirit. The moniker “The Windy City” captures the bustling atmosphere, cultural diversity, and lively pace of life that define this metropolis in the heart of the Midwest.

l. Big Pineapple

*** is sometimes humorously called the “Big Pineapple.” This playful nickname draws a fun parallel between *** and the tropical fruit that is often associated with the region —the pineapple. While not as commonly used as other nicknames for ***, such as the “Crossroads of the Pacific” or “Sheltered Bay,” referring to it as the “Big Pineapple” adds a quirky and light-hearted touch to the city's persona, highlighting its roots and laid-back island vibe in a creative way.

m. Valley of the Sun

*** is often called the “Valley of the Sun.” This nickname captures the city's reputation for its abundant sunshine and warm climate. It reflects the sunny and inviting nature of ***, highlighting its status as a place known for clear skies, bright days, and a warm desert atmosphere.

n. America's Finest City

*** is often affectionately referred to as “America's Finest City.” This nickname encapsulates the city's reputation for its idyllic weather,

stunning coastal views, vibrant culture, and high quality of life. It reflects the overall charm, beauty, and desirability of *** as a top destination in the United States, offering a mix of beaches, parks, attractions, and a laid-back lifestyle that sets it apart as a premier place to live and visit [17].

3.5. The UK Cities Nicknames

Use your background knowledge and try to guess which of the cities the following nicknames belong to.

1. *Cottonopolis, Capital of the North, Rainy City, Warehouse city, The Second City, Mancunia*

- a. Manchester
- b. Wakefield
- c. Milton Keynes

2. *Dear Green Place, Second City of the Empire, Shipbuilding capital of the world, Red Clydeside*

- a. Colchester
- b. Glasgow
- c. Lancaster

3. *Ireland's Second Capital, The World in One City, The Capital of North Wales, The World Capital of Pop, Scouseland*

- a. Norwich
- b. Salisbury
- c. Liverpool

4. *Britain's Detroit, City of Peace and Reconciliation, City of three spires, Motor City*

- a. Coventry
- b. St Albans
- c. Bristol

5. *Energy Capital of Europe, Furryboots City, The Granite City, Oil Capital of Scotland*

- a. Derby
- b. Worcester
- c. Aberdeen

6. *Athens of the North, Auld Reekie (Scots for Old Smoky)*

- a. Edinburgh
- b. Perth
- c. Dundee

7. *The Great Wen, The Smoke / The Big Smoke / The Old Smoke, Moscow on Thames*

- a. Cambridge
- b. London
- c. Bath

8. *Brum, City of a Thousand Trades, Venice of the North, Workshop of the world*

- a. Leicester
- b. Birmingham
- c. Gloucester

9. *Queen of the Midlands, Robin Hood Country, City of Caves*

- a. Canterbury

- b. Portsmouth
- c. Nottingham

10. *Capital of the North, Gothic City, Knightsbridge of the North, London of the North, Motorway City of the Seventies*

- a. Leeds
- b. Plymouth
- c. Westminster

3.6. The UK Geography Quiz

1. Name the highest mountain in the UK.
2. Yr Wyddfa is the Welsh name for what?
3. What is the largest gorge in the UK?
4. What are the white cliffs of Dover made of?
5. Which range of hills is commonly referred to as the ‘backbone of England’?
6. Where the Sperrin mountains can be found?
7. Cairngorms National Park means ‘Blue Hills National Park’ in Gaelic – True or False?
8. What is the name of the interlocking basalt columns found on the coast of County Antrim, Northern Ireland?
9. Scafell Pike is a mountain located in which national park?
10. What is the name of the area of rolling hills mainly found in Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire?
11. Which river runs along the border of England and Scotland?
12. Which two rivers meet in Tewkesbury?
13. Which canal runs from Birmingham to London?
14. Which river is also known as the River Isis in Oxford?
15. Which is the largest lake in the British Isles?

16. Where would you find the highest canal in Britain?
17. What is the name of the largest artificial lake in the UK?
18. What is the longest river in Scotland?
19. The Firth of Forth is a fjord. True or false?
20. Name the sea off the east coast of Britain.
21. In which county will you find Land's End?
22. What is the largest historical county in the UK?
23. In which county will you find Sherwood Forest?
24. East Anglia is home to which two historic counties?
25. In which county would you find the Jurassic Coast?
26. Kirkwall is found in which island county?
27. Name an English county that borders Wales.
28. What is the collective name for the counties closest to London?
29. In which county would you find the town of Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch?
30. In which county would you find Bishop Auckland, Chester-Le-Street, and Barnard Castle?
31. What is the capital of Scotland?
32. What is the second-largest city in England?
33. Croxteth, Kirkdale, and Dingle are areas of which English city?
34. What was the first capital of England?
35. Newport, Bangor, and St. Davids are cities in which country?
36. Douglas is the capital of which island?
37. What is the smallest city by area in the UK?
38. Name a UK city that is four letters long.
39. Which is further west – Bristol or Edinburgh?
40. What is the capital of Wales?
41. Which countries make up Great Britain?
42. In which national park would you find the villages of Brockenhurst, Beaulieu, and Godshill?
43. There is a village in Scotland called Lost. True or false?

44. Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark are collectively known as what?

45. Name the islands just off the coast of Cornwall.

46. Which neolithic site is located near the city of Salisbury?

47. What is the oldest national park in the UK?

48. What does AONB stand for?

49. How many tube lines are there in London?

50. What is the most populous city in Scotland?

51. Which is the largest public park in the UK?

52. Where would you find Britain's only hot springs?

53. What Roman wall was built near the border of England and Scotland?

54. What are 'the Broads' in Norfolk?

a) Inland waterways

b) Hills

c) Canals

d) Marshland

55. What is the largest lake in the Lake District?

a) Ullswater

b) Buttermere

c) Grasmere

d) Windermere

56. What are the Brecon Beacons?

a) mountain range

b) islands

c) waterfalls

d) lighthouses

57. Where in England is the Black Country?

a) Northumberland

b) Yorkshire

c) Midlands

d) Cumbria

58. What are the Fens, found in eastern England?
- a) river valley
 - b) reclaimed marshland
 - c) tin mine
 - d) mountain range
59. What are 'The Needles'?
- a) lowland hills
 - b) freshwater lakes
 - c) row of chalk stacks
 - d) coastal path
60. The Humber estuary is located between which two counties?
- a) North Yorkshire and Lincolnshire
 - b) East Riding and Lincolnshire
 - c) North Yorkshire and Durham
 - d) East Riding and South Yorkshire [18]

3.7. The USA Geography Quiz

1. What is the name of the smallest US state?
2. What ocean borders the state of Florida?
3. What US states share a border with Mexico?
4. What is the name of the longest river in the US?
5. What is the name of the tallest mountain in the US?
6. What is the lowest point of the US?
7. What are the names of the five Great Lakes?
8. What is the name of the flattest state in the US?
9. What two states do not share a border with any other US state?
10. What state is Mount Rushmore located in?
11. What is the name of the largest lake in the US?
12. In what state would you find the North Mojave Desert?

13. What is the coldest state in the US?
14. How many US states share a border with Canada?
15. What is the largest bay in the US?
16. What city is the White House located in?
17. How many time zones are there in the US?
18. Which US state is known as The Garden State?
19. What state has the fewest counties?
20. Which state was purchased from Russia in 1867?
21. What state is known as The Heart of Dixie?
22. What is the name of the only living coral barrier reef in the continental United States?
23. What state is known as The First State?
24. How many total islands does Hawaii have?
25. What state is the Statue of Liberty in?
26. What's the least populated state?
27. What is the largest state in landmass?
28. Which state has the highest population density (people per square mile)?
29. What is the westernmost state capital in the mainland United States?
30. Which two states share borders with eight other states each?
31. What is the deepest lake in the United States?
32. Which popular tourist attraction is Arizona known for?
33. Which animal is featured on the state flag of California?
34. What is the name of Colorado's mountain range?
35. Name the capital of Florida.
36. Name the U.S State nicknamed as "The Land of 10,000 Lakes".
37. Which U.S. state has the highest number of endangered species?
38. Which place has 43 buildings with their own zip code?
39. What is the only state to border just one other state?

40. Which two states donated land for the creation of Washington D.C?

41. Which river flows through the great Canyon?

42. What state is bordered by Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming?

43. Which of the Great Lakes is located entirely within the U.S. border?

44. What national park spreads across Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho?

45. Which river ended up flowing backwards after three earthquakes in the 1800s?

46. What is New York City's nickname?

47. How many large islands make up the main islands of Hawaii?

48. What is the largest island on Lake Superior called?

49. Which two lakes are connected by Niagara Falls?

50. What desert is Las Vegas located in?

51. How many countries does the US share land borders with?

52. What American city is the Golden Gate Bridge located in?

53. What's the third-largest US state?

54. Which mountain range in eastern North America is about 480 million years old?

55. What was the temporary US capital from 1790 to 1800?

56. What state is called 'The First State'?

57. Which National Forest was created across 5 counties in Arkansas by President Roosevelt in 1908?

58. Which state has rivers forming its complete east and west borders?

59. What's the name of the official river of Indiana?

60. Alabama is known as the Yellowhammer State, Heart of Dixie, and the Cotton State. What is a Yellowhammer [19]?

3.8. Check Yourself 1

Answers to the UK Geography Quiz

1. Ben Nevis (stands at 1,345m)
2. Mount Snowdon
3. Cheddar Gorge
4. Chalk
5. The Pennines
6. Northern Ireland
7. True
8. Giant's Causeway
9. Lake District National Park
10. The Cotswolds
11. Tweed
12. Severn and Avon
13. Grand Union
14. River Thames
15. Lough Neagh
16. Wales – the Pontcysllyte Aqueduct in Wrexham
17. Kielder Water in Northumberland
18. River Tay
19. True
20. North Sea
21. Cornwall
22. Yorkshire
23. Nottinghamshire
24. Norfolk and Suffolk
25. Dorset
26. Orkney
27. Cheshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, or Shropshire

28. Home Counties
29. Anglesey
30. County Durham
31. Edinburgh
32. Birmingham
33. Liverpool
34. Winchester
35. Wales
36. Isle of Man
37. City of London
38. Bath, Hull, and York
39. Edinburgh
40. Cardiff
41. England, Scotland, Wales
42. New Forest
43. True
44. The Channel Islands
45. Isles of Scilly
46. Stonehenge
47. Peak District
48. Area of Natural Beauty
49. 11
50. Glasgow
51. Windsor Great Park
52. Bath
53. Hadrian's Wall
54. a) Inland waterways
55. d) Windermere
56. a) mountain range
57. c) Midlands
58. b) reclaimed marshland

- 59. c) row of chalk stacks
- 60. b) East Riding and Lincolnshire

3.9. Check Yourself 2

Answers to the USA Geography Quiz

- 1. Rhode Island
- 2. Atlantic Ocean
- 3. California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas
- 4. Missouri River
- 5. Mount McKinley
- 6. Death Valley
- 7. Superior, Ontario, Erie, Michigan, Huron
- 8. Florida
- 9. Hawaii and Alaska
- 10. South Dakota
- 11. Lake Superior
- 12. Nevada
- 13. Alaska
- 14. 13
- 15. The Chesapeake Bay
- 16. Washington, D.C.
- 17. 6
- 18. New Jersey
- 19. Delaware
- 20. Alaska
- 21. Alabama
- 22. The Florida Reef
- 23. Delaware

24. 132
25. New Jersey
26. Wyoming
27. Alaska
28. Washington, D.C.
29. Salem in Oregon
30. Missouri and Tennessee
31. Crater Lake in Oregon
32. The Grand Canyon
33. A bear
34. The Rocky Mountains
35. Tallahassee
36. Minnesota
37. Hawaii
38. Manhattan, NY City
39. Maine
40. Maryland and Virginia
41. Colorado River
42. Colorado
43. Lake Michigan
44. Yellowstone National Park
45. The Mississippi River
46. The Big Apple
47. 8
48. Isle Royale
49. Lake Erie and Lake Ontario
50. The Mojave Desert
51. Two
52. San Francisco
53. California
54. The Appalachian Mountains

- 55. Philadelphia
- 56. Delaware
- 57. The Ozark National Forest
- 58. Iowa
- 59. The Wabash River
- 60. The state bird

3.10. Additional Text on the Capital of Russia

Moscow

Moscow is situated in western Russia, close to the country's border with the Ukraine, Belarus and Estonia. Lying on the Moskva River, it is the country's capital and its largest and richest city.

Moscow holds a special place in the world's imagination. Opulent, spectacular and grandiose, Moscow has been at the epicentre of some of history's most pivotal moments. It echoes with stories of triumph, tragedy and innovation. Stories of legendary tsars and literary greats political revolutions and the international space race that changed the world forever.

Today Moscow continues to fascinate. Thoroughly modern and with a European air, it has a population of more than 11 million people, the world's highest concentration of billionaires and an attitude befitting one of the world's great cities.

There is no better place to hear the whispered tales of Moscow's past, than in Red Square - Moscow's very heart. Admire St Basil's Cathedral, a building so magnificent, that according to legend, Ivan the Terrible had the architect's eyes removed so he could never again build anything so beautiful.

The Kremlin is another Moscow icon and has been home to the city's ruling elite for a thousand years. Visit the Cathedral of the Archangel, the Cathedral of the Annunciation and Ivan the Great's Bell Tower, all within these red walls. Many of Moscow's most famous stories have been forged in the fires of war. Pass through gates into Alexander Garden. The park pays tribute to Moscow's unbreakable spirit and is home to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Nearby Victory Park is another powerful tribute to those who fell defending the city, including the millions of soviet soldiers who died in the second world war.

As the cold war between the US and Russia intensified a different battle began the race for supremacy of the heavens. Again, Moscow was right at the epicentre. Visit the Monument to the Conquerors of space, a towering memorial that celebrates the aerospace triumphs of the soviet people. Learn more about the space race and the epic contest between the world's super powers at the Memorial Museum of Cosmonauts. Immerse yourself in one of Moscow's proudest stories that of Yuri Gagarin, who shocked the rest of the world and became a national hero when he became the first ever man in space.

In Moscow, artists and literary greats are honoured as heroes just as much as adventurers. Visit the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts to see to some classic works by Russian and European masters. Watch a performance at the Bolshoi, one of the oldest and most renowned theatres in the world. Walk the same streets as some of the world's greatest writers including Tolstoy, Dostoevsky and Chekhov. There is such a proud literary tradition in this city that many of its beautiful parks are named after influential poets and authors. Relax beside the fountain in Pushkin square or stroll along the boulevards in Gorky Park, Moscow's famous central park. Take a haunting tour through the Fallen Monument Park. When the Soviet Union collapsed, many of the city's most evocative monuments were pulled from their pedestals and dumped in this statue graveyard.

More recently, modern sculptures and public artworks have been added, making it a fascinating place to explore. But perhaps the best way to understand how the old and new coexist in Moscow is with a trip underground. Take a ride on the Moscow Metro more like an art and history museum than one of the most efficient public transport systems in Europe. With opulent marble walls, grandiose chandeliers and heroic artworks each of the early stations has its own story to tell of Russia's culture, heroism and technology.

Moscow has long had a proud cafe culture and the city's coffee houses and restaurants remain a place where Muscovites come together to share their own stories over rich traditional foods. As your time in this city draws to a close you'll come to realise Moscow is one of the world's great stories. From epic, sweeping sagas that changed the world to smaller tales of loss, luck and happiness. But there is always room for more. So come, and create your own Moscow story [7].

Task 1. Transcribe and translate the following words. Be ready to read them out loud.

opulent

grandiose

epicentre

pivotal

echoes

triumph

thoroughly

elite

aerospace

cosmonaut

boulevard

pedestal

Muscovites

Task 2. Give the English equivalents to the following phrases. Retell the sentences from the text in which they are used. Use them in the sentences of your own.

- 1) находиться в эпицентре поворотных событий истории –
- 2) перекликаться с историями триумфа, трагедий и инноваций
- 3) подобающий одному из величайших городов мира –
- 4) архитектора лишили зрения –
- 5) быть закаленным в огне войны –
- 6) отдавать дань уважения –
- 7) пасть, защищая город –
- 8) гонка за превосходством –
- 9) возвышающийся мемориал –
- 10) аэрокосмические триумфы –
- 11) вызывающий воспоминания памятник –
- 12) быть сброшенным с пьедесталов –
- 13) сосуществовать –
- 14) эффективный общественный транспорт –
- 15) великолепная культура кафе и ресторанов –
- 16) богатство традиционной кухни –
- 17) приближаться к завершению –

Task 3. Scan the text again and write down verbs and verb phrases of movement and exploration of the city (e.g. to walk; immerse yourself; etc.).

Task 4. Agree or disagree with the following statements:

1. Moscow is located in eastern Russia, far from its borders with Ukraine, Belarus, and Estonia.
2. The Moskva River flows through Moscow, which is the capital and largest city of Russia.
3. According to legend, Ivan the Terrible blinded the architect of St. Basil's Cathedral to prevent him from creating anything equally beautiful.

4. The Kremlin has been the home of Moscow's ruling elite for over a thousand years.

5. Alexander Garden is dedicated to Moscow's aerospace achievements.

6. Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space and is celebrated as a national hero in Russia.

7. The Bolshoi Theatre is one of the newest theatres in Moscow, built in the 21st century.

8. Gorky Park is a famous central park in Moscow that features boulevards and fountains.

9. The Moscow Metro is known for its efficiency but lacks any significant artistic or historical design elements.

10. Many Soviet-era monuments were relocated to Fallen Monument Park after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Task 5. Translate the following sentences into English, using vocabulary from the text.

1. Город *находился в эпицентре поворотных событий* истории, где каждый день был наполнен смыслом и значением.

2. Жизнь этого человека *перекликалась с историями триумфа, трагедий и инноваций города*, в котором он жил и который оставил неизгладимый след в его сердце.

3. Этот парк *соответствует одному из величайших городов мира*, где каждый уголок наполнен красотой и гармонией.

4. Трагедия произошла, когда *архитектора лишили зрения* во время второй мировой войны, но он не потерял творческого потенциала.

5. Солдат был *закален в огне войны*, что сделало его сильнее и мудрее.

6. Мы отдаем *дань уважения* всем, кто отдал свою жизнь за свободу нашей страны.

7. Герой *пал, защищая город* от врагов, став символом храбрости и жертвенности.

8. В XX веке началась *гонка за превосходство* в области космических исследований между США и СССР.

9. В центре города *возвышается мемориал*, посвященный памяти павших героев.

10. *Аэрокосмические триумфы* стали возможны благодаря талантливым инженерам и ученым, которые посвятили свою жизнь этой области.

Task 6. Give full answers to the following questions. The answers will help you to make the summary of the text.

1. *Geography and Location*

- Where is Moscow situated in Russia?
- Which river flows through Moscow?
- What countries border the region near Moscow?

2. *Historical Significance*

- Why is Moscow considered to hold a special place in the world's imagination?
- What historical events have made Moscow a pivotal city in global history?
- Who was Yuri Gagarin, and why is he significant to Moscow's history?

3. *Landmarks and Attractions*

- What is the significance of Red Square in Moscow's history?
- What legend is associated with St. Basil's Cathedral?
- Name two iconic sites within the Kremlin walls.

4. *Tributes and Memorials*

- What does Alexander Garden commemorate?
- What is Victory Park dedicated to?

5. *Cultural Highlights*

- Which museum celebrates Moscow's aerospace achievements?
- Name three literary figures associated with Moscow's streets and parks.

- What makes the Bolshoi Theatre renowned worldwide?

6. *Modern Features*

- How does the Moscow Metro reflect the coexistence of old and new in the city?
- What elements contribute to Moscow's cafe culture?

Task 7. Read the following dialogue and act it out with a partner.

Oliver: You know, I've always thought Moscow was a place that really honoured its artists and literary greats just as much as the adventurers.

Lucy: Absolutely! It's amazing how they celebrate their rich cultural history. Have you ever been to the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts?

Oliver: Not yet, but I've heard it's got some classic works by both Russian and European masters. I'd love to see those.

Lucy: You should go! And while you're there, catching a performance at the Bolshoi would also be brilliant. It's one of the most renowned theatres in the world!

Oliver: Definitely on my list. Just walking the same streets as Tolstoy and Dostoevsky must feel magical, right?

Lucy: For sure! There's something special about the proud literary tradition here. Even the parks are named after influential poets and authors.

Oliver: I can imagine relaxing beside the fountain in Pushkin Square or going for a stroll along the boulevards in Gorky Park. It sounds lovely.

Lucy: Yes, and don't forget to take a haunting tour through the Fallen Monument Park—such an evocative place to explore. The juxtaposition of old and new is fascinating.

Oliver: You're right. With all those monuments reflecting the city's past it must be captivating, especially with modern sculptures making their debut too.

Lucy: Speaking of unique experiences, have you taken a ride on the Moscow Metro? Some say it's more like an art and history museum than a transport system!

Oliver: I've read that it's quite efficient too, which makes it even better. Opulent marble walls and grand chandeliers—you can't find that in typical metro systems.

Lucy: Exactly! Plus, the stories behind each station sound intriguing. It seems like a journey beyond mere transportation.

Oliver: And after exploring the city, ending up in a café must be ideal. I've heard the café culture is quite proud here.

Lucy: Right! Those coffee houses serve rich traditional foods that reflect the warmth of the local community. You can really immerse yourself in the stories shared over meals.

Oliver: All this talk about Moscow has me excited. By the end of it, I might just want to create my own Moscow story.

Lucy: Do it! With so much to see and experience, who knows what unforgettable tales await you!

3.11. Additional Articles on City Life.

8 Critical Smart City Trends Reshaping Urban Life in 2025

Written by Bernard Marr

Bernard Marr is a world-renowned futurist, influencer and thought leader in the fields of business and technology, with a passion for using

technology for the good of humanity. He is a best-selling author of over 20 books, writes a regular column for Forbes and advises and coaches many of the world's best-known organisations. He has a combined following of 4 million people across his social media channels and newsletters and was ranked by LinkedIn as one of the top 5 business influencers in the world.

4 February 2025

The world's population is becoming increasingly urbanized. Over the past century, millions of people have moved from the countryside, creating vast “mega-cities” – a term defined as a city with more than 10 million inhabitants.

This level of population – examples include Tokyo (population 37 million), Delhi (30 million) and Sao Paulo (20 million) – creates new challenges that society hasn't previously had to deal with.

In response, technological solutions have emerged designed to improve lives, enable new forms of civic administration, and mitigate the environmental impact caused by so many people living in such close proximity.

It's a dynamic and fast-moving field of technology where innovation has a real impact on millions of human lives. So, let's take a look at some of the key trends in smart city and civic governance tech that will top the agenda in 2025.

AI in Urban Planning and Governance

Increasingly, we will see artificial intelligence (AI) used to plan and deliver services to those living in urban areas more efficiently. This covers every aspect of AI, from machine learning algorithms crunching data to enable more efficient allocation of resources to predictive modeling for infrastructure requirements to real-time alerts that give vital information to citizens as they go about their day.

Addressing Water Scarcity

The global urban population facing water shortages is set to double by 2050, and technological solutions to this challenge will be a focus of civic planning in the coming years. This will include both predictive measures for anticipating fluctuating levels of availability and usage, as well as advanced techniques for recycling, distribution and desalination. Smarter water management means adapting the way water is collected, stored and used in the face of rapid population growth and changing climate.

Digital Identity and Citizenship

Digital citizenship will play a growing role in the future of urban life, as governments and administrators roll out plans for identity verification and civic engagement. This will include new digital solutions for delivering services like applying for permits, obtaining welfare payments and paying taxes. Implementation is likely to vary massively according to cultural factors, but wherever they live in the world, citizens will become increasingly aware of the implications of privacy and data security.

Smart Transport Infrastructure

In the smart city of 2025, the daily commute will increasingly be revolutionized thanks to the deployment of integrated systems connecting public transport with micro-mobility solutions, ride-sharing infrastructure and the emergence of autonomous and semi-autonomous transport. More intelligent traffic management infrastructure will predict hotspots in order to reduce both congestion and emissions. Critically, all this infrastructure will be connected and capable of sharing data to gain a new understanding of how we navigate cities and what can be done to make everyone's journeys smoother, safer and less damaging to the environment.

Health-Centric Urban Planning

The era of smart city technology creates new opportunities for designing urban environments in ways that are conducive to better human

physical and mental health. Leveraging this potential will be another key trend in 2025. This will include the use of sensors and data to monitor and detect pollution or unhealthy noise levels, as well as the adoption of predictive solutions for healthier urban living.

City-Scale Digital Twins

The digital twin concept involves creating virtual replicas, modeled using real-world data, in order to create simulations that can be used for planning and managing development. A digital twin can model anything from a simple object or mechanical system to an environmental ecosystem or, as is increasingly the case, a city. City-scale digital twin projects currently underway include Singapore, Helsinki, and Dublin, and in 2025, we are likely to see an explosion of activity in this field of smart city technology.

Climate Resilience – Weathering the Storm

From Rotterdam’s plazas designed to double up as flood plains, to New York’s Internet of Things (IoT) powered FloodNet, preparing for an increasingly unstable and unpredictable climate is a core focus of tech-driven urban planning. Globally, extreme weather events are forecast to become more frequent and severe, and meeting this challenge will involve harnessing technology to improve preparedness and enable more efficient response and recovery.

Renewable Energy Infrastructure

Moving towards sustainable and renewable energy sources, as well as improved energy security in the face of geopolitical uncertainty, will be another key trend in 2025. Smart grids incorporating AI-driven predictive resource allocation will undoubtedly be a part of the solution, but increasing adoption of solar, wind and tidal energy, as well as shifts towards micro-grids and new forms of battery storage, in order to improve reliability and consistency of supply, will also be an essential part of the solution.

The Year Ahead

City life is changing, and in 2025, urban planners and administrators have more technological options than ever before when it comes to managing and implementing that change. Leveraging the technological opportunities covered will be part of the solution to the challenges of growing urban populations, demographic change, and climate emergency.

However, political will is also needed, as well as a societal acceptance of the necessity of this change. Understanding these trends will be key to improving the lives of the millions of us living in today's modern cities and urban environments [20].

Answer the questions:

1. What is a mega-city? Give three examples mentioned in the article.
 2. How can artificial intelligence (AI) improve urban planning?
 3. Why is water scarcity a growing problem for cities? Name two technological solutions.
 4. What is digital citizenship, and what services might it include?
 5. How will smart transport systems reduce traffic and pollution?
 6. What technologies are used in health-centric urban planning?
 7. What is a city-scale digital twin? Name two cities using this technology.
 8. How is Rotterdam preparing for extreme weather?
 9. What renewable energy sources are mentioned in the article?
- Besides technology, what else is needed to improve cities?
10. What is FloodNet, and where is it used?
 11. Why are mega-cities like Tokyo facing new challenges?
 12. How will digital twins help city planners?
 13. What role do smart grids play in renewable energy?
 14. What is the main goal of smart city trends in 2025?

3.12. Additional Articles on City Life.

How the Pros and Cons of City Living Vary Around the World

Every day, more people become city dwellers. The challenge of urban existence is to balance its benefits and its drawbacks.

By Jared Diamond

For most of the six million years of human evolution, all humans and protohumans lived like somewhat glorified chimpanzees, at low population densities, scattered over the landscape as families or small bands. Only within the past 6,000 years, a small fraction of human history, did some of our ancestors come together in cities. But today more than half the world's people live in these new settings, some of which have tens of millions of inhabitants.

Urban life involves trade-offs. We may gain big benefits in return for suffering big disadvantages. Let's consider two of them: the trade-off between individual freedom and community interests, and the trade-off between social ties and anonymity.

To understand the issue of freedom, take first the city of Singapore, in effect one of the world's most densely populated micro-countries. Singapore's nearly six million people are packed into about 250 square miles—230 times the average U.S. population density. It's an Asian financial center, a major port on one of the world's busiest shipping straits, and a tiny piece of prime real estate wedged between two giant, powerful neighbors, Indonesia and Malaysia. Singapore was part of Malaysia until 1965, when economic and racial tensions spurred its separation. But Singapore depends on Malaysia for most of its water and much of its food, and can't afford to make mistakes or provoke its neighbors.

Singapore citizens' bargain with their government: less individual freedom in return for First World living standards.

So Singapore's government monitors its citizens closely, to make sure that individuals don't harm the community. Inspectors check for water standing in each household's pots, lest they furnish breeding sites for disease-transmitting mosquitoes. Smart-technology sensors measure (or will measure) the traffic on every street, the movements of every car, and the temperatures of and shadows cast by buildings. They also will track the water and electricity consumption of every household and will note the time whenever a household toilet is flushed. Americans may view such measures with horror, as George Orwell's novel 1984 come true. But for Singapore's citizens, it's the bargain that they have made with their government: less individual freedom in return for First World living standards, health, and security.

Next consider Germany's cities, also densely populated. Local governments have rules about the shapes and colors of tiles that Germans may use on their houses' roofs, and about the sizes and ages of trees that they can or can't cut down on their property. To obtain a fishing license, Germans must attend many hours of fishing classes, then pass a 60-question exam. Most Americans would bristle at such restrictions. But benefits to German communities include beautiful regional architecture, green cities, government support for the arts, and healthy fish populations.

At the opposite extreme comes my own city of Los Angeles, where rights of the individual property owner are prized as sacred. The result is a free-for-all, in which many individuals and communities suffer disadvantages. Almost any style of house is permissible; local architectural character is nonexistent. Tree cover is vanishing, temperatures are rising, and landowners' excavated dirt and sprayed pesticides end up on neighbors' property. To fish in the local bay waters, anyone can buy a fishing license – no questions asked – so of course fish populations decline.

The outcomes of trade-offs differ for Singapore, Germany, and L.A. because different geographies and histories have led to different customs. Population density is highest in Singapore, intermediate in Germany, lowest in the United States (including California). China – whence the ancestors of most of Singapore’s population arrived – has had cities for five millennia, Germany for two millennia, the United States for just a few centuries. Chinese traditional farming is communal; Germans have close-packed individual farms; and U.S. frontier settlements had self-sufficient, widely scattered families. The cultural legacies of those differences live on today.

Another issue of urban life is the trade-off between social ties and anonymity. Traditional living arrangements still practiced today in rural areas of New Guinea, where I’ve been working since the 1960s, resemble those formerly practiced in pre-urban Western societies. New Guinea villagers live out their lives where they were born, constantly surrounded by lifelong friends and social support.

A first reaction of many lonely, urban Americans is: How heart-warmingly wonderful! When New Guinea villagers move to cities, they find themselves surrounded by strangers, their friends few or recent or scattered across the city. The frequent results are unhappy isolation, decline of social support, and proliferation of urban crime.

Still, we American city dwellers shouldn’t romanticize traditional village living arrangements. My New Guinea friends tell me that those arrangements are also socially suffocating, and limit individuals’ abilities to realize their potential. In New Guinea villages, everybody knows, constantly watches, and incessantly discusses what everybody else is doing.

As a result, a New Guinea friend who spent years living in a U.S. city loved it—because (as she told me) she could sit alone and read a newspaper in peaceful anonymity in a sidewalk café, without being importuned by fellow clan members asking her for money and bemoaning

their troubles. New Guineans have learned to appreciate the modern urban inventions of opaque bags and trouser pockets—because those inventions permit them to conceal things from neighbors and thereby to acquire small luxuries without becoming targets of village comment. Thus, New Guineans recognize drawbacks as well as heartwarming benefits of village life. They also understand the benefits, not just the pains, of urban anonymity.

It all comes down to compromises. As the world becomes increasingly urban, will all of us be forced to adopt more of Singapore's solutions? If a government meter that records every flushing of your toilet is part of the price you'd have to pay for living in safety, health, affluence, and beautiful surroundings, what would you choose [21]?

Answer the questions:

1. What are the two main trade-offs of urban life discussed in the article?
2. Why does Singapore's government monitor its citizens closely?
3. How do housing rules in Germany differ from those in Los Angeles?
4. What environmental problems does Los Angeles face due to its emphasis on individual freedom?
5. Why do fish populations decline in Los Angeles?
6. Which country has the highest population density: Singapore, Germany, or the U.S.?
7. How does China's history of urbanization compare to Germany and the U.S.?
8. What challenges do New Guinea villagers face when moving to cities?
9. What do New Guineans dislike about village life?
10. Why do some New Guineans appreciate urban anonymity?

11. What technologies does Singapore use to monitor its citizens?
12. What benefits do German cities gain from strict regulations?
13. How do fishing license requirements differ between Germany and Los Angeles?
14. Why does the author warn against romanticizing village life?
15. What compromise might future cities need to make, according to the article?

3.13. Additional Articles on City Life.

50 Things I Love About City Life

By Eric O. Jacobsen

June 1, 2008

I love cities the way other people love old growth forests, meandering river walks, and alpine lakes.

I recently moved to a new city in the Pacific Northwest, so I was not surprised to be asked about my progress in exploring the natural treasures of the region. “Have you gone hiking on the trail yet?” a colleague asked at a staff meeting one week. My first impulse was to explain sheepishly that my schedule had been pretty full—that I hadn’t had time yet see much yet—but I was planning to take that hike just as soon as possible.

But instead of that typical response, I was hit by a flash of inspiration, “Nope, I haven’t done it yet. I’m really more of an urban walker,” I declared without a trace of sheepishness. I had finally figured it out. I love cities the way other people love old growth forests, meandering river walks, and alpine lakes. Instead of apologizing for the natural wonders that I hadn’t seen, I have decided to lay claim to all the urban glories that I had already discovered in my new city.

I can explore a new city on foot for hours and never grow tired. And I can walk the same territory of a familiar, urban environment without getting bored. I could probably even happily restrict myself to the same block day after day enjoying how the variations in light throughout the day brings out different features and how the built environment responds to seasonal and demographic changes.

From this day forward, I will no longer allow nature lovers to take the peripatetic high ground. I will wear my urbanism proudly. There is a lot to love in the city! The following are just a few of my favorite things about city life.

1. The chiaroscuro of sunlight filtering through the trees on the sidewalk.
2. Faded lettering on bricks giving evidence of a building's former use.
3. Restaurant tables on the sidewalk filled with people who are enjoying a pre-dinner drink.
4. Upper-storey windows that open and allow residents to lean out and observe street life below.
5. Children playing in pocket parks protected from traffic by a sturdy fence.
6. Christmas lights spilling their warm glow onto the sidewalks while highlighting different shapes in the buildings by night.
7. The flash flood of human activity on the street when a theatre lets out.
8. The play of reflected light on wet pavement.
9. Having a choice to drive, walk, or take the bus to destinations.
10. Street performers on the sidewalks.
11. Fresh flowers purchased at open-air markets and brought home in the front basket of a bike.
12. Tamale carts.

13. A grid block network allowing one to choose multiple routes to any destination.

14. View corridors that terminate with a church or monumental public building

15. The reading room in grand, public libraries.

16. Skinny streets that force cars to drive carefully and give pedestrians the advantage.

17. Sidewalk corners with the names of streets stamped into them.

18. Church bells ringing before worship.

19. The smell of ethnic, specialty markets.

20. Historic street lamps.

21. Wrought-iron benches.

22. Lying on blankets with the whole family at the outdoor movie in the park.

23. Walking home late at night and feeling safe because you're not the only one on the street.

24. Alley walks in residential parts of the city.

25. Railway stations that once were the gateway to the city and remind us that 'urban' and 'grandeur' used to be associated terms.

26. Well-kept window boxes.

27. The morning lineup for the really good coffee in town.

28. A real plaza that feels like an outdoor room.

29. Used bookstores with a changing collection of good books on display in the window.

30. Buildings with unnecessary ornamentation.

31. A jog in the sidewalk that makes room for an ancient tree.

32. Magazine kiosks that sell international newspapers.

33. A street that uses its street-wall effectively and feels like an outdoor hallway.

34. Downtown churches that still have a bit of life in them.

35. A row of brownstone buildings with good steps for hanging out.

36. Urban parks with a water feature that draws young and old on summer evenings.
37. A neighbourhood or city with a clear sense of its centre.
38. A boulevard with mature trees.
39. A bridge scaled for pedestrian use that crosses over a river.
40. Adaptive re-use of old buildings.
41. Surprise pedestrian paths that allow short-cuts at mid block.
42. Whimsical public art on which kids can climb.
43. The sight of Orthodox Jews walking to synagogue on Saturday morning.
44. Harvesting fruit from trees that grow over fence lines
45. Getting drawn into a conversation at a cafe on the way home and losing track of time.
46. A morning run to the bakery for pastries and the newspaper.
47. Kids in school uniforms waiting for the public bus.
48. Hotels with grand lobbies.
49. The discordant rhythms of pick-up basketball players, roller bladers, and skateboarders enjoying an urban park.
50. Walking at midnight confident that you will find something to eat within a few blocks.

3.14. Additional Articles on City Life.

The Flip Side

I don't just love a place because its population count has reached the point that it's designated as a city in official documents. Just to make sure that there is no confusion, I feel that I ought to compile another list of things that cities can do wrong. I believe that cities represent a kind of creational norm that allows humans to experience shalom together and

with the rest of creation. The following, shorter list gives a taste of some of the ways that cities break my heart by failing to live up to their God given vocation.

1. Blocks that devote over 25% of ground space to surface parking.
2. Curb cuts that allow cars to turn corners without slowing down and increase the crossing distance for pedestrians.
3. Subdivisions consisting exclusively of detached single-family homes.
4. Buildings set back from the street to allow parking in front.
5. Large signs on poles that are meant to be read at 45 mph.
6. Physical barriers that prevent walking from buildings that are adjacent to each other.
7. Streets that are more than four lanes wide.
8. Public buildings in strip malls or that look like office parks.
9. Buildings clad in glass.
10. Impermeable structures such as freeways and hospital campuses that cut cities and neighbourhoods in half.

It seems to me that cities that fail to embody an urban ideal do so because they reflect the reductionistic thinking of those who shape them. Cities that are seen exclusively as economic catalysts seem to go wrong in this regard as do cities that cater only to automobile traffic. Good cities help create wealth and can be accessible to automobiles, but they get it wrong when they attend only to these functions.

In this regard, I see some connections between my love for cities and those who love natural environments. Those who treasure the old growth forests, the meandering river walk, and the alpine lake are keenly aware of how fragile those environments are and how necessary it is to make every effort to preserve them. These environments represent a del-

icate balance that can't be easily recreated if they are allowed to deteriorate. In the same way my delight for the city and my disgust with its many sham alternatives makes me aware of how fragile the beauty of cities actually is. By loving cities with my feet, my eyes, my nose, my ears, my mouth, and with my hands, I intend to contribute to the development and preservation of these wonderful artifacts of human culture [22].

Answer the questions:

Urban Philosophy and Values:

1. *Defense of Urbanism*: Jacobsen frames cities as ecosystems worthy of preservation, akin to old-growth forests. How does his list challenge the cultural privileging of rural/natural spaces over urban ones, and what might this reveal about modern environmental ethics?

2. *Sacred vs. Secular*: The article references shalom and cities as “creational norms.” How does Jacobsen’s theological framework (e.g., covenantal stewardship) shape his critique of car-centric urban design and his celebration of pedestrian life?

3. *Fragility of Beauty*: Jacobsen compares cities to fragile natural ecosystems. What specific urban elements (e.g., adaptive reuse of buildings, surprise pedestrian paths) does he suggest are most vulnerable to homogenization, and why?

Design and Human Experience:

4. *Third Places*: How do entries like sidewalk cafés, used bookstores, and grand libraries reflect Oldenburg’s concept of “third places,” and why are these critical to Jacobsen’s vision of community?

5. *Pedestrian Sovereignty*: The list prioritizes “skinny streets” and alleys over highways. How do these design choices reject modernist efficiency in favor of human-scaled serendipity? Contrast this with Tokyo’s speed-segregated streets.

6. *Nostalgia vs. Innovation*: Jacobsen admires “unnecessary ornamentation” and historic railways but also celebrates adaptive reuse. Does this suggest a tension between preservation and progress, or a synthesis?

Critique of Modern Urban Failures:

7. *The Car as Antagonist*: How do Jacobsen’s “flip side” critiques (e.g., surface parking, wide streets) align with his broader argument that cars erode civic belonging? Compare his views to suburban “inhospitable neighborhoods”.

8. *Glass-Clad Buildings*: Why does Jacobsen single out glass façades as symbols of urban alienation, and how might this critique extend to globalized architectural trends (e.g., supertall luxury towers)?

9. *Economic Reductionism*: Jacobsen argues cities fail when treated as “economic catalysts.” How do entries like street performers or tamale carts resist commodification in favor of cultural vitality?

Cultural and Social Dynamics:

10. *Sensory Liturgy*: The list emphasizes smells (ethnic markets), sounds (church bells), and textures (wet pavement). How do these sensory details frame city life as a form of embodied spirituality or communal ritual?

11. *Temporal Layering*: Entries like faded brick lettering and repurposed railways highlight historical layers. How does this “palimpsest” effect counteract the erasure of memory in modernist urban planning?

12. *Paradox of Safety*: Jacobsen links nighttime walkability to collective presence. Does this contrast with suburban isolation, and what might it imply about trust as a civic infrastructure?

Broader Implications:

13. *Global vs. Local*: How do Jacobsen’s ideals (e.g., neighborhood fruit trees, Orthodox Jews walking to synagogue) resist homogenization in an era of globalized urban templates?

14. *Urban Agency*: The list ends with a call to “preserve cities with hands and feet.” What grassroots actions (e.g., supporting indie bookstores, opposing curb cuts) does it implicitly advocate?

15. *The “Good Life”*: Jacobsen’s list mirrors Kathryn Streeter’s D.C. ode 2. Do these urban love letters collectively redefine flourishing in opposition to suburban/rural ideals of space and privacy?

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