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**АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК**

**ГОРОД**

**Сборник текстов и упражнений  
для студентов 1 и 2 курсов всех специальностей**

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Представлены разнообразные тексты о самых известных городах Великобритании, США и России и упражнения, которые позволяют студентам запомнить лексику и научиться правильно её использовать.

Для студентов 1 и 2 курсов дневной и заочной формы обучения всех специальностей.

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## I. LONDON

An important settlement for around two millennia, London is today one of the world's leading business, financial and cultural centres, and its influence in politics, education, entertainment, media, fashion and the arts all contribute to its status as one of the major global cities. London is the most populous city with an official population of 7.5 million. Its population is very cosmopolitan, drawing from a wide range of peoples, cultures and religions, speaking over 300 different languages. London is an international transport hub, with five international airports and a large port. It serves as the largest aviation hub in the world, and its main airport, the multi terminal Heathrow, carries more international passengers than any other airport in the world.

One area of London which does have a strict definition is the City of London (usually just called The City), the largest financial district and central business district in Europe. The City has its own governance and boundaries, giving it a status as the only completely autonomous local authority in London.

The West End is London's main entertainment and shopping district, with locations such as Oxford Street, Leicester Square, Covent Garden and Piccadilly Circus acting as tourist magnets. The West London area is known for fashionable and expensive residential areas such as Notting Hill, Knightsbridge and Chelsea — where properties can sell for tens of millions of pounds.

The eastern side of London contains the East End and the Essex suburbs. The East End is the area closest to the original Port of London, known for its high immigrant population, as well as for being one of the poorest areas in London. The surrounding East London area saw much of London's early industrial development.

In recent years, the development of tall buildings has been encouraged in the London Plan, which will lead to the erection of new skyscrapers over the next few years, particularly in the City of London. The 72-storey, 310 m "Shard London Bridge" by London Bridge station, the 288 m Bishopsgate Tower and around 30 other skyscrapers over 150 m could transform the city's skyline.

London is too large to be overwhelmingly characterised by any particular architectural style, having accumulated its buildings over a long period of time, although it is mainly brick built, most commonly a warm orange red, often with carvings and white mouldings. Many areas of the city are characterised by white stucco or whitewashed buildings. Few structures predate the Great Fire of 1666, except for a few trace Roman remains, the Tower of London and a few scattered Tudor survivors in the City. A majority of buildings in London date from the Edwardian or Victorian periods.

Buckingham Palace is the official residence of the Queen of the United Kingdom in London. London is the home of the Government of the United Kingdom which is located around the Houses of Parliament in Westminster. Many government departments are located close to Parliament, particularly

along Whitehall, including the Prime Minister's residence at 10 Downing Street.

Westminster Abbey is one of London's oldest and most important buildings.

The London Eye, one of the many symbols of modern London. It is also the world's largest observation wheel and London's most popular tourist attraction.

### **1. Answer the questions.**

- 1) How old is London?
- 2) What is the population of London?
- 3) Why is it called an international transport hub?
- 4) What is the City of London?
- 5) What is the West End?
- 6) Where are expensive residential areas situated?
- 7) What is the East End?
- 8) What has been encouraged in the London Plan?
- 9) What architectural style can London be characterized by?
- 10) What does the majority of building date from?
- 11) What is the official residence of the Queen?
- 12) What is № 10 Downing Street?
- 13) What can you say about the London Eye?

### **2. Agree or disagree with the following statements.**

#### **Agreement**

- a) I fully agree with you.
- b) I can't agree more.
- c) I think it is quite right.
- d) I agree entirely.

#### **Disagreement**

- a) I'm afraid I can't agree.
- b) It may be right but ...
- c) As far as I know ...
- d) I think you are mistaken.

1. The population of London speaks only English.
2. Heathrow is the largest hotel in London.
3. The only autonomous district of London is the City.
4. The West London area is known for its industrial areas.
5. The development of skyscrapers has been encouraged in the London Plan.
6. The erection of new skyscrapers will take place only in the West End.
7. The Tower of London dates from the Victorian period.
8. The Houses of Parliament are the official residence of the Queen.
9. The London Eye is the world's largest observation wheel.

## LONDON, ITS HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

London was founded in the first century AD by the Romans. They left London in the 5-th century and the city was largely abandoned. By the 8-th century London was again a busy trading centre, and in the 11-th century it became the capital of England. Edward the Confessor built a palace and an abbey at Westminster. The Norman period saw the construction of the Tower, old St. Paul's Cathedral and many churches and monasteries.

Medieval London grew in importance as a trading centre and in 1215 its citizens won the right to elect their own leader, or Lord Mayor. London began to spread beyond the city walls during the Tudor and Stuart periods.

The Great Fire of 1666 destroyed three-quarters of the city. Sir Christopher Wren rebuilt St. Paul's Cathedral and designed 51 churches. The rebuilding of London followed the medieval street plan, but the old wooden houses were replaced by buildings of brick to reduce the future fire risk.

During the 19-th century London spread rapidly into the suburbs. As a result of its new forms of transport were developed, including the underground railway system. Britain was men at the height of her Imperial powers and this is expressed in buildings such as the Houses of Parliament and St. Pancras Station.

Large areas of London were destroyed by bombs during World War II and the rebuilding that followed was of mixed quality. Today in its full extent Greater London covers 625 square miles and consists of 33 separate boroughs, including the City, the West End, the East End.

The City extends over an area of slightly greater than a square mile, its boundary being much the same as that of the Roman city of Londinium. About half a million people work there, but less than 6000 live there. It is the financial centre of the UK with many banks, offices and the Stock Exchange.

All the historical places and famous parks are in the West End. The West End, spreading from the political centre at Westminster includes the shopping area of Knightsbridge, Oxford Street, Piccadilly Circus and Covent Garden; it hosts museums and galleries, among them are the Tate Gallery, the National Gallery, Portrait Gallery and the British Museum. In the West End there are Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace. The best known streets are: Whitehall with important Governmental offices, Downing Street, № 10 has been the Prime Minister's official residence since the 18th century, and Fleet Street which has long been associated with printing and was until recently the home of many national newspapers. The name "West End" is associated with wealth, luxury and goods of high quality.

The port of London was until recently in the East End. It was an area of docks, unattractive in appearance, but very important in the country's commerce.

It is known that the area around London was inhabited (населять) by the Celts. Later the Romans founded a military camp there. The camp developed

into a port. The area of about 1 square mile where the Romans built their fortifications corresponds approximately to today present City of London. London was the capital of one of the Roman provinces of Britain. After the Romans left Britain, London became less important and suffered greatly from the Danes and Vikings. It was under Henry the First in the 12th century that London finally became the capital of England. In the 16th century London, with its 500,000 inhabitants, was the largest city in England. Under Queen Elizabeth the First in the 17th century England dominated the oceans and became the Empire. It is in the Elizabethan Age that art, culture and literature flowered, especially in London. Over the centuries London became the centre of a constantly growing empire. The empire reached its apex (вершина) under Queen Victoria. Industrialization and the expansion of international trade brought London power, growth and cultural and economic development. In the First and Second World Wars London was ruined considerably.

Some 9 million people now live in London and its suburbs, and the city covers an area of 620 square miles, making it one of the largest of the world's capitals. One reason for its size is that the English people like to live in small houses and have small gardens. As a result, less than 5,000 people live in the City of London, while more than half a million come here to work in the daytime. Today London is the capital of Great Britain and is also the seat of the Royal Family, the Parliament, the major administrative bodies and scientific institutions.

The Houses of Parliament stand on the bank of the Thames at Westminster Abbey. Actually it is one building but it is called «Houses» as it consists of two chambers: the House of Lords and the House of Commons. It was set up in the 13th century. At one end of the Houses of Parliament there is a tower with a large clock. The largest bell, known as Big Ben, chimes in (отбивать часы) the hour.

Westminster Abbey was a monastery built in the 8th century. It is one of the best examples of the Early English architecture. The kings and queens of England are buried there. Many great statesmen, writers and poets are also buried there.

In the centre of London there is one of the most beautiful squares — Trafalgar Square which was named so to commemorate (в честь) Nelson's victory in the battle of Trafalgar. There is the monument in its centre known as Nelson's Column.

In the vicinity of Trafalgar Square is Whitehall which is now a street of government offices. Not far from Whitehall is Downing Street. Number 10 Downing Street is the residence of the Prime Minister of England. The Cabinet meets there. One must mention the British Museum. It is one of the most extensive and valuable museums in West Europe, It was founded in 1753. It also comprises the National Library. There are other numerous museums and galleries displaying interesting finds from all parts of the world and from all stages in the development of nature, man and art. There are also two large opera

houses, the National Theatre and 50 other theatres. Monuments of past greatness are everywhere in London.

**1. Find words and phrases in the text that mean:**

Покидать город, Эдуард Исповедник, Великий лондонский пожар, система метро, округ (район), оживлённый торговый центр.

**2. Rearrange the given dates in the proper historical order and write a sentence to describe the event connected with the appropriate date:**

1666; the 5th century; the Tudor and Stuart periods; 1215; the 8th century; during World War II; the 19th century, the 11th century; the first century AD.

**3. Match the names of the places to the appropriate items:**

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. The City            | a) is associated with wealth, luxury and high quality   |
| 2. Knightsbridge       | b) is a political centre                                |
| 3. The West End        | c) symbolises the height of the British Imperial Powers |
| 4. Downing Street №10  | d) houses important Governmental offices                |
| 5. Westminster         | e) is a shopping area                                   |
| 6. Whitehall           | f) is the financial heart of the UK.                    |
| 7. Fleet Street        | g) was until recently the home of national newspapers   |
| 8. St. Pancras Station | h) the Prime Minister's official residence              |

## SIGHTS OF LONDON

St Paul's, London's city cathedral was designed by Sir Christopher Wren and work was started 9 years after the medieval church had been burnt down in the Great Fire. The cathedral has been extensively restored in recent years. The exterior has had the grime of the ages removed, and clear glass (as specified in Wren's original design) has replaced the wartime bomb damaged stained glass. You can climb up in to the Whispering gallery in the dome, where a whisper at one side carries right round the dome. Then up to the Stone Gallery giving a view over the city, and up to the Golden Gallery at the top of the dome. The crypt is equally impressive, with the tombs of both Nelson and Wellington (complete with the 18 ton carriage that took his body to the cathedral in 1852).

Trafalgar Square, London's most famous, was laid out in 1829 to 1841 to commemorate Nelson's victory at the Battle of the same name in 1805. Dominating the square, on a column that is 185 feet high, is the 17 foot high statue of Nelson himself. Around the base of the column are the four giant bronze lions by Landseer. Around the sides are the church of St Martin's and the National Gallery which houses one of the world's richest collections of paintings.

The Tower of London has been a fortress, prison and palace during its long and often bloody history. It was started soon after the Norman Conquest in 1066

by William the Conqueror, of stone actually brought from Normandy. The central, and most impressive of the bastions, is known as the White Tower as it was whitewashed in 1241! An early prisoner was the Duke of Orleans, captured in the Battle of Agincourt in 1415. Anne Boleyn (wife of Henry VIII), Lady Jane Grey (pretender to the throne), Earl of Essex and Duke Of Monmouth were all executed here, among many others. The Royal Mint was based here until 1834 (it stops the wrong people getting their hands on the money), and today the Crown Jewels are housed here in a top security setting. Tower Bridge, right beside the castle, was built in the last century as the most seaward of the capital's bridges over the Thames. Its position meant that large ships had to pass under it to enter the city's Port.

Westminster Abbey, London is the most beautiful of the Gothic churches in the capital and was founded by Edward the Confessor in the 11th century. All coronations have taken place here since William the Conqueror. And most British monarchs from Henry III to George II are buried here. Also to be found in the cathedral is Poets Corner where many of our finest poets are buried, and the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior. Officially called the Palace of Westminster, there was a royal palace here in the middle ages. Henry VIII gave it over to government. A fire almost completely destroyed the old palace in 1834. The present building was built in the distinctive Victorian Gothic between 1840 and 1860 by Sir Charles Barry and A W Pugin. The great bell is named after Sir Benjamin Hall. Also in the clock tower is a prison cell for MPs who transgress against Parliamentary privilege - it was last used in 1880 for this purpose.

Piccadilly Circus is London's hub. Five major roads converge here - most of the theatres are within a few hundred yards of it. At night the huge advertising hoardings are lit up - advertising English brands like McDonalds, Samsung, Fosters and Coca-Cola. At the centre of the area is the statue of Eros which was unveiled in 1893. It was intended by the sculptor, Sir Albert Gilbert, to be the Angel of Christian Charity, but Eros has persisted as the name.

Buckingham Palace has been the main home of the sovereign since Queen Victoria. It was originally built in 1703 for the Duke of Buckingham (hence its name). It was later re-modeled by Nash for George IV, but did not finally get its present classical facade until 1913. The crowds gather for the daily changing of the guard at 11.30 am in the summer. There is another guard change at Horseguards at 11 am.

### **“SIGHTS OF LONDON” PUZZLE**

1. All coronations took place there.
2. The statue of Eros is at the centre of this area.
3. It has been a fortress, a prison and a palace during its long history.
4. Around its base there are 4 giant bronze lions.
5. The crypt with the tombs of Nelson and Wellington are there.



6. It is Sir Christopher Wren's masterpiece.
7. Daily changing of guard at 11.30 am in summer takes place in front of it.
8. The Poets Corner where many finest poets are buried is there.
9. There are the Stone Gallery, The Golden Gallery and the Whispering Gallery in this place.
10. It is in the dome of the cathedral.
11. There's a prison cell for MPs who transgress against Parliamentary privilege.
12. Huge advertising hoardings are in the centre of it.
13. The Royal Mint was based there.
14. It contains one of the world's best collections of paintings.
15. It is the most seaward of the capital's bridges over the Thames.
16. Many Dukes and some members of the royal family were executed there.
17. He started the Tower of London soon after the Norman Conquest in 1066.



## II. NEW YORK

Unlike old cities, such as Rome or London, New York is relatively young. It was founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Now New York is the largest city of the United States and one of the largest cities in the world. Its population is nearly eight million. It is partly situated at the estuary of the Hudson River on Manhattan Island. New York City consists of five boroughs: Brooklin, the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens and Richmond.

Manhattan is the real centre of the city and it chiefly comprises Manhattan Island. Most of the interesting shops, buildings and museums are situated in Manhattan. It is the centre of New York's busy night life.

Wall Street in Manhattan is the financial centre of the United States. It's a street of skyscrapers. One of the well-known buildings in Manhattan is the Empire State Building with its 102 floors. For the 25.000 people who work in it, it is just "the office", but for the tourists it is a place from which, on a clear day, you can see fifty miles into five different states of America. Among the highest skyscrapers is the New York World Trade Centre with its 110 floors.

In fine weather lots of New Yorkers go to Central Park to enjoy the sun and fresh air near the lakes and woods. Along the east side of Central Park runs Fifth Avenue. It is the most fashionable street in the city with famous department stores, like B. Airman's and Macy's, and wonderful jewellery shops, like Carrier's. South of Central Park there is Times Square and the United Nations Building.

Broadway is the street where you can find New York's best known theatres but most of the theatres and places of entertainment are actually located on the side streets near Times Square.

New York has a famous opera house, the Metropolitan, and the Carnegie Hall, the city's most popular concert hall.

In Manhattan at Broadway and 116 Street there is the campus of Columbia University, the biggest educational establishment of New York, and near it there are houses of Harlem. Actually there are three Harlems: Spanish, Italian and Negro Harlem. Negro Harlem is the most overcrowded and dirty with a lot of old shabby houses and slums.

New York is a complete contradiction between the exciting Broadway, Fifth Avenue; the Empire State Building and the shocking slums of Harlem.

There are parts of New York which have their own very specific character: China Town where even telephone boxes look like miniature pagodas, and Greenwich Village - the student quarter of New York with its bohemian cafes and theatre groups.

It's easy to find one's way in New York. The avenues, except Broadway, run north and south; streets run east and west and are numbered and parallel to each other. The avenues which cross the streets are often named. New York buses are easy to use. The "Shoppers Shuttle" and the "Culture Loops" buses

stop at some of the best known stores and tourist places. You can get on and off as many times as you like in one day with only one ticket.

There are more than 30 000 taxis in New York. They are easy to see because they are bright yellow and carry large TAXI signs. People give a taxi driver a tip of 15% extra.

The Subway provides the cheapest and fastest way of traveling.

A trip on the New York subway is a complete mystery to many tourists. Local trains operate in down town Manhattan; express trains pass through and occasionally stop, but they mainly go to the suburbs, so beware; you can be taken miles beyond your destination by mistake. The "Shuttle" is a train which goes back and forth from west to east Manhattan.

Much more tranquil is the Staten Island ferry. It costs very little and takes twenty minutes. It has been called "the cheapest sea-trip in the world". From the boat you get a magnificent view of the Statue of Liberty and the Manhattan skyline.

### **1. Fill in the blanks.**

1. New York is the ... of the United States of America.
2. It is partly situated at the ... of the Hudson River.
3. ... is the real centre of the city.
4. Wall Street in Manhattan is the ...of the United States
5. One of the well known buildings in Manhattan is the ... .
6. From this building on a clear day you can see .....
7. In fine weather lots of New Yorkers go to ... to enjoy the sun and fresh air.
8. Fifth Avenue is the most ...street in the city with its famous department stores
9. Broadway is the street where you can find New York's ... .
10. .... The Metropolitan is ... .
11. The Carnegie Hall is ... .
12. The biggest educational establishment in New York is ... .
13. Negro Harlem is the most overcrowded and dirty with a lot of ... .
14. Greenwich Village is ... .
15. From the boat you can get a magnificent view of ... and ... .
16. In New York the avenues run ... , streets run ... .
17. The avenues ... the streets.
18. The taxis in New York are easy to see because ... .
19. The "Shoppers' Shuttle" buses stop at ... .
20. The "Culture Loops" buses stop at ... .
21. You can get on and off the buses as many times as you like in one day with only ... .

## 2. Answer the questions.

1. Is New York an old city?
2. What's the population of New York?
3. How many boroughs does New York consist of?
4. What borough is the real centre of the city?
5. What is situated in Manhattan?
6. What can you say about Wall Street in Manhattan?
7. What can you see from the top of the Empire State Building on a clear day?
8. How many people work in this "office"?
9. What is one of the highest scyscrapers in New York?
10. What's Fifth Avenue known for?
11. What is Broadway conspicuous for?
12. Where are most of the theatres and places of entertainment actually located?
13. What's the name of the famous opera house in New York?
14. What can you say about the Carnegie Hall?
15. What's the name of the biggest educational establishment in New York?
16. What can you say about Harlem?
17. What can you say about Greenwich Village?
18. What are the names of the buses that stop at some of the best known stores?
19. Is it easy to find one's way in New York? Why?

## 3. Read another text about New York. Fill in the blanks with the suitable words: **naval shipbuilding center, Dutch colonists, «money-making», Statue of Liberty, different languages, boroughs, Hudson River.**

Situated at the mouth of the deep 1) ... , New York has always been the gate of the USA. But it is more than just a door: it is also a window through which the life of the whole nation may be observed. New York is a city of striking social contrasts. It is a place where most of the millionaires live and at the same time a greater proportion of New Yorkers live at a lower level than the average for the US. In 1626 2) ... set up here the first settlement, named New Amsterdam. They bought Manhattan Island from Indians for 24 dollars and a barrel of rum. The Americans say that it was the best business deal ever made in New York. In 1664 the colony was captured by British fleet under Duke of York and renamed New York.

Now New York includes five 3) ... : Manhattan, the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn and Richmond.

Manhattan is the smallest of the five city boroughs in size and it is not the

largest in population although the majority spend a considerable part of the day in this center of business life. Here are Broadway, Wall Street and the Stock Exchange. This is the heart and source of American policy.

Harlem is also in Manhattan. Thick walls separate this «Black Bottom» with 450,000 coloured people from the white population.

In the bay stands the bronze 4) ... given to the United States by France as a present in 1886. Its torch is 60 meters high and can be seen at night for many miles. A new American Museum of Immigration is open at the base of the Statue.

The Bronx is a more residential rather than industrial part of the city. The well-known Zoo and Botanic Gardens are in the Bronx.

Queens is both a residential and industrial area. New York's two biggest airports are both there.

The Brooklyn Navy Yard is the largest 5) ... in the world. Brooklyn has more people than any other part of the city — about 3,000,000. It is mostly a district of middle-class people.

Richmond is the borough of piers and warehouses. Its population is only 200,000.

What makes New York? First of all, it is a great seaport, the greatest in the USA. The sea encircles many of the city areas. It is also a great financial center, where 6) ... is the main law of life. It is the symbol of big business and its Wall Street has become a nickname for big monopolies all over the world. New York is the leading textile center of the country and its clothes industry. It has a considerable printing industry and many book-shops. It is also undoubtedly one of the centres of social and spiritual lift of America. There are a lot of Art Galleries, among them rich Henry Frick collections, and many impressive art museums (Metropolitan Museum, Modern Art Museum, American Art Museum and others). For a long time New York specialized in giving visitors a good time at its theatres, restaurants, night clubs, sporting arenas, and therefore has a large hotel industry. It is the main publishing, advertising and radio center with Columbia and New York universities and various city colleges.

Among the inhabitants of New York one can meet people of almost all nations. The population of New York numbers about 16 million. *The* citizens speak seventy-five 7) ... .

### **III. ST. PETERSBURG**

St. Petersburg is my home town. It is one of the largest industrial and cultural centres and one of the most beautiful cities in the world. It was founded in 1703 by Peter I and for over 200 years (from 1714 till 1917) was the capital of Russia.

The city began with the Peter and Paul Fortress. The Peter and Paul Cathedral, the first church of the city, is worth seeing: it is an outstanding architectural monument.

St. Petersburg is famous for its architecture. There are many fine buildings, beautiful monuments, rich museums, parks and gardens in the city. The monument to Peter I (Bronze Horseman), St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Admiralty, the Hermitage, the Summer Gardens, the Russian Museum, Palace Square with the Alexander Column — all of them have a world-wide fame.

The historical centre of St. Petersburg is the Admiralty. Nevsky Prospect is the main street of the city. It begins at the Admiralty and ends at the Alexander Nevsky Lavra. If you walk along Nevsky Prospect, you will see many beautiful buildings. You will see the famous Kazan Cathedral with the monuments to the Russian generals Kutuzov and Barklay deTolli, the Alexandrinsky Theatre with the monument to Catherine II in front of it, the Anichkov Palace and the Belosselsky-Belozersky Palace, facing each other across the Fontanka River. The bridge over the Fontanka is famous for Klodt's sculptural groups of a man taming a horse.

There are many theatres in St. Petersburg, such as the Mariinsky Opera and Ballet House, the Maly Opera and Ballet House, the Alexandrinsky Theatre, the Tovstonogov Drama Theatre, the Akimov Comedy Theatre, the Musical Comedy and many others.

St. Petersburg is also famous for the beautiful Neva and its embankments and bridges. The city is especially beautiful during the White Nights in summer.

### **1. Answer the following questions:**

1. Is St. Petersburg your home town?
2. When was St. Petersburg founded? Who is the founder of St. Petersburg?
3. What did St. Petersburg begin with? Which is the first church built in the town?
4. When was St. Petersburg the capital of Russia?
5. Why is the Peter and Paul Cathedral worth seeing?
6. What else is worth seeing in St. Petersburg?
7. What is St. Petersburg famous for?
8. There are a lot of places of interest in St. Petersburg which have a world-wide fame, aren't there? Name some of them.
9. What is the historical centre of St. Petersburg?
10. What is the main street of St. Petersburg? It has a world-wide fame, doesn't it?
11. Where does Nevsky Prospect begin? Where does it end?
12. What can you see if you walk along Nevsky Prospect?
13. What monuments stand in front of the Kazan Cathedral?
14. What monument stands in front of the Alexandrinsky Theatre?
15. What is the bridge over the Fontanka famous for?
16. What do Klodt's sculptural groups represent?
17. What St. Petersburg theatres do you know?
18. What can you say about the Neva and its embankments?

## IV. MOSCOW

Moscow is the capital of Russia and the largest Industrial and cultural centre of the country. It is one of the oldest Russian cities. It was founded in 1147 by Yuri Dolgoruki. It was situated on the trade way from the Baltic Sea to the Caspian Sea. Moscow is famous for its beautiful old cathedrals, churches and monasteries, some of which date back to the 15th-17th centuries.

Moscow was first mentioned in the records dated back to the year 1147. At that time it was a small frontier post. The history of Moscow is connected with the history of Russia. In 1237 Moscow fell under the yoke of the Tatars. And it was Moscow Prince Dmitry Donskoy who led the Russian troops to a decisive victory over the invaders in the battle of Kulikovo field in 1380.

By the 15<sup>th</sup> century Moscow turned into a wealthy city. It was under Ivan III that Moscow became the capital of the state of Muscovy. At that time the Kremlin was rebuilt and the largest Kremlin Cathedrals were erected.

During the Time of Troubles Moscow was occupied by the Polish invaders but they were routed by the popular levy headed by citizen Minin and Prince Pozharsky.

In 1812 the Napoleonic army entered Moscow. The city was set ablaze. The army had to retreat.

The historical centre of Moscow is the Kremlin. It is the oldest part of Moscow. It was built as a fortress on the bank of the Moscow River. It is surrounded by a high red brick wall with twenty towers. The main tower is called Spasskaya. It is a symbol of Moscow.

Many buildings inside the Kremlin were erected between the 15th and 17th centuries. They are unique monuments of old Russian architecture. The most famous of them are the Uspensky Cathedral, the Archangel Cathedral, the Blagoveshchensky Cathedral and the Granovitaya Palata.

There are many other places of interest in Moscow, such as Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral, the Tretyakov Gallery, the new building of Moscow University, the Luzhniki Stadium and a lot more. Some of them have a world-wide fame.

Moscow is one of the world's cultural, scientific, educational and art centres. It is the seat of the Academy of Sciences of Russia. It has eighty colleges and institutes, over a thousand schools, many museums and libraries.

There are many theatres in Moscow, such as the Bolshoi Theatre, the Vakhtangov Theatre, the Moscow Art Theatre and a lot of others.

### **Answer the following questions.**

1. Moscow is the capital of Russia, isn't it?
2. Has Moscow always been the capital of Russia?
3. Is Moscow an old or young city? How old is it?

4. Who was Moscow founded by? When was it founded?
5. Why was Moscow's situation convenient for its growth?
6. What is Moscow famous for?
7. What is the historical centre of Moscow?
8. Why was the Kremlin built?
9. What is the Kremlin surrounded by?
10. What is the symbol of Moscow?
11. When were many famous buildings inside the Kremlin built?
12. Which are some of the unique monuments of old Russian architecture, situated in the Kremlin?
13. What other places of interest in Moscow can you mention?
14. What places in Moscow have a world-wide fame?
15. Moscow is one of the world's scientific and educational centres, isn't it? What can you say to prove it?

*Учебно-методическое издание*

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