

МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ
САМАРСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ
Кафедра английской филологии

МЕТОДИЧЕСКИЕ УКАЗАНИЯ
К ТЕМЕ
“MY HOME COUNTRY”

*для студентов 1 курса РГФ
(английское отделение)*

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Учебно-методические материалы содержат тексты по указанной тематике, задания, ориентированные на толкование отдельных лексических единиц, а также на семантизацию текстовых реалий, и упражнения, способствующие развитию навыков устной и письменной речи на основе овладения фонетическими, лексическими и грамматическими явлениями текста. Материалы нацелены как на формирование языковой компетенции, так и на развитие речевых навыков.

Данные учебно-методические материалы могут быть использованы как в аудитории для выполнения заданий под руководством преподавателя, так и для самостоятельной работы студентов.

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I. Read Text 1 and do the assignments following it:

Text 1. RUSSIA

My home country is Russia. The vast territory of Russia lies in the Eastern part of Europe and in the Northern part of Asia. In area, it is one of the largest countries of the world (a flight from Moscow to Magadan, for example, takes eight hours). Russia is washed by 12 seas and 3 oceans. The northern and eastern coasts of Russia are washed by the Arctic Ocean and the White Sea, the Barents Sea and by the Okhotsk Sea. In the East it stretches to the Pacific Ocean. Russia borders on 14 countries, including the former Republics of the USSR, which are now independent states. In the West it borders on Norway, Finland, ~~the~~ Ukraine and Byelorussia. In the South Russia borders on the Caucasian States, the states of Central Asia, Mongolia and China.

The land of Russia varies a lot from dense forests to barren deserts, from high-peaked mountains to deep valleys. Russia is located on 2 plains: the Great Russian Plain and the West Siberian Plain. There are 3 main mountain chains in Russia. The Urals, the longest mountain chain, separates Europe from Asia. The Asiatic section includes Siberia, the land of fine forests and mighty rivers.

What is the climate like in Russia? One can hardly answer this question briefly. Our country is very large and there are various types of climate on the territory. But the temperature zone with four distinct seasons prevails. Our country can be divided into broad belts of natural vegetation. Along the Arctic coasts lies the tundra. It is frozen during the most part of the year. When it thaws, it forms swampy grassland with mosses and dwarf trees. To the south of the tundra stretch dense forests. These forests give a good supply of timber and furs. Rye, potatoes, oats and barley are grown there. South of the forests lie the steppes. The northern part of this region, covered with rich soil, is known as the black-earth region. This is one of the best wheat-growing regions.

Russia is a land of long rivers and deep lakes. The broad Volga river is of great historic, economic and cultural importance to Russia. It became the cradle of such ancient towns as Vladimir, Tver, Yaroslavl, Kazan and Nizhny-Novgorod. Numerous canals join all the rivers in the European part of Russia, making it the largest inland water transportation route in Europe.

The Volga runs into the Caspian Sea, which is, in reality, the largest lake in the world. The Baikal is the deepest lake in the world.

The European part of Russia is densely populated. There are a lot of cities, towns and villages there.

What language do we speak in our country? One cannot answer this question in one word either: Russian is the language of the Russian people. Russia is a federative republic and a multinational state with some auto-

mous republics and regions within its structure which have different official languages.

The Russian Federative Republic is set by the Constitution of 1993. Under the Constitution Russia is a Presidential Republic. The federal government consists of three branches: legislative, executive and judicial. Each of them is checked and balanced by the President.

The legislative power is vested in the Federal Assembly. It consists of the two chambers. The Upper Chamber is the Council of Federation. The Lower Chamber is the State Duma. Each Chamber is headed by the Speaker. Legislature may be initiated by either of the two Chambers. But to become a law a bill must be approved by both Chambers and signed by the President. The President may veto the bill.

The President, elected for 4 years, is commander-in-chief of the armed forces, he makes treaties, enforces laws, appoints ministers to be approved by the Federal Assembly.

The executive power belongs to the Government which is headed by the Prime Minister. The first action of the Prime Minister on appointment is to form the Cabinet.

The judicial branch is represented by the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court and regional courts.

The members of the Federal Assembly are elected by popular vote for a 4-year period.

Moscow is the capital of Russia and the seat of the Government.

Today the state symbol of Russia is a three-coloured banner. It has three horizontal stripes: white, blue and red. The white stripe symbolizes the earth, the blue one stands for the sky and the red one symbolizes liberty. The hymn of Russia is «The Patriotic Song» by M. Glinka. A new national emblem is a 2-headed eagle. It originates from the heraldic emblem of the Rurikovitchies. All these symbols are official. They have been approved by the Federal Assembly.

Russia is miraculously rich in natural resources. It has deposits of coal, iron ores, nickel, oil, natural gas, gold, diamonds and timber.

The history of Russian industry goes back to the middle of the 17th century. The development of new industries and crafts - metal working, textiles, brick making and china manufacture - was encouraged under Peter the Great. During the reign of Catherine the Great the Urals became the focus for iron industry, and Russia became the world's largest iron producer.

Russia was the most populous state of the former USSR and also the wealthiest one. It produced 78% of all its natural gas, 60% of oil.

But many branches of industry and agriculture go through crisis. The crisis of political power tells upon science, education, culture and medical service.

Russia has always played an important role in the world. To remain one of the leading powers in the world the state should strictly follow the principles of our home and foreign policy. The home policy of our state is

aimed at achieving peace among our citizens, politic and economic stability. The main principles of our foreign policy are freedom, independence of every state, coexistence and cooperation and peace all over the world.

II. Study *Vocabulary Notes to Text 1*:

Vocabulary Notes

1. to stretch (v) - to spread out in space or time: *The forest stretches for miles.*
2. to border (v) -
 - 1) to form a border to: *fields bordered by woods*
 - 2) to share a border with: *France borders Germany along parts of the Rhine.*
 - 3) to provide with a border, esp. for decoration: *to border a skirt with lace*
3. to vary (v) -
 - 1) (in) to be different; have qualities that are not the same as each other: *Opinions on this matter vary. Houses vary in size.*
 - 2) (from) to (cause to) become different; change, esp. continually: *The weather varied from very cold to quite mild.*
4. dense (adj.) -
 - 1) closely packed or crowded together: *a dense crowd / trees / traffic*
 - 2) difficult to see through: *a dense mist*
 - 3) stupid; slow to understand: *One or two of the students are a bit dense.*
5. barren (adj.) -
 - 1) (of women or female animals) not able to produce children or young.
 - 2) (of trees or plants) producing no fruit or seed
 - 3) (of soil) too poor to produce a good crop: *barren wastelands*
 - 4) useless; empty; producing no result: *a barren discussion*
6. mighty (adj.) - very great in power, strength, size, etc.: *He raised the hammer and struck the rock a mighty blow. Mighty empires / a mighty king / the mighty Himalayas*
7. to prevail (v) -
 - 1) (among, in) to (continue to) exist or be widespread: *A belief in magic still prevails among some tribes.*
 - 2) (against, over) to gain control or victory; win a fight: *Justice has prevailed, the guilty man has been punished.*
8. to thaw (v) -
 - 1) to change from a solid frozen state to become liquid, soft or bendable as a result of an increase in temperature to above freezing point: *The snow is thawing.*
 - 2) (of the weather) to become warm enough for snow and ice to melt: *It often doesn't thaw until June in Siberia.*
 - 3) to become friendlier, less severe or formal: *After their third meeting she began to thaw.*

9. moss (n) - a small flat green or yellow flowerless plant that grows in a thick furry mass on wet soil, or on a wet surface such as a rock.
10. legislative (adj.) - having the power and duty to make laws: *a legislative assembly*
11. executive (adj.) - 1) concerned with making and carrying out decisions, esp. in business: *She has been given full executive powers in this matter.*
2) having the power to carry out government decisions and laws: *The executive branch carries out the laws which have been made by the politicians.*
12. judicial (adj.) - of or related to a court of law, judges or their judgements: *a judicial decision / ruling*
13. to vest in (phr. v.) - 1) [usu. pass.] (vest sthg. in sbdy.) to give the official and legal right to possess or use (power, property, etc.) to: *In most countries the right to make new laws is vested in the people's representatives.*
2) [no pass.] (vest in sbdy./sthg.) of (power, property, etc.) to belong by right to: *In former times this power vested in the Church.*
14. to veto (v) - toed; present participle -toing; - to prevent or forbid (some action); refuse to allow (something): *The president last week vetoed a cereal price cut.*
15. treaty (n) - 1) an agreement made between countries, esp. after a war, and formally signed by their representatives: *The conference drew up the terms of the peace treaty / to ratify a treaty*
2) agreement between people: *We sold the house by private treaty.*
16. to enforce (v) -1) to cause (a rule or law) to be obeyed or carried out effectively: *Governments make laws and the police enforce them.*
2) (on, upon) to make (something) happen, esp. by threats or force; impose: *They tried to enforce agreement with their plans.*
17. deposit (n) - 1) a matter that has been deposited in rock by a natural process: *There are such deposits of gold in those hills.* Matter that has been deposited by liquid: *salt deposits / too much deposit in a bottle of wine*
2) an act of placing money in a bank or safe: *I'd like to make a deposit please / a deposit box*
3) the first part of a payment for goods or service, as a sign that the payment will be completed: *The hotel requires a deposit for all advance bookings. We put down a deposit on a new car today.*

4) money paid at the beginning of a business agreement, to be held in case the agreement is not kept: *You may have to pay a deposit to open an electricity account, but if you pay your bills promptly they won't keep it. To put down a deposit of £ 100 on a new car.*

III. Do the following exercises:

Exercise 1. Transcribe and practise reading the following words and word-combinations:

a) Europe, European, Asia, Asiatic, the Barents Sea, the Okhotsk Sea, the Pacific Ocean, Ukraine, Byelorussia, the Caucasian States, Mongolia, Siberia, the Urals;

b) area, coasts, vary, various, barren deserts, valley, (to) separate, mighty, temperature, distinct, prevail, natural vegetation, tundra, thaw, swampy, dwarf, cradle, ancient, canal, route, federative, legislative, judicial, executive, multinational, autonomous, assembly, chamber, (to) initiate, (to) veto, constitutional, (to) symbolize, hymn, eagle, emblem, miraculously, deposit, coal, diamonds, manufacture, crisis, coexistence, cooperation.

Exercise 2. Answer the following questions:

1. Is Russia one of the largest countries in the world?
2. The vast territory of Russia lies in the Eastern part of Europe, doesn't it?
3. How many seas and oceans is Russia washed by?
4. How many countries does Russia border on? What are they?
5. Does the land of Russia vary much?
6. What can you say about the relief of Russia?
7. What is the climate like in Russia?
8. Can you name the main vegetation zones in Russia?
9. What are the longest rivers in Russia?
10. What is the role of the Volga in the life of Russia?
11. What do you know about Lake Baikal?
12. The European part of Russia is densely populated, isn't it?
13. What language do we speak in our country?
14. When was the new Constitution of the Russian Federation adopted?
15. What is the Russian Federation system according to the Constitution?
16. For what period of time is the President elected?
17. What is the structure of the Federal Government?
18. Is the legislative power represented by the Federal Assembly?
19. What chambers does the Federal Assembly consist of?
20. Who(m) does the executive power belong to?
21. Who is the head of the Government?

22. What is the judicial branch of power represented by?
23. Can you depict the State symbol of Russia?
24. What is the hymn of Russia?
25. What is the National Emblem of Russia?
26. Is Russia rich in natural resources?
27. What was the economical position of Russia in the former USSR?
28. What do you know about Russian economy nowadays?
29. What has made the life of our people very hard?
30. What are the main principles of our home and foreign policy?

Exercise 3. Supply articles where necessary:

There is no other country in world whose nature is more varied than that of Russia. western half of country consists mainly of low plains. country is divided into two parts by Ural mountains. greater part of eastern half is covered with vast plateaus and mountain chains. Here, on Kamchatka Peninsula biggest active volcanoes of Old World are located.

In South plains of western half of country are bounded by huge mountain ranges. Here are country's highest peaks.

Many of rivers of Russia are among world's greatest. most important rivers of western plain are Volga, Western Dvina, Don and Northern Dvina.

In Far East Amur flows into Pacific.

In lakes, too, our country is extremely rich. Among them are world's greatest lake Caspian Sea and deepest Lake Baikal.

Exercise 4. Supply prepositions where necessary:

Our motherland is immense. It's far the largest and the richest country both Asia and Europe. Its frontier line is the longest the world.

Our motherland is immense. It's far the largest and the richest country both Asia and Europe. Its frontier line is the longest the world.

Natural conditions Russia vary greatly. If you cross Russia the extreme North the extreme South you will get a good idea the climate contrasts, to say nothing the difference scenery and vegetation, characteristic various geographical zones. Siberia is unlike the Urals, the face Tatars differs that the Caucasus. One region is rich one thing, another is rich another.

Perhaps no other country's geographic location has played such an important part its history as Russia's. Half Europe and half Asia, its history has revolved this basic fact.

Exercise 5. Translate the following text into English. Use the given key-words:

environment protection	защита окружающей среды
anxious	обеспокоенный
to pollute	загрязнять
pollution	загрязнение
waste	отходы
to survive	выжить
dangerous	опасный
wonder	чудо
to fancy	представить
unique	уникальный
urgent task	неотложная задача
to demand	требовать
game preserve	заповедник
reservoir	хранилище
timber processing plant	деревообрабатывающий комбинат
pure	чистый
filtering techniques	очистные сооружения
widespread	широко распространенный
wildlife	животный мир

УНИКАЛЬНОЕ ОЗЕРО

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Здравствуй, Кен!

Помнишь ли ты, что два раза в неделю я посещаю школьный Английский клуб? Здесь мы обсуждаем различные проблемы. В прошлый раз в центре нашего внимания была проблема защиты озера Байкал.

Как тебе известно, Иркутск находится около этого озера. Мои школьные друзья и я очень обеспокоены проблемой защиты окружающей среды. Я думаю, что это самая важная проблема всех людей. Мы должны сохранить нашу окружающую среду чистой. Реки и озера становятся такими загрязненными промышленными отходами, что рыба не может выжить. Неужели это не опасно для нашей планеты и для здоровья людей?

Байкал - это чудо природы. Это не только самое глубокое озеро в мире, но и самое чистое. Представь себе, что Байкал содержит $\frac{1}{5}$ мировых ресурсов чистой воды. Всем тем, которые посещают озеро Байкал впервые, предлагают выпить стакан воды, взятой прямо из озера.

Ты можешь увидеть озеро на глубине $\approx 21\text{м}$ (70 футов). Около 150 видов растений и рыбы обитают в этой кристально чистой воде. Многие из них единственные в своем роде. Наша неотложная задача - защитить это уникальное озеро от загрязнения.

Проблема озера Байкал обсуждалась неоднократно. Некоторые ученые настаивают на том, чтобы превратить озеро Байкал в заповедник. В этой связи Академия Наук разработала план, согласно которому южный берег Байкала будет превращен в природный парк. Хороший план, не правда ли?

Некоторые ученые хотят использовать это громадное хранилище в экономических целях. Они пытаются отстоять свою позицию утверждая, что Байкальский деревообрабатывающий комбинат сможет очистить воду, поступающую вновь в озеро, с помощью современных очистных сооружений.

Как ты думаешь - это возможно? Я боюсь, что эти современные очистные сооружения недостаточно эффективны.

Состояние экологии все еще серьезное во многих регионах нашей страны. Зная это, мы должны что-то делать. Я собираюсь вступить в общество защитников окружающей среды, которое становится широко распространенным в Сибири.

Я уверен, что защита природных ресурсов и животного мира требует сотрудничества всех наций. А что ты думаешь по этому вопросу?

До свидания,

Андрей Чернов.

IV. Read Text 2 and do the assignments following it:

Text 2. LOOKING AT THE MAP OF RUSSIA

- I'd like you to tell me something about your country.
- I think the best way to get a general idea of a country is to study the map. It's lucky I've got one with me. Here it is.
- Perhaps we had better start with the physical outline of the country.
- Well, Russia can be divided roughly into two main regions - the highlands in the east and the lowlands covering the greater part of the country, with a long mountain range cutting it into two unequal parts.
- You mean the Urals. They form the natural border between Europe and Asia. But the highest mountain chains, as far as I can see, are situated in the south and the south-east of the country. What do you call them?
- The Caucasus, between the Caspian and the Black sea and the Altai in Asia.
- I'd love to go there. My hobby is mountaineering. But our mountains are not so high as yours, as far as I know.
- I believe they are not. We have peaks four and a half miles high. But we also have lowlands several hundred feet below sea level. We have steppes in the south, plains and forests in the midlands, tundra and taiga in the north.
- What are the "steppes"?
- They are treeless plains covered with grass. The soil is fertile there.
- And is the tundra like our heather moss?
- Not in the least. It's a kind of frozen desert in the Arctic region.
- And what is the taiga, I wonder?
- It's a thick coniferous forest stretching to the south of the tundra. It's rich in animals valued for their fur, like sable, fox, squirrel.

- I'd like to go hunting there, but I'm afraid I would never be able to stand the cold.

- Our climate is also varied. In the south-west the weather is usually mild and wet; northern Asia is one of the coldest places on earth and in the south the heat is unbearable. But in the middle of the country the climate is moderate and continental.

- Well, it has been very interesting for me to hear all those things. Thank you very much for your information.

Exercise 1. Consult the dictionary and transcribe the words and geographical names:

- a) the Urals, Europe, Asia, the Caucasus, the Caspian sea, the Altai;
- b) physical outline, roughly, mountain range, unequal, mountaineering, tundra, taiga, fertile, heather, moors, desert, coniferous, sable, squirrel, valued, varied, earth.

Exercise 2. Pick out the English equivalents of the following from Text 2:

получить общее представление о стране, физические очертания, разделяться на ..., высокогорье, низменность, горная цепь / гряда, разрезать на две неравные части, образовывать естественную границу, ниже уровня моря, внутренняя часть страны, плодородная почва, вересковые пустоши, хвойный лес, переносить холод, разнообразный климат, мягкий климат, невыносимая жара, умеренный климат, насколько я понимаю, насколько мне известно, ни в коей мере.

Exercise 3. Write questions about Text 2, using the words and phrases from Exercise 2. Prepare to discuss the text (use the map).

SUPPLEMENT

Part 1

Geographical names with and without "the"

The following geographical names are used without any article:

a) names of continents: Africa, Antarctica, America, Asia, Australia, Europe, South America

Note: the Arctic and the Antarctic are used with the definite article as they denote the regions (the land and the sea) round the north and the south poles.

b) names of countries, counties, provinces, states: France, Italy, Wisconsin, Texas, Devonshire, Scotland

Note 1: Some names of countries, counties, etc. require the definite article; some other names can be used with or without the definite article:

the Argentine (but: Argentina), (the) Congo, (the) Lebanon, (the) Senegal, the Ruhr, the Saar, the Ukraine, the Crimea.

Note 2: Names of states consisting of word groups including common nouns are used with the definite article:

the Soviet Union, the United States of America (the USA), the German Federative Republic, the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates.

Note 3: We also use «the» with plural names: the Netherlands, the Philippines

c) names of cities, towns or villages: London, New York, Madrid, Stratford-on-Avon.

Note: The only exception is the Hague (in the Netherlands).

d) names of individual islands: Corfu, Sicily, Bermuda, Easter Island.

Note: Island groups usually have plural names with «the»: the Bahamas, the British Isles, the Canaries / the Canary Islands.

e) individual mountains usually have names without «the»: (Mount)Everest, Ben Nevis (in Scotland), (Mount)Etna, Snowdon, Elbrus.

Note: Mountain ranges usually have plural nouns with «the»:

the Rocky Mountains / the Rockies, the Ands, the Alps, the Pennine Range / the Pennines.

f) names of lakes: Lake Michigan, Lake Baikal, Lake Superior, Silver Lake, Lake Constance.

Note: If the noun «lake» is omitted, the definite article is used: the Baikal.

g) names of waterfalls: Niagara Falls, Victoria Falls

h) names of bays: Hudson Bay

i) names of peninsulas and capes: Hindustan, Labrador, Cape Horn

Note: If the noun «peninsula» is added, the definite article is used:
the Hindustan peninsula, the Balkan peninsula

Other geographical names take **the definite article**. These are:

a) names of seas, oceans, rivers, straits, canals, channels: the Atlantic (Ocean), the Indian Ocean, the Mediterranean (Sea), the Red Sea, the English Channel, the Nile, the Amazon, the Thames, the Rhine, the Volga, the Suez Canal, the Panama Canal, the Strait of Dover, the Dardanelles.

Note: On maps «the» is not usually included in the names.

b) names of deserts: the Sahara, the Gobi

c) names of regions: we say - the Middle East, the Far East, the North of England, the South of Spain, the west of Canada (but: northern England, southern Spain, western Canada - without «the»).

Note 1: You can also use «north / south» etc. + a place noun (without «the»): North America, West Africa, South-East Spain.

Note 2: On maps «the» is not usually included in the names.

d) geographical names having the plural form: the Midlands, the Yorkshire Forests.

Geographical names that are used with the zero article may take the definite or the indefinite article under the following conditions:

a) if a limiting article is used a geographical name takes the definite article:

It was not the France of his youth.

b) if a descriptive article is used a geographical name has the indefinite article: *It was a different Paris, unknown to him.*

c) the definite article is used in the following patterns containing the preposition «of»: the Bay of Biskay, the City of New York, the Mount of Olives, the Isle of Man, the Gulf of Mexico, the Strait of Dover.

Articles with other semantic groups of proper names

Proper names of the following semantic groups take no article:

a) names of streets, squares, parks: Broadway, Fleet Street, Wall Street, Piccadilly, Trafalgar Square, Central Park, Hyde Park.

Note: The exceptions are: the Strand (in London), the High Street, the Main Street (in the USA).

b) names of airports and railway stations: London Airport, Kennedy Airport, Waterloo Station, Victoria Station.

c) names of universities and colleges: Oxford University, Harvard University, Brasenose College, Hertford College.

d) names of magazines and journals: National Geographic, Punch, Language.

e) names of days of the week and names of months: Monday, Tuesday, July, April.

f) names of buildings, bridges: Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Colosseum, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge, Tower Bridge.

Note: Some names of buildings, however, are used with the definite article: the White House, the Tower, the Old Bailey.

Nouns of some semantic groups require **the definite article**. They are:

a) names of hotels, clubs, museums, picture galleries, concert halls, theatres, cinemas, monuments: the Hilton, the National Tennis Club, the National Gallery, the British Museum, the Louvre, the Carnegie Hall, the Albert Hall, the Old Vic, the Odeon, the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial.

b) names of ships and boats: the Titanic, the Queen Mary.

c) names of parties and institutions: the Conservative Party, the Democratic Party, the London City Council, the House of Commons.

Note: Parliament (in Britain) is used without any article (but: The British Parliament). The definite article before Congress (in the USA) may be dropped, but it is equally correct to use it.

d) names of newspapers: the Daily World, the Economist, the Times

Exercises

Exercise 1. Read these sentences carefully. Some are correct, but some need «the» (perhaps more than once). Correct the sentences where necessary.

Examples: Everest was first climbed in 1953.

Right

Milan is in north of Italy.

Wrong - the north of Italy

1. Last year we visited Canada and United States.
2. Africa is much larger than Europe.
3. South of England is warmer than north.
4. We went to Spain for our holidays and swam in Mediterranean.
5. Tom has visited most countries in western Europe.
6. A friend of mine used to work as a reporter in Middle East.
7. Next year we are going skiing in Swiss Alps.
8. Malta has been a republic since 1974.
9. Nile is longest river in Africa.
10. United Kingdom consists of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Exercise 2. Here are some geography questions. You have to choose the right answer. Sometimes you need «the», sometimes not. Try to find out the answers if you don't know them.

Example: What is the longest river in the world? (Amazon / Rhine / Nile)

1. Where is Bolivia? (Africa / South America / North America)
2. Where is Ethiopia? (Asia / South America / Africa)
3. Of which country is Manila the capital? (Indonesia / Philippines / Japan)
4. Of what country is Stockholm the capital? (Norway / Denmark / Sweden)
5. Which country lies between Mexico and Canada?
(Venezuela / El Salvador / United States)
6. Which is the largest country in the world? (United States / China / Russia)
7. Which is the largest continent? (Asia / South America / Africa)
8. What is the name of the mountain range in the west of North America?
(Rocky Mountains / Andes / Alps)
9. What is the name of the ocean between America and Asia?
(Atlantic / Pacific / Indian Ocean)
10. What is the name of the ocean between Africa and Australia?
(Atlantic / Pacific / Indian Ocean)
11. What is the name of the sea between England and France?
(Mediterranean Sea / English Channel / French Sea)
12. What is the name of the sea between Africa and Europe?
(Black Sea / Red Sea / Mediterranean Sea)
13. What is the name of the sea between Britain and Norway?
(Norwegian Sea / English Channel / North Sea)
14. Which river flows through Vienna, Budapest and Belgrade?
(Rhine / Danube / Volga)
15. What joins the Atlantic and Pacific oceans?
(Suez Canal / Panama Canal)

Exercise 3. In this exercise you have to choose the correct form, with or without «the».

Example: When we were in London we visited National Gallery / the National Gallery.

1. The British Prime Minister lives in Downing Street / the Downing Street.
2. One of the nicest parks in London is St. James's Park / the St. James's Park, which is very near Buckingham Palace / the Buckingham Palace.
3. Frank is a student at Liverpool University / the Liverpool University.
4. Mr. Jenkins reads Daily Telegraph / the Daily Telegraph and his wife reads Times / the Times.
5. If you want to buy some new clothes, the shop I would recommend is Harrison's / the Harrison's.
6. We flew from London to Orly Airport / the Orly Airport in Paris.
7. Tate Galley / the Tate Gallery is the main modern art museum in London.
8. My local pub is called Prince of Wales / the Prince of Wales.

9. Have you ever visited Tower of London / the Tower of London?
10. Which hotel are you staying at? - At Sheraton / the Sheraton.
11. Diana and George got married in St. Matthew's Church / the St. Matthew's Church.
12. You must visit Science Museum / the Science Museum when you are in London.
13. Did you see the film at Classic / the Classic?

Exercise 4. Fill in the blanks with articles before names of continents, countries, states, provinces, counties, cities if necessary:

1. In his youth Mr. Curry had been abroad a great deal, had lived in ___ Ceylon, ___ Singapore and ___ India.
2. I've heard he's off to ___ Central Africa.
3. Next morning, back from shopping in ___ Cannes, Nicole found a note saying that Dick had taken the small car and gone up into ___ Provance for a few days by himself.
4. Your advice, then, as I understand it, is that the young man will be as safe in ___ Devonshire as in ___ London.
5. My great-grandfather was Governor of ___ North Carolina.
6. Here are some of his belongings such as the sword given to him in ___ Caucasus and many historical documents.
7. One of the most striking of the many unique exhibits is a marble sarcophagus - a relic of ancient art found in excavations on ___ Taman Peninsula in ___ Crimea.
8. ___ Yorkshire is famous for some delicious foods, including Yorkshire pudding and roastbeef.
9. In ___ Netherlands and ___ Belgium St. Nicholas' Day, December 6 is the children's festival, on the eve of which the saint is supposed to come riding from ___ Spain with presents for all good children.
10. The first three department stores in ___ United States were in ___ Chicago.
11. Anyhow they lived in ___ South China.
12. He's moved to ___ Lebanon.
13. This was not ___ Paris that good Americans went to when they died.
14. Having stayed near four months in ___ Hamburg, I came by land to ___ Hague.

Exercise 5. Fill in the blanks with articles before names of oceans, seas, straits, channels, rivers, lakes, bays if necessary:

1. How ill she was when there was a storm in ___ Indian Ocean.
2. New York, the largest city in the USA, is situated at the mouth of ___ Hudson river, sometimes called ___ North river.

3. He had grown up at the shores of ___ Lake Superior and had sailed small boats ever since he was a kid.
4. They sent us a postcard of ___ Lake of Geneva.
5. They were in ___ Mediterranean passing ___ Gibraltar, but the weather, if anything, was worth.
6. ___ Potomac flows from West Virginia into ___ Chesapeake Bay.
7. Warm air began to move from ___ Gulf of Mexico across Texas into New Mexico.
8. Wisconsin was on ___ Wisconsin River, on the north bank, a matter of seven miles above the junction with ___ Mississippi.
9. I collected my baggage and stepped out of the train, and there was ___ Grand Canal at my feet.
10. ___ Pacific Ocean is rich in mineral raw materials.

Exercise 6. Fill in the blanks with articles before names of peninsulas, deserts, mountains, islands, falls if necessary:

1. She's lived on ___ Long Island twenty years and never saw New York City before.
2. ___ Rocky Mountains extend from Mexico to Canada.
3. He took her for a ride on the river under ___ Niagara Falls.
4. On the edge of ___ Sahara we ran into a plague of locusts and the chauffeur explained kindly that they were bumble-bees.
5. He had a small house in ___ Bermudas.
6. No one should leave the park without visiting ___ Great Canyon for a view of ___ Lower Falls of the Yellowstone River.
7. ___ Kilimanjaro is a snow covered mountain in Africa.
8. The main part of the United States presents four physical divisions: two elevated and two lowland regions. The elevated are ___ Appalachian mountains in the East and ___ Rocky mountains in the west.
9. The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen lies on the southern tip of ___ Arabian Peninsula.
10. Spain is a country of about 194,883 square miles (including ___ Balearic Island and ___ Canary Islands) occupying the larger part of ___ Iberian Peninsula in southwestern Europe.
11. Mongolia spans a huge steppe plateau and ___ Gobi Desert.

Exercise 7. Fill in the blanks with articles before geographical names if necessary:

1. ___ Manhattan is the name of the island which forms the heart of New York.
2. Do you know what it is like when there is sixty degrees of frost in ___ Arctic - and it still doesn't freeze?

3. In 1919 I happened to be in ___ Chicago on my way to ___ Far East.
4. He had agencies in many of the islands of ___ Pacific.
5. He came to ___ Seine, crossed it, and entered one of the less reputable quarters of ___ Paris. *Nigean*
6. They knew that Davidson had worked in ___ Canaries for five years before he met his wife.
7. The church stood in ___ ancient village of ___ Devonshire.
8. Go to ___ Hague, or to ___ Amsterdam.
9. ___ Victoria Falls on the northwest border of ___ Rhodesia is a mile wide and 420 feet high.
10. ___ Moscow is a city of museums. It was in ___ Moscow that the first museum collection was formed in ___ medieval Russia.
11. Most of the Slavic peoples now in ___ Balkan Peninsula arrived in the 6th and 7th centuries.

Exercise 8. Fill in the blanks with articles before miscellaneous proper names if necessary:

1. On the other bank of ___ Potomac lies ___ Arlington National Cemetery, where ___ President Kennedy was buried.
2. Tom and Miss Baker sat on either end of the long couch and she read aloud to him from ___ Saturday Evening Post.
3. Sensation at ___ London Airport. Attempt to smuggle 12 jewels worth three quarters of a million.
4. Then still keeping a hundred yards behind, we followed into ___ Oxford Street and so down ___ Regent Street.
5. ___ Jefferson Memorial was built in memory of the third president of ___ USA, Thomas Jefferson, who was also the author of the Declaration of Independence.
6. ___ White House is the President's residence.
7. She asked Charles if he would take her to ___ National Gallery.
8. He has been to ___ Eton and ___ Oxford and he doesn't forget to let you know it.
9. Every day her mother had read two newspapers from cover to cover: ___ Daily Telegraph and ___ Daily Mirror.
10. He stood by the window of the sitting room which gave view over ___ Hyde Park.
11. They drove off eastward, down ___ Strand and into a little side street, by ___ Charing Cross.
12. I am a marine biologist. I took a degree in it at ___ Cambridge.
13. They have a nice home in ___ High Street.
14. He paid careful attention to the announcements in ___ Times.
15. ___ Savoy is a luxury hotel in Strand in London.

Exercise 9. Fill in the blanks with articles where necessary:

Australia

Australia is ___ fifth and smallest of ___ continents, three-quarters ___ size of ___ Europe, ___ quarter ___ size of ___ Africa and ___ six ___ size of ___ Asia or ___ America. On ___ other hand, it is by far ___ largest island in ___ world, with ___ coastline of 12,200 miles and ___ overall area of almost three million square miles, which makes it slightly smaller than ___ United States and about twenty-four times ___ size of ___ British Isles.

Geographically, Australia dates back at least 2000 million years, and ___ poet who described it as «___ land as old as ___ time» was not far wrong. Some people believe that it was once ___ part of ___ Antarctic continent. There is also ___ theory that until ___ few million years ago it was ___ part of ___ great land which reached ___ north to ___ Asia and ___ east as far as ___ New Zealand.

In its present shape more than ___ third of Australia lies within ___ tropics. ___ Cape York, its northern tip, is in more or less ___ same latitude as ___ far south of ___ India and ___ central islands of ___ Philippines. ___ southern tip of ___ Tasmania has ___ same latitude as ___ Portland, ___ Black Sea and ___ Vladivostok. Because of this there is much variety in ___ physical character and ___ climate. It is ___ rather flat country with ___ not very high ranges near ___ eastern coast. ___ highest peak, ___ Mount Koscuisko, reaches only 7,316 feet, ___ quarter of ___ height of ___ Mount Everest. Much of ___ country's almost rainless, and as ___ result most of ___ people live on ___ east and ___ south-east coasts. ___ large cities such as ___ Sydney and ___ Melbourne are crowded with ___ people but ___ average number of ___ inhabitants to ___ square mile in Australia is only four.

Exercise 10. Fill in the blanks with articles wherever necessary paying particular attention to the use of the articles before geographic names. Retell the text:

Geography of ___ United States

___ United States of America is located on ___ North American Continent. ___ western third of ___ country consists mainly of ___ high plateau broken by ___ numerous mountain ranges, ___ chief of which are ___ Rocky Mountains. To ___ west of this region lie ___ Great Plains. This is ___ region of ___ very flat ground extending from ___ Canadian border to ___ Gulf of ___ Mexico and eastward as far as ___ Appalachian Mountains. ___ Appalachians are ___ range of ___ low mountains and ___ hills running parallel to ___ Atlantic Coast and about one to two hundred miles in land.

Along ___ centre of ___ Great Plains, flowing ___ south from ___ Canadian border to ___ Gulf of ___ Mexico is ___ Mississippi River. This river together with ___ Missouri which joins it from ___ west and ___ Ohio which joins it from ___ east, forms ___ central river system of ___ United States. In ___ north are ___ five Great Lakes - ___ Lake Superior, ___ Lake Huron, ___ Lake Michigan, ___ Lake Erie and ___ Lake Ontario which empty into ___ Atlantic Ocean

through ___ St. Lawrence River. ___ Colorado River in ___ southwest and ___ Columbia in ___ northwest are ___ other principal rivers of ___ country.

___ climate of ___ country is typical of ___ other large continental areas in ___ temperature zone. It is very warm in ___ summer and in all of it except ___ south is cold in ___ winter. ___ west, and especially ___ southwest, is very dry.

___ capital of ___ United States, Washington D.C. is not located in any state, but lies between ___ states of ___ Maryland and ___ Virginia. ___ principal cities of ___ U.S. are ___ New York, ___ Chicago, ___ Philadelphia, ___ Detroit, ___ Los Angeles and ___ Cleveland. ___ population of ___ United States is not evenly spread over ___ country, but is concentrated largely in ___ east.

___ heart of ___ American agriculture is ___ «corn-belt», ___ belt of ___ very fertile land extending from ___ Nebraska eastwards as far as ___ Pennsylvania. In this area ___ principal crop is ___ corn. West of ___ corn-belt is ___ wheat-belt extending ___ north and ___ south from Texas to ___ North Dakota and into ___ Canada.

___ principal products of ___ south are ___ cotton and ___ tobacco although ___ corn is also grown there. ___ agriculture of ___ California, because of its favourable climate, is confined largely to ___ special crops, such as ___ citrus crops and ___ grapes.

___ mineral deposits of ___ U.S. are concentrated largely among ___ Appalachian Mountains. There are, however, ___ important oil-fields in ___ Texas, ___ Oklahoma and ___ California, and ___ important iron mines in ___ Minnesota. Because of ___ overwhelming concentration of ___ minerals in northeastern part of ___ U.S. ___ manufacturing is also concentrated there.

Exercise 11. Fill in the blanks with articles wherever necessary paying particular attention to the use of the articles before geographic names. Retell the text:

___ British Isles.

___ British Isles lie off ___ north-west coast of ___ continental Europe. They are made up of ___ Great Britain (___ England, ___ Scotland and ___ Wales) and ___ Ireland (___ Northern Ireland and ___ Independent Irish Republic) and some 5500 smaller islands. ___ whole territory of ___ British Isles is 244000 square kilometres.

We will not find ___ high mountains or ___ large plains in Britain. Everything occupies ___ little place. ___ nature, it seems, has carefully adapted ___ things - ___ mountains, ___ plains, ___ rivers, ___ lakes - to ___ size of ___ island itself. ___ mountain 12000 feet high would be ___ wonder there. So would be ___ plain 400 miles long, ___ river as wide and deep as ___ Mississippi.

Most of ___ plains lie to ___ east; ___ west is hilly or mountainous. ___ mountains even in ___ highest part of England are only ___ little over 3000 feet high. ___ highest mountain in ___ British Isles is ___ Ben Nevis in ___ Scotland,

4406 feet high. ___ longest river is ___ Severn, about 2000 miles long. ___ highest waterfall is 370 feet high.

Too often ___ visitor who has only ___ few days to spend sees only ___ Lowland England, and so he cannot see ___ contrasts between ___ wild fiords of ___ Scotland, rocks of ___ North Wales, ___ smiling orchard-land of ___ Kent and ___ open moorland of Sutherland. These contrasts are often not far from ___ big cities.

___ climate of ___ British Isles is influenced by ___ Atlantic ocean. ___ winters are not so cold as they can be on ___ continent, but ___ summers are not so warm as they usually are on ___ other side of ___ Channel. In ___ other words, ___ Great Britain has ___ mild climate, but because of ___ length of ___ British Isles ___ temperatures differ from ___ district to ___ district.

___ North is certainly colder than ___ South, but in ___ winter ___ coldest districts are ___ eastern ones. ___ climate here is more like that in ___ Central Europe. On ___ whole ___ weather changes very often and there are ___ few sunny days. Britain has ___ rain in every month of ___ year. ___ rainiest months in Britain are ___ November, ___ January and ___ February. Usually there is ___ little snow in ___ winter.

Part 2

Study Notes on pages 143-144 («Практический курс английского языка» под ред. В.Д. Аракина, М., Издат. Центр «Владос», 1997) and complete the following tables:

Table 1.

- an / - ian		- ish		- ese	
Bulgaria	Bulgarian	Denmark	Danish	Sudan	Sudanese
Mongolia	Mongolian	Finland		Senegal	
Rumania	Rumanian	Ireland		Portugal	
Italy	Italian	Poland		Japan	
Norway	Norwegian	Sweden		Burma	
Algeria		Turkey		China	
Argentina		Britain		Lebanon	
Austria		England		Malta	
Belgium		Scotland		Nepal	
Brazil		Spain		Vietnam	
Canada					
Egypt					
Hungary					
Germany					
India					
Mexico					
Russia					
United States					

Table 2.

- i		others	
Pakistan	Pakistani	Czechia	Czech
Iraq		Slovakia	Slovak
Kuwait		Wales	
Yemen		France	
		Greece	
		Thailand	
		Iceland	
		the Netherlands	
		Switzerland	

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