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Кафедра иностранных языков

RENDERING

Методические рекомендации

*Витебск
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Данное учебное издание предназначено для студентов дневного отделения неязыковых специальностей всех факультетов.

Предлагаемые методические рекомендации направлены на совершенствование навыков устного изложения иноязычных аутентичных текстов.

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ВВЕДЕНИЕ

Данное учебное издание предназначено для студентов неязыковых специальностей всех факультетов высшего учебного заведения дневной формы обучения.

Целью методических рекомендаций является совершенствование навыков устного изложения аутентичных текстов, тематика которых соответствует общей направленности и требованиям типовой программы. Предлагаемое издание построено на публицистических текстах. Текстовый материал и представленная система упражнений направлены на совершенствование умений восприятия и осмысления прочитанного текста, определения основных смысловых связей, относящихся к характеристике описываемых событий, нахождения в нем конкретизирующих фактов, краткого обобщения его содержания. Данная методическая разработка поможет студентам самостоятельно составить пересказ предложенного текста, что является неотъемлемой частью обучения иностранному языку в настоящее время.

Что такое “rendering” ?

«Рендеринг» (от англ. “to render”) – перевод, изложение, передача другими словами содержания текста. Кроме того, пересказ источника включает в себя собственный комментарий относительно актуальности сообщаемой информации, способа постановки и решения проблемы, затронутой в тексте, а также дополнительные сведения по теме.

Алгоритм составления пересказа:

1. Быстро просмотрите текст, стараясь понять общее содержание и найти предложение (абзац), в котором заключена основная идея.
2. Прочтите текст во второй раз, подчеркните ключевые слова, убедитесь, что их значение вам известно и понятно из контекста.
3. Составьте план пересказа.

План составления пересказа:

1. Вступление: заголовок статьи или текста, автор, тема, идея публикации, история вопроса, причина выбора данной темы.
2. Основная часть: события, факты, дополнительные детали, имеющиеся в тексте, доводы автора для обоснования своей точки зрения.
3. Заключительная часть: резюме сказанного, оценка точки зрения автора, личное отношение к проблеме, пути ее разрешения.

The Plan of Rendering

1. The headline of the article is ... (The article is headlined ...).
2. The author of the article is...
3. The article is taken from the newspaper (book)...
4. The central idea of the article is about... (The main idea of the article is..., the article is devoted to..., the article deals with..., the article touches upon..., the purpose of the article is to give the reader some information on..., the aim of the article is to provide a reader with some material on...).
5. Give a summary of the article (no more than 7-10 sentences).
6. State the main problem discussed in the article and mark off the passages of the article that seem important to you.
7. Look for minor peculiarities of the article.
8. Point out the facts that turned out to be new for you.
9. Look through the text for figures, which are important for general understanding.
10. State what places of the article contradict your former views.
11. State the questions, which remained unanswered in the article and if it is possible add your tail to them.
12. Speak on the conclusion the author comes to.

13. Express your own point of view on the problem discussed.

VOCABULARY SUPPORT

1. Данная статья – the present paper, article
2. Тема – the theme (subject-matter)
3. Основная проблема – the main (major) problem
4. Цель – the purpose
5. Основной принцип – the basic principle
6. Проблемы, связанные с – problems related to; problems of
7. Аналогично – similarly; likewise
8. Поэтому, следовательно, в результате этого – hence; therefore
9. Наоборот – on the contrary
10. Тем не менее – nevertheless; still; yet
11. Кроме того – besides; also; in addition; furthermore
12. Сначала – at first
13. Далее, затем -next; further; then
14. Наконец, итак -finally
15. Вкратце – in short; in brief

Цель написания статьи:

1. The object (purpose) of this paper is to present (to discuss, to describe, to show, to develop, to give)...
2. The paper (article) puts forward the idea (attempts to determine)...

Вопросы, обсуждаемые в статье:

1. The paper (article) discusses some problems relating to (deals with some aspects of, considers the problem of, presents the basic theory, provides information on, reviews the basic principles of)...
2. The paper (article) is concerned with (is devoted to)...

Начало статьи:

1. The paper (article) begins with a short discussion on (deals firstly with the problem of)...
2. The first paragraph deals with...
3. First (at first, at the beginning) the author points out that (notes that, describes)...

Переход к изложению следующей части статьи:

1. Then follows a discussion on...
2. Then the author goes on to the problem of...
3. The next (following) paragraph deals with (presents, discusses, describes)...
4. After discussing... the author turns to...
5. Next (further, then) the author tries to (indicates that, explains that)...
6. It must be emphasized that (should be noted that, is evident that, is clear that, is interesting to note that)...

Конец изложения статьи:

1. The final paragraph states (describes, ends with)...
2. The conclusion is that the problem is...
3. The author concludes that (summarizes the)...
4. To sum up (to summarize, to conclude) the author emphasizes (points out, admits that...)
5. Finally (In the end) the author admits (emphasizes) that...

Оценка статьи:

1. In my opinion (To my mind, I think)...
2. The paper (article) is interesting, of importance (of little importance), valuable (invaluable), up-to-date (out-of-date), useful (useless)... (not interesting).

ПРИМЕР

WHY FORESTS NEED FIRES

By Alex Kirby (BBC News Online environment correspondent),
5 December, 2002

The bush fires raging across swathes of New South Wales are terrifying. For people in the areas ablaze they spell disruption at least, the prospect of losing their homes, and the possibility of death.

For wild species, like kangaroos and koalas, death on a large scale is already a reality. Yet the fires may offer benefits to the forests in the longer term.

No forest has ever existed without having to cope with periodic fires. The Stale Forests of New South Wales website says: "Fire is very much a natural part of many Australian ecosystems. The Aborigines used fire on a regular basis, and had a profound influence on vegetation".

No trees without fire

"Many areas which were once quite open and grassy now contain thickets of shrubs and vines."

Fires are a natural way of clearing old growth, causing organic matter to decompose rapidly into mineral components which fuel rapid plant growth, and recycling essential nutrients, especially nitrogen.

Some trees cannot survive without periodic blazes. Lodge pole and jack pines are serotinous species – their cones open and their seeds germinate only after they have been exposed to fire.

In Australia, the mountain ash, a flowering tree that grows in temperate areas, needs a site to be thoroughly burnt and to be exposed to full sunlight before it can regenerate.

Some eucalyptus species are largely fire-resistant but can help a fire to spread, shedding their bark when they burn and releasing flammable oils from their leaves.

Forests adapt themselves to relatively small intermittent fires. But when policymakers try to suppress fires altogether, they encourage the accumulation of dead growth and allow new species to establish themselves.

When a fire does start, it finds more fuel to sustain itself than would normally be there.

Trapped by the flames

Some critics say opposition by environmental groups to any controlled burning in forests encourages combustible growth to accumulate and intensify any fires that do start.

They argue that forests need active management, including deliberate fires as a form of pruning.

The Australian Koala Foundation says that the survival rate of koalas depends on the intensity of the fire. Even when flames do not reach the canopy of the trees, they may suffer paw burns when they come to ground to change trees and tread on the smouldering, hot ground. They may also suffer from smoke inhalation and exposure due to the loss of foliage. They are fussy eaters and if the trees they like are burnt they may find it difficult to find replacements. Many perish when they climb to the treetops to escape the fire, while others starve when their food supplies are destroyed.

The most common natural cause of forest fires is probably lightning, though globally most fires; are started by people.

SUMMARY

The article “Why forests need fires” by Alex Kirby has been published on BBC News website. **It provides** information on fires as a natural part of local ecosystems. **This problem is quite important today**, and the information about it is limited.

The article consists of three parts: an introduction and two main parts that describe the influence of fires on local flora and fauna.

The preamble introduces the problem of conflagrations to the reader and **states that** no forest has ever existed without having to cope with periodic fires. **The main idea of the first part is that** conflagrations can be a natural part of local ecosystem, and like every phenomenon that has been evolving for thousand years it can cause some positive consequences.

The second part describes the influence of fires on local flora. **The author claims that** in some cases conflagrations can clean the forest and free the way for younger and stronger vegetative life. **The author argues** that there are many plants that help fires to spread.

The last part of the article reveals horrible effects of forest fires on local fauna: starvation, drought, skin burns and etc.

As a whole the article is of particular interest. The concept of positive consequences caused by fire has been a great surprise for me and the information about the plants that help fires to spread is of great value. I suppose that the author examined all issue of the problem. I believe “Why forests need fires” is worth the reader's attention to observe.

TEXT 1. SUMMARIES

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Very likely, you will be asked sometimes during your college career to write a **summary** of research **sources**, a procedure, a book, an article, or some other piece of information. Your summary may be presented **orally**, in writing, **informally**, **formally**, or for an exam. You may even be asked **to summarize information** in a graphical format. Summaries can be simple, using just a few key words, or they may be more complex, depending on your purpose for writing them.

Writing a summary is an opportunity for you to demonstrate your understanding of course material. Many students mistakenly think that simply repeating the **key words** from the material suffices. In summarizing, you are not only asked **to repeat in your own words** what you know (demonstrate comprehension), but you may be asked **to evaluate** the summarized information or **draw several ideas** together in a summary (evaluate and synthesize).

Here are some **tips** for summarizing:

Always present a balanced view of your material.

Always give equal coverage to all parts of the material.

Always use a neutral tone in your writing.

Always keep the author's material distortion-free.

Always summarize in your own words.

Opening summaries give just the essential content, results, and **conclusions** and may be **brief**. Formal summaries, such as an executive summary, may be 1–5 percent of the original material in length and **reflect** the organization of the original source. Remember that your **purpose** is to present faithfully the contents of the original source.

Exercise 2. Answer the questions.

1. What can one write a summary on?
2. In what way may a summary be presented?
3. What does a summary demonstrate?
4. Can simply repeating the key words from the material be considered a summary?
5. What may you be asked to do in a summary?
6. What are the types of summaries?

7. What is given in opening summaries? How is the information presented in them?
8. What are formal summaries like?

Exercise 3. Translate in writing the paragraph about tips for summarizing. Remember them.

Exercise 4. Write a brief summary of this text.

Exercise 5. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 2. FRIENDS REUNITED

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Have you ever wondered what your old **school-mates** are doing now? Well plenty of people in Britain do.

One of the most successful **internet ventures** in Britain has shown how popular, and how lucrative, nostalgia can be.

The website **Friends Reunited** was started for fun in 1999 by a couple who were interested to know what their old school friends were doing. The project snowballed and by 2005, the site had 12 million members.

One **extraordinary fact** is that Friends Reunited has never advertised, its success is entirely due to word-of-mouth. You can **search** for a school, college or university and find a list of the members who were there in any year. You can also post a **personal profile** showing what you are doing now, and read other people's details.

Steve Pankhurst, one of the **founders** of the site, thinks that one of the reasons for its success is that some people like to be **anonymous**. On Friends Reunited, you can **snoop** on other people's lives without giving away anything about yourself if you don't want to. It's also an **opportunity to bolster** your **self-esteem** by showing off to everyone just how **successful** and happy you are now, even if you weren't while you were at school.

Friends Reunited has also led to many successful **school reunions**, and people meeting up with each other after many years. In particular, many people use the site **to look up** their childhood sweethearts and many couples have actually rekindled relationships after contacting each other through the site.

There have even been Friends Reunited weddings and babies, and Friends Reunited now has a new site called Friends Reunited Dating especially for people who **are looking for love**. The company **has** also **launched** other sites, such as Genes Reunited, which helps people to find long-lost relatives and build their family trees online.

Exercise 2. Find the equivalents in the text and learn them.

Одно из наиболее успешных Интернет-предприятий; ради забавы (веселья); выдающийся факт; список членов; один из основателей сайта; причина успеха; выдавать себя; поддерживать свою самооценку; улучшить отношения; давно потерянные родственники; создать свое фамильное дерево; искать любовь.

Exercise 3. Answer the questions.

1. What is “Friends Reunited?”
2. What has this site shown?
3. How was it started? Is it popular now? Prove it.
4. Is this site successful? Thanks to what? What are the reasons for its success?
5. How does the site work?
6. What do many people use the site for?
7. What other sites has the company launched? What are their purposes?
8. Have we got any site similar to “Friends Reunited?” Are you a member of it?

Exercise 4. Retell the text using key words and phrases.

Exercise 5. Translate into English.

а) Интернет-сайт, поддерживать самооценку, искать одноклассников, успешные люди, совместное предприятие, рекламировать, информация о себе (личная информация), подглядывать за соседями, искать слово в словаре, пользоваться Интернет-ресурсами (resources), анонимное письмо, прибыльный и успешный проект.

б)

1. Ностальгия может быть прибыльной.
2. Интересно, он пользуется сайтом «Одноклассники»?
3. Благодаря передаче «Жди меня» он нашел давно потерянных родственников.
4. Джейсон зарегистрировался на этом сайте ради забавы.
5. Одна из причин ее успеха – это ее невероятное умение (incredible ability) контактировать с людьми.

Exercise 6. Speak on the following questions.

1. How often do you use the Internet? For what purposes?
2. What are the most popular and successful Internet sites in Belarus?
3. Are you a member of any Internet site? Tell some words about it.
4. Can the Internet help you anyway in your scientific research? How?

TEXT 3. SOCIAL NETWORKS

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Do the names MySpace, Facebook, Orkut, etc. ring a bell? They probably do because they are some of the most popular sites on the Internet today. These sites are all called “**social networking**” sites because they help people **meet** and **discuss** things online. Each of these social networking sites has its own **strengths**: MySpace is especially **popular among** teenagers, Facebook is popular with college age people, Orkut is especially loved in Brazil, and CyWorld is the site to visit in South Korea. The common thread between all of these social networks is that they **provide** a place for people to interact, rather than a place to go to read or listen to “content”.

Social networks are considered to be web 2.0. What does this mean? To understand this, it's important to understand what the **original web** did (often called web 1.0). Back in the nineties, the Internet - or web - was a place to go to read articles, listen to music, get information, etc. Most people didn't **contribute** to the sites. They just “**browsed**” the sites and took **advantage** of the information or resources provided. Of course, some people did create their own sites. However, creating a site was difficult. You needed to know basic **HTML coding** (the original language the internet uses to 'code' pages). It certainly wasn't something most people wanted to do as it could take hours to get a **basic page** just right. Things began to get easier when **blogs** (from web log) were introduced. With blogs, many more people began writing “**posts**”, as well as **commenting** on other people's blogs.

Exercise 2. Choose only one right answer:

1. Which social networking site was not mentioned in the reading?
a) MySpace b) LinkedIn c) Facebook
2. What is Facebook?
a) a blog b) a content site c) a social networking site
3. Where is Orkut especially popular?
a) in Japan b) in Brazil c) in South Korea
4. Which phrase best describes what people do at social networking sites?
a) They interact with other people.
b) They browse articles and other content.
c) They code pages in HTML.
5. Social networks are considered:
a) Web 1.0 sites b) Web 2.0 sites c) Web blogs
6. What was the original web mainly used for?
a) interacting with other people
b) browsing content

- c) creating pages in HTML
7. Why didn't many people create web pages in the beginning?
- a) They didn't like communicating with others.
 - b) They didn't feel comfortable coding HTML pages.
 - c) They didn't know they could create web pages.
8. Which is the best description of web 2.0 sites?
- a) They are content driven sites.
 - b) They are platforms for interaction.
 - c) They are like blogs, but better.
9. What do web 2.0 sites rely on?
- a) articles written by professional journalists
 - b) users creating content
 - c) fast internet connections
10. What is most important for these new sites?
- a) users' desire to communicate with each other.
 - b) users' desire to read interesting content written by professionals.
 - c) users' desire to learn coding.

Exercise 3. Make up your own sentences with these words and word combinations:

Social network, to interact, to contribute, to create, to comment on

Exercise 4. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 4. COCA-COLA

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

In 1886 **John Pemberton**, a **druggist** in Atlanta, Georgia, made a brown syrup by mixing **coca leaves** and **cola nuts**.

Pemberton sold the syrup in his drugstore as a medicine to cure all kinds of problems. Pemberton called his **all-purpose medicine** «Coca-Cola».

When few people bought **Coca-Cola**, Pemberton sold it to another druggist, Asa Candler. Candler decided to sell Coca-Cola as a soda-fountain drink instead of as a medicine.

At the **Soda-fountains** in drugstores, the syrup was mixed with soda-water to make the drink Coca-Cola. Candler **advertised** a lot and sold his syrup to many drugstores. Soon everyone was going to soda-fountains and asking for Coca-Cola.

Candler saw no **reason** for putting Coca-Cola into **bottles**. But 2 businessmen thought this would be a good idea. They got **permission** from Candler, and before long they became millionaires.

As of 1903, coca leaves were no longer used. The exact ingredients used in Coca-Cola and their **quantities** are not known – the Coca-Cola Company keeps its **recipe** in secret.

World War I helped to make Coca-Cola popular outside the USA. The Coca-Cola Company sent free bottles of the drink to US **soldiers** fighting in Europe. Coca-Cola became very popular with the soldiers – so popular that the US Army asked the company to start 10 factories in Europe.

Today, there are Coca-Cola factories around the world.

Exercise 2. Put the sentences in the correct order according to the text.

1. Today there are Coca-Cola factories around the world.
2. Few people bought John Pemberton's syrup.
3. Asa Candler made Coca-Cola into a soda.
4. That was how Coca-Cola became so popular in the USA.
5. John Pemberton sold Coca-Cola to Asa Candler.
6. During World War I the Coca-Cola Company sent Coca-Cola to US soldiers in Europe.
7. But 2 other businessmen put Coca-Cola into bottles.
8. A druggist, John Pemberton, invented Coca-Cola in 1886.

Exercise 3. Choose the appropriate word.

1. A person who sells medicine is a _____.
a) druggist b) millionaire c) businessman.
2. _____ is a sweet, heavy liquid that tastes good.
a) syrup b) cola c) soda.
3. Pemberton sold Coca-Cola to people to _____ their problems.
a) keep b) cure c) mix.
4. The different things that are mixed together to make Coca-Cola are called _____.
a) ingredients b) ideas c) sodas.
5. Not many people knew about Pemberton's syrup. _____ bought it.
a) a lot b) few c) all.

Exercise 4. Give short answers.

1. How was Coca-Cola first used?
2. What did Asa Candler sell Coca-Cola as?
3. When did Coca-Cola begin to become popular around the world?

Exercise 5. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 5. TOBACCO, SUGAR AND COTTON

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

For thousands of years **tobacco** was used by the American Indian with no ill-effect. In the 16th century it was brought to Europe. This early tobacco was mixed with **soil** and rather dirty. It **was chewed** or smoked in pipes only by men – women thought it smelly and disgusting.

It was first grown commercially in America in the 17th century on **slave plantations**. In the 18th century new technology refined tobacco and the **first cigarettes** were produced. By the 1880s huge factories were producing cigarettes which were clean and easy **to smoke**. **Chain-smoking** and **inhaling** became possible and by the middle of the 20th century tobacco **addicts**, both men and women were dying of lung **cancer** in great numbers.

Sugar cane was grown in India thousands of years ago. In Roman times it was known in Europe as a great luxury, and it was rare and expensive. In 1493 **Columbus** took a sugar plant with him to the West Indies, where it grew so well, that huge plantations were started by Europeans and worked on by slaves. The slaves **were shipped** across the Atlantic from Africa, packed sometimes one on top of the other in chains, on a journey that took six weeks. Many **died**. The empty ships then carried the sugar back to Europe. So much money was made that sugar was known as “**white gold**”.

Cotton has been grown for over 5 000 years in places as far apart as Mexico, China, Egypt, and India. It was first planted in America in 1607. Before 1880 cotton was a great luxury, more expensive than silk, because so many workers **were needed** to pick it.

Exercise 2. Choose the right variant.

1. For thousands of years tobacco was used by
a) the American Indian b) the Americans c) the Indians.
2. Men and women were dying of ... in great numbers
a) heart attack b) a lung cancer c) pneumonia.
3. Sugar cane was grown in ... thousands of years ago.
a) China b) India c) Japan.
4. Cotton was a great luxury, more expensive than ...
a) silk b) gold c) silver.

Exercise 3. Complete the sentences according to the text.

1. For thousands of years tobacco was used ...
2. In the 18th century ...
3. In 1493 Columbus ...
4. Before 1880 ...

Exercise 4. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 6. FAST FOOD

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

The success of **fast food chains** is based on their ability to **specialize** in one kind of food and keep the standards of every outlet the same. Burgers, fish, french fries and other foods **are delivered** in pre-measured, frozen, **ready-to-cook** portions. And the cooking takes place in assembly-line fashion for speed and efficiency. The **result** is a hot meal delivered within minutes of the order.

Most fast food meals are **high in fat**, sodium, and **calories** and low in fiber and nutrients. Fast foods are often fried or deep fried. A typical fast food meal of a **cheeseburger**, an order of french fries and a milk shake can average about 1,800 calories with 50% of these calories from fat. **Public health** organizations recommend that only 30% of a total daily intake of 2,000 calories be made up of fat.

The fast food experience **has expanded** beyond North America and **has taken root** in different places around the globe. In 1990 Pizza Hut opened an outlet in Russia and by 1991 the McDonald's in Moscow's Red Square was serving burgers to nearly 27,000 curious Russians **every day**. Many fast food chains are doing business all over Asia, too. In all there are now more than 4,000 American-style fast food outlets **outside** North America.

Exercise 2. Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about fast food.

1. How fast foods are prepared. 2. The amazing success story of McDonald's. 3. Positive and negative aspects of fast food. 4. Health problems associated with fast foods.

Exercise 3. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. Fast food outlets seem to be a passing fad in North America.
2. One thing that makes fast food franchises work so well is their ability to change what they offer depending on the location.
3. By 1990, McDonald's in Moscow was serving 27,000 Russians a month.

Exercise 4. Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

The spread of American-style fast food services to other countries all over the world probably results from the fact that...

- a) people everywhere tend to appreciate speedy service;
- b) hamburgers and fries are excellent food;
- c) this is becoming the only kind of restaurant food that is available;
- d) public health organizations are recommending fast food.

Exercise 5. Speak on the following questions.

1. When was the last time you went to a fast food outlet? What did you buy? Why did you decide to go there? Were you satisfied? Why?
2. Is it true, as some people say, that we are using fast foods more and more as time goes by? What evidence do you have? Is there any problem here?
3. List some of the people whom you would – and whom who would not – invite to join you at a fast food restaurant. Explain your reasons.

Exercise 6. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 7. PLASTIC SURGERY

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Modern **plastic surgery** techniques and methods have been in use since the end of World War I. At that time plastic surgery was needed to **repair** and **reconstruct** the battle **wounds** and disfigurements suffered by **soldiers** and civilians during the war. Since then, starting in the 1950s, more and more people have been turning to plastic surgery in order to **change physical features** that they do not like about themselves.

There are **two main areas** of plastic surgery, **reconstructive** and **cosmetic**. Reconstructive surgery is mainly used to repair deformed or injured tissue that is not working properly. Most people who require dramatic reconstructive surgery today are **victims** of violent **car crashes** or other accidents.

The other main area of plastic surgery is **cosmetic surgery**. This plastic surgery is done **to improve** a person's physical **appearance**, not because the person has an injury. Common cosmetic surgery operations include: rhinoplasty (nose surgery), otoplasty (correcting protruding ears), blepharoplasty (removal of excess fat and skin from eyelids), and face-lifts (pulling facial skin tight to eliminate wrinkles).

The defining line between what is cosmetic surgery and what is necessary reconstructive surgery has been debated heavily by doctors, the **government** and **the media** in recent years. There are many operations that modern plastic surgeons **perform** that can blur that line between required and desired surgery. And what weight should be given to an operation's benefit to a patient's psychological state as a **reason** for that surgery? The debate continues.

Exercise 2. Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about plastic surgery.

1. Techniques and developments in plastic surgery.
2. The definition of plastic surgery.
3. Modern improvements in plastic surgery.
4. The two different branches of plastic surgery.

Exercise 3. Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1. This kind of surgery is called 'plastic' because...
 - a) it was first developed in Greece, and so it has a name with a Greek origin;
 - b) it is a modern technique, as modern and scientific as plastic is;
 - c) it involves giving a person's body a new shape;
 - d) at first it was restricted to medical treatment for people hurt in wars.
2. The great debate surrounding plastic surgery centers on...
 - a) modern vs traditional procedures;
 - b) reconstructive vs cosmetic surgery;
 - c) the importance of knowledge vs technology;
 - d) psychological vs medical procedures.

Exercise 4. Speak on the following questions.

1. In what circumstances do you think reconstructive plastic surgery is most important?
2. Can you think of ways how a plastic surgery operation could blur the line between required and desired surgery? Discuss.
3. Can you think of anyone who has had cosmetic surgery? What kind of procedure was it? Was it a success? Was it a good idea? Would you ever think of having some similar type of operation?

Exercise 5. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 8. SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Family life is the cornerstone of **society**. In modern times, new cultural **patterns** are changing family life. One such phenomenon is the growing number of **single-parent families**. **Bringing up** children is difficult at the best of times, but single parents face a lot of new challenges.

The biggest **victims** of the **negative aspects** of single-parent families are the children. Many children of single parents live in poverty. But a lack of money is not the only way that these kids can be disadvantaged. A child can **suffer** emotionally when a family breakdown occurs, because the child loses one of the people he or she relied upon for love, affection and **emotional security**. A child also relies on parents for **socialization skills**. It is an important function of the family **to care, protect** and **nurture** its young and teach its members a code of ethics. Some social scientists blame many of the most pressing social problems on the **collapse** of the family unit, although others do not agree.

There are community support groups and programs to help single-parent families. In some schools, children **receive counseling** to help them adjust to single-parent living. There are government agencies to provide parents with **advice on daily child care**, successful time management, how **to communicate** effectively with their children, and strategies for coping with life as a single parent.

The structure of the family **is changing**. People today are witnessing a social change that could be as monumental as the Industrial Revolution.

Exercise 2. Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about single-parent families.

- a) The future of single-parent families.
- b) The increasing number of single-parent families.
- c) Problems and successes with single-parent families.
- d) Children from single-parent families.

Exercise 3. Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) When the author writes that single mothers are “forced” to receive welfare payments, it means that...

- a) the government forces them to receive welfare;
- b) their financial situation is so bad that they are forced to receive welfare;
- c) child welfare agencies encourage single mothers to receive welfare;
- d) those mothers are working for the government.

2) Support for single parents is important because...

- a) so far there is almost no help available;
- b) many single parents are women;
- c) these parents have to do everything alone;
- d) single parents are usually lonely and isolated.

Exercise 4. Speak on the following questions.

1. What do you believe are the greatest challenges for a single parent?
2. How do you think single moms’ way of parenting might differ from single dads’?
3. Do you predict that the number of single-parent families will stay the same in the future? Increase? Decrease? Why?

Exercise 5. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 9. CASHLESS SOCIETY

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Paper money is the most common form of **currency** (or “**cash**”) used in the world today. Early in the 20th century, cash was most often used by people to pay their **bills** and **buy goods**. During the 1960s, many North Americans started **using** plastic “**credit**” **cards** instead of cash. Credit cards allowed people to buy the things they wanted and **pay for** them in the future. This growing use of “**plastic money**” led many money experts to predict the world would one day become a “**cashless society**”.

The growing use of plastic cards is slowly changing the modern **money system**. The first plastic credit card went into use in California in 1959. Since that time, banks have been the largest suppliers of credit cards. In North America, billions of credit cards are now in use. No cash is **needed** when using a credit card to buy things. A magnetic strip on the back of a credit card records the cost of goods and services with each **purchase**. These things can then be paid for at a later date. Everything from food and clothes to cars and boats can be bought using credit cards.

In the 1990s, more and more companies have begun making plastic cards **available** to make paying for things much **easier**. Bank cards give customers direct **access** to the money in their **bank accounts**; phone cards let customers call without putting money in the phone; new “**smart cards**” now make it possible to buy things and pay directly from a bank account.

It has been said that “money makes the world go around.” Starting now and into the future, however, it **appears** “plastic money” will be the choice of a cashless society.

Exercise 2. Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about a cashless society.

- a) In the future no one will need money.
- b) Plastic money has taken over as the preferred method of payment.
- c) Money has changed over the centuries.
- d) How money makes the world go around.

Exercise 3. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

- 1. Many money experts predict that the “plastic money” trend will end soon.
- 2. Money can be any object of value that is exchanged for another thing of value.
- 3. Today only a few countries in the world have an accepted money system.
- 4. With smart cards you pay for your purchases at a later date.

Exercise 4. Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

- 1) A definition of money is...
- a) dollars and cents;
 - b) anything of value that is exchanged for another thing of value;
 - c) the same as the 'barter system';
 - d) whatever you find in a bank.
- 2) A cashless society means...
- a) nobody will need money;
 - b) we will use plastic more often than bills and coins;
 - c) everyone will need their credit card when they go to the bank;
 - d) everyone will be in debt because of the interest charges on credit cards.

Exercise 5. Speak on the advantages and disadvantages of having and using credit cards.

Exercise 6. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 10. LIE DETECTORS

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Although "**lie detectors**" are being used by **governments**, **police departments**, and businesses that all want guaranteed ways of **detecting the truth**, the results are not always accurate. Lie detectors are properly called **emotion detectors**, for their aim is **to measure** bodily changes that contradict what a person says. **The polygraph machine** records changes in **heart rate**, breathing, **blood pressure**, and the electrical activity of the skin (galvanic skin response, or GSR). In the first part of the polygraph test, you are electronically connected to the machine and asked a few neutral **questions** ("What is your name?" "Where do you live?"). Your **physical reactions** serve as the standard (baseline) for evaluating what comes next. Then you are asked a few critical questions among the neutral ones ("When did you rob the bank?"). The assumption is that if you are **guilty**, your body will reveal the truth, even if you try **to deny** it. Your heart rate, respiration, and GSR will change abruptly as you **respond** to the incriminating questions.

That is the theory; but **psychologists** have found that lie detectors are simply not reliable. Since most physical changes are the same across all emotions, machines cannot tell whether you are feeling guilty, angry, nervous, thrilled, or revved up from an exciting day. **Innocent people** may be tense and nervous about the whole procedure. They may **react** physiologically to a certain word ("bank") not because they robbed it, but because they recently bounced a check. In either case the machine will

record a “lie”. The reverse mistake is also common. Some practiced liars can lie without flinching, and others learn to beat the machine by tensing muscles or thinking about an exciting experience during neutral questions.

Exercise 2. Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about lie detectors

- a) Physical reactions reveal guilt.
- b) How lie detectors are used and their reliability.
- c) Lie detectors distinguish different emotions.
- d) Lie detectors make innocent people nervous.

Exercise 3. According to the passage, what kind of questions are asked on the first part of the polygraph test?

- a) critical;
- b) unimportant;
- c) incriminating;
- d) emotional.

Exercise 4. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as something that is measured by a polygraph machine?

- a) blood pressure;
- b) heart rate;
- c) breathing;
- d) eye movement.

Exercise 5. Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

Polygraph tests ...

- a) record a person’s physical reactions;
- b) measure a person’s thoughts;
- c) always reveal the truth about a person;
- d) make guilty people angry.

Exercise 6. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 11

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

In this **overstressed age** some people seem wired to everything but each other. The struggle to balance career and family has had an unintended casualty: **friends**. Sociologists say that time of life when people have the most friends is young adulthood and old age; time of life when people have the least friends is middle age. But I can’t say that my parents’ ability to **maintain friendship** ebbs and flows.

Despite the **shortcomings** of e-mails as a means of **personal connection**, it may help **keep** some relationships **afloat**, at least for the short term. My parents use e-mail to stay in better **touch** with a circle of

high-school friends **by sending** along anecdotes, congratulations and digital photos of our family.

Maintaining those connections has bolstered them during tough times, particularly when my father was out of job and when my grandfather died of cancer a few months ago.

For my parents, **the key** is realizing that maintaining friendships takes **extra efforts**, just the way balancing work and family does. Yet every year my mum manages to arrange a long weekend for our family and a dozen of friends.

While some folks treat their lives as a house of card that could topple if they **add** just one more **obligation**, my parents think of friendship as an integral component of their life. “You can’t wait to live your life”, they say. “If you like being around friends and want to continue to have a relationship, you can’t **put them off**”.

From the Wall Street Journal

Exercise 2. Think of the title to the text.

Exercise 3. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. It is hard for contemporary adults to maintain friendships.
2. People lose friends trying to balance career and family.
3. Sociologists say that the ability to maintain friendships ebbs and flows with age.
4. E-mails help keep some relationships afloat for the long term.
5. It takes extra efforts to continue to have relationship with a circle of high-school friends.

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Render the text and speak about the role of friends in your life.

TEXT 12

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Technophobia is not a new term and technophobes **have existed** since the Industrial Revolution. Today we are living in **the Age of Technology**. Things that were once deemed Science Fiction are becoming a reality. We either accept these changes or move with the times or we resist and become **technophobes**.

The reality is much simpler than saying that technophobes **fear** technological advance. Technophobes are **anxious** because the

environment in which they live and work **is changing**. Some worry that they will lose their job because they cannot **keep up** with the times. In more extreme cases, technophobes convince themselves that technology will **take over** the world or that humans will be controlled by **computers and robots**. At other times they **are afraid** that if they press the wrong button on their keyboard, the computer will explode.

In most cases technophobes belong to **older generations** who were not brought up playing computer games and using mobile phones. They have never sent a text message or heard of an i-pod. Not only do they not possess a DVD, they still have not worked out how to use their VHS. These examples seem to validate the old saying: "You can't teach an old dog new tricks". **Experts** in the field of technology are becoming younger and younger. Being taught by somebody who is young enough to be your grandson goes against the laws of nature.

Knowledge and learning is **the way to rectify** the situation. What technophobes need is **information**. Simple computer classes often prove highly successful, especially where the student groups are made up of peer groups.

www.britishcouncil.org
adapted by
Katherine Bilborough

Exercise 2. Choose the right title to the text.

- a) Phobias b) Technophobia c) Frightened people

Exercise 3. Continue the sentences.

1. Today we are living _____.
2. Technophobes fear _____ and worry that _____.
3. In most cases technophobes belong to _____.
4. _____ is the way to rectify the situation.
5. What technophobes need is _____.

Exercise 4. Give Russian equivalents to the proverb "You can't teach an old dog new tricks".

1. «Старого учить, что мертвого лечить».
2. «Старый конь борозды не портит».
3. «Нельзя старую собаку научить новым трюкам».

Exercise 5. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 13. POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

As times change and **societies** grow, new language is created to reflect this growth and change. One of the more controversial developments that has gained people's attention in North America since the late 1980s is **political correctness**. The Random House Dictionary **defines** political correctness as **an outlook** "marked by or sticking to a typically **progressive tradition** on issues involving race, gender, or sexual attraction."

When political correctness first **took root** in North America, many people thought it was merely college campus **humor**, like referring to higher government taxation as "revenue enhancement" or calling bankruptcy a "positive restructuring." Some people even thought stories about political correctness – called PC – were about personal computers – also called PCs – and did not pay attention. But when the company that makes the popular board game Scrabble© **announced** it was eliminating nearly 100 words from its dictionary because they were **politically incorrect**, people knew political correctness was having **an impact**.

Some examples of **politically** correct language **include** changing "broken family" to "binuclear family," "maiden name" to "birth name," and "visually impaired" to "partially sighted."

Because words and deeds usually **originate from** ideas and can lead into real life, it seems appropriate that people of different backgrounds and beliefs try to use **a common language** that is helpful. Viewed in these terms, political correctness is an action of respect.

Exercise 2. Choose the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about political correctness. Be prepared to support your answer.

- The problem of political correctness.
- How the political correctness movement began.
- Political correctness and the media.
- Effects of the concern for political correctness.

Exercise 3. Answer the questions.

- How does the Random House Dictionary define political correctness?
- What was many people's reaction to political correctness when it first took root in North America?
- Give some examples of politically correct terminology.

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 14. SLANG

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Couch potato, bikini, fridge, movie and Internet... it is difficult to imagine that these words have anything in common, but they all do. These words all **started out** as **slang**.

Slang is an **informal level** of speech. Slang has always been a **part of** every society's language. Slang usually relies on a play on words. Sometimes words can be given a new, **unusual meaning**, and other times new words **are invented**. Take for example the expression "couch potato." "Couch potato" is a slang term for someone who sits around a lot, does not do much exercise and, perhaps, watches too much television.

The roots of much present-day slang come from the language of **special interest groups**. Groups such as computer enthusiasts, criminals, professional athletes, musicians, teenagers, artists and others **have coined** many slang expressions. At first the slang terms are used only by insiders in the group, where this language usage **represents** a common bond of **understanding** among the members of the group. Eventually this specialized vocabulary or "argot" begins being used by a wider public.

Much of the new language being **created** begins as slang. When it comes to its place of importance in the English language, slang officially ranks third behind standard and **colloquial** English. Slang may rank third on the status scale, but when it comes to **adding color** to the language, slang is number one!

Exercise 2. Choose the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about slang. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) How computer and criminal slang began.
- b) The creative power of slang.
- c) Slang in different languages.
- d) The status of slang.

Exercise 3. Answer the questions.

- 1) What level of speech is slang?
- 2) What does "couch potato" mean?
- 3) Name some special-interest groups responsible for creating much slang.
- 4) Why is slang number one?

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Render the text using key words.

TEXT 15

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Business is often seen as the "bad guy" in environmental matters because people feel that businesses will do anything to make a **profit**. Unfortunately, this is too often the case. Many business people believe that they cannot make a profit and be kind to the environment at the same time. However, it does not necessarily have to be this way. Using common business strategies, companies have found ways to become environmentally friendly, or "**green**", and increase their profits at the same time.

One such **strategy** that businesses use is known as "product differentiation." For example, in **marketing** their products organic food companies emphasize the organic aspect. That is, they **highlight** the fact that no chemicals have been used to grow the food, and so it is better for **consumers' health** and for the **environment**.

Another "**green**" **business strategy** that has been successful is **waste reduction**. Many companies have considered waste and **pollution** as a necessary part of the production process. They have done little to prevent either waste or pollution, unless there were **laws** that forced them to. But there are definite **advantages** to reducing waste and pollution. Less waste and less pollution means a more **efficient** production process. Some companies have become "**zero-waste**" **companies**. That means they produce no waste at all because everything from the production process is used or **recycled**.

Finally, companies can become "greener" by planning for a "greener" future. For example, two companies have started **to invest in renewable energy sources**, such as solar, wind, or hydrogen energy. Multinational companies have decided to cut back on the amount of harmful gases that their factories **produce**.

Exercise 2. Think of the title to the text.

Exercise 3. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. Business is "bad guy" in environmental matters.
2. Companies haven't found ways to become environmentally friendly.
3. Chemicals have been used to grow the food, and so it is better for consumers' health and for the environment.
4. Many companies have considered waste and pollution as a necessary part of the production process.
5. Some companies have become "zero-waste" companies.

Exercise 4. Render the text and speak about your ideas of “green business”.

TEXT 16. THE DISEASE OF MODERN TIMES: FOOD ALLERGY

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

I met Julie at a friend's house. Among the people gathered round the table for dinner, she was the odd one out. She scarcely talked. When she did talk, she didn't smile. And after supper, when everyone else was involved in the conversation, she sat with a book in the corner.

Just one week later, Julie rang me up. I didn't recognise the voice which came bubbling over the wire, it was so cheerful and alive. “I can't believe it”, she said, “I feel like a new person. I haven't felt so well for years!”

Julie had turned out to be one of the millions who, without knowing it, are allergic to everyday foods and chemicals. The results can be serious. An extreme case, which was reported recently, is that of former pop-singer Sheila Rossall, who is threatened by contact with almost every product of modern life; she cannot even use a telephone because she reacts to the plastic it is made from. Sheila's case is extreme. But there are also millions of people like Julie, who are not ill, but who are not well either. “In a typical doctor's surgery, about one third of the patients are suffering from allergic symptoms”, says Dr Richard Mackarness, “and another third have their problems worsened by allergy. Many of these people will end up being told that their problems are «psychosomatic» – in the mind. But they're not – they're caused by such everyday things as the food they eat or the air they breathe”.

Headaches, depression, tiredness, high blood pressure, stomach ulcers are just some of the conditions which can be caused by unrecognised allergies. Often avoiding a few things can improve a person's health greatly. When Julie stopped eating wheat and cheese and drinking coffee, her whole life changed.

But many doctors do not have the time or the training to recognise allergies. If you think you may have an allergy problem, the best approach is to read one of the books listed below and to ask for the help of one of the groups whose addresses are given.

*Jane Firbank in Cosmopolitan –
adapted*

Exercise 2. Find words or expressions that mean.

Different from everyone else; almost never; in such a good mood; very serious; in danger of being made ill; signs of illness; health problems; thing to do.

Exercise 3. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 4. Rewrite the summary, correcting the mistakes.

When the writer first met Julie at a friend's lunch party she talked a great deal to everyone. And whenever she talked she always smiled. When Julie rang up a day later she said that she hadn't felt well all year. Since she had started eating wheat and cheese and drinking tea her whole life had changed.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 17. THE ENERGY DEBATE

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

1. Britain is concerned about producing too little or too much energy. It relies on 4 main types of energy.

2. Britain's coal industry is one of the largest and most technologically developed in Western Europe. Coal has been mined in Britain since Roman times but became important during the 18—19th centuries. Large cities and heavy industries (such as steel or shipbuilding) developed in the areas where coal was found. Coal is certainly Britain's cheapest energy source and the dirtiest form of energy too. It pollutes air.

3. Oil has become increasingly important for Britain's transport. Earlier it was imported from the Middle East. In 1970 it was discovered in the North Sea. Britain became comparatively independent in energy sources. The high-quality oil has stimulated Britain's economy and created working places on the North- East coast of Scotland. Conservationists protest that oil pollutes the coastal waters and endangers fishing.

4. Many Britains also worry about the safety of Britain's nuclear power stations. There are now 16 nuclear power stations. They are situated in relatively unpopulated areas and away from large cities. It is the main source of energy for many countries. It saves natural resources. A lot of money was spent on energy research. Nevertheless there was an accident at Sellafield nuclear power station in Cumbria in 1957 and some cases of leukemia.

5. The debate continues. Which energy source is the cleanest and safest? Which is cheapest? The government is going to use all energy sources. It is dangerous to use the single source. The arguments against only oil or coal or nuclear power all emphasize the dangers of these energy sources to Britain's environment.

Exercise 2. What is the main topic of each passage? Match the passage and the following headlines.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Coal And Industry | b) Nuclear Power |
| c) Future Plans | d) Economic Independence |

Exercise 3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the following types of energy? Write down not more than 4 words.

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Coal		
Oil		
Nuclear		

Exercise 4. Choose the correct variant.

1. Britain's oldest source of energy is ...
a) North sea oil; b) gas; c) coal.
2. The energy debate is about ...
a) which energy source to use; b) the North sea;
c) the safety of nuclear power stations.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 18. BOYS AND GIRLS

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

If there is no difference in general intelligence between boys and girls, what can explain girls' lack of success in science and mathematics?

It seems to be that their treatment at school is a direct cause. Mathematics and science are seen as mainly masculine subjects, and therefore, as girls become teenagers, they are less likely to take them up. Interestingly, both boys and girls tend to regard the «masculine» subjects as more difficult. Yet it has been suggested that girls avoid mathematics courses, not because they are difficult, but for social reasons. Girls do not want to be in open competition with boys, nor do they want to do better than boys because they are afraid to appear less feminine and attractive.

However, if we examine the performance of boys and girls who have undertaken mathematics courses, there are still more high-achieving boys than there are girls. This difference appears to be world-wide. Biological explanations have been offered for this, but there are other explanations too.

Perhaps the difference which comes out during the teenage years has its roots in much earlier experiences. From their first days in nursery school, males are encouraged to work on their own and to complete tasks: this is essential behaviour for learning how to solve problems later on.

Apart from that, there can be little doubt that teachers of mathematics and science expect their male students to do better at these subjects than their female students. They even appear to encourage the difference between the sexes, not consciously, but they still do it. They spend more time with the male students. They are more likely to call on

boys for answers and to allow them to take the lead in classroom discussion. They also praise boys more frequently. All of this tends to encourage boys to work harder in science and mathematics and to give them confidence, to convince them that they are able to succeed.

Exercise 2. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. Some scientists explain girls' lack of success in science and mathematics by their biological characteristics.
2. The author believes that mathematics and science are treated as masculine subjects because they are more difficult than other subjects.
3. Teachers of mathematics and science tend to encourage the difference between sexes.
4. Male students don't usually allow female students to take the lead in classroom discussions.

Exercise 3. Answer the following questions.

1. What are social reasons for which girls avoid mathematics courses?
2. What do the worldwide statistics on science achievement show?
3. When, according to the author, does the difference in the approach to girls and boys come out?
4. What, according to the author, is the essential behaviour for learning how to solve problems?

Exercise 4. Correct the sentences according to the text.

1. Girls are more likely to take up mathematics and science as they become teenagers.
2. There can be little doubt that teachers of languages and science expect their female students to do better at these subjects than their male students.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 19. HOLLYWOOD KIDS

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

In Hollywood, everybody wants to be rich, famous and beautiful. Nobody wants to be old, unknown and poor. For Hollywood kids, life can be difficult, because they grow up in such an unreal atmosphere. Their parents are ambitious, and the children are part of their parents' ambitions. Parents pay for extravagant parties, expensive cars, and designer clothes. When every dream can come true, kids learn the value of nothing because they have everything. A 13-year-old boy, Trent Maguire, has a driver, credit cards and

unlimited cash to do what he wants when he wants. “One day, I’ll earn more than my Dad” – he boasts.

Parents buy care and attention for their children because they have no time to give it themselves. Amanda’s mother employs a personal trainer, a nutritionist, a bodyguard/chauffeur, a singing coach, and a counselor to look after all her 15-year-old daughter’s needs.

Often there is no parent at home most days, so children decide whether to make their own meals or go out to restaurants, when to watch television or do homework. They organize their own social lives. They play no childhood games. They become adults before they are ready.

Hollywood has always been the city of dreams. The kids in Los Angeles live unreal lives where money, beauty, and pleasure are the only gods. Will children around the world soon start to think the same? Or do they already?

Mijanou, aged 18

“Looks are very important in Hollywood. If you’re good-looking, you’ll go far. I want to be a beautician. Yu grow up really fast in L.A. everyone is in a rush to be an adult, to be going to clubs. It’s not cool to be a kid.”

Emily, aged 10

“I live in a hotel and when I come home from school, there are maybe 80 people who say “Good day” to me. It’s their job to say that. In the bathroom there are mirrors everywhere. I love looking at myself. I can spend five hours doing my hair and posing”.

Exercise 2. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. Everybody in Hollywood is rich and famous.
2. Hollywood kids don’t live ordinary lives.
3. They understand the value of what they have.
4. Trent Maguire is spoiled and ambitious.
5. The adults try hard to be good parents.
6. Amanda’s mother listens to all her daughter’s problems.
7. The kids are often home alone.
8. Their parents organize every part of their lives.
9. The kids don’t want to be children.
10. All the kids complain about living in Hollywood.

Exercise 3. Answer the questions.

1. In what ways do Trent, Amanda, Emily live unreal lives?
2. Does anything surprise you in what the kids say?
3. What are their ambitions?

Exercise 4. Answer the question mentioned in the 5th paragraph.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 20. PETS

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

If you are thinking of buying a dog you must also be ready to devote a good deal of time to training the dog when it is young and giving it the exercise it needs throughout its life, unless you live in the country and can let it run freely. Dogs are demanding pets. Whereas cats identify with a house and are content if their place there is secure, a dog identifies with its master and consequently wants him to show proof of his affection.

The best time to buy a puppy is when it is between six and eight weeks old so that it can transfer its affection for its mother to its master. If puppies have not established a relationship with a human being until they are over three months old, their strongest relationship will always be with dogs; if they are kept in kennels for this length of time, they are likely to be too shy when they are brought out into the world to become good pets.

Different breeds require different training methods. German shepherd dogs, for example, respond favourably to mild punishment but terriers usually resent it and become more aggressive. The best way to train a dog is by reward, not punishment, but the reward must be immediate so that the dog connects it with what it has done. In general it is better to teach a dog by preventing it from doing things than by punishing it afterwards.

In fact, dogs require a well-balanced diet, like human beings, except that they do not need fruit and vegetables because their bodies produce their own vitamin C. The essential point to remember is that you should take it regularly to a vet to ensure that it is healthy. In that case you should have a faithful companion for ten years or more.

Exercise 2. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. Dogs want more attention than cats.
2. If you live in the country your dog needs more exercise.
3. According to the author, you should take it regularly to a vet in case you want to have a faithful companion for ten years or more.

Exercise 3. Answer the following questions.

1. Why do they recommend to buy puppies when they are 6 or 8 weeks old?
2. What happens if puppies don't establish a relationship with a human being till they are three months old?

3. Why don't dogs need fruit or vegetables?
4. What is the most essential rule that you have to observe if you want to have a happy and healthy dog?

Exercise 4. Correct the sentences according to the text.

1. If puppies are kept in kennels until they are 3 months old they may be too aggressive to become good pets.
2. Dogs require a well-balanced diet like cats.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 21. THE BEST SHOPPING STREET IN THE WORLD

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

A recent survey has shown that the busiest shopping street in the world is not in London, New York or Paris, but in Warsaw. It's called Nowy Świat, which means New World. An incredible 14,000 Poles walk down this main street every hour. It's a lovely place to shop. The pavements are very wide. There are statues, palaces, attractive town houses, exclusive cafes, and high class restaurants. The buildings aren't too tall. They look old, but in fact the whole city was rebuilt after World War II.

There aren't any billboards or neon lights. There isn't any loud music, and there aren't many tourists. People think that Polish shops have nothing to sell, so nobody comes shopping here. The world doesn't know about this paradise for shoppers – yet. It is now possible to buy almost everything in Warsaw. There are a lot of shops from the West, but the interesting thing is that Polish manufacturers are now producing high quality goods. They are good because they are not mass produced for world consumption.

Nowy Świat has a lot of small shops, special shops, and chic shops. If you want an exquisite hand-made suit, Nowy Świat is the place to go. It isn't cheap. You will pay up to £ 1,000. For beautiful French baby clothes go to Petit Bateau. You will pay £ 50 for a pair of blue jeans for a baby.

Not everything is expensive. At the shop Pantera you can buy leather goods – handbags, purses, coats, belts. There are a lot of small boutiques that sell men's and women's clothes that aren't too expensive. If you are tired, stop at Café Blikle. This is a fashionable place to meet. You'll find a lovely atmosphere, and a lot of well-known Poles.

Exercise 2. Read the article and answer the questions.

1. How do we know that Nowy Świat is the most popular shopping street?
2. Why is it such a nice place to go shopping?
3. Why don't many foreign people go to Nowy Świat?
4. Why are the things produced by Polish manufacturers so good?

5. What can you buy there?
6. What is expensive? What isn't expensive?
7. What's good about Cafe Blikle?

Exercise 3. What is the best summary of the article?

Nowy Świat is the best shopping center in the world because ...

1. ... so many Polish people go walking there.
2. ... it is a pleasant place to shop and the shops are small.
3. ... everything is very expensive and very exclusive.
4. ... the shops sell quality goods that you can't buy anywhere else.

Exercise 4. Complete the sentences with different ideas from the article.

1. In Nowy Świat, there are a lot of ...
2. There aren't many/any ...
3. There isn't any ...
4. There are some ...

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 22. THE FITNESS PILL

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

These days there are pills for just about everything. If you can't sleep, take a pill. If you're unhappy, take a pill. What about if you're overweight and you don't have time to exercise? A new fitness pill may soon be available. Scientists are developing a pill that provides the same benefits as exercise. According to a BBC report, the fitness pill will "build muscle, increase stamina, and even burn fat."

Would you take a pill if it meant you no longer needed the treadmill? Researchers found that mice who took these pills could run long-distances without previous training. The test mice also ran almost twice as far. There is evidence that humans on these pills will also be able to build muscles without exercising. Furthermore, the research suggests that those who exercise and take the fitness pill will be even stronger.

Some researchers think the fitness pill will be useful in certain situations. People who cannot get out of bed due to ill health may benefit from the drug. Those with diabetes may also benefit. Many diseases cause muscle wasting, which prevents patients from recovering. Other researchers feel that the average adult might benefit from such a drug. Most adults do not get the 40 minutes of daily exercise that doctors recommend. The fitness pill requires no need for spare time.

Exercise 2. Match the words and word groups with their meaning.

approved (part.)	improve one's condition
benefit (verb)	something that helps support or prove a belief
drug (noun)	improve one's ability at a sport
treadmill (noun)	poor health
evidence (noun)	good physical health
Fitness (noun)	having too much body fat
ill (adj)	allowed to do or have (often by the government)
overweight (adj)	a machine that you run on
training (part.)	a substance that changes a person's natural state or ability

Exercise 3. Answer the following questions:

1. What effects are expected from a fitness pill according to the British press?
2. What was used to test this pill?
3. True or False? Researchers believe that those who exercise and take the pill will benefit more than those who don't exercise at all.
4. How much exercise is usually recommended by doctors?

Exercise 4. Make up a plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 23. ELIMINATING TRANS FATS

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Do you know the dangers of trans fats? Find out why health professionals want people to eliminate this type of fat from their diet. Do you care about your health?

Does your mouth water when you think of potato chips, donuts, and pie? Many people prefer "junk food" to healthy food because they develop a taste for it. Processed, baked, and fried foods typically contain a high amount of trans fats.

Trans fat raises the bad cholesterol in your body and lowers the good cholesterol that the body needs. Fatty foods do more than cause obesity. Trans fats build up in the body and block blood flow to the heart. People whose diet contains a high percentage of trans fats are at risk for heart disease and stroke.

Trans fat is a semi-solid type of oil. It is made by adding hydrogen to liquid oil. Food companies and restaurants like to use trans fat oil because it is inexpensive and makes food like crackers and baked goods last longer. It also improves the taste and texture of food. Trans fats became very popular in the second half of the 20th century. This is around the time when butter

got a bad name. People were told to use margarine instead because it was made from trans fats.

We all need some fat in our diet. There are three different types of fats: saturated fats, trans fats, and unsaturated fats. Doctors recommend that we get most of our fatty calories from unsaturated fats. Neither butter nor margarine fit in this category, though there are some spreads that contain zero trans fats. Labels are a good way to avoid eating fatty foods that are dangerous for your health. Another way is to avoid eating out. When shopping for groceries, buy the majority of your goods in the fresh food aisles.

Exercise 2. Match the words and word groups with their meaning.

avoid (verb)	a substance present in animal fat and tissues; too much can lead to heart disease.
banned (part.)	all of the foods that go into a meal or product.
diet (noun)	Not allowed
Hydrogen (noun)	snacks that do not provide any nutrition
ingredients (noun)	just thinking of this food makes you want to eat it
junk food (noun)	try to stay away from
cholesterol (noun)	a colourless gas that burns easily
make mouth water (idiom)	what a person chooses to eat
processed (part.)	limits; rules
restrictions (noun)	usually from animals, solid at room temperature
Saturated fat (noun)	the feeling of a type of food (ex.chewy,tough)
texture (noun)	when the natural form of the food is changed greatly (usually with a machine)

Exercise 3. Answer the questions:

1. What is trans fat?
2. What products are typically high in trans fats?
3. What do trans fats do to the body?
4. True or False? Some fat is necessary in the human diet.
5. What tip does the article suggest for avoiding trans fats?

Exercise 4. Complete the sentences:

The type of foods that go into a recipe are called...	junk food.
Potato chips and chocolate bars are examples of...	water.
Food that you find delicious can "make your mouth...	majority.
According to the article, too much fatty food causes...	ingredients.
Nine out of ten is a...	obesity.

Exercise 5. Make up a plan of the text.

Exercise 6. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 24. CATCHING A COLD

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Many people catch a cold in the springtime and/ or fall. It makes us wonder... if scientists can send a man to the moon, why can't they find a cure for the common cold. The answer is easy. There are hundreds of cold viruses out there. You never know which one you will get, so there isn't a cure for each one.

When a virus attacks your body, your body works hard to get rid of it. Blood rushes to your nose and brings congestion with it. You feel terrible because you can't breathe well, but your body is actually "eating" the virus. Your temperature rises and you get a fever, but the heat of your body is killing the virus. You also have a runny nose to stop the virus from getting to your cells. You may feel miserable, but actually your wonderful body is doing everything it can to kill the cold.

Different people have different remedies for colds. In the United States and some other countries, for example, people might eat chicken soup to feel better. Some people take hot baths and drink warm liquids. Other people take medicines to stop the fever, congestion, and runny nose.

There is one interesting thing to note – some scientists say taking medicines when you have a cold is actually bad for you. The virus stays in you longer because your body doesn't have a way to fight it and kill it. Bodies can do an amazing job on their own. There is a joke, however, on taking medicine when you have a cold. It goes like this:

It takes about 1 week to get over a cold if you don't take medicine, but only 7 days to get over a cold if you take medicine.

Exercise 2. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. There is a cure for the common cold.
2. There are 22 different cold viruses in the world.
3. Heat in your body kills viruses.
4. Congestion means your head feels hot.
5. Some people eat chicken soup to feel better when they have a cold.
6. Scientists always think taking medicine is good when you have a cold.
7. Bodies work hard to try to get rid of viruses.

Exercise 3. Match the words with their definitions:

cure (n,v)	very, very small that causes sickness
Virus (n)	very terrible feeling
to get rid of (v)	really, actually, exactly
congestion (n)	wet and runny like water, milk
miserable (adj)	something that makes you well after being sick
Fever (n)	heat in your head and body
literally (adv)	cure, something that makes you well
remedy (n)	To finish
liquid (n)	To stop, to throw away
to get over (v)	stopped up (when your nose is congested you can't breathe)

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 25. BRAIN DRAIN

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Brain drain, which is the action of having highly skilled and educated people leaving their country to work abroad, has become one of the developing countries concern. Brain drain is also referred to as human capital flight. More and more third world science and technology educated people are heading for more prosperous countries seeking higher wages and better working conditions. This has of course serious consequences on the sending countries.

While many people believe that immigration is a personal choice that must be understood and respected, others look at the phenomenon from a different perspective. What makes those educated people leave their countries should be seriously considered and a distinction between push and pull factors must be made. The push factors include low wages and lack of satisfactory working and living conditions. Social unrest, political conflicts and wars may also be determining causes. The pull factors, however, include intellectual freedom and substantial funds for research.

Brain drain has negative impact on the sending countries economic prospects and competitiveness. It reduces the number of dynamic and creative people who can contribute to the development of their country. Likewise, with more entrepreneurs taking their investments abroad, developing countries are missing an opportunity of wealth creation. This has also negative consequences on tax revenue and employment.

Exercise 2. Answer the questions.

- 1) What is another term for brain drain?
- 2) What should we understand to address the problem of brain drain?
- 3) How do you understand the phrases “sending country” and “receiving country”?
- 4) Brain drain has terrible consequences on the economic development of sending or receiving countries?
- 5) What makes educated people leave their countries? What factors can be distinguished?
- 6) What social and economical effects in sending countries can be caused by brain drain?

Exercise 3. Give the key sentence of each paragraph.

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 26

Exercise 1. Read the text, give your own idea on the problem discussed in the text.

Despite fears that the so-called electronic media might damage book publishing, the opposite seems to be true. Book sales since the introduction of television have increased considerably, well beyond the increase in population. In fact, the U.S. leads in the number of books read per capita. These books range from the most recent best seller or biography to histories, gardening and cookbooks, or technical volumes and encyclopedias.

Several reasons have been offered to account for this fact. First, American schools have traditionally stressed and tried to develop a "love of reading," to make it a habit. This general educational emphasis has been successful. One notes how many people are reading books in city buses, airports, during lunch breaks, or on the beach.

Secondly, public libraries have always been very active in communities throughout the country. Here, too, the general policy has been to get books to people rather than to protect the books from people. A favorite way of raising money for libraries is to have thousands of used books donated by the community and then to have a book sale ("Any five for \$11"). The money made in this fashion goes to buy new books for the library. Such popular community fund-raising activities also increase the feeling among people that the library is theirs.

The third and probably most important reason is that there are no laws which protect book sellers or fix prices. Anyone can sell new and used books at discount and sale prices, and just about everyone does.

Exercise 2. Think of the title to the text.

Exercise 3. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. Book sales since the introduction of television have increased considerably.

2. Public libraries have always been very passive in communities throughout the country.

3. There are no laws which protect book sellers or fix prices.

4. A favorite way of raising money for libraries is to have thousands of used books donated by the community and then to have a book sale.

5. In fact, the Belarus leads in the number of books read per capita.

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Render the text and speak about the role of books in your life.

TEXT 27

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

The same developments that spurred newspaper circulation—faster printing methods, lower prices, the lure of advertising money—also marked the beginning of mass appeal for American magazines. Several types of magazines emerged. The late 1800s saw the start of opinion journals still influential a century later, including the Atlantic Monthly, the Nation and Harper's.

But the largest readerships were won by magazines that catered to Americans' increasing leisure time and appetite for consumer goods, such as Cosmopolitan, the Ladies Home Journal and the Saturday Evening Post. Publishers were no longer just selling reading material; they were selling readers to advertisers. Because newspapers reached only local audiences, popular magazines attracted advertisers eager to reach a national audience for their products. By the early 1900s, magazines had become major marketing devices.

At the same time, a new breed of newspaper and magazine writer was exposing social corruption. Called "muckrakers," these writers sparked public pressure for government and business reforms. In 1902, for example, McClure's magazine ran a series of articles highly critical of the powerful Standard Oil Company by muckraking journalist Ida Tarbell.

Exercise 2. Choose the right title to the text.

- a) American magazines b) Magazines c) American newspapers

Exercise 3. Continue the sentences.

1. The late 1800s saw the start of opinion journals _____ .
2. By the early 1900s ____ major _____.
3. In 1902, for example, McClure's magazine _____.
4. _____ were no longer just selling reading material.
5. Because newspapers reached only local audiences _____.

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 28

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

The majority the stewardesses are from small towns. It's supposed to be one of the nicest professions for a woman – if she can't be a model or in the movies. All the great benefits: flying around the world and meeting all those people.

When people ask you what you're doing and you say "stewardess", you're really proud, you think it's great. The first two months I started flying I had already been to London, Paris and Rome. But after you started working, it's not as glamorous as you thought it was going to be.

We had to go to stew school for five weeks. We'd go through a whole week of make-up and poise. I didn't like this. They make you feel like you've never been out in public. At one time they wouldn't let us wear false eyelashes and false fingernails! Now it's required that you wear false eyelashes, and if you do not have the right length nails, you wear false nails. Everything is supposed to be becoming to the passenger.

You do meet a lot of movie stars and a lot of political people.

Stewardesses are impressed only by name people. But a normal millionaire that you don't know doesn't make an impression on you. The only thing that really thrills a stewardess are passengers like Kennedy or movie stars or some political celebrities.

I think our average age is 26. But our supervisors tell us what kind of make-up to wear, what kind of lipstick to wear, if our hair is not the right style for us, if we were not smiling enough.

Exercise 2. Think of the title to the text.

Exercise 3. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. The majority the stewardesses are from big cities.
2. It's supposed to be one of the nicest professions for a woman – if she can't be a model or in the movies.
3. You do meet a lot of movie stars and a lot of political people.
4. I think our average age is 46.

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 29

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

“Yum! Brands” is the owner of five different fast food chains across the world. These include Pizza Hut, Taco Bell, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Long John Silver’s and A & W Restaurants. As the owner of five such restaurant chains, there are a variety of potential projects or events that require an investment. These can include such things as an expansion, buying new equipment, mergers, recalls, and so on.

Within “Yum! Brands” there are two projects that I would recommend to the corporation to be done. The first would be a corporate office for the international offices and the second would be a updating the current computer systems within the restaurant locations. One of these will be funded by current source of funds and the other sourced by non-current funds. «Current sourcing of funds are traditional ways, which can be circulated and repaid within the accounting period or operating cycle of the business. These types of funds are easily converted into cash or equivalent». Alternatively, «non-current sources of funds are for a longer period of time, typically at least over one year. Normally long term sources are used for capital expenditure such as land, buildings, and machineries for the enterprises».

Creating an international corporate office for “Yum! Brands” would be considered a non-current project. «Yum currently has a corporate office for their China division, but everything else is run from their regular corporate office located in Louisville, Kentucky». This expansion would be considered a non-current project because it would be a long-term event that would take over one year to complete. I think that the best way to raise the capital for this project would be to use a non-current debt instrument. I would recommend that Yum use mortgages and even notes payable to fund the additional corporate office for their international business. This would allow Yum to borrow the money today and make payments on it later when the profits are increased.

Exercise 2. Think of the title to the text.

Exercise 3. Continue the sentences.

1. "Yum! Brands" is the owner of five different _____ .
2. These can include such things as an expansion _____ recalls _____.
3. Creating an international corporate office for "Yum! Brands" _____.
4. _____ but everything else is run from their regular corporate office located in Louisville, Kentucky.

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 30

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Credit card device used to obtain consumer credit at the time of purchasing an article or service. Credit cards may be issued by a business, such as a department store or an oil company, to make it easier for consumers to buy their products. Alternatively credit cards may be issued by third parties, such as a bank or a financial services company, and used by consumers to purchase goods and services from other companies. There are two types of cards—credit cards and charge cards. Credit cards such as Visa and MasterCard allow the consumer to pay a monthly minimum on their purchases with an interest charge on the unpaid balance. Charge cards, such as American Express, require the consumer to pay for all purchases at the end of the billing period. Consumers may also use bank cards to obtain short-term personal loans (including "cash advances" through automated teller machines). Credit card issuers receive revenue from fees paid by stores that accept their cards and by consumers that use the cards, and from interest charged consumers on unpaid balances.

Diners Club became the first credit card company in 1950, when it issued a card allowing members to charge meals at 27 New York City restaurants. In 1958, Bank of America issued the BankAmericard (now Visa), the first bank credit card. In 1965, only 5 million cards were in circulation; by 1996, U.S. consumers had nearly 1.4 billion cards, which they used to charge \$991 billion in goods annually.

The growth of credit cards has had an enormous impact on the economy—changing buying habits by making it much easier for consumers to finance purchases and by lowering savings rates (because consumers do not need to save money for larger purchases). Oil companies, car makers,

and retailers have also used the cards to market their goods and services, using credit as a way of encouraging consumers to buy.

Exercise 2. Think of the title to the text.

Exercise 3. Answer the questions.

1. What is the purpose of credit cards?
2. What are two types of cards?
3. What is difference between them?
4. Diners Club became the first credit card company in 1950, did not it?
5. Has the growth of credit cards had an enormous impact on the economy?

Exercise 4. Make up the plan of the text.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 31

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

It is interesting to compare what happens in France and in the United States in the supermarket when the store is crowded, with a long line in front of the cash register and a long wait. In France, in most cases, one quickly shows signs of impatience, by raising one's eyes to the ceiling with an exasperated expression, by taking on an exhausted look, by stiffening or clamming up, or by exchanging with others glances of complicity. But one does not speak to others – all is expressed through body movements. At most, one might protest, "grumble" out loud while looking at one's neighbor, but without speaking to him directly. One simply makes him an accomplice against the cashier, the store, the system, those who are "going too far." In the United States, the situation is completely different. One turns to one's neighbors; people strike up rather general conversations, help each other pass the time, and joke about the situation – even sympathize with the cashier – and, when they finally get to the register, encourage the person there with a few kind words. I've seen strangers show each other family photos, exchange advice, recipes, or useful addresses, compare pregnancies and births, all just as calmly as if they were talking about the quality of a product or the use of an unusual vegetable in one's shopping cart. Most of all I've seen them joke around a lot. A French woman who heard me speaking French to a friend I had met in the supermarket introduced herself to us, gave us her address and telephone number, and invited us to come see her if we were passing by the city in which she lived. Then, just before leaving us, she apologized for her behavior by

saying, "Excuse me for having come up to you like that, but I heard you speaking French. I've become very American, you know..."

Exercise 2. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. In France and in the United States the situation in the supermarket when the store is overcrowded is the same.
2. In France people help each other pass the time in the line.
3. In the United States, when the store is crowded, in most cases, one quickly shows signs of impatience.

Exercise 3. Give the antonyms to the following words.
Quickly, directly, completely, finally, unusual, city, long, different.

Exercise 4. Translate into Russian.

But one does not speak to others – all is expressed through body movements.

A French woman who heard me speaking French to a friend I had met in supermarket introduced herself to us, gave us her address and telephone number, and invited us to come see her if we were passing by the city in which she lived.

Exercise 5. Choose the write option.

At most, one might protest, "grumble" out loud while looking at one's neighbor, but without *speaking* / *laughing* / *touching* to him directly.

Most of all I've seen them *joke* / *cry* / *smile* around a lot.

One simply makes him an *accomplice* / *friend* / *enemy* against the cashier, the store, and the system, those who are "going too far".

Exercise 6. Find key words and render the text.

TEXT 32. PETER USTINOV: ACTOR OR WRITER?

Exercise 1. Read the text and find its main idea.

Peter Ustinov is the most international person you could find. He speaks English, German, French, Italian, Spanish and Russian. One of his great-grandfathers was a musician in Venice. Another was a teacher in a village school outside Paris. A third was a Swiss businessman. A fourth was a country gentleman living on the River Volga in Russia. And a fifth was an adventurer in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia.

For most people, Peter Ustinov is a face on the cinema screen. They

have seen him as Hercule Poirot in *Death on the Nile*, and in films like *Spartacus*, *Topkapi* and *Memed My Hawk*. He is the man with a hundred faces, old, young, wise, foolish, happy and sad. Probably few people know that Peter Ustinov is one of the eight actors in the world to win more than one Oscar.

Few people also know that writing means more to Peter than acting. He wrote his first successful play (*House of Regrets*) when he was only nineteen years old. Later plays and films, like *Romanoff and Juliet*, *Private Angelo* and *The Unknown Soldier and his Wife*, have given him a big name as a writer. In 1977 his autobiography, *Dear Me*, was a great success.

The world knows him as an actor and a writer, but Peter Ustinov's friends say that his greatest work of art is himself. "Nothing he creates is as funny as himself," says one friend. "One hour of him is better than two hours of his work." And yet, like many funny men, Peter can be serious even while he laughs. "Peter's a reformer," says another friend. "He'd like to change the world." Perhaps that is why he does so much work for the United Nations, especially UNICEF (the United Nations Children's Fund).

Peter Ustinov's own life has not always been happy. His first two marriages ended in divorce. His four children, grown up now, saw little of their father because of his work. But now, in his sixties, he has been happily married for more than twelve years to a Frenchwoman, Helene. They have a house in Switzerland and a flat in Paris, but making films keeps Peter on the move. He has worked in every part of America and in Egypt, Australia, Benin, Israel, Kenya and all over Europe, including Leningrad, Warsaw and Budapest. After all, what else can you expect from a man with such international great-grandfathers?

Exercise 2. Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1. Peter Ustinov speaks English, German, French, Spanish and Russian.
2. Peter Ustinov is one of the eight actors in the world to win more than one Oscar.
3. Peter Ustinov's own life was always happy.
4. The world knows him as an actor and a painter.

Exercise 3. Translate the following sentences.

1. But now, in his sixties, he has been happily married for more than twelve years to a Frenchwoman, Helen.
2. Few people know that writing means more to Peter than acting.

Exercise 4. Choose the right option.

1. Peter Ustinov has *two / four / seven* children
2. His fifth great-grandfather was an adventurer in Addis Ababa, the capital of *Latvia / Australia / Euthiopia*
3. He wrote his first successful play (*House of Regrets*) when he was only

seventeen / nineteen / twenty years old.

Exercise 5. Find key words and render the text.

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