

МИНИСТЕРСТВО СЕЛЬСКОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА
И ПРОДОВОЛЬСТВИЯ РЕСПУБЛИКИ БЕЛАРУСЬ

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**ПАТРИОТИЧЕСКОЕ
ВОСПИТАНИЕ СТУДЕНТОВ
НА ЗАНЯТИЯХ ПО
АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ**

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(для проведения практических занятий)
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Методические указания предназначены для студентов всех специальностей сельскохозяйственных вузов. Студенты должны научиться читать и переводить тексты страноведческой тематики.

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Методическое пособие предназначено для проведения занятий по английскому языку на первом и втором курсах всех факультетов, а также может использоваться для организации домашнего чтения и контрольно-самостоятельной работы студентов (КСР). Оно может использоваться в качестве источника дополнительного материала при изучении тем «Республика Беларусь» и «Сельское хозяйство Республики Беларусь».

Методическое пособие «Патриотическое воспитание студентов вуза на занятиях по иностранному языку» включает введение, тексты страноведческого характера, дополненные системой упражнений лексической и коммуникативной направленности, словарь-минимум.

Во введении приводится обоснование необходимости решения проблемы патриотического воспитания в вузе, указываются пути и средства патриотического воспитания при обучении английскому языку.

Основная часть пособия содержит 10 текстов страноведческой направленности. Все тексты дополнены подробным списком слов, которые могут быть незнакомы студентам. Послетекстовые словари призваны облегчить работу студентов с текстами. После каждого текста есть лексические и лексико-грамматические упражнения, целью которых является более полное понимание прочитанных текстов и закрепление активной лексики.

Введение

Общество не может существовать без целостного свода идей, ценностей и норм, объединяющих всех граждан. Государство без идеологии, как и человек без мысли, не может жить и развиваться, тем более противостоять внутренним и внешним угрозам и вызовам.

Идеология для общества – то же самое, что иммунная система для организма. Если разрушается идеологическая основа общества, его гибель становится только делом времени, каким бы сильным и грозным внешне не казалось государство. Если мы хотим видеть Беларусь сильной, процветающей державой, то мы, прежде всего, должны думать об идеологическом фундаменте белорусского общества.

Во всех государствах Запада идеологии уделяется огромное внимание. С особым размахом ведется идеологическая работа в Соединенных Штатах. Например, «американская мечта», вера в превосходство американского образа жизни, уверенность в праве США «внедрять» демократию по своему усмотрению в любой точке земного шара и любыми методами – все это прочно вбивается в сознание обывателя.

Мы сегодня должны открыто, с полным сознанием важности вопроса, говорить о формировании патриотического сознания белорусов. И важнейшим направлением идеологической работы можно считать патриотическое воспитание молодежи.

Система патриотического воспитания предусматривает формирование и развитие социально значимых ценностей, гражданственности и патриотизма в процессе воспитания и обучения в образовательных учреждениях всех типов и видов. Патриотическое воспитание в вузе – это систематическая и целенаправленная деятельность всех преподавателей по формированию у студентов высокого патриотического сознания, чувства верности своему Отечеству, работа по ориентации молодежи на традиционные для нашей цивилизации ценности.

Героические события отечественной истории, выдающиеся достижения страны в области политики, экономики, науки, культуры и спорта еще сохранили качества нравственных идеалов, что создает реальные предпосылки для разработки

комплекса мероприятий по патриотическому воспитанию молодежи.

На занятиях иностранного языка в вузе патриотическое воспитание осуществляется путем чтения и перевода текстов страноведческой тематики, рассказывающих о прошлом и настоящем нашей страны, формирующих у студентов чувство гордости за ее достижения, осознание ответственности каждого гражданина за ее настоящее и будущее.



Text 1. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE STATE

The Republic of Belarus is situated in the centre of Europe. The shortest transport ways connecting the CIS countries with the states of West Europe are in its territory. Belarus borders on Poland, the Baltic States, Russia and the Ukraine. The territory of Belarus is 207, 000 sq. km. Its total area is larger than that of Austria, Ireland, Portugal, and Greece.

The population is about 10 million people and 70% of them live in cities. The population of Minsk city, the capital of Belarus is about one fifth of the country's population. Minsk is situated



on the same latitude as Hamburg and Dublin. The highest point is Dzierzhinsky Hill in Minsk Region. It is 345 meters above the sea level. The country's lowest place is the Neman Valley in Grodno Region. It is only 80-90 meters above sea level.

Politically Belarus consists of six regions ("oblast") with their centers in Minsk, Brest, Vitebsk, Gomel, Grodno and Mogilev. Each region is divided into smaller administrative districts, called "rayon", they also include cities and other territorial and administrative entities. There are more than one thousand towns and cities in Belarus, including 12 cities with population more than 100 thousand people.

The state languages are Belarusian and Russian. The most popular languages of business communication are Russian, English and German.

The Republic of Belarus is a democratic social state with the rule of law. The Constitution of the Republic admits the principles of international law. The foreign citizens and persons without citizenship in the territory of our country have the rights and freedoms and carry duties equally with the citizens of the Republic of Belarus.

The state power is divided into legislative, executive and judicial branches. Belarus is a presidential republic. The President of the Republic of Belarus is the head of the state, a guarantor of the Constitution, of people's rights and freedoms. The legislative body is the Parliament consisting of two branches. The executive power in the republic is in the hands of the Government. The Council of Ministers is the central body of state administration.

The local administration and self-administration is the system of local executive and administrative bodies, bodies of self-administration, referenda, etc.

The judicial power in the republic belongs to the courts. Control over accordance of legal acts with the Constitution is done by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus.

Belarus is one of the most economically developed countries of the CIS. The share of industry in the countries economy is about one third of national product's volume. The most developed branches of industry are motor-car construction, machine-tool construction and bearing production, electrical industry, oil mining and processing, production of synthetic fiber, fertilizers, pharmaceutical industry,

production of building materials, light and food industries. A very important feature of national industry is the production of finished commodity, the most part of which is exported.

Natural conditions of the Republic of Belarus let successfully produce such kinds of production as milk, beef, pork, meat and eggs of poultry, grain, potatoes, long-fibred flax, sugar beet and so on. Great attention is devoted to technical re-equipping of light and food industry, rising of export potential of agrarian sector.

Vocabulary Notes:

- to connect – соединять
- the CIS (the Commonwealth of Independent States) – СНГ (Содружество Независимых Государств)
- latitude [ˈlætɪtʃu:d] – широта
- valley – долина
- entity – единица (территориальная или административная)
- to admit – признавать
- citizen – гражданин
- citizenship – гражданство
- to carry duties – выполнять обязанности
- equally – одинаково, равно
- legislative [ˈled ɪsleɪtɪv] – законодательный
- executive [ɪgˈzækjʊtɪv] – исполнительный
- judicial [dʒuːˈdɪ əl] – судебный
- branch – ветвь (власти)
- self-administration – самоуправление
- referenda (pl); referendum [ˌrefeˈrɛndəm] (sing) – референдум
- court – суд
- accordance – соответствие
- share – доля
- national product's volume – валовой внутренний продукт
- motor-car construction – автомобилестроение
- machine-tool construction – машиностроение
- bearing production – производство подшипников
- oil mining and processing – добыча и переработка нефти
- synthetic [sɪnˈθetɪk] fiber – искусственное волокно

- fertilizer – минеральное удобрение
- feature – особенность
- finished commodity – конечный продукт
- successfully – успешно
- beef – говядина
- pork – свинина
- long-fibred flax – длинноволокнистый лен
- to devote – посвящать
- re-equipping – переоснащение
- to rise – повышать

Ex.1. Finish the sentences.

1. Belarus is situated ...
2. The Constitution the Republic of Belarus admits ...
3. The state power is divided into ...
4. The President of the Republic of Belarus is a guarantor of ...
5. The Council of Ministers is ...
6. The judicial power in the republic belongs ...
7. A very important feature of national industry is ...
8. Natural conditions of the Republic of Belarus let ...

Ex.2. Find in the text:

a) synonyms to the following words:

to join, in the middle, area, automobile construction, part, country's gross output, goods, sugar beet, agricultural, self-governing, man-made fiber, characteristic, industries.

b) antonyms to the following words:

the longest, longitude, authoritarian, unequally, illegal, backward country, natural fiber, raw materials, to import, short-fibred flax, industrial sector.

Ex.3. Make your own sentences using the models and the tables.

Model 1: The border of the republic with Russia is 990 km, that is 33% of the total borders.

Note: *We don't use articles with the names of the countries, consisting of one word. Exception: The Ukraine.*

State border:

The States Bordered Upon	Length(km)	Per cent
Total Borders Measure	2969	100 %
Russia	990	33%
The Ukraine	975	33%
Lithuania	462	16%
Poland	399	13%
Latvia	143	5%

Model 2: The length of the Belarusian part of the Dniepr is 690 km of

2145 km of its total length.

Note: *We use article “the” with the names of rivers.*

The longest rivers:

Name	Total length (km)	The Belarusian part length (km)
The Dniepr	2145	690
The Western Dvina	1020	328
The Neman	937	459
The Western Bug	831	169
The Pripyat	761	495
The Sozh	648	493
The Berezina	613	613
The Vilia	510	276
The Ptich	421	421
The Chara	325	325
The Svisloch	297	297

Model 3: The area of **lake Naroch** is 79.6 square km, its maximum depth is 24.8 meters.

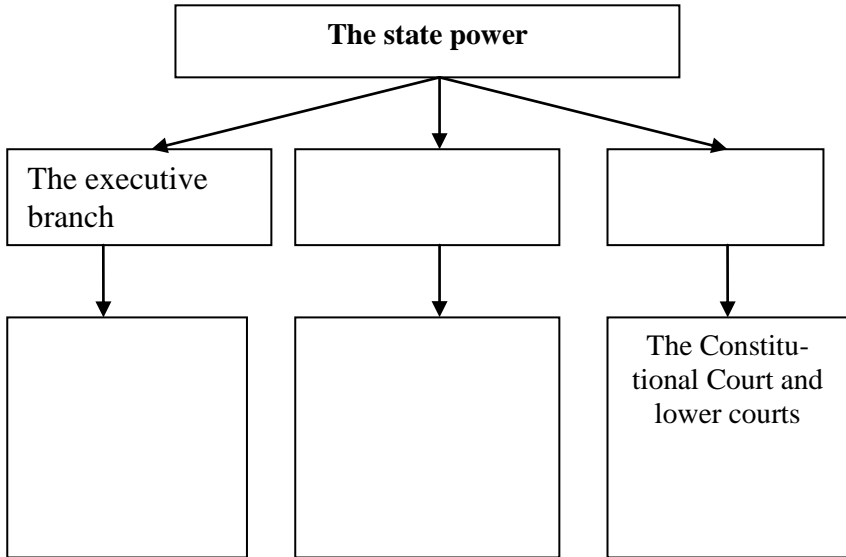
The area of **the Naroch** is 79.6 square km, its maximum depth is 24.8 meters.

Note: *We use article “the” with the names of lakes. Exception: We don’t use articles when the name of a lake is used with the word “lake”*

The biggest lakes:

Name	Lake area (sq km)	The maximum depth (m)
The Naroch	79.6	24.8
Lake Osveya	52.8	7.5
Lake Chervonoye	40.3	2.9
Lake Lukomlskoye	37.7	11.5
Lake Vigonoshanskoye	36.1	12.0
The Driviaty	26.0	2.3
Lake Nesherdo	24.6	8.1
The Svir	22.3	8.7
The Snudy	22.0	16.5
Lake Chernoye	17.7	6.6
Lake Miadel	16.2	24.6

Ex.4. Fill in the table:



Ex. 5. Characterize industry and agriculture of the republic, using the models.

Model 1. Motor-car construction is a part of Belarusian industry.

Gold-mining isn't a part of Belarusian industry.

Prompts: machine-tool construction, aviation construction, electrical industry, oil mining and processing, sheep-building, pro-

duction of synthesized fiber, production of fertilizers, natural gas-mining, pharmaceutical industry, production of building materials, mining of diamonds, light industry, food industry.

Model 2. Belarusian agricultural enterprises produce milk products.

Belarusian agricultural enterprises don't produce oranges.

Prompts: beef, coffee, pork, meat and eggs of poultry, citrus fruit, grain, potatoes, long-fibred flax, coconuts, white beet, onions, tea, carrots, tomatoes, cucumbers, sugarcane.

Text 2. THE SYMBOLS OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

Every country has its own symbols, which give it its identity and personality. The symbols of the Republic of Belarus as a sovereign state are its national flag, national emblem and national anthem.

The National Flag of the Republic of Belarus



The National Flag of the Republic of Belarus, which is a symbol of state sovereignty of the republic, is a rectangular cloth. It consists of two horizontal stripes: a red upper stripe and a green lower stripe that are two-thirds and one-third of the flag width respectively.

A vertical red-on-white Belarusian decorative pattern, which occupies one-ninth of the flag's length, is placed against the flagstaff. The flag's ratio of width to length is 1:2. The flag is fixed on a flagstaff painted golden. During ceremonies and other solemn events, the National Flag of the Republic of Belarus is used with a diamond-shaped top edge containing a five-point star. The star is analogous to the one depicted on the national Emblem of the Republic of Belarus. The top edges are made of yellow metal. **The National Emblem of the Republic of Belarus**



The National Emblem of the Republic of Belarus, which is a symbol of state sovereignty of the Republic of Belarus, represents a green-colored contour of the Republic of Belarus in golden rays of the

sun over the globe. There is a five-pointed red star on top of the contour.

The emblem is set in a frame of wreath of golden wheat-ears. It has clover flowers on the right and flax flowers on the left. Wheat-ears are interlaced with a red-green ribbon carrying a golden inscription "The Republic of Belarus" at the bottom.

The National Anthem of the Republic of Belarus

The National Anthem of the Republic of Belarus (*Words by M. Klimkovich, U. Karyzna Music by N. Sakalouski*)

Мы, беларусы - мірныя людзі,
Сэрцам адданыя роднай зямлі,
Шчыра сябруем, сілы гартуем
Мы ў працавітай, вольнай сям'і.

Слаўся, зямлі нашай светлае імя,
Слаўся, народаў братэрскі саюз!
Наша любімая маці-Радзіма,
Вечна жыві і квітней, Беларусь!

Разам з братамі мужна вякамі
Мы баранілі родны парог,
У бітвах за волю, бітвах за долю
Свой здабывалі сцяг перамог!

Слаўся, зямлі нашай светлае імя,
Слаўся, народаў братэрскі саюз!
Наша любімая маці-Радзіма,
Вечна жыві і квітней, Беларусь!

Дружба народаў - сіла народаў -
Наш заповітны, сонечны шлях.

Горда ж узвіся ў ясныя высі,
Сцяг пераможны - радасці сцяг!

Слаўся, зямлі нашай светлае імя,
Слаўся, народаў братэрскі саюз!
Наша любімая маці-Радзіма,
Вечна жыві і квітней, Беларусь!

The new national anthem of the Republic of Belarus retains the music by N. Sokolovsky, which symbolizes continuity of the historical traditions of Belarusian people and enjoys popularity and respect among people from various generations. The lyrics by M. Klimkovich and V. Karizna was given preference among the other texts for the music by N. Sokolovsky. The poetical work reflects the new political, economic and social conditions of the development of the Republic of Belarus as a sovereign and peace loving state, it emphasizes patriotism and industriousness of its citizens, friendly relations between all the ethnical groups living in our country.

By his Decree the Head of State approved of the national anthem of the Republic of Belarus, defined the status of the anthem, the conditions and regulations of its playing. With the approval of

	the national anthem, the process of forming the state symbols of the Republic of Belarus was finished.
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Vocabulary Notes:

- identity – самобытность
- personality – индивидуальность
- pursuance – исполнение
- sovereign – независимый, суверенный
- sovereignty – суверенитет
- emblem – герб
- anthem – гимн
- rectangular – прямоугольный
- cloth – ткань, полотно
- stripe – полоса
- upper – верхний
- lower – нижний
- width – ширина
- respectively – соответственно
- pattern – орнамент
- flagstaff – флагшток
- ratio – соотношение
- solemn – торжественный
- to depict – изображать
- edge – край
- to represent – представлять
- ray – луч
- five-pointed – пятиконечный
- to be set in a frame – быть обрамленным
- wreath – венок
- wheat ear - колос пшеницы
- to interlace – переплестать
- ribbon – лента
- inscription – надпись
- at the bottom – в самом низу
- to retain – сохранять

- continuity – неразрывность, непрерывность, преемственность
- respect – уважение
- requirements posed to – требования, предъявляемые к
- emphasize – подчеркивать
- industriousness – трудолюбие
- Provisions - Положения
- accomplish – оформлять
- approve of – одобрять
- approval – одобрение

Ex1. Answer the following questions:

1. What are the symbols of the Republic of Belarus as a sovereign state?
2. What stripes does the National Flag of the Republic of Belarus consist of?
3. Where is the flag fixed?
4. When is the National Flag of the Republic of Belarus used?
5. Describe the National Emblem of the Republic of Belarus.
6. What does the music of the new national anthem of the Republic of Belarus symbolize?
7. Why was the lyrics by M. Klimkovich and V. Karizna given preference among the other texts for the music by N. Sokolovsky?
8. When was the process of forming the state symbols of the Republic of Belarus finished?

Ex2. Find in the text English equivalents to the following words and word combinations:

Символ государственного суверенитета, прямоугольное полотнище, горизонтальная полоса, во время церемоний и других торжественных событий, изображенный на национальном гербе, обрамлен в венок, символизирует преемственность исторических традиций, пользуется популярностью и уважением людей, суверенное и миролюбивое государство, определить статус гимна.

Ex3. Find in the text

a) synonyms to the following words and word combinations:

country, accordingly, interrelation, to keep, to underline, diligence, below, was formed, independence, verse, proposal, determine.

b) antonyms to the following words and word combinations:

lateral, upper, length, discontinuity, laziness, horizontal, on top, under, on the right, old, unfriendly, disapproval, dependence, ordinary events, innovation.

Ex4. Fill in the blanks with the necessary prepositions:

1. The Republic of Belarus adopted its own symbols ... pursuance of Article 19 of the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus.
2. The National Flag, the National Emblem and the National Anthem of the Republic of Belarus are symbols ... state sovereignty of the state.
3. The flag is fixed ... a flagstaff painted golden.
4. The National Flag of the Republic of Belarus is used ... ceremonies and other solemn events.
5. The National Emblem is set ... a frame of wreath of golden wheat-ears. It has clover flowers ... the right and flax flowers ... the left.
6. A red-green ribbon on our emblem carries a golden inscription "The Republic of Belarus" ... the bottom.
7. The new national anthem of the Republic of Belarus enjoys popularity and respect ... people ... various generations.
8. The lyrics by M. Klimkovich and V. Karizna emphasize friendly relations ... all the ethnical groups living ... our country.
9. The process of forming the state symbols of the Republic of Belarus was finished ... the approval of the national anthem.

Ex5. Make the sentences joining two parts of them:

1. National flag, national emblem and national anthem are	a) wreath of golden wheat-ears which has clover flowers on the right and flax flowers on the left.
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ones.

Various guides for tourists describe Belarus simply as a state in the centre of Europe in the west of the East-European plain in the basin of the Dnieper, the Neman, the Western Dvina and the Western Boog (right bank) and the Pripyat. These are the major rivers flowing across Belarus, but in all there are 20,000 of them.

Belarus is also often called the land of lakes. Most of the lakes are situated in the North of the Republic in the Belarusian Poozerye (lake district) and in the south in the Belarussian Polessye (forest district). There are places where 10 percent of the surface is under lakes. This is true of the Ushachi and Braslav district of the Vitebsk Region.

Most of the lakes are small but very deep, as a rule. They are always filled by spring waters that is why the water in them is crystal-clear. Very often they are connected by creeks, canals and streams. But the real pearl of the Belarusian nature is Lake Naroch. Short canals connect it with lakes Myastro, Batorino, Beloye and others making this wonderful piece of Belarusian land very beautiful and attractive for tourists.

More than one-third of the Republic's territory is forest-covered. By the statistics 28 species of trees and 80 species of shrubs grow here. In addition to traditional trees, such as pine, spruce, birch, oak, maple, poplar, hornbeam, alder and others, "foreigners" like Siberian and European larch, northern oak, and Manchurian nut all well grow on Belarusian soils.

However, coniferous forests are most widely spread in Belarus. They give high quality timber, unique raw materials for pharmaceutical and chemical industries. They also give us forest berries and plants which are rich in vitamins. The pride of the Republic are its wildlife reserves and national parks. The biggest and the most widely known are the Belovezhskaya Puscha national park, the Berezina biospheric and the Pripyat water and land reserves.

The Polessye radiological and ecological reserve was set up on the territory affected by the Chernobyl accident in April 1986. Over 15 percent of the Republic's agricultural lands were put out of production, thousands of hectares of forests, hundreds of rivers and lakes were left without human care.

Belarus has a good tourist potential. It is mainly based on the country's natural diversity and beauty and its unique historic and cultural heritage. We have over 15 thousand tourist objects of historic, cultural and architectural value, memorial places connected with the names of world's outstanding historical and cultural figures.

Among these memorial places are Viazynka and Levki where the great Belarusian poet Yanka Kupala lived and worked. Grodno memorial of history and archeology is very popular with tourists, too.

On the territory of Belarus there are many ancient towns such as Polotsk, Novogrudok, Turov, Grodno, Nesvizh and many others. In many towns there are numerous temples and monasteries, palaces, castles and other monuments of architectural, historic and cultural value. Two architectural monuments that are situated on the territory of the Republic of Belarus are included in the List of UNESCO World Heritage. They are the Castle complex "Mir" situated in the town of Mir (Grodno region) and the architectural and cultural complex of the Radzivilles in the town of Nesvizh (Minsk region).

Vocabulary Notes:

- convenient – удобный
- connection – соединение
- guide – справочник
- simply – просто
- in all – в целом
- surface – поверхность
- fill – пополнять
- spring waters – ключевая вода
- to connect – связывать, соединять
- creek – ручей
- pearl – жемчужина
- attractive – привлекательный
- species – разновидность
- shrub – кустарник
- pine – сосна
- spruce – ель
- birch – береза
- oak – дуб
- maple – клен

- poplar – тополь
- hornbeam – граб
- alder – ольха
- larch – лиственница
- Manchurian nut – Маньчжурский орешник
- coniferous – хвойный
- timber – древесина
- raw materials – сырье
- reserve – заповедник
- set up – основывать
- affected – поврежденный
- contamination – загрязнение
- put out of – выводить из
- to mention – упоминать
- diversity – разнообразие
- heritage – наследие
- memorial – мемориальный
- outstanding – выдающийся
- ancient – древний
- temple – храм
- castle – замок
- value – ценность

Ex.1. Translate the following words, word combinations and sentences into Russian:

1. **Geography, geographic**, geographic location, geographic location of the state, geographic centre, geographic centre of Europe. *If you wish to get to the geographic centre of Europe you have to buy a ticket to Minsk – capital of the Republic of Belarus. We are interested in increasing foreign participation in the agricultural sector in Belarus taking into consideration our geopolitical location.*
2. **To connect**, to connect the eastern lands with the western ones, to be connected with, to be connected with the ocean by many rivers, to be connected by creeks, canals and streams, **connection**, the most convenient connection. *For many centuries Belarus has been the most convenient con-*

nection which linked the Black and the Baltic Seas and the eastern lands with the western ones.

3. **Nature**, unique nature, rich nature, Belarusian nature, the real pearl of the Belarusian nature, **natural**, natural diversity and beauty. *The real pearl of the Belarusian nature is Lake Naroch. Belarus is well-known for its unique natural diversity and beauty. Braslav district of the Vitebsk Region has rich nature which is very attractive for tourists.*
4. **Nation**, peace loving nation, industrious nation, **national**, national park, national heritage, national wealth. *Belarusian forests are a real national wealth. We must protect our national heritage for future generations. The pride of the Republic are its wildlife reserves and national parks, the biggest of them are the Belovezhskaya Puscha national park, the Berezina biospheric and the Pripjat water and land reserves.*
5. **Architecture**, a monument of architecture, **architectural**, architectural value; objects of historic, cultural and architectural value, architectural and cultural complex; unique architectural heritage. *The Castle complex "Mir" and the architectural and cultural complex of the Radzivilles in the town of Nesvizh are included in the List of UNESCO World Heritage. Belarus tourist potential is based on unique historic and cultural heritage including over 15 thousand tourist objects of historic, cultural and architectural value.*

Ex.2. Complete the following sentences:

1. Belarus is the most convenient way which for centuries has linked ...
2. Over one-third of the Republic's territory is ...
3. The Ushachi and Braslav district of the Vitebsk Region are places where 10 percent of the surface is . . .
4. The pride of the Republic are its wildlife reserves and national parks, the biggest and the most widely known are ...
5. The Polessye radiological and ecological reserve was set up on the territory ...
6. The tourism potential of the republic is mainly based on ...
7. Two architectural monuments that situated on the territory of the Republic of Belarus are included in ...

Ex.3. Arrange the words into the next columns:

Trees	Places of historical value	Natural resources
Pine	temples	forests
.....
.....

Prompts: pine, wildlife reserves, national parks, palaces, spruce, birch, memorial places, lakes, oak, temples, maple, monuments, poplar, monasteries, hornbeam, alder larch, northern oak, and Manchurian nut, ancient towns, castles, soils, wildlife, architectural and cultural complexes.

Ex.4. Say what would you be proud of and what you wouldn't if you were a guide of a foreign visitor round our republic. You may work in small groups and compare your answers. Use the prompts.

Prompts: a blue-eyed land, unique forests, wildlife reserves, national parks, radiological contamination, natural diversity, unique historic and cultural heritage, memorable places connected with the names of world's outstanding historical and cultural figures, ancient towns, monasteries, palaces, castles and other monuments of architectural, historic and cultural value.

Text 4. THE ECONOMY OF BELARUS



Recently, the Belarusian economy is quickly developing showing one of the best indicators in the Commonwealth of Independent States, along with the Ukraine, Russia, and many other CIS economies. The economic boom is provided by the fact that Belarus retained its industrial base after the break-up of the U.S.S.R. Close cooperation with Russia and other CIS nations and its key location as a transit route between the EU and Russia is also of great importance for the economy of the country. The growth of the economy is very impressive because it started from a low base level.

After the break-up of the Soviet Union all former Soviet republics faced a deep economic crisis. Belarus has however chosen

its own way of overcoming this crisis. After the 1994 election of the first President, he launched the country on the path of "market socialism" as opposed to "wild capitalism" chosen by Russia at that time. In keeping with this policy, some problems are solved by the market decisions and some by the governmental ones.

These efforts of Belarusian government and some favourable factors such as the union with Russia allowed Belarus to bypass the severe economic hardships and crises that many former Soviet Union transition economies had. It resulted in the economic growth seen in recent years. According to the UN report Belarus registers major economic growth: GDP growth rate is increasing year by year. In terms of GDP growth rate Belarus also outperforms neighbouring Poland, Latvia and Lithuania. Major problem in mid-1990 was inflation, as high as 300% in 1999. Now it decreases, showing less than 10%.

As part of the former Soviet Union, Belarus had a relatively well-developed industrial base; it retained this industrial base following the break-up of the U.S.S.R. The country also has a broad agricultural base and a high education level. Among the former republics of the Soviet Union, it had one of the highest standards of living.

Although not very rich in minerals, Belarus has deposits of iron ore, nonferrous metal ores, dolomite, potash (for fertilizer production), rock salt, phosphorites, refractory clay, molding sand, sand for glass production, and various building materials. Belarus also has deposits of industrial diamonds, titanium, copper ore, lead, mercury, bauxite, nickel, vanadium, and amber.

Belarus specializes mainly in machine building and instrument building (especially tractors, large trucks, machine tools, and automation equipment), in computers and electronics industry and in agricultural production. Belarus is a large exporter of trucks, tractors, TV sets, refrigerators, chemical fiber, potash fertilizers, textile and consumer goods.

The Republic of Belarus started reforming the state-owned property in 1991 and this process is still underway. In Belarus, privatization takes place in two major spheres: "small-scale" privatization in the trade and services sector, small-sized industrial and con-

struction enterprises; and “large-scale” privatization aimed at large-sized national enterprises.

The private sector employs 43.0% of all employees in the national economy. The share of output of the private sector enterprises makes up nearly 44.1%. The small-business sector totally employs 550 thousand persons in the country (12 % of the economically active population). The share of the sector makes up 17.5% of the total allocations to the budget.

Vocabulary Notes:

- recently – за последнее время
- indicator – показатель
- the Commonwealth of Independent States – содружество независимых государств
- provide – обеспечивать(ся)
- retain – сохранять
- break-up – распад
- U.S.S.R. – СССР
- close cooperation – тесное сотрудничество
- key location – ключевое местоположение
- impressive – внушительный, значительный
- face – сталкиваться
- election – избрание
- launch – направлять
- path – путь
- in keeping with – следуя (чему-то)
- bypass – обходить
- severe – серьезный, тяжелый
- hardship – трудность
- according to – согласно, в соответствии с
- GDP growth rate - темп роста ВВП
- in terms of – с точки зрения
- outperform – превосходить
- neighbouring – соседний
- decrease - уменьшаться
- standard of living – уровень жизни
- ore – руда
- nonferrous – цветной

- potash – углекислый калий
- fertilizer – удобрение
- refractory clay – огнеупорная глина
- molding sand – формовочная смесь
- copper – медь
- lead – свинец
- mercury – ртуть
- amber – янтарь
- truck – грузовик
- machine tool – станок
- truck – грузовик
- chemical fiber – химическое волокно
- consumer goods – потребительские товары
- state-owned property – госсобственность
- underway – в стадии реализации
- aimed at – нацеленный на
- employ – нанимать
- employee – служащий
- enterprise – предприятие
- share of output – доля продукции
- allocations – отчисления

Ex.1. Translate the following words, word combinations and sentences into Russian:

1. **Economy**, Belarusian economy, the economy of the country, market economy, transition economies; **economic**, economic hardships, economic growth, economic base, economic development. *The labor force of the Belarusian economy about 5.3 million people. The economic growth of the republic is among the highest in the CIS.*
2. **Growth**, the growth of the economy, growth rate, GDP growth rate, industrial growth; **to grow**, to grow quickly, to grow year by year, to grow constantly. *The economic growth of the country is very impressive. The GDP of the republic grows year by year.*
3. **To develop**, to develop the market, to develop close cooperation, to develop industry; **developed**, highly-

developed, relatively well-developed, well-developed industrial base. *Economic and social spheres of the republic develop in close interconnection. The country also has a developed agricultural base and a high education level.*

4. **Industry**, highly developed industry, great importance of industry, occupation in industry, to be employed in industry. *About 35% of the work force is employed in industry.* **Industries**, main industries, the industries of the country's economy, light industry, food industry. *The main industries of the country are machine building, instrument building, computers and electronics industry and agricultural production.* **Industrial**, industrial base, industrial growth, industrial production. *Belarus retained its industrial base after the break-up of the U.S.S.R.*
5. **Deposits**, mineral deposits, impressive deposits, known deposits, to be rich in deposits, deposits of iron ore, deposits of industrial diamonds. *Belarus is rich in mineral deposits such as iron ore, nonferrous metal ores, dolomite, potash (for fertilizer production), rock salt, phosphorites, refractory clay, molding sand, sand for glass production, and various building materials.*
6. **To export** (v), to export consumer goods, to export chemical fiber, to export to many countries, to export to the Commonwealth of Independent States. **Export** (n), an impressive export, favourable export situation, to decrease export, to increase export, main export partners, export accounts for. **Exporter** (n), a large exporter, a large exporter of trucks, an exporter of potash fertilizers. *Belarus is a large exporter of trucks, tractors, TV sets, refrigerators, chemical fiber, potash fertilizers, textile and consumer goods.*

Ex2. Answer the following questions:

1. What is the economic boom of the Belarusian economy provided by?
2. Is close cooperation with Russia and other CIS nations of great importance for the economy of the country?
3. What is key location of the republic characterized by?

4. What is the main characteristic of so-called “market socialism”?
5. Does Belarus possess one of the highest standards of living among the former republics of the Soviet Union?
6. What mineral deposits is Belarus rich in?
7. Name the main branches of Belarusian machine and instrument building.
8. Is agricultural production developed in the republic?
9. When did the Republic of Belarus start reforming the state-owned property?
10. Where does “small-scale” privatization take place?
11. What enterprises is “large-scale” privatization aimed at in Belarus?

*Ex.3. Study through the table and make your own sentences according to it. Use the following verbs: **to give** (давать), **to produce** (производить), **to employ** (нанимать, давать работу), **to account for** (составлять, насчитывать), **to comprise** (включать в себя), **to operate** (работать), **to function** (функционировать), etc.*

Model: Agriculture gives 8.9% of the Belarusian GDP.

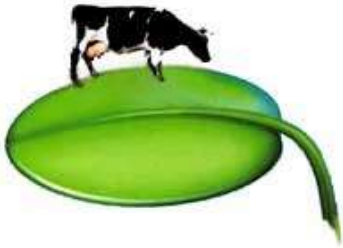
Economy of Belarus. Statistics

GDP by sector	agriculture (8.9%), industry (26.8%), services (64.3%)
Labour force	4.3 million people
Labour force by occupation	agriculture (14%), industry (34.7%), services (51.3%)
Main industries	metal-cutting machine tools, tractors, trucks, motorcycles, TV sets, chemical fibers, fertilizer, textiles, radios, refrigerators
Trading partners	
Exports	\$16.14 billion
Main export partners	<u>Russia</u> 47%, <u>UK</u> 8.3%, <u>Holland</u> 6.7%, <u>Poland</u> 5.3%
Imports	\$16.94 billion
Main import partners	<u>Russia</u> 68.2%, <u>Germany</u> 6.6%, <u>Ukraine</u> 3.3%

Small Business	
The number	about 28 thousand small businesses
The number by sectors	trade and public catering (перевозки) – 42.8%, industry – 21.1%, construction – 11.7%, transportation sector – 5.8%, agricultural sector – 1.1%.

Text 5. AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

The republic of Belarus is situated in Eastern Europe and has the territory of 207.6 square kilometers. Agricultural lands occupy 93.4 thousand square kilometers, of which 62.3 thousand square kilometers are arable lands. About 5.3 million people are employed in the economy of Belarus, out of which 21 percent work in agriculture and forestry.



Belarus has moderately continental climate, which is cooler in the north and relatively warm in the south. The vegetative period of crops is rather short – from 190 to 205 days. About three-fifths of Belarus is covered by podzolic soils. Most of the fertile soils are situated in the river valleys, except in the southern marshy regions. Other soils can be productive with the use of fertilizers. Fortunately, the republic has rich deposits of peat and potash, which are used for increasing soil fertility.

The Belarusian agribusiness sector includes three sub-sectors. The basic sector is farming industry which can be divided into crop and animal husbandry. Processing industry is the second important branch of agribusiness. It includes food processing, flour-grinding, cereal, compound feed and primary flax processing. The third sub-sector is service sphere. Its branches are production and engineering, reclamation, land management, scientific service, agrochemical, veterinary, construction, trade and other services). Animal husbandry, flax growing, cereal cropping, sugar beet cropping sub-sectors are prioritized in the Belarusian agribusiness sector. Cultivation of the leguminous and oil-yielding crops is increasing nowadays.

Belarusian government still supports the operation of large collective and state-owned farms. The state-owned agricultural land area is 7.51 million ha (83.5% of the total agricultural land area in Belarus), the agricultural land owned by individuals is 1.4 million ha in area. The state-owned and private land ratio is 5.3 to 1.0.

Belarusian cool climate and dense soil are well suited to fodder crops and temperate-zone crops (wheat, barley, oats, buckwheat, potatoes, flax, and sugar beets). Among the CIS countries, Belarus ranks third in flax production following Russia and Ukraine. It produced 11% of the world production in good years. Now, the flax fiber export makes 9-12% of the output. Natural conditions of the republic and traditions of its population promoted food and industrial potato growing. The major potato sales markets are Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Far North regions and industrial centers of the Russian Federation.

One of the main species of livestock is cattle, which is used for milk and meat production. Cattle-breeding in Belarus is developed because we have a lot of natural pastures and rich fodder base. Other important species of livestock are pigs and poultry. Large state-owned and collective farms specialize in cattle and pig production while goat, horse and sheep are typical of private farms. Today poultry farming is one of the most perspective and dynamically developing branches of the national economy. The main advantages of poultry farming are early growth, high efficiency and small expenses of production.

Belarus is divided into six regions. **Grodno Region** is located in the north-west of the republic. Farming is highly developed in the region. Dairy and beef husbandry, pig husbandry, potato growing combined with flax growing are dominant in the east, while sugar beet growing — in the west. **Brest Region**, that is located in the southwest of the republic, specializes in beef and dairy husbandry, potato growing, cereals, sugar beet cropping and horticulture. **Minsk Region** is located in the middle of the republic. The dairy and beef husbandry, pig husbandry, potato growing supplemented by flax growing and sugar beet growing in the southwest of the region are developed.

The farms of **Vitebsk Region**, that is located in the northwest of the country, specialize in dairy and beef husbandry, pig husbandry,

flax growing. **Mogilev Region** is located in the middle of the eastern part of the country. Farms specialize in dairy and beef husbandry, pig husbandry and flax growing. Sowing areas of cereal and fodder crops and potato have been increased. The southeastern region of the republic, **Gomel Region**, develops dairy and beef husbandry, cereal cropping, flax and potato growing. In all the regions the farms located not far from large towns produce poultry and horticultural crops.

Forests cover nearly one-third of Belarus and are the source of raw materials for production of matches, pressboard, plywood, furniture, timber for coal mines, paper, paperboard, and sections of prefabricated houses. The total forest area of the republic is more than 9 million hectares. All the forests are the state property. Belarus exports timber to 25 countries of the world, mainly to Russia, Poland, Latvia and Germany.

The main problem affecting the agricultural and forestry sector is the Chernobyl disaster of 1986. Belarus got a high percent of the radiation from the explosion because of weather conditions on the day of the disaster. Longterm radiation affects 18 percent of most productive farmland of Belarus and 20 percent of its forests. Despite the Chernobyl accident, Belarus is still an important exporter of meat, milk, eggs, flour, and potatoes to other East European countries, although its exports are thoroughly tested for radioactive contamination.

Vocabulary Notes:

- to occupy – занимать
- arable – пахотный
- to be employed – быть занятым в
- moderately continental – умеренно континентальный
- vegetative period – вегетационный период
- podzolic soil – подзолистая почва
- fertile – плодородный
- marshy – болотистый
- fertilizer – удобрение
- peat – торф
- potash – калийные удобрения
- to increase – увеличивать
- farming industry – сельскохозяйственное производство

- crop husbandry – растениеводство
- animal husbandry – животноводство
- processing industry – перерабатывающая промышленность
- flour-grinding – мукомольная
- compound feed – комбикорм
- primary flax processing – первичная обработка льна
- engineering – техническое обслуживание
- reclamation – мелиорация
- land management – землеустройство
- cropping – земледелие, возделывание
- to be prioritized – быть приоритетным
- ratio – соотношение
- dense soil – плотная почва
- buckwheat – гречиха
- to promote – способствовать
- natural pasture – природное пастбище
- fodder base – кормовая база
- goat – коза
- horse – лошадь
- sheep – овца
- advantage – преимущество
- expenses – расходы
- beef husbandry - мясное животноводство
- dairy husbandry – молочное животноводство
- supplemented – дополненный
- sowing areas – посевные площади
- to comprise – включать
- source – источник
- raw material – сырье
- match – спичка
- pressboard – толстый картон
- plywood – фанера
- furniture – мебель
- paperboard – картон

- prefabricated house – сборный дом
- property – собственность
- to affect – воздействовать
- longterm – долгосрочный
- thoroughly – тщательно
- contamination – загрязнение

Ex.1. Translate the following words, word combinations and sentences into Russian:

1. Agriculture: agriculture of the republic, to work in agriculture, highly developed agriculture, agriculture specializes in; **agricultural:** agricultural lands, agricultural sector, agricultural business.

The republic of Belarus has a highly developed agriculture. Agricultural sector of the Belarusian economy is represented by large agricultural enterprises.

2. Husbandry: animal husbandry, crop husbandry, beef husbandry, dairy husbandry, beef and dairy husbandry, pig husbandry. *Crop and animal husbandry are the main branches of the republic's agribusiness.*

3. Fertile: fertile areas, fertile soils, the most fertile soils, most of the fertile soils; **fertility:** soil fertility, low fertility, high fertility, natural fertility, to increase fertility; **fertilizer:** mineral fertilizers, the use of fertilizers, fertilizer production. *Most of the soils with low natural fertility can be productive only with the use of fertilizers. Most of the fertile soils are situated in the river valleys.*

4. Flax: flax processing, primary flax processing, flax growing, flax production, fiber flax, flaxseed, species of flax. *There are about two hundred and thirty species of flax in the world. Natural conditions of the republic and traditions of the Belarusians promoted intensive flax growing.*

5. Crop: fodder crops, temperate-zone crops, leguminous crops, oil-yielding crops, growing crops, crop production; **cropping:** cereal cropping, sugar beet cropping, oil-seed cropping, cropping system. *The main crops grown for export are potatoes and flax. The farms of Belarus use modern cropping systems.*

6. Farm: state-owned farms, private farms, collective farms, the farms of the region, farms specialize in, farms located not far from

large towns; **farming**: highly developed farming, private farming, methods of farming. *Private farms in the republic are small and occupy an area of 1.40 million hectares. Farming is highly developed in Grodno region.*

Ex.2. Complete the following sentences:

1. Arable lands of Belarus occupy ...
2. ... climate of Belarus is well suited for ... crops and ... crops.
3. The main problem affecting the agricultural and forestry sector is ...
4. The Belarusian agribusiness sector includes the following sub-sectors: ...
5. ... and ... promoted food and industrial potato growing.
6. In all the regions the farms located not far from large towns produce ...
7. Belarus exports timber to 25 countries of the world, mainly to ...
8. Despite the Chernobyl accident, Belarus is still an important exporter of ... to other East European countries.
9. Belarusian exports are thoroughly tested for ...

Ex.3. Fill in the blanks with the necessary prepositions:

1. The republic of Belarus has the territory of 207.6 square kilometers, ... which 93.4 thousand square kilometers are agricultural lands.
2. Most regions of Belarus are covered ... soils with low natural fertility.
3. ... the CIS countries, Belarus ranks third ... flax production following Russia and Ukraine.
4. Cattle, which is raised on Belarusian farms is used ... milk and meat production.
5. Grodno Region specializes ... dairy and beef husbandry, pig husbandry, potato and sugar beet growing.
6. Poultry and horticultural crops are produced on the farms located not far ... large towns.

7. Forests are the source ... raw materials ... wood-working and paper industry of the republic.
8. Belarus exports timber ... Russia, Poland, Latvia and Germany.
9. After the Chernobyl accident, Belarusian exports are thoroughly tested ... radioactive contamination.

Ex.4. Describe past, present and future of Belarusian agriculture, using the model and choosing one of the expressions on the right. Pay attention to the verb tenses.

Model: In the past most people in Belarus **were employed** in agriculture and forestry.

Nowadays 21 percent of Belarusian work force **is employed** in agriculture and forestry.

I think that in future only 5 % of population **will be employed** in agriculture.

In the past ... Nowadays	... the main agricultural units of the republic ...	... (to be) ...	... big industrial farms. ... large collective and state-owned farms. ... small traditional family farms.
	... Belarusian farmers ...	... (to use) ...	... tractors, combines and other equipment. ... robots and computers. ... hand work and horses.
	... the main sectors of farming ...	...(to include) ...	... crop and animal husbandry. ... crop and animal husbandry, processing industry and service sphere. ... genetics, agricultural industry, high-tech processing and marketing.
	... the fertility of the soil ...	... (to be increased) ...	... with the use of mineral fertilizers. ... with the use of ash and manure. ... with the use of ecologically friendly farming techniques
	... the main crops		... genetically modified cereals and vegetables, and more heat-loving crops.

In future ...	of Belarusian farms ...	... (to be) ...	... flax, cereals, potato and sugar beet with increasing importance of the leguminous and oil-yielding crops. ... potato, flax and vegetables.
	... the animal husbandry in the republic ...	... (to comprise) ...	... large cattle-breeding and pig-breeding farms and poultry factories. ... private and small individual farms. ... big agricultural factories which combine production and processing.
	... the main problem affecting the agricultural and forestry sector ...	... (to be) ...	... backwardness (отсталость) of the farms. ... the Chernobyl disaster of 1986. ... the lack of farm lands.

Text 6. BELARUSIAN STATEHOOD ORIGINS

From the beginning of the 10th century up to the 13th century there were several state formations on the territory of the present-day Belarus. The most important ones were the Principalities of Polatsk, Turau, Novogrudok and some others.



First, these principalities were parts of the Kiev Rus, which was an original, very big medieval federation. During the 10th-12th centuries, some of the major principalities actually became independent and were ruled by local dynasties.

From the middle of the 13th century up to the end of the 18th century, the Belarusian lands belonged to the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (the GDL). The Duchy passed through two main stages in its state and political development: 1) from the middle of the 13th century till 1569, when the GDL existed as a fully independent sovereign state; 2) from 1569, when the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and Poland

formed the Polish Commonwealth (Rzecz Pospolita), till the end of the 18th century.

The state system of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania was an early form of the bourgeois (the szlachta) democracy, the first step to the civil society. After its incorporation into the Russian Empire, Belarus lost its status as a state. The change found reflection in its official name: from 1840 it was named "the North-Western Lands." There were no special laws about Belarus. It didn't have any special legal status. From 1801 the ethnic territory of the Belarusians was part of the Minsk, Mogilev, Vitebsk, Grodno and Vilnia provinces.

In 1918 "the North-Western Lands" were occupied by the German troops. On the 25th of March 1918 the Belarusian People's Republic was proclaimed as a national bourgeois-democratic state. But it failed to turn into a real state: it had no Constitution, no state boundaries, it had no armed forces of its own, the financial system and other attributes of statehood were not formed.

On the 1st of January 1919, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic (the BSSR) was formed, in which political and economic life was under control of the central authority. Non-communist parties and organizations were banned, and the administrative functions were in the hands of the only party. At the same time, the Constitution of the BSSR declared that all the power was vested in the Soviets of Workers', Peasants' and Soldiers' deputies.

On the 27th of July 1990, the "Declaration of State Sovereignty" was adopted. According to the Constitution, the Republic of Belarus is a presidential republic. The President is the head of the state. The National Assembly is the country's supreme legislative authority, and the Constitutional Court is the country's supreme judicial authority.

Vocabulary Notes:

- statehood origins – возникновение государственности
- state formation – государственное образование
- Principality – княжество
- original – первоначальный
- medieval – средневековый
- ruled by – управляемый
- civil society – гражданское общество

- incorporation – включение
- to find reflection – находить отражение
- troops – войска
- proclaim – провозглашать
- fail – не удаваться, терпеть неудачу
- to turn into – превратиться
- a real state – полноправное государство
- boundary – граница
- armed forces – вооруженные силы
- authority – власть
- ban – запрещать
- the only party – единственная партия
- peasant – крестьянин
- deputy – представитель
- sovereignty – суверенитет
- National Assembly – Национальное Собрание
- supreme legislative authority – верховная законодательная власть
- court – суд
- supreme judicial authority - верховная судебная власть

Ex1. Answer the following questions:

1. Name the most important state formations on the territory of the present-day Belarus?
2. When did some of the major principalities which formerly were parts of the Kiev Rus become independent?
3. What state did the Belarusian lands belonged to from the middle of the 13th century up to the end of the 18th century?
4. What two main stages did the Grand Duchy of Lithuania pass through in its state and political development?
5. The state system of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania was an early form of the bourgeois democracy, wasn't it?
6. Prove that after its incorporation into the Russian Empire, Belarus lost its status as a state.
7. When was The Belarusian People's Republic proclaimed as a national bourgeois-democratic state?
8. Did The Belarusian People's Republic turn into a real state?

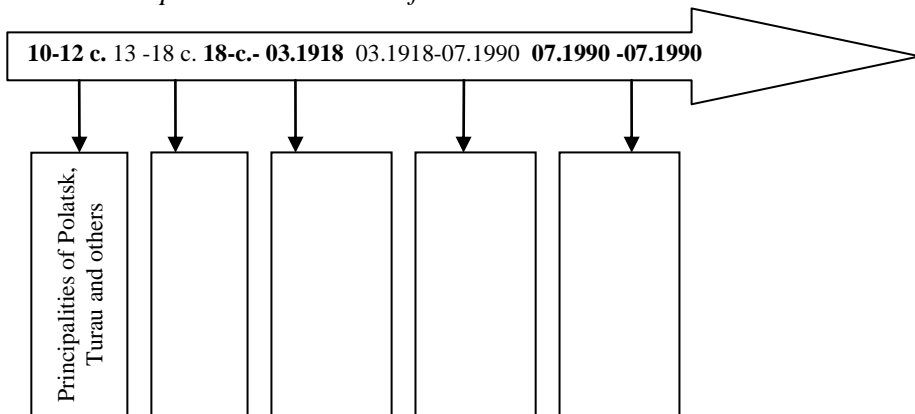
9. What state was formed on the territory of present-day Belarus on the 1st of January 1919?
10. According to the Constitution, the Republic of Belarus is a monarchy, isn't it?

Ex2. Fill in the blanks with the following words and word combinations.

Proclaimed, formations, control, legal, incorporation, adopted, sovereign.

1. From the beginning of the 10th century up to the 13th century there were several state ... on the territory of the present-day Belarus.
2. After its ... into the Russian Empire, Belarus lost its status as a state.
3. From the middle of the 13th century till 1569 the GDL existed as a fully independent ... state.
4. As a part of the Russian Empire Belarus wasn't a region with a special ... status.
5. The Belarusian People's Republic which was ... on the 25th of March 1918 hadn't any attributes of statehood.
6. In the Byelorussian Soviet Socialistic Republic (the BSSR) political and economic life was under ... of the central authority.
7. The "Declaration of State Sovereignty" was ... on the 27th of July 1990.

Ex.3. Make up the historical belt of the Belarusian statehood.



Text 7. MINSK – THE CAPITAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS



Minsk is the capital of the Republic of Belarus and its industrial, political, scientific and cultural centre. It is the largest city in Belarus, situated on the Svislach and Niamiha rivers. Minsk is also a headquarters of the Commonwealth of Independent States. As the national capital, Minsk has a special administrative status in Belarus and is also the capital of Minsk region and Minsk district.

Its population is about 1,8 million people. The city is situated in the heart of Belarus - on the crossroads of trade routes from the East to the West and from the North to the South.

Historically, Minsk is an ancient Russian town founded in 1067. The earliest references to Minsk date to the 11th century (1067).

There are several opinions as to the city's name. Some historians refer to an old legend about **Menesk** (or Minch), a man of an extraordinary physical strength who protected the town from enemies. Other believe that the name has something to do with the **Menka**

river (some 16 km to the West of the city's present location). Still others are sure that the town's name was derived from the Slavonic word "**mena**" (barter, exchange) because in the ancient times there was a barter market where the merchants from many countries of Europe and Asia struck deals and exchanged their goods.

In 1242, Minsk became a part of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, and it received its town privileges in 1499. From 1569, it was a capital of the Minsk Voivodship in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. It was annexed by Russia in 1793, as a result of the Second Partition of Poland. From 1919–1991, Minsk was the capital of the Byelorussian SSR

Before World War II, Minsk had a population of 300,000 people. After Germany invaded the Soviet Union on 22 June, 1941, as part of Operation Barbarossa, Minsk immediately came under attack. The city was bombed on the first day of the invasion and was occupied by the German Army four days later. However, some factories, museums and tens of thousands of civilians had been evacuated to the east.

In the post-war period the Belarusian capital was practically built anew and became a large industrial, political, scientific and cultural centre. New enterprises were built in that period - Minsk Automobile Plant (MAZ), Minsk Tractor Plant (MTZ), Minsk Automatic Lines Plant (MZAL), Minsk Motorcycle and Bicycle Plant (MMVZ), Computer Plant, etc. Minsk is proud of its scientists and engineers, writers and teachers, artists and sportsmen who have established Belarus internationally as a highly developed state in Central Europe, a state which wants to live in peace and friendship with all countries.

Minsk has survived many great battles, 8 great wars and 5 devastating fires. But the city has ever arisen from its ashes like the legendary bird Phoenix for a better life and a brighter future. Now the city continues to change. As the capital of a new independent country, Minsk quickly acquired the attributes of a major city. Embassies are opened, and a number of Soviet administrative buildings became government centers.

Vocabulary Notes:

- a headquarters – штаб-квартира
- crossroads – перекресток

- trade route – торговый маршрут
- ancient – древний
- earliest reference – первое упоминание
- opinion – мнение
- refer to – ссылаться на
- extraordinary – необыкновенный
- strength – сила
- protect – защищать
- enemy – враг
- to have something to do with – быть как-то связанным с
- derive from – происходить от
- merchant – торговец
- strike (2nd ph. struck) deal – заключать сделку
- exchange goods – обменивать товар
- the Grand Duchy of Lithuania – Великое Княжество Литовское
- receive – получать
- town privileges – Магдебургское право (право городского самоуправления)
- Minsk Voivodship – Минское Воеводство
- Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth – Польско-Литовская Уния
- the Second Partition – Второй раздел
- invade – вторгаться
- immediately – немедленно, непосредственно
- to be proud of – гордиться
- scientist – ученый
- establish – утверждать
- to survive – пережить
- devastating – разрушительный
- survive – переживать
- ashes – прах
- acquire – приобретать
- embassy – посольство

Ex1. Answer the following questions:

1. What administrative status has Minsk in the Commonwealth of Independent States?

2. Where is the city situated?
3. What rivers does Minsk stand on?
4. Is Minsk an ancient or young town? When was it founded?
5. There are several opinions as to the city's name. What are they?
6. Did Minsk always belong to only one country?
7. Minsk was occupied by the German Army four days after the invasion, wasn't it?
8. Why can we compare Minsk with the legendary bird Phoenix?
9. Name the biggest industrial enterprises of Minsk.
10. What attributes did Minsk acquire as the capital of a new independent country?

Ex.2. Complete the following sentences:

1. Minsk is the capital of the Republic of Belarus and its industrial, ...
2. The earliest references to Minsk date to ...
3. From 1919–1991, Minsk was the capital of ...
4. After Germany invaded the Soviet Union on 22 June, 1941, Minsk immediately came under attack as part of ...
5. Before the town was occupied by the German Army, some factories, museums and tens of thousands of civilians ...
6. Our people want to live in peace and friendship with ...
7. Now the city continues ...

Text 8. SPORTS AND TOURISM IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

The Republic of Belarus takes an active part in the international life. Sports and tourism are one of the main state priorities. Belarus ranks high in a world sport community. Athletes in 132 sports are trained in the republic. We prepare top-level sportsmen in 48 Olympic sports. Among more than 200 sport countries, taking part in the Olympic Games, The Republic of Belarus with its 10-million population comes into 20 world strongest.

About 80 international competitions are held in the republic every year. The tournaments for the prize of the President of the Re-

public of Belarus Aleksander Lukashenko, for the prize of three times Olympic champion in free style wrestling Aleksander Medved, open championships and cups in rhythmic gymnastics, sambo, judo have wide recognition.

Belarus raised 61 Olympic champions. Sport achievements of three times Olympic champion Aleksander Medved, four times Olympic gold winners Viktor Sidiyak, Olga Korbut, Elena Belova, five times Olympic champion Nelli Kim, six times Olympic champion Vitaly Scherba, Olympic champion Yulia Nesterenko and many other celebrated Belarusian sportsmen had been put in the history of International Olympic movement.

The preparation of sport reserve is an integral part of sport movement. The number of specialized educational sport establishments grows constantly and for the moment is 480. There are about 200 000 pupils that are having their free of charge trainings there.

The members of the national sport teams are the pride of the country. 180 individual grants from the President of the Republic of Belarus are being asserted for outstanding sport results. The Olympic residential complex "Olympic village" was constructed where the apartments are provided to sportsmen, coaches, veterans and specialist of physical culture and sport with certain benefits.

Sport is the most important factor of health enhancement of people. So it cannot develop without mass sport movement. This is very important for our country after the Chernobyl accident. The task is to establish favorable conditions for sport-for-all development in every locality. Nowadays 30% of the population in our country actively practices different types of physical activity.

There is a number of newly built modern Palaces of Sports in every regional center and it is planned to build up such facilities in each settlement with population over 100 thousand people. Now there are 13 such cities in Belarus.

The main summer and winter Sports Training Centers such as Olympic Sports Complexes "Raubichi" and "Staiki", Track and Field Sports Hall in Mogilev, Shooting Gallery in Brest and many others comply with the world standards.

The construction work of Multifunctional Sports Complex 'Minsk-Arena' with spectators capacity of 15 thousand seats has just begun. The complex can host events in 28 sports. It's planned to con-

struct a velodrome with 3500 seats and Freestyle Training Center with Public Recreation Complex- aqua park. And that is only in Minsk, the capital of the Republic of Belarus.

Physical culture and sports have an important place in our country's international policy. We keep the image of Belarus as a country famous for its Olympic achievements and sports traditions. Our country takes active part in international organizations such as Council of Europe, International Olympic Committee, World Tourism Organization etc. At the moment agreements on cooperation in the sphere of physical culture, sports and tourism have been concluded with 24 countries.

Vocabulary Notes:

- priority – приоритет
- train – (*спорт.*) подготавливать
- three times champion – трёхкратный чемпион
- free-style wrestling – вольная борьба
- cup – кубок
- tournament – турнир
- wide recognition – широкое признание
- raise – вырастить
- achievement – достижение
- celebrated – знаменитый
- an integral part – неотъемлемая часть
- sport establishment – спортивное учреждение
- constantly – постоянно
- free of charge – бесплатный
- grant – стипендия
- assert – утверждать
- residential complex – жилой комплекс
- apartment – квартира
- benefit – дополнительная льгота
- enhancement – улучшение
- to establish – создавать
- locality – местность
- facility – объект
- settlement – населенный пункт
- track-and-field sports – легкая атлетика

- shooting – стрельба
- comply with – соответствовать
- spectators capacity – вместимость
- host – принимать
- event – (*здесь*) соревнование
- keep – поддерживать
- agreement on cooperation – договор о сотрудничестве
- conclude – заключать

Ex1. Find in the text English equivalents to the following words and word combinations:

Высоко котируются, мировое спортивное сообщество, спортсмены высокого уровня, 20 сильнейших в мире, трехкратный олимпийский чемпион, вошли в историю международного олимпийского движения, подготовка спортивного резерва, гордость страны, за выдающиеся спортивные результаты, соответствовать мировым стандартам.

Ex2. Say whether the statement is true or false.

1. International competitions are not held in the Republic of Belarus.
2. There are 480 specialized educational sport establishments in our country at the moment.
3. Sportsmen pay for their trainings there.
4. The Olympic residential complex “Olympic village” was constructed for the preparation of sport reserve.
5. We can not establish favorable conditions for sport-for-all because our people are not healthy after the Chernobyl catastrophe.
6. There are newly built modern Palaces of Sports in every regional center of the republic.
7. Our country takes active part in international sport organizations.

Ex3. There are a lot of numerals in the text. Put some of them into the blanks.

1. The Republic of Belarus has ... population and it is among ... world strongest sport countries that take part in the Olympic Games.
2. Multifunctional Sports Complex 'Minsk-Arena' will be able to host ... spectators and ... sport events.
3. The Republic of Belarus has concluded agreements on cooperation in the sphere of physical culture, sports and tourism with ... countries.
4. More than ... sport countries take part in the Olympic Games.
5. It is planned to build up a number of modern Palaces of Sports in each settlement with population over ... thousand people. We have ... such cities in Belarus.
6. Belarus raised ... Olympic champions.
7. There are ... sports which are being cultivated in the Republic. We prepare top-level sportsmen in ... Olympic sports.

Text 9. FAMOUS PEOPLE OF BELARUS OF THE 12-16 CENTURIES

Euphrasinia Polatskaya (secular name Pradslava) (between 1102 and 1104 – 1173) was the Princess and the Mother Superior of the



Polatsk Saint Savior Convent. She was an enlightener of the Kiev Russia period. Euphrasinia was the first woman canonized by the Orthodox church. Her father was prince Georgy Usiaslavavich, and prince of Polatsk Usiaslau Charadzei's was her granddaughter.

Unwilling to get married, she took the veil. She was copying church books. It is also believed that she was writing chronicles and original works. Euphrasinia funded the construction of two churches in Polatsk. She was also a founder of a monastery and a nunnery, which turned to be important cultural centers in the Polatsk principality. In 1161, following her order, craftsman Lazar Bohsha made a cross, which was named the Cross of Euphrasinia Polatskaya.

Vocabulary Notes:

- secular – светский
- Mother Superior – мать-настоятельница

- Saint Savior Convent – женский монастырь Христа Спасителя
- enlightener – просветительница
- Orthodox church – православная церковь
- unwilling – не желая
- to take the veil – постригаться в монахини
- chronicles – летописи
- original works – первоисточники
- fund – финансировать
- nunnery – женский монастырь
- craftsman – мастер
- cross – крест

Kiryła Turaŭski (about 1130 – about 1184).

Kiryła Turaŭski was born in about 1130 in Turau, where he also got his education. At that time Turau was an important cultural centre with a number of monastery schools, where students were studying languages, reading books and learning rhetoric. Having reached his full age, Kiryła Turaŭski became a priest. He was writing prayers and religious books about monks. When in 1148 his ideological opponent Klim Smaliatsich was made Metropolitan of Kiev, Turauski secluded himself in a monastery tower. During such a seclusion Turauski was absorbed in thinking and writing.

Vocabulary Notes:

- rhetoric – риторика
- reach – достигать
- full age – совершеннолетие
- priest – священник
- prayer – молитва
- monk – монах
- Metropolitan – митрополит
- seclude – изолировать
- seclusion – затворничество
- tower – башня
- absorb – поглощать

Mikoła Husoŭski (about 1470 – 1533).

Mikoła Husoŭski was a poet-humanist and enlightener of the Renaissance epoch. He came from the family of a hunter. He got education in Belarus, and then studied in Vilnya, Poland and Italy. In 1518, he arrived in Rome as a member of the Polish-Lithuanian diplomatic mission, and, in 1522, he wrote there his best work: "A song about the bison". The work was full of love to his motherland, worry for its destiny and pride for the glorious past of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. "A song about the bison," and other works of Husoŭski were written in Latin, the literature language of Europe of those times. However, his creative work had a considerable effect not only on the Latin language literature. It also influenced general development of such genres as lyric-epical, historical and satiric poem, epigram, elegy, polemical and publicist treatise in Eastern Europe. Mikoła Husoŭski did a lot to make his motherland well-known in the Western world. He was also an exponent of advanced socio-political and esthetic views of that epoch.

Vocabulary Notes:

- enlightener – просветительница
- Renaissance – Ренессанс
- epoch – эпоха
- hunter – охотник
- bison – зубр
- worry – беспокойство
- destiny – судьба
- pride – гордость
- glorious – великолепный, славный
- creative work – творчество
- considerable – значительный
- to influence – оказывать влияние
- genre – жанр
- lyric-epical – лирико-эпический
- elegy – элегия
- treatise – трактат
- exponent – образец, показатель
- advanced – прогрессивный, передовой
- socio-political – общественно-политический
- view – взгляд

Frantsishak Skaryna (about 1490 – 1551).

Frantsishak Skaryna was Belarusian and East Slavonic enlightener and humanist, first printer, scientist, writer, translator, painter, graphic artist of the Renaissance epoch.

He was born in the family of a Polatsk merchant. In 1506, he graduated from the University of Krakow (Jagiellonski University) where he got his bachelor's degree in philosophy. In 1512, at the University of Padova, he got a degree of the Doctor of Medicine.

He was the first to publish 23 books of the Bible in the Belarusian version of the Church Slavonic language. It was done in 1517-1519 at a printing-house in Prague. About the year of 1520 he founded a printing-house in Vilnya and between 1522 and 1525 he published "The Small Travel Book" and "The Apostle" there. His editions had very important prefaces and epilogues. They contained many advanced ideas on state sovereignty, patriotism, equal rights, religious and moral freedom and responsibility, "natural law," self-value of the human life on the earth.

Skaryna believed that the service to the society is equal to the service to God. That is why he thought of his translating, writing and publishing work as a spiritual sacrifice to his Motherland. The creative work of Skaryna promoted the book printing, humanism and Reformation. The great citizen of Polatsk has been commemorated in various countries of the world, for example, there is a monument to him in Polatsk, memorial plaques in Vilnia, Krakow and Padua.

Vocabulary Notes:

- enlightener – просветительница
- painter – живописец
- graphic artist – художник-оформитель
- merchant – торговец, купец
- bachelor's degree – степень бакалавра
- Church Slavonic – церковнославянский
- printing-house – типография
- edition – издание
- preface – предисловие
- epilogue – эпилог
- to contain – содержать

- sovereignty – суверенитет
- equal rights – равноправие
- responsibility – ответственность
- "natural law" – “естественное право”
- self-value – самооценность
- spiritual - духовный
- sacrifice – жертва
- creative work – творчество
- promote – стимулировать, способствовать
- citizen – гражданин
- commemorate – отмечать
- memorial plaque – мемориальная доска
- Padua – Падуя

Symon Budny (1530 – 1593).

Symon Budny was a humanist, enlightener, religious reformer, philosopher and publisher. He came from the family of a small Polish gentleman. He was one of the most educated men of his time. He graduated from the Krakow University. In 1562 a book by Symon Budny “Catechism” was published by the Nesvizh printing house. It was the first printed edition on the territory of the present-day Belarus. “Catechism” was written and published in the Old Belarusian language. After that, Budny published his works in Brest, and Vilnia. In his books he was explaining his views on faith problems, on “secular” destination of the man, on state authority. His views were advanced for that time, and he spread them together with his associates and supporters. He favored a comprehensive cooperation of the Slavic peoples.

Vocabulary Notes:

- enlightener – просветитель
- publisher – издатель
- to come from – происходить, быть родом из
- gentleman – дворянин
- Catechism – Катехизис
- printing house – printing house
- printed edition – печатное издание
- to explain – объяснять

- view – взгляд, представление
- faith – вера
- secular - светский
- destination – предназначение
- state authority – государственное управление
- advanced – прогрессивный
- to spread – распространять
- jointly – совместно
- associate – партнер
- supporter – сторонник
- favor – одобрять
- comprehensive – всесторонний
- cooperation – сотрудничество
- peoples – народы

Piotr Mstsislavets (16th century)

Piotr Timafeyevich Mstsislavets came from a bourgeois family, and is a native of the town of Mstsislavl. It so happened that almost all his life he had to be "second." Piotr Mstsislavets found himself in Moscow, when the foundation of a printing-house was being prepared there. They were everywhere looking for skilled workers capable of making books by "artistic stamping". So, he started to help Ivan Fiodorov and was practically dealing with first printing activities. Talented work of Piotr Mstsislavets, his fonts and ornaments were noted and appreciated by the tsar Ivan the Terrible himself.

The books by I. Fiodorov and P. Mstsislavets commended the activities of the tsar. But when Ivan the Terrible began a fight against every kind of dissidence, Fiodorov and Mstsislavets left Moscow for the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. It was a kind of a protest. In Vilnya Piotr Mstsislavets founded a printing-house at the house of Mamonich, the merchants. From that time I. Fiodorov and P. Mstsislavets began to work separately. But the printers demonstrated, however, that they were worthy of each other as skilful workmen. In 1575, Piotr Mstsislavets published a Gospel – the first book where his name was mentioned first. He was honored for enlightening the Belarusian people with the help of the “Printing Word”.

Vocabulary Notes:

- to come from – происходить, быть родом из
- bourgeois – буржуазный
- a native- уроженец
- found himself (от to find oneself – оказаться) – оказался
- foundation – основание, образование
- skilled (skilful) – квалифицированный
- capable of – способный
- artistic stamping – художественная печать
- deal with – иметь дело
- printing activities – типографская деятельность
- font – шрифт
- tsar – царь
- Ivan the Terrible – Иван Грозный
- commend – прославлять
- fight against – борьба с
- dissidence – разногласие, несогласие
- to found – основывать
- merchant – купец
- separately – отдельно
- to be worthy of each other – стоять друг друга
- skilful workman – квалифицированный работник
- Gospel – Евангелие
- mention – упоминать
- honor – почитать, чтить
- enlightening – просветительство
- Printing Word – Печатное Слово

Ex1. Chose the right variant.

1. Which of the famous Belarusian people had a diplomatic mission of the Polish-Lithuanian state?

- a) Piotr Mstsislavets
- b) Symon Budny
- c) Mikoła Husoŭski
- d) Euphrasina Polatskaya

2. Name a famous Belarusian person who thought of his service to the society as the service to God?

- a) Piotr Mstsislavets
- c) Mikoła Husoŭski

b) Symon Budny

d) Frantsishak Skaryna

3. Whose book was the first printed edition on the territory of the present-day Belarus?

a) Piotr Mstsislavets

c) Mikoła Husoŭski

b) Symon Budny

d) Frantsishak Skaryna

4. Name a famous Belarusian person who helped Ivan Fiodorov in his first printing activities?

a) Piotr Mstsislavets

c) Mikoła Husoŭski

b) Kiryła Turaŭski

d) Euphrasinia Polatskaya

5. Which of the famous Belarusian people funded the construction churches and monasteries?

a) Piotr Mstsislavets

c) Mikoła Husoŭski

b) Kiryła Turaŭski

d) Euphrasinia Polatskaya

6. Who is known to become a priest and to write prayers and religious books about monks?

a) Piotr Mstsislavets

c) Mikoła Husoŭski

b) Kiryła Turaŭski

d) Euphrasinia Polatskaya

7. Which of the famous Belarusian people wasn't a printer or a publisher?

a) Piotr Mstsislavets

c) Mikoła Husoŭski

b) Frantsishak Skaryna

d) Symon Budny

Ex.2. Find the right explanation to the following words:

Enlightener, Mother Superior, priest, printer, graphic artist, merchant, humanist, publisher.

1. A person who was trained to perform religious duties in the Christian Church.
2. A person whose job is to print books, newspapers and magazines.
3. Someone who makes printed texts available to people and decides what must be published.
4. A painter who makes drawings, fonts and ornaments for printed editions.

5. A progressive thinker and philosopher, who did a lot for popularizing science and advanced socio-political and esthetic views.
6. The title of a woman who has the highest rank in a Christian women's monastery.
7. A person who believes that people's emotional and spiritual needs can be realized without following a religion.
8. Someone whose job is to buy and to sell products in large amounts or to trade with other countries.

Text 10. FAMOUS PEOPLE OF BELARUS OF THE 17-19 CENTURIES

Илья Капиевич (1651 – 1740).

Илья Капиевич got his education at Slutsk Calvin School. Because of land disputes with Jesuits, he had to leave his Motherland and to settle in Amsterdam, where he began publishing books. In Amsterdam, Kapievich was introduced to Peter I. On his instructions Илья Капиевич published in Amsterdam the first textbook on mathematics in the Russian language: "A Brief and Useful Guidebook in Arithmetic". At the beginning of the 18th century, Илья Капиевич moved to Moscow, where he published the first textbook in grammar and rhetoric. More than 20 volumes were written and published by Илья Капиевич in his lifetime. These books helped Russia's population learn the wealth of the European science and culture.

Vocabulary Notes:

- Calvin School – Школа Кальвинистов
- land dispute – земельный конфликт
- Jesuit – иезуит
- to be introduced to – быть представленным (кому-то)
- textbook – учебник
- "A Brief and Useful Guidebook in Arithmetic" – “Краткий и полезный путеводитель по арифметике”
- Move to – переехать, переселиться
- rhetoric – риторика
- volume – том, издание
- wealth – богатство, достояние

Yazep Rutski (1574 – 1637).

Yazep Rutski, an outstanding writer, pedagogue and religious figure, was born in the estate of Ruta, not far from Navaharodak. He got his education at Prague University, at the Greek Collegium in Rome. When he came back home, he was appointed the director of the Vilnya theological seminary. There Y.Rutski wrote a pedagogical treatise, in which he spoke about the need of reforms in the field of education. He thought it is necessary to learn from the experience of Latin and Roman teachers, but to exercise training at home country, raising the teaching level.

On January 1, 1608 Rutski became a monk and got the name of Yazep. He was educating young monks, was reading theological lectures to them, and teaching them Latin and Church Slavonic languages. Soon Yazep became a very important person among the Vilnya members of the Uniate Church, and shortly after he became the Uniate metropolitan. He is also famous for construction of new chapels and monasteries. Yazep Rutski carried on active work on consolidation and reforming of the Uniate Church. He obliged all the monasteries to gather money for education establishments, hospitals and printing houses.

Yazep Rutski was talented in many fields: literature, church life, and education. He died on January 5, 1637 and was buried with great honour in the Vilnya St. Trinity monastery.

Vocabulary Notes:

- estate – имение
- Greek Collegium – греческая коллегия
- Appoint – назначать
- theological seminary – духовная семинария
- treatise – трактат
- experience – опыт
- to exercise – осуществлять
- to raise – повышать
- level – уровень
- monk – монах
- Uniate Church – Униатская Церковь
- metropolitan – митрополит

- chapel – часовня
- oblige – обязывать
- to die – умереть
- to be burned – быть похороненным
- St. Trinity monastery – монастырь Святой Троицы

Kazimir Semianovich (about 1600 – after 1651).

Kazimir Semianovich was an engineer and a well-known theorist in the field of artillery. He was born in Belarus. He is mostly known as the author of the book "The Great Art of Artillery" published in Amsterdam in 1650. In that book, Semianovich summed up and developed the experience of the gunnery of that period. The book won success and general recognition all over Europe. Soon after, it was republished by Frenchmen, by Germans and by Englishmen. It became a manual for grenadiers. Peter I also kept this book in his library. Besides that, Kazimir Semianovich discovered the way of making multi-stage rockets. He also invented additional engines for them and stabilizers.

Vocabulary Notes:

- artillery – артиллерия
- "The Great Art of Artillery" – «Великое искусство артиллерии»
- sum up - подводить итог, суммировать
- experience – опыт
- gunnery – артиллерийское дело, теория и практика стрельбы
- to win success – пользоваться успехом
- general recognition – всеобщее признание
- manual – руководство, справочник
- grenadier – гранатометчик, гренадер
- discovered the way – открыл способ
- multi-stage – многоступенчатый
- invent – изобретать
- additional – дополнительный
- engine – двигатель
- stabilizer – стабилизатор

Mikhail Kazimir Ahinski (1730 – 1800).

Mikhail Kazimir Ahinski is one of the most famous representatives of the Ahinski family, a great Lithuanian hetman, one of the pretenders to the crown of Rzeczpospolita (Polish Commonwealth). He traveled across Europe for some time; in 1775 he returned to Belarus, where he settled in his estate.

He was a painter and a splendid musician, the author of a number of polonaises and other musical compositions, some poems, fables and satire that were published in several editions. Being a statesman of Slonim, he showed himself as a patron of arts. The so-called Ahinski canal connecting the rivers Yaselda and Shchara was dug up thanks to his efforts. He also contributed to construction of roads in the boglands: from Slonim to Pinsk and from Pinsk to Valyn. In Slonim, he founded and constructed manufactories on a large scale. There was also built a printing-house, where his own works were published. An opera theater and a choir were also set up, where outstanding actors, singers, musicians and painters used to be invited.

Vocabulary Notes:

- representative – представитель
- hetman – гетман
- pretender – претендент
- settle – оседать
- estate – имение
- painter – живописец
- splendid – прекрасный
- polonaise – полонез
- fable – басня
- edition – издание
- patron – покровитель
- statesman – государственный деятель
- dig up (dug, dug) – выкапывать
- effort – усилие
- contribute – вносить вклад
- bogland – заболоченная территория
- to found – основать

- on a large scale – в большом масштабе
- choir – хор
- to set up – основывать
- invite - приглашать

Ex1. Chose the right variant or variants.

1. Which two of the famous Belarusian people wrote textbooks?

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| a) Ilya Kapievich | c) Kazimir Semianovich |
| b) Yazep Rutski | d) Mikhail Kazimir Ahinski |

2. Name a famous Belarusian person who was interested in military science?

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| a) Ilya Kapievich | c) Kazimir Semianovich |
| b) Yazep Rutski | d) Mikhail Kazimir Ahinski |

3. Which of the famous Belarusian people belonged to the Uniate Church?

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| a) Ilya Kapievich | c) Kazimir Semianovich |
| b) Yazep Rutski | d) Mikhail Kazimir Ahinski |

4. Name a famous Belarusian person who was a statesman could even get the king's crown?

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| a) Ilya Kapievich | c) Kazimir Semianovich |
| b) Yazep Rutski | d) Mikhail Kazimir Ahinski |

5. Which of the famous Belarusian people wrote a book about the need of reforms in the field of education?

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| a) Ilya Kapievich | c) Kazimir Semianovich |
| b) Yazep Rutski | d) Mikhail Kazimir Ahinski |

6. Name a famous Belarusian person who was introduced to Peter I?

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| a) Ilya Kapievich | c) Kazimir Semianovich |
| b) Yazep Rutski | d) Mikhail Kazimir Ahinski |

Ex2. Make short dialogues, choosing the right prompt of those in brackets). .

- Are you going home after the lessons?
- I think I am not. I have to go to the library and find some material about ... (*Ilya Kapievich, Yazep Rutski, Kazimir Semianovich, Mikhail Kazimir Ahinski*).
- Oh, I know that he was ... (*an engineer and a well-known theorist in the field of artillery; the author the first textbook on mathematics in the Russian language; a painter and a*

splendid musician; an outstanding writer, pedagogue and religious figure).

- And what is his most well-known work?
- If I am not mistaken, he wrote ... (*polonaise “Farewell to Motherland”, “A Brief and Useful Guidebook in Arithmetic”, “The Great Art of Artillery”, a pedagogical treatise).*
- Thanks a lot for your information. I think it will be very useful for me.

Ex3. Choose one of the texts about famous people of Belarus to learn it by heart.

Учебное издание

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