The Great Britain

The capital of Great Britain is full of popular and world-famous tourist attractions, both educational and entertaining. Most of them are located close to the river Thames, others are in different parts of London and in its suburbs. The city was founded about 2 000 years ago, so there are a lot of interesting historic and architectural sights.

Big Ben is the most famous iconic clock tower of the Houses of Parliament. Behind this long and beautiful building stands medieval Westminster Abbey where many historic weddings, coronations and burials took place. The Tower of London has rich history as a royal palace, a fortress, a prison and a place of execution. Not far from the Tower guests can see the magnificent architecture of St Paul's Cathedral, originally designed by Sir Christopher Wren. In the middle of Trafalgar Square tourists stop to admire a 52-metre Nelson's column dedicated to Admiral Lord Nelson. Buckingham Palace has been the official residence of British monarchs since the reign of Queen Victoria.

London is famous for its wonderful museums and art galleries. In British Museum one can see ancient paintings, sculptures and even Egyptian mummies. London's National Gallery has the greatest collection of paintings of Van Gogh, Leonardo da Vinci, Renoir and many others. The Natural History Museum boasts its fabulous dinosaur exhibition. Tate Modern is a unique museum with the works of Picasso, Dali and other modern artists. The Science Museum is a technology thought-provoking museum with interactive galleries devoted to many fields of science: from space travel to psychology.

As for the entertaining, it is impossible to get bored in London. The best places for quiet relaxation are traditional English parks and gardens. The tourists' favourites are Kew Gardens, Hyde Park, St. James's Park, Green Park and Kensington Gardens. Right in the heart of the capital we can find London Zoo and London Aquarium. In Madame Tussauds Museum visitors will meet face to face with hundreds of celebrities: from Shakespeare to Lady Gaga because it's an amazing collection of wax figures. Warner Bros. Studio Tour is an unbelievable behind-thescenes tour where we can enjoy the magic of the Harry Potter films. The London Eye is a giant wheel that carries its visitors in one of its capsules for breathtaking experience above the city and its attractions.

Answer my questions:

- 1) What is the capital of England?
- 2) When the city was found of?
- 3. What river does London stand on?
- 4. What places of interest of London do you know?
- 5. Where is the home of the queen of Britain?
- 6. What is Big Ben?
- 7. What is Westminster Abbey?

Развитие грамматических навыков. (Вставить слова из рамки в тексты).

Teacher: The Queen of England (Elizabeth II) has got lots of homes. Sometimes she lives at Buckingham Palace in London and sometimes at Windsor Castle in Windsor.

Teacher: Write the verbs in the gaps.

lived had stays built started

Buckingham Palace



In 1705, the Duke of Buckingham (1) *built* Buckingham Palace. Queen Victoria (2) _____ there in 1837.

After that, different kings and queens lived in the palace. Today, Queen Elizabeth II often (3) _____ there. When she is at 'home', a flag flies from the roof.

Windsor Castle

William I (William the First) (4) _____ to build* this castle in the 1070s. The castle is a favourite place for royal weddings. Prince Charles and Camilla Parker-Bowles (5) _____ a big party in the castle after their wedding in 2005.



Развитие навыков языковой догадки. (Соединить картинки с текстами.)

1. Money problems _____

The Queen opened Buckingham Palace to the public for the first time in 1993. Why? Because she needed money after a big fire at Windsor Castle. The fire lasted for 15 hours and it destroyed a lot of rooms.

2. Big Houses _____

Buckingham Palace has more than 500 rooms and 78 bathrooms. 19 of the rooms are open to the public for two months each year. Windsor Castle is a lot bigger - it has over 1,000 rooms!

3. The Royal Guard _____

Every day, lots of tourists stand in front of the palace to watch the Changing of the Guard. The Guards wear red jackets and 'bearskins' (very big black hats). They mustn't smile at the tourists when they are working. This is sometimes very difficult!

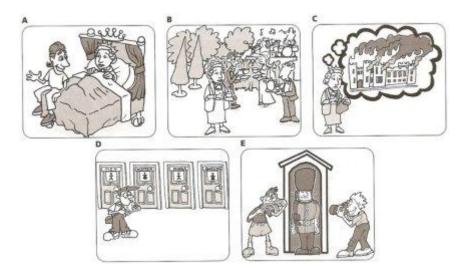
4. The gardens _____

The gardens at Buckingham Palace are very big. In 2002, the Queen had a big pop concert there to celebrate 50 years of being Queen. She also has big tea parties there and invites different

people to them. For a picnic, go to Windsor. The gardens there are bigger and they are always open.

5. Not invited ____

In 1982 the Queen woke up at Buckingham Palace with a surprise. There was a strange man sitting on her bed! His name was Michael Fagan. They talked for half an hour. Fagan asked the queen for a cigarette, but she couldn't give him one. She doesn't smoke. There are 200 bedrooms in the Palace. How did he find the right one?



Практика устной речи.

Прочитать отрывки и придумывают заголовки к ним. Заголовки записать

Teacher: Read the extract s and guess the titles of the text.

- 1. <u>Ancient Universities</u> The towns of Oxford and Cambridge have some of the finest buildings in Britain. They are famous for their universities, the oldest in England. All the students live and study in a college. Cambridge has 31 colleges and Oxford has 39. Oxford's first college started in 1249. Cambridge's first college opened in 1281.
- 2. ______ Before the 12-century, people who wanted a good education went to the Sorbonne in Paris. Then, in1167, all English students in Paris moved to Oxford. Some people say King Henry II told them to move. Others say the French threw them out! The students went to study in Oxford monasteries and that was the beginning of Oxford University.
- 3. _____ The Church was very important in Oxford and Cambridge for many years. For example, until the 19 century the university teachers were almost like priests and they couldn't marry.
- 4. _____ Women started studying later than men. The first women's college at Cambridge opened in 1869 and at Oxford in 1878. Today, three Cambridge colleges and one Oxford college are for women only. Men and women study together in the others.
- 5. _____ Every year the universities complete in a rowing race over 7 kilometers of the Thames. Each boat has eight male rowers and a cox, who must be a very light man or woman. The first race was in 1829 and it became a yearly race in 1839. All the students really want their university to win!
- 6. ______ People can stay in rooms at Oxford and Cambridge when the students are on holiday. Some rooms are modern but the older rooms are more interesting (and more uncomfortable). They often have low ceilings, small windows and a view of the square or 'quadrangle' in the same room as an ex Prime Minister or eating at the same table as Lawrence of Arabia!