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**Английский язык: Методические указания к разговорной теме
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Методические указания предназначены для студентов 1 курса всех специальностей.

Методические указания представляют собой подборку страноведческих текстов, диалогов, коммуникативных и грамматических упражнений к разговорной теме «США». Выполнение разнообразных заданий способствует формированию различных аспектов речевого поведения в ситуациях реального общения и расширяет страноведческие знания студентов по данной теме.

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Введение

Данные методические указания по английскому языку предназначены для студентов первого курса всех специальностей. Выполнение различных заданий предусматривает развитие главных видов коммуникативной деятельности: говорения, чтения и понимания, аудирования, письма и перевода в объеме материала методических указаний.

Методические указания состоят из 9 разделов. Лексика и пояснения к текстам снимают трудности при их чтении. Система лексико-грамматических упражнений способствует поэтапному усвоению как страноведческого, так и лексико-грамматического материала.

1 Unit 1 The United States of America (The USA)

1.1 Read and translate the text.

The United States of America

The United States of America is the fourth largest country in the world (after Russia, Canada and China). The USA lies in the central part of North America. The total area of the country is about nine and a half million square kilometres. Its western coast is washed by the Pacific Ocean. Its eastern coast is washed by the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. The USA borders on Canada in the north and on Mexico in the south. It has a sea-boarder with Russia.

The climate of the country varies greatly from arctic in Alaska through continental in the central part to subtropical in the south.

The USA is a federal republic. It consists of fifty states and the District of Columbia. The capital of the country is Washington D. C. The population of the USA is about 250 million people. Each state has its own government. The seat of the federal government is Washington D. C. According to the US Constitution the powers of the government are divided into 3 branches. They are the executive, the legislative and the judicial. The executive is headed by the President and his Administration. The legislative is exercised by the US Congress. The judicial is headed by the US Supreme Court.

The Congress consists of the Senate and the House of Representatives. There are two main political parties in the USA, the Republican and the Democratic.

The flag of the USA is called "Stars and Stripes." There are three colours on the flag of the USA.

They are red, white and blue. As there are fifty states in the USA, there are fifty stars on the American flag: one star for each state. The American flag has thirteen stripes. The stripes are red and white. The flag has seven red stripes and six white stripes. There is one stripe for each of the first thirteen colonies which in 1776 became independent of England.

The eagle became the official national symbol of the country in 1782. It holds an olive branch (a symbol of peace) and arrows (symbols of strength) in its paws.

The USA has an official song. It is called The Star Spangled Banner.

The USA is one of the greatest industrial and leading agricultural nations in the world. The USA produces around 25% of the world's industrial products, agricultural goods and services.

The USA is rich in coal, iron and oil. Many rivers cross the country. The most important are the Mississippi, the Missouri, the Colorado, the Sacramento. The main lakes are the Great Lakes in the north.

The largest cities are New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, San Francisco, Washington and others. The highest mountains are the Rocky Mountains, the Cordillera and the Sierra Nevada.

The USA is one of the most powerful and highly developed countries in the world. It is the leader of the western world.

1.2 Post-Text Exercises

1.2.1 Pronounce the following words and geographic names:

the United States of America (the USA) - Соединенные Штаты Америки
China - Китай
the Pacific Ocean - Тихий океан
the Atlantic Ocean - Атлантический океан
the Gulf of Mexico - Мексиканский залив
Washington D. C. - г. Вашингтон
the US Congress - Конгресс Соединенных Штатов Америки
the US Supreme Court - Верховный Суд
the Senate - Сенат
the House of Representatives - Палата представителей
the Republican party - Республиканская партия
the Democratic party - Демократическая партия
the Star Spangled Banner - официальный гимн США
the Mississippi - Миссисипи
the Missouri - Миссури
the Colorado - Колорадо
the Sacramento - Сакраменто
New York - Нью-Йорк
Los Angeles - Лос-Анджелес
Chicago - Чикаго
Philadelphia - Филадельфия
Detroit - Детройт
San Francisco - Сан Франциско
the Rocky Mountains - Скалистые горы
the Cordillera - Кордильеры
the Sierra Nevada - Сьерра Невада
total - весь, целый
to wash - омывать
coast - морской берег
to border on — граничить с
government - правительство
to divide - разделять
branch - отрасль, ветвь
executive - исполнительный
legislative - законодательный
judicial - судебный
to head - возглавлять
to exercise - осуществлять