

# Questions for Credit. 2 year 3 term. Speech Practice.

## Part I.

### Topic 1. Wonders of the Ancient World.

**Texts: The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, The Great Pyramid at Giza, The Hanging Gardens of Babylon.**

*Speak about the seven wonders of the ancient world.*

- 1) Why did people make lists of memorable things in ancient times? Where did this practice begin?
- 2) Speak about the seven wonders of the ancient world (location, purpose of construction, brief description, present state of the wonder):  
The Great Pyramid at Giza  
The Hanging Gardens of Babylon  
The Temple of Diana  
The Statue of Zeus  
The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus  
The Colossus of Rhodes  
The Lighthouse of Alexandria
- 3) Which wonders of the ancient world still exist nowadays? What happened to the rest of them?
- 4) What are the theories that explain the purpose and the method of building of the Great Pyramid?
- 5) What sources does the information about the Hanging Gardens of Babylon come from? Is there any scientific proof of the existence of the Gardens?
- 6) What other wonders of the ancient world do you know?

### Topic 2. Wonders of the Modern World.

**Texts: The Seven Wonders of the Modern World, Wonders of the Modern World, Achievements of Science and Technology.**

*Speak about wonders of the modern world.*

*Speak about achievements of science and technology.*

*Speak about your personal choice of wonders of the modern world.*

- 1) Who created the list of the modern wonders? What achievements of humanity do they demonstrate?
- 2) Speak about the seven wonders of the modern world (location, purpose of construction, brief description):  
The Channel Tunnel  
The CN Tower  
The Empire State Building  
The Golden Gate Bridge  
The Itaipu Dam  
The North Sea Protection Works  
The Panama Canal
- 3) Explain what is great about each of these constructions.
- 4) Speak about achievements of science and technology.
- 5) Speak about your personal choice of wonders of the modern world.

### Topic 3. Happiness.

**Texts: Psychology report: what makes people happy? Who is happy? So you think you know what's good for you? 7 Common habits of unhappy people. What makes people happy?**

**Listening: Childhood is certainly not the happiest time of your life.**

*Speak about a person's happiness in different periods of their life.*

*Speak about the things that make people happy and the ways of achieving happiness.*

*Speak about common habits that make people's lives less happy.*

***Speak about comparisons and their influence on people's satisfaction with themselves.***

- 1) Explain the influence of the following factors on physical and mental health of people: physical exercise, eating chocolate, drinking tea and coffee, playing computer games, watching soap operas on TV, low self-esteem, being married. (*Text: So you think you know what's good for you?*)
- 2) Is the idea of happiness the same or different for different people? What do they have in common? (*Text: Who is happy?*)
- 3) Is happiness directly connected with age? What problems and difficulties are associated with childhood and adolescence? (*Listening: Childhood is certainly not the happiest time of your life.*)
- 4) What were Harvard students asked to choose and what does this example illustrate? Is happiness connected with income? (*Text: What makes people happy? Video: The secret to happiness*)
- 5) Does economic growth in the country improve happiness? (*Text: What makes people happy?*)
- 6) Why do bronze medallists rate themselves much happier than silver medallists? What rule can we work out using this example? (*Text: What makes people happy?*)
- 7) How do big life events (positive or negative) change the level of happiness? Does the effect last for long? (*Text: What makes people happy? Video: The secret to happiness*)
- 8) Is happiness directly connected with IQ and education? (*Text: What makes people happy?*)
- 9) What brings us more happiness: acquisitions or experiences? Why? (*Text: What makes people happy?*)
- 10) Why is it easier for extroverts to be happy? (*Text: What makes people happy?*)
- 11) Do introverts always suffer from social isolation and feel unhappy? Why? (*Text: What makes people happy?*)
- 12) What results does faking extroversion or faking a smile have? How can it be explained? (*Text: What makes people happy?*)
- 13) Is happiness connected with a person's health? Can it be increased by a healthy lifestyle? (*Text: What makes people happy?*)
- 14) What common habits can make people's lives less happy? (*Text: 7 Common habits of unhappy people.*)
- 15) How is happiness connected with genetics? (*Text: What makes people happy? Video: The secret to happiness*)
- 16) How does happiness connected with our perception of everyday situations? (*Text: What makes people happy?*)
- 17) What things are in most cases associated with happiness and what things do not relate to it? What is the formula of happiness? (*Text: What makes people happy? Video: The secret to happiness*)

**Part II.**

**Topic 1. Sports in Great Britain, the USA and Belarus.**

**Text: Sports in Great Britain. Top Ten Most Popular Sports in United Kingdom. Sports in the USA. The Past, Present and Future of America's 10 Most Popular Sports. Popular Sports in Belarus. Sports in Belarus.**

***Speak about the most popular spectator and participatory sports in Great Britain.***

***Speak about the most popular kinds of sport in the USA.***

***Explain the difference between competitive and recreation sports, professional and amateur sports, participatory and spectator sports. Give examples.***

***Speak about the attitude of Americans to competitive and recreation sports, violence in sports.***

***Speak about the future prospects of America's most popular sports.***

***Speak about popular sports in Belarus, the most popular teams and famous sportsmen.***

- 1) British are known to be great sport-lovers. Prove it.
- 2) What English proverbs and sayings are connected with sports? Explain their meanings.
- 3) What sports are popular in Great Britain? What games are popular only in Britain?
- 4) What kind of football is played in Britain? What is the attitude of the British to it? What other kinds of football do you know?
- 5) What is Scotland's chief contribution to British sport?

- 6) What sports are popular in the USA? What game can be called the national game of the country?
- 7) What is the attitude of Americans to competition in sports and life?
- 8) What is the attitude of Americans to violence in sports?
- 9) Why do many Americans prefer recreation sports?
- 10) What are the future prospects of America's most popular sports?
- 11) What are the most popular sports in Belarus? What popular teams and sportsmen do you know?

## **Topic 2. The Olympic Games.**

**Texts: The Olympic Games. The Olympic Symbols.**

*Speak about the history of the Olympic Games from ancient times up to nowadays.*

*Speak about the Olympic symbols.*

*Speak about the organization of the modern Olympics.*

*Speak about the role of the Olympics in modern life and the ethical standards of the Olympics.*

- 1) What is the origin of the Olympic Games? What was the first Olympic sport? What were the rules for sportsmen? Why were the Games abolished in the past?
- 2) Who conceived the idea of the modern Olympics? When and where were they held? What was their motto? How many countries were represented and what sports were included?
- 3) How did the Olympics change during the 20<sup>th</sup> century? What positive and negative changes took place? What are the ethical standards of the Olympics and how are they observed?
- 4) What is the role of the International Olympic Committee?
- 5) What are the Olympic symbols and what are their meanings?
- 6) How are the opening and the closing ceremonies usually held? What are the roles of these ceremonies?
- 7) What is the role of the Olympics in modern life?

## **Topic 3. The Role of Sport in Our Life. Keeping Fit.**

**Texts: The Role of Sport in Our Life. How to Start Exercising. Why Exercise?**

*Speak about the difference in the role of sports at the amateur and professional level.*

*Speak about the easiest and the most accessible ways of keeping fit.*

*Speak about the necessity and the benefits of everyday exercises.*

- 1) What are the benefits of everyday exercises?
- 2) Why is it necessary to include an exercise session into your daily plan?
- 3) What are the most important components of keeping fit?
- 4) What indoor and outdoor exercises can help you to get fit?
- 5) What kinds of walking do you know? Which of them are the most beneficial?

## **Topic 4. Ethics in Sports.**

**Texts: Vicious and Dangerous Sports should be Banned by Law. Famous (Cheating) Moments in Sports. What Role Does Ethics Play in Sports?**

*Speak about ethical problems connected with sports (violence, cheating, drug abuse, etc.) and possible solutions.*

*Speak about ethical behaviour and its principles in sports. Compare it with unethical behaviour.*

- 1) Give examples of violence in sports. Why do people take part and watch violent sports?
- 2) Give examples of cheating in sports. How is possible to control cheating?
- 3) Give examples of drug abuse in sports. What measures are taken to find out sportsmen who take performance enhancing drugs? How are they punished?
- 4) What organisations are responsible for drug control in sports?
- 5) What is the difference between gamesmanship and sportsmanship?
- 6) Give examples of unethical behavior in sports.
- 7) Explain the idea of bracketed morality in sports. Is this approach acceptable?
- 8) What are the principles of ethical behaviour in sports?

## Topic 5. University Life.

**Texts: Higher Education in the USA. Structure of the US Higher Education System. Education in Great Britain: Higher Education. Higher Education in Britain. Admission to University. UK vs. USA Education System. The Bologna Process.**

*Speak about higher education in the USA.*

*Speak about higher education in Britain.*

*Speak about higher education in Belarus.*

*Speak about degrees that are awarded at colleges and universities. Compare the length of studies for these degrees in different countries.*

*Speak about admission rules to universities and colleges accepted in different countries.*

*Speak about the Bologna Process and its advantages for Belarusian students.*

- 1) What is the structure of the US higher education system?
- 2) What is a choice of post-school education in Great Britain?
- 3) What is the structure of higher education system in Belarus?
- 4) What degrees are awarded at colleges and universities of Britain and the USA? What about our country? How long does it take to obtain each degree?
- 5) What is university organization in Britain, the USA and Belarus?
- 6) What are the admission rules in different countries?
- 7) Compare the style of education in Britain, the USA and Belarus (choice of subjects, types of educational activities, homework and grades). In which of these countries breadth of education is emphasized?
- 8) What opportunities for European students are created by the Bologna Process? What advantages for Belarusian students does it represent?