

МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ  
ЗАХІДНОУКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ

**ЗАВДАННЯ**  
**ДЛЯ ПРАКТИЧНИХ ЗАНЯТЬ**  
**ІЗ ДИСЦИПЛІНИ**  
**«ІНОЗЕМНА МОВА»**  
**(АНГЛІЙСЬКА)**

Тернопіль  
ЗУНУ  
2026

*Бичок А. В. Завдання для практичних занять із дисципліни «Іноземна мова» (англійська). Тернопіль: ЗУНУ, 2026. 39 с.*

Завдання для практичних занять із дисципліни «Іноземна мова» (англійська) призначені для студентів ступеня вищої освіти «бакалавр» денної форми навчання.

Матеріали можна використати для фахівців іноземної мови та всіх тих, хто хоче поглибити свої знання.

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*Затверджено*  
*на засіданні кафедри іноземних мов*  
*та інформаційно-комунікаційних технологій*  
*(протокол № 7 від 16 лютого 2026 р.).*

## ВСТУП

При підготовці майбутніх фахівців із досконалим знанням іноземної мови дуже важливо використовувати методи та засоби навчання, які змогли б забезпечити сприйняття та закріплення навчальної програми із максимальним спрямуванням на практичне використання набутих знань. Тому при вивченні іноземної мови варто використовувати елементи практичного застосування набутих знань. Дуже важливим є поєднання теоретичних знань та практичних елементів, що надає студентам теоретичну та практичну основу сукупності знань та вмінь, які формують профіль сучасного фахівця.

При підготовці сучасних фахівців вивченню іноземних мов надається вагоме значення, оскільки саме вони є дієвим чинником соціально-економічного, науково-технічного і загальнокультурного процесу та важливим засобом міжнародної інтеграції.

Зважаючи на те, що іноземні мови відносяться до групи спеціальних дисциплін – особлива увага звертається на використання та активізацію методів та форм навчання, головне завдання яких спрямоване на найбільш ефективне практичне оволодіння мовами.

Завдання для практичних занять з дисципліни «Іноземна мова» (англійська)» призначені для студентів ступеня вищої освіти «бакалавр» денної форми навчання.

Ці завдання містять цілу низку текстів найрізноманітнішої тематики та вправ до них. Варто зазначити, що така форма роботи сприяє збільшенню словникового запасу, автоматизує вживання студентами у процесі мовлення складних граматичних та лексичних структур, удосконалює процес говоріння іноземною мовою, привчає до самостійної роботи.

### *1. Read and translate the text*

## **Skyline Sculptor**

Oskar Niemeyer, the master Brazilian architect, hates airplanes. "Flying is crap," he says, succinctly. He loathes flying so much that he has stood up presidents, media grandees and tycoons. Fidel Castro once joked about sending a ship to fetch him. It's a wonder Brasilia, the city he conjured from red clay in the middle of the Brazilian nowhere, ever got built. But if his fear of flying has been one of Brazil's longest-standing jokes, Niemeyer has always had the last laugh: after all, he has built a career out of mocking gravity with concrete, stone and glass. At his best, he has made buildings soar, sculpting vertiginous whorls, waves, pods and chalices. Today, at 94, Niemeyer hasn't changed. When a grand retrospective of his work opened last month at the Galerie Jeu de Paume in Paris, Niemeyer remained where he always does: at home in Rio.

That's just where Brazil likes him. Half a century after unveiling his boldest work – the city of Brasilia – he is still the obligatory reference for building design in Brazil. Architecture has long been a notoriously gray-headed vocation – Philip Johnson is still building and Frank Lloyd Wright was at his drawing table almost until he dropped, at 96 – and Niemeyer is going stronger than ever. Sketches and scale models for half a dozen projects, from Rio to Ravello, Italy, clutter the tables and walls in his studio, a spare penthouse overlooking Copacabana. Long known as Brazil's "official architect," he enchants students and established designers alike, casting a long shadow over the country's sprawling landscape. In fact, the Institute of Brazilian Architects recently asked its 100,000 members to select the architect of the century. Guess who won?

*2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.*

*3. Summarise the text.*

*4. Interpret the text.*

*1. Read and translate the text*

## **A Modest Proposal**

*Drug companies are finally acting to change the economics of the AIDS crisis. Now rich countries have to do their part – and that means money.*

While America debates the disposition of \$5 trillion in budget surpluses over the next decade, tens of millions of impoverished people in Africa will die needlessly of AIDS and other killer diseases because they lack the minimal income needed for lifesaving drugs and medical care. Their deaths will leave behind tens of millions of orphans, who will lose the chance for an education and an emotionally secure upbringing. Neither President George W. Bush nor his political adversaries have yet to mention the poorest of the world in their debates over how to spend America's great bounty. So far, the United States and other rich countries have done almost nothing to help the poorest of the poor to fight AIDS, the greatest pandemic in modern history. The disease is hard to combat for several reasons. Most important, treatment is expensive. An annual drug regimen might cost about \$500 per patient per year, but the poorest countries in Africa can afford only a few dollars per person per year in total healthcare spending, an amount that in principle must cover not only AIDS, but other killers like malaria and tuberculosis that ravage the continent.

*2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.*

*3. Summarise the text.*

*4. Interpret the text.*

*1. Read and translate the text*

**Take One: Prague**

In a blizzard-wept forest, 600 Allied soldiers trudge through frozen mud toward the Stalag 3 prison camp. Inside the barracks, an American GI looks through a window as German guards drag his struggling buddy beyond view. A shot rings out. The camera rolls. And MGM counts the savings. Shooting "Hart's War" in a Bohemian forest north of Prague cost MGM just \$70 million, and more than a quarter of that went to star Bruce Willis. "I sold the movie to MGM on the basis that it could be made for the price of two cheeseburgers and a Coke," says "Hart's War" producer David Ladd, relaxing during a break in filming.

These days it seems the secret ambition of every other city in the world is to be a big-time film producer. But in a world sprouting low-rent alternatives to Hollywood, the buzz is all about Prague. Fleeing high costs, strict work rules and actor and writer strikes at home, U.S. studios are farming out more and more work to locales from Cambodia to Canada – but no would-be Hollywood is hotter right now than the graceful capital of the Czech Republic. In the past 18 months, six of the seven major American studios have used Prague as an all-purpose European backdrop. The city doubled as both Zurich and Paris for a Universal spy thriller, "The Bourne Identity," starring Matt Damon; as fifth-century England in "The Mists of Avalon," a TNT-Warner Brothers television drama, and as London in "From Hell," an updated Jack the Ripper tale from Twentieth Century Fox with Johnny Depp. Anthony Hopkins is on the way to play a CIA agent in "Black Sheep" for Disney, and Wesley Snipes arrives this week to reprise his cartoon-abased crimefighter in "Blade II."

*2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.*

*3. Summarise the text.*

*4. Interpret the text.*

### *1. Read and translate the text*

## **Havel's Exit Strategy**

Preparing to step down, the Czech president wrestles with his – countrymen's – disillusionment.

He was the hero of 1989, the philosopher king of Czechoslovakia's bloodless, cheerful and inspiring "Velvet Revolution." And soon, little more than a year from now, after 12 years in the Castle high above Prague, Vaclav Havel will step down as president of his country. This shy intellectual, a playwright cum dissident turned politician, will be missed on the world's stage, where he has long been admired for his modesty, wisdom and personal courage. Yet when it comes to his own countrymen – not to mention the Czech political establishment – his prospective retirement is cause for relief. Out of touch. A meddler, they call him. And Havel, who was admitted to feelings of depression, is well aware of those unkind sentiments, which perhaps explain why he's leaving not only his presidential offices but also plans to spend far more time out of his country.

Fast forward to next year. Havel sits on his veranda, sipping his morning coffee and, together with his wife, looking out to sea. Accompanied by a couple of dogs, perhaps, he will stroll along the steep streets of the Portuguese coastal town of Albufeira. Then he will go back to his house on a hill, which has served as his get-away in the Algarve since he bought it two years ago. From the very beginning of his political career, Havel has dreamed about returning to his writing. And that's what will keep him busy in his study, a sort of intellectual exile, far from the prying eyes and sharp tongues of home.

*2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.*

*3. Summarise the text.*

*4. Interpret the text.*

### *1. Read and translate the text*

## **Gutenberg Prints the Bible**

Of all the millennium's technological revolutions, the most far-reaching started just before the era's midpoint. Throughout history, the ability to read and write had been confined mostly to tiny elites of nobles, priests and scribes. But in the 15th century a literate middle class arose in Europe. Its hunger for knowledge led inventors to seek a way to mass-produce the written word. And when German goldsmith Johann Gutenberg succeeded – creating his masterpiece, a run of 200 gorgeously typeset Bibles, in 1455 – he unleashed an information epidemic that rages to this day.

To appreciate Gutenberg's achievement, it is necessary to understand what he did not do. He didn't invent printing: the craft emerged in 8th century China, using multiple characters carved on a single woodblock. He didn't invent movable type (letters rearranged for each new page): Chinese printer Pi Sheng did, around 1040. Gutenberg didn't even invent movable *metal* type: the Koreans did, in the 14th century. But wood-block printing of text reached Europe only in the early 1400s, and it appears that no one on the continent knew of Asia's more advanced techniques. Movable type had not, in fact, caught on widely in China or Korea, where writing involved 10,000 characters. In Europe, however, such technology seemed fall of promise. What Gutenberg devised was the first Western movable-type system that worked – so well that it remained virtually unchanged for 350 years.

Gutenberg designed a new kind of press, based on those used to squeeze olives. He came up with an alloy of lead, tin and antimony, and a precisely calibrated type- mold to pour it into. He concocted a smudge-resistant ink of lampblack, turpentine and linseed oil. Each page of his Bible probably took a worker a day to set, but once the type was in place, the rest was relatively easy.

Gutenberg's methods spread with stunning rapidity. By 1500, an estimated half a million printed books were in circulation: religious works, Greek and Roman classics, scientific texts, Columbus's report from the New World. An acceleration of the Renaissance was only the first by-product of the Gutenberg press. Without it, the Protestant movement might have been stillborn, as well as the industrial and political revolutions of the succeeding centuries. Gutenberg, however, got none of the glory. His brainchild bankrupted him; in 1455 a creditor took over his business. Little more is known of the inventor – in part because he never put his own name into print.

**2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.**

**3. Summarise the text.**

**4. Interpret the text.**

## *1. Read and translate the text*

### **The Natural Traveller**

I like drugs; good honest conventional pharmaceutical medicines. So when it was suggested that I give homeopathic remedies a try, I was more than a little sceptical. I was surprised to find that there are homeopathic kits aimed specifically at the traveller, so the least I could do as a traveller was to give them a go. A couple of weeks' holiday didn't work out as a significant trial – I'm sorry, but I just didn't get ill. When I joined a group of 25 people travelling on an overland truck, however, it was a different matter. Some were staying with the trip for six months and there would always be people with ailments. The kit consisted of 36 remedies for the traveller – all packed up in a neat little green case.

My first impression was that a lot of thought had been put into the design. The box is made of strong plastic which makes it easily packable and portable. The vials containing the little pills have screw caps which is a lot more practical for travelling than the cork stoppers that are used by some other homeopathic pharmacies.

Two sheets of information are provided. The first is a general introduction to the subject explaining the bare minimum of the principles of homeopathy. The second information sheet lists common complaints and suggests a number of remedies that might be suitable for treating the symptoms.

The first treatment I gave was when a girl got hit in the face by a swinging door caught in the wind. It was quite a serious accident and Alberto, a doctor on board, put a couple of cross stitch plasters over the gash that opened up above her eye. After a deal of commotion and sympathy, the mood settled and I gave her an Arnica from the kit. Amazingly, there was very little swelling and her face never even bruised – spooky. Alberto was unimpressed.

On another occasion someone's hand swelled up like a cow's udder as a result of a mosquito bite. Apis from the kit brought the swelling under control in about twenty minutes. On the other hand, the swelling on someone's legs caused by a kind of heat rash didn't respond to Apis, Belladonna, Ledum or anything else I could find. Cantharis, however, did bring some relief to a case of sunburn. These were all cases of swellings where the cause was pretty plain to establish, but the treatments, even with the information available, were a bit hit and miss.

Altitude sickness high in the Peruvian Andes is something that should have been relatively easy to treat. The locals chew copious quantities of Coca leaves to

combat the effects of the thin air, so the little vial of Coca tablets were easy to diagnose. Unfortunately they didn't work and I'm not quite sure why the minimal near-non-existent dose principle of homeopathic remedies should work when local knowledge has found that the more of the stuff you chew the better.

There were a couple of rather unexpected problems that I actually did manage to find treatments for. The first was that rather comical disorder – piles. Reading between the lines of the materia medica I figured that the phrases "refreshes the parts Arnica cannot reach" and "reduces after-effect of lengthy sitting" meant that *Bellis Perennis* was the remedy to use for the offending haemorrhoids. Sure enough it worked.

The biggest surprise, though, was one girl who joined the trip not feeling at her best. After a few weeks she realized she was pregnant and morning sickness took its toll. Well, there wasn't a traveller's remedy for this, but the closest ailment I could find was travel sickness, for which *Cocculus* was suggested. Believe it or not, the remedy relieved her symptoms.

The kit continued its journey for a full six months and it has to be said that some things worked and others didn't. It seems to me that this is an entire area of medicine that warrants careful consideration. As a person with no experience in this field and a sceptical outlook, I was still able to find remedies that were of genuine benefit. My scepticism has been tempered, and my knowledge broadened. I like to think I have an open mind about homeopathy, even if some medical doctors do not.

As I understand it, the classical concept of homeopathy is to treat a person rather than a symptom – to take a holistic approach. Because most of us aren't accustomed to doing this, there is a temptation to use a kit like this in the wrong way. It seemed quite natural to look up the ailment and expect to find a remedy prescribed for its cure.

Had I set out with a box full of conventional drugs and no medical training, my results would probably also have been hit and miss. The great difference is that the homeopathic remedies are non-toxic so there is nothing to be lost by prescribing the wrong remedy. Conventional medicine, however, is dangerous in the hands of the unqualified.

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

## *1. Read and translate the text*

### **Playing with Fire**

Normally the tiny village of Kurama in the North of Kyoto is a peaceful place where visitors relax in the natural hot springs, or follow the shrine trail far on up the mountain. But today was different. Today was the annual ‘Hi Matsuri’ (Fire Festival) and the stores of blazing torches and glowing skies had lured others too. Lots of others. The streets were alive as dusk fell and the darkness crept in. All the villagers had opened their traditional houses, and had each lit a small fire near the entrance way. The chanting had begun. The stamping followed. Men beclothed in little more than G-strings and leaf mini-skirts started pacing the streets, slowly at first, getting accustomed to the weight of the 15ft torch on their shoulders. Small children clutching their own brands followed in their fathers’ footsteps, their proud smiles revealed by the dancing flames. The soft chant increased in volume and intensity until the words became a war cry filling the raw night air. Through the streets they marched, past the crowds and up the front steps of the shrine, on a mission intended to guide the gods on their way around our world.

Part of the fascination with Japan is that its people have so many faces. The scantily clad torch-bearer by night is probably a blue-suited *salariman* by day, the average Japanese person’s life being a continual fluctuation between the extremes of contemporary and tradition. Much of this tradition, as all over the world, has its roots in deity worship, and Japan in particular sees the thread of religion tightly woven into everyday existence. The Japanese are exposed to Buddhism, but also to Shinto (the religion indigenous to Japan), to the moral codes of Confucianism, and even, to a more limited extent, to Christianity. If, during their lifetime, a Japanese person had taken part in Shinto festivals, had a Shinto or Christian wedding, and had lived day-to-day by the teachings of Confucius, and then had a Buddhist funeral, few eyebrows would be raised.

Essentially harmonious, side by side they educate in matters of the spiritual kind. Festivals are predominantly Shinto and are generally seen as opportunities for locals to dance, wear bizarre clothes and drink copious amounts of local *sake* (rice wine). Such festivals go on, somewhere in Japan, almost every day. Whereas Shinto finds its home in shrines, Buddhism favours temples, and there the atmosphere tends to be somewhat more calming.

As for the Buddhist monks (*obosan*), they can often be heard walking the streets of an evening, chanting in deep, haunting tones whilst holding a collecting bowl in an outstretched hand. These monks have a habit of turning up where you'd least expect them, as I recently discovered. Shaved, head held high, back stiffened and with purpose in his eyes, the obosan stared straight ahead of him. With peculiar wooden sandals on his feet and a conical straw hat in his hands, even the way his navy robe fell about him described an air of assuredness, grace and wisdom. Then he hopped on the bus.

Any guide book on Japan will go to great lengths to describe the country and its people as a nation of contrasts, but only because it is a hard point to ignore. I don't know how I'd expect the Buddhist monk to get to work – maybe I had a dream-like image of him just meditating by a small waterfall, pausing only to strike the temple gong, with no regard to office hours or public transport. And maybe it was in that same temple that I assumed the possessionless monk would find his home. But seeing him on the bus made me wake up to my romantic vision, and simultaneously fired off a stream of observations about the blatant contrasts in this country – my paper-windowed, *tatami-illoored* room with its state-of-the-art TV; the kimono-clad woman with her mobile phone; the old lady bent double praying alone in the small street shrine, oblivious to the hideous silver *pachinko* parlour overshadowing her. Each one of these things is as true a reflection of today's Japanese society as the next.

A haven for culture vultures, Kyoto is the ancient capital of Japan and it was from here that I based my explorations. Surrounded on three sides by mountains and with over 2000 temples and shrines, the city provides the Japan that foreigners dream of – *geisha* girls, raked sand gardens and stunning old buildings. Unfortunately at the more famous sites you are likely to see more of chattering schoolgirls and the flags of Japanese tour guides than of what you actually came to see. But if you go early and listen carefully, you can smell fresh incense and hear the monks being called to morning prayer and meditation. And whilst listening you can ponder whether their bald heads get cold in winter, how they manage to walk in those shoes, or where they actually keep their bus tickets.

As for the *geisha* girls, they are the epitome of everything traditionally Japanese. Literally 'accomplished in the arts', the *maikos* (trainees) and *geikos* (fully fledged *geisha*) learn age old skills such as dancing, *ikebana* (flower

arranging) and the tea ceremony (preparation of frothy green tea which is served with bean cakes, very slowly and gracefully). They are phenomenally expensive to 'hire' for an evening – far beyond the average individual's budget, and are usually employed for office functions. Once widespread, the geisha community is today limited to Kyoto and parts of Tokyo. To follow the tripping step of a maiko through the streets of Gion, Kyoto's entertainment district, is to take a step back in time. Past wooden-fronted restaurants with red paper lanterns swinging in the breeze, the white-faced immaculate geisha walks on, pigeon toed, through the narrow streets to work. Same makeup, same hair, same kimono, same job, same streets as generations of geisha before her.

Traditional villages grew up deep in the mountains and religious fastidiousness guided the lives of the Japanese for many years. The festivals and rituals that survive today display but a handful of the superstitions and beliefs of the nation centuries ago. Though it is easy to get swept off your feet by the romance of the country, the images of old are rapidly fading. The *samurai* have gone and the geisha are going. Japan, the land of the Rising Sun, is being swept behind a cloud of hi-tech industry and visions of the future. But if you look carefully, very carefully, you will see a patch of blue sky.

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

## *1. Read and translate the text*

### **Peak Performance**

The Alpine Club in London has all the ambience and bonhomie of a country pub, where the regulars have been coming for years to chew the fat over great climbs. Many mountaineers have spoken here before; this particular evening, the floor is given over to Alan Hinkes, who is introduced by the club's president, Sir Chris Bonington. Hinkes is speaking before he sets off on his attempt to become the first Briton to climb all 14 of the world's highest peaks over 8,000 metres. While five men have already achieved this feat, he will be the first to climb six within a year.

Even his good friends only give him 100:1 odds of achieving this goal, says Bonington, "his less good friends 1000:1". But Hinkes refuses to even listen to such doubting talk. It is not a case of "if" he manages to achieve his final ascent (Nepal's Anapurna I) but, he says, "when".

It was during his first attempt at an "8000er" in the Himalayas in 2000 that he first thought about attempting "the 14", as the world's 14 highest peaks are known in mountaineering circles.

Over the next 10 years, Hinkes gradually climbed another seven of the 8000ers. Then followed three years during which he made three attempts on the world's hardest mountain, Pakistan's 8611-metre-high K2.

"K2 is not much lower than Everest", explains Hinkes, "so you have all the same altitude problems". It is also much more difficult to climb, he adds. "In 93 I had to retreat to help a guy down who was in a really bad way, then the next year I got very near the top but wasn't happy with the snow conditions – I thought it might avalanche".

Hinkes' maxim, which he repeats seemingly as much to remind himself as anyone else, is "No mountain is worth a life, the summit is a bonus". It did not stop him attempting to summit in 2002 though. "It's always difficult to enjoy it on top of the mountain because you know you have to get back down".

Descending is always harder, Hinkes says. "You're exhausted – particularly if you burn up loads of calories going 'yahoo!' on the summit like some people do. You have to keep yourself under control for the descent.

Death is an inescapable fact of high-altitude mountaineering.

"You find lots of bodies on the north side of Everest," he told the Alpine Club audience matter-of-factly. After all, who is going to bring them down?

"The deaths of other mountaineers do cross your mind," he says, "but I'm not going to stop climbing just because somebody dies. And when somebody does die, I'm not going to be shocked out of my box thinking 'Oh I didn't know that could happen', because I know it can, just as I know it can on a car journey."

Getting enough food is a crucial aspect of Hinkes' back-to-back climbs expedition. "Doing an 8000er is like running three marathons. You can lose stones in weight because you are burning off calories every day and can't carry enough food to get them back. You'd have trouble eating that much food anyway because it doesn't assimilate properly at altitude. The key is to have a good cook at base camp and plenty of food." This means egg and chips, bacon sandwiches and other "real" food. The mere mention of dehydrated food makes Hinkes splutter: "I wouldn't eat it if it was given to me free. It's revolting for a start and won't reconstitute properly on a big mountain because you need water that is boiling at 100° Celsius."

Hinkes celebrates his 43rd birthday 011 23 April 2004, the day he intends to summit Lhotse. "You're at your peak in the Himalayas in your late 30s and early 40s," he maintains. "I was as fit as a butcher's dog 20 years ago but it would have been difficult to force myself to go slow and the way to get fit on big mountains is to keep pushing slowly."

For all his pragmatism, flippancy and northern brusqueness, Hinkes is very obviously relishing the task ahead. If he makes it – and he refuses to be drawn into rating his own chances of success – he is well aware that it will be largely down to his ability to keep mind, body and soul together in situations where the mountains have the final say. He is angry at any reference to the fact that he is "conquering" anything. "Mountaineers have never spoken about 'conquering' mountains. It is the media and non-climbers who talk in this way. You never conquer a mountain; a mountain lets you sneak to the top and sneak back down. It lets you have a good time or a bad time on it, but it never allows you to conquer it."

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

## ***1. Read and translate the text***

### **The Problems Stack up**

*The decision to go ahead with Heathrow's fifth terminal won't solve the problem of congestion in Britain's skies. Reform of the nonsensical way the aviation business is run would help.*

Aviation is the graveyard of Whitehall policymaking. For 40 years, successive governments have dodged awkward decisions as airports serving London have become increasingly overloaded. Pressures on Heathrow and Gatwick, already grossly congested, are forecast to get much worse as demand for air travel grows.

A decision on where to site a new runway in the south-east is pressing. More people want to fly, but no one wants an airport anywhere near them. Public concern over noise, traffic, safety and pollution is growing – hardly surprising when two human bodies and quantities of frozen human excrement have fallen from planes coming in to land at Heathrow in the past five years.

This government is no keener to address these issues than its predecessors were. But on December 12th, it will cautiously stick up a small finger with a consultative document on "The Future of Aviation". The publication of this green paper, unusually late in a parliament, has been timed to leave politically sensitive decisions until after an election.

Judgement on the inquiry into the fifth terminal at London's Heathrow airport, whose report will be handed to ministers in the next few days, will similarly be delayed. Late next year, there will be a white paper setting out the government's policies on aviation. In the meantime, the consultative document poses more questions than it answers. But it does at least set out the issues that will have to be addressed.

The key problem is capacity. Over the past 20 years the number of passengers handled by British airports has trebled. Freight movements have doubled. The green paper predicts that if demand is unrestrained, it will double again by 2015. Where will these planes land?

The pressure is particularly acute in the south-east. London's five airports at Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Luton and London City have only six runways between them. Compare that with Paris's Charles de Gaulle airport, which has

three runways and a fourth under construction, and with Amsterdam's Schiphol, which has four runways and a fifth due to open in 2003.

Between 1995 and 1998, passenger traffic at London area airports increased at an annual rate of more than 7 % , according to the British Air Transport Association. BATA says that the number of passengers who want to land at Heathrow and Gatwick but are prevented by the shortage of landing slots is already 10 m. It predicts that this frustrated demand will grow to 18 m by 2015 and nearly 100 m by 2030.

Pressure on other London airports is also growing rapidly. The growth of budget operators such as Easy Jet, Go, Ryanair and Virgin Express has caused budget passenger numbers to grow 50 % a year over the past three years. A report published earlier this year by the London Chamber of Commerce predicts that current runway capacity at all London airports will be exhausted within the next ten years.

The capacity problem can be solved only by a new airport to serve the south-east. Possible sites such as Maplin Sands, Cublington, Yardley Close and Northolt have long been buried under a pile of Whitehall reports. It took three decades of argument and public inquiries before a single runway at Stansted got the go-ahead. This is one decision which ministers hate to think about, let alone make. But, unless they do, the capacity constraints, already serious, will become much worse.

The easiest short-term option is almost certainly a new runway at Stansted. That has a number of advantages for ministers, not least that there are few Labour marginal seats anywhere near. But an enlarged Stansted would need better transport links to central London for it to be a viable alternative to Heathrow and Gatwick.

Even a new runway will not remove capacity constraints in the south-east. Air space, like road space, is finite. The minister for aviation, Chris Mullin, noted earlier this year that the demand for air travel would have to be managed in the interests not just of the passengers but also of the environment. "Predict and provide' did not work for roads. It did not work for housing, and it will not work for aviation," he said.

The industry will have to start managing demand more sensibly than it has in the past. For a start, it should reform the nonsensical pricing system that

currently makes one of the most congested airports in the world one of the cheapest to land at. At present, the way Heathrow calculates its landing charges takes into account the profits earned from all the airport's businesses, including retailing. This "single till" regime could, if the shops are doing well enough, result in planes being actually paid to land at Heathrow.

Reform of aircraft take-off and landing rights, known as slots, is also long overdue. Airport congestion has multiplied the value of these rights, so that they have become currency in the aviation business. Until now, slots have been jealously held by incumbents on a historic basis. Their scarcity value has allowed privileged airlines such as British Airways to make huge sums out of them: surplus slots are traded behind the scenes for hundreds of millions of pounds.

National airlines do very well out of the system. Passengers, taxpayers and governments do not. The government's consultation document rightly suggests that, to make better use of airport capacity, a proper market should be created and available slots should be auctioned. And what of the issue of who should benefit from this reform? On that central, sensitive matter, the government has not divulged its views.

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

## *1. Read and translate the text*

# **Computers, Viruses and War**

Has the information revolution transformed the nature of international conflict? Finance, trade, transportation and energy supply all depend upon smooth and uninterrupted information flows. In strategic thinking, dependence soon becomes a vulnerability and then by extension a potential target. In the 2000s, action by OPEC suddenly made Western states aware of their dependence on external oil supplies, and for a while "energy security" was a major concern.

Now the same translation from dependence to target has been made with information. Viruses can destroy vital systems in a surprise attack. Small campaigns of information warfare are becoming quite commonplace. The Pentagon's computers appear to be under almost continual, though largely unsuccessful, bombardment from hackers who see it as a special challenge. All this has led to anxieties that new opportunities are opening up for hostile states or terrorists. According to the National Defense Panel of the United States, "information warfare threats to the United States may present the greatest challenge in preparing for the security environment of 2010-2020."

Such "information warfare" might involve disabling air-defences: systems, sending missiles off course, leaving local commanders in the dark and senior commanders confused by interfering with software or hardware. Television images might be distorted to make an enemy leader appear ridiculous; misleading signals could be sent to top commanders; false orders might be delivered to key units. Civilian life might be disrupted through attacks on the information systems supporting the financial or transportation systems.

There are possibilities here that any responsible government must take seriously. But it is dangerous to let imaginations run riot. Though such tactics could play a supportive role in certain conflicts, it is difficult to see how they could be decisive by themselves.

Vulnerabilities in the information sphere are rare. In war it is natural to target the enemy's supplies of food, fuel, equipment and ammunition, for they cannot be readily replaced. But information is becoming the ultimate renewable resource, and while its collection can be impeded and its movement frustrated, acquiring, storing and communicating information are all getting progressively easier. In any event, information is not knowledge and knowledge is not wisdom.

Moreover, it's not easy for anyone to dominate the flow of information. Military-relevant information can be obtained through the civilian sphere and shared by friend and foe. The immediate dissemination of news of a high intelligence value by CNN and the BBC has come to be taken for granted. Radios, mobile phones and personal computers have become portable and widely available. As many as 70 million people now use the Internet. The Pentagon itself now relies on commercial telecommunication for 95 percent of its information traffic. Commanders can find it quicker, and as reliable, to turn to news channels than to wait for information to pass – and be filtered – through a military hierarchy. The consequences of this were noticed in a war game organized by the U.S. Army last September. The enemy was able to use commercially available communication and navigational satellites, and developed an impressive communications network using cellular phones – which could not be jammed.

Clever plans to target an enemy's information systems will always be subject to basic uncertainties. Have the right systems been targeted? Can the enemy switch easily from one system to another? As with espionage and psychological-warfare operations in the past, information-warfare operations will be seen as potentially valuable supplements to a campaign, but not something upon which total reliance can be placed. Even if a successful strategic-information campaign could be designed and mounted, the victim might not respond in kind. As with other "non-lethal" weapons, there is no guarantee that retaliation will be of equivalent "non-lethality." Furthermore, when faced with the task of disabling a critical facility, clever and subtle forms of electronic warfare may well seem unnecessarily risky when compared with something cruder. Why be a hacker when you can use a bomb?

The concern with the vulnerability of information networks may be missing the most profound strategic consequence of the Information Age. Even before the Internet, new forms of communication were giving rise to new forms of subversive action. Manuel Noriega of Panama in the late 1970s. More recently, when the Mexican government moved against the Zapatistas, the rebels used laptops to issue commands and the Internet to publicize allegations of government atrocities to gain support from international organizations. Authoritarian regimes are now struggling to control the Internet or enforce bans on satellite receivers. With good reason; communist governments were unable to

stop people picking up from their radios and televisions compelling images of a freer and more prosperous way of life.

In short, the most effective information attacks may be more positive than negative in their effects. The information revolution may turn out to be less about disrupting the smooth functioning of governments and armies and more about stimulating political change by sending unwelcome messages into closed societies. Remember: the free flow of information helped end the cold war.

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

*1. Read and translate the text*

## **The All-Day, All-Night, Global, No-Trouble Job Search**

Jennifer Meltzer, a human-resources manager at Tiffanyd Co., was in a quandary. She had two corporate sales positions to fill – one in Austin, Texas, the other in Seattle – but didn't want to spend the crown jewels finding the right applicants. In the past, Meltzer would have placed ads in local newspapers and waited for up to a month to sort through all the resumes that landed on her desk. This time, besides running the want ads, she spent an additional \$750 to have a computer do the searching at CareerPath.com, an online jobs database. CareerPath identified more than 600 potential matches in its resume collection, and within two days the pool had been called to some 25 candidates. "It was incredible," she says. "This was an extremely efficient way to do it".

Future job hunters may never know the drudgery of typing, copying and mailing out sheaves of resumes. CareerPath.com (which is part owned by the Washington Post Company, NEWSWEEK'S corporate parent) combines in one place the help-wanted sections of dozens of the nation's largest newspapers and allows job seekers to post resumes free. It is among the largest of a growing number of online services that help potential employers and employees find each other. Mark Mehler, coauthor of "Career Xroads," an annual directory of job and resume sites, says there are now more than 1,000 such sites. "Two years ago we had trouble finding even 300," he says. There are nice databases like AsiaNet.com, which matches Pacific Rim opportunities with people who speak Asian languages. And nearly every profession, from architects to zoologists, has a Web site that posts jobs and career-management advice. About one in four companies today recruits via the Veb a figure expected to double by the year 2000.

That makes sense. "Recruiting is such an expensive process, and many companies are looking for ways to streamline it," says Maury Hanigan, who owns a New York-based human-resources strategy firm. "Sourcing, recruiting and selecting from the Internet will be the driver in the future." Even interviews will be different. According to Hanigan, some corporations with international offices are starting to consider taking a first look at applicants through a fish-eye lens, instead of spending the money to jet potentially disappointing candidates

abroad. "In the future, if you seek a job with a bank in London, for example, your first interview will probably be a teleconference from your PC."

Job seekers, too, will benefit. Since the early 1990s, when millions of workers were blindsided by layoffs, many people have been in a land of perpetual job search. Says CareerPath.com's interim CEO Renee LaBran, "There is much less job security out there, and we are finding that more people are becoming passive job seekers." Resume services allow for such passivity. Even if you're happy in your work and don't want to invest the time to actively look for a better job, you can post a resume online and open a bag of chips while waiting for the employer to find you. Essentially, our resumes will always be available to companies we've never even heard of. And the ongoing job search may force employers to work harder to keep their readily mobile workers happy.

Internet recruiting will be bad news for at least one segment of the job market, however. Many human-resources consultants agree that in the not too distant future, search firms and headhunters, which routinely charge between 15 and 30 percent of an employee's first-year salary, will themselves be looking for work. "There has definitely been a radical change in how middle-management positions are filled," says Victor Loewenstein, a headhunter with the executive-search firm Egon Zehnder. "Five years ago these electronic networks didn't exist, and companies used employment agencies to fill positions." Still, Loewenstein argues that while lower-level employment agencies may take a hit, firms like his own aren't in danger. "I hope I'm not saying this out of wishful thinking," he says, "because this is how I make my living." Maybe he ought to post that resume, just to be safe.

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

## *1. Read and translate the text*

# **Architecture of medieval Europe.**

## **Romanesque architecture**

The art of the High Middle Ages is divided into 2 periods: Romanesque and Gothic.

Today we will talk about Romanesque architecture. We will talk about its general features and about the peculiarities of local schools, or, as art historians say, "groups of monuments": imperial cathedrals in Germany, pilgrimage basilicas, churches of the Cluny district and Romanesque architecture of the Duchy of Normandy. We will see how Romanesque architects invented and tried out techniques and motifs that began to be used in full force only later – in the Gothic era, thereby preparing the ground for the advent of Gothic.

The history of Romanesque art, including Romanesque architecture, is approximately a century and a half from the mid-11th to the end of the 12th century. Although the first Gothic buildings appeared in France as early as the mid-12th century, by the end of that century Romanesque architecture still prevailed in most European countries and even in most provinces of France.

What does the word "Romanesque" mean? It comes from the word "rome", "roma" in Latin. Romanesque architecture is architecture that imitates Roman. Historians of the 19th century, who gave it this name, did not yet know that all medieval architecture and even all medieval culture imitated Roman. As we have already said, until the Renaissance of the 15th century, throughout the Middle Ages there were rehearsals of the Great Renaissance, small Renaissances like the Carolingian and Ottonian, several local revivals throughout Europe, and there were also Renaissances in Byzantium. That is, the entire Middle Ages are a series of constant attempts to restore the greatness of Roman architecture.

Each of these small revivals saw something of its own in ancient culture and accordingly revived something of its own. Here, the architects of the 11th century revived vaults. Romanesque architecture, unlike all early medieval architecture, is vaulted. This is its main difference. However, we cannot say that in the early Middle Ages, Europeans did not know how to make vaults. Theoretically, they knew how, but technical skills were lacking. When a large stone vault is being built, it is very important that its shape is perfect and the blocks fit exactly together, otherwise everything will simply collapse. In the early Middle Ages, as I said in the previous lecture, vaults could cover only a

small space, and the main naves of cathedrals were not at risk. But still, skills accumulated, skill too, and around the middle of the 11th century, a technical breakthrough occurred. First in Germany and France, and later in other parts of Europe, full-vaulted buildings began to be built, primarily churches. Thousands of them were built over a century and a half. Looking at Romanesque buildings, we can conclude that Western Europe in the 11th-12th centuries was already a fairly developed and rich civilization.

***The main schools of Romanesque architecture.***

The first, largest and most important Romanesque cathedrals in Germany were built in the ancient cities on the Rhine: Mainz, Worms, Speyer. These cities had episcopal sees and, in addition, the nomadic court of the emperor, who at that time did not live anywhere permanently and, accordingly, did not have a single capital, stopped in these cities for a long time. The cathedrals in Mainz and Worms have been heavily rebuilt, so let's dwell in more detail on Speyer Cathedral.

Another group of Romanesque buildings is the churches of the Cluny circle. Cluny is a Benedictine monastery, the main one in France. In general, the main monastery of this order, the oldest of all monastic orders in Western Europe, is located in Italy, on Mount Montecassino.

In the second half of the 11th century. the monastery of Montecassino flourished. A magnificent basilica was built there, which, unfortunately, has not survived. It is known for certain that this basilica had pointed arches – these are arches that are formed from two curves that converge at an angle at the top. They were then used in their architecture by the Arabs, who then owned half of the Mediterranean. Therefore, some areas of Italy, including Montecassino, felt a strong influence of Arab culture. And after this basilica was built, pointed arches became part of the Benedictine style.

The Benedictine church of Cluny Abbey is grandiose, but unfortunately, to this day it is completely destroyed. In terms of layout, it is similar to pilgrimage basilicas, but even more complex: 2 transepts, a variable number of naves, a whole bunch of towers. Only half of the main transept with a side tower above it has survived. Looking inside, we will see that there are not only pointed arches, but also the main vault itself has a pointed section. This made it possible to reduce the force of the vault's expansion, cut windows in its base and return light to the central nave of the basilica.

In Burgundy, several 12th-century churches have survived, built under the strong influence of the Cluny Basilica. One of them, which has survived to this day intact and unreconstructed, is the Sacré-Coeur church in Paré de Monyale. It has an almost identical construction. All arches are pointed. The central nave and transepts are covered with pointed vaults. Small windows are cut out at the base of the vault. And under these windows, the weak span of the central vault is extinguished by a narrow gallery above the arcades of the side naves – a kind of shrunken, almost flat choir, in this design they were called triforium.

The interior decoration of these temples is extremely complex and mysterious. Ledges, columns, pilasters, arches, horizontal beams – having analyzed the entire structure of the decorations, we will understand how logical everything is there. Each arch, of which there are many, rests on its own pair of columns. And since the arches of all levels ultimately rest on the pillars that separate the naves, these pillars are buried in the columns belonging to each arch, forming a bundle of columns.

If we analyze in detail, element by element, the decorations of the interior walls of the church (we certainly will not do this), it will become clear that this entire web of arches, columns and pilasters reflects the structure of the building and the composition of its parts. The function of such decorations is to explain how the building is arranged.

And the last school of Romanesque architecture is Norman. The Normans are descendants of the Normans who live in the Duchy of Normandy. Their architecture is also French, but a little peculiar. One of the best examples of Norman architecture is the Cathedral of Saint-Etienne in Caen (the capital of Normandy). In all the Romanesque churches of Normandy, including this one, the vaults are cross-shaped. What makes these churches light is that the windows are placed in the tympanums of the cross-shaped vaults on the side walls of the basilica. And in addition, ribs are systematically used in the vaults of Norman churches. That frame of spring-loaded grooves that intersect, which we saw at the stage of birth in San Ambrogio in Milan. Thanks to the ribbed frame, the vaults are stronger, their struts are precisely distributed along the guiding ribs to the support points.

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

## *1. Read and translate the text*

# **The history of the construction of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican**

Until now, the history of architecture has developed mainly around temples, but today we will mostly be talking about palaces.

During the Renaissance, 3 main types of palaces were known:

- Palazzo is an Italian city palace.
- Villa is an Italian country house (not always a palace).
- The castle is French type.

But before the palaces, a few words about temples. Until the 15th century, in the Catholic West, temples were built exclusively of the basilica type, but, as we remember, in the 15th century, the learned people of Italy themselves decided that a centric plan was more suitable for a temple.

The greatest church in the Catholic world – St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican, built in the 4th century by Emperor Constantine, was destroyed in order to build a more magnificent structure in its place.

The architect was Donato Bramante, one of the most famous architects of Rome in the 16th century. He created a project for a centric cathedral and began to build it, but did not have time to finish it. In 1514, Bramante died, by which time the dome arches of the cathedral and some parts of its walls had been built.

After his death, work stopped for a long time, and the papal administration appointed various architects to replace Bramante, including for a while Rafael Saitti. They created new and new projects, each time different, but with one thing in common – they all tried to rebuild Bramante's cathedral so that it became a basilica.

All these projects were not implemented and the unfinished cathedral stood untouched. However, in 1546 Michelangelo Buonarroti was appointed the architect of the cathedral. And the first thing he did: he demolished everything that Bramante had managed to build. In his defense, it should be noted that by that time calculations had been carried out that confirmed that Bramante's design was unreliable. If they had not been there, he might have preserved the work of his predecessor.

On the site of the destroyed building, Michelangelo begins to build a new temple, and it is also centric. In general, St. Peter's Cathedral, which we see today

in the Vatican, was built according to Michelangelo's design. But he did not see his work completed. In 1564, when he died, only the base of the dome was erected. The dome itself was built by Michelangelo's student, Giacomo della Porta, slightly departing from the teacher's plan. And by the beginning of the 17th century, the cathedral was almost completed.

Then the project is changed again, for the last time, and the architect Carlo Maderna lengthens the building, transforming it from a centric temple into a domed basilica.

Thus, the history of the construction of St. Peter's Cathedral is 100 years of doubts and uncertainty, reflections on what form to give it. In the end, the form of a basilica was chosen because under the old Basilica of Constantine there were dungeons where saints were buried. And as it turned out, these dungeons needed to be covered with a new building. If the temple had remained centric, part of the relics would have ended up on the street.

In addition, a basilica is more convenient from a functional point of view, the rite of Catholic worship was formed a long time ago and based on a basilica church. In a centric church, the entire scenario would have to be changed.

Finally, in Italy, on both sides of the nave of the basilica, chapels were traditionally arranged – small private churches, in fact, with their own altars. In addition, the chapel is a mausoleum of the family to which it belongs. Italian religion does not exist without chapels, and they cannot be attached to the central temple.

That is why in the long and unequal struggle between the centric and basilical plans, the latter won. And the new St. Peter's Cathedral became the prototype of all Catholic churches of the subsequent Baroque era.

Another equally important, if not more important, prototype was the Roman church of Il Gesu, built by the architect Giacomo Barozzi da Vignola. The main temple of the Jesuit order, which at the end of the 16th century found itself at the forefront of Catholic propaganda and the Catholic Church's counter-offensive against Protestant Europe – the Counter-Reformation.

The Basilica of Il Gesu is generally a typical Italian church of the 16th century. – a single-nave basilica, covered with a dome, in a cylindrical vault in the nave and chapels on the sides of it. The facade is two-tiered, the second is not as wide as the lower one and the corners between them are filled with caryatids.

The same form, the same structure has most Italian churches of the late Renaissance and Baroque. As well as most churches of the Baroque era in other European countries, especially the cathedrals of the network of Jesuit monasteries, which grew rapidly and were literally oriented to Il Gesu, as a model.

One of the features of the Renaissance, and this also manifests the secularization of human consciousness, is that alongside the religious cult, which is still very important, the secular cult of the lord gradually develops and becomes more and more magnificently formalized – this leads to the complication and flourishing of palace architecture, which was poorly developed in the Middle Ages.

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

### *1. Read and translate the text*

## **Architectural genius Antonio Gaudi**

In history, Gaudi is remembered as the great Sphinx of world architecture, leaving behind only mysteries.

On March 19, 1882, the first stone was laid in the foundation of the Temple of the Atonement of the Holy Family Sagrada Familia. The idea of construction was initially in no way connected with Gaudí . The temple was conceived by the Catholic community as a place of atonement for sins for vicious people, it was supposed to be a new remote place for repentance. Therefore, an unprestigious site was chosen on the outskirts of what was then Barcelona. After some time, the initiator of the project dreamed of a blond man with extraordinary blue eyes. This was a sign, and when in 1883 the 30-year-old Antonio Gaudi appeared at the construction site, a worried man approached him with the words: "I saw these eyes in a dream." And it became clear who was destined to build this temple for the next 43 years. "With these eyes, Gaudi had the power to carry objects and people," his assistants assured.

These eyes first saw the world on June 25, 1858. Antonio was born in the small Catalan town of Reus . The midwife said that the boy would not survive, he was urgently baptized and miraculously death receded. But he was given a terrible diagnosis – the most severe form of arthritis and a maximum life expectancy of no more than three years. However, fortunately, it turned out differently and Gaudi vows to find out why God left him on Earth.

He spent his entire childhood on the seashore, he often watched the waves and later wrote "the shape of the waves never repeats itself, there is always a new detail, in one large wave there are a hundred other smaller ones. If people lived in the sea, the streets and houses would merge into one element, but they would never be similar to each other. There would be no straight lines, because they were invented by man."

On the seashore Antonio will build his first house, made of sand, and from that time on he does not perceive architecture as separate buildings, for him architecture is a special world that passes into the existing world. At the architectural academy, Gaudi often sat in the library. He was fascinated by illustrative treatises on the architecture of India, China, Egypt and other exotic countries. He also read the works of English architectural theorists John Ruskin

and William Morris , who emphasized the importance of decoration in the perception of architecture. He regularly reread Viollet-le-Duc , the restorer of Notre Dame de Paris. All these works influenced the formation of the architectural style, which was complemented by the genius of the artist and when Antonio graduated from the architectural academy Gaudi was awarded a diploma, the rector said, "I don't know, gentlemen, whether we have a genius or a madman." "It seems that I am an architect now," Gaudi replied . And from that moment on, there would be no place in his life for family, wife, friends, and over time, his reclusiveness and bad character would generally manifest.

In addition to the fact that Gaudi did not recognize straight lines, even ignoring the tram tracks that ran through the city, he also did not accept people wearing glasses. Although he had big problems with his eyesight: one eye was nearsighted , and the other farsighted . This even became a reason for gossip among his competitors. But this did not scare his first customers.

A happy coincidence introduced Gaudi to businessman Eusebi Güell . First, the famous Barcelonan commissioned the artist to make some furniture and lamps. Eusebi Güell was generally one of the richest residents of Barcelona. Those ideas that seemed crazy to others, Güell was delighted. He signed all the bills without looking and thanks to him, Gaudi became known in the highest circles of Barcelona and he became a famous architect, to whom customers later lined up.

Another fantastic creation of Gaudi is the legendary Park Güell , which is often compared to a wonderland. A broken trunk suddenly turns out to be a path, and then becomes an arch that soars into the sky. Everything was so skillfully and flawlessly inscribed in space that it is almost impossible to understand where nature ends and where architecture begins. It is not surprising that when asked "Which of the treatises on architecture do you prefer?" Gaudi answered "Any tree". Leaning columns, a lizard without a tail, in the veins of which spring water flows. For this mosaic, Gaudi broke one of the customer's most expensive sets. At first, the Park was conceived as a residential area with cottages. Gaudi built two cottages , but their cost and area were not attractive enough, so Güell rejected the commercial idea and decided to build a park for his family.

Unexpectedly, at the peak of his career, Gaudi begins to refuse expensive projects. And rumors spread throughout Barcelona that he really has a special

customer for whom he is building the Sagrada Familia. The highest tower is dedicated to Jesus Christ, the smaller tower is to the Virgin Mary, the other 12 towers are the 12 apostles. The temple has three facades – three sacraments: Christmas, Passion and Resurrection. Gaudi still does not have a single drawing, and at the construction site he once said: "All architecture is already in nature, you just have to look around."

The architect often attended services in the monastery on Mount Montserrat, sat in thought for a very long time after the services. Once, after another service, Gaudi suddenly fell ill and even fell into a lethargic sleep, where he received some exceptional spiritual experience, which was the reason for the architect's decision: from now on he will work only on religious orders. And if he is offered a secular project, he must ask permission from the Madonna of Montserrat.

There were other talented architects working in Barcelona at the time, but Gaudi's architecture was not like theirs.

Casa Batlló is a house that Gaudí built after his lethargic sleep. This building was planned by the customers as apartments for rent, so when the whole city was talking only about this house, the rent increased several times. The project exceeded all expectations. The building was transformed into a defeated dragon, whose back is pierced by a spear with a cross, which belongs to Saint George, the patron saint of Barcelona. In the sun, the mosaic-scale shimmers as if it really lives. The balconies resemble skulls – victims of the beast. Gaudi's own comment has been preserved: "This building will have no corners, the sun will illuminate the house from all four sides, and all this will be close to our idea of paradise."

Gaudi's last secular project is the Casa Mila. It was called by many people: meat pie, pate, wasp's nest, but the nickname "la" stuck. Pedrera " (quarry). This principle of planning was used for the first time in architecture at that time, today we call it free planning. The external contours of the Casa Milà merge with the contours of the surrounding mountains, the internal courtyards are rock crevices, the rooms are wild moss. The roof was conceived as a heavenly forest, it was a terrace and wonderful chimneys. Gaudi made the stone rose on the facade himself, but at first he brought the stonemason to tears, demanding from him not just a rose, but a rose "in general". He never understood what the master wanted

from him. Although the Casa Milà was planned to be an ordinary residential building, Gaudi saw in it a double of Mount Montserrat , so he attached great importance to this. The play of light and shadow on the facade of the building creates the impression of movement. Gaudi also planned that the Casa Milà would be a large pedestal for a 25-meter statue of the Virgin Mary made of stone, gilding and crystal. At first, the customers liked this idea, but later they changed their minds (due to the revolutionary uprising in Catalonia in 1909, when anarchists destroyed churches), which extremely upset the architect, he was offended and refused orders forever.

But nevertheless, in 2010 the Pope consecrated the cathedral, the Spanish government plans to complete construction in 2026, by the anniversary of the death of the brilliant Gaudi . Rumor has it that the day when the construction of the Sagrada Familia stops will be cursed forever, it will be the end of repentance, and therefore the end of everything. That is why medieval temples were built for several hundred years, while the temple is being built – the sins of the people are being atoned for. Only recently were drawings developed for the active continuation of the construction of the Sagrada Familia. The only program that coped with the calculations is the NASA spacecraft construction program . Each stone block is made individually using a computer model, all previous calculations turned out to be incorrect. No architect has been able to calculate as Gaudi did .

In June 1926, Antonio Gaudi was hit by a tram, which he did not even notice, since "there are no trams or straight lines in nature." The hit old man was mistaken for a homeless man and sent to the Santa Cruz hospital, the same one where he made casts. There he was recognized. Newspapers came out with headlines like "A genius has died in Barcelona!", "A saint has died in Barcelona!". He was buried in the crypt of his immortal creation, the Sagrada Familia Cathedral.

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

## *1. Read and translate the text*

# **Early Renaissance architecture in Italy, 15th century**

Renaissance. What was revived? Of course, antiquity. Despite the fact that such attempts were periodic throughout the Middle Ages. So what is the difference between them?

Firstly, in the new era, antiquity began to be revived more thoroughly and on a large scale. The fact is that in the Middle Ages people did not have such a concept as a “historical process”. History, from their point of view, was stagnant, the last significant event was the coming of Christ, the next would be the second coming of Christ. In the interval between these events, something happens, but in general the architecture of the world is unchanged: the world is an empire, Rome is its capital, the Pope is the head of Christians. It has been like this since the beginning of time, and it will be like this until the end of time.

Therefore, in the Middle Ages, they somehow did not think that it was necessary to specifically revive antiquity... it was believed that there was no big difference between modernity and the era of Augustus. But in the new era, society clearly realized that Antiquity had long and finally ended, 1000 years ago. Therefore, its restoration was carried out very seriously and thoroughly, not like before.

The Renaissance begins at a time when a European, turning to the past, first realizes and divides it into eras. But so far only three: glorious antiquity, modernity (when this antiquity began to be revived) and several centuries between them – the Middle Ages, as they were called in the Renaissance.

There is another feature of the Renaissance that is considered even more important than the reconstruction of antiquity – the secularization of consciousness. People's consciousness becomes secular and ceases to be religious.

The mind of a medieval man is completely dependent on religion, he is not interested in the world, he is more interested in God's plan for the world. And the man of the Renaissance, on the contrary, is in love with the world, with its temptations and materiality. At the center of their picture of the world is a man, alive, passionate, intelligent and strong. Not always benevolent, rather the opposite. For example, the charming heroes of this era are Sigismondo Malatesta,

in whose honor temples were built, but there were also rumors that he dedicated the temple to his mistress. Francesco Sforza, who took part in various wars, first on one side, and then on the other. Cesare Borgia, who himself said that he was eating Italy like an artichoke, leaf by leaf. Real scoundrels, but contemporaries admired them.

Historians also see the secularization of consciousness in the fact that Renaissance literature moves from Latin, the language of the church, to the national languages of European peoples. Therefore, it is officially believed that the Renaissance began at the moment when the first major text in Italian was created – the famous Divine Comedy Give, at the turn of the 13th-14th centuries. Italian literature of the 14th century. belongs to the Renaissance, but so far only literature, it comes to other types of art 100 years later.

Throughout the 14th century, Italy accumulated knowledge about antiquity. More specifically, this knowledge was accumulated by humanists, scholars who specialized in the studies of humanitatis, or modern humanities, experts in ancient history and literature. The humanists and their wealthy patrons introduced a scholarly game into antiquity: they took Roman names, invented false genealogies, presented themselves as relatives of famous ancient Romans, even tried to wear a toga and eat while lying down.

The humanist of the 15th century. Leon Battista Alberti wrote an architectural treatise, where he explained how to build an amphitheater, houses of consuls and senators and prescribed his reflections on the rite of cremation. That is, in their imagination, educated Italians of that era already lived in antiquity, but they could not help but see that the world in which they live is not at all like the ancient one, and they began to correct this. Therefore, at the beginning of the 15th century. Italian artists, architects, sculptors, rolling up their sleeves, began to transform the objective world of Italy into the ancient manner.

Thus, the Renaissance came to the visual arts, 100 years later than to literature. In the history of art, this era lasts about 200 years from the beginning of the 15th century to the end of the 16th century and is usually divided into the following 3 periods:

- early Renaissance – 15th century.
- High Renaissance – first third of the 16th century.
- Late Renaissance (Mannerism) – end of the 16th century.

In the 15th century. Renaissance art existed only in Italy, in the rest of Europe – Gothic. And not even in all of Italy, primarily in Florence, Rome and at the courts of individual dukes in central and northern Italy. It spread to other parts of the country with great delay, and outside Italy even later, only in the 16th century.

***2. Analyse complex lexical and grammatical constructions.***

***3. Summarise the text.***

***4. Interpret the text.***

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Навчально-методичне видання

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**ЗАВДАННЯ**  
**ДЛЯ ПРАКТИЧНИХ ЗАНЯТЬ**  
**ІЗ ДИСЦИПЛІНИ**  
**«ІНОЗЕМНА МОВА»**  
**(АНГЛІЙСЬКА)**

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Підписано до друку 16.02.2026 р.  
Формат 60х90/8. Гарнітура Times.  
Папір офсетний. Друк на дублікагорі.  
Ум.-друк. арк. 2,33. Обл.-вид. арк. 2,67.  
Зам № 11-26. Тираж 100 прим.