# МИНИСТЕРСТВО СЕЛЬСКОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА

# И ПРОДОВОЛЬСТВИЯ РЕСПУБЛИКИ БЕЛАРУСЬ

ГЛАВНОЕ УПРАВЛЕНИЕ ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ, НАУКИ И КАДРОВ

Учреждение образования

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# Кафедра английского языка

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Пособие

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“Разговорные темы”

*Для студентов 1–2 курсов всех факультетов*

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Данное пособие включает разговорные темы по английскому языку. Каждый урок содержит тематический словарь, серию предтекстовых и послетекстовых упражнений, имеющих коммуникативно-речевую направленность.

Для студентов 1–2 курсов всех факультетов

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ВВЕДЕНИЕ

Методическое пособие предназначено для студентов первых и вторых курсов всех факультетов.

Цель методического пособия – расширение лексического запаса студентов, а также развитие и совершенствование навыков диалогиче­ской и монологической речи в рамках указанных тем.

Методическое пособие состоит из одиннадцати уроков. Каждый урок содержит тематический словарь; базовый и дополнительный тексты; серию предтекстовых и послетекстовых заданий, имеющих коммуникативно-речевую направленность.

Темы расположены в том порядке, в котором их обычно изучают: «Студенты на практике», «Охрана окружающей среды», «Моя специ­альность» (9).

Лексика текстов отрабатывается и усваивается в ходе выполнения разнообразных упражнений. Также включены задания творческого характера, требующие самостоятельного поиска нужной информации с последующей ее презентацией.

Методическое пособие может использоваться как для аудиторной, так и для самостоятельной работы студентов.

UNIT 1

Students at Work

Ex. 1. Look through and learn the following words.

curriculum – учебный план

opportunity – возможность

to gain – приобретать, получать

to put knowledge into practice – применять знания на практике

to have at one’s disposal – иметь в чьем-либо распоряжении

in-depth – глубокий

(un-)favourable – (не-)благоприятный

soil and climate conditions – почвенные и климатические условия

crop growing – растениеводство

manpower – рабочая сила

shops – мастерские

experimental plot – экспериментальный участок

agricultural-trading enterprise – агропромышленное предприятие

(un-)profitable farm – (не)рентабельное хозяйство

arable lands – пахотные земли

to use intensive technologies – использовать интенсивные технологии

to use farm machines – использовать сельскохозяйственную технику

to grow grasses – выращивать травы

flax – лен

oats – овес

to cultivate (to till) – обрабатывать

to plant (to sow) – сеять

to harvest (to yield) – убирать

to gather crops – убирать урожай

to increase – увеличивать

to grow (to raise) – выращивать

Ex. 2. Read and translate the text.

TEXT A

Practical training

Practical training plays a vital role in building the required skills and competencies that’s why completion of specified training requirements is an essential part to become a good specialist.

Practical periods and practical exercises are very important in the curriculum of the Academy. Students are given an ample opportunity to put their knowledge into practice. Practical experience is essential as it is the first step on the road to a successful career in any sphere. The proportion of time spent on practical exercises is relatively high. The Academy has at its disposal fully equipped laboratories, the animal farm, experimental fields and greenhouses where students have to do practical work.

At the end of the forth year undergraduates are sent for a few months to farms or agricultural enterprises in order to get practical skills in their future profession. They learn to put theoretical knowledge, insight and skills into practice by doing research. As a rule, this traineeship is in line with the specialization they have chosen.

Vocational practice is the perfect opportunity to gain in-depth knowledge of that sector of the agricultural industry that has their particular interest, and it may be the first stepping stone on the path to a successful career.

I think that practice is one of the most important moments in the process of studies because it helps you to become a highly qualified specialist.

Ex. 3. Answer the questions.

1. When are students sent to a vocational practice? 2. Why is practical experience essential? 3. What does the Academy have at its disposal? 4. Where do students travel to gain practical experience? 8. When does the most important practical period take place? 9. What do students learn to do when they are placed with agricultural enterprises or organisations?

Ex. 4. Find in the text the English equivalents of the following ex­pressions.

1) существенный; 2) учебный план; 3) практическая подготовка; 4) применять полученные знания на практике; 5) опыт; 6) иметь в рас­поряжении; 7) высоко квалифицированный специалист; 8) производственная практика; 9) сельскохозяйственные предприятия; 10) теплица; 11) заниматься исследовательской работой; 12) получать; 13) на пути к успешной карьере; 14) глубокие знания.

Ex. 5. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. Students (to give) an ample opportunity to put knowledge into practice.
2. Much time (to spend) on practical exercises.

3. The main important practical period (to take place) in the second half of the year.

1. Students (to place) with agricultural enterprises, organisations.

Ex. 6. Read text B.

TEXT В

In summer many students work in different parts of our country. They work in the building teams, at the collective farms or elsewhere. At the col­lective farms they work as combine operators or tractor drivers. They help the farmers plough the soil, sow and gather the harvest. Their work is very useful because there are a lot of problems in agriculture today. And one of them is the lack of manpower.

There is an experimental farm in the Academy. Here students get knowledge of their future profession. The farm has all the necessary equipment for this. There are pedigree farms, shops and experimental plots where students can do research work. Every autumn students help farmers gather harvest. This year the students of our group worked on the agricultural-trading enterprise “Goretsky”. It is situated near Gorky. The farm is rich and profitable. It is a mixed farm. It specializes both in crop production and in cattle breeding. There are many hectares of arable land and pastures on the farm. It cultivates beet, potatoes, flax and cabbage. Besides there is a big orchard with many apple-trees. In order to increase crop yields and animal products the farm applies widely intensive technologies. Intensification is based on mechanization and electrification, which are the main sources of progress in agriculture. Most of agricultural processes in crop production and animal husbandry are mechanized on the farm. They are the soil preparation, planting and harvesting of crops, feeding of farm animals. The farm uses widely fertilizers and manure, better high-yielding varieties of crops, most effective cultural practices. They try to use them so as not to damage the land, which is the basis of agriculture.

This autumn we helped farmers gather potatoes. I must say the climatic conditions this year were favourable for potato production. The farmers used Holland cultural practices, applied fertilizers and different chemicals, such as herbicides and insecticides and got high yields of potatoes. I think that my work on the farm was useful as I learned many new facts on potato cultivation practice.

Ex. 7. Answer the questions.

1. Where do the students of the Academy have their practical work?
2. Workers of which professions can they replace during their practical period?
3. Can you characterize the experimental farm of the Academy?
4. What means do the farmers use in order to intensify the process of production?
5. Where would you like to have your practical period?

6. Did you have any practical work during the first year of studies? Speak about it.

UNIT 2

Nature Protection

Ex. 1. Look through and learn the following words.

harmony – гармония

pollute – загрязнять

pollution – загрязнение

impurities – примеси

suffocate – задыхаться

transparent – прозрачный

threaten – угрожать

disappear – исчезать

oxygen – кислород

uproot – выкорчевывать

advance – наступать

upset – нарушать

insignificant – незначительный

poaching – браконьерство

barbaric – варварский

infringement – нарушение

acute – острый

vehicles – транспорт

wastes – отходы

harmful – вредный

contamination – загрязнение

ozone depletion – истощение озонового слоя

dump – свалка

to dump – сваливать, сбрасывать (мусор)

toxic waste – токсические отходы

exhaust gases – выхлопные газы

the threat of ecological disaster – угроза экологической катастрофы

dissipation of natural resources – расточение природных ресурсов

to be under the threat of extinction – быть под угрозой вымирания

smoke stack – дымовая труба

landfill – свалка

releases of toxic substances – выбросы ядовитых веществ

choke from soot and ash – задыхаться от копоти и пепла

sulphuric and hydrocloric acids – серная и хлороводородная кислоты

water vapour – водяной пар

rain forests – тропические влажные леса

acid rain – кислотный дождь

groundwater – грунтовая вода

Ex. 2. Read the text.

TEXT A

The ecological problem is a global problem. About 200 years ago man lived in greater harmony with the environment because industry was not much developed. Today the situation is quite different. Every year world industry pollutes the atmosphere with millions tons of dust and other impurities. Residents of many cities suffocate from smog. The Earth’s atmosphere is becoming less transparent and its composition is changing threatening the Earth with climate variations.

Forests are disappearing. The conveniences of each person cost nature 300 trees. Some 40% of the tropical rain forests, which are the principal suppliers of the oxygen in our atmosphere have already been destroyed and what is left is being uprooted or burned down at the rate of 44 hectares per minute. Deserts are advancing at the same speed. The disappearance of fo­rest areas upsets the oxygen balance.

We must remember and understand that despite all his power man is a biological species and only one five-millionth of all living things. Man is the child of the biosphere. And if there are qualitative changes in the Earth's biosphere, man will also be affected by them, as his ability to adapt is rather insignificant.

Today, as never before, ecological education is very important. Every year more and more people take part in the movement to save lakes and seas, air and land from pollution. There are environmental protection agencies in every country, which work out projects for nature protection. One of such organisations is "Green peace". There are also ecological organisations in Belarus. The oldest one is Belarusian Society of Nature Protection, which is more than 30 years old.

It's a pity, but low level of ecological culture among population resulted in increase of poaching, barbaric attitude to nature, infringement of legislation. The ecological situation in the republic is unfavourable today. The air pollution problem is acute in big cities. The main sources of air pollution are vehicles and plants. No less important remains the problem of surface and underground water pollution. Improper farm management led to negative processes in agriculture, such as: water and land pollution, soil erosion, degradation of natural landscapes, disappearance of plant and animal species. The problem of humus has recently become rather urgent in the republic. One of the serious ecological problems in Belarus is accumulation of waste. But radioactive contamination is still the most acute problem. As a result of Chernobyl catastrophe 23% of the territory has been contaminated and 3,668 settlements are unsuitable for living.

The main purpose of the ecological policy in Belarus is maintenance of ecologically safe living conditions for the population, rational use and pro­tection of natural resources, development of nature protection legislation. Much is to be done in this direction. To begin with, it is necessary to reorganize our industry and introduce resource saving and non-waste technolo­gies. And, of course, our laws on nature spoiling should be stricter and fines much higher.

Ex. 3. Match these words with their meanings:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| pollution  acid rain  greenhouse effect  pesticide  CFC (clorofluorocarbons)  ozone  ozone layer  ultraviolet radiation | a) rising temperatures around the world  b) man-made chemicals which destroy the ozone layer  с) a type of oxygen  d) rain containing chemicals  e) making earth, air or water dirty and dangerous  f) the atmosphere, between 10 km and 60 km above the earth, which stops a lot of the ultraviolet radiation  g) part of sunlight  h) a chemical for killing insects and other animals |

Ex. **4.** Answer the questions.

1. How does man interfere with the balance of nature? 2. What might the consequences of this be? 3. What do you know about the ecological situation in Belarus? 4. How did Chernobyl explosion affect the environment in Belarus? 5. Does agriculture influence the environment? 6. What are the main sources of pollution? 7. Name the most important kinds of pollution.

Ex. 5. Read the texts and put in the words from the boxes. You may have to make some small changes.

O**pera**tion tiger

Create, left, remain, save

Seventy years ago there were 100,000 tigers in the wild. Today there are not more than 8,000 ... . In 1972 the World Wildlife Fund launched “Operation tiger” to ... the tigers that ... . Eighteen tiger reserves have been … in India and three in Nepal.

**The Last** Thirty Oryx

Almost, hunter, natural, rare, survive, wildlife, zoo (2)

By the 1970s, ... had killed ... all of the Arabian oryx. The WWF helped to capture the last thirty ... oryx and send them to phoenix ... in Arizona, where a herd of these ... animals has been built up. Other ... and ... parks have helped, and the oryx has been reintroduced into its ... surroundings in Oman, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

**The Last Thousand Polar Bears**

Arctic, alive, fewer, hunting, increase, live, successfully

Thirty years ago ... than 1,000 polar bears were left ... in the wild in Norway, Greenland and in Russia. WWF persuaded the five ... nations of Canada, the USA, Denmark (Greenland), Russia and Norway, to agree to control ... and promote scientific study. Now the “ice bears” are ... and breeding ... once again, and those 1,000 bears have ... their numbers to about 5,000.

**The Tropical Forests**

Dam, destroy, encourage, flood, in danger, international, medicine, protect, supply

Tropical forests ... us with very many sorts of plants for food, ... and in­dustry. They could probably supply many more. They also reduce ... and droughts, keep water clean, and slow down the Greenhouse Effect. But the tropical forests are being ... to make room for things like farms, ranches, mines and hydroelectric ... . About 20 million hectares are lost each year – an area more than twice the size of Austria. WWF is working to ... and save the forests that are ...; to plant new trees for fuel wood and to slow down the Greenhouse Effect; and to ... governments to think about the forests and their importance when giving ... aid.

Ex. 6. There is very little in the world not affected by acid rain. Read the text, then work in pairs and ask each other questions about these things:

Rivers, fish, soil, animals, humans, trees, buildings.

Can you tell me from the text how …. is/are affected by acid rain?

Some of the most striking effects of acid rain are:

Water becomes acid and the concentration of toxic materials in rivers and lakes increase.

Fish are poisoned and killed. Birds and animals which eat fish have no food, and this makes them leave their natural areas.

Acid groundwater removes vital minerals essential for plant growth.

Toxic substances become concentrated in land animals.

People are directly affected by local pollution and by acid drinking wa­ter.

Air pollution causes direct damage to forests. Trees weakened by acid rain could easily be damaged by strong winds, disease, and cold weather.

Buildings, statues and monuments are damaged due to gases and acid rain.

Ex. 7. What can you do to help the world? Do you think these things help the world ? Discuss it in pairs.

1. Use less electricity. Turn off lights.
2. Stop using cars for short journeys. Use smaller cars.
3. Stop using metal cans. Start using glass bottles.
4. Don’t use air-conditioning in cars. Open the windows.
5. Planting more trees.
6. Start buying ozone-friendly products.
7. Stop destroying rain forests.
8. Stop using pesticides.
9. Have showers, not baths. Showers use less water.

Ex. 8. Environmental problems have become an urgent global issue. They are real and need to be faced. The threat of ecological disaster is a scourge for all people. Read the text about the ecological situation in modern cities and answer the question: “Does the author feel optimistic or pessimistic about the future of the cities?”

TEXT В

At the beginning of the 20th century the scientists, inspired by the scientific progress, believed firmly that it would ensure a new happy era in the history of the mankind. However, it turns out that the development of technology drives us into a corner with a necessity to solve new and unexpected problems, which arose also because of dissipation of natural resources and a throwaway attitude.

Alas! People forget that the Earth is their only home and that they lay a trap for themselves by thoughtlessness and negligence to the nature. A man endangers the rivers, oceans, forests, and animals. This world is not made by a human hand though and has its own right for existence.

Now it is obvious that human creations are also under the threat of ex­tinction.

Let's look intently at our cities, where the majority of us live. It is high time to include city environment in the question of environment protection.

Observing a city “landscape” one can see steaming smoke-stacks of dif­ferent factories, endless streams of cars. As a result the level of contamina­tion of the air, water and soil increases every year as well as the number of landfills. The most perfect filters can not prevent releases of toxic substance which do much harm and may be of fatal consequence to the health of citizens. The trees which usually gladden the eye choke from soot and ash and are gripped by asphalt.

The state of affairs is even more gloomy nowadays. Every day a huge number of factories release sulphuric and hydrochloric acids in the atmos­phere of big cities. These acids are the most aggressive ones. They damage buildings and constructions, and we can see it with the naked eye as the facades need to be repainted very often.

To prevent cities from dying physically we must protect them as well as the nature itself. Cities are centres of our spiritual life. The newest scientific achievements and the monuments of millennia are concentrated there. The world of cities is as diverse as the world of nature. We must save both natural values and masterpieces of human hand. A city is a complex system to which we all belong. We can make it a better place to live by healing its wounds, restoring its health. Often science has been blamed for a city's illnesses. Yet science can be used to help renewing its ecological well-being.

Whatever we do to the city we live in, we do to ourselves. Our future is in our hands.

Ex. 9. Find in the text the English equivalents for the following Russian words and word combinations.

1. угроза экологической катастрофы; 2) человечество; 3) развитие технологий; 4) решать новые и неожиданные проблемы; 5) расточение природных ресурсов; 6) быть под угрозой вымирания; 7) дымовая тру­ба; 8) уровень загрязнения воздуха и почвы; 9) выбросы ядовитых ве­ществ; 10) последствия для здоровья горожан; 11) задыхаться от копоти и пепла; 12) выбрасывать серную кислоту в атмосферу; 13) помочь возобновлению экологического благополучия.

Ex. 10. Translate the sentences into English.

1. Проблемы защиты окружающей среды стали всеобщими. 2. Над человечеством нависла угроза экологической катастрофы. 3. В городах можно увидеть дымовые трубы и бесконечные потоки машин. 4. В результате уровень загрязнения воды, почвы и воздуха возрастает с каждым годом. 5. Растет количество свалок. 6. Фильтры не могут предотвратить выбросы ядовитых веществ. 7. Деревья задыхаются от копоти и пепла. 8. Города – центры духовной жизни. 9. Город – это сложная система, которой мы все принадлежим. 10. Наука должна помочь возобновлению экологического состояния города. 11. Наше будущее в наших руках.

Ex. 11. Answer the questions.

1. Why does the author think that mankind is under the threat of ecological disaster? 2. What influenced dissipation of natural resources? 3. Why does the author consider that the mankind lay a trap for themselves? 4. What is the typical picture in the city? 5. What ecological situation is in most cities nowadays? 6. What must people do in order to prevent cities from dying? 7. Why are cities called centres of spiritual life? Do you agree with it? 8. Do you feel optimistic or pessimistic about the future of cities?

Ex. 12. Tell about the ecological situation in the city (village) where you live.

UNIT 3

My Speciality (ECONOMICS)

Ex. 1. Look trough and learn the following words.

department – кафедра

creative – творческий

responsible – ответственный

income – доход

expenditures – расходы

diversified – разнообразный

widespread – широкораспространенный

Stock Exchange – фондовая биржа

broker – маклер, посредник

data – данные

consistent – последовательный

challenging – трудный, но интересный

Ex. 2. Read the text.

TEXT A

I study at the Belarusian State Agricultural Academy, one of the oldest higher agricultural schools of our country. I am a first-year student of the Economics faculty. It's one of the most popular faculties. Nowadays it provides training in the speciality “Economics and company management”. The faculty is made up of five departments: the department of mathematical modeling of economic systems in the agroindustrial complex, the department of setup for production in the agricultural sector, the departments of management and economics and international economic relations, the economics department. The stuff consists of 76 faculty members, among them 7 professors and doctors of science, 28 assistant professors and candidates of science. My speciality will be connected with agricultural industrial complex enterprises and economic organisations. An economist is one of the main experts at an agricultural enterprise. His work is creative, interesting but very responsible. It requires vast knowledge in all spheres of agricultural production. Running of a farm involves many things. It is making plans for the future and analysis of the present financial situation that are the main aspects of the work of an economist. He also has to do with incomes and expenditures.

I am going to become a highly qualified specialist. There are all the ne-cessary facilities at the Academy, which enable us to get wide theoretical and practical knowledge. Beginning with the third year, we are taught special subjects: economics, planning, commercial activity, production management, agricultural business and international market relations. The students of our department have to do practical work for three or four months. They visit farms and agricultural business organisations. It's an essential step on the road to a successful career. The graduates of the economics faculty work in all parts of our country and also abroad.

Ex. 3. Find the English equivalents for:

1) старейший сельскохозяйственный вуз; 2) факультет экономики; 3) коммерческая деятельность; 4) международные экономические от­ношения; 5) сельскохозяйственное предприятие; 6) творческая, инте­ресная и ответственная работа; 7) обширные знания во всех сферах сельскохозяйственного производства; 8) теоретические и практические знания; 9) доходы и расходы; 10) успешная карьера.

Ех. 4. Complete the sentences.

1. The Economics faculty trains experts in .

2. Economist’s work is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Running a farm involves many things: .

4. Students are taught special subjects: \_\_\_\_\_\_.

5. The graduates of the Economics department work\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Ex. 5. Answer the questions.

1. What year student are you? 2. Why do you think the Economics faculty is one of the most popular faculties? 3. What speciality are the students taught? 4. What can you say about the work of an economist? 5. What subjects are you taught? 6. Do you have practical work? 7. Where can the graduates of the faculty work? 8. Why have you chosen this speciality? 9. Who influenced your choice?

Ex. 6. Read the text and get ready to speak about one of the most important professions of present time.

TEXT В

How to Become a Professional Economist

Today the profession of an economist is quite diversified; there are se-veral technical and polytechnic colleges in different cities of our Republic that give different professions in the financial world. And there is a surpri-singly wide range to choose from. This profession is one of the most important and widespread nowadays in the Republic of Belarus.

What features are characteristic of world economy? Certainly, you are to begin an important and necessary task of the exploration of international business. An economist also needs some knowledge of the world outside his own country because both business and government are deeply involved in the world economy. Some knowledge of political and economic history will help him to expect changes and always look for basic long-run forces under the surface of things. This profession combines knowledge in the science and the art of business with many other disciplines, such as economics, geography, history, foreign languages, jurisprudence, statistics, and demography. One should also know International Business because economic isolationism has become impossible.

Future economists study various general and specific subjects, such as macroeconomics, microeconomics, economic theory, management, mar­keting, advertising, money and banking, computer science, econometrics, philosophy, business ethics, etc. Science in the field of economics creates new theories and models, tests hypotheses and carries out economic research. Having been educated in this sphere, you may be employed in industry and business.

Ex. 7. Match the English words and word combinations with their Russian equivalents:

1. Economic Theory а) макроэкономика
2. Macroeconomics b) деловая этика
3. Money and Banking с) банковское дело
4. Business Ethics d) микроэкономика
5. Microeconomics e) управление
6. Computer Science g) производство рекламы
7. Management r h) электронно-вычислительная техника
8. Advertising i) экономическая теория

Ex. 8. Translate into Russian. '

1. Today the profession of an economist is quite diversified. 2. What features are characteristic of world economy? 3. This profession combines knowledge in the science and the art of business with many other disciplines. 4. Having been educated in this sphere, you may be employed in industry and business. 5. Knowing the economic laws of the development of the society, economists can solve many problems.

Ex. 9. Answer the following questions.

1. Why is the profession of an economist one of the most important nowadays in Belarus and other countries? 2. What features are characteristic of world economy? 3. How can you continue your further education? 4. Where may you be employed, having been educated as an economist?

UNIT 4

My Speciality (BUSINESS AND LAW)

Ex. 1. Look through and learn the following words.

advisory office – юридическая консультация

defence counsel – защитник

legal counsellor – юрист, адвокат

litigate – выступать в качестве стороны в гражданском процессе

marriage settlement – акт распоряжения имуществом по случаю заключения брака

notary – нотариус

plaintiff – истец

regional bar – коллегия адвокатов

standard of conduct – норма поведения

to restrict – ограничивать

to punish – наказывать

to entrust – возлагать, поручать

to victimize – делать жертвой; обманывать; подвергать преследованию

legality – законность, легальность

to commit an error – совершить ошибку

bar – адвокатура

salary – зарплата

court – суд

public prosecutor – прокурор

Ex. 2. Read the text.

TEXT A

I am a second-year student of the Business and Law Faculty. It was founded in 2002. The faculty provides training in the following specialities: “Law”, “Commercial activity” and “Marketing”. The faculty consists of five departments: agribusiness department, the department of state and law history, the department of history and cultural studies, the department of marketing and law department. My specialization is legal groundwork for business. When I entered the Academy I had a vague idea of what I should do in future. Having studied a lot of legal subjects, such as theory of law, state and law, criminal and public law I could outline the profession I'm engaged in. Now it is obvious to everyone, that in a community we live, some kind of law is necessary because every day of our lives we are restrained and guided by law. It protects us while it restricts us. Sometimes it punishes us. Law can also be defined as a standard of conduct, which regulates the relation of the individual to the central government, the relation of the government to the individual, and the relations among the individuals. If there is a conflict in these relations, the law also provides an institution of the court system, through which the respective sides can litigate a problem and reach a solution. So, the scope of the law necessarily makes it complex and complexity has created the need for specialists, namely a lawyer, whose work is quite diversified. He may act as the defence counsel in court, it may represent the interests of the plaintiff, the defendant or of third parties in civil criminal cases. The rate at which the legal profession is growing will probably continue. Why is the career in law so popular?

Of course, because of the prestige and salary. The average salary of an experienced lawyer is still substantially greater than that of many other pro­fessionals. But that work isn’t so interesting as it may seem. In national economy lawyers are entrusted the control on the legality of orders and in­structions issued by governing body: they participate in drawing up different agreements and contracts, which are concluded with other enterprises; lawyers also inform workers on the current legislation and give help in legal matters, conduct their cases in courts. In addition to this professional group there are non-professional legal counsellors who give advice on various legal problems and are often employed by business firms. In almost all civil law countries there are notaries, who have exclusive rights to deal with such office work as marriage settlements and wills.

All lawyers in our country are incorporated either in the national or re­gional (territorial) bar. Members of the bar work at legal advisory offices, which function in every town administrative district. That's what I know about my profession now. And it makes me think that in some years I'll be able to find the job in accordance with the knowledge I get, because our de­partment trains specialists for working in court, office of public prosecutor, notary, other juridical bodies and also in legal service of national economy. Though Business and Law Faculty is rather young it has already got a good reputation because of the teaching staff and because of scientifically based curriculum. During our studies at the Academy we write a lot of scientific papers, analyze special legal literature and try to do our best to be professionals after graduation.

Ex. 3. Find the English equivalents:

1. теория права; 2) государственное право; 3) уголовное право; 4) юрист; 5) юридическая консультация; 6) защитник (в суде); 7) адвокат; 8) современное законодательство; 9) гражданское право;10) выступать в качестве стороны в гражданском процессе; 11) коллегия адвокатов; 12) работать в суде; 13) прокуратура; 14) норма поведения; 15) нотариус; 16) представлять дело в суде; 17) акт распоряжения имуществом по случаю заключения брака; 18) завещание.

Ex. 4. Answer the questions.

1. What faculty do you study at? 2. What subjects do you study? 3. What is your favourite subject? 4. What subject do you consider to be the most difficult (the simplest) one? Why? 5. What is the definition of law? 6. When does a person appeal to the court? 7. How can professional skills of a lawyer be used? 8. What do lawyers do in national economy? 9. Where can graduates from Business and Law Faculty work? 10. Where would you like to work after the graduation?

Ex. 5. Point out the most important factors in choosing your job. Put them in order of importance and explain your choice:

1. work which is useful to society;
2. good salary or wages;
3. flexible hours;
4. interesting and not boring work;
5. high security of employment;
6. good pension scheme;
7. responsibility of your own;
8. the chance of promotion;
9. good career prospects;
10. good working conditions;
11. friendly colleagues and considerable management;
12. other factors – what?

Ex. 6. Read the following text and make comments on it.

TEXT В

The Career of a Lawyer

Today the profession of a lawyer is one of the most prestigious in our society. Why is the career so popular? What is law? Who can be a lawyer? Now it is known to everyone, that the community people live in, some kind of law is necessary because every day of our lives we are guided by law. It protects us while it restricts us. Sometimes it punishes us.

A lawyer can help people who are victimised by unscrupulous business­men, as well as their own ignorance of the law. The duty of the lawyer is not only to punish people for various crimes: from espionage to serial murder and terrorism, but they must do their best to prevent crimes, to fight against evil in the society.

The primary function of the profession to find practice of law is to apply the law in specific cases – to individualise it. This function is manifested in the work of the advocate and the judge. The lawyers should also help those people, who committed an error, and in this case broke the law, to find the right road in their life. They protect the rights and legal interests of citizens, institutions and organisations.

Of course, the career in law is so popular today not only because of the prestige, but also because of salary. The average salary of an experienced lawyer is still much greater than that of many other professionals. But this work is not for everyone. If you feel that your skills as a writer, speaker, and leader – as well as your powers of logic – would probably serve you well in a legal career, enter the Academy and get professional education. Then you'll be able to find a job in accordance with the knowledge you get: in court, office of Public Prosecutor, notary, other juridical bodies and also in legal service of national economy.

Ex. 7. Give the Russian equivalents for the following words and word combinations:

1) to restrain; 2) unscrupulous; 3) to manifest; 4) to apply the law in specific cases; 5) juridical bodies; 6) legal advisory, 7) to prevent crimes; 8) to protect the rights and legal interest of citizens; 9) to draw up different agreements and contracts; 10) standard of conduct.

Ex. 8. Find in the text the English equivalents for the given Russian sentences.

1. Сегодня профессия юриста является одной из самых престижных в нашем обществе. 2 Задачей юриста является не только наказание людей за различные преступления от шпионажа до серийных убийств и терроризма, но и предупреждение правонарушений, борьба со злом в обществе. 3. Все юристы в Республике Беларусь объединены в республиканские или региональные (территориальные) адвокатуры. 4. Тогда вы сможете найти работу, соответствующую полученным знаниям.

Ex. 9. Answer the questions.

1. Is it true to say that a career in law is very popular? Why do you think so? 2. What is the definition of law? 3. Can you name the duties of a lawyer? 4. What is the primary function of the profession and practice of law? 5. What do lawyers do in national economy? 6. Where can a graduate of the academy work?

**Ex. 10. Learn the words and word combinations.**

commerce – коммерческая деятельность

environment – *зд*. среда, условия

transfer goods – доставлять товары

consumers – потребители

enterprise – предприятие

draw up documentation – составлять документацию

development – развитие

accounting – ведение учета

bookkeeping – учет, бухгалтерия

decision-making – принятие решений

uncertainty – неуверенность

abilities – способности

aptitude – склонность

problem-solving – решение проблем

market research – исследование рынка

to evaluate market opportunities – оценить возможности рынка

to develop market strategies – разработать рыночные стратегии

implementation – выполнение

full-time staff – штатные сотрудники

adjustments – регулирование, поправки

to succeed – преуспеть

setting – *зд*. окружающая обстановка

case-by-case – от случая к случаю

independent – независимый

promising – перспективный, представляющий интерес

**Ex. 11. Read and translate the text.**

**My Speciality (COMMERCE AND MARKETING)**

I am a first-year student of the Business and Law Faculty. Our faculty is rather young: it was formed in 2002. The faculty trains experts in the following specialties: “Law”, “Commerce” and “Marketing”.

My specialization is commercial activity in the agricultural sector. Commerce is the whole system of an economy that constitutes an environment for business. The system includes legal, economic, political, social, cultural and technological systems that are in operation in any country. It includes all activities, functions and institutions involved in transferring goods from producers to consumers.

A specialist in commercial activity is trained for working on farms and in other enterprises of agro-industrial complex.

A specialist must be able to organize commercial activity of an enterprise; draw up planned documentation; lead the staff; organize advertising; find commercial and goods resources and be engaged in commercial activity with foreign partners.

As you see his duties are very diversified. That’s why a specialist must know laws of economical development; main principles and methods of marketing; forms of accounting and book-keeping; analysis of economic activity; law aspects of commercial activity; business documentation; business relationship; organization of production management; foreign languages; regulations of international economical activity.

To become a successful specialist in commerce you should know a lot as you have to spend a great deal of time communicating, coordinating and making decisions affecting the daily operations of the organization. Almost everything involves decisions, and in decision-making there is always uncertainty and risk. So it is a very interesting but difficult job.

My specialisation is **marketing** in the agro-industrial complex. When choosing a future career we should consider different factors such as mo-ney, satisfaction of your job, your traits of character and others. As for me I have always been interested in economics and I am good at maths. I have an aptitude for working with people, and I think I'm rather communicative and have good social skills. I have good analytical abilities and I am good at problem-solving. Besides, I am good at English. English has become the standard language for all kinds of international business communications. To know English today is absolutely necessary for every businessman.

Marketing deals with market research and commercial activity in ge-neral. It involves analyzing business situations, evaluating market opportunities, developing market strategies and controlling their implementation. It is important for a specialist in marketing to be flexible and prepared to make adjustments where necessary, as it is unlikely that any marketing plan will succeed exactly as planned.

Marketing is a very important part of nearly every business.

A marketing specialist is a person who helps a company manage promotions, design advertisements, and build strategies for attracting and retaining customers. There are many different jobs that these specialists can do, and a lot depends on setting, training, and individual interest.

Most marketing specialists work for specific companies as members of their full-time staff, but not all do. Some people choose to work as consul-tants, advising business leaders on a case-by-case basis. This sort of job can allow an individual to be very independent, and it often allows him or her to pick and choose specific projects. Others work for marketing firms, providing services to a range of different businesses as needed.

I consider my speciality to be very interesting and promising. And I’ll do my best to become a good specialist.

**Ex. 11.Answer the following questions.**

1. What faculty do you study at?
2. What is commerce?
3. Name the main functions of a specialist in commercial activity.
4. What special subjects do you study?
5. Where can a specialist in commercial activity work?
6. What does marketing deal with?
7. Where does a marketing specialist work?

Ex.12. Tell about your future speciality.

UNIT 5

My Speciality (BOOK-KEEPING)

Ex. l. Look through and learn the following words.

auditor – бухгалтер-ревизор

opportunity – шанс, возможность

responsibility – ответственность

to anticipate – предвидеть

to acquire – приобретать

experience – опыт

skills – умения

scholar – ученый

data processing – обработка данных

to keep records – вести записи

figures – цифры

transactions – операции

Ex. 2. Read the text.

TEXT A

I study at the Belarusian State Agricultural Academy, one of the oldest higher agricultural schools of our country. I'm a first-year student of the Bookkeeping faculty. My future profession deals with farm economy orga-nisation and accountancy. But I'll also be able to work as an auditor in the field of agricultural business.

An accountant is one of the main experts at an agricultural enterprise. His work is creative and interesting. But it requires great responsibility as well as vast knowledge of all spheres of agricultural production. The running of an agricultural enterprise or a farm involves: making plans, organising the jobs, that have to be done, implementing management systems, making a farm analysis, anticipating and moving along with changes and developments in society; all these matters are aspects of efficient activity of an accountant. He writes reports, analyses incomes, expenditures and the financial state of the farm and calculates the results of its activity. An accountant of an enterprise is a barometer, sensitive to all impulses of production process. He must be able to interpret all the data received and make certain conclusions, concerning farm's profitability.

The bookkeeping department is one of the youngest at our Academy. It was founded in 1958. Nowadays it trains experts in two specialities: 1) “Fi­nance and credit”, 2)“Accounting, analysis and audit”. There are three departments at the faculty: accountancy, statistics, economic analysis and control in agriculture. The course of studies covers 4 years. The topics of study include a wide range of subject matter. To name but a few: accountancy at agricultural industrial enterprises, finance and credit, statistics (general and agricultural), economic analysis of agricultural enterprise's activity. Special attention is paid to training students to operate personal computers and computer techniques. They acquire basic theoretical knowledge in new taxation systems, sociology and labour physiology, international and market relations, foundations of economic management and farming mechanisms. The forth-year students have 22 weeks period of farm practical experience. They learn to put theoretical knowledge and skills into practice. It is a perfect opportunity to gain deep understanding of that sector of agricultural industry, which has their particular interest. And it may be the first stepping stone on the path to a successful career. Our republic nowadays is oriented towards radical economic restructuring of agriculture. It is therefore of crucial importance that the industry is to be inspired and run by enthusiastic and well-trained people. The bookkeeping faculty provides the appropriate education and training for this.

Ex. 3. Find the English equivalents:

1) студент факультета бухгалтерского учета; 2) бухгалтер-ревизор; 3) анализ доходов и расходов; 4) финансовое состояние фермы; 5) рентабельность; 6) разнообразие специальных предметов; 7) экономический анализ деятельности сельскохозяйственного предприятия; 8) получать теоретические знания; 9) новая система налогообложения; 10) применять знания и навыки на практике.

Ex. 4. Answer the questions.

1. What year are you in? 2. What does your future profession deal with? 3. Is the job of an accountant interesting and challenging? 4. What does the running of an agricultural enterprise include? 5. When was the bookkeeping faculty founded? 6. Which specialities does it train experts in? 7. Which subjects do you study? 8. Do the students of the faculty have practical work?

Ex. 5. Read and translate the text.

TEXT В

Scholars have traced the origin of bookkeeping to Italy, where merchants used it during the 1300's. The first known explanation of the system appeared in 1494 in a mathematics book written by the monk Luca Pacioli and published in Italy.

Today, bookkeeping is taught in high schools and vocational schools.

Bookkeeping systems are now part of data-processing operations, which provide many career opportunities. Banks, churches, hospitals, political parties, retail stores, and a wide variety of other organizations employ data processors to help keep records of their financial transactions. Important qualifications include the ability to work quickly and accurately with figures and to concentrate on details.

Beginners handle routine transactions. After gaining more experience, they are given responsibilities involving payrolls and other records. Good data processors have opportunities to advance to jobs on a higher level and, with additional training, to move into accounting departments. Many skilled, experienced data processors hold positions in management.

More and more organizations depend on computers and other machines in the operation of their bookkeeping systems. Therefore, beginning data processors should have basic knowledge of data processing and know how to operate various office machines. People in this field must continually keep their skills up to date as employers use increasingly complex equipment to handle all aspects of bookkeeping.

Most employers require beginning bookkeepers to be high school graduates. Men and women who plan a career in bookkeeping should take such courses as business mathematics, data processing, and typing.

Ex. 6. Match the synonyms.

1. bookkeeping a) significant
2. to include b) profit
3. important c) qualified
4. variety d) to give work
5. income e) to involve
6. skilled d) range
7. to employ g) accounting

Ex. 7. Answer the questions.

1. Where is the origin of bookkeeping? 2. What is the role of book­keeping now? 3. What саrееr opportunities can bookkeeping provide? 4. What subjects should a bookkeeper know? 5. What other skills are necessary in the career?

Ex. 8. Tick the type of work you would prefer and give your rea­sons.

being your own boss work under somebody’s supervision

with people with things

alone in a team

in a town in the country

alternative week every day, in shifts, in schedule

in an office in a factory, somewhere else

self-employed employed by smb, an organization

sitting at a desk not sitting at a desk

wearing a uniform not wearing a uniform

early retirement retire after 65

long hours a lot of time to yourself

UNIT 6

My Speciality (AGRONOMY)

**Ex. 1. Look through and learn the words.**

plant breeding – разведение растений, селекция, растениеводство

seed production – семеноводство

plant growing – разведение растений, растениеводство

fodder production – кормопроизводство

storing – хранение

processing – переработка

soil – почва

nutritional value – питательная ценность

crop – сельскохозяйственная культура

soil science – почвоведение

crop production – растениеводство

weeds – сорняки

to sow – сеять

to harvest – убирать урожай

property – свойство

to apply fertilizers – вносить удобрения

grain – зерно

research institutes – исследовательские институты

**Ex. 2. Read and translate the following text.**

**TEXT A**

I study at the Belarusian State Agricultural Academy. It is one of the oldest higher agricultural institutes of our country. I am a first-year student of the Agronomy faculty. Our faculty, the oldest one in the BSAA, was formed in 1925. Our faculty trains experts in the following specialities: “Agronomy” and “Plant breeding and seed production”. There are six departments at the faculty: plant-growing, farming, selection and genetics, fodder production, plant-growing produce storing and processing, botany and plant physiology.

An agronomist is a master of fields. To be an agronomist means to like soil and plants and to get good knowledge and experience in this sphere of agricultural science. That’s why students have lectures and practical hours in soil science, crop production, selection, forage production, seed growing, biotechnology.

Future agronomists learn how to cultivate soil, control weeds, sow and harvest crops at the proper time. We study the science of soil formation, its constitution and general properties of soil and its origin.

We are taught the application of organic and mineral fertilizers, the methods and the time when fertilizers must be applied to the soil. We also study modern methods of selection. The knowledge of plant breeding will help agronomists to develop new varieties of crops.

Students of our faculty study the science of crops and their growing. To know plant growing well we must study botany, plant physiology and other subjects.

Modern agronomists must know how to increase the yields of grain and other crops. It is one of the most important tasks in agriculture.

After graduation we can find work in the agriculture: on farms, farm management service firms, food processing companies or research institutes.

I like my future speciality and find it very useful. I’ll work hard to become a good specialist.

Specialisation “Plant breeding and seed production” prepares specialists for developing new hybrids and varieties with the most important character-ristics for a given area. Selection is a simple and important method of improving plants. By selecting the best types a plant breeder is able to make a great progress in the improvement and growing of plants.

In the course of studies the students have their practical work. There are all opportunities to put their knowledge into practice. The faculty has at its disposal experimental fields, orchards, gardens and greenhouses. The graduates of the agronomy faculty work in all parts of our republic. I enjoy studying at the Academy. I'll try to do my best to become a good specialist.

Ex. 3. Answer the following questions.

1. What specialists does the agronomy faculty train?
2. What specialities are there at this faculty?
3. Are there good opportunities for training future specialists?
4. What subjects do the students study?
5. What subjects are the most important for your future speciality?
6. What should you know in order to be a skilled specialist?
7. Why is the practical work necessary for the students?
8. Where do you want to work after graduating from the Academy?

Ex. 4. Read text B.

TEXT В

Agronomy is a branch of agricultural science that deals with the study of crops and the soils in which they grow. Agronomists work to develop me-thods that will improve the use of the soil and increase the production of food and fiber crops. They conduct research in crop rotation, irrigation and drainage, plant breeding, molecular biology, soil classification, soil fertility, weed control, and other areas.

Agronomy involves selective breeding of plants to produce the best crops under various conditions. Plant breeding has increased crop yields and has improved the nutritional value of several crops, including corn, rice, soybeans, and wheat. It also has led to the development of new types of plants. For example, a hybrid grain called triticale was produced by crossbreeding rye and wheat. Triticale contains more usable protein than does either rye or wheat.

Agronomists study ways to make soils more productive. They classify soils and test them for substances vital for plant growth. They also examine the development of the roots and their relation to the quality of the soil.

In addition, agronomists develop methods to preserve the soil and to de­crease the effects of erosion by wind and water. For example, a technique called contour ploughing may be used to prevent soil erosion and conserve rainfall. Researchers in agronomy also seek ways to use the soil more effectively in solving other problems. Such problems include the disposal of wastes; water pollution; and the build-up in the soil of chemicals that are used to kill insects and weeds.

Most agronomists are researchers, consultants or teachers. Many work for agricultural experiment stations, federal or state government agencies, industrial firms, or universities.

Ex. 5. Give the English equivalents:

1) отрасль сельскохозяйственной науки; 2) изучение сельскохозяй­ственных культур; 3) проводить исследования; 4) севооборот; 5) оро­шение; 6) классификация почв; 7) плодородие почв; 8) контроль за сорняками; 9) растениеводство; 10) улучшение питательных свойств некоторых культур; 11) рожь и пшеница; 12) развитие корневой системы растений; 13) сохранять почву; 14) предотвратить эрозию почвы; 15) уничтожать сорняки и насекомых.

**Ex. 6. Insert the words from the box.**

soil fertility, crop yields, contour ploughing, agronomy, weed control, crop rotation, soil classification

1. ... is a branch of agronomy science which studies plants and the soils in which they grow. 2. Agronomists also conduct research in ... , ... , ... and other areas. 3. ... is a technique which can be used to prevent soil erosion. 4. The application of fertilisers can greatly increase ... . 5. Plant breeding has increased ... .

Ex. 7. Answer the questions.

1. What problems does the article deal with? 2. Which methods do agronomists develop? 3. What is plant breeding? 4. Which researches do agronomists conduct? 5. Where can agronomists work?

Ex. 8. Imagine that you work at one of the farms known to you. Make up a letter to your friend where you describe your first impres­sion:

1. of the farm (its agricultural area, specialisation, facilities and surroundings, etc);
2. your job (advantages and disadvantages of your job, problems, difficulties, etc).

UNIT 7

My Speciality (LAND RECLAMATION AND CIVIL

ENGINEERING)

Ex. 1. Look through and learn the following words.

graduates – выпускники

reclamation engineer – инженер мелиоративных работ

contribute – вносить вклад

irrigation – орошение

drainage – осушение

drought-resistant – засухоустойчивый

thanks to – благодаря

inhibits – задерживает

ripening – созревание

swamp – болото

sewerage – канализация

advisor – консультант

farmer – фермер

sprinkler system – оросительная система

occupation – занятие

rock-fill structure – каменнонабросное сооружение

to hold back floodwaters – для борьбы с наводнениями

to erect – сооружать, воздвигать, строить

Ex. 2. Read the text.

TEXT A

I study at the Land Reclamation and Civil Engineering faculty of the Belarusian State Agricultural Academy. It is more than 95 year old and it is the oldest structural subdivision of the academy. At the faculty there are all opportunities for the training of future engineers in two speciatities: “Land reclamation and water management” and “Rural development and area planning”. There are large and spacious lecture halls, laboratories provided with modern equipment, and many research (scientific) circles. Among the professors there are well-known specialists who contributed much to the development of agricultural science.

The purpose of a reclamation engineer is to increase the productiveness of agricultural soils. Irrigation and drainage are the most common practices of reclaiming the lands that may be too dry or too wet. Irrigation is an important practice in arid regions where the annual rainfall is very low. All crops need water very much; some of them are drought-resistant, others are less drought-resistant. Plants with a long growing season – sugar beet, potatoes and especially grasses – require more water than cereals. Irrigation is especially useful for orchards. Drainage removes the free water, which excludes air and inhibits the growth and activity of plant roots. Drained soils are more easily and sooner worked out. Drainage ensures a longer growing season and earlier ripening. Drainage provides a good balance of water and air in the soil. Air is necessary for soil bacteria, which decompose organic materials into humus supplying plants with food. With the help of powerful machinery the Polessye swamps in Belarus were transformed into fertile land. Farmers harvest high yields of different crops on the irrigated and drained lands.

The graduates of our department build and exploit hydro-melioration systems and systems of sewerage, roads, bridges, even settlements; their aim is also to improve the fertility of the soil. They work in state inspections and environmental agencies, carry out reconstruction and maintenance of hydroland reclaiming systems, are engaged in planning, development and improvement of rural settlements, as well as designing and maintenance of civil and farm buildings, facilities and structures and water supply systems. So I want to become a reclamation engineer and work in our republic, to improve the soils of our farms and to increase the supply of our population with food products.

**Ex. 3. Read the text.**

My speciality (CIVIL ENGINEER).

I am a first-year student of the Belarussian State Agricultural Academy. I am lucky to be a student here. The Academy is one of the oldest educational establishments in our country. It was founded in 1840. In those days it was an agricultural institute. Today the academy is well-known all over the world. Many of our teachers are outstanding specialists in various fields of agriculture. The academy has an excellent reputation.

I study at the faculty of land reclamation and civil engineering. At the faculty there are all opportunities for the training of future engineers. There are large and spacious lecture halls, laboratories provided with modern equipment, and many research (scientific) circles. Among the professors there are well-known specialists who contributed much to the development of agricultural science.

The profession of a builder is very honorable. It attracts many numbers of young men and women nowadays.

In our country construction is being carried out on a large scale. Builders as we know assemble a house from prefabricated units which are delivered to the construction site. A great variety of materials is used by builders today. Students must study the existing materials. When they become full- fledged builders they may develop new building materials and building methods.

Builders construct and reconstruct residential and industrial buildings, bridges, schools, palaces of culture, museums and so on.

The person entering this honorable profession must have a scientific attitude, imagination, initiative, and good judgment.

A qualified building worker must be able to read a technical drawing, he must know the scale and the specifications.

The graduates of our department work on the collective farms, in project organizations, as advisors for farmers. So I want to become an engineer and work in our republic.

Ex. 4. Find the English equivalents for the following:

1) выпускники; 2) инженер мелиоративных работ; 3) орошение; 4) осушение; 5) увеличить продуктивность почвы; 6) засушливые регионы, 7) среднегодовое количество осадков; 8) засухоустойчивые культуры; 9) длинный вегетативный период; 10) травы требуют больше воды, чем зерновые; 11) баланс воды и воздуха в почве; 12) плодородная земля; 13) применение удобрений; 14) строитель; 15) строительные материалы; 16) жилые и промышленные здания; 17) технический чертеж; 18) масштаб.

Ex. 5. Open the brackets using either comparative or superlative degree.

1. Irrigation and drainage are (common) practices of reclaiming the land. 2. Some of the crops are (much) drought resistant, others are (little) drought resistant. 3. Grasses require (much) water than cereals. 4. Drained soils are (much) easily and (soon) worked out. 5. Drainage ensures a (long) growing season and (early) ripening.

Ex. 6. Insert the required modal verbs.

1. Some lands ... be too dry or too wet. 2. A future specialist ... know different methods of irrigation. 3. Students … study the existing materials. 4. When they become full-fledged builders they … develop new building materials and building methods.

Ex. 7. Complete the sentences with the active vocabulary.

1. The purpose of a reclamation engineer is … . 2. Irrigation is an im­portant practice in arid regions where … . 3. Plants with a long growing season require … . 4. Drained soils are … . 5. Air is necessary for … . 6. The graduates of our faculty work … . 7. Sprinkler systems have advantages such as … . 8. Dams and water reservoir are built to provide … .

Ex. 8. Answer the questions.

1. What opportunities do the students of your faculty have for successful studying? 2. What is the main goal of a reclamation engineer and how can it be achieved? 3. Why is irrigation so important? 4. What is drainage and why do we need it? 5. What irrigation constructions do you know? 6. What opportunities do those have who want to continue their studies?

Ex. **9**. Read the text about the importance of irrigation.

TEXT В

In the past irrigation performed an essential function in advancing civilization and in bringing higher standards of living, and it is continuing to do so today throughout the world.

Agriculture by irrigation is probably one of the oldest occupations of man. Primitive methods of irrigation fields for crop production were used before the dawn of civilization. Studies of the past indicate that irrigation has been practised for 4,000 years in Egypt and China. Even today there are some striking examples of irrigation works built hundreds, and in some cases thousands, of years ago in India, China, Egypt, Iraq and some other countries.

Egypt has the world's oldest known dam, a rock-fill structure built 5,000 years ago to store drinking and irrigation water and perhaps also to hold back floodwaters. Apparently it was poorly designed, for it failed soon after, and no other was erected for 3,000 years afterwards.

From China, India, Egypt, Iraq through North Africa irrigation spread westward. Of course these early irrigators were not without drainage prob­lems and we think that the farmers of ancient Egypt built surface drains on their wet lands so they could yield more and better grain.

But drainage was needed not only in irrigation practice. It was also needed in reclamation of vast areas of swamps and marshes.

In Europe much marshland has been turned into good agricultural land by drainage and fertilization, as, for example, the Pontine Marshes near Rome, the marshes of the North German Plain. In Britain the reclamation of the Fens district has transformed more than 400,000 hectares of useless swamps into rich farmland. In Holland, over 360,000 hectares have been rescued from the North Sea and from inland lakes.

The development of the last eighty years in science and technique of irrigation engineering are indeed very big and important.

Measures to conserve water resources and to demonstrate better methods and higher yields will be a constant task to irrigation engineers all over the world.

Ex. 10. Read and translate the following words paying attention to the suffixes and prefixes:

1. to irrigate, irrigator, irrigation, irrigable;
2. fertile, to fertilize, fertility, fertilization, fertilizer;
3. product, production, productive, unproductive, productivity;
4. to drain, drainage, drained, draining;
5. to reclaim, reclaimed, reclamation, reclaimable;
6. to perform, performer, performing, performance;
7. to fall, failed, failing, failure;
8. to advance, advanced, advancement;
9. to indicate, indication, indicator.

Ex. 11. Find in the text the synonyms for:

1) building; 2) to collect; 3) to transform; 4) business; 5) improvement; 6) immense; 7) very old; 8) to come near to.

Ex. 12. State the voice and the tense-form of the verbs and translate the sentences into Russian.

1. During the last twenty years a good deal has been learnt from experi­ments about crop responses to water, and this information can be used to devise irrigation systems to make the best use of both water and equipment. 2. The work is being carried out by them with the further object of discovering sub-soil water resources of those areas which suffer from chronic scarcity of rainfall. 3. Water, physical and chemical methods of land improvement are designed to create optimal and controlled conditions and patterns for high and stable yields from fields and pasture, hayland, forests and other areas. 4. An extensive plan has been prepared for training the entire lower course of this river over a distance of 600 kilometres for flood control purposes. 5. Yesterday we were told about that new irrigation system. 6. Many technical, administrative and economic measures, including forest land improvement and water engineering, are being put into effect on farm lands in different natural zones. 7. Erosion has been going on there for centuries.

Ex. 13.Translate the following sentences into English.

1. Во многих частях земного шара есть большие площади потенци­ально плодородной земли, которые не могут быть использованы для нужд сельского хозяйства /for agriculture/, потому что они либо слишком засушливы, либо слишком увлажнены. 2. В различных странах теперь осуществляется много планов мелиорации земель. 3. Развитие орошения и осушения играет существенную роль в сельском хозяйстве. 4. Площади орошаемых и дренируемых земель значительно увеличиваются с каждым годом во всем мире.

Ex. 14. Answer the following questions.

1. What function did irrigation perform in advancing civilization in the past age? Does it do so today? 2. In what countries was irrigation used for thousands of years? 3. When and where was the world's oldest dam built? Why did this dam fail? 4. Who brought the knowledge of dam building to Southern Europe? 5. What can you say about reclamation of marshy and swamp lands in European countries? 6. What is the total irrigated area of the world today?

UNIT 8

My Speciality ( FARM MECHANIZATION)

Ex. 1. Look through and learn the following words.

highly skilled – высококвалифицированный

wheeled tractor – колесный трактор

crawler tractor – гусеничный трактор

land reclamation – мелиорация земель

wheeled distributor – кормораздатчик

standard of living – уровень жизни

resistance of materials – сопротивление материалов

construction site – стройка

machine testing range – полигон

implementation – выполнение

raw materials – сырье

driver's certificate – водительские права

save time – экономить время

labour productivity – производительность труда

milking machines – доильные аппараты

graduate – выпускник

Ex. 2. Read the text.

TEXT A

I'm a first-year student of the Farm Mechanization faculty of the Belarusian Agricultural Academy. It was opened in 1947. At present the faculty provides training in the three specialities: “Maintenance Engineering Support of Farm Production, “Maintenance Engineering Support of Land Reclamation and Waterworks” and “ Material and Technical Supplies of Agro-industrial Complex”. Our faculty is one of the largest at the Academy and it comprises 11 departments, where 10 doctors of sciences and professors as well as 59 assistant professors and candidates of sciences work.

Various machines are used in agriculture now; wheeled or crawler tractors, combine harvesters, specialised harvesters and planting machines, lorries and equipment for land reclamation. Many agricultural processes are mechanised too. It's difficult to imagine nowadays a cattle-breeding farm without feed distributors and milking machines or, for example, a poultry farm without automatic control system. All these machines make the farmer's work easier, increase his labour productivity and save his time, so they improve his standard of living.

Agricultural machines ensure implementation of all farm operations in proper time. They help decrease losses of farm produce and raw materials under transportation and storage. To make these machines and mechanisms function perfectly highly qualified engineers are needed. Our faculty trains mechanical engineers and engineers for mechanization of land reclamation work.

We study such special subjects as mechanization of agricultural farms, theory of machines and mechanisms, resistance of materials, engines and their parts and others. The laboratories of the faculty are equipped with modern machinery. We have practical classes at the machine testing range, where we are taught to drive a car, a tractor and a combine harvester. Then we get a driver's certificate and go for practical studies to the farms of our Republic, where we work as real tractor drivers.

In the years of its existence the faculty has trained about 6000 specialists, who work on the farms and experimental stations, at the construction sites and Ministries, higher schools and scientific research institutes of our Republic. The graduates usually work as leaders of different organisations and enterprises, chief engineers on the collective and state farms, teachers of higher schools and research workers. I consider my speciality the most important one in agricultural production and I’ll do my best to become a good specialist.

Ex. 3. Find the English equivalents:

1. студент факультета механизация сельского хозяйства; 2) ква­лифицированный специалист; 3) колесный трактор; 4) гусеничный трактор; 5) система автоматического контроля; 6) повышать произво­дительность труда; 7) экономить время; 8) уменьшать потери сельско­хозяйственной продукции; 9) теория механики; 10) сопротивление ма­териалов; 11) главный инженер; 12) выпускник; 13) приложить усилия.

Ex. 4. Complete the sentences.

1 …. are used in agriculture now. 2. … make the farmer’s work easier. 3. Agricultural machines help … . 4. The faculty trains … . 5. Students study special subjects such as ... . 6. Students have practical classes … . 7. The graduates usually work … .

Ex. 5. Put questions to the following sentences.

1. Various machines are used in agriculture now. 2. Many agricultural processes are mechanised too. 3. All these machines make the farmer’s work easier. 4. In the years of existence the faculty has trained 6000 specia-lists. 5. I’ll do my best to become a good specialist.

Ex. 6. Answer the following questions.

1. What faculty do you study at? 2. Why does agriculture need highly skilled engineers? 3. What farm processes are mechanised? 4. Why do peo­ple try to use as many machines as possible? 5. What specialists does your faculty train? 6. What subjects do you study at the Academy? 7. Where do students of your faculty have their practical work? 8. Where do graduates of your faculty work? 9. Where would you like to work after graduating from the Academy?

Ex. 7. Do you know anything about the history of engineering? Do you think it is an old occupation? Read the text and learn more about it.

TEXT В

The history of engineering is the record of human ingenuity through the ages. Even in prehistoric times, people adapted basic engineering techniques from things that were available in nature. For example, sturdy sticks became levers to lift large rocks, and logs were used as rollers to move heavy loads. The development of agriculture and the growth of civilisation brought about a new wave of engineering efforts. People invented farming tools, designed irrigation networks, and built the first cities. The construction of the gigantic Egyptian pyramids during the 2500's B.C. was one of the greatest engineering feats of ancient times. In ancient Rome, engineers built large aqueducts and bridges and vast systems of roads. During the 200’s B.C., the Chinese erected major sections of the monumental Great Wall of China.

Early engineers used such simple machines as wedge and wheel and axle. During the Middle Ages, a period in European history that lasted from the A.D. 400's to the 1500's, inventors developed machines to harness water, wind, and animal power. The growing interest in new types of machines and new sources of power to drive them helped bring about the Industrial Revolution of the 1700's and 1800's. The role of engineers expanded rapidly during the Industrial Revolution. The practical steam engine developed by the Scottish engineer James Watt in the 1760's revolutionised transportation and industry by providing a cheap, efficient source of power. New ironmaking techniques provided engineers with the material to improve machines and tools and to build bridges and ships. Many roads, railroads, and canals were constructed to link the growing industrial cities.

Distinct branches of engineering began to develop during the Industrial Revolution. The term “civil engineer” was first used about 1750 by John Smeaton, a British engineer. Mechanical engineers emerged as specialists in industrial machinery, and mining and metallurgical engineers were needed to supply metals and fuels. By the late 1800's, the development of electric power and advances in chemical processing had created the fields of electrical and chemical engineering. Agricultural engineering involves the design of farm buildings, agricultural equipment, and erosion control, irrigation and land conservation projects. Agricultural engineers are also concerned with the processing, transporting, storing of agricultural products.

Since 1900, the number of engineers and of engineering specialities has expanded dramatically, as the demand for engineers is steadily increasing.

Ex. 8. Read and translate the words paying attention to the suffixes.

1. to invent, inventor, invention;
2. to design, design, designer;
3. to erect, erector, erection;
4. to develop, developer, development;
5. to industrialise, industry, industrial;
6. to mine, miner, mine;
7. to create, creator, creative;
8. to expand, expansion;
9. to mechanise, mechanization, mechanic.

Ex. **9**. Which of the words go together? Translate the word combi­nations.

1. human a) loads
2. engineering b) machines
3. heavy c) Revolution
4. large d) techniques
5. simple e) ingenuity
6. animal f) engineering
7. Industrial g) power
8. ironmaking h) aqueducts
9. agricultural i) engineers
10. mechanical j) techniques

Ex. 10. Insert the missing words and word combinations from the **box.**

Roads, steam engine, processing, wedge, wheel, axle, transporting, farming tools, erected, storing.

1. The ... brought about a new wave of engineering effort. 2. Engineers built large aqueducts and bridges and vast system of … . 3. During the 200s В. C., the Chinese ... the Great Wall of China. 4. Early engineers used such simple machines as ... , ... and ... . 5. ... revolutionised transportation and industry. 6. Agricultural Engineering involves the designs of farm buildings, ..., erosion control, irrigation and land conservation projects. 7. Agricultural engineers are also concerned with the ... , ... , and ... of agricultural products.

Ex. 11. Answer the questions.

1. What basic engineering techniques did people use in prehistoric time? 2. What brought about a new wave of engineering efforts? 3. What examples of great engineering feats of ancient time can you name? 4. What machines did early engineers use? 5. What inventions were made during the Industrial Revolution? 6. What branches of engineering began to develop during the Industrial Revolution? 7. What branches of engineering can you name? 8. What does agricultural engineering involve? 9. What are agricultural engineers concerned with? 10. Do you think the demand for engineers is great today? Why? Why not?

Ex. 12. Speak on the topics.

1. Engineering in ancient time.
2. Engineering during the Industrial Revolution.
3. Engineering today.

UNIT 9

My Speciality (LAND USE PLANNING)

Ex. 1. Look through and learn the following words.

cadastral survey – кадастровая съемка

to be aware of – осознать, иметь сведения

to a great extent – в большой степени

to meet the needs – удовлетворять потребности

eliminate – устранять, исключать

vital – жизненный, жизненно важный

welfare – благосостояние

allocate – распределять, назначать

adjust – регулировать, устанавливать

simultaneously – одновременно

intimate knowledge – хорошие знания

community – общество

urban – городской

septic tank – перегниватель

surface – поверхность

permeable – проницаемый

groundwater – грунтовые воды

sediment – осадок, отстой

flood plain – заливные луга

wetlands – влажные (заболоченные) земли

Ex. 2. Read the text.

TEXT A

I am a first-year student of the Land Use Planning faculty. Theoretical and practical teaching is carried out at three core departments: land use planning, cadastre and land law, geodesy and photogrammetry. A land use-planner is a very old and a very modern profession. The first land use planning school was founded more than 200 years ago in Russia. Our department is the only one that trains land use planners for our republic.

The work of a land use planner is connected with agriculture. He has to make a cadastral survey and project agricultural enterprises. He must use data collected by other scientists. The land use planner is to be aware of modern land information systems and space research technology. Land and the way it is used determine to a great extent successful agriculture. The more rationally land is used now the more stable its fertility will be in the future.

The land use planning is to meet the needs of our economy. It is obvious that scientific and technological progress will not eliminate the vital importance of land. The welfare today depends partly upon how well we allocate our land resources among alternative uses. The raise of productivity of our resources is the principle goal of land use planning.

The land use planner should answer many questions. The best answers change constantly as varieties, fertilisers, equipment and things change. The problem of adjusting the kinds of land uses cannot be separated from the problem of intensifying the agricultural production. Actually both problems must be solved simultaneously. This process requires an intimate knowledge of land and its response to various treatments. Yields will increase rapidly if wise land use practices are implemented.

Ex. 3. Give the English equivalents to the following Russian words:

1) землеустроительный факультет; 2) землеустроитель; 3) кадастровая съемка; 4) связана с сельским хозяйством; 5) использовать данные; 6) земля и то, как она используется; 7) плодородие; 8) распределять земельные ресурсы; 9) регулировать, устанавливать; 10) повышать про­дуктивность ресурсов.

Ex. 4. Join the halves.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Land Use Planning Faculty is the only one | a) determine successful agriculture. |
| 2. Land and the way it is used | b) is connected with agriculture. |
| 3. Yields will increase rapidly if | c) that trains land use planners for our republic. |
| 4. The work of a land use planner | d) wise practices are implemented. |
| 5. Land use planner has to make | e) cadastral survey and project.  agricultural enterprises. |

Ex. 5. Answer the questions.

1. Why is the work of a land use planner connected with agriculture? 2. What is successful agriculture? 3. In what way is the land use planning to meet the needs of our economy? 4. What is the main purpose of land use planning? 5. Why is a land use planner to have an intimate knowledge of land?

Ex. 6. Read text B.

TEXT В

The Soil Conservation Service, through conservation districts, helps communities make land use decisions that will protect their land, water, and related resources. Soil surveys provide the technical data for most SCS re-commendations to land use planners. The surveys provide information on the potential and limitations of soils for various uses. They help land use planners determine which land is best for farming, which land is most suit­able for urban expansion, and which should be preserved for wildlife and recreation. SCS publishes soil surveys and maps showing important farm­lands.

SCS is identifying prime and unique farmlands and farmlands of state­wide and local importance so county and State officials will know where their best farmlands are and take steps to retain them.

SCS does not just hand maps to these officials but helps them develop methods to use them. One way SCS does this is by working with these offi­cials to develop land rating systems to protect farmland with a preferential tax rate.

Besides helping to identify and protect farmland, the soil surveys can help planners decide where to build streets, roads, bridges, buildings, and sewage disposal sites. Sewage disposal is a major problem for planners that soil surveys can help solve. Septic tanks require a soil that will allow the liquid wastes to filter through the soil rather than come to the surface. If the soil is not suitable for septic tanks, community planners can ask a developer to install a central sewage system instead of septic tanks. A good site for the solid wastes of landfills would have a very slowly permeable soil that would prevent the decomposed solid wastes from polluting the groundwater and wells in the area. Soil surveys can also identify soils that are not stable enough to support a house, or that have a high water table that will flood basements.

SCS also helps State and local governments develop regulations for subdivisions, and other local erosion and sediment control regulations. These regulations can become part of a local land use policy that will preserve areas like flood plains, wetlands, and streams for wildlife and recreation. These regulations, and a land use policy, can help communities control flooding and avoid failures in houses and other structures.

Controlling erosion, sediment, and flooding are some of the benefits of local land use policies that will help assure the best use of the Nation's land and water resources.

Ex. 7. Give the English equivalents for the Russian words.

1) принимать решения; 2) потенциальные возможности почв; 3) за­щищать сельскохозяйственные земли; 4) места захоронения отходов; 5) просачиваться сквозь почву; 6) свалки; 7) проницаемая почва; 8) уровень грунтовых вод; 9) борьба с эрозией почвы; 10) заливные луга; 11) наводнения; 12) лучшее использование земель и водных ресурсов.

Ex. 8. Translate the following “word chains”.

1) Soil Conservation Service; 2) conservation district; 3) land use deci­sions; 4) Soil Conservation Service recommendations; 5) tax rate; 6) soil survey; 7) sewage; 8) community planners; 9) disposal site; 10) flood plains; 11) sediment control regulations; 12) land use policy; 13) land and water resources.

Ex. 9. Match the synonyms.

1. streams a) main
2. protection b) advantage
3. major c) constructor
4. benefit d) contamination
5. pollution e) rivers
6. developer f) plot
7. site g) conservation

Ex. 10. Match the antonyms:

1. liquid a) non-permeable
2. to pollute b) insignificant
3. local c) to protect
4. permeable d) unstable
5. major e) solid
6. stable f) rural
7. urban g) state

Ex. 11. Insert the required modal verbs.

1. The surveys help land use planners determine which land is suitable for farming, and which ... be preserved for wildlife. 2. These regulations ... help communities control flooding. 3. It ... help preserve areas like flood plains, wetlands and streams. 4. A good site for the solid wastes of landfills ... have a very slowly permeable soil.

Ex. 12. Answer the questions.

1. What do soil surveys provide? 2. How does SCS help the officials? 3. What do soil surveys help planners decide? 4. What is the major problem for planners? 5. What soil do septic tanks require? 6. What soil must a good site for the solid wastes have? 7. What soils can also soil surveys identify? 8. How does SCS also help state and local governments? 9. What are the benefits of the local land use policies?

Ex. 13. Discuss the following with a partner.

1. Is career-making a vital thing for you? If given a choice what areas would you pick for your future successful career?
2. Identify and speak about the most important factors in choosing a ca­reer in modern society.
3. You are to give a talk on professions which are prestigious in Belarus today and popular with young people. What will you say?
4. Would you rather have a dull but well-paid job or an exciting but poorly paid one? Explain your choice.
5. Some jobs are more suitable for men and others for women. Do you think this is still true? Give your reasons.
6. You have been invited for an interview to get a job. What will you tell the interviewer to make him get interested in you? What would you like to find out about the job?

UNIT 10

My Speciality (ZOO-ENGINEERING)

Ex. 1. Look through and learn the following words.

animal feedlots – откормочные комплексы

processing – переработка

possibility – возможность

master skills – освоить

bee farming – пчеловодство

fur farming – звероводство

entrepreneurship – предпринимательство

driving licence – водительские права

storage – хранение

facilities – условия

trout – форель

sturgeon – осетр

crucian – карась

behaviour – поведение

propagation – размножение

eel – угорь

crayfish – рак

hatch – нести яйца, выводить цыплят

pest – вредитель

flock – стая

to be susceptible to – быть подверженным

fowl typhoid – тиф птиц

fowl cholera – холера птиц

bluecomb – синий гребень (возбудитель – вирус)

hennery – птицеферма

Ex. 2. Read the text.

TEXT A

I'm a first-year student of the Zoo-engineering faculty. It was founded in 1930 as the zootechny faculty which was renamed in zooengineering faculty in 1975. It trains specialists for agriculture. Over 50 teachers work at the faculty, including 10 doctors of sciences and professors, 30 candidates of sciences. The graduates of the academy work as chief experts on collective and state farms; as technologists at the animal feedlots and poultry farms, as heads of farms and teachers at vocational and higher schools.

There are seven departments at the faculty: physiology, biotechnology and veterinary science; feeding of farm animals; zoo-hygiene, ecology and microbiology; breeding of farm animals; cattle breeding and animal pro-ducts processing; smalls breeding, ichtiology and fish breeding. New spe-cialities such as agricultural and industrial fish breeding and poultry breeding were opened recently. All the laboratories have modern equipment. The students study such subjects as: feeding of farm animals, breeding of farm animals, genetics, cattle breeding, etc. We are taught how to feed all kinds of farm animals for any purposes. We study the influence of different feeds on the productivity of the farm animals. Future specialists study how to combine different kinds and amounts of feeds properly. Our students study how to improve breeds of animals through breeding selection.

**Poultry farming** is the raising of domesticated birds such as chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese for the purpose of farming meat or eggs for food. Poultry are farmed in great numbers with chickens being the most numerous. It is one of the most rapidly growing branches of agriculture. There are many poultry farms in Belarus with modern equipment where the technological processes of feeding, drinking, ventilation and heating are automatically controlled by a computer. A smooth technological process allows to control the output of the product at all production stages.

Zooengineers working on poultry farms must care for poultry; maintain hygienic environment; operate machinery and equipment; control pests. They also monitor the welfare of the birds, feed and water them. The health of the flock is most important because рoultry are quite susceptible to a number of diseases; some of the most common are fowl typhoid, fowl cholera, chronic respiratory disease, bluecomb and many others. That’s why this course includes both poultry management and production systems. Students study many specialized subjects such as anatomy, physiology, poultry production, poultry housing, hygiene, feeding systems, breeding and so on. After graduation they work on poultry farms, henneries, research laboratories, and many other enterprises of agro-industrial complex.

Today **fish breeding** is a very important branch of agriculture due to the growing demand for fish products for the population. Belarus has many rivers and lakes and favorable climatic conditions for fish breeding. The fish species raised in Belarus are very diverse: carp, crucian carp, bream, roach, white and black carp, silver and bighead carp, pike, perch, trout, sturgeon, siberian sturgeon and paddlefish.

There are fish breeding farms and fish processing factories in our country. Fish breeders not only breed pike, carp, trout, sturgeon, as well as eel and crayfish. They improve and create new high-productive breeds, lines and crosses; develop new intensive, resource-saving and pollution-free technologies of fish farming in the artificial and natural reservoirs; new methods and drugs for prophylaxis and treatment of fish diseases.

Students of this speciality study fish species, the peculiarities of their behavior and propagation, methods of their breeding. The experts in this speciality will find work on fish-breeding farms, fish-processing factories, as well as at the research laboratories in the institutes.

The students study special subjects: morphology and physiology of farm animals, veterinary science, animal, pig, sheep, horse, bee, poultry and fur farming, feed production, breeding and feeding of farm animals, zoo-hygiene, mechanization of animal farms and others. The students have a possibility to get a driving licence. The future experts get knowledge in technologies of production, storage and processing of animal products. All the students live in a good hostel, there are all facilities to go in for sport or amateur art.

Ex. 3. Give the English equivalents:

1) студент зооинженерного факультета; 2) откормочные комплексы; 3) фермы по откорму домашней птицы; 4) кормление и разведение сельскохозяйственных животных; 5) благоприятные климатические условия для разведения рыбы; 6) промышленное рыбоводство; 7) птицеводство; 8) искусственные и естественные водоёмы; 9) методы разведения; 10) стадии производства; 11) растущий спрос; 12) хранение и переработка; 13) система кормления; 14) выпускник.

Ex. 4. Translate the word combination paying attention to the “word chains”.

1. zoo-engineering faculty; 2) animal feedlots; 3) poultry farms; 4) cattle breeding; 5) animal products processing; 6) agricultural and industrial fish breeding; 7) animal, pig, sheep, horse, bee, poultry and fur farming; 8) organisation planning.

Ex. 5. Insert the necessary prepositions.

1. I am a second year student ... the zoo-engineering faculty. 2. Our faculty trains specialists ... agriculture. 3. There are seven departments ... the faculty. 4. The future experts get knowledge ... technologies ... production. 5. Practically all the students live ... a hostel. 6. There are facilities to go … sport. 7. I take interest ... fish breeding. 8. The experts ... this speciality work ... the state fish farms. 9. The students ... my group have their practical work... the farm.

Ex. 6. Answer the questions.

1. Where do zoo-engineers work? 2. What specialities are there at the faculty? 3. What subjects do the students study? 4. Why are there good conditions for fish breeding in Belarus? 5. What types of fish do they plan to breed in Belarus? 6. What do you think of the prospects of fish breeding? 7. Do you think poultry farming has prospects for the future?

Ex. 7. Discuss the following questions with a partner.

1. Is career an important part in your life? 2. What’s your idea of an ideal job? 3. What are the best jobs and why? 4. What are the worst jobs and why? 5. What job would you like to get after you graduate from the Aca-demy? 6.What business are your parents in? 7. Do they like their job? 8. Do you want to follow their example? Why/Why not?

**Ex. 8. Read and translate text B.**

**TEXT B**

The Belarusian aquaculture industry has two major areas of focus, namely fish farming under controlled conditions and commercial fishing.

Belarusian aquatic culture involves raising fish in ponds, tanks, basins and water enclosures. Specialized fisheries, farms, sole proprietors, individuals as well as organizations whose main business is not related to fish farming are engaged in this activity.

The total area of fish farming ponds owned by various organizations engaged in aquafarming is 29.96 thousand hectares. The most popular fish species raised is carp, although its share in the total fish production has been reduced from 90 to 75 percent due to higher volumes of production of silver carp, grass carp, European catfish and pike.

22.1 thousand tons of pond fish including 16.6 thousand tons of fish intended for sale and 4.2 thousand tons of seed fish were harvested in Belarus in 2012.

Between 2006 and 2010, total fish production (sales) amounted to 61.7 thousand tons – a 2.3-time rise on the previous five-year period. Fish sales grew 3.2 times from 2004 to 2010.

The main objectives of Belarusian fish farmers for the coming years is to expand the species diversity, primarily through higher production of valuable fishes such as trout, sturgeons and catfishes and improving fish processing.

Presently, these species account for about 1.5 percent of total fish production. The state program envisages an increase to 15 percent (3.8 thousand tons) by 2016.

**UNIT 11**

**My Speciality (Agroecology)**

**Ex. 1. Learn the words and word combinations.**

soil science – почвоведение

plant protection – защита растений

fruit and vegetable growing – плодоовощеводство

horticulture – овощеводство

rotation – севооборот, чередование

application of fertilizers – внесение удобрений

fertility – плодородие

pest – сельскохозяйственный вредитель

disease – заболевание

weed – сорняк

nematode – нематода

tick – клещ

rodent – грызун

slug – слизень

berries – ягоды

fiber – клетчатка

treat seeds – обрабатывать семена

irrigation – орошение

aggravation – ухудшение

research – исследование

orchard – фруктовый сад

greenhouse – теплица, парник

hothouse – оранжерея, теплица

nursery – питомник

**Ex. 2. Read and translate the text.**

**TEXT**

I am a first year student of Agroecological faculty. Our faculty was formed in 1996 for training specialists in agricultural production.

The faculty trains specialists in the following specialities: “Agrochemistry and soil science”, “Plant protection and quarantine”, “Fruit and vegetable growing”, “Agricultural ecology”.

There are seven departments at the faculty: agrochemistry, soil science, plant protection, horticulture, agricultural biotechnology and ecology, agricultural radiology, chemistry. 11 doctors including 2 Academicians, 2 Corresponding members of the National Academy of sciences, 7 professors, 40 candidates of sciences work at the faculty.

**Agrochemistry** is the science of plants feeding, rotation of feeding elements in farming and rational application of fertilizers to improve the quality of crops and soil fertility. The main object of soil science is the soil in an ecological system. Students following this course study many subjects: chemistry, biochemistry, agrophysics, soil science, soil geography, soil cartography, and soil resources of Belarus. Students master modern methods of chemical analysis of agricultural produce and other environmental objects. They learn functions of the soil in an ecological system, wide variety of soils, their geographical distribution, soil structure and properties, peculiarities of agricultural use of different soils. They also get knowledge and skills in improving soil fertility.

**Plant protection** is the science of pests, diseases and weeds, methods and terms of their controlling. Quarantine of plants is the system of state measures to prevent import and distribution of very dangerous pests, disea-ses and weeds.

Students of this speciality get fundamental knowledge on special subjects: harmful nematodes, ticks, rodents and slugs; integrated plant protection; plant quarantine; phytopatology; chemical means of plant protection and many others. The study of these subjects includes such issues as nature protection and environmentally friendly methods of control of harmful organisms in crops.

One of the aspects of large and important work of maintaining people’s health is wider use of plants including berries and vegetables. Fruits and vegetables are critical to promote good health. In fact, fruits and vegetables should be the foundation of a healthy diet as they are rich in essential vitamins, minerals, fiber, and disease-fighting phytochemicals. Because of this, eating plenty of fruits and vegetables every day can help reduce the risk of many diseases.

Students following the course **“Fruit and vegetable growing”** study such special subjects as: fruit growing, selection of fruits and vegetables, vegetable growing, storage and processing of fruits and vegetables, horticulture. They learn how to prepare soil, treat seeds, avoid diseases and discourage pests, control weeds, apply fertilizers. They also must know different methods of irrigation.

Considering the aggravation of ecological situation the speciality **“Agricultural ecology”** was created. Contamination of the environment by radio- nuclides and other harmful substances influences natural and agricultural ecosystems, affects human ecology and changes social and economic conditions of human life. The faculty trains ecologists – specialists who deal with these problems. Ecologists are concerned with ecosystems as a whole, the relationships between organisms and their environment. Ecologists usually choose a certain area and then carry out a wide range of tasks relating to that area. When starting out, ecologists conduct surveys to identify the problem in order to cope with it successfully. Students of this speciality study the following subjects: radiochemistry, radiobiology, radiation safety, agricultural radiology, general ecology, environment protection, agricultural ecology, environment monitoring, ecosystem modeling and methods of ecological research.

In the course of studies students have practical work. There are all opportunities to put their knowledge into practice. The faculty has at its disposal experimental fields, orchards, greenhouses. Students have their practice on different agricultural enterprises, scientific institutions, experimental stations, agrochemical laboratories, large industrial enterprises.

Graduates of the agroecological faculty are in great demand in the production industry and can work successfully in many spheres of our country’s economy. They work in agro-industrial complex, research laboratories, agro-chemical, radiological and ecological laboratories, in stations of chemization and plant protection; they work in hothouses, nurseries, agro-firms, in processing and other firms of agro-industrial complex.

Ex. 3. Answer the following questions.

1. What faculty do you study at?
2. What is your speciality?
3. When was your faculty founded?
4. What specialities does it train?
5. How many departments are there at the faculty?
6. What is agrochemistry?
7. What special subjects do the students of different specialities study?
8. What are ecologists?
9. What do they study?

Ex. 4. Find the English equivalents.

1) плодоовощеводство; 2) почвоведение; 3) вредители; 4) внесение удобрений; 5) питомник; 6) загрязнение; 7) ягоды и овощи; 8) агрохимия и почвоведение; 9) повысить плодородие почвы; 10) получать знания и навыки; 11) сельскохозяйственный вредитель; 12) заболевания растений; 13) сорняки; 14) охрана окружающей среды; 15) сельскохозяйственная культура; 16) хранение и переработка овощей и фруктов ; 17) подготовить почву; 18) обрабатывать семена; 19) применять знания на практике; 20) фруктовые сады, теплицы, оранжереи.

Ex. 5. Find the Russian equivalents.

1. environmentally friendly; 2) pest and weed control; 3) industrial enterprises; 4) fiber; 5) disease-fighting phytochemicals; 6) soil structure; 7) soil fertility; 8) healthy diet; 9) treat seeds; 10) storage and processing.

**Ex. 6. Translate the words in the brackets into English.**

1. Plant protection is the science of (вредителей, болезней и сорняков).

2. Students study special subjects: (клещи, грызуны и слизни).

3. They learn how (готовить почву, вносить удобрения, обрабатывать семена).

4. The faculty trains (экологов) – specialists who deal with the problems of (окружающей среды).

**Ex. 7. Complete the sentences.**

1. I am a first year student of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The faculty trains specialists in the following specialties:\_\_\_\_\_.

3. There are seven chairs at the faculty: \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Agrochemistry is the science of \_\_\_\_\_.

5. The main object of soil science is \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Students study many subjects:\_\_\_\_\_.

7. Plant protection is the science of \_\_\_\_\_.

8. Fruits and vegetables are critical to promote good health because \_\_\_\_\_.

9. Students of our faculty learn how to \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Ecologists are concerned with \_\_\_\_\_.

11. The faculty has at its disposal \_\_\_\_\_.

12. Graduates of the agroecological faculty can work \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ex. 8. Read the text and answer the questions:**

**What is agroecology?**

**How do agroecosystems differ from natural ecosystems?**

Agroecology is the science of applying ecological concepts and principles to the design, development, and management of sustainable agricultural systems.

While farming methods vary, traditional “agroecosystems” generally differ from natural ecosystems in six ways: maintenance at an early successional state, monoculture, crops generally planted in rows, simplification of biodiversity, plough which exposes soil to erosion, use of genetically modified organisms and artificially selected crops meanwhile agroecology tends to minimize the human impact.

The agroecologist views any farming system primarily with an ecologist's eye; that is, it is not firstly economic, nor industrial.

**Ex. 9. Speak as much as possible about your future speciality.**

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