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Спецкурс по регионоведению

350-летию Российского Забайкалья посвящается

ZABAISKALSKY KRAI

Спецкурс “Zabaikalsky Krai” предназначен для учащихся 9-го класса в качестве приложения к учебникам “Happy English.ru”, “Enjoy English”, “New Millennium English”.

Цели и задачи спецкурса:

- Развитие и образование учащихся средствами иностранного языка через осознание ими роли родного языка и родной культуры в сравнении с культурой других народов и привитие уважения и любви к родной культуре.
- Формирование понимания важности изучения иностранного языка как средства достижения взаимопонимания между людьми.
- Формирование социокультурной компетенции² учащихся.

Курс строится в русле задач развития и воспитания коммуникативной культуры школьников, расширения и обогащения их коммуникативного и жизненного опыта в новом контексте общения, расширение кругозора учащихся по знакомой теме

„Родной край“. Авторы старались придать курсу современное звучание, ориентированное на развитие у учащихся взаимопонимания, толерантности к различиям между людьми, стремления решать проблемы через сотрудничество, путем взаимодействия.

Обучение на основе данного курса носит *проблемный характер*, сочетая различные формы работы (групповую, индивидуальную, парную), создавая коммуникативную атмосферу в классе, стимулируя общение на предложенную учащимся тему.

Курс обеспечивает возможность формирования умений самостоятельной работы и самоконтроля учащихся.

Структура курса

Спецкурс “Zabaikalsky Krai” состоит из 10 разделов, имеющих идентичную структуру:

1. Природные и климатические условия региона.
2. Экологическая обстановка.
3. Экономическое положение.

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² Под социокультурной компетенцией необходимо понимать совокупность знаний о социокультурной специфике страны / стран изучаемого языка, умений строить свое речевое и неречевое поведение адекватно этой специфике, а также умений выделять общее и специфическое в культуре родной страны и страны изучаемого языка.

4. Областной центр и основные города (история возникновения и интересные исторические события).
5. Достопримечательности (музеи, памятники, храмы).
6. Люди, прославившие регион: ученые, писатели, поэты, музыканты, художники, путешественники и др.
7. Учебные заведения (средние и высшие).
8. Свободное время (парки, галереи, выставки, театры).
9. Особенности проведения дня города, других местных праздников: спортивных, культурно-развлекательных.
10. Популярные блюда местной кухни.

Каждый раздел включает:

- предтекстовое задание;
- текст для чтения;
- послетекстовые задания:
 - а) на проверку понимания основного содержания прочитанного, выделение основных фактов, определение темы и идеи текста;
 - б) на проверку понимания деталей, усвоение новой лексики;
 - в) творческие задания, побуждающие учащихся к устному и письменному высказыванию.

Заканчивается спецкурс ролевой игрой под условным названием „Пресс-конференция“ в разделе „Мой родной край“. Учащимся предлагается ответить на вопросы зарубежных гостей, посетивших их ре-

гион (область, край). Класс предварительно делится на „гостей“ и „хозяев“. Роли для гостей и хозяев самые разнообразные: мэр города, губернатор, депутат думы, политический обозреватель местной газеты, журналист местного телевидения, ученые, артисты, преподаватели школ и вузов, бизнесмены, руководители государственных предприятий, заводов, фермеры и т. д.

Принципы построения спецкурса

1. сознательность в изучении языковых и речевых особенностей иностранного языка с опорой на родной язык;
2. посильность учебного материала, что проявляется в строгом дозировании и поэтапности формирования навыков и умений;
3. активность учащихся в процессе выполнения учебных (проблемных и проектных) заданий, инициатива учащихся в поиске правильного решения;
4. достоверность содержания обучения, а также его наглядность за счет использования местной прессы, региональных и личных фотоматериалов, архивов и библиотечных фондов;
5. образовательная и воспитательная ценность содержания предлагаемых упражнений и заданий;
6. междисциплинарность (интегрированность) в отборе учебного материала.

Материалы прошли проверку в школах и получили одобрение детей и учителей.

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Unit 1. Zabaikalsky Krai. How does it measure up?

Warm-up

1a Nowadays Zabaikalsky Krai attracts lots of foreigners though the distance from Chita to Moscow is 6.704 km.

- Do you want to know why?
- Do you want to know anything about this part of Russia? Why? / Why not?

1b Read Chekhov's words and say if he was right.

In Zabaikalye I found all I wanted: the Caucasus, the Psla valley, Zvenigorod district and the Don. In the afternoon you rode in the Caucasus, at night you were in the Don steppe, and in the morning I found myself in Poltava province.

Anton Chekhov

Reading

2a You are going to read a text called Zabaikalsky Krai. Tick (✓) the things you think this text will talk about. List the topics in order of importance from the point of view of a foreigner.

- ☐ mineral springs and health resorts;
- ☐ mineral resources and opportunity for investment;
- ☐ local nature;
- ☐ tourism and eco-tourism.

2b Read the text and find the key sentences. Do the task given below.

The civilised world learned of our region only in the 17th century. Naturally, there was no such name as Zabaikalsky Krai at the time. With superstitious fear, those living in European Russia referred to the territory beyond the Urals as "Eastern Tataria". In fact, for a long time Europe showed little interest in the unexplored territories.

But in the region beyond Lake Baikal people have been living from time immemorial. The whole of the Transbaikal Region was discovered over the course of centuries. Through the 19th century the region continued to develop, pushing further its extensive boundaries.

Vocabulary

unexplored — неисследованный

boundary — граница

latitude — широта



Vocabulary

mountain ranges — горные

цепи;

conifer forests — хвойные

леса;

rolling steppes — холмистые

степи

In 1851, the Transbaikal Region was created as a new administrative territory. Time passed. The latest changes have been made on March 1, 2008. Now it is named Zabaikalsky Krai and it includes the Chita Region and the Aginsk Buryat Autonomous Okrug.

Zabaikalsky Krai is located in southeastern Siberia, in Zabaikalye Region, a territory beyond Lake Baikal, and occupies an area of 431,500 sq. km, or 2,5% of the total area of Russia. The area of the region is twice as large as England and almost as large as Italy and Greece taken together. It is located between 49 and 59° north latitude, i.e. the latitudes of Poland, Great Britain and Canadian Columbia. Stretching 1,000 km north-west and 800 km east-west, Zabaikalsky Krai borders the Buryat Republic and the Irkutsk Region to the west and north-west, the Yakutia-Sakha Republic to the northeast, and the Amur Region to the east. Zabaikalsky Krai is the link between Siberia and the Russian Far East.

Chita is 6,704 km away from Moscow.

The population of Zabaikalsky Krai totals approximately 1,3 mln people. Zabaikalye is inhabited by various ethnic groups: Russians, Ukrainians, Buryats, Evenks, Tatars, Jews, Germans. Experience of co-operation and mutual assistance created a special social situation based on friendship and mutual respect.

- **Tick the statements as true or false.**

	True	False
1. In the region beyond Lake Baikal people have been living from time immemorial.		
2. Europe showed great interest in the unexplored territories.		
3. Zabaikalsky Krai is located in north-eastern Siberia.		
4. Zabaikalye is inhabited by numerous ethnic groups.		

2c Look through the following text and find the words and expressions describing the climate of the region. Answer the questions given below.

Zabaikalsky Krai is composed of mountain ranges, conifer forests and rolling steppes. The dominating relief is moderately high asymmetrical mountain ranges running in the northeasterly direction — the Yablonovy, Chersky, Malkhansky, Argunsky, and Gazimuro-Ononsky ranges.

In the southwest and north of the region the mountain peaks reach 2,000–2,500 m high. The highest point is peak BAM (3,070 m) in the Kodar mountains in the north of the region.

Local inhabitants call a mountainous ridge a “sopka” and a valley between mountains a “pad”. Pads range from 700–1200 m high, and only to the south, near the border Onon Plain, do they fall to 300–500 m in height.

Zabaikalsky Krai is located in remote Asia, thousands of kilometres away from the ocean. It has a severe climate. Freezing temperatures of –40 °C are common throughout the region, but the heat of +35° occurs in July even in the northern districts. Winters are severe and long; they usually begin in October and last until April. The frost-free period is not more than 100 days. At the same time Zabaikalye is one of the most generous places in Russia in terms of sunny days: the sun shines in cloudless skies for more than 200 days a year.



Vocabulary

watershed — водораздел
confluence — слияние рек
glacial origin — ледниковое происхождение
tectonic origin — тектоническое происхождение
silt — ил, грязь
chink — скважина



Answer the following questions:

1. What is Zabaikalsky Krai composed of?
2. What is the highest point?
3. What do local people call mountains and the valley between them?
4. Why is Zabaikalye compared with Russian subtropics?

2d Read the text and ask questions about it.

Use: 1) Are...? 2) What...? 3) ...or...? 4) ..., ..., isn't it?

Within the region is located the watershed divide between Lake Baikal, the Lena River (flowing north to the Arctic Ocean), and the Amur River (flowing east to the Pacific). The Great Amur River begins from the confluence of the Shilka River (560 km) in the frontier, and the Argun River (100 km) in the east of the region. The main river in the Aginsk steppes is the Onon (1032 km), and in the north is the Vitim (960 km).

There are many lakes in the region, more than 10 of them have water tables exceeding 10 sq. km. There are 4 groups of lakes in the region: lakes of glacial origin are in the north (Leprindo, Nichatka, Davaochan, Leprindocan), lakes of tectonic origin are near Chita (Lake Arakhley, the Ivan Lake, Lake Kenon), mineralised lakes are to the south (Lake Arey), and lakes occupying ancient water basins (Zoon-Torey, Barun-Torey). Many lakes can be used for balneological treatment. Lake Arey located 250 km from Chita is famous for the medical characteristics of its water, silt and microclimate.

Zabaikalsky Krai is also rich in subterranean waters. Almost all of our towns, many villages and agricultural complexes enjoy clear drinking water. According to the new data of geologists, 3,500 chinks are exploited. The region has 300 mineral springs whose the chemical composition of waters varies (containing radon, magnesium and potassium, iron and hydro carbonate, carbonic acid). Many sanatoriums and health resorts have been built near the mineral springs of Darasun, Kuka, Molokovka, Shivanda, Yamarovka, Yamkun, Urguchan.

Word work

3a Find Russian equivalents to the following expressions.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. ridge | a) хребет, гряда гор |
| 2. rolling steppes | b) ледниковое происхождение |
| 3. conifer forests | c) холмистые степи |
| 4. pad | d) лечение минеральными водами |
| 5. balneological treatment | e) подземные воды |
| 6. glacial origin | f) тектоническое происхождение |
| 7. tectonic origin | g) хвойные леса |
| 8. watershed | h) скважина |
| 9. subterranean waters | i) водораздел |
| 10. chink | j) падь |

3b Group the place names into this table.

<i>borders</i>	
<i>ranges</i>	
<i>rivers</i>	
<i>lakes</i>	
<i>mineral springs</i>	

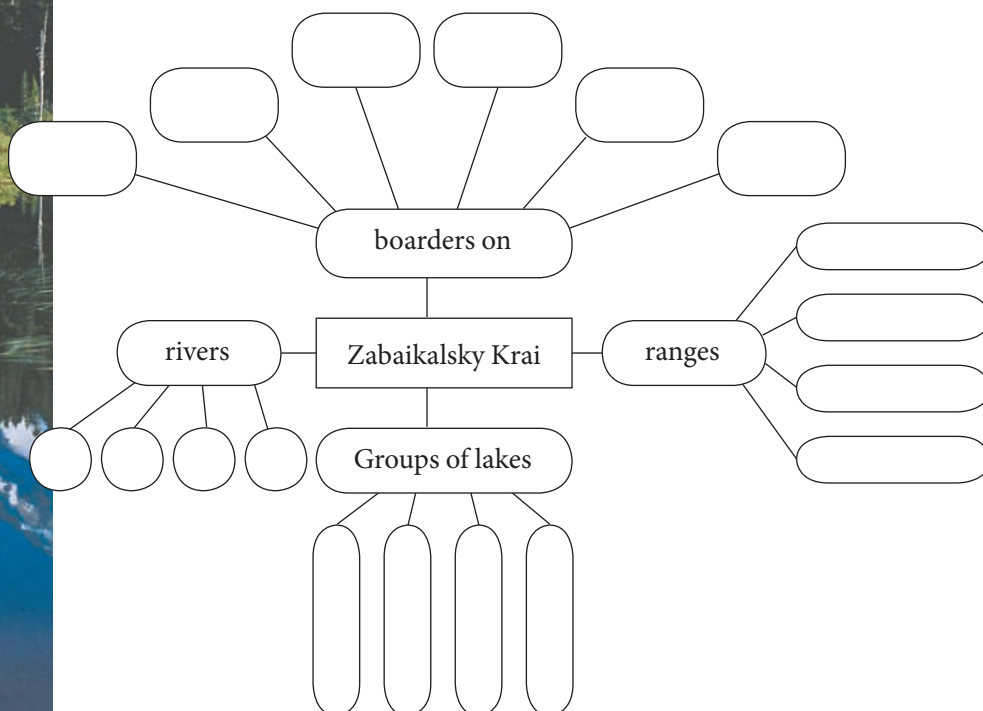


3c Match the groups of lakes with their origin.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| A. lakes of glacial origin | 1. Lake Arakhley, the Ivan Lake, Lake Kenon |
| B. lakes of tectonic origin | 2. Arey |
| C. mineralised lakes | 3. Leprindo, Nichatka |
| D. lakes occupying ancient basins | 4. Zoon-Torey, Barun-Torey |

A	B	C	D

3d Make a word web to summarize the information about Zabaikalsky Krai.



Role-play

- 4** Imagine that English-speaking visitors are coming to your school. Answer their questions.

Writing

- 5** Compose a page-long leaflet presenting your native place. Illustrate it with maps and pictures.



Vocabulary

bronchitis — бронхит
emphysema — эмфизема
pneumonia — пневмония



Vocabulary

acute — острый
sewage — нечистоты
copper — медь

Unit 2. Environmental problems

Warm-up

1a Read the poem below

Hug the Earth

The Earth is a garden.
 It's a beautiful place
 For all living creatures,
 For all the human race.

Helping Mother Earth
 We can peacefully roam
 We all deserve a place
 We can call our home.

Lorraine Bayes

- What does this poem speak about?

1b Can you call your region a beautiful garden? Explain your opinion.

Reading

2a Read the texts about the ecology of Zabaikalsky Krai and match them with the photos. Find the main idea in each text.

1. The people of our region as well as the whole population of the country are worried about the local environmental problems. Our towns and villages suffer from **air pollution** which affects human health and the environment. Polluted air causes cancer, bronchitis, emphysema, pneumonia and other serious health problems. The sources of air pollution are industrial smokestacks, trucks, cars and buses, burning forests.

The exploitation of the deposits of coal, clay and construction materials made it possible to create first enterprises. A great number of plants and factories appeared. Everybody can see smoke coming out of the chimneys. Everybody has to breathe in tons of harmful substances emitted by these chimneys. Besides enterprises, which pollute the air with by-products of their activity, thousands of automobiles add tons of poison to the atmosphere every day. In fact, transport is one of the main offenders in poisoning the environment. The local newspapers write that the concentration of harmful substances in the air in our towns is over ten times the admissible level.

There are about 3 milliard tons of geological waste in the region: the outskirts of Klichka are polluted with arsenic, Kadala — with lead and cadmium, Shachtominsky — with molybdenum. In 1992 the Russian government disclosed ghastly facts about Baley, a small gold mining town in Zabaikalsky Krai. Baley is better known regionally for being worse than Chernobyl. Radioactive construction materials were used to build houses, nurseries, schools and hospitals and Baley people suffer greatly from it.

2. But the problem doesn't stop there. **The pollution of water** is a very acute problem, too. We have two rivers in Chita — the Chita River and the Ingoda, and the unique lake of Kenon. They are filled with industrial and communal waste. Many years ago people could catch lots of fish in these waters. They could swim in fresh and clean water. But that all is different now. The purification of sewage is difficult because of the shortage of money. Besides, people throw tins and paper into it. Nothing can live or grow in the polluted water now. The water is not blue but brown with rubbish floating in it.

The soil is polluted as far as 70 m deep with sewage, the drinking water in such places contains zinc, copper, manganese, iron. The water in Lake Kenon is considered to be "technical".

Vocabulary

rubbish = **litter** = **garbage** —

мусор

dump — свалка

profit — доход

lungs — легкие

reserve — заказник



3. And one more problem of our towns in recent years has been **rubbish and litter**. For many years we have been throwing things away. Now people have to face facts. 98 % of the rubbish goes into the ground. There are about 500 dumps on the territory of the region now. The reason is the shortage of petrol or money. Very often people leave cans and tins on the pavements.

The Earth's forests are often called "the lungs of the planet". We are proud of our forests but they are in danger. They are becoming smaller and smaller and the situation is growing worse every day. Many companies are cutting down trees in the region to make profits, big areas of forests are burnt.

Everybody knows about the necessity to protect nature. Two state national parks — Sokhondo (1973) and Dauria (1987) and 18 natural reserves (Ivano-Arakhley is international) have been founded in the region.

2b Complete the sentences. Circle the letter of your answer:

1. Text 1 doesn't explain:

- a) what measures should be taken to reduce air pollution
- b) what serious health problems are caused by air pollution
- c) why Baley is compared to Chernobyl

2. Text 2 proves that:

- a) water in Zabaikalye is fresh and clean
- b) the problem of water pollution is acute
- c) there is a lot of fish in our waters

3. Text 3 is about:

- a) forests
- b) animals
- c) garbage

4. Which of the statements according to Text 4 is true?

- a) our forests are in danger
- b) companies take care of our forests
- c) there are no national parks or reserves in Zabaikalye

PRACTICE YOUR GRAMMAR: *Present simple passive* (страдательный залог настоящего времени)

be + V₃ чтобы сказать о предмете (явлении), над которым совершается действие. При переводе используются безличные и неопределенно-личные предложения:

e.g. Air is polluted. — Воздух загрязнен.

Forests are cut down. — Деревья вырубаются.

3 In many schools in Zabaikalsky Krai there are environmental groups, joined to the "Baikal" organisation.

Towns			polluted	
Villages			destroyed	
Health			killed	
People			spoiled	
Rivers	is	(not)	burnt	with...
Rubbish	are		cut down	
Bins			hurt	
Trees			put into water / air / land	
Waste			poisoned	



Speaking

4a Speak about the results of people's influence on the environment using the model.

Model: *People pollute the air. → The air is polluted.*

1. Polluted air causes health problems.
2. We see smoke coming out of chimneys.
3. People breathe in tons of harmful substances.
4. Plants and automobiles add tons of poison to the atmosphere.
5. The Russian government disclosed ghastly facts about Baley.
6. People throw tins and cans into rivers.
7. Many companies cut down trees.

4b Children of our region learn a lot about three R's — reuse, reduce, recycle:

To reuse — to use again

To reduce — to make smaller or less

To recycle — to use after the second remake

What do we usually reuse, reduce, recycle in our region? Make the phrases with the words given below.

reuse
reduce
recycle

cardboard boxes
aluminum
glass
plastics
cans
tins
paper
bottles
energy
water
newspapers

4c Sum up the article from the local newspaper “Zabaikalsky Rabochy” (December 21, 2002):

Загубили Кукинский лес

Какое счастье и гордость за свое Забайкалье испытывал каждый, кто посещал в грибной сезон Кукинский лес. Лес — чистый. Легко ходить и легко дышать. Пенсионеры пополняли свой запас белковой пищей на зиму, молодые ехали набрать грибов, другие везли своих детей, чтобы насладиться природой. Лес — наш кормилец и врачеватель. А что мы увидели в этом году? Лес вырублен. Картина страшная: разрушена грибная подстилка, лес поредел, нарушена природная красота.

Великий Новгород существует 800 лет, а рядом — лесная зона. Там думают о людях и природе.

Лес губят не только в районе Куки. Нет сил переносить это варварство. Пожалуйста, напечатайте нашу боль.

Группа пенсионеров ст. Домна



Vocabulary

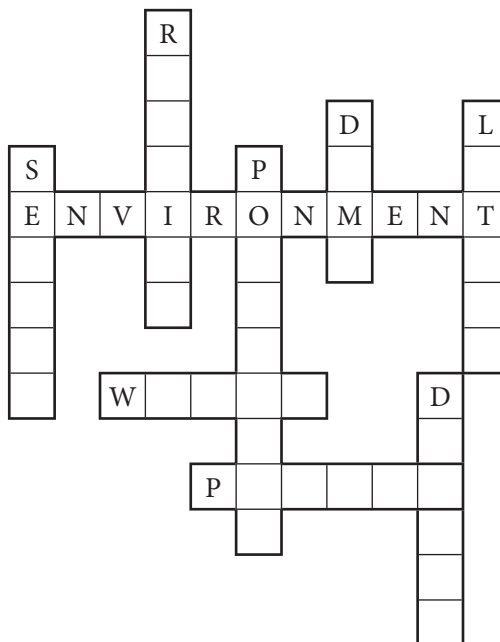
ore — руда
smeltery — плавильный завод
core — ядро, суть
to yield — производить
ingots — слитки
to revitalise — оживить
deposits — залежи
enterprise — предприятие
venture — совместное предприятие
supplier — поставщик

Writing

- 5 Organise your own campaign to save the environment. Use newspapers and posters to draw attention to the ecological problem. Write your own essay.

Vocabulary

- 6 Look through the text and complete the crossword.



Unit 3. Treasure land

Warm-up

- 1 Can you say that our region has a highly developed economy? Give your reasons.

Reading

- 2a Read the text and find the most important mining plants in Zabaikalsky Krai. Why are they important?

Zabaikalsky Krai occupies only 2,5 % of the territory of Russia and its population makes up only 0,9 %, but the region is rich in mineral resources and raw materials. The history of Zabaikalsky Krai is the history of the mining industry of Russia. The region is rich in all the minerals of the Mendeleev periodic table.

The first silver and gold of Russia were extracted from the Trans-Baikal ores. Many districts here are still named after the former smelteries (there were 16 of them) — Alexandrovsky Zavod, Nerchinsky Zavod, Gazimursky Zavod and others. Undoubtedly, the mining industry has been and still is the core of the region's economy. Unfortunately, a lot of mining enterprises stopped their operations including the **Zherekensky** molybdenum plant which used to yield over 2 mln tons of ore a year. The **Petrovsk-Zabaikalsky** plant is developing



Vocabulary

approach — подход
profitable — выгодный
taxes — налоги
revival — возрождение
timber — строевой лес

a programme for metallizing the **Chineiskoe** deposit iron-vanadium concentrate. The **Zabaikalsk** plant has been processing the **Darasunsky** mine-gold-bearing concentrate into ingots. The project with Australian companies is going to revitalise the **Baley** gold-ore deposit. Gold recovery of 80 to 100 grams per ton of ore is absolutely unique — it makes ten times the norm. The **Priargunsky** Production Mining and Chemical Association is the only mining and chemical enterprise in Russia engaged in uranium ore production and processing. It is one of the world's major suppliers of natural uranium.

The Trans-Baikal and East Siberian Railway and Moscow City government are going to develop the **Udokan** copper deposit, one of the largest in the world. Russian-Cyprus Joint Venture "Balgold Ltd." invests in the **Taseev** gold deposit.

2b Match the columns:

Zerekensky plant	iron-vanadium concentrate
Petrovsk-Zabaikalsky plant	molybdenum
Zabaikalsk plant	gold
Baleiskoye plant	uranium
Priargunsky Association	copper
Udokansky plant	

2c Prove that:

1. Zabaikalsky Krai is rich in all minerals of the Mendeleev periodic table.
2. Russian tsars were interested in Siberia and made investments in its development.
3. The Russian government and foreign companies show great interest in Zabaikalye.

2d Do you know how many energy systems and power electric stations there are in Zabaikalsky Krai? Read the text and name them.

Zabaikalsky Krai has well-explored coal deposits, and today supplies coal to four energy systems of the Transbaikal Region and the Russian Far-East. 8 power electric stations operate in Zabaikalsky Krai. The construction of the **Kharanorsk** Hydro-Power station is going on. Its fuel supply (топливо) is based on the local brown coal deposit located 65 km from the station. A high-voltage electric-power line that connects **Gusinoozersk** Hydro-Power station with Petrovsk, Zabaikalsk and Chita is under construction, and later the line Irkutsk — Chita — Zeya will connect all the energy systems of Siberia and the Far East.

2e Complete the sentences using the information you have read.

1. Zabaikalsky Krai supplies coal to
2. In Zabaikalsky Krai ... operate.
3. The construction of ... is going on.
4. A high-voltage power line that connects ... is under construction.
5. ... will connect all the energy systems of Siberia and the Far East.

2f Read the text and find out the information about the unique Trans-Baikal railway and the taiga province.

The Transbaikal Region is a taiga province. Forests cover vast territories. The approach to the usage of taiga timber is gradually changing. It is very simple to export wood to China. It is much more difficult and more profitable to process timber.

The most important part of the regional economy is the Transbaikal road. Its taxes constitute the largest part of the regions and up to 85 % of some



Vocabulary

hay crop — сенокос

pastures — пастбища

output — (производимая)
продукция

crops — зерновые

live stock-farming — живот-
новодство

grain — зерно

pure live stock breeds — каче-
ственный племенной кос-
тяк животноводства

fine-fleece breed of sheep —
тонкорунная овца

districts' budgets. The Transbaikal railway, which is 2,300 km long, is unique. It is there that one of the most important railway corridors to China and one of the two corridors to Mongolia are located.

The local machine-building and machine-tool construction plants, the former giants of the heavy industry, are in the process of revival now.

2g Choose the right sentence and develop the idea adding 1–2 statements.

1. Zabaikalsky Krai is a steppe province.
2. Zabaikalsky Krai is a taiga province.
3. The approach to the usage of the taiga woods is gradually changing.
4. The approach to the usage of the taiga woods remains the same.

2h Give the English equivalents for:

- строевой лес
- лес кругляк
- общий объем
- взаимодействие
- составляет большую часть
- переработать в готовую продукцию

2i Zabaikalsky Krai is an agricultural region. Read the following text and say what made people cultivate the unique transbaikal sheep. Do the task given below.

The area currently used for agricultural purposes in Zabaikalsky Krai totals 8 mln hectares. Hay crops and pastures total 4,9 mln hectares — second in the Russian Federation. Agriculture accounts for 44 % of the region's total output. Crops make up 49 % of the agricultural output, and live stock-farming totals 51 %. On the whole, a high-quality grain fund and pure livestock breeds have been preserved.

Extreme weather conditions of the region made people cultivate a unique transbaikal fine-fleece breed of sheep. The wool of the local sheep competes with Australian.

In 1998 the Ministry of Agriculture of the United States and several American companies showed interest in buying wool from Zabaikalsky Krai.

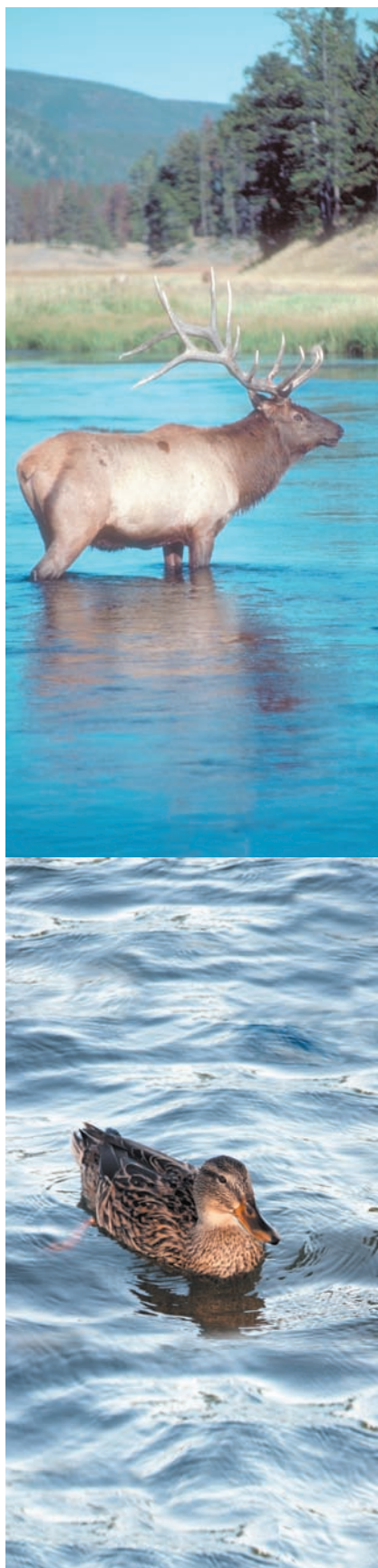
The hunting trade is developed in half of the districts of the region.

The restoration of the food industry requires the revival of dairy and live stock farming as well as the development of cattle and pork type swine breeding. Both require state subsidies.

To our great regret, we didn't manage to create a free economic zone in the Transbaikal Region. But local people do not lose hope for change. We have already finished the construction of the border check-post Zabaikalsk-Manchzhuria and we have created a free trade zone with China, one of the first in Russia.

• Find the answers in the information you've just read.

1. How large is the area for agriculture?
2. Why is Zabaikalsky Krai the second in the Russian Federation for hay crops and pastures?
3. What made people cultivate the unique transbaikal sheep?



4. Who showed interest in buying Zabaikalsky Krai wool?
5. What trade is developed in half of the districts of Zabaikalsky Krai?
6. What are the people of Zabaikalsky Krai proud of?

Word work

3a Are you good at learning new words? In the space after each expression in column 1, write the letter of the similar expression in column 2.

Column 1

1. smeltery... *D*
2. to yield...
3. ingots....
4. to revitalise...
5. deposit...
6. enterprise...
7. revival...
8. live-stock farming...
9. crops...
10. pasture...

Column 2

- A. to produce, to give a natural product
- B. venture
- C. animals kept on the farm
- D. a plant to separate metal from ore
- E. a piece of metal (gold or silver)
- F. to give a new life
- G. layer of matter deposited
- H. return to life
- I. farm products grown or harvested
- J. a field of grass for feeding animals

3b What words characterise Zabaikalsky Krai's economy? Find some of these words in the word puzzle.

e c o n o m y u n i q
o o r j h d x c c x u
s m e l t e r y o o e
d o n x t p y i n g o
o u t p u o j e a l t
o v e n g s l l r s s
w s r t o i k d e i o
o l p u l t m l n l a
r a r r d a i g a v e
k o i e i n d u s t r
s c s e g r a i n o y

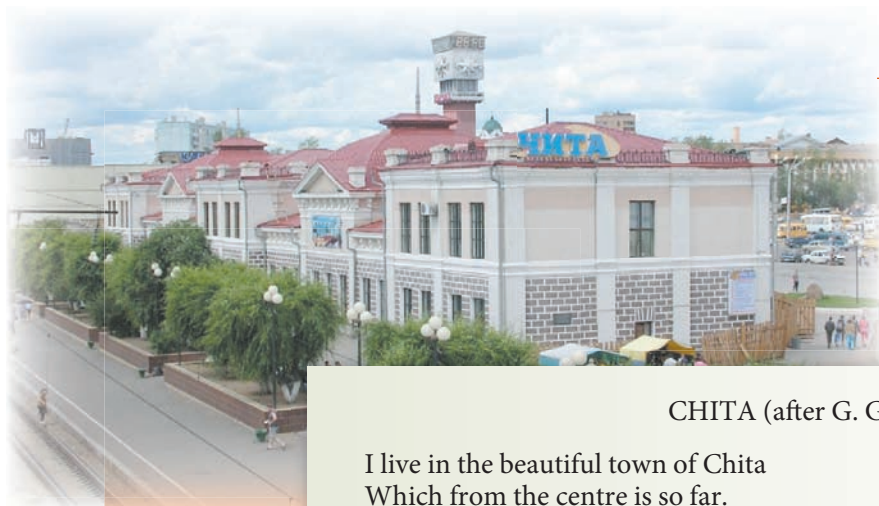
Speaking

4 Work in small groups and:

1. Prove to a Russian or foreign company that it is profitable to invest in Zabaikalye.
2. Give suggestions to local authorities about the development of your region.

Writing

5 Write an article to a local newspaper about the development of the regional economy.



Chita
Railway Station

Unit 4. We pay tribute to them

Warm-up

The history of a small town of Chita was the history of the whole country.

P. A. Kropotkin

CHITA (after G. Graubin)

I live in the beautiful town of Chita
Which from the centre is so far.
The trees here are wonderfully tall,
And winters here are so long
Just in summer spring takes its turn.

It's a pity autumn is very short,
But is so colorful and even hot.
In long speeches people find no need
They are famous for their deeds.
(*K. Bekisheva, 10th form pupil, School 49*)

1 Answer the questions.

- Have you ever been to the capital of Zabaikalsky Krai?
- Is it interesting for you to know the way Chita turned out to be the capital?

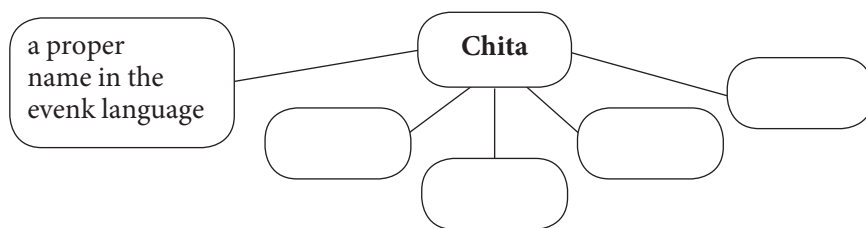
Reading

2a Read the information and find out the theories as to where the name "Chita" comes from.

There are many theories but now it's clear that the name of the river and the town is of local origin:

- the town got its name from the evenk proper name **Chita**
- the evenk word **chata** means *clay*
- the evenk word **chate** means *black soil-coal*
- orochen **chita** means *beresta*
- uigursk **chit** means *housing, water*
- nivkhv word means *well*.

- Complete the word web about the origin of the word "Chita":



2b Read the text and learn the beginning of the history of Chita. Do the task given below.

Chita was founded in 1653 by Pyotr Beketov on the banks of the river Chita for his cossack detachment. First, this settlement was named **Plotbische** with only 6 houses in it. Later in 1687 Chita was mentioned as **New Sloboda** and some specialists consider 1687 the year of Chita's foundation. At the beginning of the 18th century Sloboda was renamed **Ostrog**. From 1721 a lot of state criminals were exiled from Russia to Siberia, to Dauri, the silver plants. All



Glossary

detachment — отряд
highway — тракт



Vocabulary

uprising — восстание

exile — ссылка, ссыльный

God-forsaken place — богом забытое место

corporal punishment — телесное наказание

to abolish — отменить

to compile — составить



On July 11, 1851 Chita became the centre of Zabaikalskaya Oblast. According to the decree of Peter the First, every town had to have its own coat of arms. "A small front garden with greenery and a buffalo's head above his silver eyes and tongue in a golden coat of arms field..."

That is Chita's coat of arms.

of them went through Chita along Moscow Highway and Great Siberian Highway. In 1797 Chitinsky Ostrog became a settlement officially.

• **Find answers to the questions in the text above:**

1. What are the two most important dates of Chita's foundation?
2. What was the very first name of the capital of the region?
3. What was its second name?
4. Why was Sloboda renamed Ostrog?

2c Everybody knows the romantic legend about the Decembrists and their devoted wives. Read the text to learn about the role of the Decembrists in the cultural life of the local community. Do the task given below.

The failed uprising of December 14, 1825 in St Petersburg resulted in the exile of 82 revolutionaries or *Decembrists* as they came to be known to Zabaikalsky Krai to build new prisons and work at the Nerchinsk silver mines. Some of the exiles were followed by their wives to that god-forsaken place of Russia, leaving their riches, noble titles and even their children behind. The majority of the exiles was well-educated and did much to raise the cultural and educational level of the local community.

The Decembrists organised a school for the children of peasants, workers and cossacks. Corporal punishment was abolished and religion was not a compulsory subject. They designed textbooks for different subjects. They organised a hospital where treatment was free of charge. The Decembrists gave local people seeds and taught them to cultivate vegetables. They did research on the native flora and fauna, compiled a Russian-Buryat dictionary and published a newspaper. The Decembrists were the first to construct roads and erect two-storey houses in Chita. They planned the streets of our town, that's why they're long, wide and straight like those in their native Petersburg.

• **Tick off (✓) the right sentence.**

1. The failed uprising of December 14, 1825 in St Petersburg resulted in the exile of 82 revolutionaries to Zabaikalsky Krai. ☐
2. The Decembrists' wives followed their husbands, leaving their riches and titles behind. ☐
3. The Decembrists organised a school for their children. ☐
4. Corporal punishment was abolished. ☐
5. They designed textbooks. ☐
6. The wives compiled a Russian-Buryat dictionary. ☐
7. They were the first to construct roads and two-storey houses. ☐



Vocabulary

supporter — сторонник
white guards — белогвардейцы
sufferings — страдания
hardware — товары
proximity — близость
to regain — восстановить



2d It is known that the development of industry influences the well-being of people. Read the text and prove that industry in Chita began to develop with the functioning of the Great Siberian railway. Follow the role of Chita during the revolutionary, war and post-war periods. Do the task given below.

At the beginning of 1858 the first plants and works began to appear in Chita. In 1899 the first train arrived in Chita and the first telephone rang the same year. And yet at the beginning of the 20th century Chita was a small wooden town with sandy dirty streets — industry began to develop with the functioning of the Great Siberian railway.

The revolutionary events of 1905–1907, 1917 found their supporters in Chita, too. But the white guards and the foreign intervention brought great sufferings to the people. The Far East Republic became part of Russia only in November, 1922.

During World War II Chita, like many Siberian cities, provided the front with tanks, trucks and military hardware.

After the war, Chita was closed to foreigners because of its military industries and proximity to the Chinese border. Today, Chita (population 379,000) has opened its doors once again and is eager to regain its international status. Sister city relationships have been established with Boise, Idaho and Chita, Japan.

• Complete the sentences.

1. 1858 is the year when the first ... began to appear.
2. Industry began to develop ... in Chita.
3. The first train arrived in Chita in
4. Great sufferings were brought to ... by
5. During World War II Chita provided the front with
6. After the war, Chita was closed to foreigners because of

Speaking

3a Say what events in the history of Chita the following dates are connected with.

1653 1687 1721 1797 1851 1858 1899

3b Develop P. A. Kropotkin's idea: "The history of a small town of Chita was the history of the whole country".

P. A. Kropotkin (1842–1921) — a Russian revolutionary, anarchist, geographer, geologist, sociologist. He was born in the family of a general, a rich landowner, but broke off ties with his family. From 1862 to 1867 he lived and worked in Zabaikalsky Krai.

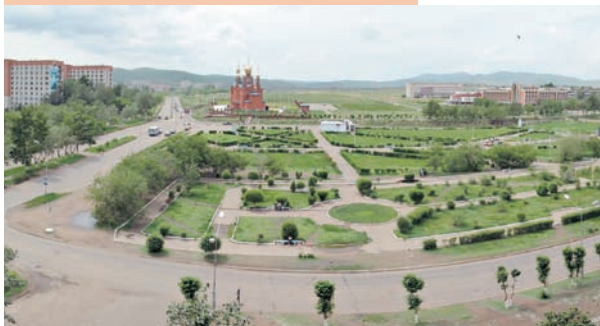


Reading

- 4 When travelling, it's very easy to talk to fellow passengers, isn't it? Read the *Dialogue in a train* and learn some facts about a few towns in Zabaikalsky Krai. What are they famous for? Why were they founded?

Dialogue in a train

- Hi! Where are you travelling to?
 — To Chita. It's my home town.
 — Really? I know Chita is the capital of the region. What other towns are important there?
 — The oldest town in Zabaikalye is Nerchinsk. Pyotr Beketov's cossacks founded Nerchinsky Ostrog. By the end of the century Nerchinsk was the capital of East Zabaikalye.
 — Really? Why?
 — You see, the trade with China was going through Nerchinsk, later the Mining industry began its development. Nerchinsk played a very important role in the military, political and economic life of the region. In 1689 the Treaty of Nerchinsk was concluded to define relations between Russia and the Manchzhuria Tsing Empire.
 — How interesting! I didn't know that.
 — But we live here and should know the history of our native land.
 — I heard that the Decembrists lived in this town. Am I right?
 — Yes, in 1830 the Decembrists were sent from Chita to Petrovsk-Zabaikalsky.
 — What is Shilka famous for? We are passing this station now... Look out of the window.
 — Oh, Shilka was founded in 1897 as a transport settlement on the railway, later it became famous all over the country for its prisons: Akatuevskaya, Kadainskaya, Gorno-Zerentuiskaya... where political exiles served their terms.
 — Oh. Exiles worked in mines, didn't they?
 — Yes, Baley with its gold and silver deposits proves the fact. And Krasnokamensk, though a very young town founded in 1969, is famous for its uranium ore production in the country.
 — Great! I've learnt a lot about my country during this trip. Thank you very much.



Krasnokamensk



Krasnokamensk



1. Sretensk



4. Borzya



2. Nerchinsk



5. Aginskoye



3. Shilka



6. Krasnokamensk



7. Petrovsk-Zabaikalsky

Speaking

- 5 Find the coat of arms of the place you live in.

Speak about one of the regional towns. You can make a leaflet or a poster devoted to the towns of Zabaikalsky Krai. Prove that people should know as much as possible about small towns and villages of Russia because it is the history of the whole country.

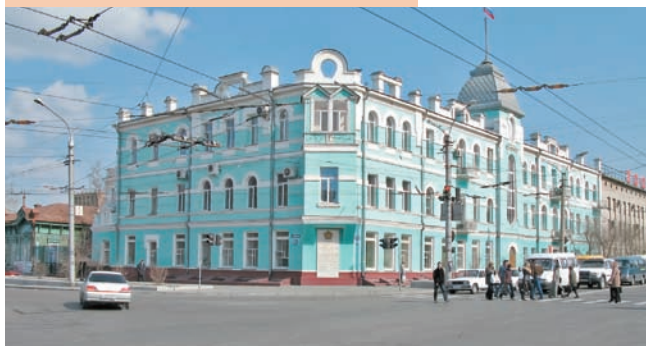
Unit 5. Around my town

Warm-up

- 1 You are welcome to explore Chita. Have you visited it or do you live in it? What sights would you like to visit?

Reading

- 2a Read the text and decide which place of interest you would like to go to and why. Find three sights to describe.



Regional Administration Building



The Pushkin Library

Chita was founded by Peter Beketov 400 years ago and at present is a big modern city surrounded by pine-covered mountains. We can enjoy the most beautiful view of the city from Titov Hill. Chita is a pleasure to walk around. The heart of the city is **Lenin Square**, former Cathedral Square. The Square is the place where different meetings, festivals and demonstrations take place. It is the favourite place of rest for the citizens of Chita. The square looks really beautiful in spring and summer when acacias are in full bloom. On the left of the square is the *Regional Administration Building*, constructed in 1972–1973. On the opposite side of the square is the *Headquarters of the Siberia Military District*. On the right of the square we can see the *Zabaikalye Railway* and *Hotel Zabaikalye*. A church is situated opposite the *Recreation Centre “Rodina”*. The next building on the right houses the *City Administration*. Next to it is a two-storey wooden building, the general *post-office*. It is one of the most prominent architectural monuments in Chita. Built in 1893 it is the only building in Chita which still fulfills its functions.

The most important square in Chita is named after the Decembrists. *The Pushkin Library* is situated in **Decembrists Square**. The beautiful library has thousands of books, magazines and newspapers in more than 40 languages.

Another square is **Revolution Square**. *The Monument to the Heroes of the Civil War* was unveiled in this square in 1977.

- 2b Underline the right variant.

- A church is situated **opposite** / **behind** the Recreation Centre “Rodina”.
- On the right** / **left** of “Rodina” we can see the City Administration.
- Next to** / **opposite** the City Administration is a post-office.
- On the left of** / **opposite** the post-office is the Staff Headquarters of the Siberia Military District.

- 2c Match the following sights to the square they are located in.

Lenin Square	the Pushkin Library
	the Regional Administration
Decembrists Square	the Monument to the Heroes of the Civil War
Revolution Square	the Staff Headquarters of the SMD

Vocabulary
to be abundant — иметься в изобилии
to trace — прослеживать

Vocabulary

rifle — ружье

to remind — напоминать

to pay tribute — отдать должное

bas-relief — барельеф

rear — тыл

to revere — чтить

2d Read the text and do the task below.

The **Monument to the Heroes of the Civil War** represents a soldier of the Red Army and a worker with rifles in their hands and a red peasant partisan between them. The monument reminds us of the war against the white guards and interventionists of 1918–1920.

The **Monument at the foot of Titov Hill** pays tribute to the revolutionaries of 1905–1907. The revolutionaries Stolyarov, Kostyushko-Grigorovich and others were shot in that place by gendarmes in 1906. There is an obelisk decorated with bas-reliefs representing the portraits of the revolutionaries.

Every year on May, 9 people go to Victory Park to celebrate Victory Day. The names of the soldiers from Zabaikalye who died for the freedom of the country during the Great Patriotic War are written on the stone walls of the Memorial. The magnificent group sculpture symbolizes the unity of the front, the rear and the guerrilla movement.

• Guess the monument.

- The names of the heroes are written on the stone walls of the Memorial;
- It was opened in 1977;
- It portrays revolutionaries;
- It represents a soldier of the Red Army, a worker and a red peasant guerrilla.



The Memorial Complex



The Monument to the Heroes of the Civil War

2e Read the text and do the task below.

The **Chita Regional National History Museum** named after A. K. Kuznetsov is one of the oldest museums in Siberia and the Far East. The museum contains a unique collection in archeology, ethnography and history describing the culture of Zabaikalye. The museum contains many documentary monuments of the 18–20th centuries. Today the museum has 5 scientific departments and a large library. Its visitors can learn a lot about the flora and fauna history of Zabaikalsky Krai.

The **Geological Museum** exhibits a rich collection of precious stones and minerals which are abundant in Zabaikalye.

The building of the **Fine Arts Museum** is a fine example of modern architecture. Each year many exhibitions of local artists as well as artists from the whole of Russia are held in the museum.

The **Military Museum** traces the history of the military in Zabaikalye, from the Cossack troops who founded the first fort on the way to Afghanistan and Chechnya. The museum is housed in the Russian Army Officers' Club. This building is one of the city's main attractions.

On the top of the building you can see a sculpture group which symbolizes the unity of the army and the people. Behind the Club there is a small park. About 6,000 trees are planted here.



The Chita Regional National History Museum

Vocabulary

to strike — поражать

to gaze — смотреть пристально

- Describe one of the museums. Use the word *exhibit* as a verb and as a noun.

Model: *The Chita Regional National History Museum exhibits a unique archeological collection. It has many exhibits on ethnography.*

Name	Special features
The Chita Regional National History Museum	
The Geological Museum	
The Fine Arts Museum	
The Military Museum	

2f Read the text and do the task below.

Visitors to Chita are struck by its varied architectural styles. The houses built in modern style stand next to old buildings. The only monument of the 18th century in Chita is the **Decembrists Church**. It was built of wood in 1771 as Mikhailovo-Arkhangelskaya Church. It is quite original because it combines modern and ancient architectural details. Decembrists and their wives attended the church. Polina Gebl and Ivan Annenkov, Dmitri Zavalishin and Appolinariya Smolyaninova were married in this church. Nowadays the church is the Decembrists' Museum.

A fine example of baroque architecture is the building at the corner of Lenin and Osipenko Streets, with white angels gazing down. It was constructed between 1912–1914 and used to be called **Shumov's Palace**.

- Say whether the statements are true or false.

- The Decembrists Church was made out of wood.
- The Decembrists Church is an example of baroque architecture.
- Nowadays the Decembrists Church acts as the Mikhailovo-Arkhangelskaya Church.
- Shumov's Palace was built in 1890.
- The former Shumov's Palace is situated at the corner of Lenin and Osipenko streets.

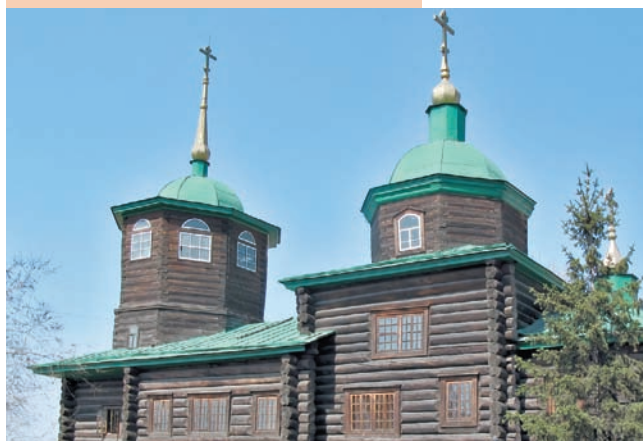
Speaking

- 3a** Work in pairs. Look at the map of the central part of Chita.

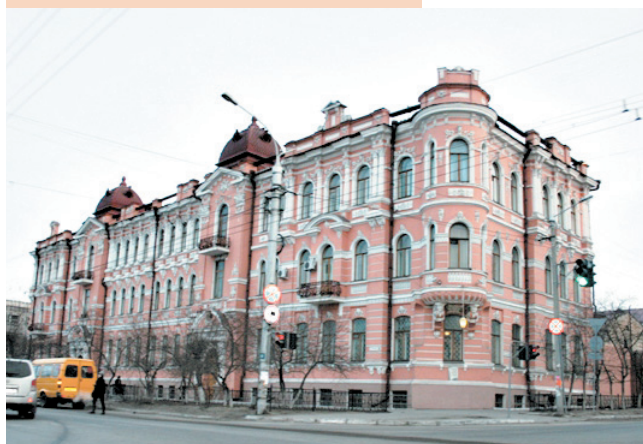
- Find the places of interest mentioned in the text.
- Take turns asking for and giving directions to these places from the hotel.

- 3b** Work in pairs or small groups. Imagine that a group of young people are coming on a 3–4 day visit to your native city.

- Make a plan of their tour of Chita.
- Display the plans and vote for the best one.



The Decembrists Church



Shumov's Palace

Unit 6. They glorify our land

Warm-up

- 1 Who can be called a famous person? What makes a person well-known?

Reading

2a Read the text and answer the questions.

- Why is the name of B. I. Kouzник associated with medicine in Zabaikalye?
- What famous scientists worked in Zabaikalye and contributed greatly to the economic development of the region?

The pride of any country is its people. Russia has always been proud of its scientists, musicians, actors, writers, sportsmen. Zabaikalsky Krai can boast of many people who brought fame to Russian science, culture and sport.

The name of **Boris I. Kouzник** is known not only in the region, but in many countries of the world. Professor B. I. Kouzник devoted all his life to the development of medicine and training medical specialists in Zabaikalye. He is the author of more than 500 works on medical problems. B. I. Kouzник is Chairman of the Chita Department of the Russian Mercy and Health Fund, and many people are thankful to him for his help. His motto in life is honesty, kindness and tolerance.

Such world famous scientists as **V. A. Obruchev**, **V. I. Vernadsky**, **A. E. Fersman** and **S. S. Smirnov** contributed much to the economic development of our region, their names are associated with the discovery of mineral resources in Zabaikalsky Krai. You know that the region is rich in all the minerals of the Mendeleev periodic table.

2b Read the text and get ready to speak about Chita's professional writers' association of.

The professional writers' association of the Chita Department of the Russian writers' association appeared in 1949. The names of O. Khavkin, K. Sedykh (novel "Dauria"), V. Lavrinaitis, Zh. Baldanzhabon, N. Yaschenko, N. Kuzakov, E. Kurennoy, E. Stephanovich, G. Graubin and many others are dear to the people of Zabaikalye.

Georgy R. Graubin was born in 1929 in a small village of the Chita Region and all his life is connected with Zabaikalye. G. Graubin is the author of more than 50 books, among them are such well-known works as "Four-Storey Taiga" and "Silver Trap". "Four-Storeyed Taiga" tells the readers about the wonders of Siberian nature and wildlife. It's one of his most popular books. "Silver Trap" is a historical narration on Zabaikalye. If you are interested in the history of our region you should read this novel. But G. Graubin is better known as children's writer, his books are published in Irkutsk, Novosibirsk, Moscow. Many of his poems are included in textbooks on the Russian language, as well as ABC-books.

We are delighted with our composers who popularize art and promote culture in our region, who glorify Zabaikalye. They are A. Vasilkovsky, P. Zubarev, D. Gendeleev, V. Volkov, L. Averyanov. Both the old and young sing their wonderful songs "Good morning, Chita", "Alyonushka", "Zabaikalye Birches", "Touch-me-not" and many others.

Vasily N. Volkov, a well-known composer is Head of the Chita State Philharmonic. He is the author of more than 50 songs and several ballads.





Leonid G. Averyanov is Director of the Composers' Department of the Regional Centre of Folk Art and Leisure.

Probably not many of you know that **Oleg Loundstrem**, the leader of the oldest jazz band in the world was born in Chita. O. Loundstrem's jazz band was a participant of many international jazz festivals: "Tallin-67", "Jazz Jemborry-72" in Warsaw, the festival of big-bands "Jmatra-92" in Finland, a festival in Santa-Barbara in 1998. O. Loundstrem was called "The Jazz King".

Speaking of art, we think of our famous painters V. J. Forov, I. J. Schplatov, B. A. Kalashnikov, L. C. Ryzhov, P. Tsymbalo, J. B. Blokhin, V. Romanov. All genres are represented in the works of our painters (landscape, portrait painting etc).

The people of Zabaikalye are proud of their fellow-countrymen Yury and Vitaly Solomin, Alexander Mikhailov — outstanding public figures of the theatre and cinema.



- Prove that our composers and musicians glorify the native place.

2c Try to answer the following questions.

1. Why is G. Graubin considered to be a children's writer?
2. What film was based on K. Sedikh's novel?
3. Whose trilogy is successfully staged in our drama theatre?
4. How often did O. Loundstrem come to his native city?
5. When did A. Mikhailov come to Chita?

2d Read the poem. Can you find the Russian variant of it?

My Native Chita

Try to find a town on the planet
Which has always been in my heart
I'll tell you about it now
You know it's the best, it's so smart.

Despite the cold climate in winter
You can grow flowers and wheat
I'll tell you about it now
We know it's the best, it's so sweet.

Chorus: So secret and bright is your beautiful star
My town, my town, my native Chita.
We love you and admire your good people
They are as proud as eagles.
My town, my town
My town, my native Chita.

(Translated by Y. Kukushkina
Form 10, school 49
after G. Graubin)



Vitaly and Yury Solomins

Vocabulary

Щепкинское училище — the Shepkin theatre school

одобрить чье-либо решение — approve of one's decision

заноза — splinter

судьба — fate

2e Read the following passage from the local newspaper "Zabaikalsky Rabochy" (No 157, August 18, 2001) and sum it up in English.

Уже в 10 классе я [Юрий Соломин] точно знал, что хочу учиться только в Щепкинском училище. Почему именно там? Лет в 14 в нашем кинотеатре „Пионер“, куда я ходил постоянно, увидел документальный фильм „Малый театр и его мастера“, снятый к 125-летию Малого театра. Я ходил на него снова и снова, смотрел его дикое количество раз. Там играли любимые и известные по кино актеры: Ильинский, Царев, Жаров, Турчанинова... От этого созвездия кружилась голова. Потрясенный, я мечтал только об этом театре. Мама мое решение не одобряла — она мечтала, чтобы я стал хирургом, может быть потому, что я умел очень ловко вынимать занозы. Отец же меня поддержал. После школы я отправил все документы, даже не сняв копий, в Москву, в Щепкинское училище. И они не затерялись. Наверное, это судьба.

Speaking

3a Agree or disagree with the following statements. Give your arguments.

1. L. Averyanov specializes in folklore.
2. The people of Zabaikalye know nothing of O. Loundstrem.
3. O. Loundstrem is the leader of the oldest jazz band in the world.
4. The composers of Zabaikalye glorify their region.

3b Learn and role-play the following conversation:

- I say, what about going to the theatre tonight?
- Why not?
- I have spare ticket for the evening performance. Would you like to come?
- Sure. What's on?
- "The Love of Shamanka" by N. Kuzakov.
- Oh, great! I'd love to see it. I know that his trilogy is a great success in our theatre.

3c Read the text and do the tasks given below.

And what about sports? In 1968 **Lyudmila Titova** won a gold medal in ice-skating at the 10th Winter Olympic Games, in 1972 **R. Dmitriev** won a gold medal in classical wrestling (heavy athletics).

Thus we can say that it is people and their deeds that bring fame to their region and Motherland.

- If you look around, you'll see that there are many other people who really deserve to be called famous. Can you say why?
- Arrange Sports Day at your school. What well-known sportsmen would you like to invite to it? What questions would you ask?

Writing

4 There are many people who really deserve to be called famous. Find some additional information about these people and write an article to a local newspaper.

Use the plan:

- where and when the person was born;
- what influenced his choice of career;

- his contribution to the development of our region;
- your attitude towards him;
- why you think he sets a good example to other people.



Unit 7. "Only the educated are free" (Epictetus)

Warm-up

- 1 Do you agree with the following saying? Why / Why not?
"A little learning is a dangerous thing."

Reading

- 2a Read the text and do the tasks given below.

Zabaikalsky Krai has a highly developed system of educational establishments including institutions of higher education, vocational schools, colleges and secondary schools. More than 287 thousand people or 22,3 % of the population study in the educational establishments of the region. The total number of schools is 702. There are 76 schools and 216 classes in the region specializing in different subjects. Today *multi-profile schools* are very popular in Chita. Such schools are at Teacher-Training University, Technical University, at the Institute of Railway Transport Engineers. Unique educational complexes have been created in our region: *an Agro School* in Krasny Chikoy and *a social pedagogical complex* in Novopavlovka. Chita's Teacher-Training College has opened two private schools.

Besides schools, people can get secondary education at **technical schools and colleges**. There are 22 secondary technical schools training students in various trades. Schools provide good facilities for students to participate in sports, drama, art or music clubs. Schools have stadiums, swimming pools and gyms. The Recreation Centres and the Drama Theatres offer a great number of different activities.

The most popular colleges in Chita are: the Teacher-Training College, the Regional Medical College, the College of Agriculture, the College of Railway Transport, the Technical College of Industrial Technologies and Business, the Musical College. There are good vocational schools in such large regional centres as Borzlya, Krasnokamensk, Baley, Nerchinsk, Sretensk and Petrovsk-Zabaikalsk.

- **Finish the sentence.**

The text doesn't inform the reader about:

- a) establishments of education;
- b) higher educational institutions;
- c) multi-profile schools.

- **Ask your classmates:**

- a) what schools one can study at;
- b) where children can get secondary education;
- c) what out-of-class activities students can be involved in.

- **Answer the question.**

Do you think there are enough educational institutions to train qualified specialists for our region?

Vocabulary

vocational school — техническое училище

establishment — учреждение

to implement — выполнять

facilities — оборудование

teacher training college — педагогическое училище

Vocabulary

to be fortunate — иметь счастье

PhD holders — доктора и кандидаты наук

to be engaged in research — заниматься наукой



Zabaikalsky State Teacher-Training University



The State Medical Academy

2b Read the text and do the tasks given below.

All **higher educational establishments** of the region are in its administrative centre Chita. There are 8 of them: the State Academy of Medicine, Zabaikalsky State Teacher-Training University, State Technical University, the Institute of Agriculture, the Academy of Economics, the Institute of Railway Transport Engineers, the Chita Branch of the Siberian Commercial Academy of Entrepreneurship and the Chita Branch of Modern Humanities University.

Zabaikalsky State Teacher-Training University named after N. G. Chernishevsky was founded in 1938 and was the first higher educational institution in Zabaikalye. Education was very important for the development of the region. The University started with 2 faculties — the Mathematics and History faculties. In the course of time new faculties were set up, thus making it possible for students to choose: mathematics and computer studies, physics, history and law, philology, journalism, foreign languages and many other subjects.

Now there are 10 faculties in the university training specialists in 37 areas.

The university's foreign language faculty was organised in 1952 to train only English and German teachers. In 1961 the Chinese department was opened and in 1973 the French department admitted its first students. The English department is fortunate to have support from Musical Bridges Inc., an educational exchange organisation based in Williamstown, Vermont in the United States. The standard of foreign language teaching in Zabaikalsky Krai is very high.

The State Medical Academy of Chita (established in 1953) is a large educational, scientific and medical centre of Zabaikalye. More than two thousand students study in the academy. A lot of academics, including PhD holders are engaged in research work.

• Finish the sentence.

The text doesn't inform the reader about:

- a) the institutions of higher education;
- b) the secondary school system;
- c) scientific research institutions.

• Ask your classmates:

- a) how many and what higher educational establishments are in Chita;
- b) what the first higher educational institution of Chita was;
- c) what specialists Zabaikalsky State Teacher-Training University trains.

Speaking

3a Which of the following activities do you like or dislike? Fill in ☺ if you like one. Speak about the activities you've chosen to your classmates.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ going in for sports | ☐ travelling |
| ☐ listening to music | ☐ doing homework |
| ☐ going to the theatre | ☐ watching films |
| ☐ dancing | ☐ going to the cinema |

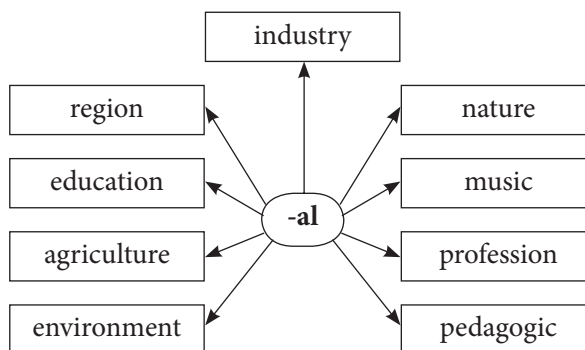
3b Look through the texts you've read again and find educational establishments you would like to enter:

- after finishing the 9th form;
- after finishing secondary school.



Word work

4a How many new words can you make?

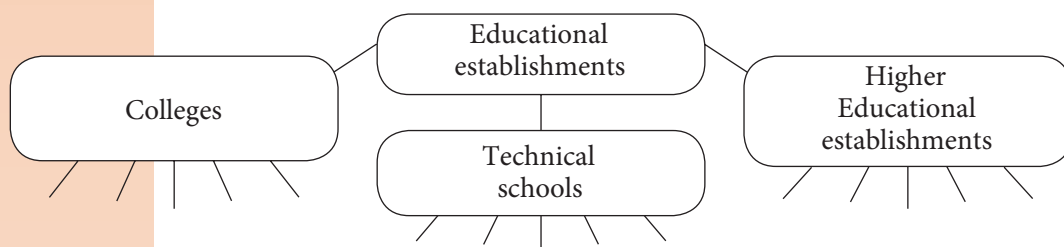


4b Make up phrases combining the nouns below and adjectives from Ex. 4a.

studies, establishments, faculty, school, university, college, complex, centre.

Model: natural studies

4c Complete the word web using the information from the texts. Add the names of the educational establishments of the city or town you live in.



Role-play

5 Imagine that your friend is going to come to Zabaykalsky Krai to get further education. Give him advice using the word web.

Unit 8. Leisure and entertainment

Warm-up

1 Answer the questions.

- What do you usually do on weekends?
- How do you spend your free time?

Reading

2a Read the text and do the tasks given below.

Chita is not only the political and industrial centre of our region but also a cultural town. Theatres, museums and parks make it one of the most exciting cities in Zabaykalye.

The **Local Drama Theatre** welcomes a great number of spectators every night. People can enjoy brilliant acting of many talented actors in



The Local Drama Theatre



The Arts Museum

M. Zadornov's comedies, W. Shakespeare's tragedies, A. Dudarev's, M. Gorin's and M. Gorky's dramas.

The theatre's general director received a "Golden Palm" in Nice in 1988 and the company was a great success in Moscow in summer, 2002.

Theater-goers enjoy the performances of the local companies as well as those of touring companies from Moscow, St Petersburg, Novosibirsk, Vladivostok and Ulan-Ude.

The residents are proud of their theatre, which is the leading drama theatre in Zabaikalye.

Teenagers and kids can relax and have a lot of fun in the **Chita Puppet Theatre**. The actors G. Bakoldina, L. Musienko, S. Pugaev performed on its stage. "Cat's

House", "Goose Ivan Ivanovich from Kashtanka", "Morozko" and other tales gather big crowds of children.

- Can you guess the meaning of these words: *repertoire, talented, brilliant, comedy, tragedy, drama, company*?
- Do you agree with the proverb "Art is long, life is short"? Give arguments for your opinion.

2b Read the text and do the tasks given below.

The **Philharmonic Society** arranges musical festivals and Christmas concerts. In 1970 it began combining two arts — music and theatre. The ensemble of the Russian Folk instruments named after N. Budashkin, the artists E. Solovyova, N. Solovyov, V. Korenevsky arrange about a hundred concerts annually.

The **Arts Palace** is a unique new form of theatrical art in Chita.

The cultural director of the Palace is V. Tolkalin. His idea was to arrange both entertainment and educational programmes, such as classical music concerts, bard music concerts, meetings with writers, poets and composers. Besides, salon parties are organised for the audience to get acquainted with classical art. The children's theatre "White Crow" and the club of classical guitar "Dekameron", the arts group "People and Puppets" are becoming more and more popular in our city.

The **Arts Museum** is a place to enjoy paintings by local artists and native crafts of indigenous ethnic groups. Each year many exhibitions from other parts of Russia are arranged there. A small hall on the ground floor has wood carvings, jewelry and old coins for sale. The building was designed by the architect Kulesh and was opened as an exhibition hall on May 5, 1980. A year later, on July 16, 1981 it became a museum.

- Prove that the Arts Palace is a unique and new form of theatrical art in Chita.
- Have you ever visited the Philharmonic Society and the Arts Museum? Look through the local newspapers and speak about the latest exhibitions and concerts.

2c Read the text. Choose one of the parks of Chita and speak about it.

There are not many parks in Chita. The most attractive is a large entertainment **Pobeda Park** with a monument which honours the military and rear effort of Zabaikalye residents during World War II. The eternal flame leaves nobody indifferent. The park is especially attractive in summer when the trees are in blossom. Residents, guests and tourists come here to pay tribute to those who died at the front during the war.



The children's Park, the Shapito Circus are fun fairs where children can find swings, merry-go-rounds, sports grounds and what not.

To the left of Lenin Street is **Decembrists Square**. Trees, bushes and flower-beds make this park an enjoyable place for many people living nearby and for those who come to the Pushkin Library.

The Park around the Russian Army Officers' Club was developed on the site of the 1899 Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition. About 600 trees and bushes were planted here and a pond was made. The park still remains the local residents' favourite place for rest and relaxation. Young people come here to the disco and old people prefer to listen to the orchestra.

Speaking

3a Answer the questions.

1. Where do teenagers spend their free time?
2. What is your favourite pastime?

3b Read the dialogue in pairs. Substitute the underlined words and expressions and make up new dialogues.

- You aren't busy tonight, are you?
- Oh, no. I have already done my work.
- What about going to the Udokan and seeing a film there?
- That's a jolly good idea. But what's on tonight?
- Let's go over to the cinema-bill and see what's on.
- They are showing a new film tonight. Have you heard anything about it?
- Yes, I have. It is the film version of a ... by They say it's very good.
- Let's go and see it.

3c Speak about your visit to a drama theatre, using the key sentences given below.

1. The play is worth (not worth) seeing.
2. It is thrilling (exciting, boring).
3. It is a stage version of the novel...
4. The play tells us about the historical events (the episodes of the war, the life of..., love and friendship).
5. The play owes much of its charm to the acting of...
6. The scenery is excellent (not good at all).

Project

- 4a **The other day you attended an exhibition of a local painter or a sculptor. You took pictures of this exhibition. Tell the class about your impressions.**
- 4b **Study the repertoire of the local drama theatre and say what questions you would like to ask the theatre director.**
- 4c **Imagine and draw a picture of the ideal youth park in your town or village.**

Unit 9. Break in the daily routine

Warm-up

1 Read the proverb.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

- Find a Russian equivalent to this proverb.
- What holidays are widely spread in Zabaikalsky Krai?

Reading

2a Read the story and say why people in Zabaikalye enjoy City Day.

People of Zabaikalsky Krai engage in all kinds of leisure activities. These activities take many forms. One of the most popular events among both old and young is City Day. It's usually held in May or June. The programme is diverse and vivid. The motto of the holiday is "Chita is a star city". Traditionally the holiday begins on Lenin Square. The city authorities and honoured people of Chita open the holiday. Many well-known ensembles and orchestras take part in the festival programme. The children's choreographic ballet and modern dance ensembles "Ogonki", "Rossiyanochka", "Vesnushki" and "Radost" are very popular. Sports fans can watch such sports competitions as armwrestling and football. Special games are organised for children. The "Fauna" and "Olf" clubs organise shows and competitions of pet animals and they also have a lot of spectators. People can enjoy our national cuisine. On the whole, music can be heard in every corner of the city.

2b Read and say what new information you have learnt. Name traditional Russian competitions and games held during the *Shrovetide* festival.

Pancake Week festival (*Shrovetide*) enjoys great popularity with the citizens of Chita. The festival is usually held in the central square which is beautifully decorated. Early in the morning a fairy "Russian stove" drives along the streets and merry clowns invite citizens to the square.

Traditionally Pancake Week is the last chance to have fun before Lent, the Christian period of penitence. Grown-ups and children enjoy taking part in various traditional Russian competitions and games.

Children like sledging. A horse harnessed in a Russian sledge, decorated with bright colours, gives them an opportunity to have a merry drive. Grown-ups enjoy a traditional Russian game — the *Storm* of a tall pole to get a prize on the top. The atmosphere is happy. The main tradition of Pancake Festival is observed at the festival as well — a pancake becomes the king of the feast. Girls dressed in bright Russian saraphans sell pancakes with butter or sour cream or caviar or cottage cheese.

Traditionally at the end of the festival crowds of people gather around a straw dummy and burn it. Burning the straw dummy is a symbol of the coming spring.

2c Read the text and do the task given below.

Nowadays *Christmas* is a great holiday in our region. This holiday is organised on the central square on January, 7 by the regional Committee of Culture. The square looks like a beautiful ice town.

This day a theatrical show takes place. You can hear Christmas songs and greetings. You can see different kinds of dances and merry games.



Vocabulary

Pancake Week — Масленица

Lent — Великий пост

penitence — покаяние

harness — запрягать

pancake — блин

dummy — чучело

straw — солома



Children take part in numerous competitions. They like to slide down ice hills. It is noticed that 75–190 people visit the main ice hill per minute during the New Year and Christmas holidays. Some people ride a horse or a pony from the local zoo. Some of them drive a wagon with a dog.

Representatives of the school of figure skating demonstrate their skills on the skating-rink there.

- Imagine you are in the central square in Chita on January, 7. Say what events take place in the square and share your impressions with your friends.

2d Read the text and do the task given below.

The holiday of *White Month* — *Sagaalga* is celebrated at the end of February. It's organised by the regional Buryat organisation. All Buryats of Chita get together to celebrate their holiday. This festival means New Year according to the oriental calendar. On this day they wear national costumes and cook national dishes. The most common type of celebration is a festival in the central square and a big party at the drama theatre which is opened by a traditional Buryat dance "Yokchor" performed by the folklore dance-group "Zayan" from Aginskoye. The children's dance-group "Bayar" takes part in the holiday.

- What is Sagaalga? What is the peculiarity of this holiday?

2e Read the text and do the tasks given below.

In 1965 Chita hosted a seminar of the young writers of Siberia and the Far East. A famous writer Leonid Sobolev opened the first book-fair, which later became traditional. Every year many famous writers are invited to the book festival in Chita.

"The Autumn of Zabaikalye" is a popular holiday. Well-known writers, composers, representatives of central newspapers and magazines of our country attend the festival. Book fairs are organised in the centre of the city. Some writers recite their poems and give autographs to the readers. The readers of children's libraries organise a picturesque carnival. Besides, writers meet their readers in the regional library named after A. S. Pushkin.

The book festivals in Zabaikalye attract great public attention. It is possible to say that Chita has become the literary capital of Zabaikalye.

• **Complete the sentences from the text:**

1. Many famous writers...
2. Well-known writers and composers...
3. A bookfair...
4. Besides, a meeting of writers...
5. It's possible to say...

• **Give English equivalents to the following expressions:**

1. книжная ярмарка
2. литературный праздник
3. читать стихи
4. красочный карнавал
5. давать автограф
6. привлечь внимание к

2f Almost every family has its own golden plot in Zabaikalye. Imagine you're a participant of the *Golden plot* holiday. What competition would you like to take part and why?

The "Golden plot" holiday has become traditional in Chita. In Theatre Square they demonstrate the achievements of the farmers and the children



from the Nature Station. *My Farmstead, Know How, Giants on a Plot, Zabaikalye Exotic Things, Flower Fantasy, Young but Early!, Our Yard* — these competitions gather lots of participants and spectators. The holiday can boast of “veterans” who come with huge vegetables, beautiful flowers and decorative plants. A large crowd is usually seen near the Botanical Gardens — everyone enjoys seeing decorative irises, cactuses, roses, and all people often buy young plants here. The holiday did not get its name by chance. Zabaikalye people are proud of their “golden” harvests.



2g Read the text and do the task given below.

The annual *Horse-Riding Competition* and the *Exhibition of Agricultural Products* take place at the Regional racecourse near Chita. Sportsmen from Western and Eastern Siberia, the North and the Far East participate in Competition “Sibiriada”. The climax of the holiday is the equestrian sports competition followed by an exciting cultural programme.

- Have you ever visited the *Horse-Riding Competition* or the *Exhibition of Agricultural Products*? Speak about your impressions.

2h Look through the texts and complete the chart.

	City Day	Pancake Week	Christmas	Sagaalga	The autumn of Zabaikalye	Equestrian sports competition
Reasons for the festival						
Activities at the festival						
Special dishes or food						

Speaking

- 3 Choose the holiday you like best and describe it in as much detail as you can.

Writing

- 4 Write a letter to your pen-friend about Zabaikalsky Krai holidays. Name 10 things you’ve learnt about them.

Unit 10. Enjoy you meal!

Warm-up

1a Read the proverb.

“Make supper shorter — make life longer”

- Explain it. Can you give any Russian equivalents?

- 1b The local population was engaged in agriculture in the 19th century. Can you guess what food they ate? List five things.



Reading

2a Read the text and do the task given below.

Traditions and customs include cooking and eating habits. They depend on things like national tastes, way of life and climate.

The severe climate of Zabaikalye influences our regional cuisine greatly. We need a lot of calories and vitamins.

There are many different dishes in Zabaikalye but the most popular are: shchi, botvinya, oats kissel, some cookies, e. g. a bird-cherry cake, Siberian shangi.

Although only 5 % of Buryats live here nowadays their influence on the life of the region is great.

Buryats' main activities are agriculture, horse-breeding, deer-breeding, fishing and hunting. That is why their main food products are milk, fish, vegetables, meat (mutton, beef, horse-flesh, meat of wild animals, geese and ducks) and also some flowers, berries and tea.

- **Decide if the statements are true or false.**

1. Traditions and customs of people depend on the climate.
2. We don't need many calories for our vital functions.
3. The most popular dishes in Zabaikalye are made of fish.
4. Almost half of the people living in our region are Buryats.
5. Buryats like to eat some flowers and berries.

☐
☐
☐
☐
☐

2b Read the text and do the task given below.

Dairy products play an important role in the life of the local population. Buryats believe that they should begin each holiday with milk. In their language milk is called "sagaalkha".

It is impossible to imagine Buryats' national meals without tea. It is called "green tea" and it is drunk with milk, of course. Their custom of welcoming people with dairy products can be compared to the Russian custom of welcoming guests with bread and salt. They like to say "Tea with milk is for a friend".

- **Answer the questions.**

1. What is the usual food with which Buryats begin each holiday?
2. What is the name of the national drink of Buryats?



2c Read the text and do the task given below.

Local people who are very fond of national meat products, e. g. blood sausage. It is interesting to note that people eat different kinds of meat in different seasons. In summer they prefer to eat lamb, in autumn — horse-flesh, in winter — beef. They use meat of wild animals only in autumn.

The best shots come from Zabaikalye, so they have a lot of meat of wild geese and ducks. Housewives make tasty dishes with such meat.

- **Find the facts.**

1. What kind of meat do native people like to eat?

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

2. What popular meat dishes do they eat?

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____
- g) _____



Word work

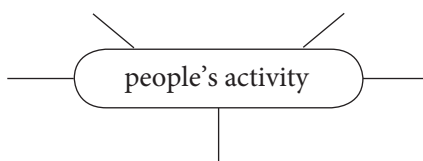
3a What do you call:

- a) meat of a sheep,
- b) meat of a cow,
- c) meat of a horse,
- d) Buryats' national tea.

3b Read and say which variant is correct.

1. Traditions and customs depend on (the weather / the climate).
2. People's activity (influences / doesn't influence) their eating habits.
3. Buryats' influence on the life of the region is (great / small).

3c Make a word web of the activities local people are engaged in.



Role-play

- 4 Imagine that you are going to organise a local festival. You need to cook several dishes. Go to the shops and ask a shop assistant to sell you the necessary products.

PROJECT

My town / My village

You are going to work in groups and design a project to present the place you live in.

Follow steps 1–6 as shown below:

1. Divide into groups and first decide on the subject you are going to write about and on the sections that your project will contain.
2. Brainstorm the ideas for your project. Make a mind-map. Write down every idea that is mentioned. Do not criticize any of them — the more, the better.
3. Choose the most appropriate ideas and decide who will be responsible for developing each one.
4. Distribute the duties among the members of your group:
 - Searching for photos and pictures
 - Interviewing people
 - Searching for authentic materials (books, periodicals, the internet)
 - Checking the information and making the necessary improvements
 - Printing the project
5. Start working according to your duties.
6. Present your project in an attractive and eye-catching way. Display your work in class. Choose the best project.

Hot tips!

When you're working with others, it is important that all the members of the group have a clear idea of what they need to do.

- Share ideas and information.
- List all the jobs that need to be done. Distribute all the jobs among the members of the group.
- Make sure that you all agree on when the work needs to be completed.

Hot tips!

Use these questions before you decide on the final version of your project:

- Purpose. Is the purpose clear? Will the readers / listeners want to read it / listen to it?
- Audience. Is it in your readers' interests? Will they understand it?
- Presentation. Is your project attractive and eye-catching?
- Accuracy. Is the language correct? Is the information accurate?

Press conference

My native place

Devoted to the 350th anniversary of Zabaikalye

You are going to give a press conference to foreign journalists. Your **task** is to present Zabaikalsky Krai and attract attention to it.

The class is divided into 2 groups: the “guests” and the “hosts”.

Some of you will play the part of the hosts, others will act as foreign journalists.

1 Preparation

a) Take the role cards:

- | | |
|--|--|
| — the chair person | — the mayor of the city |
| — the governor | — a deputy of the Duma |
| — a public relations officer | — a political correspondent of a local newspaper |
| — a journalist of the local television | — a scientist |
| — an actor | — school teachers and university professors |
| — a businessman | — the head of the ecology committee |
| — managers of state enterprises, plants, factories | — farmers, etc. |

CHAIR

Language support

Ladies and gentlemen, I declare the conference open / closed.

- Our subject today is...
- I give the floor to...
- Questions please.
- Sorry to interrupt you but ...
- Would you like to comment on that?
- That's an interesting point, Mr Thank you.
- It has been a useful meeting. Everybody has expressed their views clearly and the meeting has taken place in a spirit of cooperation.

b) Read the role cards.

Journalists:

- State your name and position
- Your work for different foreign newspapers and magazines
- You are going to participate in the press conference
- Be polite
- Prepare at least 5 questions beforehand and think them over carefully
- Your questions should be interesting to your readers
- Use language support phrases below

Hosts:

- State your name and position
- Be ready for the interview
- Look through the materials in the units in advance, they will help you to participate in the press conference
- Prepare hand-outs and visuals to save time
- Make your statements short and clear
- Use language support phrases below

c) Choose the newspaper or magazine you work for:



d) Language support phrases:

It's difficult to say but...

On the contrary.

I believe / hope...

I'm afraid, I can't comment on that at the moment.

Thank you for your interest, but I can't tell you anything at this stage.

I rather think that...

I'm absolutely convinced that...

Nevertheless...

My own feeling / view is...

I feel very strongly that...

e) Look at the mind map which will help you to ask questions.

Good afternoon, sir!

I'm sorry...

Would you like to tell me...

Could I ask you a couple of questions?

Could you say if...

Can you tell us...

Do you have plans...

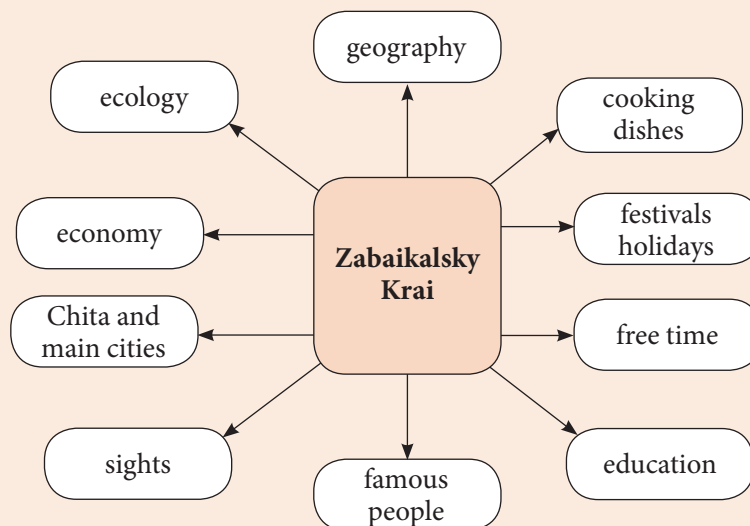
One more question is...

Is it true that...

Thus...

Moreover...

Thank you.



2 Activity

Interview the hosts.

3 Impressions

Write an article based on this interview:

- Are you satisfied with the press conference?
- Why did the conference have this result?

- What was the most interesting / difficult subject for discussion?
- Will this information be useful for readers in your country?
- Do you think foreign businessmen will show an interest in Zabaikalye and make investments?

Тематическое планирование

Раздел	Тема	Урок	Лексика / Грамматика	Говорение	Чтение	Письмо
Unit 1	Zabaikalsky Krai. How does it measure up?	1-2	unexplored, boundary, latitude, mountain ranges, conifer forests, rolling steppes, watershed, confluence, glacial, tectonic, silt, chink	speaking about the Zabaikalsky Krai	reading about geography and nature of Zabaikalsky Krai	writing a leaflet presenting your native place
Unit 2	Environmental problems	1-2	bronchitis, emphysema, pneumonia, acute, sewage, copper, rubbish = litter = garbage, dump, profit, lungs, reserve	speaking about the environmental problems of Chita	reading about air and water pollution, the problem of rubbish and litter in Chita	writing an essay
Unit 3	Treasure land	1-2	ore, smeltery, core, yield, ingots, revitalise, deposits, enterprise, venture, supplier, approach, profitable, taxes, revival, timber, hay crop, pasture, output, crops, live stock-farming, pure live stock breeds, grain, fine-fleece breed of sheep	speaking about the development of the region	reading about mining plants, power electric stations, Transbaikai Railway and agriculture	writing an article to a local newspaper
Unit 4	We pay tribute to them	1-2	detachment, highway, uprising, exile, God-forsaken place, corporal punishment, abolish, compile, supporter, white guards, suffering, hardware, regain	speaking about the important events in the history of Chita	reading about the development of industry in Chita	writing a leaflet about one of the regional towns
Unit 5	Around my town	1-2	rifle, remind, pay tribute, bas-relief, rear, revere, be abundant, trace, strike, gaze	speaking about the places of interest in Chita	reading about the places of interest in Chita	
Unit 6	They glorify our land	1-2	art school, approve of one's decision, splinter, fate, delight, promote, fellow-countrymen	speaking about the famous people of Zabaikalye	reading about famous people of Zabaikalsky Krai	writing an article to a local newspaper
Unit 7	"Only the educated are free"	1-2	establishment, facility, fortunate, PhD holder, be engaged, in research	speaking about educational establishments in Zabaikalsky Krai	reading about the educational system of Zabaikalsky Krai	

Раздел	Тема	Урок	Лексика / Грамматика	Говорение	Чтение	Письмо
Unit 8	Leisure and entertainment	1-2	repertoire, philharmonic, swing, merry-go-round	speaking about spending one's free time	reading about the theatres and museums of Chita	
Unit 9	Break in the daily routine	1-2	Pancake Week, Lent, penitence, straw, harness	speaking about a local festival	reading about the holidays of Zabaikalsky Krai	writing a letter
Unit 10	Enjoy your meal!	1-2	cuisine, dairy products, housewife	speaking about Buryat's cuisine	reading about traditional food in Zabaikalsky Krai	
	Project					
	Press conference					