

The political system of the Russian Federation.

Ex.1. Complete the text using the verbs and numbers.

Important information and statistics.

Russia has been officially _____ (know) as the Russian federation since 12th December _____ before that Russia _____ (be) one of the republics of the USSR. Its name _____ (be) the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR).

Russia is the largest country on Earth. It is nearly twice size of the USA and its spans ten time zones and two continents. Recent Figures show that nearly _____ million of people live in Russia, giving it the fifth largest population in the world after India, China, the USA and Indonesia. The people consist of around _____ different nationalities, the largest of these being Russians –with _____ of total. The territory of Russia covers just over _____ million sq. km and its largest subject is the republic of Sakha-Yakutia at over _____ million sq. km. One of the smallest is Moscow at only _____ sq.km. Strangely, it is one of the most densely populated regions with nearly _____ million citizens. Evenka is the smallest region of Russia in terms of the population and has only _____ residents.

Ex.2. Listen to the text and complete the blankets:

Entities of Russia.

90 entities	6 territories (krays)	49 regions (oblasts)
22 republics	10 autonomous	St. Petersburg
Sevastopol	1 autonomous	3 cities

Russia now consists of _____ – subjects of the Russian Federation- and within the constitution they appear in alphabetical order: _____, _____, _____, _____ of federal significance: Moscow, _____ and _____

_____, _____ and _____ (okrugs). Each of the above subjects is divided further into *raions* (sub-regions) or administrative okrugs in Moscow. The latter area split into elementary administrative units. In the countryside these elementary units are typically called *volosts*.

Ex.3. Complete the blankets:

Moscow	Yekaterinburg	Executive power
Novosibirsk	Khabarovsk	Rostov –on-Don
Nizhniy Novgorod	a parliamentary system	St. Petersburg

Federal districts.

On 13-th May 2000, 7 federal districts were created by presidential decree. This reform aimed to make the federation function in a more controlled way. It is the job of the President to appoint their representatives in each districts. The federal districts are: Central (around _____), North-Western (_____), Volga (_____), Urals (_____), Siberian (_____), Far Eastern (_____) and Southern (_____).

_____ in most of the regions is exercised by the highest official elected by citizens: the head of administration, the governor, the president, the chairman of the government. However, _____ still exists in Udmurtia. In Dagestan, the head of state is elected by special representative assembly. In most krais, oblasts and okrugs, governors were elected for the first time in 1996-1997. Before that, the regions were ruled by head-of-administrations appointed by the President. The term of office is usually four to five years.