

LONDON

London is the capital of Great Britain, its political, economic and commercial centre. It is one of the largest cities in the world and the largest city in Europe. Its population is about 8 million.

London is situated on the river Thames. The city is very old. It has more than 20 centuries old history. It is divided into several parts- the City, Westminster, the West End and the East End. They are very different from each other.

The City is the oldest part of London, its financial and business centre. Numerous banks, offices and firms are here. Few people live in the City but over a million come to work here. There are two places of interest in the City: St. Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London. St. Paul's Cathedral was built in the 17th century. The Tower of London was built in the 15th century. It was used as a fortress, a palace and a prison. Now it is a museum.

Westminster is the official part of London. There are Buckingham Palace where the Queen lives and the Houses of Parliament along the north bank of the Thames.

The clock tower of the Houses of Parliament is famous for its big hour bell known as «Big Ben». Westminster Abbey is the place where the coronation of kings and queens has taken place. Many of them are buried here as well as some other famous people of the country.

The West End is the richest and most beautiful part of London. The best hotels, restaurants, shops, clubs, parks and houses are situated there. There are many tourists there from different countries of the world.

Trafalgar Square is the geographical centre of London; it was named in the memory of Admiral Nelson's victory in the battle of Trafalgar in 1805. The tall Nelson's Column stands in the middle of the square.

The East End is an industrial district of London. There are many factories there. Working class families populate the region.

Выполните тест

Вставьте соответствующие слова по теме «Осмотр достопримечательностей в Лондоне»:

1. London is the ... of Great Britain.

a) country b) capital c) region

2. The ... is the business and commercial heart of London.

a) City b) Town c) Country

3. ... is in the centre of the City.

a) Westminster Abbey b) Whitehall c) St. Paul's Cathedral

4.... is the street in London where many of the British government offices are situated.

a) Trafalgar Square b) Houses of Parliament c) Whitehall

5.... is a square in the centre of London. It is the place where mass meetings and demonstrations are held.

a) Treasury b) Trafalgar Square c) Piccadilly Circus

6. ... is a square in the central part of London.

a) Trafalgar Square b) Piccadilly Circus c) Thames

7. There is the ... in Trafalgar Square.

a) Nelson's Column b) National Gallery c) Cenotaph

8. ... is a monument in London put up in memory of the people killed in the first world war.

a) Cenotaph b) the City c) Nelson's Column

9. ... is a group of ancient buildings.

a) Trafalgar Square b) Tower of London c) Bank of England

10.... has been the scene of coronations for centuries.

a) Stock Exchange b) Houses of Parliament c) Westminster Abbey

11. The Prime Minister's residence is in

a) Big Ben b) Downing Street c) British Museum