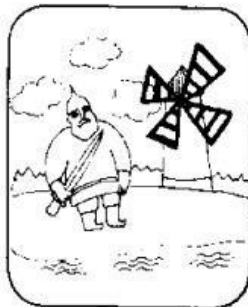


## ON THE TOP OF THE SKYSCRAPER

I. Read the legends and match them with the pictures below. There is one extra picture.

- A. The first legend says that many years ago there lived a famous bogatyr. His name was Menesk. He lived near the bridge over the Svisloch River. The bogatyr was very strong. He built a windmill on the river Svisloch near the road. Menesk didn't use flour to make bread, he made bread from stones. Brave and strong people came to Menesk and started to live near the windmill. So Minsk got its name after bogatyr Menesk.
- B. Another legend says that Minsk was founded on the Menka River. It was 16 km away from modern Minsk. In the 11th century the people left the Menka and started to live on the Nemiga River but they kept the old name — Mensk. Some people think that the Nemiga River had another name in the past. It was called the Meniga River and it gave Minsk its name.
- C. There is also a version that many years ago Minsk was a market at the crossing of trade (*торговый*) roads and stood on two rivers: the Nemiga and the Svisloch. People sold and bought things there. They exchanged things because there was no money in those times. People called that place Mensk after the word "менять" — "exchange". Later it became Minsk.

1 2 3 4 

II. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- Menesk lived near the Svisloch River.

- He built a bridge over the river.
- He made bridges from stones.
- The Menka River was not far from modern Minsk.
- People left the Menka River in the twelfth century.
- The Nemiga River was called the Menka River in the past.
- In the past Minsk was a supermarket at the crossing of trade roads.
- People exchanged things because they didn't have any money.

### III. Choose the correct answer.

- What was the strong man's name in the first story?
- Where did Menesk build his windmill?
- What did people do near Minsk?
- Why did people go to live near Menesk?
- Why did people leave the Menka River in the second story?
- Why did people call the place "Mensk" in the third story?
- Which story is about the place where Minsk started?
- What do all the stories have in common?