The City of Kyiv

Vocabulary:

sibling-брат або сестра
settlement- поселення
bank of the river- берег річки
area- територія
century- століття
mythical-міфічний
come from- походити від
south- пд
north- пн
east- сх
west- зх
state- держава
Slavic- слов'янський
tribe-плем'я
trade-торгівля
border- кордон
Lithuanians- литовці
Poles- поляки
damage- зруйнувати
restoration- відновлення, відбудова
surrounding- навколишні

Kyiv, like Rome, gets its name from a character in a legend- Rome comes from Romulus and Kyiv comes from Kyi. Kyi was one of four siblings. The legend says that in the fifth century, a family of three brothers and a sister –Kyi, Shchek , Khoryv and Lybid-started a settlement on the banks of the River Dnipro.

The question is, were these siblings real people? Archaeologists know people lived in the area in the sixth century and earlier, so some people think they were real. Other people think that they were mythical. They say the names of the brothers and a sister come from geographical features. For example, they think that "Kyi" means "high river bank". The other brothers' names, Shchek and Khoryv, are similar to the names of nearby mountains: Mount Shchekavytsia and Mount Khoryvytsia. The sister's name, Lybid, comes from the River Lybid which is south of Kyiv.

The golden age of Kyiv was from the tenth to twelfth centuries, when it was a centre of Kyivan Rus- a state of several Slavic tribes. The city was on trade routes between the Baltic Sea, Constantinopole and the area north-east of the Black Sea. It became a very important city in Europe.

The period between the twelfth and nineteenth centuries saw the borders of European countries change many times, and with each change, new people came to Kyiv: Tartars, Lithuanians, Poles and Russians.

In the twentieth century, fighting in World War II badly damaged the city, but when the war ended, restoration started. Kyiv became an important centre for industry. Lots of people moved to the city from other parts of the country. Kyiv changed a lot in the twentieth century, but it has still got many historic buildings, and the surrounding hills make it a pleasant city to live in.

Ex. 1 Read the text and choose the correct variant to complete the sentence. The text is about…..

A) how Kyiv was damaged during the war.

B) the geography of Kyiv.

C) the history of Kyiv.

Ex. 2 True or False

1) People are sure Kyi was a real person. ☐ T ☐ F

2) Kyi means the bottom (дно) of the river. ☐ T ☐ F

3) Kyiv was the centre for Slavic tribes from the10th to 12th centuries. ☐ T ☐ F

4) The borders of European countries stayed the same after the twelfth century. ☐ T ☐ F

5) Kyiv changed a little in the twentieth century. ☐ T ☐ F

Ex. 3 Answer the questions:

1) Where does the name Rome come from?_____

2) What geographical features are the names of Kyi's brothers and sister similar

to?_____

3) Which trade routes went through Kyiv?_____

4) Which new groups of people lived in Ukraine after the twelfth

century?_____

5) What happened in World War II?_____

6) What makes the city a good place to live?_____

Ex. 4 Complete the sentences with the given words:

settlement   restoration   surrounding   tribes   damaged   legend

1. The archaelogists found old coins from a fourth century_____.

2. There are beautiful buildings _____the old city square.

3. The fire_____ the house. The inside was completely black.

4. Many countries have got a _____ about their ancient history.

5. The_____ of the old town was amazing. They looked at old photos to do it.

6. Many different _____lived in Europe 1,500 years ago.