

# Peter the Great



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MDCCLXXXIII

## RNE Use of English

Choose the best word (A-D) for each gap (1-7).

- 1 A very B most C best D well
- 2 A changed B differed C moved D altered
- 3 A save B keep C avoid D stop
- 4 A had B made C did D brought
- 5 A spent B had C used D passed
- 6 A at B in C for D of
- 7 A little B few C short D some

## RNE Writing

Read the extract from your English pen-friend's letter. Her name is Emma. Write a letter to Emma. In your letter:

- tell her about your family
- ask three questions about her best friend

Write 100-140 words.

My brother really annoys me. Do you get on well with your family? Tell me all about them!

Well, I have to go now because I'm meeting my best friend Katie. We always have a lot of fun together!

Peter the Great (1672–1725) is probably the 1) ..... famous of all the Russian tsars.

Under his rule, Russia 2) ..... from being a poor farming society into an empire as strong as the other European powers. Peter toured Europe, sometimes in disguise to 3) ..... being recognised, and learned about western culture and science. Returning to Russia, he 4) ..... changes to his army and government to make Russia more like Europe, especially Germany. He 5) ..... much of his time fighting wars, first against the Ottoman Empire and then against Sweden.

He founded St Petersburg, his most lasting contribution to Russia, on some land he conquered along the Baltic Sea. A gateway to Europe, St Petersburg became the new capital 6) ..... his kingdom.

In 1725, after bravely trying to rescue some drowning sailors, he ended up with a bad cold and died 7) ..... time later.

## RNE Speaking

You are going to a friend's birthday party. Make sure you ask him/her questions about:

- time
- how to get there
- what to wear

Your partner will play the part of your friend and you will speak first. Remember to:

- be active and polite
- get all the information you need
- decide on what to wear