

Unit 4. My homeland

Pre-Reading Activities

1. Translate the following words and word combinations into Russian. Date, bank, industrial, organization, center, college, cultural, tradition, by the middle of, to develop into a bustling city, densely populated city, at the turn of, military feat, trade mark, farm machinery, dozens of research centers, particularly fine, quite modern., my native city, to be situated, to be erected, Russian chronicles, to be proud of, mention, multi-towered fortress, to shield off.

2. Fill in the gaps with the prepositions.

1. A multi-towered fortress was erected ... the right bank ... the Ob river. 2.... the middle ... the 16-th century Surgut developed ... a bustling, densely populated city. 3.... the turn ... the 17-th century Tsar built houses ... the Ob river. 4. Surgut engineers are proud ... oil and gas deposits. 5. The architecture ... the buildings is quite modern and ... the same time very simple. 6. Surgut has dozens ... research centres, some Universities and colleges.

3. Answer the following questions:

1. Where is Surgut situated? 2. Where can you find the first mention of Surgut? 3. Why was a multi-towered fortress erected on the right bank of the Ob river? 4. What is Surgut like today? 5. What do Surgut factories produce? 6. Is Surgut a city of science? 7. How many Universities are there in Surgut? 8. What museums does Surgut have? 9. What are citizens of Surgut proud of?

4. Give English equivalents to the Russian words and word combinations: располагаться на берегу реки, старое поселение, поселенцы, каменный век; выгодное географическое положение, живописная местность, был основан как крепость; отважились сделать Западную и Восточную Сибирь своим домом; индустриальный центр Северного Приобья; нефтяная и газовая промышленность; место ссылки, получил новое рождение, перерабатывающая промышленность; попутный газ, трубопровод, мощная электростанция, предприятие, стал главным транспортным центром..

Reading

5. Read the text and answer the question: What is Surgut famous for?

SURGUT

Surgut is a city in the northern part of Western Siberia, Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug, Russia, located on the Ob River. The climatic conditions are equal to the Far North: winter lasts about seven months in the year.

Surgut is one of the oldest settlements in Siberia. The first settlers came to this area as far back as the Stone Age. For centuries, the natives of the North - the Khants, the Mansis, and the Nenets - lived here. Its unique archaeological monuments (Barsova Gora) have attracted the interest of many Russian scientists, as well as their colleagues from Finland, Hungary, Sweden and Germany.

Surgut was found in 1594 by the Cossack group, headed by the prince Fyodor Boryatinsky. For three centuries, Surgut served as a stronghold of the Russian state, an advance post for all the pioneers, who ventured out to make West Siberia into their home. It also had another use, as a place for exiles.

The favourable geographical position, convenient waterways made Surgut the centre of a huge uyezd. In 1785 Ekaterina II approved the emblem of the town on which a silver fox symbolizes the riches of Surgut.

Surgut got a new birth after the opening of large oil in the Srednee Priobje at the beginning of 60th. The youth from all republics of the huge Soviet country went to develop oil fields and to build new towns. The population of Surgut has increased since 1960 and account for over 360 ths. people.

Lines of oil-and gas mains are stretched from Surgut in other regions of Russia and European countries. The power stations GRES 1 and GRES 2 operate on associated gas. They are one of the most powerful stations in the world.

At present Surgut is the largest industrial and cultural centre of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug, the second town regarding the population number in the Tyumen Region.

The infrastructure of the town is developing in parallel to the housing construction. The basis of the town economy is the fuel & energy complex, which includes the prospecting, oil and gas producing, pipeline enterprises, power stations, oil-refining and gas-processing plants.

The main town forming enterprise of Surgut is "Surgutneftegas". It is one of the most profitable and effective industrial enterprise of Russia. "Surgutneftegas" is headed by Vladimir Leonidovich Bogdanov.

The system of higher and secondary educational institutions including State University, State Pedagogical Institute, oil technical school, medical school, musical school, professional colleges are created in the town.

Surgut is a unique alive body with its face and the internal laws, determining its general condition and emotional health. Its essence is shown in the interaction with other territories: the Okrug, near and far areas and town. The "Geographical palette" of the partners of Surgut, without exaggeration, includes up to fifty towns and Regions of Russia, far and near foreign countries.

Post-Reading Activities

6. Translate into Russian the names of following sites of Surgut: Sculpture of a fox, Historical and cultural center "Old Surgut", Memorial of Glory (Eternal Fire), The Surgut Bridge across the Ob River, Park "Behind Saima", Monument to the founders of Surgut.

7. Make these sentences negative.

1. The place where I live is quiet.
2. To my mind, living in a city has a lot of advantages.
3. Nowadays it's easy to find a good job.
4. This park becomes very crowded on Sundays.
5. Public transport in my town is crowded and dirty.
6. Living in a city is very expensive.

8. Match the word with its definition.

1. relationship (n)
2. accommodation (n)
3. bustle (n)
4. variety (n)
5. crowd (n)
6. sincerity (n)
7. profit (n)
8. reliable (adj)
9. significant (adj)
10. appealing (adj)
11. expensive (adj)
12. sincere (adj)
13. social (adj)

A. costing a lot of money

B. the quality when someone is sincere and really means what they are saying

C. the quality when someone or something can be trusted or depended on

D. attractive or interesting

E. when smth. is sincere, honest, true, and based on what you really feel and believe

F. place for someone to stay, live, or work

G. busy and usually noisy activity

H. a large group of people who have gathered together to do something.

I. relating to human society and its organization, or the quality of people's lives

J. the way in which two people or two groups feel about each other and behave towards each other

K. a lot of things of the same type that are different from each other in some way

L. money that you gain by selling things or doing business, after your costs have been paid

M. having an important effect or influence, especially on what will happen in the future

9. Translate the following sentences into English.

Сеть учреждений культуры и искусства Сургута представляет собой уникальный комплекс, ориентированный на удовлетворение культурных и духовных потребностей горожан, развитие и реализацию творческого потенциала городского сообщества, обеспечение равного доступа к культурным и духовным ценностям. Сургутяне могут гордиться своими музеями. Краеведческий музей открыт 45 лет назад. Совсем еще молод Сургутский государственный художественный музей, где заложены основы коллекции русской живописи и графики XIX-XX веков, современного искусства Сибири, северной скульптуры, декоративно-прикладного искусства народов Севера.

Спорт был и остается важным способом формирования здорового духа в здоровом теле. Такие спортивно-оздоровительные комплексы, как "Дружба", "Факел", "Нефтяник", известны далеко за пределами города, в них проводятся спортивные состязания высокого уровня. В 2006 году к ним добавился многофункциональный спортивный комплекс "Спарта". Есть ледовый дворец спорта и стадион.

10. Speak about one of the following sites of Surgut:

Sculpture of a fox, Historical and cultural center "Old Surgut", Memorial of Glory (Eternal Fire), The Surgut Bridge across the Ob River, Park "Behind Saima", Monument to the founders of Surgut

Project work

11. Make a Power Point Presentation about your home city.