**Текст 1**

**WELCOME TO UKRAINE**

Welcome to Ukraine You will never regret, if you visit one of the biggest European countries, Ukraine. Thousands of tourists from all over the world visit Ukraine each year. They come to see the beauty of Ukrainian mountains, the Crimean Mountains in the south and the Carpathians in the west, with their highest point Hoverla (2061 m). The climate of Ukraine is mild. It can be relatively warm winter, especially in the south. The South is popular in summer. The Black Sea and the Sea of Azov are popular places for summer rest not only among Ukrainians, but also among citizens of neighboring countries, on which Ukraine borders: Russia. Belarus, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Moldova.

The main river in Ukraine is the Dnieper, the third longest river in Europe which divides Ukraine into the Right-Bank and the Left-Bank territories. The capital of Ukraine, Kiev is also divided by the Dnieper into two parts. Several other large rivers flow through Ukraine, such as the Southern Buh, the Dniester, the Desna, the Siversky Donets, and others. They make villages and towns of Ukraine more picturesque.

**Текст 2**

**KIEV - THE CAPITAL OF UKRAINE**

Kiev is one of the biggest, and the most beautiful European cities. The population of the city is about 3 million people. It is also the main administrative, political, cultural and scientific centre of the country. Kiev is situated on both banks of the Dnieper. It is one of the largest and most beautiful rivers in Europe. Kiev has a well-developed industry. Its enterprises produce TV-sets, computers, planes and all Kinds of consumer goods.

Kiev is also one of the largest scientific centres. Here the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences is located. Its research institutes are famous for their discoveries. Thousands of young people come to the capital each year in order to become students of the famous Kiev Shevchenko National University and other higher educational establishments of the city. Many people from all over Ukraine come to Kiev in order to visit its museums, libraries, theatres and parks.

**Текст 3**

**ART IN UKRAINE**

Ukrainian nation is very talented. Ukrainians have created many masterpieces in music, painting, cinema and theatre arts.

Music is one of the oldest arts in Ukraine. Ukrainians are known as a musical people with a lot of folk-songs. Now there are 6 opera houses, 3 operettas and many song-and-dance groups. Ukrainian orchestras, choirs and performers often appear on tours in Europe, Asia and the USA. The pop music is rather developed in Ukraine.

The oldest paintings in Ukraine are frescoes. Some of them are about a thousand years old. Famous frescoes of St. Sophia Cathedral in Kiev attract many tourists from Ukraine and abroad. Some Ukrainian painters are also famous all over the world. Among them is Ilia Repin (1844— 1930). Many of his works show his love to Ukraine, its people, and its history. Among them there is a famous painting "The Zhaporozhian Cossacks write a letter to the Turkish Sultan".

**Текст 4**

**YOUTH CULTURE IN UKRAINE**

The independent Ukraine is a rather young state. That's why young people play a very important role in its development. Young people in Ukraine have their hopes, hobbies and problems, as in any other country.

Among the first wishes of any young person in Ukraine is education. It is not easy nowadays to receive a good education in Ukraine. But many young people enter colleges and universities. They want to become good specialists in their fields and find a good job. But many young people do not only study at the university. They also visit different clubs and organizations. Almost every university has its own team of the "Joyful and Smart" (KVN). Some young people do sports and even play in the university sports teams. That helps them to be more organized and make new friends.

**Текст 5**

**UKRAINIAN SPORTS**

People do sports to be healthy. Sports play an important part in the modern Ukrainian society. There are many sports grounds, swimming pools, football fields in each town. A lot of people are fond of jogging. For many young people in Ukraine sport is a hobby. I hope these changes will help Ukrainians to keep fit and enjoy life as it is.

The most popular kinds of sports in Ukraine are volleyball football, athletics, and swimming. Much attention is also paid to professional sports. Every year there are a lot of sports competitions, sports days and Olympiads. Our sportsmen also take part in the Olympic Games once in four years. The Olympic victories of Ukrainian athletes are quite impressive: about 200 gold medals. Among the Olympic champions are L. Latynina, О Bayul. Y. Klotchkova, S. Bubka and many others. Now their names are famous all over the world.

**Текст 6**

**THE MASS MEDIA IN UKRAINE**

The mass media play an important role in our life. They inform us about different events that take place in our country and in the world. They also entertain us and help us to change our life for the better. The mass media give us different kinds of information: news, weather forecast, horoscopes, review of books, etc. We can not imagine our life without the mass media today because information is very important in the modern society.

TV and radio programmes, and newspapers that give reliable information about important events. They are always popular. Many magazines and newspapers also contain information about unusual events, amazing facts, funny stories, sensations. Many people like this kind of information as well. A lot of newspapers and journals are usually well illustrated. They try to choose interesting photos and pictures for their articles.