

Unit 1. Official visits and talks

PART 1. Texts.

Read and translate the texts below. Translate the words and phrases in the right column first.

1.	<p>The US and Russia begin high-level talks today</p> <p>The US and Russia's top diplomats meet in Saudi Arabia to discuss improving ties. Moscow's foreign chief said the talks will be «purely bilateral». Russian and US delegations have begun high-level talks in Saudi Arabia aimed at restoring diplomatic relations. The meeting in Riyadh is attended by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, President Vladimir Putin's top foreign policy aide, Yuri Ushakov, and Kirill Dmitriev, the CEO of the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF). The US is represented by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, National Security Adviser Mike Waltz, and Steve Witkoff, the special envoy for the Middle East. Russian officials previously said the key goals of the talks include 'restoring Russian-American relations,' and laying the groundwork for a summit between Putin and US President Donald Trump.</p>	<p>...high-level talks...</p> <p>...improving ties...</p> <p>...«purely bilateral»...</p> <p>...restoring diplomatic relations...</p> <p>Foreign Minister</p> <p>top foreign policy aide</p> <p>...CEO...</p> <p>...Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF)...</p> <p>...Secretary of State...</p> <p>...National Security Adviser...</p> <p>...officials...</p> <p>...special envoy for the Middle East...</p> <p>...laying the groundwork for...</p>
2.	<p>Saudi-sponsored US-Russia Talks Kick off in Riyadh</p> <p>Talks between the United States and Russia kicked off in the Saudi capital Riyadh on Tuesday. Sponsored by the Kingdom, the talks aim to improve ties between the two nations and are part of Riyadh's ongoing efforts to promote global security and peace.</p>	<p>Saudi-sponsored...</p> <p>...kick off...</p> <p>...Sponsored by...</p> <p>...to improve ties...</p> <p>...ongoing efforts...</p> <p>...to promote global security and peace...</p>
3.	<p>Meeting with President of Iran</p> <p>Vladimir Putin had a meeting with President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Masoud Pezeshkian in the capital of Turkmenistan. The Russian delegation at the meeting included Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office, Presidential Press Secretary Dmitry Peskov, Presidential Aide Yuri Ushakov, and Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Galuzin. The two leaders started their conversation in the presence of their delegations, after which the talks continued in a face-to-face format, Presidential Press Secretary Dmitry Peskov said.</p>	<p>...Deputy Prime Minister...</p> <p>...Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office...</p> <p>...Presidential Press Secretary...</p> <p>...Presidential Aide ...,</p> <p>...Deputy Foreign Minister...</p> <p>...face-to-face format...</p>
4.	<p>Russian-Indonesian talks</p> <p>On the sidelines of the 28th St Petersburg International Economic Forum, President Vladimir Putin held a meeting with President of</p>	<p>On the sidelines...</p> <p>...hold a meeting...</p>

	<p>the Republic of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto, who is in Russia on an official visit.</p> <p>The Russian delegation at the meeting included Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, Presidential Aide Yury Ushakov, and First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov, who also serves as Chairman of the Russian side of the Russian-Indonesian Joint Commission on Trade, Economic, and Technical Cooperation.</p> <p>The consultations continued in the business breakfast format with members of the two countries' delegations.</p>	<p>...to be on an official visit...</p> <p>...Foreign Minister...</p> <p>...Presidential Aide...</p> <p>...First Deputy Prime Minister...</p> <p>...Russian-Indonesian Joint Commission on Trade, Economic, and Technical Cooperation...</p> <p>...business breakfast format...</p>
5.	<p>French President Emmanuel Macron held bilateral talks with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni on the sidelines of the Group of Seven (G7) summit in Japan on Saturday (May 20). Meloni, Macron and other G7 leaders have gathered in the Japanese city of Hiroshima for a three-day summit.</p>	<p>...hold bilateral talks...</p> <p>...on the sidelines...</p> <p>...gather...</p> <p>...for a three-day summit.</p>
6.	<p>The Foreign minister of Iran and the emir of Qatar talked about a range of issues during a meeting in Doha on Tuesday. Heading a diplomatic delegation, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian met with Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani in Doha. The Iranian and Qatari officials talked about issues of mutual interest in the bilateral, regional and international arenas. Amirabdollahian will travel to Oman after visiting Qatar. The Iranian Foreign minister says his visits to Qatar and Oman are aimed at further promoting relations with the two Arab countries and following up on the agreements reached by the three countries' high-ranking officials. He noted that Iran's neighboring countries enjoy huge economic, trade and political potentialities.</p>	<p>The Foreign minister...</p> <p>... a range of issues...</p> <p>Heading a diplomatic delegation...</p> <p>...issues of mutual interest...</p> <p>...bilateral, regional and international arenas...</p> <p>...to be aimed at further promoting relations...</p> <p>...high-ranking officials...</p> <p>...enjoy trade and political potentialities.</p>
7.	<p>On June 20, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov met with Nenad Popovic, Minister without Portfolio in the Government of Serbia, Co-Chairman of the Intergovernmental Russian-Serbian Committee on Trade, Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, on the sidelines of the 28th St Petersburg International Economic Forum. The parties discussed strengthening the Russian-Serbian partnership, with an emphasis on economic cooperation, as well as the political situation in Serbia and the Kosovo settlement based on UN Security Council Resolution 1244.</p>	<p>...Minister without Portfolio...</p> <p>...Co-Chairman of the Intergovernmental Russian-Serbian Committee on Trade, Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation...</p> <p>...on the sidelines...</p> <p>...with an emphasis on...</p> <p>...strengthening the Russian-Serbian partnership...</p> <p>...settlement...</p> <p>... UN Security Council Resolution...</p>
8.	<p>On June 18, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov had a telephone conversation with Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan Jeyhun Bayramov at the Russian side's initiative. Sergey Lavrov expressed sincere gratitude to the Azerbaijani</p>	<p>...have a telephone conversation...</p> <p>...at the Russian side's initiative...</p> <p>...express sincere gratitude...</p>

	partners for their assistance and heedful attitude toward Russians returning home from Iran via Azerbaijan's territory. Moscow appreciates this response of a true ally to the difficult situation Russians found themselves in. The ministers discussed a range of pressing bilateral and international issues.	...heedful attitude toward... ...true ally... ...pressing bilateral and international issues...
9.	U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken met Monday with Chinese President Xi Jinping as he wrapped up a two-day, high-stakes visit to Beijing aimed at easing soaring tension between the countries. The meeting at the Great Hall of the People had been expected and was seen as key to the success of the trip, but neither side confirmed it would happen until a State Department official announced it just an hour beforehand.	...Secretary of State... ...met Monday... ...to wrap up... ...high-stakes visit... ...easing soaring tension... ...the Great Hall of the People... ...State Department official...
10.	Foreign ministers of Canada and India held a phone conversation on Sunday in their highest-level contact since Prime Minister Mark Carney took office, as both nations seek to repair strained ties. Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs Anita Anand thanked her Indian counterpart for a 'productive discussion' on strengthening relations and economic ties between the two nations. In a separate post, India's Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar wished Anand a 'very successful tenure.'	Foreign ministers... ...highest-level contact... ...Prime Minister... ... take office... ... seek to repair strained ties... ...Minister of Foreign Affairs... ...counterpart... ...on strengthening relations and economic ties... ...tenure...
11.	Russia-Mali talks The talks between Vladimir Putin and Interim President of the Republic of Mali Assimi Goïta, who is in Russia on an official visit, took place at the Kremlin. The talks began with a restricted-format meeting and continued in an expanded format with the attendance of the delegation members. Discussions were focused on the further development of Russia-Mali cooperation, including trade, economic, and investment relations, as well as pressing regional and international issues.	...to be on an official visit... ...restricted-format meeting... ... in an expanded format... ...further development of Russia-Mali cooperation... ...pressing regional and international issues...
12.	United Arab Emirates President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan arrived in Russia on Sunday, and in the evening met with Russian President Vladimir Putin in an informal setting. The leaders spoke over dinner at the Novo-Ogaryovo residence near Moscow.	...in an informal setting...
13.	The leaders are expected to discuss the development of bilateral cooperation, as well as the situation in the Middle East and North Africa. Putin and Al Nahyan met less than a year ago, in December 2023, during the Russian president's working visit to the UAE. At the	The leaders are expected to discuss... ...working visit...

	time, during talks in Abu Dhabi, the heads of state discussed the development of cooperation and international issues with an emphasis on the situation in the Middle East. After that, Putin and Al Nahyan held several phone conversations.	...hold several phone conversations
14.	India and France on Thursday held talks on developments relating to nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and security of outer space. The discussions took place at a meeting of India-France bilateral dialogue on disarmament and non-proliferation in Paris.	... hold talks... ...nuclear non-proliferation... ...disarmament... ...bilateral dialogue...
15.	Vladimir Putin held talks in the Kremlin with General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee To Lam, who is currently on an official visit to Russia. The international consultations began with a meeting between Vladimir Putin and To Lam in a restricted format and continued in the format of an official breakfast attended by members of the Russian and Vietnamese delegations. On the Russian side, the restricted-format meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, Deputy Prime Minister, Co-Chair of the Russian-Vietnamese Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Dmitry Chernyshenko, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office Maxim Oreshkin, Presidential Aide Yury Ushakov, Finance Minister Anton Siluanov, and Central Bank Governor Elvira Nabiullina. Following the talks, the heads of state adopted a Joint Declaration on the Main Areas of Russia-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in the New Era.	...hold talks... ...General Secretary... ...to be on an official visit... ...in a restricted format... ...in the format of an official breakfast... ...restricted-format meeting... ...Foreign Minister... ...Deputy Prime Minister... ...Co-Chair... ...Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office... ...Presidential Aide... ...Finance Minister... ... Following the talks... ...heads of state... ...adopt a Joint Declaration... Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

PART 2. EXERCISES

1. Phonetic drill: countries, capitals and nationalities.

1. **Canada – Ottawa – Canadian**
[ˈkænədə] – [ˈɒtəwə] – [kəˈneɪdiən]
2. **United States – Washington, D.C. – American**
[juːˌnaɪtɪd ˈsteɪts] – [ˈwɒʃɪŋtən ˌdiː ˈsiː] – [əˈmerɪkən]
3. **Saudi Arabia – Riyadh – Saudi**
[ˌsaʊdi əˈreɪbiə] – [riːˈjɑːd] – [ˈsaʊdi]
4. **Iran – Tehran – Iranian**
[ɪˈrɑːn] – [teˈræn] – [ɪˈreɪniən]
5. **Spain – Madrid – Spaniard**
[speɪn] – [məˈdrɪd] – [ˈspænjəd]
6. **Indonesia – Jakarta – Indonesian**
[ˌɪndəˈniːziə] – [dʒəˈkɑːtə] – [ˌɪndəˈniːʒn]
7. **France – Paris – French**
[frɑːns] – [ˈpærɪs] – [frentʃ]
8. **Italy – Rome – Italian**
[ˈɪtəli] – [rəʊm] – [ɪˈtæliən]
9. **Qatar – Doha – Qatari**
[ˈkɑː.tɑːr] [kəˈtɑː(r)] – [ˈdəʊhɑː] – [kəˈtɑːri]
10. **Switzerland – Bern – Swiss**
[ˈswɪtsələnd] – [bɜːn] – [swɪs]
11. **Austria – Vienna – Austrian**
[ˈɒstriə] – [viˈenə] – [ˈɒstriən]
12. **Greece – Athens – Greek**
[ɡriːs] – [ˈæθənz] – [ɡriːk]
13. **Mali – Bamako – Malian**
[ˈmɑːli] – [ˈbæmækəʊ] – [ˈmɑːliən]

2. Translate the following countries, capitals and nationalities.

Instructions:

1. From Russian to English:

- Cover the right column (In English) with a sheet of paper or your hand.
- Look at the Russian words in the left column.
- Say out loud the English equivalent and its phonetic transcription.
- Reveal the answer to check if you were correct. Pay close attention to the pronunciation.

2. From English to Russian:

- Now, cover the left column.
- Look at the English words and transcriptions in the right column.
- Say out loud the Russian translation.
- Reveal the answer to check your accuracy.

1.	Ираан - Тегераан - ираанец	Iran [ɪˈrɑːn] - Tehran [teˈræn] - Iranian [ɪˈreɪniən]
2.	Сауудская Аравия - Эр-Рияд - саудиец	Saudi Arabia [ˌsaʊdi əˈreɪbiə] - Riyadh [riːˈjɑːd] - Saudi [ˈsaʊdi]
3.	Катар - Дооха - катарец	Qatar [kəˈtɑːr] - Doha [ˈdɒhɑː] - Qatari [kəˈtɑːri]
4.	Канада - Оттава - канадец	Canada [ˈkænədə] - Ottawa [ˈɒtəwə] - Canadian [kəˈneɪdiən]
5.	Соединённые Штаты - Вашингтон - американец	United States [juːˌnaɪtɪd ˈsteɪts] - Washington, D.C. [ˈwɒʃɪŋtən ˌdiː ˈsiː] - American [əˈmerɪkən]
6.	Испания - Мадрид - испанец	Spain [speɪn] - Madrid [məˈdrɪd] - Spaniard [ˈspænjəd]
7.	Индонезия - Джакарта - индонезиец	Indonesia [ˌɪndəˈniːziə] - Jakarta [dʒəˈkɑːtə] - Indonesian [ˌɪndəˈniːzn]
8.	Греция - Афины - грек	Greece [ɡriːs] - Athens [ˈæθənz] - Greek [ɡriːk]
9.	Мали - Бамако - малиец	Mali [ˈmɑːli] - Bamako [ˌbæməˈkoʊ] - Malian [ˈmɑːliən]
10.	Франция - Париж - француз	France [frɑːns] - Paris [ˈpærɪs] - French [frentʃ]
11.	Италия - Рим - итальянец	Italy [ˈɪtəli] - Rome [rəʊm] - Italian [ɪˈtæliən]
12.	Швейцария - Берн - швейцарец	Switzerland [ˈswɪtsələnd] - Bern [bɜːn] - Swiss [swɪs]
13.	Австрия - Вена - австриец	Austria [ˈɒstriə] - Vienna [viˈenə] - Austrian [ˈɒstriən]

3. Translate the following words and phrases into Russian at a fast pace.

high-level talks – improve ties – restore diplomatic relations – purely bilateral – Foreign Minister – on the sidelines – hold a meeting – be on an official visit – discuss pressing bilateral issues – Secretary of State – National Security Adviser – special envoy – lay the groundwork for – kick off – promote global security – Deputy Prime Minister – face-to-face format – hold a telephone conversation – at the initiative – express sincere gratitude – a true ally – the highest-level contact – take office – seek to repair ties – counterpart – tenure – restricted-format meeting – in an expanded format – in an informal setting – wrap up a visit – a high-stakes visit – ease tension – nuclear non-proliferation – promote disarmament – heads of state – adopt a Joint Declaration – CEO – Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office – Presidential Aide – a Finance Minister – diplomatic delegation – enjoy potentialities – Minister without Portfolio – Co-Chair – strengthen partnership – discuss settlement – have heedful attitude – discuss international arenas – promote relations – high-ranking official – gather for a summit – be on a visit – hold bilateral talks – discuss issues of mutual interest – Saudi-sponsored – State Department official – comprehensive strategic partnership

4. Translate the following words and phrases into English at a fast pace.

«на полях» – Государственный секретарь – заложить основу для – содействовать всеобщему и полному разоружению – вступить в должность – верный союзник – заместитель председателя правительства – обсуждать актуальные двусторонние вопросы – проводить встречу – принять совместную декларацию – Министр иностранных дел – завершить визит – формат «один на один» – Советник по национальной безопасности – обладать потенциалом – по инициативе – выразить искреннюю благодарность – в расширенном формате – специальный представитель по Ближнему Востоку – снизить напряженность – нераспространение ядерного оружия – проводить двусторонние переговоры – срок полномочий – Министр без портфеля – при поддержке Саудовской Аравии – главы государств – провести телефонный разговор – высокопоставленный чиновник – представитель Госдепартамента – укреплять отношения – Заместитель руководителя

администрации президента – в узком составе – помощник президента – урегулирование – наносить официальный визит – двусторонний формат переговоров – Министр финансов – дипломатическая делегация – трехдневный саммит – содействовать развитию отношений – проявлять внимательное отношение – генеральный директор – Сопредседатель – укреплять партнерство – обсуждать вопросы, представляющие взаимный интерес – всеобъемлющее стратегическое партнерство – содействовать глобальной безопасности – находиться с официальным визитом – начинаться – коллега – крайне важный визит – восстанавливать дипломатические отношения

5. Translate the following sentences into Russian paying attention to the words and phrases in bold.

1. **Foreign ministers** of the BRICS countries will **hold a meeting on the sidelines** of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on September 20, **the Russian Foreign Ministry** said on Monday.
2. The **high-level** week of the UNGA session will take place at the UN headquarters from September 18-26. The Russian delegation will be **headed by** S. Lavrov. He is expected **to address the gathering** on September 23.
3. The **Prime Ministers** also agreed to **hold a telephone conversation** a week after a working group meeting, which will develop proposals for integration.
4. Beijing and Washington have held three **rounds of high-level talks** since early May that have yet **to yield a compromise**.
5. This will be a **high-stakes encounter**, as the future of US-China relations has not been so uncertain since President Nixon's visit to China in 1972.
6. **Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office** Anton Vaino and **First Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office** Sergei Kirienko met to address pressing issues of state administration.
7. The leaders agreed to **gather for a summit** later this year, hoping the **tenure** of the new administration will be marked by a renewed effort to **promote relations in international arenas**.
8. A **State Department official** confirmed that the two nations **enjoy significant potentialities** to form a **strategic partnership**, describing the country as a **true ally**.
9. The President held talks with his **counterpart** in an informal setting during his official visit, aiming to **kick off** a new round of **purely bilateral negotiations**.
10. The **meeting in an expanded format** between the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and President of the Republic of Lithuania Gitanas Nausėda has **kicked off** in Vilnius, Azernews reports.
11. **At the initiative** of France, the Foreign Ministers of the two nations **held a telephone conversation to restore diplomatic relations**, with both sides expressing a heedful attitude to each other's concerns.
12. The White House said they also talked about creating safe zones in Syria and lined up a possible **face-to-face meeting** within weeks **on the sidelines of** the G20 summit in Germany.
13. White House officials briefed US media about a **meeting with** Putin after the US **special envoy** Steve Witkoff **met** the Russian leader at the Kremlin on Wednesday.
14. United Arab Emirates and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brazil Mauro Luiz Iecker Vieira attended a **restricted-format meeting** of the BRICS Summit.

15. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Brazil President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva **spoke on phone** on Thursday amid ongoing tariff tensions from the US. The two leaders **exchanged views** on various "regional and global **issues of mutual interest**."

6. Translate the following sentences into Russian paying attention to the words and phrases in bold.

1. Глава МИД РФ Сергей Лавров, который **возглавляет российскую делегацию** на саммите БРИКС в бразильском Рио-де-Жанейро, **провел двусторонние переговоры** с президентом Боливии Луисом Арсе.

2. **На полях саммита** Лавров **провел встречу** с гендиректором Всемирной торговой организации (ВТО) Нгози Оконджо-Ивеалой. Сообщается, что собеседники пришли к единому мнению о необходимости реформирования организации.

3. В Тегеране прошла встреча президента Ирана Масуда Пезешкиана и главы Минэнерго РФ Сергея Цивилева. Она состоялась **в ходе визита** делегации России в Исламскую Республику.

4. **После проведения трехчасовых переговоров** между Путиным и Трампом завершился саммит России и США. Стороны достигли понимания по некоторым пунктам обсуждения, а также договорились о новой встрече.

5. В Большом Кремлёвском дворце проходит **заседание** Совета глав государств – участников **Содружества Независимых Государств**.

6. Саммит СНГ открылся встречей **в узком составе**.

7. **Переговоры** продолжились **в расширенном формате** с участием членов делегаций стран – участниц объединения.

8. Президент Южной Осетии Алан Гаглов **провел встречу** с президентом Российского союза промышленников и предпринимателей (РСПП)¹ Александром Шохиным, сообщает пресс-служба главы государства.

9. **Министр внутренних дел** Российской Федерации Владимир Колокольцев и начальник Федеральной Полиции Эфиопии Демелаш Гебремихаэль провели встречу **на полях** Глобального форума по сотрудничеству в области общественной безопасности.

10. Стороны обсудили вопросы **консолидации усилий** в сфере борьбы с международной преступностью.

11. Губернатор Камчатского края Владимир Солодов провел встречу с делегацией Республики Беларусь, на которой стороны **обсудили вопросы дальнейшего расширения сотрудничества**.

12. Председатель Государственной Думы **прибыл** в КНДР по приглашению Верховного народного собрания Республики **с официальным визитом**.

13. В Тегеране состоялись рабочие встречи Министра энергетики РФ Сергея Цивилева и Председателя Правления ПАО «Газпром» Алексея Миллера с Президентом Исламской Республики Иран Масудом Пезешкианом и Министром нефти Мохсеном Пакнежадом.

14. Стороны **обсудили перспективы торгово-экономического сотрудничества**, в том числе в газовой сфере.

15. Премьер-министр Никол Пашинян **прибыл с рабочим визитом в Брюссель**. Состоится трехсторонняя встреча с председателем Европейского совета Антониу Коштой и председателем Европейской комиссии Урсолой фон дер Ляйен.

¹ *Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs*