

**Демонстрационный вариант  
Диагностической работы по курсу внеурочной деятельности  
«Страноведение. Великобритания» для учащихся 10-11 класса**

**1. Назначение работы** — проверить соответствие знаний, умений и основных видов учебной деятельности обучающихся требованиям к планируемым результатам обучения по факультативному курсу «Страноведение. Великобритания» в 10-11 классах. Результаты диагностической работы могут быть использованы для организации занятий по коррекции видов деятельности обучающихся с целью формирования предметных и метапредметных компетенций.

**2. Характеристика структуры и содержания работы**

В качестве КИМ диагностической работы предлагается набор комплексных заданий по основному виду речевой деятельности - чтению. В работе представлены задания базового и повышенного уровня сложности.

**3. Распределение заданий диагностической работы по содержанию, проверяемым умениям и видам деятельности.**

Задание 1. Чтение текста с полным или частичным пониманием прочитанного. Письменные ответы на вопросы.

Задание 2. Поиск английских эквивалентов на основе прочитанного текста.

Задания 1 является базовым, задание 2 – повышенного уровня сложности.

**1. Read about geographical features of Great Britain to learn why they have become signs of British national attitudes.**

**Geographical features as a mirror of some British attitudes**

It has been claimed that the British love of compromise is the result of the country's physical geography. This may or may not be true, but it is certainly true that the land and climate in Britain have a notable lack of extremes. Britain has mountains, but none of them are very high; it also has flat land, but you cannot travel far without encountering hills; it has no really big rivers; it doesn't usually get very cold in the winter or very hot in the summer; it has no active volcanoes, and an earth tremor which does no more than rattle teacups in a few houses is reported in the national news media. 20 Climate The climate of Britain is more or less the same as that of the northwestern part of the European mainland. The popular belief that it rains all the time in Britain is simply not true. The image of a wet, foggy land was created two thousand years ago by the invading Romans and has been perpetuated in modern times by Hollywood. In fact, London gets no more rain in a year than most of her major European cities, and less than some. The amount of rain that falls on a lawn in Britain depends on where it is. Generally speaking, the further west you go, the more rain you get. The mild winters mean that snow is a regular feature of the higher areas only. Occasionally, a whole winter goes by in lower lying parts without any snow at all. The winters are in general a bit colder in the east of the country than they are in the west, while in summer, the south is slightly warmer and sunnier than the north. Why has Britain's climate got such a bad reputation? Perhaps it is for the same reason that British people always seem to be talking about the weather. This is its changeability. There is a saying that Britain doesn't have a climate, it only has weather. It may not rain very much altogether, but you can never be sure of a dry day; there can be cool (even cold) days in July and some quite warm days in January. The lack of extremes is the reason why, on the few occasions when it gets genuinely hot or freezing cold, the country seems to be totally unprepared for it. A bit of snow and a few days of frost and the trains stop working and the roads are blocked; if the thermometer goes above 80° F (27 °C), people behave as if they were in the Sahara and the temperature makes frontpage headlines. These things happen so rarely that it is not worth organizing life to be ready for them. Land and Settlement Britain has neither towering mountain ranges, nor impressively large rivers, plains or forests. But this does not mean that its landscape is boring. What it lacks in grandeur it makes up for in variety. The scenery changes noticeably

over quite short distances. It has often been remarked that a journey of 100 miles (160 kilometres) can, as a result, seem twice as far. Overall, the south and east of the country is comparatively low-lying, consisting of either flat plains or gently rolling hills. Mountainous areas are found only in the north and west, although these regions also have flat areas. Human influence has been extensive. The forests that once covered the land have largely disappeared.

Britain has a greater proportion of grassland than any other country in Europe except the Republic of Ireland. One distinctive human influence, especially common in southern England, is the enclosure of fields with hedgerows. This feature increases the impression of variety. Although many hedgerows have disappeared in the second half of the twentieth century (farmers have dug them up to increase the size of their fields and make them more efficient), there are still enough of them to support a great variety of bird life.

Much of the land is used for human habitation. This is not just because Britain is densely populated. Partly because of their desire for privacy and their love of the countryside, the English and the Welsh don't like living in blocks of flats in city centres and the proportion of people who do so is lower than in other European countries. As a result, cities in England and Wales have, wherever possible, been built outwards rather than upwards (although this is not so much the case in Scottish cities). For example, the London area has about three times the population of the Athens area but it occupies about ten times the area of land. However, because most people (about 80 %) live in towns or cities rather than in villages or in the countryside, this habit of building outwards does not mean that you see buildings wherever you go in Britain. There are areas of completely open countryside everywhere and some of the mountainous areas remain virtually untouched.

Love of Nature.

Britain was the first country in the world to appoint a government-sponsored conservation body (the Nature Conservancy, in 1949) and it was in Britain that the first large green pressure group was founded (the World Wildlife Fund in 1961, now the Worldwide Fund for Nature). This is not a coincidence. One of the most striking aspects of popular mainstream culture in Britain is the love of the rural lifestyle. Ever since they became a nation of city dwellers, the British have had a reverence for nature and an idealized vision of the countryside. Many people, whether they live in a suburban house or in a flat in a high-rise block, would say their dream home was a country cottage with roses growing over the door. The British have a deep nostalgia for an idealized world of neat hedgerows, cottages and great country houses, surrounded by parkland and eighteenth-century style gardens that looked harmonious and natural. To the British, the countryside has almost none of the negative associations which it has in some countries, such as poor facilities, lack of educational opportunities, unemployment and poverty. To them, the countryside means peace and quiet, beauty, good health and no crime. Most of them would live in a country village if they thought that they could find a way of earning a living there. Ideally, this village would consist of thatched cottages built around an area of grass known as a "village green". Nearby, there would be a pond with ducks on it. Nowadays such a village is not actually very common, but it is a stereotypical picture that is well-known to the British.

Perhaps this love of the countryside is another aspect of British conservatism. The countryside represents stability. Those who live in towns and cities take an active interest in country matters and the British regard it as both a right and a privilege to be able to go "into the country" whenever they want to. There is an organization to which thousands of enthusiastic country walkers belong, the Ramblers' Association. It is in constant battle with landowners to keep open the public "rights of way" across their lands. Maps can be bought which mark, in great detail, the routes of all the public footpaths in the country. Walkers often stay at youth hostels. The Youth Hostels Association is a charity whose aim is "to help all, especially young people of limited means, to a greater knowledge, love and care of the countryside". Their hostels are cheap and rather self-consciously bare and simple. There are more than 300 of them around the country, most of them in the middle of nowhere! When they cannot get in to the countryside, many British people still spend a lot of their time with "nature". They grow plants. Gardening is

one of the most popular hobbies in the country, and gardening programmes on radio and TV are also very popular. Even those people who do not have a garden can participate. Each local authority owns several areas of land which it rents very cheaply to these people in small parcels. On these “allotments”, people grow mainly vegetables.

**1. Answer the following questions about the geographical features of the country:**

- 1) In what way do you think the geographical features reflect British attitudes?
- 2) What is the stereotypical vision of the British climate? Why has Britain's climate got such a bad reputation?
- 3) Do you find the British landscape boring? Do you know any places which would be interesting to visit?
- 4) In what ways is the British reverence for nature expressed?
- 5) What images does the British countryside awake in your mind? What typical features do you remember?
- 6) Do you think it's a good idea to create the National Parks? Why do you think people like visiting them?
- 7) How is the pattern of human settlement in Russia different from that of Britain?
- 8) What stereotypical images of the Russian countryside can you give?

**2. Find the following words and word combinations in the text:**

примечательное отсутствие крайностей -  
случайно встретиться, натолкнуться на что-либо-  
увековечить -  
обычная черта -  
иногда, изредка, время от времени -  
попасть на первые полосы газет -  
иметь недостаточно грандиозности, пышности -  
компенсировать за счет разнообразия -  
значительное/ощутимое влияние людей -  
окружить поля живой изгородью -  
впечатление разнообразия -  
более рациональный -  
отличаться большим разнообразием -  
желание уединения -  
густонаселенный (район) -  
совершенно незадействованная (открытая) местность -  
практически оставаться нетронутым -  
организация по охране окружающей среды -  
спонсируемая государством -  
совпадение -