

1. Schools in Russia.

In Russia children usually go to school when they are seven years old. First the children learn at the elementary school. They attend the elementary school for four years. The children learn to count, to read and to write. Besides, children learn a foreign language beginning from the second form.

The fifth form means the beginning of the secondary education. The children learn different subjects, for example Biology, Literature, Chemistry, Physics, IT. In Russia nine-year basic secondary education is compulsory. Students can continue their schooling and get eleven-year secondary education or can enter a college and get trade training. After graduating from college young people can start to work.

Nowadays there are different types of schools in Russia. Children and their parents can choose a comprehensive school, a specialized school with advanced study of some subjects or a private school. Private schools in Russia are always fee-paying.

After graduating from school or college our young people can enter universities or institutes, where they get higher education.

2. Choosing a Career.

Finishing schools millions of young people begin an independent life. Many roads are open before them. They can start a working career, go into business or continue schooling to receive a higher education. But it is not an easy thing to choose a profession out of more than 2000 existing in the world. Some students do this still at the industrial training centers, some follow the advice of their parents or make their own choice, others can't decide even after leaving school.

Today a school-leaver can choose any career he or she likes. A school-leaver can become a journalist, a dentist, a surgeon, a designer, an economist, a manager, a programmer. All these professions are in demand now.

There are several factors that influence the decision of young people to make their choice. First of all it should seem interesting for you. An exciting job that you really like is an important component of happiness in life. Another important factor is social environment. The profession of the parents often in this or that way influences the future profession of their children. Today we have dynasties of physicians, historians, lawyers, economists, pilots, and military officers.

There are a lot of universities and colleges in Russia. They teach almost all subjects areas: Arts, Sciences, Law, Engineering, etc. After finishing secondary school I shall go on to further education. I shall become an applicant for entry. And as all applicants for entry I'll take competitive examinations. I hope to pass them successfully. My interests lie in ... (biology, chemistry, foreign languages...) so I'd like to study at...

For me, choosing a career is not only a matter of future prestige and wealth. In my opinion a good job should be interesting and socially important. That is the reason why I have chosen the profession of a lawyer, which gives plenty of opportunities to help people in trouble.

Shopping is a part of our daily life. When we want to buy something, we go to a shop. There are many kinds of shops in every town or city, but most of them have a food supermarket, a department store, men's and women's clothing stores, a grocery, a bakery etc.

I like to do my shopping at big department stores and supermarkets. They sell various goods under one roof and this is very convenient. The things for sale are on the counters so that they can be easily seen.

In a food supermarket we can also buy many different things at once: sausages, fish, sugar, pasta, flour, cereals, and tea. At the butcher's there is a wide choice of meat and poultry. At the bakery you buy brown and white bread, rolls and biscuits.

Another shop we frequently go to is the greengrocery which is stocked by cabbage, potatoes, onions, cucumbers, carrots, beetroots, green peas and what not. Everything is sold here ready-weighed and packed. If you call round at a dairy you can buy milk, cream, cheese, butter and many other products.

The methods of shopping may vary. It may be a self-service shop where the customer goes from counter to counter selecting and putting into a basket what he wishes to buy. If it is not a self-service shop, and most small shops are not, the shop-assistant helps the customer in finding what he wants. You can pay by card or in cash to the cashier and he gives you back the change and the receipt.

By the way, shopping is a great entertainment too. If you want to relax, shopping is for you. While shopping we talk, with other people, get experience, get to know many interesting things. Nowadays you can purchase things on the Internet. To attract customers shops provide various services: free home delivery and installation of some gadgets, money-back guarantee, buy and win coupons, repair services. They sell their goods on credit and what not. How inventive people may be in their thirst to get to somebody else's money!

Science is a source of progress. It develops the world we live in.

Today science has become the most important factor in the development of national economy in the whole world. Scientific progress serves the interests of society, helps to increase the well-being of people and develops public education.

Computer technology plays the most important role in the progress of science. The ability of computers to solve many mathematical problems more effectively than man does, has given rise to new trends in mathematics. Computer science is a new field of study and research. In recent years scientists of the world have achieved great success in the development of physics, chemistry, biology, and such astonishing, interesting science as psychology.

But science may be turned both for peace and military purpose. It can take good forms and evil forms. With the help of scientific inventions politicians make weapons of mass destruction. But on the other hand researches help us in our life: at home, at work, at school and make the level of the country development higher. That's why there are a lot of facts telling about a great amount of well-known scientists who had burned their works when they've understood the consequences of their inventions.

It is almost impossible to name a branch of science in the development of which the Russian scientists haven't played the greatest role. M.Y. Lomonosov, the founder of the Moscow University was an outstanding innovator both in the humanities and sciences.

Mendeleev's greatest discovery was the Periodic System of Elements. Popov invented radio. Sechenov and Pavlov were the world's greatest physiologists. Russia is rightly called the mother of aviation and cosmonautics. Names of Tsiolkovsky, Korolov and Gagarin are symbols of new space era.

Almost all people are fond of travelling. It is very interesting to see new places, another towns and countries. People may travel either for pleasure or on business. There are various means of travelling. For me there is nothing like travel by air; it is more comfortable, more convenient and, of course, far quicker than any other means.

With a train you have speed, comfort and pleasure combined. From the comfortable seat of a railway carriage you have a splendid view of the whole countryside. If you are hungry, you can have a meal in the dining-car; and if a journey is a long one you can have a wonderful bed in a sleeper.

Travelling by ship is also very popular now. It is very pleasant to feel the deck of the ship under the feet, to see the rise and fall of the waves, to feel the fresh sea wind blowing in the face and hear the cry of the seagulls.

Many people like travelling by car. It is interesting too, because you can see many sights in a short time, you can stop when and where you like, you do not have to buy tickets or carry your suitcases.

A very popular means of travelling is hiking. It is travelling on foot. Walking tours are very interesting. Hitch-hiking is a very popular method of travelling among young people. But it is not as popular in our country as abroad.

Travelling

Millions of people all around the world adore travelling. We travel because we wish to see new countries and cities, visit historical places, meet new people and taste different cuisines.

There are different means of transportation. People travel by ship, airplane, train or car. All means of transportation have their advantages and disadvantages. I would like to talk briefly about each of them.

Travelling by airplane

Travelling by airplane is the fastest, but the most expensive. A lot of people prefer travelling by airplane, but some people are afraid of heights and that's why they prefer travelling by train.

Travelling by train

I have to notice that travelling by train is very popular in Russia. Modern trains have very comfortable carriages and seats. There is also the dining-car in each train. You can see many interesting places and enjoy the nature, looking through the window.

Travelling by ship

The trips on a cruise ship have a lot of advantages. One of them is the amazing pricing. Most cruise lines are all-inclusive packages. This includes a person's cruise



fare, lodging, food and some onboard entertainment and sightseeing.

Travelling by car

And, finally, travelling by car is also very popular in Russia. A lot of people choose this means of transportation. They don't need to buy tickets, book hotels and etc. They can stop whenever they wish, rest and stay at the same place as much time as they want.

Hiking

Hiking is very popular means of travelling, but not as popular as abroad. Generally, young people prefer this kind of travelling. Walking tours are very exciting.

My opinion

As about me, I prefer travelling by plane. To my mind, it is the most comfortable and fast means of transportation.

And finally, it is commonly known that travelling is a great thing! Nothing can give you so many positive emotions and memories as travelling to any wonderful country or city.