

A GLIMPSE OF UKRAINE

Цілі: формувати лексичні навички й навички вимови; вдосконалювати навички читання й усного мовлення; розвивати мовну здогадку й мовленнєву реакцію учнів; виховувати любов до своєї країни, повагу до її законів і зацікавленість у розширенні своїх знань.

Procedure

1. Warm-up

What do you know about Ukraine?

Do this quick quiz

1) Ukraine gained long-awaited Independence from Soviet Union in which year?

- a) 1989
- b) 1990
- c) 1993
- d) 1991

2) The leader of Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists Stepan Bandera was murdered by KGB in which city?

- a) Berlin
- b) Munich
- c) Lviv
- d) Krakow

3) Vyacheslav Chornovil was a famous leader of which Ukrainian national party?

- a) Republicans

b) Ruh

c) Conservatives

d) URP

4) The city of Uzhgorod is close to the border with what other European state?

a) Hungary

b) Germany

c) Moldova

d) Estonia

5) Who was Ivan Franko?

a) Musician

b) Politician

c) Famous writer

d) Archeologist

6) Whom can you see on 10 Ukrainian hryvnas?

a) Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytskyj

b) Prince Volodymyr the Great

c) Taras Shevchenko

d) Hetman Ivan Mazepa

7) Name the most popular pop singer of the 90s in Ukraine,

a) VikaVradyi

b) Rosava

c) Irchik zi Lvova

d) Iryna Bilyk

8) Name the capital of Western Ukraine.

a) Lutsk

b) Ivano Frankivsk

c) Ternopil

d) Lviv

9) What of the following regions is not part of Western Ukraine?

a) Lemkivshyna

b) Bukovyna

c) Boykivshyna

d) Tavria

2. *Speaking*

Do ex. 1, p. 237.

3. *Reading and writing*

Do ex. 2, p. 237.

4. *Reading*

Do ex. 3, p. 239.

5. *Vocabulary practice*

Find the word from WORD FILE in the text and translate the sentences with them.

6. *Listening*

Listen to someone talking about the meaning of the American flag. Talk about Ukrainian flag like in the sample.

The flag is a symbol of our great nation. It is a symbol that represents not only who we are but also what we stand for and what we believe. Our flag is often taken for granted and its powerful symbolism ignored. There is great symbolism in the flag that we seem to have forgotten. We sometimes need a reminder that we have a star spangled banner for a reason.

THE THIRTEEN STRIPES

The flag consists of thirteen stripes, 7 red stripes that alternate with 6 white stripes. We started with only thirteen colonies that stood against the oppression of the British Empire. These colonies became the thirteen original states. It was from these humble beginnings that the United States grew to be one of the greatest nations in the entire world. These stripes remind us of our proud beginnings and of our resolve to be free.

THE FIELD OF BLUE

The field of blue represents the freedom to expand and explore the world and beyond. We need to remember that when the flag was created; there was much of the country yet to be explored. This same spirit applies to the fields of medicine, exploration and the frontiers of space. We are a people that love to discover, to enlighten, and to create.

THE FIFTY STARS

The flag originally only had thirteen stars with thirteen stripes. When additional states were added to the nation a new star was added to the flag. The stars represent the hope and prosperity that exists in the fifty states that make up our nation. Now our United States are represented by fifty stars, one per state. The stars represent the hope that our nation shows to the entire world.

The colors of the flag stand for far more than most of us realize. The red, white and blue stand for more than just national colors or colors available at the time.

7. Summary

What is the importance of the Declaration on State sovereignty of Ukraine?

8. Homework

Write about the symbols of our national culture which characterize our country as especially unique one.

POLITICAL SYSTEM OF UKRAINE

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Procedure

1. Warm-up

Do ex. 4, p. 240.

2. Speaking

Do ex. 6, p. 241.

3. Reading

Read some information about the political system of Ukraine and summarize it.

- 1) What is the general foundations of the political system?
- 2) What are the state power institutions in Ukraine?

POLITICAL SYSTEM

On August 24, 1991, Ukraine proclaimed its independence and during the referendum held on December 1 of the same year, the Ukrainian people confirmed their choice of independent development by saying “yes” to it. Leonid Kravchuk was elected the first president of a newly independent Ukraine.

Ukraine faced a multitude of very difficult tasks which had to be solved within a short period of time: a new political system had to be built; new statehood principles based on law had to be introduced; a new system of national security and defense had to be created.

In 1996 the new Constitution was adopted.

General foundations of the political system of Ukraine are defined by its Constitution. In accordance with its organic law, Ukraine is a sovereign and independent, democratic, social and jural state.

Democratic essence of the Ukrainian state is enshrined by the constitutional provisions concerning its form of government — a republic, governed by sovereignty of the people. State power is divided into legislative, executive and judicial branches, acting within their competence. The Constitution envisages the principle of political, economic and ideological diversity of social life.

The social character of Ukrainian state results in constitutional regulation of issues related to the use of property and protection of all subjects of property right, social orientation of the economy, equality of all subjects of property right before the law, and the maintenance of ecologic safety and balance within Ukraine's territory and other socially important measures.

Jural essence of the state is supported by provisions related to supremacy of law and direct action of constitutional norms. The state is responsible to the people for its activities. According to the Constitution, the main task of the state is to establish and promote human rights and freedoms.

Ukraine is a unitary state, in which its territory is integral and inviolable. The state has a single citizenship. The state language of Ukraine is Ukrainian.

THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

The Constitution of Ukraine designates the President as the Head of State, acting on its behalf. The President is a guarantor of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, adherence to the Constitution, human and civil rights and freedoms. The President is elected by the citizens of the state on the basis of equal and direct universal suffrage through a secret vote. The term of presidential office is five years. Only a citizen of Ukraine, who was residing in Ukraine for ten years before the elections, has voting rights and speaks state language, may be elected President. President may hold his/her post no longer than two consecutive terms.

THE VERKHOVNA RADA (PARLIAMENT) OF UKRAINE

The only legislative body of Ukraine is the Parliament — the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. People's deputies of Ukraine are elected by the citizens of Ukraine on the basis of equal and direct universal suffrage through secret vote. The election system is mixed — majority and proportional.

Altogether 450 deputies are elected. 225 of them are elected at singlemandate constituencies on the basis of relative majority, and another 225 are elected proportionally at multi-mandate national constituency from the lists of candidates coming from political parties and their election blocks.

The powers of people's deputies of Ukraine are established by the Constitution and laws of Ukraine. People's deputies of Ukraine may voluntarily unite themselves into deputies' groups called factions with no less than 25 members. Deputies' groups are formed both on a party and a non-party basis. Deputies' groups formed on party basis are called 'factions'. Non-party deputies may join a faction if they support the program of relevant party. Deputies' groups formed on a non-party basis unite deputies who share the same or similar views of national, social and economic development.

THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE

The Cabinet of Ministers (Government) of Ukraine is the supreme executive authority. Its actions are based on the Constitution, laws of Ukraine and presidential orders. The Government is responsible to the President and is controlled by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, to which it also must report. In practice, this dependency results in presidential appointment of a Prime Minister (with parliamentary consent). The President may also suspend Prime Minister's authorities and discharge him/her. Upon Prime Minister's submission, the President appoints and discharges the members of Cabinet of Ministers and other heads of central executive authorities.

Parliamentary control of the Government and its reporting to the Verkhovna Rada results in parliamentary approval of government-submitted annual budget, parliamentary resolutions on fulfillment

of budgetary provisions, approval or rejection of governmental program and control of government's work.

THE SYSTEM OF JUDICIAL AUTHORITY

Legal proceedings are carried out by the Constitutional Court and courts of general jurisdiction. The supreme authority of the system of courts of general jurisdiction is the Supreme Court of Ukraine. Legal proceedings may be carried out only by courts. Courts' jurisdiction covers all legal relationships in the state. The system of courts of general jurisdiction is based on the principles of territorial and special jurisdiction.

The Constitutional Court of Ukraine is a separate entity and is independent from the courts of general jurisdiction. It cannot be used as a cassation, appeal or supervisory authority for the courts of general jurisdiction. The activities of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine promote constitutional control in all spheres, stabilization and strengthening of constitutional order, the establishment of principle of primacy of law and the supreme legal force of the Constitution, and the promotion of constitutional rights and freedoms of citizens.

4. Speaking

Do ex. 7, p. 241.

5. Summary

Do ex. 9, p. 241.

6. Homework

Ex. 5, p. 240.