**ПРИЛОЖЕНИЕ:**

**Практическая работа 1**

**Interesting Facts about Lake Baikal**

**Рart I**

**Цель**: совершенствование и развитие лексических навыков, навыков чтения и перевода текста на английском языке культурологической направленности.

**Содержание работы:**

**I.You are going to read the text about Lake Baikal.**

Pre-reading task: 1.What do you know about Lake Baikal?

**II Check in your dictionary that you understand the following words:**

Bay, cormorant, pearl, hydrofoil, rapids, shallow

**III Read the text**

**Interesting Facts about Lake Baikal (I)**

Lake Baikal is a unique and mysterious natural phenomenon. It is often called “the pearl of Siberia”. The lake is some 60 kilometers from Irkutsk and can be reached by land and river.

One may also travel up river by a Raketa - hydrofoil launch. It takes about an hour. First, the launch travels up the Irkutsk Reservoir, enters the Angara, the only river flowing out of Baikal.

Where should the story of Lake Baikal begin? With its name, perhaps? Since time immemorial, the Buryats have called it Baigal-dalai, which means Big Water (that is, sea). The Evenks that lived on its shores called it Lama, which also means “sea”. The Russians who first came here also called it a sea. Glorious sea, sacred Baikal, begins an old Russian song, still a great favourite.

How old is the lake? That is also one of its mysteries. It is believed to go back about 25 – 30 million years, whereas most lakes on earth are not more than 15, 000 years old. It is quite probably, that the age of different parts of Lake Baikal varies.

The size of Lake Baikal is impressive. Its area is 31, 500 square kilometers, its length – 636 kilometers, the distance between Moscow and St. Petersburg, but the most striking feature is its depth – 1, 637 meters. There is no other lake of such depth on earth. There is more water in Lake Baikal than in the Baltic. It contains one – fifth of the world’s fresh water resources – 23, 000 cubic kilometers of crystal pure, oxygen rich, almost mineral- free, deliciously fresh water. More than 300 rivers and streams carry their waters to lake Baikal, the largest of them is the Selenga.

The transparency of Baikal water is extraordinary. The smallest objects can be seen many meters under water magnified.

Baikal water has another interesting property: it is uncommonly cold. Even on hot summer days, when the air temperature is more than +25 degrees Celsius, the water temperature is never more than +15 degrees Celsius. Only in some shallow bays it is tolerably warm.

**IV COMPREHENSION CHECK**

1. **There are four answers after each question. Only one is correct. Choose the correct answer.**
2. The lake can be reached by
3. air and on foot
4. river and air
5. river and land
6. ship and boat
7. Baikal is often called
8. “Big River”
9. “the pearl of Russia”
10. “the pearl of the Far East”
11. “the pearl of Siberia”
12. In winter Baikal
13. is covered with a thin layer of ice
14. does not freeze
15. is covered with a thick layer of ice
16. is hidden by clouds of steam
17. The lake contains
18. one – fifth of world’s crystal pure poisoned fresh water
19. one – fifth of world’s crystal pure salt water
20. one – fifth of world’s oxygen rich, pure fresh water
21. one – fifth of world’s salt water resources

**2. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?**

1. Baikal or Lama means “fast river” in the Evenk language.

2. The largest river carrying its waters to Lake Baikal is the Angara.

3. There is less water in Lake Baikal than in the Baltic.

4. There is no other lake of such depth on earth as Baikal.

**3. Match a line in A with a line in B**

A

1. One can barely see
2. The river does not freeze at the rapids
3. Hundreds of ducks, cormorants, rish ducks and other birds can be seen
4. The length of the lake is
5. The meter-thick ice is so clear

B

1. but is hidden by clouds of steam.
2. that it does not seem solid at all.
3. equal to the distance from the capital of our country to St. Petersburg.
4. feeding on the fish.
5. the top of the Shaman Stone not far from Listvyanka.

**4. Put the sentences into the correct order**

1. The Buryats have called Baikal “Big Water”
2. The lake is some 60 kilometers from Irkutsk and can be reached by land and river.
3. It is often called “the pearl of Siberia”

4. The water in the Angara is warmer at the source than elsewhere.

**5. DISCUSSION**

1. What are the properties of Baikal water?

2. What other lake can you compare with Baikal.

**Практическая работа 2**

**Interesting Facts about Lake Baikal**

**Рart II**

**Цель**: совершенствование и развитие лексических навыков, навыков чтения и перевода текста на английском языке культурологической направленности.

**Содержание работы:**

**I.You are going to read the text about the animals ( the fauna) and some geographical and climate features of Baikal.**

Pre-reading task: 1. What fish do you associate with Baikal?

2. Can you name the islands of Baikal?

**II Check in your dictionary that you understand the following words:**

Armour, endemie, sheer, grayling, sturgeon, shallow, viviparous

**III Read the text**

**Interesting Facts about Lake Baikal (II)**

One of the biggest and the most ancient lakes of the world – Lake Baikal – is situated nearly in the centre of Asia in a huge stone bowl at 455 metres above the sea-level.

The animal world of Baikal is also remarkable. There are many endemic animal organisms here, that is, those that do not occur anywhere else. Three-fourths of all living organisms in the lake are of this kind.

One of these endemic organisms is a small fish called the golomyanka (Comephorus) – the only viviparous freshwater fish. Another remarkable feature: the lake abounds in fish and animals typical of seas and oceans. Their presence in a closed lake, and a freshwater one at that, is another mystery. The famous Baikal omul is one such example; this fish is real delicacy. The development of a fish-breeding industry has helped to increase the school of omul in the lake: the young of the omul are allowed to grow to a certain size before being released in the lake. The Baikal grayling is also a superb delicacy. The white fish, the sturgeon and other valuable marketable fish also live here.

One more remarkable member of Baikal’s animal is the seal, or nerpa, another marketable animal. Its silvery fur is both beautiful and long – wearing.

The winds blowing from the glens are also a special feature of Baikal’s nature . They are rather frequent, and each of them has a name of its own: Barguzin, Angara, Kuluk, etc. Some of them, hit the lake quite suddenly and reach hurricane force.

Despite severe frosts, Baikal freezes rather late, mostly in January. For a long time it tries to withstand the frost. In the end, however, Baikal always looses the battle with the frost, and then it lies locked in its icy armour for nearly five month. The ice is so solid that cars can drive over it. In March tiny lemon – yellow living globes appear on the ice – the new – born seals. As they grow, they turn white first and then silvery grey.

There are about thirty islands in Baikal. The largest and the only inhabited one is Olkhon. It is situated approximately in the middle of the lake, closer to its north – western coast. The area between the island and the continent is called the Little Sea.

1550 species of animals and 1085 species of plants are known in Lake Baikal. 56 species of fish live in the lake.

The coastline of Baikal is indented and picturesque, with mountain ridges dropping fowards the water’s edge. In some places, the shore is sheer rock, in others the cliffs stand back forming bays, each with a charm of its own. There are also shallow covers with sandy beaches suitable for bathing. In Sandy Bay the trees stand on bare roots as on stilts. The soil has been blown away by winds. There is a bay with “singing” sands: the large crystalline grains of sand make musical sounds as they trickle along the beach. There are medicinal mineral springs, both cold and hot, near Baikal’s eastern coast.

Man has lived on the shores of Baikal since time immemorial. Some of the primitive sites found here go back to the Stone Age. Amazing “picture galleries” have been discovered: carved in the rock are figures of man, animals, and hunting scenes. There are the so-called pisanitsy. They are at least 2, 500 years old. The Baikal coast is now the site of many villages and towns, and there are also scientific stations, tourist camps, facilities for hunters, game reserves, and national parks, of which the best known is the Barguzin National Park, the habitat of the famous Barguzin sable. Large industrial enterprises are also being built on Baikal.

**IV COMPREHENSION CHECK**

**I There are four answers after each question. Only one is correct. Choose the correct answer.**

1. There are three-fourth of endemic vegetable and animal organisms

1. that can be found everywhere in the world
2. that do not occur anywhere else
3. that can live in the Baltic
4. that can live close to Olkhon only

2. The mystery of Baikal is that

1. it is a closed and freshwater lake
2. it is a closed and saltwater lake
3. it abounds in fish and animals typical of rivers and freshwater lakes
4. it is surrounded by mountains overgrown with the taiga

3. In Baikal there

1. are three islands
2. is the only island which is called Olkhon
3. are about twenty islands
4. are about thirty islands

4. Despite severe frosts, Baikal freezes

1. mostly in the first half of December
2. when the new-born seals appear
3. rather early, mostly in November
4. rather late, mostly in January

5. In the bay with “singing” sands the large crystalline grains of sand make musical sounds

1. as they form bays
2. as they stand on bare roots
3. as they drop towards the water’s edge
4. as they trickle along the beach

**2. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?**

1. Lake Baikal is a warm place, surpassing the Caucasus spas in total hours of sunshine.
2. Some of the primitive sites found on shores of Baikal go back to Stone Age.
3. The mountains are overgrown with the taiga, in which the trees can be even eight hundred years old.
4. Tiny lemon-yellow living globes appear on the ice – the new-born seals in May.
5. Bare rocky summits are called “picture” galleries or pisantisy.

**3. Match a line in A with a line in B**

A

1. The best known Barguzin National Park
2. The development of a fish-breeding industry
3. Baikal’s seal or nerpa
4. Some of the winds blowing from the glens
5. The coastline of Baikal is indented and picturesque

B

1. in some places the shore is sheer rocks, in others the cliffs stand back forming bays
2. has helped to increase the schools of omul in Baikal
3. with its beautiful silvery and long-wearing fur is a marketable animal
4. is the habitat of the famous sable
5. hit the lake quite suddenly and reach hurricane force

**3. Put the sentences into the correct order**

1. The area between the largest island and the continent is called the Little Sea.
2. Baikal lies locked in its icy armour for nearly five month.
3. Close to the only inhabited island is the deepest depression in the lake bed.
4. In some places the shore is sheer rock and there are also shallow coves with sandy beaches suitable for bathing.
5. Lake Baikal has the only viviparous freshwater fish.

**4. DISCUSSION**

1. What food do you associate with Lake Baikal?

2. What things can we do to save animals and fish in Baikal?