LESSON 3. The external affairs of great Britain

TEXT 1

The main objectives of britain's foreign policy are to enhance its security and prosperity and to promote and protect its interests overseas, world peace and economic growth. Britain has diplomatic relations with 169 countries and it is a member of the European Community, an association of 12 democratic states. The objectives of the Community are common economic and trade policies, a common internal market, closer union between the peoples of Europe and a framework of Community law.

More than 50 % of britain's trade is with the other member states. Overseas countries having special links with the Community are accorded preferential treatment in aid and the development of trade.

It is important to note that Great Britain is an active member of the Commonwealth, a voluntary association of 50 independent states, which originated in the progressive dismantling of the British Empire after 1945. The Commonwealth comprises republics and national monarchies countries as well as having the Queen as their Head of State.

The Queen is the Head of the Commonwealth, and she is also Head of State in 16 member countries. Consultation between members takes place through official meetings, as well as through diplomatic representatives and nongovernmental organisations and other forms of international communication. Britain also разрабатывает the overseas aid programme, which aims to promote sustainable economic and social progress, and the alleviation of poverty. Great Britain is considered as the world's sixth largest aid donor, it provides development assistance to over 120 countries.

Britain believes that sustainable development requires the implementation of sound economic policies in the developing countries.

OUESTIONS

- 1. What are the main objectives of britain's foreign policy?
- 2. What is the European Community?
- 3. What are the objectives of the Community?
- 4. What does the Commonwealth comprise?
- 5. How does the consultation between the members of the Commonwealth take place?
- 6. What does Great Britain also develop?

VOCABULARY

objective - задача
enhance - усиливать
prosperity - процветание
framework - рамки, границы
links - связи
to accord - предоставлять
preferential - лучший
to dismantle - разрушать
sustainable - непрерывный

implementation - осуществление sound - правильный, логичный

TEXT 2

Great Britain is a member of the European Economic Community

Great Britain is one of the biggest and highly developed countries in the world. Britain's democratic system of government is long established and well tried, and has provided a remarkable political stability. Britain's overseas relations including its membership in the European Economic Community and its links with Commonwealth countries, enable it to realize international cooperation.

Great Britain has diplomatic relations with 166 countries, bears the responsibility for 14 independent territories, provides assistance to over 120 developing countries and is a member of some international organizations. It is one of the five permanent members of the UNO Security Council. Great Britain is a member of the European Economic Community. The Community defines its aims as the harmonious development of economic activities. It has abolished internal tariffs, established common custom tariffs, and set a goal of the creation of an internal market in which free movement of goods, services, persons, and capital would be ensured in accordance with the Treaty of Rome.

By the middle of 2000 Britain had adopted more laws regulating the activity in the internal market than any other Community member. The Community now accounts for a fifth of world trade. Half Britain's trade is with its eleven Community partners.

Great Britain takes an active part in the work of the Commonwealth, which is a voluntary association of 50 independent states. The English Queen is recognized as Head of the Commonwealth.

Great Britain promotes sustainable economic and social progress in developing countries. Almost £65 million were spent on disaster relief, help for refugees and emergency humanitarian aid.

Britain's defence policy is based on its membership in NATO, which is committed to defend the territories of all its states-members.

TASK 1: Prepare a summary of this text TASK 2: Make up questions on the text

LESSON 4. Industry in Great Britain

TEXT 1 INDUSTRY IN GREAT BRITAIN

1. Read the text.

Great Britain is one of the most highly industrialized countries in the world. The largest industrial cities in Britain are: London, Birmingham, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle, Liverpool, and Sheffield. The district around Birmingham is a land of factories and mines. The Glasgow industrial region has many shipbuilding yards, extensive docks and textile factories. Sheffield is a big centre of steel industry, and in Manchester there are many textile factories. Liverpool is one of the' biggest ports in the West. Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland. Oxford, Cambridge and Edinburgh are universities towns. Britain is one of the most important and the largest exporters of automobiles, textile machinery, and electronic equipment.