

ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОЕ АГЕНТСТВО ПО ОБРАЗОВАНИЮ
УРАЛЬСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ ЛЕСОТЕХНИЧЕСКИЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ
Кафедра социально – культурных технологий

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НАШ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

Методические указания
на английском языке
для развития навыков чтения и устной речи
для студентов I курса.
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Text 1

ST. PETERSBURG UNIVERSITY

Every year thousands of young men and women enter Universities and Institutes of Higher Education. Moscow and St. Petersburg Universities may be the aim of many applicants although there are many more institutions all over Russia where students get their higher education in various subjects. Besides day departments there are evening and extra-mural (or correspondence) departments for part-time students who work during the day.

The applicants go in for entrance examinations in July and August before the new academic year begins. A written examination in the Russian language is compulsory as well as oral examination in the subjects the students are going to major in.

If the applicants want to have a good command of the subject in which they will take examinations, they attend preliminary courses.

Most students receive grants. The amount depends on the results of the previous set of examinations.

The first two years of study are generally the most difficult. The students may have up to 30 hours a week of seminars, lectures and classes.

Apart from the major subject and its allied subjects, University students follow courses in Socio-Political History of the XX century, Philosophy and Political Economy.

Sport is also compulsory during the first years of study. Students' life is a very full one, both academically and culturally.

Students have holidays twice a year, at the end of each set of examinations.

In winter when examinations are over students may spend their vacation in the country where they skate and ski, or they may go to warmer places where it is possible to sunbathe and swim even at this time of the year. Unfortunately there are some students who fail exams. They stay in town and cram for their failed exams.

Now more and more young people understand that education provides the younger generation not only with formal learning, but with social, moral and political ideas.



Once a year every faculty gives an interview for candidates seeking admission. The dean and some of the lecturers welcome them and answer all their questions thoroughly.

Let's go to one of these meetings at the faculty of Philology of St. Petersburg University and listen to everything they say there.

D e a n: Dear friends, St. Petersburg University is one of the most important educational and scientific centers in the country. Its history goes back to 1819. This educational institution gave the world such outstanding public men, writers and scientists as I.P. Pavlov, I. I. Mechnikov, D. I. Mendeleev, and others.

The University occupies a great many buildings not only in St. Petersburg, but also in Petrodvoretz, one of its suburbs. The main building of the University was originally Peter I's "Twelve Colleges". Next door to it is a two-storey building which houses the faculties of Philology and Oriental Studies. The teaching staff of the University consists of professors, lecturers and assistants. Many of them are well-known not only in this country, but also abroad.

In October 1994 Elizabeth II, Queen of Britain, visited St. Petersburg University during her State Visit. She met professors and students in the University main hall and visited some of the laboratories. In her speech addressed to the professors, undergraduates and graduates she said:

«We know that it was not faint-hearted who first created the splendours of St. Petersburg from flat and barren wasteland; and I am confident that the young people who will emerge from the lecture halls of this University to be a new generation of builders will be able to draw on those same qualities of vision, courage and perseverance».

Now I am ready to answer your questions.

A.: Is there any difference in the curriculum for full-time and part-time students?

D e a n: Yes, there is. The evening department holds classes only four times a week, and therefore their course runs for six years.

B.: We have heard that there is a well-equipped language laboratory at the Philological faculty. Will we be able to listen to recordings and work with tape – recorders there ourselves?

D e a n: Of course, you will. You will even have to do it, otherwise your teachers will tell you that you don't work at your English properly. Besides it will help you to improve your pronunciation and speech habits. I am sure that you will do your best, and there will be no need for your teachers to worry.

C.: Will we be able to borrow books from the University library being only part-time students?

D e a n: Yes, you will have to join our library. It is well-stocked with books from the reading-list of recommended works for students. Times of opening are convenient for those who work as well as study. On Mondays and Thursday our library is open till 9 o'clock in the evening.

E.: Are there any student societies at the faculty?

D e a n: There certainly are. We have students' clubs, which are extremely popular with the students of our faculty, especially first-year students. Everybody knows that «Much work and no play never makes people gay». So we hope that you will take part in the activities of our discussion and theatrical groups or the choir. Our University Choir is famous all over the country. Of

course there are many sports societies among which you can find something to your liking. In senior years if you are interested in research work you will be able to join scientific societies.

S.: I've heard that there are two museums in the main building of the University. What kind of museums are they?

D e a n: You are right, there are two museums in the main building. Mendeleev museum which is in fact the flat where Mendeleev lived with his family when he was Rector of the University.

The other museum is the University History Museum. Among its exhibits there are old documents, photos and instruments.

K.: When can we hand in our applications?

D e a n: The Entrance Requirements Department will take them from June 20th till July 31st.

L.: What entrance exams will we have to take?

D e a n: You must write an essay and go in for Russian, English and History.

Vocabulary Notes on the Texts

1) extra-mural department – заочное отделение

Syn.: **correspondence department**

to study by correspondence (as an external student) – заниматься заочно

2) part-time students - студенты вечернего или заочного отделения, которые занимаются без отрыва от производства

full-time students – студенты дневного отделения

3) to have a good command of a subject – хорошо знать предмет

She has a good command of English.

Syn. expr.: **to be good at a subject**

4) to take (to have) an examination in Literature (English) – сдавать экзамены по литературе (английскому языку)

Syn. expr.: **to go in for Literature**

to pass an examination (a test) in English – сдавать экзамен (зачет) по английскому языку

to fail an examination (a test) in Literature - провалиться на экзамене (зачете) по литературе

5) a class in English

to have *classes* in Mathematics, Chemistry, Informatics, Physics

to have *seminars on* Socio-Political History of the XX century

to have *a lecture on* Economics

6) ... every faculty gives an interview for candidates seeking admission - каждый факультет проводит день открытых дверей (встречи с желающими поступить)

7) a public man – общественный деятель

Syn. expr.: *a public figure*

8) to house – помещать, размещать, вмещать

This two-story building houses three faculties.

9) Their course runs for six years – курс обучения продолжается шесть лет

to run for – продолжаться, длиться

Syn.: **to last (for)**

The meeting lasted (for) two hours.

10) a record - пластинка

ordinary and long-playing records - простые и долгоиграющие пластинки

a record player - проигрыватель

to record - записывать

11) to do one's best – сделать все от себя зависящее

I'm sure you'll do your best.

12) times of opening – время работы

13) Much work and no play never makes people gay. – Нельзя только работать, надо и развлекаться.

Русская пословица: Мешай дело с бездельем, проживешь век с весельем.

14) you can find something to your liking – вы можете найти себе что-либо по вкусу.

Additional Material to the Lesson

Head of the (English, Russian, etc.) Department – заведующий кафедрой

senior teacher – старший преподаватель

a time-table - расписание

to give a talk (lecture) on – прочесть доклад (лекцию) о

to attend classes (lectures) – посещать занятия (лекции)

to miss classes – пропускать занятия по уважительной причине или прогуливать

to take (make) notes at a lecture on Literature – записывать лекцию по литературе

to give (make) a précis of a story, text, book, etc. – дать письменное краткое содержание рассказа, текста, статьи и т.д.

a composition – небольшое сочинение на тему (обычно 1-3 страницы)

an essay – сочинение (очерк)

to do a subject – изучать предмет

to do well in a subject – хорошо успевать по какому-либо предмету

to work by fits and starts – работать урывками, не систематически

to fall (get, lag) behind the group in Grammar – отставать от группы по грамматике

to lack fluency – говорить медленно (*букв.* не хватает беглости)

to catch up with the group – догнать группу

to help smb with Drawing (in one's work) – помогать кому-либо по черчению (в работе)

an examination paper (a test-paper) in Grammar – контрольная работа по грамматике

to revise (to do a revision) for an examination – готовиться к экзамену

a student's record book – зачетная книжка

to give a mark (a credit) – поставить оценку, зачет

to get a mark (a five, etc.) in a subject (for a paper) – получить оценку (пятерку и т.д.) по предмету (за работу)

to graduate (from) the University – окончить университет

Proverbs

Soon learnt, soon forgotten. – Выученное наспех быстро забывается.

Live and learn. – Век живи - век учись.

Little knowledge is a dangerous thing. – Недоученный хуже неученого (Ср.: Всякое полужнание хуже незнания).

To know everything is to know nothing. – Знать все – значит ничего не знать.

It is never too late to learn. – Учиться никогда не поздно.

Exercises

Exercise 1. Read and translate the text.

Exercise 2. Ask questions about the text and the dialogue; let your fellow-students answer them.

Exercise 3. Retell the text and the dialogue. Speak about:

St. Petersburg University; the preliminary courses; entrance examinations to the faculty of Philology; the student's life; the societies at the University; the libraries and laboratories; an interview with the Dean for candidates seeking admission to the University.

Exercise 4. Give antonyms to the following words and expressions:

to attend classes, to be absent, to fail, in writing, part-time students, evening department, to lack fluency, to be good at a subject.

Exercise 5. Insert prepositions or post-verbal adverbs if necessary.

1. Kate is very good ... English. She always helps her friends ... their Grammar. There are no weak students ... her group. They all work hard ... their English and help each other ... their work.

2. If a student gets ... the group, everybody is ready to help him. It doesn't take him long to catch ... the group.

3. If you are interested ... research work, you may join ... some scientific society. There are many ... them ... our faculty. You are sure to find something ... your liking.

4. Did you write a composition ... Monday? – Yes, we did. I got “excellent” ... it. Next week we will write a paper ... Grammar.

5. You can hand ... your application ... the Entrance Requirements Department. It is next door ... the Dean’s Office.

6. ... winter we shall take exams ... English and the Geography ... England. ... a month we will have our first examination. I have already begun to do some revision ... it.

7. I hope nobody will fail ... English. It is most unpleasant to fail ... an examination.

8. Peter is good ... Phonetics. He works hard ... his sounds. He spends much time ... the language laboratory ... the faculty. He listens ... records and works ... a tape-recorder.

9. Please help me ... this rule. It is rather difficult. Will you give me your Grammar book ... a few days? – Well, yes, of course. But why don’t you get a copy ... the library?

10. What subjects will we do ... senior years?

11. Our local library is well-stocked ... books ... foreign and Russian writers. Times of opening are convenient ... everybody. ... Mondays and Tuesdays our library is open ... 9 o’clock ... the evening.

12. Our English club is extremely popular ... the students ... our faculty. Those who are fond ... singing or acting may join ... our theatrical group or the choir, which is famous all ... the country.

13. There are many sports societies ... which you can find something ... your liking.

Exercise 6. Answer the following questions:

1. When do applicants take entrance examinations? What subjects do they go in for? Is competition usually fierce?

2. What departments are there at your faculty? What department are you in?

3. Are you a part-time or a full-time student? What year are you in?

4. What classes in English do you have? Do you find English spelling (Grammar) difficult? Why?

5. What lectures do you attend? Do you ever miss lectures? What seminars do you have?

6. What English book are you reading now? Do you use a dictionary when reading it?

7. Who is good at English in your group? Are there any students who fall behind in your group? What are they weak in? Who helps them to catch up with the group?

8. How many exams will you have in winter? Have you begun to revise for them yet?

9. Is there a language laboratory at your faculty? What kind of work do students do there?

10. Are there any student societies at the faculty? What are they? What society have you already joined? Why have you joined it? What society is extremely popular with your students?

11. Which society is more popular – the theatrical group or the choir? Do you take part in the work of your students' club?

12. Which sports societies do you find to your liking?

13. Is there an evening department at your faculty? How many times a week do part-time students attend their classes? How long does their course run?

Text 2

Russian Federation Ministry of Education Ural State Forestry Engineering University USFEU

USFEU is a real success in the modern market

University carries out:

- bachelors,
- masters degree,
- experts in a wide spectrum of ecological, humanitarian and technical directions and specialties.

Attendance:

- full-time
- part-time
- correspondence
- external.

The graduates from the University have a high-quality education and can work at various forest enterprises and woodworking industries, at Research Institutes.

University Structure

There are 38 departments at the University.

There are about 9000 students, including 5000 full-time students at the University.

42 professors and doctors of science, more than 280 senior lecturers and candidates, including 21 academicians teach them.

The University possesses 6 study corps and includes:

- three institutes (Auto-Road Institute, Eco-Toxicology Research Institute; Quality of Life Institute);
- nine faculties (Logging Faculty; Woodworking Faculty; Economics and Management Faculty; Mechanical Engineering Faculty; Chemistry Faculty; Forestry

Faculty; Correspondence Faculty; Humanities Faculty; Additional Education Faculty);

- branches of the University in Ozersk, Sovetsky, Kudymkar;
- representatives in Revda, Bogdanovich, Nizhny Tagil;
- Forestry Woodworking enterprises.

Study

High education study

Preparation of the bachelors:

521500 Management;
521600 Economy;
550100 Building;
550800 Chemistry Technology and Biotechnology;
551800 Technological Machinery and Equipment;
552100 Transport Exploitation;
553500 Environmental Protection;
553700 Technology and Equipment of Logging and Woodworking Industries;
554200 Forestry Industry.

Preparation of the masters degree:

521500 Management;
550800 Chemistry technology and biotechnology;
552100 Transport exploitation

Specialties:

060500 Accounting, Analysis and Audit;
060800 Management and Economy;
061100 Organization Management;
150200 Automobiles and Motor- keeping;
170400 Forest Complex Equipment and Machinery;
210200 Technology Processes and Production Automation;
230100 Exploitation and Service of Transport and Technological Machinery and Equipment;
240500 Service and Tourism
240100 Logistic and Transport Control;
240400 Traffic Organization and Regulation;
240600 Plastic Technology
260100 Forestry Engineering Industry;
260200 Woodworking Technology;
260300 Chemistry Wood Processing;
260400 Forest Management;

260500 Landscape Building;
291000 Roads and Aerodromes;
320700 Environmental Protection and Efficient Usage of Natural Resources;
330200 Engineering Environmental Protection;
340100 Quality Management;
351000 Anti-crisis Management;
351400 Computer Science (in Economy).

Postgraduate study

USFEU is a regional center for preparation and attestation of the scientific and pedagogical staff. University graduates may continue their education in 15 science specialties, and receive additional qualification “The teacher of a higher school”. 30 doctors of science and candidates of science teach more than 150 post-graduate students, which are trained on eight branches of sciences: physics and mathematics, chemistry, biology, techniques, agriculture, economics, history, philosophy and ground sciences.

There are two doctor and one candidate dissertation councils.

Undergraduate and additional study

Undergraduate study

Short-term preparation – 8, 6, 4 months

Long-term preparation – 2 years

There is a correspondence preparatory branch for working youth in the University.

Additional study

Six programs:

- Interpreter in professional communication;
- Professional competence in automobile transportation in the Russian Federation;
- Traffic safety on motor transport;
- Highways construction organization;
- Professional skills improvement in the international transportations;
- Qualifying preparation on organization of transportations by motor transport in the international communication.

Science

USFEU realizes fundamental and applied researches in 27 scientific branches.

Every year research results are published in more than 10 monographs, scientific units and journals of the University. Annually, more than 10 new valuable scientific works are protected and receive certificates and patents.

More than 200 students make reports on scientific conferences, 20 students participate in All-Russia competition in woodworking industry.

Lifestyle, rest and sports

9 hostels of the students' campus are situated on the territory of the University.

The pride of the University is the Palace of Culture and Sport (750 seats auditorium; sports hall; foyer; wardrobe; club).

The Palace of Sport is situated on the territory of students' campus. There are two game halls; hockey and tennis courts; shaping hall, boxing ring, 2 shooting galleries; 4 basketball platforms; stadium; ski base.

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Exercise 1. Look through the Text and say what kind of article it is (fiction, science paper, advertisement).

Exercise 2. Find and read the information about:

- the structure of the University,
- the specialties taught,
- the postgraduate study,
- scientific research,
- lifestyle of the students.

Exercise 3. Answer the following questions:

1. What specialty are you studying?
2. What subjects do you major in?
3. What allied subjects are your favourite ones?
4. Do you plan to do scientific research?
5. What does your lifestyle look like?

Exercise 4. Read the address correctly.

Text 3

Speak about your University.

Look at the sample story.

Our University

Our university is named the Urals State Forestry Engineering University (USFEU). It was founded in 1930. There are nine faculties in USFEU:

- the Logging Faculty,
- the Woodworking Faculty,
- the Faculty of Economics and Management,
- the Mechanical Engineering Faculty,
- the Faculty of Forestry,
- the Faculty of Ecological Engineering,
- the Correspondence Faculty,
- the Humanities Faculty,
- the Additional Education Faculty.

About 9 000 students study at these faculties. They are taught by 500 qualified teachers, most of them being doctors of science and candidates of science. There are about 40 departments and chairs at the University. The leading among them are the Department of Woodworking, the Department of Timber Transporting, the Department of Mechanization of Logging, the Department of Machine Elements; the Department of Mathematics, the Department of Physics, the Department of Philosophy, the Department of Foreign Languages and others.

Students who get interested in scientific research can continue their studies at the post-graduate course and then present their thesis on one of the topics.

The students of the University have at their disposal a lot of study buildings, libraries, a computer centre, a modern sport- complex, a beautiful Palace of Culture, the unique Garden named after professor Vigorov, the campus of eight hostels. An experimental forestry, a sawmill and a furniture factory form a base for students' educational and production practice.

Sport is part and parcel of students' life. The most popular sports among the students are volley- ball, basket-ball, gymnastics, tennis, athletics, skating, skiing and many others.

Graduates from the University work at various enterprises of forestry and woodworking industries, at furniture and pulp-and-paper mills, at scientific-research Institutes, at joint ventures and joint-stock companies.