

**Открытый урок по теме  
«Британские и русские  
традиции и праздники»  
“ British and Russian traditions and  
holidays” or...  
«Every country has its customs»**

**8 класс 2010 год  
учитель английского языка  
Елфимова Н.Ф.**

# The beginning of the lesson (1 min)

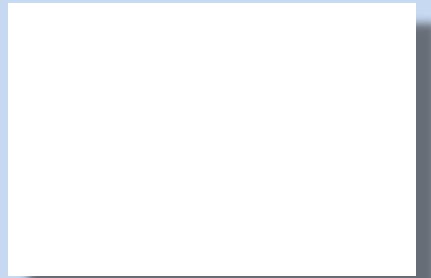
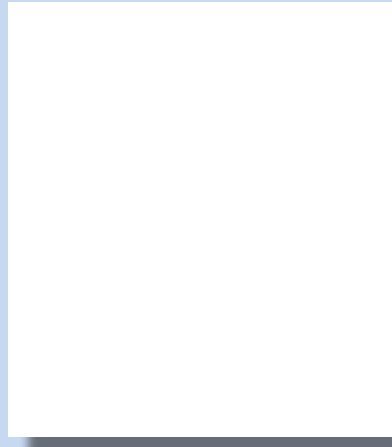
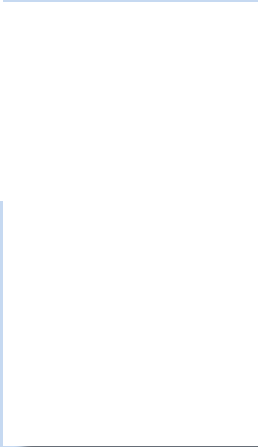
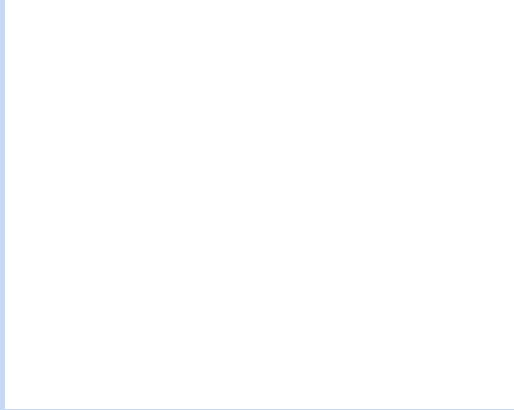
- **The teacher:** “Good morning, I am glad to see you. Today we are going to speak about some British and Russian traditions and holidays, we shall solve some tasks, connected with the aim and topic of our lesson.”
- Вступительное слово учителя: «Доброе утро, рада видеть Вас. Сегодня мы поговорим о некоторых британских и русских традициях и праздниках, выполним несколько заданий, связанных с целями и задачами нашего урока.

# **The aim of the lesson (1 min) (цель урока):**

- **To compare some British and Russian traditions and holidays, to find equality and difference in the cultures of two countries, to sum up the learnt material.**
- Сравнить британские и русские традиции и праздники, найти сходство и различие в культуре двух стран, обобщить изученный материал по темам.

# Theme: “British and Russian traditions and holidays”

- OR... EVERY COUNTRY HAS ITS CUSTOMS



# The tasks of the lesson

- To sum up the material which was studied during the 3<sup>rd</sup> term and was devoted to the project “Discovering Britain”
- To discuss some questions concerning the topic
- To develop skills of writing, listening, speaking and reading
- To develop cultural habits, manners and behavior
- To bring up respect to the cultures of Britain and Russia

# Задачи:

- **Образовательные:**
- Обобщить учебный материал по темам «Культура России», «Традиции Британии»
- Показать итоги работы над **проектом «Открываем Британию» - “ Discovering Britain”**.
- **Развивающие:**
- Развивать навыки монологической, диалогической речи, аудирования, чтения и письма.
- **Воспитывать** культуру общения, уважение к культуре и традициям России и Британии.

**We'll work in groups (one group is called "Knowledge", the second group will be "Power", and I will be "is").**

**1. Discussing some of British and Russian holidays ( 5-7 minutes)**

- **Questions:**
- What are the main holidays in Britain and in Russia?
- What do you know about New Year's traditions?
- What do you know about Christmas?
- What holidays penetrated to Russia?
- What holidays can unite people?
- What holiday is celebrated on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June in Russia?

# (“Russian, British, holidays) – some answers

- 1. The main holidays in Russia are: New Year’s Day, Women’s Day, May Day, Victory Day and Independence Day, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February - Day of the Defender of Motherland.
- 2. There are a lot of New Year traditions in Russia and in English-speaking countries. People decorate a New year tree, waiting for Father Frost or Santa Claus to come. Everybody likes to get presents. In America and G.B. people celebrate Christmas more than New Year holiday.
- 3. Christmas is a renewed holiday in our country. It is celebrated on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January in Russia and on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December in Britain and America. On that day more than 2000 years ago Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem. When Jesus was born, wise men from the East came to worship him. They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh.
- 4. Many holidays penetrated to Russia: Halloween, St. Valentine’s Day etc.
- 5. Russians and Americans like family holidays: Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, New Year’s Day because they unite people and make them happy.
- Independence Day is celebrated on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June in Russia.



## 2. Speaking about some British holidays (10 minutes)

- **Halloween** – Imangazieva Nadezhda
- **St. Valentine's Day** – Medvezkaya Vic

# Halloween traditions

- Every holiday has specific traditions that go with it.
- Halloween itself is a very old holiday.
- When Christianity became the dominant religion they created the holiday All Saints Day, they believed that the night before all sorts of freakish ghouls came out to play but had to return to where they came by morning light. The evening before All Saints Day came to be known as All Hollow's Eve. These two ancient holidays along with some Roman customs are what have created the holiday that we know today.
- The other very interesting tradition that we have is Trick-Or-Treating. Originally known as "souling". People would go from home to home begging for what was called Soul Cakes. These square cakes were pieces of sweet bread with currents (raisins). The more soul cakes the beggars would receive the more prayers they would promise to say on behalf of the dead relatives of the donors.

# St. Valentine's Day

- **Valentine's Day** or **Saint Valentine's Day** is a [holiday](#) is a holiday celebrated on [February 14](#) is a holiday celebrated on February 14 by many people throughout the world. In the English-speaking countries, it is the traditional day on which lovers express their love for each other by sending [Valentine's cards](#) is a holiday celebrated on February 14 by many people throughout the world. In the English-speaking countries, it is the traditional day on which lovers express their love for each other by sending Valentine's cards, [presenting flowers](#) is a holiday celebrated on February 14 by many people throughout the world. In the English-speaking countries, it is the traditional day on which lovers express their love for each other by sending Valentine's cards, presenting flowers, or offering sweets. The holiday is named after Early Christian priest named [Valentine](#)

# So, let's present **some British traditions**

- **Swan-upping** – Gaganova Yuliya

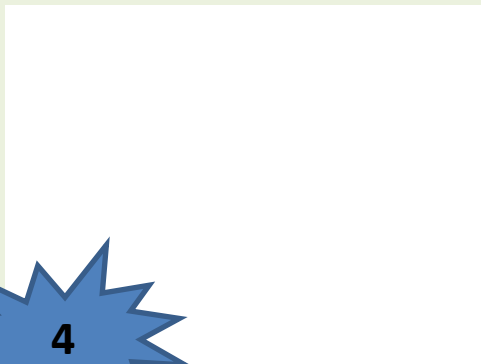
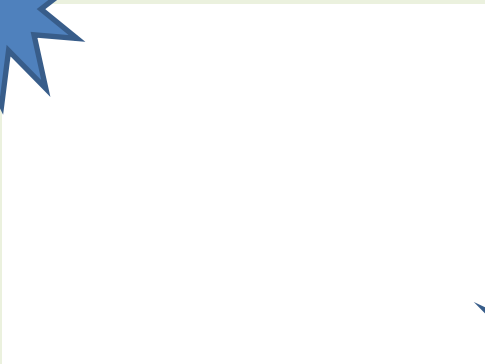
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- There is a very special royal tradition. On the river Thames there are hundreds of swans. Traditionally, a number of these beautiful large white birds belong to the Queen. In July, when the young swans are about two months the Queen's swan-keeper goes up the river Thames in a boat from London Bridge to Henley to mark the royal ones. This unusual custom is called swan-upping.

- **Stonehenge is a mystery, and most scholars would agree with that statement. It is situated to the west of the town of Amesbury, Wiltshire, in Southern England.**
- **It was first mentioned as one of the wonders of Britain only seventy years after the Norman Conquest.**
- **No one really knows why it was built. The original purpose of the stones is unclear, but some people say it was a temple. It has been also called an astronomical observatory for marking significant events on the prehistoric calendar. Whilst others claim that it was a sacred site for the burial of high-ranking citizens from the societies of long ago.**

# Working in groups

- Question of the quiz
- (Look at the pictures, write down and name the holiday or the tradition) – 3 minutes. You can say a few words about them, if you know.





## The answers

- 1. **The Ceremony of the Keys** is the traditional locking-up of the Tower of London. It's happened every night without fail for at least 700 years. Every night, at exactly 21:53, the Chief Yeoman Warder of the Tower emerges from the Byward Tower wearing his long red coat and Tudor bonnet and carrying a candle lantern and the Queen's Keys.
- 2. **The State Opening of Parliament** marks the beginning of the parliamentary session. Its main purpose is for the monarch formally to open Parliament and, in the Queen's Speech, deliver an outline of the Government's proposed policies, legislation for the coming session and a review of the last session. The State Opening usually takes place in November or December on the first day of the new parliamentary session.
- 3. **Tea drinking**  
**Anna, 7th Duchess of Bedford, is reputed to have originated the idea of afternoon tea in the early 1800s. She conceived the idea of having tea around four or five o'clock in the afternoon to ward off the hunger pangs between lunch and dinner. Some time earlier, the Earl of Sandwich had the idea of putting a filling between two slices of bread. These habits soon became a good reason for social gatherings, and started a trend that is still very much a part of British life.**
- 4. **Highland games** were originally meetings of clans. They developed into more formal gatherings under the influence of the revival of interest in Scottish antiquity fostered by Scott and others in the 1810s. In the 1820s the games included not only piping, tossing the caber, hammer-throwing, wrestling, and running, but twisting the four legs off a cow. Modern gatherings are held usually in late summer.

**5. November 5th is** a famous day in British history. Guy Fawkes Night is celebrated on this day. Do you know who he was or why this day is celebrated? Let's find out about some British culture.

**Guy Fawkes** was a member of a group of British Roman Catholics who were involved in a plot to kill King James I on November 5th, 1605. The group planned to use gunpowder to blow up the Houses of Parliament when the King was there. Guy Fawkes was caught guarding the barrels of gunpowder in a cellar below parliament. After he was caught, he was accused of treason, badly tortured and then killed.

Today this day is remembered by the lighting of bonfires that have a doll of Guy Fawkes on them (the doll is called a 'Guy') and with fireworks displays

6. **The International Eisteddfod** is a music festival which takes place every year during the second week of July in Llangollen, North Wales. Singers and dancers from around the world are invited to take part in over 20 high quality competitions followed each evening by concerts where the best and most colourful competitors share the stage with professional artists. Over five thousand singers, dancers and instrumentalists from around 50 countries perform to audiences of more than 50,000 over the 6 days of the event.

7. **Swan Upping** dates from medieval times, when the Crown claimed ownership of all mute swans at a time when swans were considered an important food source for banquets and feasts. Today, the Crown retains the right to ownership of all unmarked Mute swans in open water, but the Queen only exercises her ownership on certain stretches of the River Thames and its surrounding tributaries.

8. **A morris dance** is a form of English folk dance. It is based on rhythmic stepping and the execution of choreographed figures by a group of dancers. Implements such as swords, pipes, and handkerchiefs may also be wielded by the dancers.

The origins of the term are uncertain, but one of the most widely accepted theories is that the term was "moorish dance" and "Moresco" (in Spain), which eventually became "morris dance". Another, perhaps simpler, explanation is that "Morris" comes from the Latin "Mores", meaning "a custom". This is consistent with the word (with various archaic spellings) sometimes being used to describe some other folk customs such as folk plays.

# Summing – up (1 min)

- Results of the quiz:
- Knowledge –
- Power -

# Presenting some of Russian holidays and traditions (5-7 min)

**Shrovetide** – Kazimirova Kseniya,  
About **pancakes** – Ermolina Alina

**Easter** - Kondrashov Dmitry



- **Maslenitsa (Shrovetide) marks the end of winter and the beginning of spring and Lent. During this festival people make pancakes, sing and perform traditional songs and dances and visit each other. Maslenitsa and Easter are movable holidays.**

Pancakes recipe: take some flour, an egg, some salt, sugar and baking powder, add some milk, mix everything and bake the pastry. Enjoy your pancakes! Help yourselves!

■ Egg is the main paschal symbol of resurrection . There is an old Russian Easter tradition - on this day people greet each other with kisses and with the words "Christ's risen!" The expected answer - He's risen indeed! At paschal greeting people give each other red eggs. This custom comes from old times. When Maria Magdalene came to emperor Tiberius, she brought him a red egg as a gift with salutation "Christ has arisen!" Red color " is color of blood on the cross that Christ shed for atonement sins of the world.

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# Tradition, that can unite people – 5 minutes

- Tea – drinking ( Khromova Kseniya, Imangazieva Nadezhda)
- How to make tea – Imangazieva Nadezhda
- How to make scones – Khromova Kseniya



# How to make tea and scones

- **tea**

- 1. fill the kettle with cold water
- 2. boil the water
- 3. warm the pot
- 4. put one teaspoon of tea for each person and one extra for the pot
- 5. pour hot water into the pot
- 6. enjoy your tea

- **Scones**

- Mix the flour and baking powder, add sugar, some milk, an egg and raisins.
- Roll out the pastry to about 1 centimeter thick
- Cut into rounds
- Bake in a hot oven for 15-20 minutes
- Enjoy your scones

## ◎ Afternoon tea

- ◎ Anna, 7th Duchess of Bedford, is reputed to have originated the idea of afternoon tea in the early 1800s. She conceived the idea of having tea around four or five o'clock in the afternoon to ward off the hunger pangs between lunch and dinner. Some time earlier, the Earl of Sandwich had the idea of putting a filling between two slices of bread. These habits soon became a good reason for social gatherings, and started a trend that is still very much a part of British life.

# **Table manners** (in Britain and in Russia) –(5 min) – working in groups

- **Mrs. Manners** – Ivanova Victoriya – from Britain.

- **Mrs. Politeness** – Mareeva Ekaterina – from Russia.

# Rules from Mrs. Manners (make “tag-questions”)

- It is not polite to speak with your mouth full,....?
- People usually use fork and knife properly,....?
- It is polite to say “thank you” after the meal,....?
- There is a custom to lift a soup bowl to the mouth,....?

## Rules from Mrs. Politeness (fill in the missing word)

- Thank your friend for the (....) the most heartily.
- Say (“....”) and open the box.
- It is polite to bring a (...) some flowers.
- While opening the present express your(...).

# A dialogue – “A British guest at home”

- Tamindarov Dmitry
- Bondar Sergey (Mr. Bond)
- A hostess – Medvezkaya Victoriya



Glad to  
meet you!

# A dialogue – 5 min

- -Hello!
- -Hi! We've been invited to my friend, Vica!
- -Great! But I don't know how to behave in a Russian home.
- Don't worry, I'll help you. Buy a box of sweets as a present, learn some Russian words and be natural.
- - I see... (they come to the house)

- - Good morning! It's for you.
- - Thank you very much! It was nice of you!
- -Please sit down! This is Mr. Bond from Britain.
- -(guests).
- -Where do you live in Britain?
- -In London.
- - What is London famous for?
- - Oh, London is more than 2 thousand years old. It's much to see and to visit there. I've brought a film about London. We can watch it later.
- - Oh, it would be great!
- - Help yourselves!



# A table of comparison of British and Russian traditions and holidays

	In Britain	In Russia
Holidays		
Traditions (customs)		
Manners		
Conclusion	There are many differences in cultures of Britain and Russia. It is useful to study	traditions and manners to be an educated and cultural person.

# Conclusion

- The teacher – **So, “knowledge is power” ,translate it please .**
- I think, that today you’ve found out something new and interesting about British and Russian traditions and holidays.
- What did you like best?
- What have you discovered?
- What was good?
- What was bad at the lesson?
- **Your mark to yourself...**

# Your home task – (you may chose the task)

- To solve the quiz and answer the questions about British traditions.

Find 9 words:

- t E r a i n S E
- u n b n m c c n
- b g c W o r o g
- e l a a r i t l
- ta b l o c l i
- e n u e s X a s
- ad s s e y n h
- Lo n d o n d x

- **SYMBOLS OF BRITAIN**

- **1. What is the symbol of typical Englishman?**
- **2. When was there a series of wars in England which ever called the Wars of the roses?**
- **3. What was the emblem of Lancaster?**
- **4. What was the emblem of York?**
- **5. The different parts of Britain have their own emblems. They are all plants. What are they?**

- **LANGUAGES**

- **1. What languages are spoken in Wales?**
- **2. What languages are spoken in Scotland?**
- **3. What regional accents are there in the UK?**
- **4. What is the national language in Britain?**
- **5. What language is usually foreigners taught?**

- **SIGHTS and TRADITIONS**

- **1. How do British call the London Underground?**

- **2. What are the biggest airports in the UK?**

- **3. What monster is Scotland famous for?**

- **- What is Stonehenge used for?**

- **- What funny tradition is connected with the New Year?**

- **- How do British people celebrate their 100 s birthday?**