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“A boat travel along London”
(Поездка по Лондону на корабле)

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INTRODUCTION

I have chosen the topic “A boat travel along London” because I would like to visit London someday and to see its sights alive. I saw them in the pictures in my students books and on TV.

Travel guides advise tourists to learn as much as possible about the place they plan to visit. That is why my project **goal** is to be ready for a trip to London.

The tasks are to study:

- where and how I could take a boat ride;
- what sights are available from the Thames;
- what the pros of such a trip are;
- fact about sights available during the cruise

THE BODY

THE CHOICE OF TOURING TRANSPORT

London is a great and exciting city with some of the world's best sights, attractions and activities. You can be excited by London's amazing attractions: watching London from above on the London Eye; meeting a celebrity at Madame Tussaud's; visiting the British Museum or coming face-to-face with the dinosaurs at the Natural History Museum.

The most traditional way to see London's attractions is to take a sightseeing bus tour around the capital. But the traffic here is so stuffed that it's better to find the other way to see the capital of the United Kingdom.

Almost all of London's major tourist sights can be seen from the Thames. That is why I would like to look at London from the waters of the river Thames.

To take a trip is easy because there are four tourist piers in the heart of London: Westminster, London Eye, Tower, and Greenwich.

ADVANTAGES

I think this voyage has some advantages.

Firstly "all-weather sightseeing boats cruise up and down the River Thames" works every day of the week, all year round.

Secondly, you can leave the boat to watch the nearest attractions.

Then, City Cruises' boats depart every 40 minutes and tickets are about £10.25.

And what is more, there are free onboard commentary in eight languages, a live commentary in English or a recorded audio guide in eight languages. Boats have café-bars with sandwiches, snacks, cold and hot soft drinks.

Finally, a 1 hour boat trip down the river provides all those perfect photo

opportunities, and you won't even need to leave your seat. On the trip you'll be able to spot The London Eye, Big Ben, The Houses of Parliament, St Paul's Cathedral, The Shard, Tower Bridge and others.

SIGHTS

During my tour I would like to see **The London Eye** - a ferris wheel which is one of the city's most famous landmarks and a tourist favourite

The London Eye is 394 feet in diameter, but the view stretches much further than that. On a clear day you can see for up to 25 miles in every direction. Look to the west and you might even spot Windsor Castle, where the Queen lives for much of the year.

The Eye is constantly moving during operating hours – it never stops rotating. The reason that people are able to get on and off the ride is that it moves at a snail's pace of 26cm/second, so that it completes one full revolution every half an hour. That gives you plenty of time to see the view from every point on the wheel!

The wheel is often lit up in special colours to promote sponsors or celebrate important national events. At the moment its default colour is red because its main sponsor is Coca-Cola, but in the past it has turned red, white and blue for Prince William and Kate Middleton's wedding, and pink in 2005 to celebrate the legalising of gay civil partnerships. Its prominent position on the London skyline has given it a starring role in plenty of movies and TV shows, including the first episode of the Doctor Who reboot in 2005.

It's not the first big wheel that London has seen. Between 1895 and 1906, the Great Wheel saw 2 million visitors. It was demolished in 1907, having seen just under half the number of people in a decade that the current London Eye sees in one year. How times have changed.

The Houses of Parliament or the Palace of Westminster is located on the left bank of the River Thames. The Houses of Parliament was the first royal palace in the 11th century. There are three main towers: 1) Victoria Tower, 2) Elizabeth or Clock Tower and 3) Central Tower (in descending order of height). The Clock Tower is more commonly known as **Big Ben**.

St. Paul's Cathedral is on Ludgate Hill at the highest point of the City of London. There's much to explore in St Paul's Cathedral, the stunning Baroque church designed by Sir Christopher Wren in 1673. St. Paul's Cathedral is the tomb of almost two hundred famous citizens of Great Britain. The first who was honored to be buried in the Cathedral of St. Paul was its architect - Christopher Rehn.

Some of the nation's greatest heroes including Admiral Lord Nelson and the Duke of Wellington are also buried there.

Tower Bridge crosses the River Thames near the Tower of London. It is a drawbridge, which allows ships through the bridge deck when the deck is raised in the centre at an angle. The bridge is 800 ft (244 m) in length with two towers, each 213 ft (65 m) high, built on piers. The bridge is raised around 1000 times a year. The two side-spans are suspension bridges, each 270 feet (82 m) long, with the suspension rods anchored both at the abutments and through rods contained within the bridge's upper walkways. The pedestrian walkways are 143 feet (44 m) above the river at high tide. These walkways allow people to still cross the river, even when the bridge is raised. They were closed in 1910 because not enough people used them, but were reopened in 1982.

There were a few incidents on the bridge. On 10 August 1912 Francis McClean flew between the bascules and the high-level walkways. The last one happened on 11 May 2009, six people were trapped and injured after a lift fell 10 feet (3 m) inside the north tower.

The Shard (The Shard London Bridge, translated into Russian as “Осколок стекла” or simply “Осколок”) is a skyscraper in London. It is 310 m high. There are 87 floors. Now it is the fifth highest European skyscraper. Opening ceremony took place on July 5, 2012

At the end of the short voyage tourists can see a modern **Millennium Dome** in Greenwich. Its official name is **The O2**. A massive construction project and tourist attraction was initiated to house an exhibition for the approach of the 21st century and the 3rd millennium CE (the official start of which was January 1, 2001). The central structure is the largest dome in the world, with nearly twice the area of the former record holder, the Georgia Dome (in Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.). Its building site skirts the prime meridian (0° longitude) along the River Thames at the northern end of the Greenwich Peninsula. The Royal Observatory is

located behind the Dome and is not visible from the waters but it easily can be reached on foot.

On the back way we can relax, recall in memory the obtained information and get more impressions about London.

COCLUSION

My project goal was to prepare for travelling to London.

I have known

- where and how I could take a boat ride;
- what sights are available from the Thames;
- what the pros of such a trip are;
- fact about sights available during the cruise.

I think if I go to London someday, I will not have troubles with tours and the English language.

London is a very expensive city but a tourist can find a range of free attractions. You can meet dinosaurs and creepy crawlies, see portraits of Tudor monarchs, travel back to the Battle of Britain, see Darwin's walking stick and the Lord Mayor's 18th-century gold coach, all without spending a penny.

But it is the topic for a new project.

LIST OF LINKS AND REFERENCES

<https://www.visitlondon.com/things-to-do/visiting-london-for-the-first-time/ten-reasons-to-visit-london>

<https://www.citycruises.com>

<https://www.thepiccadillywestend.co.uk/blog/top-10-fun-facts-london-eye/>

<https://www.visitlondon.com/tag/free-attractions-in-london>

<http://www.visitgreenwich.org.uk/things-to-do/cruise-along-the-river-thames/>

https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tower_Bridge

<https://www.citycruises.com/london-sightseeing/city-guide/>

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УМК «English 5» (под редакцией Кузовлева В.П.)

