**LESSON-COMPETITION**

**«WHO KNOWS ABOUT THE USA MORE?»**

**Мета:**

* to expand students’ knowledge about the English-speaking countries;
* to practice vocabulary, writing, reading and speaking skills;
* to teach students how to analyze, generalize and compare the main idea of the material;
* to teach students to be tolerant each other, to respect people of different countries;
* to facilitate free speaking;
* to develop creative thinking;
* to develop positive attitude towards the world around us

**Обладнання:** інтерактивна дошка, мобільні телефони, завдання на картках.

**PROCEDURE**

**Warm up.**

**Teacher:** Dear friends. Today we have an unusual lesson-competition ”The best”. Our lesson is devoted to the USA. You have already read and listened many different texts about history, geography, industry, holidays, cities, ways of life, music, literature of the American people. I hope you will have many interesting competitions at the lesson.

Before starting our competitions I’d like to introduce the 11th form students, who will decide the knowledge of which team is better.

The jury of the competitions are:………

**Introducing the teams**

**Teacher:**

Two teams will take part in our competitions.

The first team is “Monkeys”. The captain is … . They are at the red table.

The second team is “Cats”. The captain is …. They are at the green table.

Each team gets one point for each correct answer. So we know the topic of our Brain ring. The players are at their tables. Good luck to you. Let’s start. The score is “Nil”, “Nil”.

**The first round**

***The captains contest***

The captains should prepare a short report on one of the topic concerning the United States of America. Jury proposes each captain to close his / her eyes and choose one topic among others. The competition is called **“The best speaker”**.

**Possible topics and answers:**

***The Discovery of America***

*The Vikings discovered North America in the 10th century of our era. America remained unknown to Europe till the end of the 15th century. Christopher Columbus an experienced sailor, asked the King of Spain to fit him out with a fleet of ships, so that he could look for a new route to India. In 1492 he sailed with 3 small ships into the Atlantic Ocean. Columbus was sure that the lands he had discovered were part of India. It was understood that Columbus had discovered a new part of the world. It was called America after Amerigo Vespucci, a traveller who left a description of some places. The countries of America were European colonies for many years. The Spanish conquerors robbed and killed the natives without mercy.*

***First Settlers***

*The pilgrims sailed to America from Plymouth, England in September, 1620. They came to America for religious freedom. They were among the first European settlers in America. The name of the ship was the “Mayflower”. They landed at Plymouth Rock (the State of Massachusetts) in December 1620. There were people living in America before the pilgrims arrived: the Native American Indians. They hunted, fished and farmed to survive. Every tribe had its own customs and beliefs. In 1621 the pilgrims had a great harvest. They celebrated it with a Thanksgiving feast: turkey, corn, beans and pumpkins. The 4th Thursday of November is Thanksgiving Day in the USA.*

***The Indians***

*Indians and their culture play a big role in the life of the American people. From Indians further to the South through Spanish came new terms for exotic foods – tomatoes, avocado, barbecue. Half of the states have Indian names as well as cities, countries, rivers, lakes, place names. The Indians became an important subject for American literature. For example, Longfellow’s long poem “The Song of Hiawatha”. The poem is based on Indian tales and stories. The Indians have also contributed to American music, theatre, medicine, psychology, folk arts and craft, cookery, modern clothes and hair styles. There are Indian museums and Indian centres and monuments throughout the USA.*

***The founding of the American State***

*Great Britain had 13 American colonies after the pilgrims had come to the American continent. In the War of Independence 1775 American Volunteers won their first battle against the British forces. The 2nd Continental Congress appointed George Washington as commander-in-chief of the whole colonial army. On July 4th 1776 the Congress in Philadelphia adopted the Declaration of Independence drafted by Thomas Jefferson who was later the 3rd President of the USA. The Bill of Liberty called the Americans to know about the birth of a new free state. The 4th of July is a big national holiday in the USA. The horizontal red and white stripes on the American flag represent the original 13 states. The stars on the flag - white on the dark blue field represent the number of states making up the USA today.*

***Famous American Presidents***

*In South Dakota there is Mount Rushmore Memorial. You can see 4 granite faces of outstanding presidents of the USA.*

*The 1st is George Washington, the Commander-in-Chief of the American Colonial Army in the War of Independence. He was the 1st President of the USA who found the place for its capital. So, the capital of the USA has his name.*

*The 2nd face is Thomas Jefferson’s, the 3rd president who signed the Declaration of Independence.*

*The 3rd face is of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the USA. His ideas about freedom for the black slaves were popular and in the war of the North and South negroes got freedom.*

*The 4th face is of Theodore Roosevelt. The 26th president of the USA who was one of the progressists. His reforms were against war politics and for nature guarding.*

*John Kennedy, the 35th president was popular and very democratic, who was killed by the enemies. New York International Airport and Space Centre in Florida were named after his name.*

***Geography***

*The USA is bordered by Canada in the North and Mexico in the South. It is washed by the Atlantic Ocean in the East and by the Pacific Ocean in the West. Hawaii, the 50th State, is situated in the Pacific Ocean. Alaska is separated from Russia by only 50 miles across the Bering Strait. Major highlands are the Appalachian Mountains in the East and Rocky Mountains in the West. The central lowland makes up the basin of the Mississippi River with its tributaries the Missouri and Ohio Rivers. There are also large rivers which flow into the Pacific Ocean – the Colorado and Columbia.*

*The Northern part of the USA has a region of the 5 Great lakes: Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, connected by natural channels cut by rapids. The greatest of them is the Niagara Falls.*

***Climate, Industry, Agriculture***

*Crossed by mountain ranges from north to south country is unprotected from cold winds from the north and from warm winds from the south. On the whole, the USA has a continental climate. The country is rich in coal, oil, iron and other minerals. The US economy is highly developed. Mining, metallurgy, electronics and space engineering, chemicals, textiles, leather and footwear are well developed. As regards agriculture both animal husbandry and arable farming are prominent in the economy of the USA.*

***Capital***

*Washington, DC, is the capital city of the United States. It is located on the north bank of the Potomac River. Washington is one of the most beautiful and unusual cities in the United States. It has little industry and only 1 million people. There are no skyscrapers because they would hide the city’s monuments. The famous sights of Washington are the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. The heart of Washington is the Capitol with the Senate Chamber, the Hall of Representatives, the Statuary Hall. The Library of Congress contains millions of books and manuscripts. Cemetery where John F. Kennedy was buried, The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier are worth seeing.*

***Large Cities***

*New York is the largest city and port in the United States. It is the industrial and cultural centre of the country. It is the financial and business centre, the centre of political life, mass media and worlds biggest bank centre, economical capital with the population of 7 mln people. The Statue of Liberty stands on a small Island at New York’s harbour. It symbolizes the friendship of the USA and France and freedom. The sights of New York are: City Hall, New York public library, Columbia University, the Brooklyn Bridge, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Central park and so on.*

*San Francisco is one of the biggest cities and ports in the West of the USA. Here the famous Golden Gate Bridge is situated.*

*Los Angeles is a “City of Angels”. Hollywood, the world capital of entertainment is a part of Los Angeles. Sport is an important aspect of Los Angeles life.*

*Disneyland is situated 27 miles south of Los Angeles was created by Walt Disney. Brilliant cartoon films are made here.*

*Philadelphia is an important commercial, manufacturing and shipping centre. Here you can see the Liberty Bell because the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed here in 1776.*

*Chicago is leading industrial and grain centre situated in the southeast shore of Lake Michigan. Chicago and Detroit are great centres of automobile industry. The first American skyscrapers were built in Chicago.*

***The Political System***

*The USA is a federal republic. The president is elected for 4 years and is the head of state and government. He names the Cabinet. Congress consists of two houses: the House of Representatives and the Senate. The Senate consists of two senators from each state, elected for 6 years. The president of the Senate is the ice-President of the United States. The two main political parties are the Republicans and the Democrats.*

***Education***

*About 85% of American students attend public schools. The other 15% attend private schools. After graduating from secondary schools the Americans go on to higher education: technical training schools, colleges and universities.*

***Holidays***

*Christmas is very big religious holiday in the USA. It is celebrated on the 25th of December by every family. There is Christmas tree in every american house. Two things are necessary for the holiday: the exchange of the postcards among friends and relatives and exchange of the gifts for close friends and members of the families. Santa Claus often brings presents for small children and puts them into an old stocking near the kid’s beds. Christmas is a merry holiday with songs and music. The other holidays are: Halloween, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, Memorial Day, Veteran’s Day and some other ones.*

***American Cars***

*Maybe it’s because of the car’s wonderful names – Cadillac, Pontiac, Buick, Hummer, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Dodge, Eagle, Jeep, Lincoln, Mercury, - the American cars are so big and beautiful. There are 160 mln automobiles on American roads: traffic jams, we never find a place to park. Most modern cities have many big roads. Modern houses are often a long way from schools and stores. Cars are necessary for many people now. The President’s automobile has glass doors and windows strong enough to stop bullets.*

***Music***

*The American nation was formed of people of different nationalities who went to America from Europe, Asia and Africa in search of better conditions of life. These people brought songs of their native lands to America. These were English, French, Russian, Irish, Scottish songs. The style in which people created their songs was named “country” or “western”. These songs are about labour, country holidays, beautiful villages, adventures of cowboys. Listen to a popular cowboy song.*

*Oh, give me the home*

*Where the buffaloes roam*

*Where the deer and the antelope play*

*Where seldom is heard*

*A discouraging word*

*And the skies are not cloudy all day.*

*Home, home on the range*

*Where the deer and the antelope play*

*Where seldom is heard*

*A discouraging word*

*And the skies are not cloudy all day.*

*The really American music is jazz. Jazz was born in New Orlean more than a century ago. It was played by small brass bands, consisting of marches and dance tunes. Between 1910 and 1920 jazz moved northwards to Chicago and New York up and down the Mississippi River. Louis Armstrong an outstanding concert player became the first jazz singer.*

**The second round**

Each team will receive a QR-code and watch a video about America's most famous national parks: Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Biscayne. After watching the video, the team captains will be given a task for the team: to tell everything they remember about one of the national parks. Teams can receive 10 points for this task.



**The third round**

***Which team will give more correct answers?***

***Quiz.***

15 questions for one team and 15 questions for another one.

After completing the task, each team will receive QR-codes with the correct answers to the quiz questions of the opposing team. Teams exchange their tasks and check the quiz of the opposing team. Proven work of the team is passed to the jury for scoring. Each correct answer is evaluated in 1 point.

***Questions for “Monkeys”***

*1. What do Americans like eating at sport games?*

*2. What countries does the USA border on?*

*3. Who was the first person to walk on the Moon?*

*4. What is the highest peak in the USA?*

*5. What is the popular name for the flag of the USA?*

*6. What are the main political parties in the USA?*

*7. Which is the biggest state in the USA?*

*8. Where is Washington situated?*

*9. Who can be the US President?*

*10. Which President of the USA freed the slaves?*

*11. Where is Beverly Hills situated?*

*12. When do the Americans celebrate the Independence Day?*

*13. What is the surname of the woman who as many Americans believe sewed the first American flag?*

*14. What was the name of the ship that brought the Pilgrims to New England in 1620?*

*15. What is the national motto of the USA?*

***Coded answers***



***Questions for “Cats”***

*1. What sports are favourite in America?*

*2. What are the largest cities in the USA?*

*3. Which is the smallest state in the USA?*

*4. What important government buildings are situated in Washington?*

*5. Where is the Pentagon situated?*

*6. As you remember, America was discovered in the 15th century. Whose name did the country get?*

*7. Who was the civil rights leader who fought through non-violent action?*

*8. What is the population of the United States?*

*9. When did Alaska and Hawaii join to the USA?*

*10. When was the Constitution of the USA finally ratified?*

*11. What mountains in the USA do you know?*

*12. At what age do students start elementary school?*

*13. What are the largest rivers in the USA?*

*14. When and where was basketball invented?*

*15. According to the Constitution of the USA, the powers of the government are divided into three main branches. What are they?*

***Coded answers***



**The fourth round**

***Tell the name of an outstanding American. Each task is evaluated in 1 point.***

***Task for “Monkeys”***

*1. … … … Washington (George)*

*2. … … … Lincoln (Abraham)*

*3. … … … Bush (George Walker)*

*4. … … … Dylan (Bob)*

*5. … … … Mitchell (Margaret)*

*6. … … … Jordan (Michael)*

***Task for “Cats”***

*1. … … … Clinton (William (Bill))*

*2. … … … Edison (Thomas Alva)*

*3. … … … Roosevelt (Theodore)*

*4. … … … Presley (Elvis)*

*5. … … … Jackson (Michael)*

*6. … … … King (Martin Luther)*

**The fifth round**

***Scan a video that mentions the names of US presidents who ruled the country from 1789 to2020.***



***Find the surnames of 6 American Presidents. Each task is evaluated in 1 point.***

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**The sixth round**

***Make up a word***

Every team has a coded task with the same anagrams. Your task is to decode the anagrams. The team who will be the first and do it correctly wins the competition.

***Coded task***

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*NCONIOSTTUIT - CONSTITUTION*

*TGNOEVMENR - GOVERNMENT*

*YPTAR - PARTY*

*LCAPAIT - CAPITAL*

*CAMAEIR - AMERICA*

*TETAS - STATE*

*GAFL - FLAG*

**The seventh round**

The teams have prepared a questions for each other on the topic “The United States of America”. This kind of competition is called **“The** **bridges of Questions”**. Each team will get a point for the correct answer.

**The eighth round**

Well done. While our jury is counting the results, we come to another item of the competition. It is called “The Wisest Team”. Your task is to give British variant of the American English. The scanned video will help you to do this task.

***Task for “Monkeys”***



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***American English*** | | ***British English*** |
| *1* | *Sneakers* |  |
| *2* | *Diaper* |  |
| *3* | *Sidewalk* |  |
| *4* | *Zee* |  |
| *5* | *Truck* |  |
| *6* | *Period* |  |
| *7* | *Hood* |  |

*Keys: 1- trainers, 2- nappy, 3- pavement, 4- zed, 5 – lorry, 6 - full stop, 7 - bonnet*

***Task for “Cats”***

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|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***American English*** | | ***British English*** |
| *1* | *Highway* |  |
| *2* | *Trunk* |  |
| *3* | *Vacation* |  |
| *4* | *Stroller* |  |
| *5* | *Sidewalk* |  |
| *6* | *Downtown* |  |
| *7* | *Strawberry jam* |  |

*Keys:* *1 – motorway,2- boot, 3 – holidays, 4- pushchair, 5 – pavement, 6 – city centre, 7 – strawberry jelly*

***Teacher****: Our competitions are going to the end. The results of the Brain-ring are:*

***Jury:*** *“Monkeys” has got … points and “Cats” has got… points.*

*The winner is the team … .*

***Teacher:*** *Thank you for your excellent work.*