

INTRODUCTION

The textbook you hold in your hands resulted from developing a special course of the English language for the students of international department aimed at teaching Ukrainian-language students peculiarities of English connected with international affairs and its usage. This goal was and remains difficult to reach, since learning English as language of international relations (in particular, peculiarities of usage, grammatical forms and constructions) is complicated by many extra-linguistic factors, e.g. differences in political systems and realities, different traditions in the use of written language and paper work.

Considering the above, from the very beginning of its development this course was focused on both teaching students international English proper and providing them with the minimum of country studies necessary for that. The textbook targets the students who have already taken the general course of English and need only further training on the specialized use of the language. For this reason the number of grammar and lexical exercises that repeat the already acquired language knowledge is deliberately limited in the textbook. At the same time, students are expected to have a high level of English proficiency. Another innovation of the textbook is that it includes study materials and exercises on written and oral translation of English texts connected with international affairs. In particular, it contains authentic texts of international documents, suggested translation of the names of state agencies of Ukraine and English speaking countries, etc. Such inclusion of the elements of translation fully corresponds with the main idea of the textbook, which is training students to work with materials dealing with international affairs and documents, to express themselves verbally and in writing.

The textbook has been prepared on the modular basis and is divided into modules. Each module consists of the following main parts: main and auxiliary texts, lexical and lexico-syntactic exercises to these texts, exercises on the translation of legal texts or legal terms from English into Ukrainian and vice versa, as well as practical tests directed at examining students progress in mastering study materials and preparing them for the midterm and final tests. Ancillary texts offer more detailed information on certain issues related to the main topic of each module. Besides, some modules also contain thematic glossaries which enable students to enrich

their vocabularies on the respective topics. The system of exercises has been developed to allow the lecturer to check how students are mastering both certain parts within a module and a module as a whole. Finally, two separate tests, midterm and final, can be used to check the level of mastery by students of the first part of the textbook and the whole textbook.

Dimant G.

Text №1 The World of English

There are as many different languages in the world as there are nations. Yet quite a number of them use English in their political and economic activity. The text that follows gives a glimpse of the history of the language and of some factors contributing to its geographical spread.

Over 360 million people speak English as their mother tongue. To a European, the English-speaking world probably means little beyond the United States of America and England, but when a European says "England" he most likely means the United Kingdom, which, of course, is composed of four different English-speaking countries: Wales, Scotland, Ulster (also known as Northern Ireland) and England. With a bit more thought, a European will remember to include Eire, the Republic of Ireland, Australia, Canada, South Africa and New Zealand. But these are only 10 of the 45 countries, which consider English their first or official or natural native language. In addition, there are 19 other countries for which English is the practical or educated first language — countries like Guyana, India and the Sudan.

Many African states are English-speaking by tradition and by choice using English to unify the country and serve as the principal means of communication between diverse tribes. Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia, Ghana, Malawi and Tanzania are just a few of the African countries, which depend on English for their law courts, and parliaments, and day-to-day business dealing. In Asia, the English language serves the same purpose for the entire Indian subcontinent as well as for the smaller **outpost** of the Empire - now the Commonwealth - such as Fiji, Tonga, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and Ceylon — or rather Sri Lanka, as it is now called. The Caribbean Sea is **sprinkled** with islands — Bermuda,