

БЛОК 1. ВАРИАНТ 17

4.1.

Внимательно прочтите текст:

In China, Dalian is known as the “romantic city”, and during my year studying Chinese at Dalian Foreign Language University, I certainly fell in love: the language is the key to a fascinating way of life, while the city itself is surrounded by green hills and the ocean, and overlooked by a marvelous castle that I always meant to visit while I was there.

Dalian is generally quite a new city, without the long cultural history of Beijing, and the skyscrapers that have appeared in recent years are evidence of China’s position as the world’s fastest-growing economy. The boom has seen the number of foreigners coming to the country to learn Chinese increase enormously, and I was thankful that relatively few Westerners have discovered Dalian. I rarely had the opportunity to use Chinese in everyday situations in China’s bigger cities, where European tourists are everywhere and young people are keen to practise their English.

I was the only Westerner in my class. After a four-hour-oral exam and a written test, I was placed in a post-intermediate group with 12 people – all Asians. I was already three years into a four-year degree in Chinese culture and language, but it was still difficult to keep up with the Japanese and Korean students, who were much more familiar with Chinese characters (the symbols used in the written language). One of the big disadvantages at the University of Vienna had been the large classes, with 30-40 people trying to learn Chinese in just four hours a week. In Dalian we were taught five days a week for three hours plus another four hours one afternoon a week. Some of the older teachers still used traditional teaching methods, concentrating on reading texts, listening to tapes and learning by oral repetition, and although it initially took me a while to become accustomed to this, it really helped us improve our skills.

We had three teachers but Mrs Lin soon became our favourite. I was fortunate enough to have six weeks of additional classes with this wonderful lady after I was chosen to take part in the Dalian Chinese speech competition. In preparation for the event, we met for two hours a day to work on my pronunciation using a text she had written called “I love Dalian”. I found the whole experience quite demanding – from the intense training to speaking in front of a large audience (including Chinese teachers) – but it was the best language training I have ever received and I thank my patient teachers for the fact that I eventually won the competition. It was this experience that made me determined to perfect my command of the language.

Chinese is something said to be one of the most difficult languages to learn, mainly because of its complex grammar, writing system (which uses a vast number of characters) and system of tones (every syllable in standard Chinese can be pronounced in four different ways depending on meaning). But Mrs Lin knew how to explain things in a simple way and, with her as my teacher, I realized that Chinese does not deserve its reputation for difficulty.

Ответьте письменно на следующие вопросы:

1. Why did the author prefer Dalian to other Chinese cities?
2. How did the author feel about the way he was taught Chinese in Dalian?
3. What did he discover about the Chinese language?

Выразите свое мнение на английском языке (150-200 слов) на тему:

What is the best way to learn a foreign language?

БЛОК 2. ВАРИАНТ 10

Выберите один правильный вариант из предложенных в скобках:

I used the Internet to improve my Spanish. It **1 (wasn't, hasn't been, hadn't been)** the first time I'd tried this, but I enjoyed it much more this time, probably because I'm in my mid-teens now. It **2 (is costing, costed, cost)** nothing, of course, and although at first I didn't know quite where to look, **3 (in, at, by)** the end I came across some great websites where I could practise **4 (to read, read, reading)** and do grammar exercises. At the same time, I was joining social networking sites like MySpace and getting **5 (in, to, at)** touch with Spanish-speaking teenagers from various parts of the world. I was careful, though, not to give **6 (in, out, over)** my personal details because when you're online you can never be quite sure who is contacting you, whatever the language is. I also tried online chat in Spanish, but I couldn't keep **7 (up, away, of)** with people. All the time I was thinking about my grammar and it was taking me so **8 (difficult, long, much)** to reply to each sentence after I **9 (have read, read, had read)** it that I didn't think it was fair on them, so I gave **10 (up, in, out)**. I'll try again sometime, though.

Из представленных в беспорядке предложений восстановите исходный текст. Обратите внимание на логическую и смысловую связь предложений.

Agamemnon and Menelaus

3. 0 When Helen ran off with Paris, her husband Menelaus, the king of Sparta, was very upset.
3. ____ 1. Naturally Agamemnon was horrified. Kill his daughter? He told Menelaus he couldn't do it.
3. ____ 2. She was angry. To put Artemis in a better mood, and get the good wind so the Greeks could sail to Troy and get Helen back, Agamemnon would have to sacrifice his oldest daughter, Iphigeneia.
3. ____ 3. They asked their priest, Chalcas, if he knew what was wrong. Chalcas told Agamemnon that the goddess Artemis was sending the bad wind.
3. ____ 4. In the end Agamemnon agreed to kill Iphigeneia. He got her mother (his wife), Clytemnestra, to bring Iphigeneia to Aulis by telling Clytemnestra that Iphigeneia was going to marry the famous young hero Achilles.
3. ____ 5. Agamemnon objected that he had only meant that he would defend Menelaus against the other suitors, but Menelaus still said he had to get Helen back or break his oath. So Agamemnon called all the Greek armies together at a port called Aulis. They got ready to sail to Troy.
3. ____ 6. Menelaus insisted that his brother call together all the Greek armies from all the different cities and go fight the Trojans to get Helen back.
3. ____ 7. But Menelaus said then he would be breaking his oath to save Helen.
3. ____ 8. He went to visit his older brother, Agamemnon, the king of Mycenae. Menelaus reminded Agamemnon about the oath that all the suitors swore when they were fighting over who would marry Helen.
3. ____ 9. But when Iphigeneia got there, he tied her up, put her on an altar, and killed her.
3. ____ 10. But when they were ready to sail, the wind was blowing always in the wrong direction, toward the land, and the Greeks could not get to Troy.
3. 11 Then Artemis was happy, the wind changed, and the Greek ships sailed for Troy.