

Прочитайте, переведите текст. Ответьте на вопросы и составьте краткий пересказ текста, используя фразы клише:

- The text looks at (the problem of)...
- The text deals with the issue of...
- It is clear from the text that...
- Among other things the text raises the issue of...
- The problem of... is of great importance.
- One of the main points to be singled out is...
- Great importance is also attached to...
- It further says that...
- We shouldn't forget that...
- I think that... should be mentioned here as a very important mechanism of... .
- It is said that..., It is described that..., It is mentioned that...
- The text (article) is about...
- According to the text (article)...
- The experts make it clear that...(stress the point that..., draw the attention of... to the fact that..., suggest, remind, promise),
- Finally, the experts come to the conclusion that...(agree about)

The Economy

Russia was the most **populous** state of the former USSR and also the wealthiest one. It **produced** 78 per cent of all its natural gas, 0 per cent of steel, 80 per cent of **timber** and 91 per cent of oil. It also has one of the world's largest fishing industries.

The history of Russian industry goes back to the middle of the seventeenth century. The **development** of new industries and **crafts** – metal working, textiles, **brick** making and **china** manufacture – was **encouraged** under Peter the Great. During the **reign** of Catherine the Great, the Urals became the focus for iron industry, and Russia became the world's largest iron producer.

After 1870 the fast railway engineering in Russia was stimulated by industrial boom. Some **deals** were made with western companies to develop Russia's immense oil resources. By 1903 Russia had been the world's largest oil producer.

Before the Revolution Russia was one of the world's largest grain producers and exporters. But lately Russia became one of its biggest importers as a result of collectivization and **mismanagement** of agriculture.

In Soviet times, the central planning system was **inefficient** as regards both production and distribution of **goods**. By 1980s the quality **gap** between **home** and western products could no longer be ignored and called for reforms. Entering the **world market** demands from Russian economists the creation of effective management in industry and agriculture.

Until its industry can be modernized, Russia will remain **dependent** on the energy sector. Before 1986 it was planned that an **expanded nuclear** programme could help the **conservation** of other energy resources. But after the Chernobyl **disaster**, these plans were sharply **curtailed**.

However, **disposal** of nuclear **waste** and closing down of old power plants remain major problems not only for Russia but for other industrial countries as well.

WORDS

populous - населенный
produce - производить
timber - лесоматериал
development - развитие
craft - ремесло
brick - кирпич
china - фарфор
encourage - поддерживать
reign - царствование, власть
deal - сделка
grain - зерно
(mis)management – (плохое)
управление
export - вывоз
import - ввоз

inefficient - неэффективный
goods - товары
gap - расхождение
home - отечественный
world market - мировой рынок
dependent - зависимый
expanded - расширенный
nuclear - ядерный
conservation - сохранение
disaster - катастрофа
curtail - сокращать
disposal - размещение

waste - отходы
industrial boom - промышленный
подъем

QUESTIONS:

1. What was the economical position of Russia in the former USSR?
2. What industries and crafts were encouraged in Russia under Peter the Great?
3. What do you know about Russian economy in the second part of the 19th century?
4. When was Russia one of the biggest grain producers and exporters?
5. Was the quality gap between home and western products an important factor for economical reforms in Russia?
6. What was planned to do in the energy sector before the Chernobyl disaster?