

Listening part.

Task I

You will listen to the extract from a videoblog made by an English blogger Jonny Tickle, who loves traveling around Russia and has a lot of videos about various places in the Russian Federation. A couple of years ago he visited Ufa and told his followers about the most interesting locations in the city. Listen to his stories and fill in the gaps with the correct information.

You have 15 seconds to read the task.

Now we are ready to start.

Today I'm in the city of Ufa, the capital of the Republic of Bashkortostan. Founded in 1584, this city is the 11th biggest city in Russia with just over one million people and the biggest city in this, the Republic of Bashkortostan.

Bashkortostan is the first ethnic autonomy here in Russia founded in 1917. The Bashkir people are a native people to this region. There's about two million of them in the world and the vast majority of them speak their own language, Bashkir.

This, the city of Ufa, is the capital for the Bashkir people and even though this was founded in the 16th century by Ivan the Terrible, the Bashkir people have actually been living here in this region for a long time before that.

Behind me here is the most famous statue in Ufa, a statue of Salavat Yulayev. He was a man from this area. He's a national hero of the Bashkortostan Republic because of his participation in the Cossack rebellion many hundreds of years ago. This statue here was built for him in 1967. It's 10 metres high and it looks over the forest and over the city of Ufa. You have a really great view from up there. This statue is so iconic for this region. The statue is actually on the coat of arms of the region of the Republic of Bashkortostan and because of that it's a symbol of this region and everybody here from this area knows about this statue.

Behind me here is the most famous monument in Ufa, the monument of friendship. It was built in 1957 on the 400th anniversary of the Bashkir people voluntarily choosing to join the Russian empire. You can see here on the statue it says 1557 to 1957. The statue depicts two women, one wearing the classic Russian costume and one wearing the classic Bashkir costume and on it it has a description saying something about the uniting the people of Bashkortostan and Russia. I forgot exactly, I need to go and take a look. This area here is on top of a hill which has a view over the main river which goes through Ufa which is called the White River. Actually, this was the old location of the Ufa Kremlin so it's no accident that they decided to place this monument right here.

The Russian revolutionary leader Vladimir Lenin visited this city Ufa on two separate occasions both in the year 1900. On the second time he came to this city he rented a house with his wife. That house is right behind me here. They stayed here for three weeks and then after the revolution once it became known that Vladimir Lenin the hero of the country stayed in this house this became a protected place and in 1941 it was turned into a museum. Nowadays it's still a museum the house museum of Vladimir Lenin and you can go in and see what it's like inside. So even though he only stayed here for three weeks in the year 1900 this is still preserved as the house museum of Vladimir Lenin.

Behind me is the third biggest mosque in the whole of Russia. It's called Lala Tulpan or Lala Tulip as in the flower and it's pretty impressive. It took 10 years to build, it was completed in 1998 and it has two minarets which are both 53 metres high. The architectural design of this mosque is based on one of the most important symbols in the Muslim world which is a spring tulip which has not yet blossomed and that was the inspiration for this mosque which I think is very unique and very beautiful.

The building behind me is the Ordzhonikidze Palace. Built in classic Stalinist style over half a century ago, it really stands out from the buildings around it because of this classic old style which is just not that common in Ufa. It's a very beautiful building and in front they have a statue of Odzhonikidze himself and this square is also named after him. Nowadays this old palace is used as an oil university.

Task 2.

Now listen again and choose the best answers to the questions.

You have more 15 seconds to read the task.

Now we are ready to start.

The listening part is over.