

Script

Task 1. Listen to Anna and Max discussing the information from the Northern (Arctic) Federal University web site.

Mark the statements 1 – 9 as TRUE (the statement agrees with the information), FALSE (the statement contradicts the information) or NOT STATED (there is no information on this statement) according to the conversation. You will hear the conversation twice.

You have 20 seconds to look through the statements.

PAUSE

Now we are ready to start.

Anna: Max, you seem glued to the screen. What's caught your eye? Oh, that's the website of the Northern Arctic Federal University. The tab "Mentoring system" is on screen. let me check... It says each first-year group has a curator plus student tutors who explain the Sakai educational platform, dormitory rules, help with electives and exam stress.

Max: Exactly, and they also arrange meetings so students don't feel isolated. According to a first-year student, tutors wished them luck before every exam. That's pretty supportive compared to many universities, don't you think?

Anna: I've switched to the "Cultural Life" tab. Arkhangelsk, with a population of about 300,000, is called the cultural capital of the Russian North. The Philharmonia, the Lomonosov Drama Theatre, and the open-air museum Malye Korely make it sound like a real cultural hub.

Max: Yeah, and I noticed Arkhangelsk hosts major festivals – the International Street Theatres Festival in June and the Jazz Days Festival in September. Musicians come not only from Russia but also from Sweden, Germany, the USA, and Norway.

Anna: The "International Summer School" page is impressive too. More than 60 students from China, India, Togo, Italy, and the USA are here this year. They study Russian four hours a day, attend folklore lectures, art workshops, and northern cooking classes.

Max: I'd love that cooking workshop! It says the Summer School lasts until July 3rd and also includes science diplomacy events. It's interesting how the university uses culture and language learning to build bridges between Russia and other countries.

Anna: I've just checked the "Around the City" section. The city stretches for about 40 km along the river, so the Northern Dvina's embankment is perfect for cycling, jogging, or rollerblading. Most street events, including concerts, happen right there in summer.

Max: Imagine walking there during the Ice Sculpture Festival in winter or during the White Nights season from mid-May to late July. The sun hardly sets, which creates this dreamlike atmosphere. No wonder tourists say it feels like a fairytale.

Anna: True, although I'd find it hard to sleep without darkness! But the White Nights clearly attract lots of visitors. Combined with museums, concerts, and festivals, Arkhangelsk sounds like a city that never runs out of energy or culture.

Max: And that's probably why, in the "University Mission" section, the university positions itself as the driving force of the Arctic region. Its role isn't just in education but also in preserving culture and supporting Arkhangelsk's development. It feels like a city with a mission.

You have 30 seconds to write the answers.

Then you'll hear the text again.

PAUSE

Текст читается второй раз

PAUSE

Task 2. You will hear the information about the excursion. Listen to the guide and complete the fact file (questions 10-15) using one word or a number. You will hear the recording only once.

Now you have 20 seconds to look at the task.

PAUSE

Dear guests! We are glad to meet you on our sightseeing walking and bus tour "Welcome to Arkhangelsk". It's eleven o'clock and I see that everybody has come on time. Thank you for your punctuality. Let me briefly introduce the itinerary to you.

The most attractive place in the city is considered to be the embankment of the Northern Dvina, where the tourist hits of Arkhangelsk are located. You will see the monument to Peter the First, who once decided to found an admiralty here.

Along the way you will visit Cape Pur-Navolok— the founding site of Arkhangelsk.

We will spend an hour from twelve to thirteen in the halls of the local history museum – Gostiny Dvor which is the cultural, scientific and educational center of the city.

A walk along the wooden avenue of Chumbarov Luchinsky is a journey to a time when every house had its name. The oldest house, built in 1848, has been preserved here, so this is really the place where every building has a tale to tell. The street charms by its souvenir shops, cozy cafes and restaurants, one of which will be waiting for us at two PM. You will surely enjoy our local cuisine and I do recommend to try some of the delicious berry pies served there.

At fifteen the bus will take us to Solombala Island where the guide will show the most picturesque locations of this cradle of the Russian navy.

When the excursion is over, which is at half past four, to be exact, you will have free time and an opportunity for your independent acquaintance with the city.

Well, all is said and done and we are ready to set out on our journey!

You have 30 seconds to check your answers.

PAUSE

This is the end of the task.