

Факультет иностранных языков
Специальность «Перевод и переводоведение»
английский язык
Дополнительное вступительное испытание

Текст для аудирования

БИЛЕТ № 3

threaten – угрожать

The potato came to Europe from South America in 1533. At first people refused to grow the new plant. Many ways were tried to make them grow it. The Spanish king threatened to cut off the noses and ears of those peasants who did not want to do it.

King Louis XVI of France wore potato flowers in his buttonhole and his wife wore them on her hat to show how much they liked potatoes. But the French peasants were afraid that potatoes would make them ill and did not want to grow them. As it was clear to the French king that potatoes could become good and cheap food for the poor, he thought of some way to make them accept it. An idea came to his mind. He ordered that potatoes should be grown in his garden and sent soldiers to guard it day and night. If somebody came near the garden, the soldiers shouted and told them to go away. The people became interested. “This is the new potato plant!” they said. “It must be good if the king looks after it!”

In autumn the soldiers dug the potatoes and left them in the garden. When the hungry peasants took some of the potatoes, the soldiers pretended not to notice it. Soon the peasants took all the potatoes. It helped them to live through the hard winter and they began to like the taste of the plant

In spring people began to grow potatoes and French women learned to cook them.

Key

		True	False	Not stated
1	The potato was brought to Europe because it was very popular in South America.			+
2	In Europe the potato failed to become popular.	+		
3	The Spanish king tried to make his people eat potatoes by terrible threats.		+	
4	The French king and his wife decorated their clothes with potato flowers because they wanted the peasants to grow them.	+		
5	The French peasants did not want to grow potatoes because they were ignorant and suspicious of any new food.	+		+
6	The French king let it be known that he was growing potatoes in his garden.	+		+
7	The French king ordered soldiers to guard his garden day and night so that nobody could steal the potatoes.	+		
8	In autumn the soldiers did not guard the potato crop because they were called back to their barracks.		+	
9	During the hard winter the peasants ate all the potatoes in the king's garden and began to like their taste.	+		
10	French women have learned many ways to cook potatoes so potato dishes are very popular in France.			+