

PRETEXT DISCUSSION

1. What do you know about architecture in Russia in early Medieval Times?
2. Do you know the types of buildings that were built in that period?
3. What building material was used in construction of dwelling houses in the X–XII centuries?
4. Can you describe the houses of that period?

TASK 1. READ THE TEXT

A. EARLY MEDIEVAL RUS (THE IX – LATE XV CENTURIES)

The period from 859 to 1240 is known as the first period of the development of Russia. It was represented by Kievan Rus, the first Eastern Slavonic state. Kievan Rus consisted of several principalities, with the town of Kiev being both the first Russian capital and the main southern city while the town of Novgorod was the main northern city. In the thirteenth century Moscow's political role grew up and by 1480 the Muscovite dependency on the Mongols had ended. In the fourteenth century two Russian speaking nations appeared: the Ruthenians (who became Ukrainians) and Belorussians (originally the Krivichi).

From ancient times the main basic original forms of Russian architecture were designed of wood the material utilized by Slavs for almost every type of structures. Later a lot of building methods and forms were used in masonry architecture. Wooden architecture and masonry reflected all stages of important political and economic development in Russian history. The first wooden settlements appeared in Russia during the ninth century. Wooden churches were being built in Russia from as early as the end of the tenth century, but the surviving examples date from the fifteenth century. As it is known, wood does not refer to durable building materials and these houses disappeared in 100 to 150 years, while churches, which had no heating, existed for about 300 years. The most expressive, expensive and decorative unit of the Russian wooden buildings was its roof. The roofs of churches being the main element of any architectural composition were the most complicated and the most difficult in construction. Wooden domes of Russian churches always looked like something naturally grown up rather than man-made ones.

Dwelling Houses

In Russian wooden architecture the most widespread type of building was a dwelling house. While erecting dwelling houses new methods of construction in wooden architecture were formed. In ancient times an ordinary peasant house was traditionally formed by two quarters. The basic quarter of any peasant house was a living warm quarter formed by four walls and called «izba». «Seni» (an additional unheated room for an entrance) served a protection against cold winter air. The third element of cold quarters for animals and farm implements was often added to them. Usually this type of a house had an open yard (or «dvor»), enclosed by a solid fence. This quite simple kind of a peasant house with two or three quarters was constantly up-dated and developed. The main element of a peasant house was a large masonry stove located within «izba» in the center or in the corner of it. Russian stoves («pech'») had a lot of functions: cooking, heating, drying of clothes and sometimes it was the place for sleeping and even for inside washing. The best and the cleanest room in a house was called gornitsa. A kitchen, a bath-room («banya»), working rooms and rooms for servants were on the ground floor. Decoration in Russian wooden architecture was of great importance. All Russian wooden houses had plenty of decorative details: windows, doors, gates, stairs, pediments, chimneys and roofs. Early decorative motives being very simple at the beginning became more complicated in the course of time.

Agricultural Buildings

Farm buildings dating from the early twentieth century are considered to be the monuments of wooden architecture for their builders kept strictly to the ancient traditions of their craft. The plan of a building, its proportions, construction techniques and decorative details have been remained unchanged.

Store-houses showing a great variety of shapes, location and usage of space served for a lot of purposes. Crops, household goods, hunting and fishing equipment, smoked and cured fish were stored there and sometimes these houses were used for sleeping in summer months. The exteriors show the importance of these barns: carefully fitted logs, a massive door, a heavy iron lock and modest ornamentation on the pillars. All of them create the impression of strength, durability and aesthetic unity. There were no two identical houses in one village. Even if they were of the same type they had some individual features. The houses had one or two stories, with an internal or external staircase, with or without a shed supported on pillars. As a rule the entrance was at the front or at the side and the roof had one or two sloping surfaces.

Ex. 2. Find the equivalent word combinations in the text.

Известен как; состоять из нескольких княжеств; как...так и; русско-говорящие нации; с древних времен; важнейшие основные первоначальные формы; много; уже с концаX века; сохранившийся пример; прочный строительный материал; основная деталь; деревянные купола; выглядеть как; скорее...а не; (естественный) созданный руками человека; новые методы строительства; два или три помещения; большая кирпичная печь; в углу; первый этаж; иметь большое значение; множество декоративных деталей; вначале; будучи очень простыми; со временем; относящиеся к; пропорции; методы строительства; множество форм; копченая и консервированная рыба; тщательно подогнанные бревна; мощный железный засов(замок); скромные украшения; эстетическое единство; некоторые индивидуальные черты; хозяйственные товары.

Ex. 3. Translate the following word combinations into Russian.

From ancient times; every type of structures; later; masonry architecture; political and economic development; were being built; as early as the end of the X century; surviving examples; date from; as it is known; had no heating; being the main element; any architectural composition; the most difficult in construction; looked like; grown-up; rather than; man-made; while erecting; the basic quarter; an additional room; farm implements; enclosed by a solid fence; quite simple kind; ground floor; remained unchanged; a lot of purposes; to create the impression; were of the same type; without a shed; supported on pillars; as a rule; sloping surfaces.

Ex. 4. Match the sentences with the given meanings of the phrasal verbs.

Translate the sentences.

- a) to continue doing something; to continue to plasticize a skill; to make something to continue at its present level or amount;
- b) to prevent the size, cost or quantity of something from increasing or being too great;
- c) to continue doing something or to do something many times; to continue to employ someone longer than you have planned;
- d) to do what has been decided on an agreement or plan;

e) to continue to do something difficult; to force someone to continue to work hard and not let him stop.

1. The workers had to keep to the suggested project in constructing the building.
2. The construction techniques and decorative details of the X century were kept up and remained unchanged during several centuries.
3. He kept on rebuilding the house to make it more attractive.
4. This work is known to be hard but you should keep at it and not give it up.
5. While designing the houses around the cathedral the architects needed to keep their height down.

Ex. 5. Insert articles where it is necessary.

1. ... first period of ... development of Russia was represented by ... Kievan Rus, the Eastern Slavonic state.
 2. Kiev was ... first Russian capital and ... main southern city while the town of ... Novgorod was ... main northern city.
 3. In ... XIII century ... Moscow's political role was constantly growing up.
 4. Wooden architecture and masonry presented ... all stages of ... political and economical development in ... Russia.
 5. As early as ... end of ... X century ... wooden churches were built throughout ... Russia.
 6. As houses in ... Russia were designed of ... wood ... they disappeared in ... two centuries.
 7. In ancient times ... most widespread type of ... building was ... dwelling house.
 8. ... main element, a large masonry stove, was located in ... corner of ... peasant house.
 9. ... best and ... cleanest room in a house was called gornitsa.
 10. As ... rule the entrance was at ... front of the house.
- Ex. 7. Combine word combinations and translate them.

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гу sent – изображать; представлять; рисовать nd (on, upon) – зависеть(от) гу – зависимость г – появляться; казаться основной, главный n – составлять план; проектировать, ать; чертить е – использовать е – структура; здание, сооружение, строение; ция – структурный; строительный; сионный – много, множество y – каменная или кирпичная кладка ect – отражать r(to) – относить(к); ссылаться(на); упоминать е – прочный, крепкий; долговечный – долговечность; прочность g – отопление единица; блок, узел; часть; элемент cated – сложный – купол, свод ade – искусственный ad – распространять(ся); простира(ся) d – широко распространенный ng – жилище, дом; проживание t – строить, сооружать, воздвигать; ать ose – окружать, огораживать; ограничивать твердый; сплошной, цельный; непрерывный nt – фронтон еу – труба course of time – с течением времени from – считаться, исчисляться up-to-date) – современный, новейший, вующий ремесло; искусство – ремесленник; искусный мастер г – внешний, наружный; иностранный, ый амбар, рига; скотный двор; сарай соответствовать; подходить; бливать; совпадать испособленный; (зд.) подогнанный	гу sent – изображать; представлять; рисовать nd (on, upon) – зависеть(от) гу – зависимость г – появляться; казаться основной, главный n – составлять план; проектировать, ать; чертить е – использовать е – структура; здание, сооружение, строение; ция – структурный; строительный; сионный – много, множество y – каменная или кирпичная кладка ect – отражать r(to) – относить(к); ссылаться(на); упоминать е – прочный, крепкий; долговечный – долговечность; прочность g – отопление единица; блок, узел; часть; элемент cated – сложный – купол, свод ade – искусственный ad – распространять(ся); простира(ся) d – широко распространенный ng – жилище, дом; проживание t – строить, сооружать, воздвигать; ать ose – окружать, огораживать; ограничивать твердый; сплошной, цельный; непрерывный nt – фронтон еу – труба course of time – с течением времени from – считаться, исчисляться up-to-date) – современный, новейший, вующий ремесло; искусство – ремесленник; искусный мастер г – внешний, наружный; иностранный, ый амбар, рига; скотный двор; сарай соответствовать; подходить; приспособлять; испособленный; (зд.) подогнанный
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