11. SIGHTSEEING IN LITHUANIA

TASK 1. Match the pictures with the names of the places.

1. ....   2. ....   3..

4. ....   5. ....   6. ....

7. ....   8. ....   9. ....

Trakai Castle	The Port of Klaipėda	Kaunas Town Hall Square	Palanga Pier
Grūtas Park (museum of Soviet monuments)		Rumšiškės Ethnographic Museum	
The Hill of Crosses	The Hill Forts of Kernavė	The Sand Dunes of the Curonian Spit	

TASK 2. Read the text (on the next page) and match the headings with the paragraphs.

The Baltic Sea Coast	Countryside Leisure	Introduction	Main Cities
National Heritage	National Parks	Regions	

TASK 3. Read the text again and decide if these ideas are expressed in the text.
Tick (✓) the box if the ideas are mentioned or put a cross (x) if the ideas are not in the text.

1. The Old Town of Vilnius is one of the largest surviving medieval old towns in Europe.	
2. Lithuania's history is reflected in its cultural heritage.	
3. People from different ethnographic regions use different dialects of Lithuanian.	
4. Lithuanian towns have interesting architecture.	
5. National parks should be visited by tourists.	
6. There are many forests in Žemaitija national park.	
7. The pinewoods of Dzūkija are full of mushrooms.	
8. The Curonian Spit has an exceptional landscape.	
9. Trakai has a small population of Karaites and Tartars.	
10. The coast of the Baltic Sea and the sand beaches are rather clean.	
11. Rural tourism is popular among foreign tourists visiting Lithuania.	

LITHUANIA: WHAT TO SEE

1. _____ As you visit Lithuania, you will see something that you have never seen in any other country: a unique historical centre – the Old Town of Vilnius, which is one of the largest old towns in Central and Eastern Europe; Kernavė – the first capital of Lithuania with its five fort-hills; the Hill of Crosses with over 60 000 of crosses and shrines in one place, and many more fantastic sights.

2. _____ You will soon discover that Lithuania is rather small, but quite diverse. Its long and constantly changing history has formed the Lithuanian national culture and heritage. You will see, hear and feel a bit of everything from different historical periods.

3. _____ Lithuania is divided into five regions that formed in the 13th century: Aukštaitija, Žemaitija, Dzūkija, Suvalkija and Lithuania Minor. Even today, these ethnographic regions differ by dialects, traditions, or behavioural styles.

4. _____ If you intend to spend a few days in Lithuania, do not limit yourself to Vilnius – visit other towns of the country as each of them is interesting in its own special way. In each of them, you will see valuable objects of culture and architecture, museums or parks with lakes and rivers. Kaunas, the second largest city, is situated on the confluence of the Nemunas and the Neris. Klaipėda is famous as an ice-free seaport open all year round.

5. _____ National parks are areas of region-specific landscape, distinctive settlements, or cultural valuables protected by the state. In national parks, cognitive tourism – sightseeing to places of natural and cultural value – is promoted. There are five national parks in Lithuania.

Aukštaitija national park is famous for its numerous clean lakes, ethnographic villages, and extensive forests. Travelling in this territory is enjoyable in all ways and in all seasons.

Žemaitija national park offers much to do for people with different hobbies: nature explorers, cyclists, yachters, scuba-divers as well as lovers of fishing or bird watching.

Dzūkija is the largest protected area in Lithuania. It is a land of dry pinewoods as well as crystal-clear rivulets and rivers. Forests cover as much as 91% of the total territory of the park. Druskininkai SPA resort is the most tourist-visited spot in this national park.

The Curonian Spit was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2000. It is unique in its landscape, flora, and fauna. Apart from visiting the dunes, you can enjoy sandy beaches, clean sea water, and sun-lit pinewoods.

Trakai Historical Park is important for cultural history and archaeology. The Park has about 50 old buildings reminding of the majestic and romantic history of this part of the country. The Castle Island is completely occupied by the Castle and the Dukes' Palace. This is the only surviving castle on an island on a lake in Lithuania. One-fifth of the Park's area is water: there are 32 lakes of different size, many of which are suitable for sailing, canoeing, or boat-trips.

6. _____ We are proud and happy to be a country on the coast of the Baltic Sea, one of the most spectacular coastlines in Europe. The greenish sea and the fine white sand attracts most holidaymakers in the summer, but many local people take a walk along the beach in early spring or late autumn.

7. _____ Countryside (rural) tourism has become extremely popular in recent years. Not all Lithuanians rush for holidays at the Baltic Sea or to a foreign country – many spend their holidays in a countryside tourism homestead. Such homesteads are usually situated near water and the owners have a variety of fun activities to offer to their guests.

Adapted from:http://www.lietuva.lt/en/tourism/what_to_see

TASK 4. Match the phrases in the two columns to make sentences.

1. The Old Town of Vilnius	A. have specific customs and traditions.
2. Lithuania is small,	B. a non-freezing seaport.
3. Lithuania's ethnographic regions	C. has a beautiful coastline.
4. Kaunas is situated	D. has a unique historical centre.
5. Klaipėda is	E. are located in beautiful areas.
6. Trakai is famous for	F. on the confluence of two rivers.
7. The Baltic Sea	G. its numerous lakes.
8. Countryside tourism homesteads	H. but rather diverse.

TASK 5. Put the words in the right order to make sentences.

1. a / of / has / rich / Museum / amber / Amber / collection / Palanga
2. a / is / resort / popular / seaside / Šventoji
3. the / the / into / river / flows / Curonian / Lagoon / Nemunas
4. in / is / there / a / station / bird-ringing / Ventės Ragas
5. of / all / represents / life / country / museum / regions / Rumšiškės / the / Lithuania
6. and / are / resorts / health / popular / Druskininkai / Birštonas
7. is / by / of / the / the / around / from / visited / world / pilgrims / Crosses / Hill
8. a / is / of / Soviet-era / sculpture / statues / Park / garden / Grūtas
9. is / the / of / ancient / Lithuania / capital / Kernavė
10. the / the / was / during / of / period / inter-war / temporary / capital / Kaunas / Lithuania

11. SIGHTSEEING IN LITHUANIA

TASK 1.

1. The Port of Klaipėda
2. Palanga Pier
3. The Sand Dunes of the Curonian Spit
4. Rumšiškės Etnographic Museum
5. Trakai Castle
6. Kaunas Townhall Square
7. The Hill of Crosses
8. Grūtas Park (museum of Soviet monuments)
9. The Hill Forts of Kernavė

TASK 2.

1. – Introduction
2. – National Heritage
3. – Regions
4. – Main Cities
5. – National Parks
6. – The Baltic Sea Coast
7. – Countryside Leisure

TASK 3.

1. The Old Town of Vilnius is one of the largest surviving medieval old towns in Europe. **X**
2. Lithuania's history is reflected in its cultural heritage. ✔
3. People from different ethnographic regions use different dialects of Lithuanian. ✔
4. Lithuanian towns have interesting architecture. ✔
5. National parks should be visited by tourists. ✔
6. There are many forests in Žemaitija national park. **X**
7. The pinewoods of Dzūkija are full of mushrooms. **X**
8. The Curonian Spit has an exceptional landscape. ✔
9. Trakai has a small population of Karaites and Tartars. **X**
10. The coast of the Baltic Sea and the sand beaches are rather clean. **X**
11. Rural tourism is popular among foreign tourists visiting Lithuania. **X**

TASK 4.

1. D - The Old Town of Vilnius has a unique historical centre.

2. H - Lithuania is small, but rather diverse.

3. A - Lithuania's ethnographic regions have specific customs and traditions.

4. F - Kaunas is situated on the confluence of two rivers.

5. B - Klaipėda is a non-freezing seaport.

6. G - Trakai is famous for its numerous lakes.

7. C - The Baltic Sea has a beautiful coastline.

8. E - Countryside tourism homesteads are located in beautiful areas.

TASK 5.

1. Palanga Amber Museum has a rich collection of amber.

2. Šventoji is a popular seaside resort.

3. The river Nemunas flows into the Curonian Lagoon.

4. There is a bird-ringing station in Ventės Ragas.

5. Rumšiškės country life museum represents all the regions of Lithuania.

6. Druskininkai and Birštonas (/Birštonas and Druskininkai) are popular health resorts.The Hill of Crosses is visited by pilgrims from around the world.

7. Grūtas Park is a sculpture garden of Soviet-era statues.

8. Kernavė is the ancient capital of Lithuania.

9. Kaunas was the temporary capital of Lithuania during the inter-war period.