**THE CONSTITUTION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**Устный опрос**

**1. Translate into English (find in the text) and learn by heart:**

1. Конституция Российской Федерации - высший закон России, который содержит основные принципы конституционного строя России.

2. Конституция Российской Федерации определяет права и свободы человека и гражданина, провозглашает принцип равенства перед законом и судом.

3. Отдельные статьи посвящены органам федеральной власти: Президенту Российской Федерации, Федеральному Собранию Российской Федерации и Правительству Российской Федерации.

4. Согласно Конституции, принятой 12 декабря 1993 г., вся власть в Российской Федерации принадлежит Президенту и органам законодательной, исполнительной и судебной властей, которые работают независимо.

5. Президент Российской Федерации является главой государства

6. Федеральное Собрание Российской Федерации (Совет Федерации и Государственная Дума) представляет законодательную власть.

7. Правительство Российской Федерации - исполнительная власть.

8. Судебная власть осуществляется посредством конституционного, гражданского, административного и уголовного судопроизводства.

9. В систему судов Российской Федерации входят:

- Конституционный Суд Российской Федерации;

- Верховный Суд Российской Федерации;

- Высший Арбитражный Суд Российской Федерации.

10. Отдельные статьи посвящены прокуратуре Российской Федерации.

**TEXT**

The Constitution of the Russian Federation is Russia’s supreme law, passed through a national vote. It contains the basic principles of the Russian constitutional system.

The Constitution:

* defines the federative structure of the Russian Federation;
* establishes the principles of sovereignty and independence of the Russian Federation;
* defines the principle of separation of powers between legislative, executive and judicial branches;
* establishes equality of ideologies and religions;
* defines the Russian Federation as a secular state.

The Constitution of the Russian Federation defines the rights and freedoms of a human and a citizen, sets their priority when deciding any issues, and proclaims the principle of equality before law and court. As for the federative structure, the Constitution contains the list of component units of the Russian Federation, covers the issues that are within the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation and those that are within the joint jurisdiction of federal and local authorities.

Separate articles are devoted to the bodies of federal power: the President of the Russian Federation, the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, and the Government of the Russian Federation and also the judicial power of the Russian Federation. In these articles, the order and the terms of appointed and elected officials and the limits of their competence are defined according to the principle of separation of powers.

Under the Constitution adopted on December 12, 1993 at the all-Russia referendum, full authority in the Russian Federation belongs to the President and the bodies of the legislative (two-chamber parliament – Federal Assembly), executive (Government of the Russian Federation) and the judicial authorities, which work independently.

The President of the Russian Federation is the Head of the State; the duties of the President are listed, including his status of the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation. The Constitution also contains the text of the oath taken by the President of the Russian Federation upon taking office.

The Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (the Federation Council and the State Duma) represents the legislature. The order of electing representatives for these chambers, their competence, terms of office are provided by the Constitution.

The Government of the Russian Federation is the executive branch. The Constitution determines the extent of its jurisdiction and also defines the order and the terms of office of government officials.

Judicial power is implemented by means of constitutional, civil, administrative, and criminal legal proceedings. The Constitution establishes the principles of independence, irremovability and immunity of judges, thus providing for objectiveness and impartiality of the court.

The system of courts of the Russian Federation consists of:

* the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation;
* the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation;
* the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

Separate articles are devoted to the Russian Federation Procurator’s Office with functions of supervision and control, and the procedure for adoption of Constitutional amendments. The Constitution regulates the issues of local self-government, including its authority and sphere of activity.

Transitional and Final provisions regulating the promulgation of the Constitution and its enforcement are contained in Part 2 of the Constitution.