**Вариант 6.**

**BUILDING A HOUSE**

Planning а house. If a person decides to build a house, he or she must first select a lot or piece of land. The next step is to consult an architect or builder. This expert will check local zoning laws and electrical, building and plumbing codes. Knowledge of these codes protects the buyer in both the present and the future. For example the zoning law in the area may permit the construction of factories near the new house. Such construction might well decrease the value of the house.

The architect then designs the house, according to the buyer’s ideas. He or she makes specifications and blue prints that become the basis for the contract between the builder and the buyer. They provide information on size, materials, and how the house is to be built. The architect also supervises the construction of the house.

The frame is the skeleton around which the rest of the house is built. After the footings and foundation have been formed, workers bolt wooden sills or base plates to the foundation. The sills support the outside walls.

Floor joists or support beams are attached to the sills about 16 inches (41 centimeters) apart. A joist runs from one sill and joins with another joist from the opposite sill. They meet at a main support beam or basement wall about midway between the house’s sides. Floor boards or plywood nailed on top of the joists make the bottom layer of the floor. The structure then is solid enough to hold the wall frames of the house. Wall frames include vertical pieces of lumber called studs and horizontal pieces called plates. Carpenters assemble and nail together each wall frame separately before attaching it to the sill. Then they lift each frame into place and brace it temporarily. When all the outside walls have been raised, they are nailed together and braced permanently.

The sheathing or inner layer of the outside wall may be wood, fiber-board, or plasterboard nailed to the studs. Sometimes builders tack tar paper to the sheathing before adding the siding or outer layer. Siding may be aluminium, brick, stone, or wood placed directly over the sheathing or tar paper.

The roof seals the top of the house. Some roofs are flat, but most are slanted. Slanted roofs are often formed by pieces of lumber called rafters. Carpenters nail the bottom ends of the rafters to the plates at the top of the outside walls. The rafters slant from the plates and meet at the ridge-board. A board places at the ridge, or top edge of the roof. Rafters support the weight of the roof just as joists support the weight of the floor.

After carpenters nail sheathing to the tops of the rafters, they add heavy building paper or building felt to it. Then they add the final layer of asphalt or slate shingles, or roofing asphalt. Flashings, or strips of sheet metal, placed around the chimney and other roof openings, insulate the roof from the chimney and also prevent water from leaking into the house.

**5. Answer the following questions:**

1. What is necessary to do first if you decide to build a house?
2. Whom is necessary to consult with?
3. Why is it necessary to consult with an expert?
4. What protects the buyer in both the present and the future?
5. Who designs the house, according to the buyer’s ideas? 6
6. Is it important to sign the contract between the builder and the buyer and why?
7. Who supervises the construction of the house?
8. What is the frame?
9. When do workers bolt wooden sills or base plates to the foundation?
10. What supports the outside walls?
11. What runs from one sill?
12. Where do they meet?
13. What is called studs?
14. What do carpenters do?
15. What materials are used for sheathing or inner layer of the outside wall?
16. What materials are used for siding?
17. What seals the top of the house?
18. What is the form of the roofs?
19. How do we call slanted roofs formed by pieces of lumber?
20. Where do carpenters nail the bottom ends of the rafters to?
21. What supports the weight of the roof and the floor?
22. When do carpenters add heavy building paper or building felt to sheathing?
23. What is placed around the chimney and other roof openings?
24. Why is it necessary to do?

**6. Complete the sentences according to the text:**

1. … he or she must first select a lot, or piece of land.

2. Knowledge of these codes protects … .

3. … , according to the buyer’s ideas.

4. The frame is … .

5. After the footings and foundation have been formed, …or base plates to the foundation.

6. A joist runs from one sill and … from the opposite sill.

7. … make the bottom layer of the floor.

8. Carpenters assemble and nail together … before attaching it to the sill.

9. … may be wood, fiberboard, or plasterboard nailed to the studs.

10. … before adding the siding or outer layer.

11. Some roofs are flat, but … .

12. Carpenters nail the bottom ends of the rafters to … .

13. After carpenters nail sheathing to the tops of the rafters, … .

14. Then they add the final layer of asphalt or … .

**7. Choose a word to put into each gap:**

Carpenters, a joist, lumber, the frame, rafters, the sheathing, slate shingles, plates, plywood, plasterboard, studs, the footings, nail, the roof, stone, layer, the ridgeboard, bolt, asphalt, pieces, aluminium, leaking, slanted, the siding, sill, fiberboard, wall frame, tar paper, the chimney, wood, slant, the weight.

1. … is the skeleton around which the rest of the house is built.
2. After … and foundation have been formed, workers … wooden sills or base … to the foundation.
3. … runs from one … and joins with another joist from the opposite sill.
4. Floor boards or … nailed on top of the joists make the bottom … of the floor.
5. Wall frames include vertical pieces of … called … and horizontal … called plates.
6. … assemble and … together each … separately before attaching it to the sill.
7. … or inner layer of the outside wall may be wood, … , or … .
8. Sometimes builders tack … to the sheathing before adding … or outer layer.
9. Siding may be… , brick, … , or … placed directly over the sheathing or tar paper.
10. … roofs are often formed by pieces of lumber called … .
11. The rafters … from the plates and meet at … .
12. Rafters support the weight of … just as joists support … of the floor.
13. Carpenters add the final layer of … or … , or roofing asphalt.
14. Flashings insulate the roof from … and also prevents water from … into the house.

**8.Comprehensive check. Choose the best alternative according to the text:**

1. If a person decides to build a house, … .

a) he or she must have enough money;

b) he or she must first select some partners;

c) he or she must first select a lot or piece of land.

2. … , according to the buyer’s ideas.

a) The architect fulfils all the documents;

b) The architect designs the house;

c) The lawyer chooses everything necessary.

3. The basis for the contract between the builder and the buyer are … .

a) agreements for building the house;

b) documents selected by the lawyer;

c) specifications and blue prints.

4. The documents which are the basis for the contract provide information on … .

a) size, materials, and how the house is to be built;

b) qualification of the workers who will build the house;

c) money which is necessary to pay.

5. The frame is the skeleton … .

a) around which all the works are organized;

b) around which the rest of the house is built;

c) which is the main part of the house.

6. Workers bolt wooden sills or base plates to the foundation … .

a) after the footings and foundation have been formed;

b) after they are asked to do this;

c) before the footings and foundation have been formed.

7. Floor joists or support beams are attached to the sills about … .

a) 17 inches (41 centimeters) apart;

b) 16 inches (42 centimeters) apart;

c) 16 inches (41 centimeters) apart.

8. A joist runs from one sill and joins with another… .

a) joist from the nearest sill;

b) plate from the opposite sill;

c) joist from the opposite sill.

9. Floor boards or plywood … make the bottom layer of the floor.

a) covered the top of the joists;

b) nailed on top of the joists;

c) nailed on the bottom of the joists.

10. … separately before attaching it to the sill.

a) Carpenters assemble and nail together each wall frame;

b) Carpenters select and paste together each wall frame;

c) Builders assemble and nail together each wall frame.

11. The sheathing or inner layer of the outside wall … nailed to the studs.

a) may be wood, fiberboard, or plasterboard;

b) may be cement, fiberboard, or plasterboard;

c) is necessary to be wood, fiberboard, or plasterboard.

12. … before adding the siding or outer layer.

a) Obligatory builders tack tar paper to the sheathing;

b) Sometimes builders tack tar paper to the sheathing;

c) Sometimes builders tack clay to the sheathing.

13. Siding may be aluminium, brick, stone, or wood placed … .

a) directly above the fiberboard or tar paper;

b) directly over the sheathing or tar paper;

c) at the sides of the walls.

14. The roof seals the top of the house, they may be … .

a) flat, but most are slanted;

b) only slanted;

c) slanted, but most are flat.

15. Slanted roofs are often formed by … .

a) pieces of plasterboard called sills;

b) plates of tar paper called rafters;

c) pieces of lumber called rafters.

16. Rafters support the weight of the roof just as … .

a) beams support the weight of the whole house;

b) studs support the weight of the floor;

c) joists support the weight of the floor.