The lesson on the topic

“My native country. Russia.”

by Olesya Shcherbakova for Skyeng

Task1. Watch the video and write down the name of the country we are going to speak about (till 1.35) _____

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_CRGTOn_HDc&feature=emb_logo

Task 2. Meet the hero

This is Danny. He is from Britain.
Danny wants to learn more about Russia.
What can you tell him?

Answer the questions:

1) What are your associations with Russia?
2) Which places in Russia would you advise him to visit?

Task 3. Divide the words into the columns according to the article they are used with.

Urals Volga Tula Siberia Taymyr Peninsula Caucasus Lake Baikal Black Sea Amur River Altai Nizhny Novgorod Ladoga Elbrus

zero article	article “the”

Task 3. Revise the rule

zero article	article “the”
before **the names of countries** (Italy, Belgium), **cities** (Copenhagen, Vienna), **continents** (Europe, Africa), **mountains** (Mt Everest, Mt Olympus), **lakes** (Loch Ness, Lake Titikaka), **streets or squares** (Oxford street, Berkeley Square) **parks** (Central Park)	before **the names of oceans** (the Atlantic Ocean), **seas** (the Mediterranean), **rivers** (the Nile), **mountain ranges** (the Alps), **deserts** (the Sahara desert) **the names of these countries/states**: the USA (United States of America), the UK (United Kingdom), the Netherlands, the United Arab Emirates, the Bahamas, the Philippines

Task 4. Look at the picture. What do you see?

Task 5. Read the text about geographical features of Russia. Fill in the missing articles.

Russia, a country that stretches over a vast expanse of ___eastern Europe and _____northern Asia. Russia contains _____Europe's longest river, ____ Volga, and its largest lake,_____ Ladoga. Russia also is home to the world's deepest lake, ____Baikal, and the country recorded the world's lowest temperature outside the North and South poles.
Russia is bounded to the north and east by ____ Arctic and Pacific oceans, and it has small frontages in the northwest on ____ Baltic Sea at ____St. Petersburg and at the detached Russian region of ____Kaliningrad, which also borders on____ Poland and _____Lithuania.

1) ***What is the longest river in Russia?***
2) ***What is the world's deepest lake?***
3) ***What places in Russia would you like to visit? Why?***

Task 6. Look at the picture. What do you see?

Can you guess the meaning of these words:

ancient
supply
species
wondrous
healing springs

alpine ski slopes

Task 7. Read the text to prove your guesses. Match the words with the definitions:

Lake Baikal is the deepest and, possibly, the most **ancient** lake in the world; it is about 25 million years old. It holds almost a quarter of the world's **supply** of fresh water, and the water is extremely pure and clear. A white disk 30 cm in diameter can be seen through the Baikal water even at a depth of 40 meters.

The lake is located at the height of almost 500 m above sea level; it is 636 km long and from 20 to 80 km wide. Lake Baikal and its shores are home to 1,850 **species** of animals and 850 species of plants, many of which can only be found there.

The **wondrous** nature of Baikal, a climate that is rather mild for Siberia, and the sand beaches all attract tourists. The area has **alpine ski slopes**, comfortable hotels and resorts, and **healing springs**. Travelers from around the world can enjoy cruises, ethnographic, environmental, horseback tours, hunting and fishing trips.

ancient	an amount of something that is provided to be used
supply	a set of animals or plants in which the members have similar characteristics to each other
species	relating to the Alps
wondrous	very old; having existed for a very long time
alpine	water that naturally flows out from the ground and helps cure people
healing spring	extremely and surprisingly good

Task 8. Read again and tell Danny about Baikal answering the questions:

1) How old is Lake Baikal?
2) What is the water in Lake Baikal?
3) Where is it located?
4) What is the climate near Lake Baikal?
5) Why do tourists want to visit this lake?

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Finish the sentence:

Now I can...

Keys:

Task 3. zero article - Tula Siberia, Lake Baikal, Altai, Nizhny Novgorod, Ladoga, Elbrus

article “the” - the Urals, the Volga, the Taymyr Peninsula, the Caucasus, the Black Sea, the Amur River

Task 6.

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Task 8

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