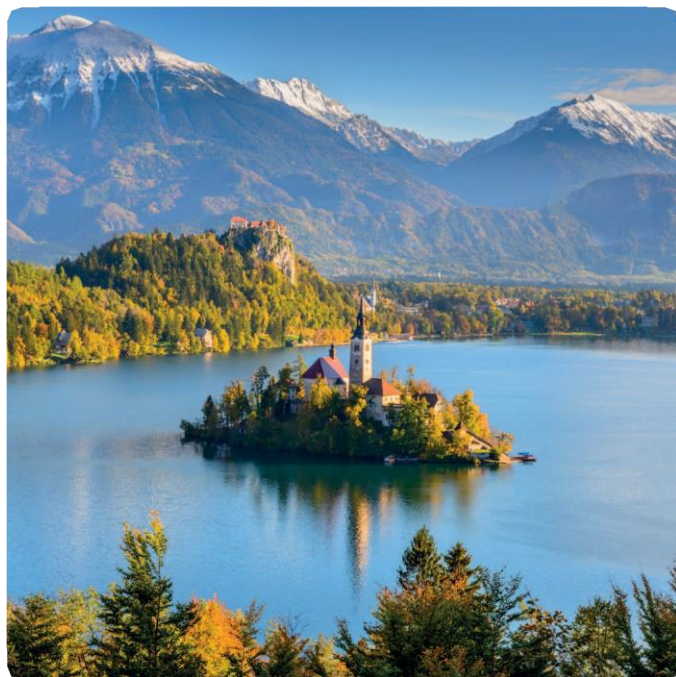


My country:
SLOVENIA



Tjaša Lemut Novak

Gradivo za poučevanje nacionalnih vsebin
 k učbenikom *Project Explore*,
Project, English Plus in Harmonize

Osmi razred

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1 What do they say about us?

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THE SLOVENIANS

They say that the British are **very** polite, the Germans are **incredibly** hard-working, the French are the best cooks, and the Italians like to show off. National stereotypes can be positive or negative and they are often wrong – of course, not every Frenchman can make amazing croissants, British people can be **a bit** rude sometimes, Germans go on holiday like everyone else, and some Italians are **rather** shy. Do you know what other nations say about Slovenians? And are these stereotypes based on facts? Read on to find out!

1 Slovenians all know each other

It's a small world, and Slovenia isn't a very big country. It's common to meet someone for the first time and, while talking to them, realize that you have a connection – you both come from the same region, you grew up in the same neighbourhood, you went to the same primary school, or perhaps you have friends in common. This is **hardly** surprising, because people in Slovenia are **quite** sociable and usually have a lot of friends.

2 Slovenians are proud of their language and culture

Ask a Slovenian about their country and you'll quickly find out how much they love it. They'll talk about the history and culture of Slovenia for hours! And they'll point out that Slovenian is a very interesting language – it's got dual grammatical number, a special form of nouns and verbs that is only used when talking about two things.

3 Every Slovenian speaks at least one foreign language

Slovenians are **really** intelligent and **extremely** good at learning languages. According to a survey carried out in 2015, nine out of ten people in Slovenia speak at least one foreign language, and almost 50% know three or more. English is the most popular foreign language, followed by German, Italian, Croatian and French.

4 Slovenians are very sporty

Slovenian people love sport, but they prefer outdoor sports to working out in a gym. Many take up skiing, snowboarding and climbing at a very young age. In the 2014 Winter Olympics, Slovenian athletes won eight medals in skiing! Two of the best mountaineers in the world, Tomaž Humar and Julius Kugy, were Slovenian. There's a saying that every true Slovenian must climb Triglav at least once in their life!



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About

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1 Read the article. Choose the correct answers.

A stereotype is _____ that people have about what someone or something is like.

- a an idea b a fact c a quality

- 1 Stereotypes are _____ negative.
a always b sometimes c never
- 2 The author of the article thinks that Slovenian people know a lot about their _____.
a neighbours
b nouns and verbs
c history and culture
- 3 About 90% of Slovenians speak _____.
a English and German
b at least one foreign language
c three or more foreign languages
- 4 In Slovenia, outdoor sports are _____ indoor sports.
a more popular than
b less popular than
c as popular as
- 5 The author of the article says that Slovenian people are _____.
a friendly, polite and proud
b hard-working, shy and rude
c sociable, sporty and intelligent

2 Look at the blue words in the article. What do they mean? Put them in the correct category.

a lot	<u>incredibly</u> _____
a little	_____

3 Write one example for each of the items 1–8.

someone who is quite famous: Tina Maze

- 1 someone who is a bit shy: _____
- 2 an extremely popular sport: _____
- 3 something hardly surprising: _____
- 4 a really big country: _____
- 5 an incredibly beautiful place: _____
- 6 a very interesting book: _____
- 7 someone who is rather tall: _____
- 8 something you can do very well: _____

4 Find these phrasal verbs in the article. Match them with the definitions 1–7.

show off take up grow up ~~find out~~ carry out
point out work out come from

discover find out

- 1 do exercise _____
- 2 do or complete something _____
- 3 learn or start to do something _____
- 4 tell someone important information _____
- 5 become an adult _____
- 6 be born or made in a particular place _____
- 7 try to impress people by telling them about your skills or the things you have _____

5 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in exercise 4.

Tina Maze comes from Slovenj Gradec.

- 1 Tomaž Humar was born and _____ in Ljubljana.
- 2 Peter Prevc _____ skiing and ski jumping at a very young age.
- 3 People who are shy don't _____.
- 4 Before we started, our guide _____ that climbing can be dangerous.
- 5 How often do you _____ in the gym?
- 6 I want to _____ more about the Slovenian actress Ita Rina.
- 7 Jernej Bartol Kopitar _____ research on languages and published the first Slovenian grammar book in 1808.

6 Work in pairs. Choose a Slovenian person that you admire (a famous person, a relative or a friend) and describe them to your partner. Include information about their appearance and character.

My grandmother Bojana is the most amazing Slovenian I know.

What is she like?

The tale of Goldhorn and the Triglav flower

Once upon a time, in the Trenta valley, there lived a young hunter. He was very brave, and he was the only man who could climb the highest mountains, because he was under the protection of the White Women. They were good fairies who helped poor people and looked after the mountains. The Goldhorn, a large Alpine ibex with golden horns, lived with them. Its horns held the key to a treasure in the mountains. Many hunters were trying to catch the Goldhorn, but it was too fast and too strong.



Down in the valley, the young hunter met a beautiful girl and fell in love with her. He was bringing her beautiful mountain flowers, which she liked. She liked him, too. She lived in an inn where Italian merchants often stopped while they were travelling from Venice to Germany.

One day, a very rich young merchant came to the inn. He gave the girl golden rings and promised her more presents. The young hunter arrived while the girl and the merchant were dancing. He saw that the girl was wearing the merchant's ring. He was hurt by this and went away. As he was leaving the inn, a man came to him.

'Find and kill the Goldhorn,' the man said. 'Take his horns and find the treasure. Then you'll be richer than the merchant.'

'Who are you?' asked the young hunter. 'I don't know you.'

'People call me the Green Hunter,' the man said. He told the young hunter many things about the treasures of Goldhorn. Later that same night, the two men went to the mountains together.



IN THE YEAR 2222

Drinking water will become a myth,
Fresh air will be bottled and sold.
Forests and rivers will disappear –
They'll be replaced with grey roads.

Broad roads filled with steel on wheels,
Tall skyscrapers with concrete walls,
Parks with no trees, just lonely swings,
Rivers with no fish but plenty of trash, TRASH.

Is it going to be like that? Or even worse?
NO! We're going to act before it's too late.
Is it going to be easy to save our land?
NO! But we're going to work hard – hand in hand.

The water will run clean in rivers and seas,
And fish will dance in the mountain streams.
On the Slovenian hills, green forests will grow –
Linden, willow, oak, spruce ... and more.

The air in cities will be fresh and sweet,
Because of the plants in the parks – you'll see.
People will cycle, recycle, reuse, and plant trees.
The wind and the sun will give us all we need.

But what shall we do until 2222?
I'll give you a clue – it's all up to you!



1 Read the advert from a student magazine below. Match the blue words with the definitions 1–7.

EARTH DAY COMPETITION



22nd April is Earth Day and this month's competition is all about the **environment!**

The world is changing, but in Slovenia, **natural resources** are still plenty and natural disasters few. However, it looks as if we think it will stay like that forever and so do almost nothing to protect what we have.

We want to know what you think:

- Will clean water, fresh air, good soil and green forests always be here?
- Will **floods, earthquakes, forest fires, drought** and **avalanches** be few and rare events?
- How will **climate change** affect our country?

Write an article, an essay or a poem and send it to us by 22nd April. The best one will appear in our magazine next month. There will be prizes, too!

changes in the weather caused by gases such as CO₂ **climate change**

1 flames that spread over an area of woodland

2 a long period when there is little or no rain

3 a lot of water covering an area that is usually dry

4 a lot of snow falling down the side of a mountain

5 a sudden shaking of the earth's surface

6 the air, water and land on earth

7 materials like metals, wood and minerals

2 Read the poem on page 5. What fears and hopes does the author have about the future of Slovenia? Choose the correct words.

FEARS

- 1 In 2222, the air **will / won't** be clean.
- 2 People **will / won't** buy fresh air in bottles.
- 3 There **will / won't** be any forests in Slovenia.
- 4 People **will / won't** build a lot of roads.
- 5 There **will / won't** be a lot of cars in the cities.
- 6 Children **will / won't** play in the parks.
- 7 There **will / won't** be fish in the rivers.
- 8 The rivers **will / won't** be very polluted.

HOPES

- 1 In 2222, there **will / won't** be any trash in the rivers.
- 2 There **will / won't** be a lot of fish.
- 3 Slovenia **will / won't** have green forests.
- 4 People in cities **will / won't** breathe polluted air.
- 5 Everyone **will / won't** have a bike.
- 6 People **will / won't** start recycling more.
- 7 People **will / won't** plant new trees.
- 8 We **will / won't** use wind and solar energy.

3 Work in pairs. What can you do to protect the environment? Make a list of three things you are going to do and tell your partner about your plans.

What are you going to do to protect the environment?

I'm going to plant a tree.

Great idea! I'm going to ...

4 Do you think we are doing enough to protect the environment? Why / Why not? Write an article, an essay or a poem for the competition in exercise 1.

4 Champions

SLOVENIA AT THE OLYMPICS

Slovenian athletes have competed in the Olympic Games since 1912. They have broken many records and they have won a lot of medals in both the Summer and the Winter Olympics. Not surprisingly, the most successful winter sports for Slovenia have been Alpine skiing and ski jumping. The most successful sports at the Summer Olympics so far have been judo and athletics.

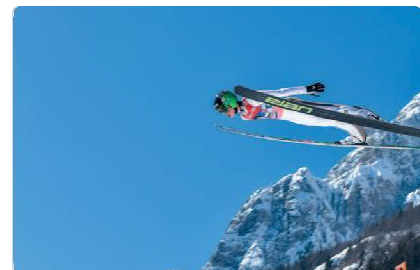
ALPINE SKIING

The Slovenian skiers Alenka Dovžan, Jure Košir and Katja Koren won bronze medals at the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway. But the most successful Alpine skier is Tina Maze. Winning two silver medals in 2010 and two gold medals in 2014, she has become a legend in Slovenia. She has competed in all five World Cup Alpine skiing disciplines and has even won all five events in a single season!



SKI JUMPING

The Slovenian men's ski jumping team came third in the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City in the USA. Twelve years later, Peter Prevc won a silver medal and a bronze medal in the Sochi Olympics in Russia. He was also the winner of the 2016 Ski Jumping World Cup. Peter Prevc has even achieved a perfect jump – that's when all judges give an athlete the maximum points for a jump.



JUDO

Slovenian women are not just beautiful – they are also very good at sport, especially judo! Urška Žolnir, Lucija Polavder, Anamari Velenšek and Tina Trstenjak have all won medals at the Summer Olympics. Urška Žolnir has got two medals. She was the first Slovenian woman to win an Olympic gold medal. This happened in 2012 at the Summer Olympics in London, in the UK.



ATHLETICS

Primož Kozmus is the best hammer thrower in Slovenia and has held the national record (82.58 metres) since 2009. He won a gold medal at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, China. He also won a silver Olympic medal in 2012.



Slovenian athletes are good at running, too. Brigita Bukovec won a silver medal in 1996 at the Olympics in Atlanta, in the USA. Jolanda Čeplak won the bronze in 2004 in Athens, Greece.

Like 56 'likes' Comment 11 comments Share 2 shares

1 Write the names of these sports. Then read the article. Which of the sports are mentioned in the article?

judo ~~swimming~~ snowboarding skiing canoeing rowing running shooting weightlifting

swimming 1 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____

6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____

2 Read the article again and answer the questions.

When did Slovenian athletes compete in the Olympics for the first time?
In 1912.

- 1 In which two winter sports have Slovenian athletes been most successful?

- 2 How many Olympic medals has Tina Maze won?

- 3 Which Slovenian skier has achieved a perfect jump?

- 4 When did a Slovenian woman win a gold Olympic medal for the first time?

- 5 Which athlete set a new national hammer throw record?

3 Read the text about skiing and choose the correct modal verbs.

People started skiing more than 5,000 years ago because they found that they **should / could** travel much faster in winter if they used skis. They ¹**couldn't / can't** use materials like aluminium, so the first skis ²**had to / should** be made from wood.

Skiing is sometimes dangerous and you ³**must / mustn't** do it without special equipment. You ⁴**can / should** also wear warm clothes, because it's very cold on the pistes. You ⁵**should / must** wear a helmet while skiing – it's a rule. You ⁶**don't have to / mustn't** wear goggles, but most skiers do. You ⁷**can't / have to** wear special boots and ski bindings – they connect the boot with the ski. The skiing gloves ⁸**could / should** fit your hands perfectly, so that you ⁹**can / must** have a good grip of the sticks. The sticks help you to balance – you ¹⁰**have to / can't** ski fast if you don't have a good sense of balance. The shape and size of the skis are very important, too. For Alpine skiing, the skis ¹¹**should / could** be shorter and wider, but the skis for cross-country are long and narrow.

With the right equipment and after a lot of practice, you ¹²**must / can** be really fast on the snow – the world record for speed skiing is 252.4 km per hour, which is faster than most cars!

4 Slovenian sportspeople have also won Olympic medals in snowboarding, cross-country skiing, biathlon, rowing, shooting, canoeing, sailing and swimming. Choose one of the sports and find information about it on the internet. Make a poster about the sport and present it to the class.

- 1 What do you know about the history of the sport?
- 2 How do you play or do the sport? What are the rules?
- 3 What equipment do you need?
- 4 Is it a team sport or an individual sport?
- 5 Who are the most famous Slovenian sportspeople who compete in this sport? Have they won any medals?

Answer key

1 What do they say about us?

Exercise 1

1 b 2 c 3 b 4 a 5 c

Exercise 2

a lot	incredibly, extremely, rather, quite, really
a little	a bit, hardly

Exercise 3

Students' own answers.

Exercise 4

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1 work out | 5 grow up |
| 2 carry out | 6 come from |
| 3 take up | 7 show off |
| 4 point out | |

Exercise 5

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| 1 grew up | 5 work out |
| 2 took up | 6 find out |
| 3 show off | 7 carried out |

4 pointed out

Exercise 6

Students' own answers.

2 Tales from Triglav

Exercise 1

1 c 2 d 3 f 4 e 5 a 6 b

Exercise 2

Regular verbs: live - lived, help - helped, like - liked, stop - stopped, promise - promised, arrive - arrived, ask - asked

Irregular verbs: can - could, meet - met, come - came, give - gave, see - saw, say - said, go - went

Exercise 3

Students' own answers.

Exercise 4

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 was | 18 healed |
| 2 spent | 19 gave |
| 3 was rising | 20 could |
| 4 saw | 21 shone / was shining |
| 5 shot | 22 were |
| 6 wounded | 23 ran |
| 7 was bleeding | 24 was standing / stood |
| 8 tried | 25 were |
| 9 was | 26 looked away |
| 10 saw | 27 didn't see |
| 11 were | 28 attacked |
| 12 grew / were growing | 29 pushed |
| 13 said | 30 fell |
| 14 shouted | 31 was waiting / waited |
| 15 was coming | 32 melted |
| 16 found | 33 brought |
| 17 ate | 34 was holding / held |

Exercise 5

Students' own answers.

3 The green country on the blue planet

Exercise 1

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1 forest fire | 5 earthquake |
| 2 drought | 6 environment |
| 3 flood | 7 natural resources |
| 4 avalanche | |

Exercise 2

FEARS

- will
- won't
- will
- will
- won't
- won't
- will

HOPES

- won't
- will
- will
- won't
- will
- will
- will
- will

Exercise 3

Students' own answers.

Exercise 4

Students' own answers.

4 Champions

Exercise 1

- 1 running
- 2 canoeing
- 3 rowing
- 4 weightlifting
- 5 judo
- 6 skiing
- 7 shooting
- 8 snowboarding

Skiing, judo and running are mentioned in the article.

Exercise 2

- 1 Alpine skiing and ski jumping.
- 2 She's won four Olympic medals.
- 3 Peter Prevc.
- 4 In 2012.
- 5 Primož Kozmus.

Exercise 3

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| 1 couldn't | 7 have to |
| 2 had to | 8 should |
| 3 mustn't | 9 can |
| 4 should | 10 can't |
| 5 must | 11 should |
| 6 don't have to | 12 can |

Exercise 4

Students' own answers.

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