

**Уважаемые коллеги! При изучении иностранного языка мы всегда знакомим детей с историей, культурой, достопримечательностями стран и городов изучаемого языка. По моему мнению, дети должны знать историю своей малой родины. Хочу предложить вам небольшой рассказ о своем городе Сызрань, который вы можете использовать на уроках или на внеклассном занятии по теме «Родной город». К тому же, в экзаменационных заданиях есть тема о родном городе.**

### **My native city Syzran**

Syzran, a beautiful ancient city on the right bank of the river Volga, is situated to the west of Samara. It is rich in architectural monuments, sacral and nature places. Tourists come here to watch picturesque views of Volga and buy unique Syzran icons.



The word “Syzran” is translated from turkic as “a river flowing from a ravine” due to the local river Syzranka, which floats into the river Volga. Syzran occupies not very large territory, it is 117 square kilometers and its population is nearly 187,000 people. The coat of arms of the city is a black bull on the golden field, which was approved by Catherine the Great in 1780 to mark the successful cattle and grain trade. Syzran was founded by Grigory Kozlovsky (due to Peter the Great’s decree) in 1683 as a defensive fortress.

Already in XVIII century Syzran turned into the trade centre of the region. Grain and cattle trade was developing, merchants began to form. On the boundary of XIX—XX centuries the city ranked fourth in the country in the volume of the grain processing. In those times over 5000 inhabitants lived in Syzran. Samara had fewer residents, so it was made subordinate to Syzran.

In June 1906 there was a great fire in Syzran, nearly 5500 wooden buildings burnt and not less 1000 people died. After that fire merchants began to build stone buildings.

Spasskaya Tower (a stone part of the ancient Syzran Kremlin, which also contained 4 wooden towers in earlier times) with the belfry inside is one of the most ancient Kremlins in Russia and the oldest building in Syzran. There are several churches in Syzran which are remarkable for their architecture: Fyodorovskaya God Mother (1738), Ilinskaya (1776), Ascension Day (1852—1957), Kazansky Cathedral, (1872) with the belfry.

The main street of the city, Sovetskaya Street, is an indivisible ensemble of buildings of different architectural styles: the representative of the modern style is the house of the merchant Klyarov (1910), the house of the merchant Sterlyadkin (the architector Shekhtel, 1914). The City Bank (eclectic style has) the dominating place in Sovetskaya Street (1863), the house of Myasnikov (1909), the house of the merchants Syromyatnikovs (1910). In the nearby streets you can find the wooden examples of the Russian serf architecture (the house of the govern of the town Chernukhin).

Syzran was an important trade centre but the rail way construction in 1874 gave Syzran another impulse for the development. Besides in 1880 Alexandrovsky Bridge (1436 metres long) across the river Volga was built. It was named so in the honor of the tsar Alexander II and connected Europe and Asia.

Today, according to the UN classification, Syzran is a large city. It is the third largest city in Samara region in terms of the industrial potential and the population (187,000 inhabitants). The leading businesses include the enterprises of the machine-building (Tyazhmash, Neftemash, Selmash), fuel (SNPZ, shale-distilling plant), chemical and petrochemical (Plastic) and others.

Syzran is also famous for its Military Air Academy (the only school in Russia training the specialists for the operation of small aircraft).

Annually a lot of guests come to attend the festival of bell and folk music, the Silver Trumpets of the Volga region international festival of brass bands.

The Syzran residents are famous for the art of growing tomatoes. There is a special very popular holiday in the city - the holiday of Syzran Tomato.

Sports play an important role in the life of Syzran residents. The city has 8 stadiums, 79 sports grounds, 66 gyms, 2 rowing centres, an excellent motorcycle racing track and a yacht club. The athletes of Syzran have the biggest achievements in such sports as wrestling, judo, gymnastics, volleyball, weight lifting. Syzran residents are proud of their football team.

Next year such a great event as the World Football Championship 2018 will take place in Russia and our regional centre Samara will also take part in this great holiday for football fans of different countries. Residents of Syzran will be glad to welcome guests of the World Football Championship in their city and to show them all beautiful places.

