

19. Slovakia – Culture and Services

I. Culture

The culture represents *spiritual* (.....) and *material* (.....) values. The Slovak culture results from folklore which was influenced by the German, Slavic and Central-European history. The cultural life is very rich. A house of culture provides various performances for the people almost in the every town and village.

Is such cultural house in your residence? What kinds of performances take place there?

Concerts are realized in bigger halls like *sport halls*, *amphitheatres* or *theatres*. City downtowns or local squares represent typical places which host (trade) fairs.

What is the name of square in your town?

The very first and the biggest cultural institution is

The very important segment of our culture is drama. Almost every significant town has its own *cinema* and every city has own *theatre*. Name theatres in the given cities:

BA: KE:

PO: NR:

ZA: BB:

TT: ZV:

The traditional customs are preserved and immortalized by *artistic ensembles* like

The culture includes also castles and *ruins*. They are scattered all around the country. Here's the list of the most visited:

.....
Objects being a part of the UNESCO heritage:

.....
What did Brezová pod Bradlom, Modra, Staškov or Dolný Kubín become famous for?

Is there any wooden Bethlehem in the Žilina district?

Give 2 museums in Slovakia.

Give 3 open-air museums in Slovakia.

II. Services

Services are the best indicator for the development of every single country. After 1989, services have passed to the private sector. Slovakia is relatively well-equipped but the *quality* is often questionable.

Why are services so important for the (economic) growth of our state?

The most important types of services:

- **health care** = private and public health care insurances

Examples:

- **education** = kindergartens, primary, secondary schools and *universities*:

BA: KE:

PO: NR:

ZA: BB:

ZV: TT:

- **science** – developing from the 15th century (Academia Istropolitana)

Institutions:

- **telecommunication** – it provides connection among the people by mobile phones and cable connection, e.g. TV, internet

Providers:

- **financial institutions** (banks) – they provide loans and accept deposits

What other services do you use?

What would you do if there were no services like restaurants, cafes, boutiques or banks?

Keywords

culture, spirituality, folklore, dance, music, anthem, flag, custom, tradition, food, performance, sport hall, amphitheatres, artistic choruses, castle, ruin, kindergartens, primary, secondary schools, universities, insurance, banks, science, loan, deposit, cell phone, indicator, assessment, heritage, open-air museum, drama, theatre, value, quality