

Moscow State University – A Symbol of Russian Education

Read and be ready to translate the text

Moscow State University (MSU) is one of the oldest and most famous universities in Russia. It was founded in 1755 by the great scientist Mikhail Lomonosov. Today, the university officially bears his name: **Lomonosov Moscow State University**.

The main building of MSU is located on **Sparrow Hills (Vorobyovy Gory)**, one of the highest points in Moscow. This building is one of **Stalin's Seven Sisters** – seven tall buildings built in Moscow in the mid-20th century. The main building has **36 floors** and is about **240 meters high**. For many years, it was the tallest building in Europe.

The main building houses the university's administration, several faculties, a library, a museum, assembly halls, and even a swimming pool. More than **40,000 students** study at MSU, including about **7,000 international students** from different countries.

MSU has **over 40 faculties** – from physics and mathematics to journalism and philosophy. Some of the most popular faculties are **Law, Economics, Foreign Languages, and Biology**. The university also has its own scientific institutes, laboratories, and a botanical garden.

Students at MSU can live in dormitories located near the main building. The university has a rich student life: there are sports clubs, theater groups, music bands, and volunteer organizations.

MSU is not only a university but also a **symbol of Russian science and education**. Many famous scientists, writers, and politicians have studied or worked there. Among them are the writer Mikhail Bulgakov, the physicist Pyotr Kapitsa (Nobel Prize winner), and the first president of Russia, Boris Yeltsin.

Today, MSU continues to be one of the **best universities in Russia** and is ranked among the world's top universities.

✓ Comprehension Questions

1. Who founded Moscow State University and in what year?
2. Where is the main building of MSU located?
3. What are the "Seven Sisters"?
4. How many floors does the main building have?
5. Approximately how many international students study at MSU?

- Name three popular faculties mentioned in the text.
- Which famous writer studied at MSU?

Vocabulary Tasks

Task 1: Match the Word with Its Definition

Word	Definition
1. faculty	A. a large area of land where students live
2. dormitory	B. a part of a university where one subject is taught
3. symbol	C. an organization of people who work together to help others
4. volunteer organization	D. a building where many students live
5. ranks	E. an object or sign that represents something important
6. houses (verb)	F. positions in a list or order
7. contains	G. contains or provides space for something

Task 2: Fill in the Blanks

Use the words from the box to complete the sentences.

Word box: *founded, faculties, dormitories, symbolizes, tallest, international, scientists*

- MSU was _____ in 1755 by Mikhail Lomonosov.
- The main building of MSU was once the _____ building in Europe.
- MSU has more than 40 different _____.
- About 7,000 _____ students study at MSU.
- Students live in _____ near the main building.
- Many famous _____ and writers studied at MSU.
- The university _____ Russian science and education.

Discussion Questions (for pair or group work)

- Would you like to study at Moscow State University? Why or why not?
- What faculty would you choose if you studied at MSU?

