

8th Russian Open DX Contest

All DXers of the world are invited to take part in the 8th Russian Open DX Contest. The Contest is open for everyone, regardless of either nationality or knowledge of Russian language.

There will be various prizes for winners, as well as additional ones. Each participant will get a diploma indicating his/her score and final place. Join us! Who knows, maybe you will become the winner. And even if not, remember that participation (rather than victory) is the main thing in such events. For your information: we had 28 participants from 6 countries in 2004, 27 participants from 8 countries in 2005.

The Contest is divided into three parts. In Part 1 and Part 2 you will listen to the radio. Only licensed broadcasting stations are valid — no utilities, no hams, no pirates. Frequency range is from 150 to 30 000 kHz. Each station must be logged for at least 15 minutes. Simultaneous listening to more than one station at the same time (on different sets, etc.) is not permitted.

IMPORTANT! Station locations (countries/continents) are determined by transmitting sites.

Part 3 is a quiz of 20 questions. See detailed description of all three parts below.

The Contest starts at 1500 UTC 3 March 2006. The Contest ends at 0600 UTC 13 March 2006.

Your contest log must contain the following data for each logged station: date, time (UTC), frequency, SINPO and some definitive program details. Points for stations without such details (simply «news», «music» etc.) will be multiplied by 0.3. For example, if the station normally adds 50 points to your score, you will only get 15 points in such case.

Contest log may be written in English or Russian (on paper or in electronic Word/Excel format). Compact disks are accepted — you even may put stations' audio recordings there, but anyway, filling the 'Details' column in log table is still required. Don't forget to put your name and address, as well as some data about used equipment. The deadline for sending your log is 31 March 2006.

Participation fee (please enclose it with your contest log) is the following:

Russia — 2 IRC

Former Soviet Union (i.e. CIS and Baltic states) — 4 IRC

Remaining parts of the world — 5 US dollars, or 5 Euro, or 7 IRC

Fees will be spent on postage of contest results and prizes. Contest Manager will not earn any profit of this event.

Address for sending your logs and fees:

Russian DX Contest, c/o Dmitry Mezin, P.O.Box 128, Kazan, 420080, Russia

e-mail: dxc2006@dxcsignal.info

Part 1:

Reception of the following stations:

a) 1 station from each of the following ex-USSR countries:

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan.

b) 3 stations from each of the following regions (countries listed above under a) are not valid):

- America

- Europe

- Africa

- Asia/Australia/Pacific

26 stations total. Each station gives you 50 points. If the particular broadcast was in Russian then you have additional 10 points for it (multiplier 1.2). Duplicate reception of the same station is not valid within Part 1.

Part 2:

Reception of stations whose signals come from Russia, in any language. Both Russian domestic/international broadcasters and foreign stations' relays via Russia are counted. The point value of each station is 101 minus the percent of contestants who included it in their logs (percent is rounded to the higher integer before subtraction). Thus, a very rare station can bring you 100 points, while the common one, received by everybody, will be only scored as 1 point. Points for LW/MW logs are multiplied by 1.2.

Only officially licensed broadcasters and only officially announced relays are valid. If the station transmits via several relay sites, only one of them is counted.

Foreign stations logged in Part 1 are valid for Part 2 as well (remember that the relay for Part 1 must be outside CIS/Baltic, and for Part 2 it must be in Russia).

Duplicate reception of the same station is not valid within Part 2.

Part 3:

That's to check your knowledge of radio/languages/geography/history. The quiz has 20 questions; the number of correct answers is the number of percent added to summary score of Parts 1/2. That is, if you scored 1000 points for radio listening and correctly answered 15 quiz questions, then you have: $1000 + (1000 \times 15\%) = 1000 + 150 = 1150$ points. Each question has a unique correct answer.

Here are the questions.

1. The only active SW transmitter in this European country is on the air irregularly, mainly on week-ends. Operating frequency is close to the 31 meterband, but slightly outside band's official limits.

a) Norway

b) Latvia

c) Macedonia

d) Iceland

2. Despite the Arabic script, this language belongs to the Indo-European family, i.e. it is a distance relative of English, Spanish and Russian.

a) Uighur

b) Arabic

c) Berber

d) Persian

3. What is the name of digital broadcasting mode, introduced by more and more radio stations in the short and medium wave band?

a) DRM

b) DAB

c) SSB

d) CW

4. Universal Postal Union (the name was a bit different initially) has been founded in order to organize and enhance postal links among the countries of the world. What is the year of its foundation?

a) 1895

b) 1861

c) 1874

d) 1917

5. Why both amateur and broadcasting stations can be currently heard between 7100 and 7200 kHz?
- Only broadcasting stations are allowed to use this band in Europe, while it's allocated to radio amateurs in America
 - National radio administrations do not strictly follow ITU recommendations
 - European stations can only operate here after 1600 UTC
 - WRC-03 decided to hand this band over to amateur communications by 29 March 2009; now we are facing the period of transition
6. How many geographic zones did ITU introduce for the purpose of broadcasting and communications?
- 28
 - 40
 - 73
 - 75
7. What is the name of radio conference, organized twice a year for the purpose of frequency coordination?
- ITU
 - IMO
 - HFCC
 - ILG
8. Pirate radio — what is it?
- Communication of maritime vessels outside of allocated bands
 - Operation of stations (mainly musical ones) without official license
 - A network of Singapore/Malaysian stations, providing weather and navigational warnings for Malacca Strait
 - Broadcasting on the frequency that is officially allocated to another country
9. What of the following applies to the duplex radio channel?
- Transmitter radiates on two frequencies simultaneously; receiver chooses the best of them
 - Transmitter and receiver synchronously switch on; then both synchronously switch off
 - One station transmits on Frequency1; the second station replies on Frequency2
 - If interference is noted on the main frequency, then the alternate frequency is activated
10. There is a broadcasting station in Antarctic (to the north of the South Polar Circle, by the way!). What country does the corresponding Antarctic base belong to?
- Argentina
 - Chile
 - Russia
 - USA
11. Ohm's law binds the following physical values: voltage (U), current (I) and active resistance (R). What is the formula?
- $U * U - R = I$
 - $I = R / U$
 - $U + R = I$
 - $U = I * R$
12. Long waves — what are they?
- The band between 30 and 300 kHz
 - Part of SW band (below 10 MHz) where radio amateurs use the lower side band
 - Waves that require you to pull out your telescopic antenna longer
 - Waves used for long-distance communication with space orbital stations
13. There was Radiostantsiya Rodina in the USSR. Which languages did it broadcast in?
- 15 languages of USSR republics
 - Russian and Yiddish
 - Russian and languages of socialist states
 - Russian only
14. Until recently, once a year this Atlantic island conducted a SW transmission, that gave you an opportunity to obtain a rare QSL.
- Saint Helena
 - Ascension
 - Sao Tome
 - Greenland
15. This association, where Australian Dxers play an active role, celebrated its 10th anniversary in January 2006:
- ADDX
 - SCDX
 - WWDXC
 - EDXP
16. The local time in India is:
- UTC + 3
 - UTC + 7
 - UTC + 5 1/2
 - UTC + 6
17. What was «Sovietish Heimland» (Geimland according to some sources) in the USSR era?
- The former name of computer games' magazine «Game.exe»
 - Radio station, the voice of Soviet public opinion
 - Soviet Motherland magazine, published in Yiddish
 - Russian-speaking radio station in New York, run by Soviet emigrants
18. SW transmitting base in Dioszd is off-air now. Where was it located?
- Finland
 - Hungary
 - Brazil
 - Morocco
19. What identification corresponds to the well-known Voice of Friendship from the US?
- WEWN
 - KGEI
 - WCSN
 - KTWR
20. What is The Voice of Tatarstan?
- Former name of «Tatarstan Wave» radio program
 - Local LW station in Kazan, Russia
 - Local FM station in Kazan, Russia
 - The name of Radio Liberty's Tatar language program