**I`d like to tell you about Cosack`s lifestyle. Their life was very hard but exciting and important for Ukrainian history. Khortytsia Sich with its wooden fortresses is one of the most famous landmarks of Ukraine.**

**The simplest type of cosacks` dwelling was “burdiuh”. It was used by cosacks only in winter. They were built very simply: only a little wood with thin branches, clayed and covered with the ground. The windows were small like plates.There was a little oven inside to bake some bread and cook kulish, cosak`s porridge.They were never locked.**

**“Kurin” was a typical military dwelling like a wooden fortress, built for cosacks to live there all over the year in the Sich. It was divided into two parts: a kitchen and a dwelling. They cooked in the kitchen. Their big pots were hung high at the walls. There was a long wooden table in it. Long benches were used to sit down during the dinners. In the dwelling part there were log but a little wider benches to sleep on.There were several kurins in the Sich. There were some wooden building there as well. They were for treasures, different military things, horses, some domestic animal etc. All the wooden buildings were surrounded with sharp wooden sticks, they were very high.**

**Cosacks were used to cook three times a day. Their food was simple and served in long wodden bowls, vahankas. Before meals the cosacks prayed, then they took out their spoons from the leather bags, hanging at the belts. They were used to have different kinds of porridge, made of flour grinding and some water, a lot of different kinds of fish. Sometimes they have meat of wild animals, varenyks, syrnykys and halushky of rye flour. Cosacks liked to have zahreby, a kind of bread baked in the oven on some hot ash.**

**Cosacks were wearing the clothes of eastern origin. They were very simple even poor. It depended on the living and military conditions and hard work to survive. They were rough linen shirts, wide pants, leather belts, zhupans. Some kind of coats, kireyas and boots. Expensive bright clothes belonged only to cosack authority.**

**Wooden spoons and knives were the greatest treasure for the cosacks. They took them in the leather bags on the belts. They had also smoking handsets and a steel to make a fire.**

**Cosacks` customs were very logical and ideal for their strict lifestyle. Old cosacks cherished their traditions. Cosacks, breaking them, were punished very strict.**

**Valeriya Tsykunkova**