

UPPER SILESIA

1. Upper Silesia is a region of Poland located in the south of the country.
2. This is the region where we live. Here you can see our city, Gliwice.
3. There is a lot of industry in Upper Silesia – coal mines, steel mills and different factories.
4. It is region with very dense population. About 3 million people live here in one big metropolis consisting of 19 towns and cities.
5. The region has a very interesting history. In the past, in different periods of time, it was a part of Poland, an independent duchy, a part of Czechia or a part of Germany.
6. Upper Silesia has its own unique culture: local dialect, which is quite different from the standard Polish language, local customs, traditional clothes, songs and dances.

----- Song/Dance -----

7. In Upper Silesia there are big deposits of coal underground. In the past the main industry in the region was coal mining.
8. Coal shafts are the most characteristic element of landscape in the region. You can see them everywhere.
9. To dig the coal, people have to work several hundred metres underground. The work of the miners in the past was extremely hard and dangerous.
10. People in Silesia had stories about the Treasurer, spirit of mines. The Treasurer looked after the miners and warned them about danger.
11. He looked like an old man with a grey beard, carrying a lantern and a pickaxe.
12. The Treasurer required from miners hard work, honesty and respect.
13. Now we are going to listen to one of the stories about the Treasurer.