

Using e-Coursebooks in Teaching Russian Area Studies



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YamELTA

The Project Idea & Goal

'Yamalia - the Back of Beyond' Project

- teaching Russia's regions in foreign languages;
- creating a student's secondary linguistic personality as an effective communicator + a cultural ambassador
able to represent the region and country they come from



The *Yamalia - the Back of Beyond* Project

The Okrug Contest: 14 lessons selected

The Printed Book: 16 lessons (4 lessons for each of the 4 forms (8-11): a lesson per quarter as required by the regional curriculum of FL

Sequence of the lessons is based on:

- linguistic complexity
- students' age-oriented interests
- inter-subject links (Geography, Regional Studies in Russian, Northern Peoples' Literature, Economics)



The *Yamalia - the Back of Beyond* Project

Lesson Topics

YEAR 8

The Song of Life
Northern Life
Yamalia Festivals and Celebrations

YEAR 10

The Northerners' Health
Tundra Transportation
The Northwestern Siberia Natives
Yamalia: Geography

YEAR 9

Nenets Food
The Blueberry
Gifts of Yamalia
Yamalia: Land and People

YEAR 11

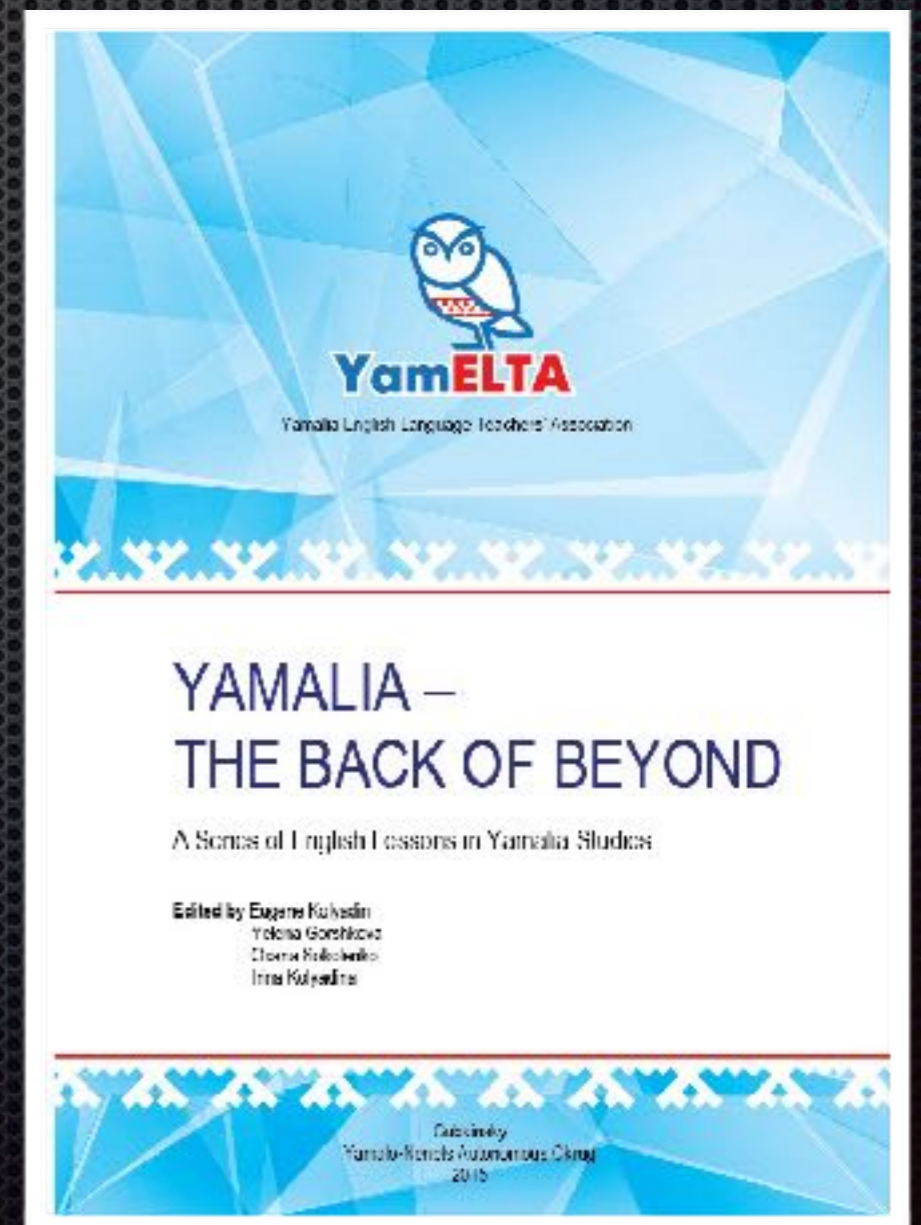
Peoples' Lifestyles in the Arctic
The Indigenous Yamalia People –
Who Are They?
Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug
in Numbers

-
- *digital presentations;
 - *hand-outs & cut-outs;
 - *listening tasks recordings;



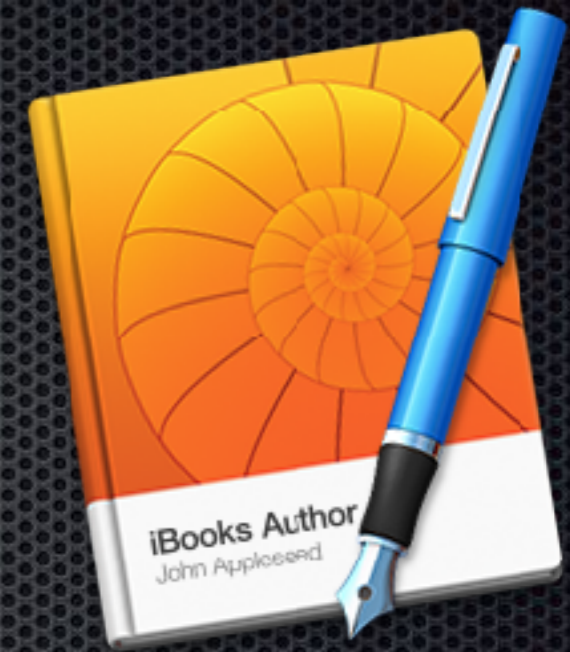
The *Yamalia - the Back of Beyond* Project

An electronic interactive edition:
a Teacher's e-Book
a Students' e-Book



The iBook

the *iBooks Author* Platform on MacOS
(Mac computers) for creating e-books



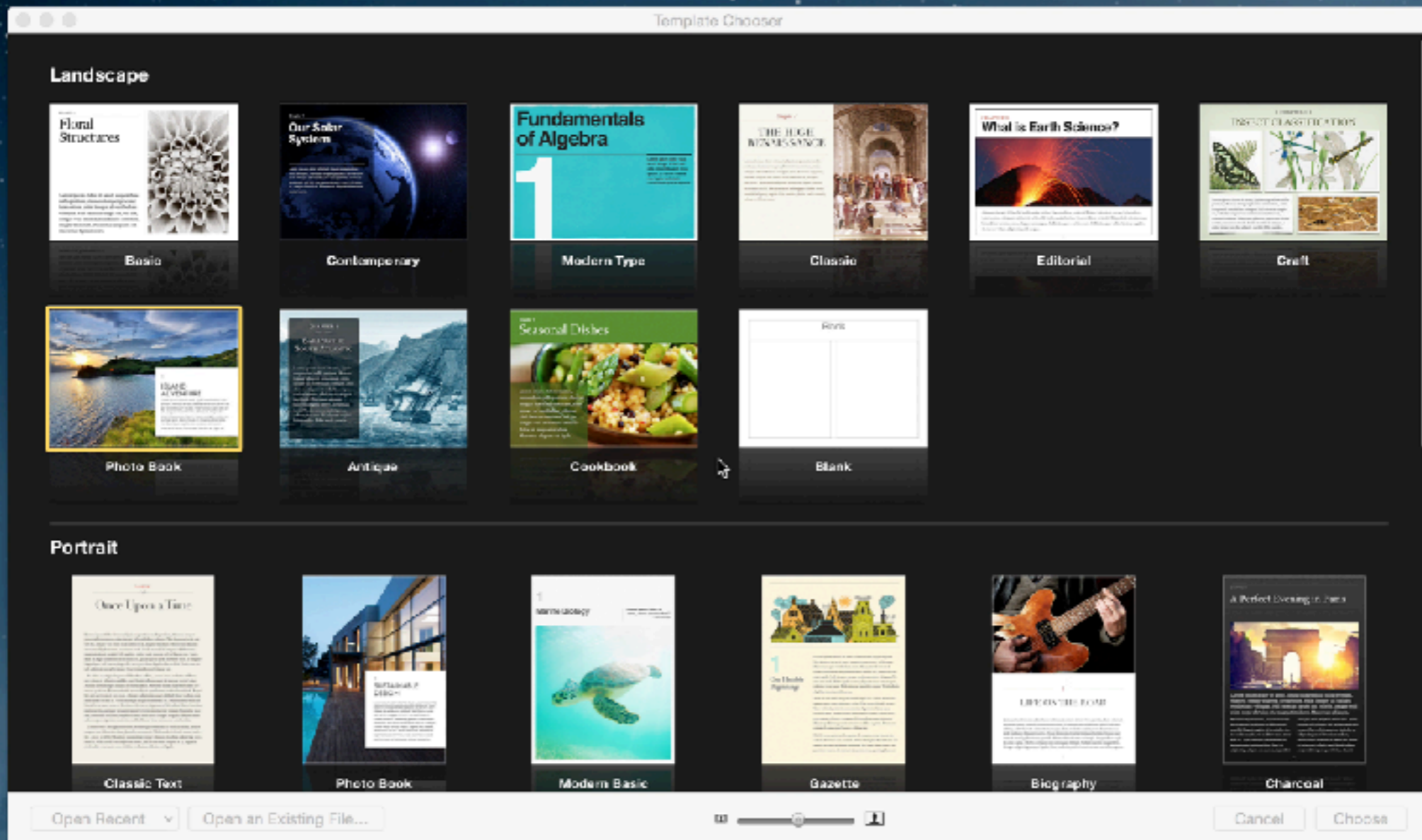
reasons for choosing:

- customisability and content & structure flexibility;
- a palette of language teaching tools;
- a great motivational power



Customisability & Flexibility

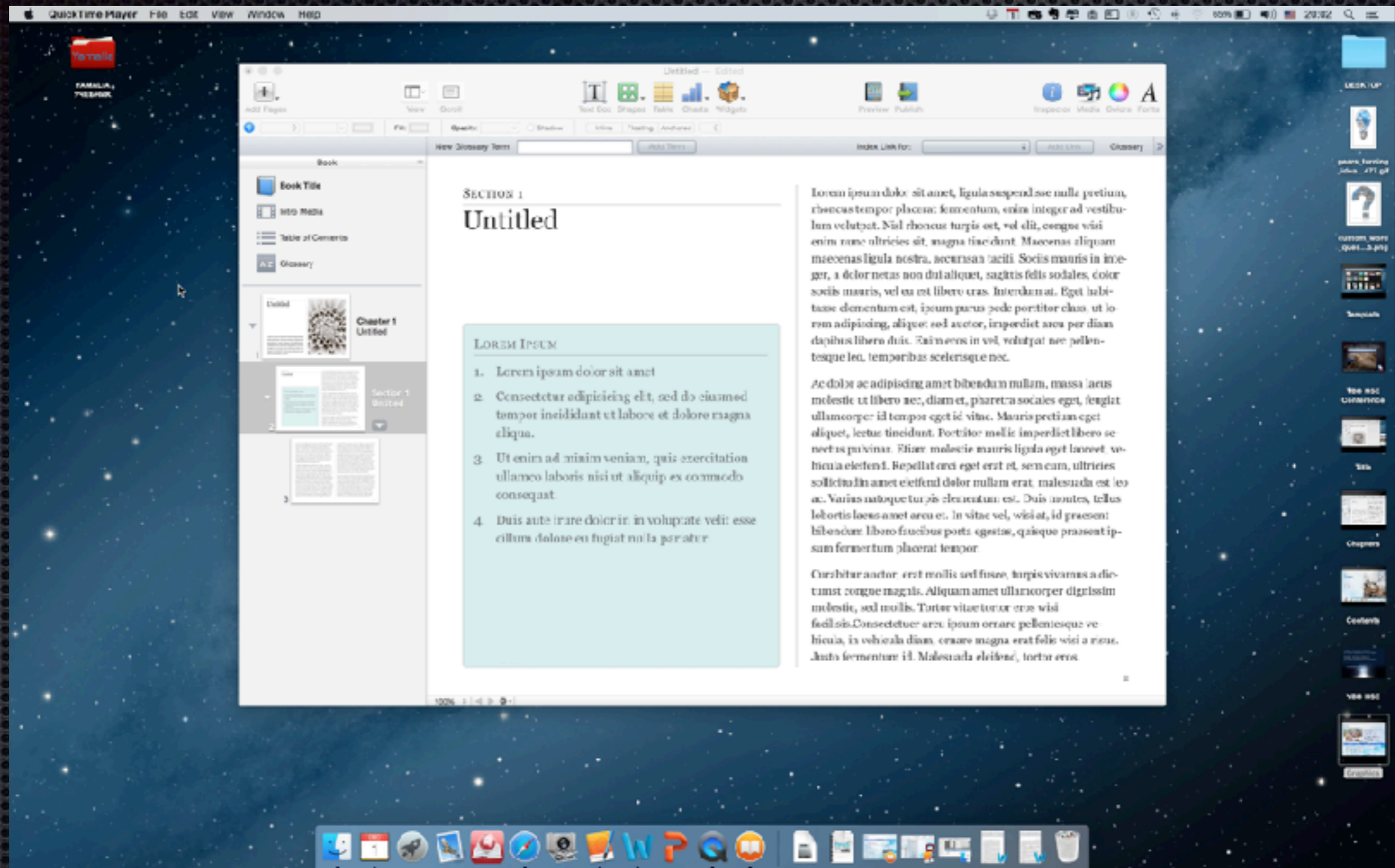
Choosing a Template



Choose between landscape & portrait and portrait only templates

Customisability & Flexibility

The Easy Drag-and-Drop Principle



Add any kind of information from your existing digital files


Customisability & Flexibility Using Different Data Types

Yamalia - the


Warm-Up


LESSON PROCEDURE

Time	Stage Activity (Teacher's and Students' Activities)	Materials to Be Used at the Stage	Stage Aim
4'	T greets the class and asks Ss to look at the word cloud. T asks the questions: Look at the word cloud please and study the words. There you can find the words we'll use at the lesson. What do you think we are going to speak about at the lesson? The Ss sound their suppositions.	a word cloud, Presentation Side 2	practising thinking and speaking skills, focusing on vocabulary



Look at the wordcloud, please.
There are many words that we are going to use at the lesson.
What are we going to speak about?

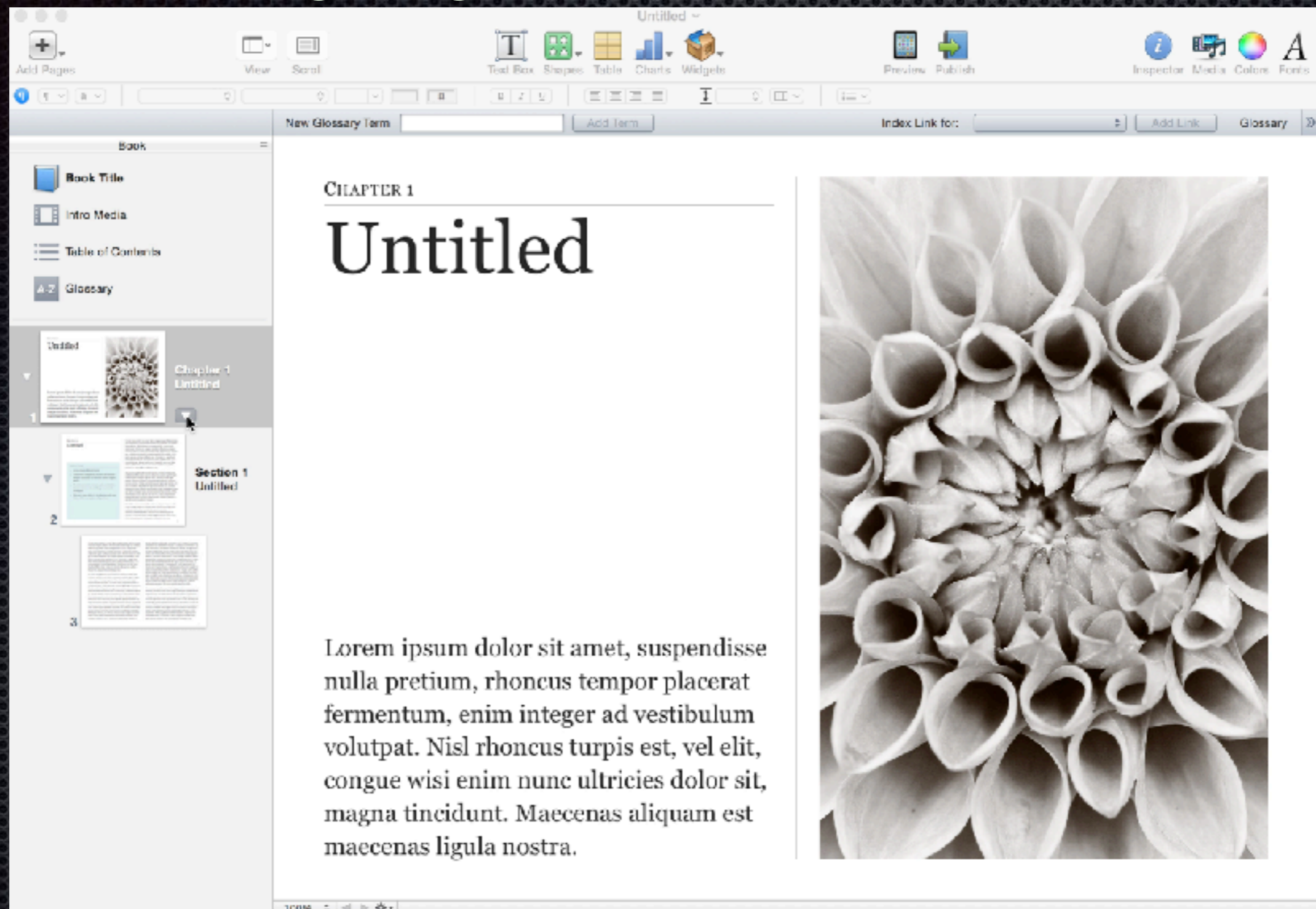




Represent information with different fonts, tables, charts, diagrams, shapes, video etc.

Customisability & Flexibility

Designing Your Book Structure



Create chapters consisting of any number of sections with different layouts

Customisability & Flexibility

The Automatically Built *Contents* Section



Customise your book *Contents* section with different fonts and pictures

Language Teaching Tools

Adding Interactivity to Your Book

The screenshot displays a software interface for creating an interactive book. The main window shows a text editor with the following content:

YAMALIA – THE BACK OF BEYOND: A DIGITAL ENGLISH BOOK ON THE REGION

One of the most current issues of the modern linguistics of Russia is teaching students to Russia's regional studies on the list of the main practical aims of teaching foreign languages there is a pragmatic goal is to mold students' secondary linguistic personality not only as an effective communicator but also as a cultural ambassador able to represent country and region of origin on the global scale.

Prominent Russian FL methodologists Prof. S.G. Ter-Minasyan, Prof. E. N. Solovova, Prof. M.V. Verbitskaya others has mentioned the currency of the issue recently. The problem consists in an almost complete absence of teaching materials concerning different regions of Russia, their customs, traditions, history, culture and their diversity in general.

A teaching complex on regional studies on Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug was published in December 2014 by Yamalia English Language Teachers' Association (YamELTA).

the book mirrors the complexity of the sub- of sixteen different lessons touching upon digraphy, culture, economy, transportation system, climate and weather, industries, indigenous people of the land, their culture, customs, traditions, and the like.

ing stage of the work is gathering linguistic materials to the regional studies. Though there are everywhere lots of texts of the kind in English are available (e.g. Moscow, St Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, other large Russia's cities), in the majority of regions there is an apparent lack of materials to development of region-related lessons.

Yamalia regional studies book, all the material collected by local English teachers and submitted to be digitized by YamELTA.

The interface includes a top toolbar with icons for text, shapes, tables, and charts. A left sidebar shows a navigation menu with sections like 'Book Title', 'Intro Media', 'Table of Contents', and 'Glossary'. A central widget menu is open, listing options: Gallery, Media, Review, Interactive Image, Scrolling Sidebar, HTML, Keynote, and Pop-Over. The bottom status bar shows '100%' and navigation controls.

Use widgets to make your book more interactive and dynamic

Language Teaching Tools

Built-In Widgets


Yamaia - the

Reading



LESSON PROCEDURE

Time	Stage Activity (Teacher's and Students' Activities)	Materials to Be Used at the Stage	Stage Aim
5'	Group work. The T divides the class into two groups and gives them hand outs with the paragraphs of the texts and asks them to put them into the correct order	Cut out hand-outs with the paragraphs of the texts for 2 groups	developing reading skills

Exercise. Put the paragraphs of the text 'A Nomad Camp of the Forest Nenets' and then listen to the text to check your answers



Exercise. Watch a short video demonstrating the process of setting up a chum



Make your widgets work on-page and go fullscreen

Language Teaching Tools

Third-Party Widgets

Reading

LESSON PROCEDURE

Time	Stage Activity (Teacher's and Students' Activities)	Materials to Be Used at the Stage	Stage Aim
2'	T asks Ss to find the English equivalents for the phrases: шерсть встала дыбом, хозяин леса, давай жить на своей земле мирно, отдохнуть, тихо сидеть in the text.		developing lexis and vocabulary skills
1'	T asks Ss to look at the slide and match the parts of the text (1-5) with Pictures A-E. (Key: 1E, 2B, 3C, 4A, 5D)	Presentation Slide 7	developing reading skills



Please find English - Russian equivalents



Please match the pictures and the text parts

Go even further with other developers' widgets

Language Learning Tools

Language Study Features

Reading

LESSON PROCEDURE

Time	Stage Activity (Teacher's and Students' Activities)	Materials to Be Used at the Stage	Stage Aim
5'	T asks the Ss to read the text "Yamalia: Land and People". Ss read the text by themselves or in other order, according to the teacher's choice (aloud in a chain sentence by sentence to practice reading aloud).	The printed hand-out with the text (supplement 2)	developing reading (pronunciation) skills

YAMALIA: LAND AND PEOPLE

Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug is the native place of its **indigenous ethnic** groups – the Nenets, Khanty and Selkups. The Nenets form the **bulk** of Yamalia's native population.

Unique features of northern ethnic economies and their world outlook helped to **promote** culturally important features of the natives' traditional lifestyle. They still travel by **sleds** and reindeer, live in **teepees** or "**chums**", live off the land and still **worship** their own **deities**.

They have **retained** their **essential** cultural **heritage**, lifestyle and customs. **First** of all they retained their traditional economy which is centered around reindeer farming, fishing and hunting as well as their worshipping **attitude** to nature.

There are no strict rules for **upbringing**. Traditional upbringing methods promote a maximum of children's freedom. They are hardly ever taught anything **purposely**. Children simply watch the adults and repeat their behaviour in their games, developing the **necessary** skills in the process.

Kids are involved in their parents' life from a very early age. All the knowledge and skills **include** **rational** and **irrational** parts. Rational skills include household occupations, knowing features of the natural **environment** and being able to **use them to your advantage**. The **irrational** part includes the understanding of a **supernatural** world **surrounding** a **human being**.

The **minorities** are very **devoted** to their traditional beliefs, customs and **rites**. On the spiritual level the household **spirits** and the **funeral** ritual have survived with the least number of changes.

Traditional clothing is ideally suited to tundra environment.

Yamalian **cuisine** is an important part of natural culture of the minority people. The gifts of nature are on the Yamalian table. Keeping up their culture they try to preserve their history and vision of life. The native aboriginal population have different **attitude to nature as compared to the urban** population. For them the world of nature and the world of human being is a unit, which can't be separated.

Question 1 of 8

The Nenets, Khanty and Selkups are the indigenous people of Yamal.

A. TRUE

B. FALSE

Check Answer



Make use of built-in dictionaries and design a glossary tailored to your teaching needs

iBooks Author Advantages

- Fully editable and **customisable**
- Add or change info in your book with the quick and easy **drag-and-drop principle**: no need to publish, print or reprint copies
- Numerous ways to visualise info
- **Tailor your book** to your students' needs, age-related or academic interests and your custom curriculum
- **Boost up** your students' **motivation**
- Help students organise their **autonomous work** on the subject with the **interactive features**



Learn More About the YBB Project!

www.YamELTA.ru

the YBB Project page



Yamalia English Language Teachers' Association

Ямальская ассоциация преподавателей английского языка

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Yamalia - the Back of Beyond Project

Проект "Ямал-край Земли" был запущен Ассоциацией в 2013 году. Работа над проектом состоялась благодаря гранту региональной общественной организации "Центр развития гражданских инициатив Ямало-Ненецкого автономного округа". Проект состоял из нескольких мероприятий. Основной целью работы над проектом стало создание комплекса учебно-методических материалов по регионоведению Ямало-Ненецкого автономного округа на английском языке. Уникальность нашего проекта состоит в том, что в его создании приняли участие десятки ямальских учителей английского языка, которые в 2013/2014 учебном году приняли участие в одновременном профессиональном региональном конкурсе и прислали свои разработки уроков по регионоведению на конкурс.

По итогам конкурса был создан сборник учебно-методических разработок уроков для учителей для организации и проведения занятий по английскому языку по регионоведению Ямала в 8-11 классах общеобразовательных учреждений.

В настоящее время готовится электронная версия учебника на платформе iBooks Author в двух вариантах: для учителей и учащихся.

В настоящее время все желающие педагоги могут скачать pdf-версию книги на нашем сайте, а также все разработки (презентации, аудио, видео, раздаточные материалы) по этой ссылке.

[Book Download](#)

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