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Кураева

**ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ**

2018–2019

заключительный этап

Предмет (комплекс предметов) Олимпиады

ИНОСТРАННЫЙ ЯЗЫК (АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК)

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада

Челябинск

Дата

2 марта 2019

ВАРИАНТ 3

10-11 классы

1.Comment on the following extract.

Living for ever may be a terrible fate but living a lot longer in good health sounds like a wonderful one. As we reflect on the relation between time and experience, for instance, there is an interesting and important paradox to be observed: the more life is experienced as meaningful, the less we are aware of time. The activities that give us the most satisfaction and happiness are those in which we are totally absorbed. Performing music, doing sports, reading good books, writing texts: there are many examples of activities that demand all our attention. In those activities that constitute human happiness there seem to be no time and space, no subject and object. From this one may infer that what we basically seek as human beings is not more time to live, but meaningful experiences.

If your body could be kept going for a thousand years, in what sense would the you that exists now still be around then? It would be more like a descendant than it would a continuation of you. I sometimes find it hard to identify with my teenage self, and that was less than 40 years ago.

If I change, I eventually become someone else. If I don't, life becomes stagnant and loses its direction.

Even if we could survive for hundreds of years, focusing too much on the future always risks neglecting the present. There is a very real sense in which we only ever exist in the here and now.

Being fully alive requires staying yourself, safe and sound, in that present as fully as possible. Dreams of eternal life interfere with making the most of the reality of temporal life.

~~I believe that people should be mortal in order to make everything~~

~~I agree with the author's point of view. Immortality would ~~not~~ make people less motivated and productive. Death serves as a strict deadline for an individual. Nothing can be changed or achieved when it finally comes. I think that it is the reason why people do their best to get famous, make huge cultural contribution and even make amazing breakthroughs and contribute to culture greatly. We are inclined to have a desire to be remembered and it pushes us towards fascinating things. And if people had no deadline to be scared of, they would just procrastinate on their lives. The fact that everyone dies is natural: One generation dies clearing up space for the others to come. That constant changing serves as an evolutionary tool, because social groups, their preferences and opinions differ and that is what pushes the mankind forward. Furthermore, by no means is it possible to find out the exact date of one's death. That forces people to enjoy the moment they live in and motivates them to grow and flourish as nobody knows when the death is creeping up. ^{the same} ~~the same~~ principle works when an individual has a longer life, he will simply stagnate. In a nutshell, ~~to have~~ immortality ~~will~~ make people lazy. They would have nothing to be afraid of and ~~not~~ ^{lose} no motivation to achieve ~~these~~ great things. We should understand that we are all moving towards death ~~and~~ and we have less time to change something every moment. That knowledge is to make everyone work hard. ~~And if people have longer lives, they will also waste more time for the same reasons.~~~~

2. Read the fable and write down the moral it contains in the space below the fable.

The Lion and the Fox Fable

The Lion and the Fox were hunting together.

8. Insert the required articles where necessary. If no article is required put X.

1. ~~The~~ highest mountain chain, which is called ~~the~~ Himalayas, is situated in ~~X~~ Asia. 2. ~~The~~ dinner was substantial, but she asked to buy ~~X~~ ice after it. 3. Why not go to ~~the~~ Netherlands in ~~X~~ summer to practice ~~the~~ Dutch language. 4. When he left ~~X~~ school, he built houses in ~~the~~ West.

9. These are among the best novels of the English-speaking world. Who are their authors?

	Book	Author
1.	'Othello'	W. Shakespeare —
2.	'The Grapes of Wrath'	J. Steinbeck
3.	'The Sea Wolf'	E. Waugh —
4.	'A Handful of Dust'	Agatha Christie —
5.	'Death on the Nile'	W. Faulkner —
6.	'Our man in Havana'	J. London —
7.	'Sister Carrier'	Th. Dreiser
8.	'Twilight'	Gr. Green +
9.	'The importance of being earnest'	Oscar Wilde
10.	'The Pick Papers'	Ch. Dickens

Authors: Ch. Dickens, J. Steinbeck, Oscar Wilde, Gr. Green, J. London, E. Waugh, W. Shakespeare, Th. Dreiser, Agatha Christie, W. Faulkner

10. Find and underline idioms in the sentences in the left column of the table. Write down your sentences with the same meaning but without the idiom in the right one.

	Sentences with idioms	Sentences without idioms
1.	My washing machine <u>is on its last legs</u> . I've had it twenty-five years ago.	My washing machine is about to break down. I've had it 25 years ago.
2.	We had to work hard at our last programmes, and they weren't always successful, <u>but no pains, no gains</u> .	We had to work hard at our last programmes, and they weren't always successful, but you cannot get anything if you never lose anything.
3.	<u>No ifs and buts</u> , just do what I tell you.	Stop trying to find faults in my plan, just do what I tell you.
4.	Stop wasting your time and start working at last. <u>Time and tide wait for no man</u> .	Stop wasting your time and start working at last. Time flies and the life is so fast that nobody will wait for you.
5.	You'll have to <u>mind your Ps and Qs</u> when you meet your girlfriend's mother for the first time.	You'll have to think about what you say and how you behave carefully when you meet your girlfriend's mother for the first time.

6. Answer the question and comment on the statement.

Thinking - the maximum step of human knowledge. Yet the computer solves precisely formulated problems much more quickly the person. However, the computer does not solve indistinctly formulated problems, and the person solves. Do you share the opinion that a computer can think?

I am convinced that computers cannot think because they fulfil their tasks based only on the ~~programmes~~ software that is provided. In other words, all calculations are made due to a limited number of ~~programmes~~ programmes written for the computer. Furthermore, it is worth emphasising that all of those softwares ~~programmes~~ are created by mankind. ^{However, if the computers could think, they would be able to solve indistinctly formulated problems. The skill of dividing big issues into smaller ones is cardinal for the process of thinking. Therefore, it can be claimed that computers can only use software and information available to them. However, they have no ability to think. And I doubt that one day it will become possible to teach computers to do so. Those technological advances simply abide by programmes transcribed for them. In other words, computers cannot operate without a person in charge. That proves the fact that those ~~things~~ cannot think.}

7. Explain the meaning of the following words which reflect peculiarities of British and American cultures.

(1) Shadow Cabinet is a part of an American Parliament, where ~~at~~ decisions are made. They usually concern things that are to restrain unknown including the country's strategy military strategies.

(2) Tory is one of the parties in British Government. It has been a part of the British Parliament for a really long time. After the Glorious Revolution, which was a step towards modern-day political situation in the UK, constitutional monarchy, Parliament has proven its importance and efficacy.

The Lion, on the advice of the Fox, sent a message to the Ass, proposing to make an alliance between their families.

The Ass came to the place of meeting, overjoyed at the prospect of a royal alliance.

But when he came there the Lion simply pounced on the Ass, and said to the Fox:

"here is our dinner for to-day. Watch you here while I go and have a nap. Woe betide you if you touch my prey."

The Lion went away and the Fox waited; but finding that his master did not return, ventured to take out the brains of the Ass and ate them up.

When the Lion came back he soon noticed the absence of the brains, and asked the Fox in a terrible voice:

"What have you done with the brains?"

"Brains, your Majesty! It had none, or it would never have fallen into your trap."

In no way can one believe their hostiles. Even if things they offer seem pleasant, those goods can turn out to be awful. Never should one be misled by sudden burst of sympathy. It is no time can it become a trick that used one's weakness against themselves. Therefore, being cunning might be regarded as an advantageous trait of character. It allows people avoid troubles and gain benefits they might have never got without that personal quality. They understand not only how to trick others but also how to avoid other people's traps. They know that rarely do the evil turn into the nice. Therefore, henceforth, they would never believe the ones they fight against because it might turn out to be square-shaped. Never should one take one's change from ~~hating~~ disliking to liking seriously and believe in its honesty.

3. Find and underline ten mistakes (lexical and grammar) and write the wrong variant in the left and the correct variant in the right column of the table below the text.

When the old lady had returned to her flat she saw at once that burglars broke in during her absence, because the front door was open and everything in the flat was upside down. The burglars themselves were no longer there, but they probably just left because a cigarette still burnt on an ornamental table. She wondered if they found her jewellery and was rather hoping that they did. It was given to her by her late husband, yet she didn't like it and if it was stolen she would have get the insurance money.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	the old lady had returned	the old lady returned

2	Burglars broke in	Burglars had broke in
3	— was open	was opened
4	but they probably just left	but they probably had just left
5	still burnt	was still burning
6	if they found	if they had found
7	they did	they had
8	— late husband	last husband
9	— to her flat she stolen she	to her flat she stolen, she
10	— ^{she} would have get	^{she} would have got

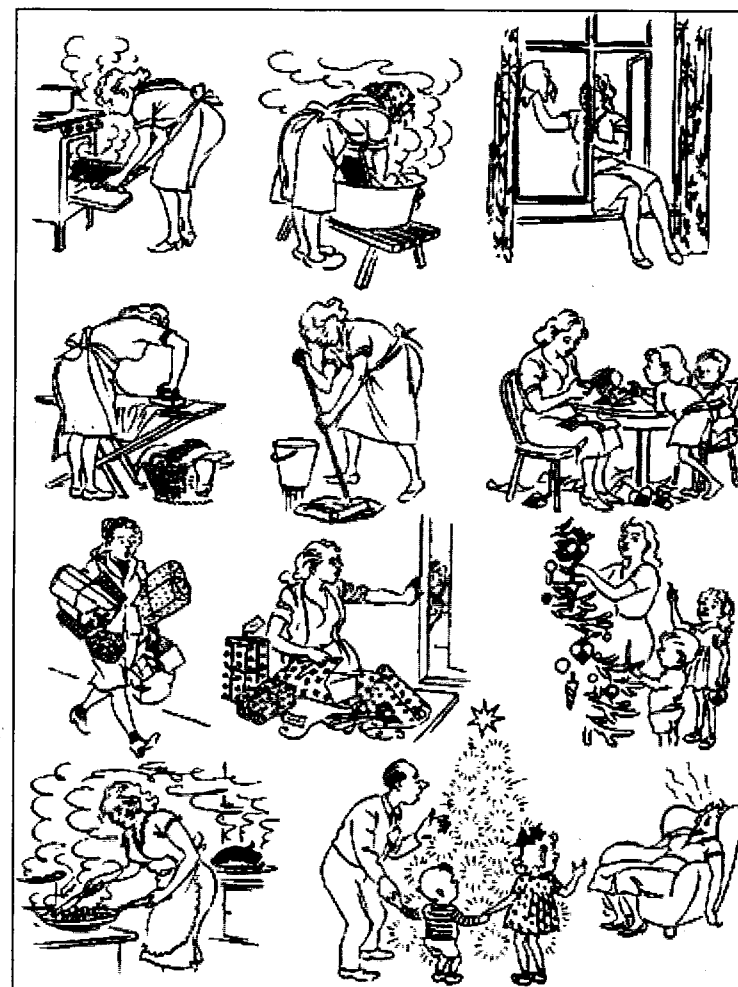
4. Comment on the following quotation:

There is only one way to avoid criticism: do nothing, say nothing, and be nothing.

This quotation means (Aristotle) *people have*
~~Aristotle meant that if the ones who have no willingness~~
~~to encounter criticism, they should stay worthless and never try to~~
~~achieve anything.~~ *It is impossible to achieve something truly*
~~awe-inspiring~~ *without facing a hail of*
~~criticism.~~ *In other words, successful people*
~~are always followed by people who do not~~
~~support them~~ *and their beginnings. What is more,*
~~a person cannot be constantly in the public~~
~~eye and have no haters.~~ *It is natural that some*
~~try to put down those who strive for success.~~
~~Furthermore, most of our ideas do not correspond~~
~~with other people's opinion.~~ *Therefore, we might be*
~~heavily criticised for that.~~ *However, it is crucial*
~~to remember that a lot of successful people,~~
~~who are either owners of flourishing businesses~~
~~or famous stars, were deemed worthless, not~~
~~talented and silly.~~ *But they carried on with*
~~their career and that allowed them to~~
~~become who they are today.~~ *People are*
~~criticised for going against the tide.~~ *Henceforth,*
~~if one longs for something great and does~~
~~everything to get it, he or she will be criticised.~~ *But*
~~that is not a reason to give up on your dreams!~~

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5. Comment on the story in pictures.



Unfortunately, this is the story of many families ^{celebrations}.
 The woman does everything herself so ^{all her} her whole
 family ~~could~~ enjoy the party. But she gets so
 worn-out that she cannot relish those unforgettable
 moments. Of course, it is not always the woman who is up
 to her ears with mundane tasks of cleaning and decorating
 the house. The ones who are in charge are always desperate
 to ^{enjoy} relax rather than have a terrific celebration. Maybe
 long and tedious preparations should either be
 split between all family members or simply reduced
 in their quantity. That would allow families to
 spend more quality time together. Otherwise,
 family gatherings are just too much to
 bother about. It is much better to spoil
 oneself with pleasant family moments than to
 be dead-tired after preparing ^{for} celebration. In
 fact, high value of those ^{parties} celebrations lies in the
 opportunity to ~~spend~~ spend time with the ones you love!

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