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**ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ**

2018–2019

заключительный этап

Предмет (комплекс предметов) Олимпиады **ИНОСТРАННЫЙ ЯЗЫК (АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК)**

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада **ПЕТРОЗАВОДСК**

Дата 02.03.2019

ВАРИАНТ 4

10-11 классы

1. Comment on the following extract.

There's no known limit to how long humans can live, scientists say. The wish to extend the human lifespan has a long tradition in many cultures. Optimistic views of the possibility of achieving this goal through the latest developments in medicine feature increasingly in serious scientific and philosophical discussion. Focusing on interventions in biological ageing, one can distinguish between research that is first and foremost aimed at prolonging life by slowing or even arresting ageing processes and research that is directed at combating the diseases that seem to be intrinsically connected with biological ageing.

We seem to be enjoying now the new buzz about defeating ageing. For a long time scientists have been on a crusade to inspire the world to embark on a scientific quest to eliminate ageing and extend healthy lifespan indefinitely. It is a difficult job because the world is considered to be in a

"pro-ageing trance" happy to accept that ageing is unavoidable, when the reality is that it's simply a "medical problem" that science can solve. If a consequence of increasing health is that life is extended, that's a good thing, but the most important part is keeping people healthy as long as possible. Just as a vintage car can be kept in good condition indefinitely with periodic preventative maintenance, so there is no reason why, in principle, the same can't be true of the human body.

This text observes the concept of ageing and various attitudes that surround it. The author advocates the thought that we need to interfere with ageing as we (or, rather scientists) have the potential to do so. However, not everyone seems to agree with the author's standpoint. Many people contend that ageing is unavoidable. Therefore, they believe that it is better to come to terms with this fact.

From my point of view, even though I do not agree with those people, I can certainly see the root of their utter lack of belief. These scientific developments are not widely recognized by the general public, thus the people can be misled into thinking that this is some kind of a "magical potion", when really ~~the~~ these scientific achievements are aimed at alleviating the symptoms and ailments of ageing, rather than magically curing it. The author's example with a vintage car proves my point.

In light of what I said above, I have a positive outlook of the future and ^{the progress of} anti-ageing science. I reckon that when I get old, the longevity of humans will increase significantly, despite all the factors (pollution, stress, junk food and others) that seem to suggest otherwise.

With each passing year we get better at destroying our bodies, but we also get better at rebuilding them. As the French would say, c'est la vie (such is life).

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

The Dog and the Shadow Fable.

It happened that a Dog had got a piece of meat and was carrying it home in his mouth to eat it in peace.

Now on his way home he had to cross a plank lying across a running brook.

As he crossed, he looked down and saw his own shadow reflected in the water beneath.

Thinking it was another dog with another piece of meat, he made up his mind to have that also.

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

1. On the whole they had X good weather. 2. the Browns are going to spend the week-end in the Lake District. 3. The sky was still dark in the East, but at X dawn it would clear up. 4. Though the rain ceased at X noon, the air still felt moist.

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

	Book	Author
1.	'David Copperfield'	Ch. Dickens
2.	'An American Tragedy'	Gr. Green
3.	'The Quiet American'	S. Maugham
4.	'The Great Gatsby'	F. Scott Fitzgerald
5.	'Cakes and Ale'	Th. Dreiser
6.	'Richard III'	W. Shakespeare
7.	'The Hound of Baskervilles'	A. Conan Doyle
8.	'Tender is the Night'	F. Scott Fitzgerald
9.	'Martin Eden'	J. London
10.	'Murder on the Orient Express'	Agatha Christie

Authors: Gr. Green, Ch. Dickens, F. Scott Fitzgerald, A. Conan Doyle, S. Maugham, Th. Dreiser, Agatha Christie, W. Shakespeare, F. Scott Fitzgerald, J. London

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.	If you're late to the interview, you'll miss the boat for the job.	If you're late to the interview, you'll miss your chance to get the job.
2.	He seems to be involved in some monkey business or other.	he seems to be involved in some risky thing or other.
3.	We couldn't make heads or tails out of the instructions of our boss.	We couldn't make a single detail out of the instructions of our boss.
4.	So who told you she'd got the job? - Oh, let's say, a little bird told me so.	Oh, I heard it from someone who knows all the gossip.
5.	The lion's share of the museum's budget goes on special exhibitions.	The biggest part of the museum's budget goes on special exhibitions.

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6. Answer the question and comment on the statement.

The Internet and e-books have provided the world of education with the incredible facilities. Do you believe that the Internet will absorb all the knowledge, become the crucial source of know-how and replace traditional paper books, with positive and negative consequences?

It is evident that The Internet became our go-to source in tackling different issues. However, it is wrong to presume that this is the end of paper books. As I see it, they will simply serve other purposes now. For example, they can be used for decoration purposes. They can set the ambience of a place and create an impression of a knowledgeable person. So, I don't think they will completely disappear. But we won't be using them in research purposes any longer.

As for the Internet absorbing all the knowledge, I believe it has already happened. We can only access 5% of what the World Wide Web has to offer through common search engines, so who knows what really is out there. It is undoubtedly a loaded topic, as it has both positive (opportunities for communication, work, research and other things) and negative (cyber terrorism, bullying, black market) consequences.

Despite all this, we certainly cannot deny the role the Internet plays in our lives as it is continuously growing each year.

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

(1). The City It is the name of a part of London, in which all the big companies, banks and government buildings are located.

and the historic part of London

(2). A Donkey and an Elephant These are the symbols of two American political parties: democrats (a donkey) and republicans (an elephant).

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So he made a snap at the shadow in the water, but as he opened his mouth the piece of meat fell out, dropped into the water and was never seen more.

This fable contains a truly ageless moral, that has been delivered by people for other people for centuries now. Yet it never gets old, and it never loses its significance.

The moral is that he, who can't be satisfied with what he has and always wants to double his assets by claiming for himself what belongs to other people, may end up losing what he had in the first place. To put it simply, envy will not get you anything, it will rob you of what you have.

I feel like people need a constant reminder of this in their lives. Humans are always in a rush to obtain items that will add to their status and level of respect people have for them. However, it doesn't always work out that way. More often than not, the unexpected loss of what you had may feel like a blow below the belt.

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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.

"Frankenstein" is a name that is known by many people today. But not everybody knows that Victor Frankenstein is the main character in a horrible story of Mary Shelley. The book had been written at the beginning of the 19th century. Mary Shelley was only twenty years old when she had written it. In the story Frankenstein, a scientist, had wanted to create a "person", but unfortunate he had created a "monster". The monster wanted to love by people, but nobody had liked him. That's why he had became violent and started killing people. In the end he also killed Victor Frankenstein.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	is known	is recognized
2	horrible	horror
3	of	by
4	had been	was
5	had written	wrote

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6	unfortunate	unfortunately
7	had created	created
8	love	be loved
9	had liked	liked
10	had become	became

4. Comment on the following quotation:

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give (Winston Churchill).

Winston Churchill was a remarkable man that had left behind a wonderful legacy. He will be forever remembered not only because of his political career during the second world war, but also because of his insightful mind and impeccable analytical abilities. He was an apt psychologist and this quotation serves as proof of that.

It is impossible to disagree with this profound statement. There is a tangible difference between making "a living" and making "a life". "A living" is more practical, even economical term. It entails the comfort of our home, enough food to tame our hunger, a trusty car... And all of that because of a steady paycheck (hence, "what we get"). The bottom of Maslow's pyramid, if you will.

Alas, our life is much more than that, as we humans, tend to think a lot about such matters as the purpose of our life, the burden of meeting society's expectations but at the same time fulfilling our ambitions. And also legacy. What is a legacy? In the wise words from a musical 'Hamilton': "it's planting seeds in a garden you never get to see." We are constantly worried about people's perception of us and our seeds. Therefore, the only way to "make a life" (in other words, be appreciated and loved during your lifetime and leave a legacy behind as you die) is by ensuring you'll be kindly remembered by others.

Donating money to various charities, helping out your neighbours and just generally being a decent human being is enough to make ~~live~~ a wonderful life.

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5. Comment on the story in pictures.



This story is a way more tender reenactment of a saying "a road to hell is paved with good intentions". In my opinion of course, it isn't as critical, but the notion is still there.

A family of three decided to take up gardening. It is not an easy job, mind you! It was supposed to teach responsibility, care and the concept of manual labor to the little son. And at first it worked like ~~clockwork~~ clockwork: everyone participating, the son copying what his parents did... The result was quite astonishing. But what parents hadn't taken into account, was the fact that children at this age are going through a stage of integration, trying to act like adults in everything they do, and sometimes even take it a step further. This is exactly what happened in this case. Following in his father's footsteps, the son decides to impress his mother with a grandiose bouquet of flowers. This oblivious child destroys hours and hours of hard work his family had put into growing these flowers. As a result, the parents are in shock at seeing this caricature unfolding before their very own eyes. Well, at least his mother now has a stunning bouquet...

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