



87 UK

**ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ**

2018–2019

заключительный этап

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

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада Санкт-Петербург

Дата 17.03.2019

.....
ВАРИАНТ 6

10-11 классы

1. Comment on the following extract.

Fixing the ‘problem’ of ageing is the mission of Silicon Valley, where billions is pouring into biotech firms working to ‘hack the code’ of life – despite concerns about the social implications. Some scientists believe it is possible to “solve ageing” and get people to live, healthily, more or less indefinitely. They say this is a moral rather than personal quest, while there is no absolute biological limit on human age, arguing that cellular immortality – in effect running the clock backwards – should be possible. Whether this will happen this century or not none can say. Such ideas are just speculation for now.

There are a number of scientists who intend to slow the aging process and currently study the problem in animal models. There have been attempts to develop drugs that will have the same effect on the aging process as a caloric restriction diet known as Caloric restriction drugs. Some drugs that are already approved for other uses have been studied for possible longevity effects on laboratory animals.

Meanwhile, there is an increasing number of people realising that the concept of anti-ageing medicine that actually works is going to be the biggest industry that ever existed. Serious people are doing research in this area and serious thinkers are thinking about this. Radical life extension isn't consigned to the realm of cranks and science fiction writers any more.

Increasing ~~the~~ longevity of humans has ~~been~~ been a dream of many a scientist for the past centuries. Now, it ~~seems~~ seems we might be one step closer to immortality. New biological methods will enable us to "rewind" the cells in our body in the same way as we rewind ~~our~~ our clocks. Although this is ~~just~~ only on the level of speculation now, there are drugs being developed and tested on animals which could assist us in prolonging our lives.

~~As~~ I find this to be ~~most~~ extremely fascinating, and the idea of us being able to live 200, 300 and more years appeals to me. However, all scientific experiments nowadays pose some moral dilemma, and immortality ~~is~~ the ~~secret~~ quest for immortal life is no exception. Will we be content with our life as immortal beings? How will the Earth carry the ever-increasing human population? Will we continue to give birth to children, or will ~~there~~ no longer be ~~reproduction~~ the case? These are but a few unanswered questions that are raised by ~~the~~ current experiments on the problem of ageing. I suppose the only thing we can do is ~~wait and see~~. ~~My~~ guess.

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

The Ass in the Lion's Skin Fable.

An Ass once found a Lion's skin which the hunters had left out in the sun to dry. He put it on and went towards his native village. All fled at his approach, both men and animals, and he was a proud Ass that day. In his delight he lifted up his voice and brayed, but then every one knew him, and his owner came up and gave him a sound cudgelling for the fright he had caused.

The moral of this fable is that an ass always remains an ass, ~~no matter~~ even if it wears a lion's skin. Its voice always

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

1. He hadn't said a word since X dinner began. 2. The National Gallery and the Albert Hall are the right places to visit when you come to the capital of the United Kingdom. 3. It was X late afternoon when we finally came to the Savoy Hotel after a long tiresome trip.

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

	Book	Author
1.	'The Old Curiosity Shop'	Ch. Dickens
2.	'The Happy Prince'	Oscar Wilde
3.	'Sister Carrier'	Gr. Green
4.	'The Old Man and the Sea'	Ernest Hemingway
5.	'The Moon and Sixpence'	S. Maugham
6.	'The Quiet American'	Th. Dreiser
7.	'Pygmalion'	Bernard Shaw
8.	'Hamlet'	W. Shakespeare
9.	'Martin Eden'	J. London
10.	'The Man of Property'	J. Galsworthy

Authors: J. Galsworthy, W. Shakespeare, J. London, Oscar Wilde, Ch. Dickens, Ernest Hemingway, Bernard Shaw, Th. Dreiser, S. Maugham, Gr. Green

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.	Mr. Davis thinks he can teach us the trombone. He must <u>have a bee in his bonnet</u> .	He is very excited and captivated by the idea.
2.	She likes to have a finger in every pie in the village.	She likes to know what is going on everywhere in the village.
3.	When the missing money was noticed, she chose to disappear rather than <u>face the music</u> .	She chose to disappear rather than face the facts, tell the truth, get the reaction.
4.	What you say is <u>double Dutch</u> for me.	Unclear to me
5.	On the night of the play, Ann's father told her to <u>break a leg</u> .	Ann's father wished her luck.

6

6. Answer the question and comment on the statement.

One can google any information in seconds, rather than searching for it in libraries. E-books save us precious time and money, while real books are made of woods, which causes reducing of forests and making the ecology worse. Do paper books have a chance for the future?

~~I~~ I am a great fan of paper books, and believe that they will still exist and be popular in the future.

To start with, they provide a unique atmosphere. ~~Then~~ Far too many people are fond of the smell of paper books, the feeling of turning ^{over} a page ~~over~~ to abandon paper books.

Secondly, paper books are irreplaceable in education. It is widely acknowledged that writing and ~~reading~~ reading from paper has a better effect than typing and working on a computer or any other gadget.

Thirdly, a grand portion of information is still only on paper. However strange it may seem, the digitalising of the world is not yet complete, if it ever will be.

All in all, I generally agree with most of the points in the statement. However, should the future be as I see it, ~~the~~ new technology will exist alongside paper books. Besides, books can be printed on recycled paper, making them no longer a threat for the environment.

7. Explain the meaning of the following 2 words which reflect peculiarities of British and American cultures.

(1) The House of Commons is one of the two houses of Parliament in Great Britain. The members to the HoC are elected, along with the Prime Minister. Traditionally, the opposing parties sit on two opposite sides of the hall. The Speaker sits on a sack of wool to symbolise the main source of England's wealth earlier and controls the sessions. He occasionally shouts "Order!" when the situation gets out of control. This section of the Parliament plays a crucial role in the process of passing bills and laws and taking major decisions. The current PM is ~~Theresa~~ Theresa May.

(2) FLOTUS is the first lady of the United States. She is the wife of the President and represents him in social and ceremonial functions. She is also a powerful figure in her own right, often influencing the President's decisions. The current FLOTUS is Melania Trump.

3

betrays it. The same can be said of people - many of them boast a shiny exterior but their true nature ~~is~~ can be seen from their actions. Unless one acts ~~like~~ like a "lion", one will remain an "ass", even under a "lion's skin".

This fable can be viewed from another ~~one~~ point of view, though. The ass boasted about his triumph, and was immediately recognised. If you achieve something by wrong means, keep it well-hidden and do not brag about it to the world, or your deception will be discovered.

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.

"The History of Plymouth Plantation" had been written by William Bradford between 1620 and 1651. It is a kind of diary in which he was writing about the life of the Pilgrims. After the Pilgrims had been landed in Plymouth harbour, they unload the "Mayflower". Then all their things had been put in a dry place. Later, cottages were being built for someone. The pilgrims also had discussed things and had made laws for their small group. In the winter months over half of the Pilgrims died and over 40 became ill. For sometime all the work had been done by only six or seven people. They fetched wood and made fires in everybody's houses. Food was cooked for the people who were ill, too.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	had been written	was written +
2	had been landed	had landed +
3	unload	unloaded +
4	had been put	were put +
5	were being built	were built +

6	also had discussed	also discussed	+
7	had made	made	+
8	sometime	some time	-
9	had been done	was done	+
10	was writing	wrote	+

4. Comment on the following quotation:

A friend to all is a friend to none

(Aristotle).

This quotation may refer to the idea that ~~there~~ ~~is~~ ~~a~~ person, who has many acquaintances may not have any real close friends. That person ~~is~~ divides his attention between so many people, that he does not really form a strong bond with any of them. Such people might be prone to loneliness.

On the other hand, perhaps, what is meant by this phrase is the fact that people are so different, that it is simply impossible to be on good terms with everyone. In our lives, we often have to take sides.

People who try to be friends with everyone ~~are~~ can be two-faced, praising you to your face and laughing at you behind your back, ~~in~~ in order to please someone else.

Such people are not true friends of anyone, and the only person that matters to them is they themselves.

10.

5. Comment on the story in pictures.



2

Once there was a lean and lanky man, who wanted to have some authority. He noticed, that the strong and muscular men ruled the world, so he decided to start bodybuilding. He read magazines on the topic, and began training. However, ~~no~~ no matter how hard he tried, he soon discovered that he was incompatible with sport, and even the equipment he bought soon turned friend on him. So what he did, was dump all which had something to do with sport. He then had a special ~~with~~ padded suit made for him. And there he stood before the mirror, admiring himself. Now he was ready to conquer the world!

The moral of this story is ~~that~~ when solving a problem, just be yourself, and the solution will present itself soon enough.

9