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Итого:



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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

Севастополь

Дата

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ВАРИАНТ 1

10-11 классы

**1. Comment on the following extract.**

Is there necessarily a limit to human aging? 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.

The papers nowadays don't argue that human lifespan is limitless. But they note that it's premature to accept that a maximum lifespan for humans exists. It's equally possible, they say, that humans will continue to live longer, and therefore might survive beyond 115 years. It was reasonable that when everybody lived to 50 that the very long lived, for whatever

reason — genetics or luck — would make it to 80. If people live on average to 80 or 90, like they do now, then the very long lived make it to 110 or 120. So if the average lifespan keeps expanding, that would mean the long-lived would live even longer, beyond 115 years. But what happens if we all live to 100, 110, 120 or beyond? Society will obviously look very different and life may seem not too enjoyable.

The technological development affects all aspects of human life, including the sphere of medicine. A topic which is discussed by many scientists and philosophers is the possibility of prolonging human lifespan. There are two directions in which research of this subject moves: the first one focuses on exploring and eventually slowing down the aging process, while the second one includes different means of dealing with those diseases which seem to be integral when it comes to the human lifespan.

Additionally, it is also possible that with the times people will ~~live~~ live longer. This conclusion comes from the fact that the probability of human lifespan increasing is really high. This conclusion comes from the fact that modern people of the 18th century live longer than those who were born say 150 years ago. At first glance it seems like a good news. But is it all that colourful? Living extra 10-20 years won't probably will not do you much good. Can you imagine the state of your health, both physical and mental, at such an age? Strange though may it seem the topic of prolonging your lifespan is rather dubious and complicated. It also may bring up terrible problems with such an unbelievable increase in population in the last few decades and we ~~ready~~ have prolonging human life may cause serious demographic issues.

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

### The Ant and the Grasshopper Fable.

In the field one summer's day a Grasshopper was hopping about, chirping and singing to its heart content. An Ant passed by, bearing along with great toil an ear of corn he was taking to the nest.

"Why not come and chat with me," said the Grasshopper, "instead of toiling and mowing in that way?"

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

1. We sent the results of the vote to X Hague by X letter. 2. It was X holiday, and no games on the account of the rain. 3. So I thought we could have a good dinner and go to the ballet to the Bolshoi Theatre.

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

	Book	Author	
1.	'No Deals, Mr. Bond'	J. Fleming	+
2.	'Pygmalion'	F.S. Fitzgerald	-
3.	'The Picture of Dorian Grey'	O. Wilde	+
4.	'Don Juan'	G. Byron	+
5.	'The Citadel'	Th. Dreiser	-
6.	'A Farewell to Arms,'	E. Hemingway	+
7.	'The Titan'	A. Cronin	-
8.	'Tender is the Night'	B. Show	-
9.	'White Fang'	J. London	+
10.	'Jane Eyre'	Ch. Bronte	+

Authors: Ch. Bronte, E. Hemingway, J. Fleming, B. Show, O. Wilde, G. Byron, A. Cronin, Th. Dreiser, F.S. 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.	You need to be well-heeled to be able to afford to stay at this hotel.	You need to be rich to be able to afford to stay at this hotel.	+
2.	Because he works so hard, his boss turns a blind eye when he comes in late.	Because he works so hard, his boss doesn't pay attention to him coming late.	+
3.	Jack and Bert went through thick and thin together in the war, and they have been great friends ever since.	Jack and Bert went through a lot of difficulties together in the war, and they have been great friends ever since.	-
4.	The footballs autographed by the state champion were selling like hotcakes.	The footballs autographed by the state champion were selling very fast.	+
5.	It was raining cats and dogs so I couldn't walk to the store.	It was a terrible rain so I couldn't walk to the store.	+

## 6. Answer the question and comment on the statement.

If now the computer already helps us to think, sometime it inevitably will start to think and act.

What if created by hands and brains of the person the computer, really, unexpectedly will leave from under the control.

Well, this question is certainly not new. It's no secret that this topic has been brought up by many film directors, writers and even musicians. Probably everyone has watched at least one movie from the 'Terminator' series, but it's difficult to imagine such things happening in reality. So we don't really have real examples of computers leaving from under the control. But if such a disaster happens, a real catastrophe might begin. The ~~outrage mood of~~ just the thought of it gives me goosebumps. The first thing that comes to my mind is that robot HAL from 'Space Odyssey 2001' ~~who should have been a computer system?~~ who ~~he~~ killed multiple people on board of a spaceship. However, I don't think that computers really can think and act in the way humans do. ~~Operation System~~ modern artificial intelligence lacks creativity and doesn't pose a real threat to us. Have you ever used Siri? She probably isn't something you should be afraid of.

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

(1). Brexit is a political movement initiated by the British government. It is aimed at leaving the European Union and becoming totally independent from it. The referendum where Brits decided whether to stay with the EU or to leave was held in 2016, but with the second being a more popular option. However, the process of separating from EU is really long and hasn't been completed yet.

(2). Blue state is a state of the USA in which democrats are the winning party during elections. When their results are summed up, special maps are shown on media where blue-coloured states represent those with democrats being more popular, while the red ones mean that republicans are the winners.

"I'm helping to lay up food for winter," said the Grasshopper; "and recommend you to do the same."

"Why bother about winter?" said the Grasshopper; "we have got plenty of food at present."

But the Ant went on its way and continued its toil.

When the winter came the Grasshopper had no food and found itself dying of hunger, while it saw the ants distributing every day corn and grain from the stores they had collected in the summer.

Then the Grasshopper knew what to do next autumn.

lex This table's moral is the following: one should struggle and work hard in the present so as not to face difficulties in the future. A Grasshopper from this short story couldn't foresee what threat he would face in the future - hunger. Unfortunately for him, he wasn't prepared for the winter and had no food to eat unlike the ant whose persistence and hard work helped him during the dark times. Luckily, this ~~case~~ situation helped the Grasshopper to understand how to organise his personal time next autumn.

## 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 he saw his wife off at the station, he returned home as he hadn't to be at the airport till 9.30. He hadn't to pack, for his wife already did that for him and his case was ready in the hall. He didn't have to check the door and windows neither for his wife always did that before she had left the house. All he had to be done was to decide whether or not to take his overcoat with him. At the end he decided not to. At 8.30 he picked up his case, went out of the house and slammed the door behind him. Then he felt in his pockets for the key, for his wife had reminded him to double-lock the front door. When he had searched all his pockets and found no key he remembered where it was. He left it in his overcoat pocket. Then he remembered something else: his passport and a ticket was in his overcoat pocket as well.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
+	1 hadn't to be	didn't have to be
+	2 All he had to be done	all he had to do
+	3 his passport and a ticket was	his passport and a ticket were
+	4 hadn't to pack	didn't have to pack

5	his wife already did that	his wife had already done that
6	the door and windows neither	neither <del>the</del> door <del>and</del> windows either
7	He left	He had left
8	saw	dropped
9	when he dropped his wife off	when he had dropped his wife off
10	before she had left	before she left

#### 4. Comment on the following quotation:

Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens

(Jim Hendrix)

The idea which Jim Hendrix tried to express is that being wise means not boasting your knowledge but listening to those who surround you. It's difficult not to agree with the fact that it's important to stay open-minded to other people and be ready to analyse what they are saying. What other people are saying and be ready to analyse it. I think unfortunately many people are eager to talk and show their knowledge, but not all of them are ready to listen to each other. It is unbelievable how much ~~all~~ of us could learn from each other ~~now were we~~ if we were good listeners.

#### 5. Comment on the story in pictures.



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To begin with in the first picture we see a happy young couple in a cozy room with nice interior while the second photo picture illustrates the same room but it seems that a few years went by. Personally I think that the two of these pictures are a great representation of the degradation and deterioration of human values, lifestyle and relationships. The first illustration just cozes with good positive emotions, love and closeness, comfort and gives a good impression. We see young people who are interested in each other, which is why they don't need much more like the book on the table suggests that they both are still exploring their both emotional and physical side of their relationship. To my disappointment, the second part their lifestyle has become somewhat dull and empty, despite the fact that the room in the second photo picture is full of useless overfilled with useless stuff. We also see it seems like a man and a woman tried here tried to buy their way out of emotional crises. We also see that these people took on their traditional gender roles and became more distant from each other. It is ironic how much stuff they have and how little is left between them.