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Жу
Кураева

**ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ**

2018–2019

заключительный этап

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

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада **Казань**

Дата **04-03-2019**

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.

1.

2.

3.

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.

The author of the extract speculates on the old-aged idea of eternal life. He/she asserts that living forever for ever may turn out to be exhausting and boring. To that end, humanity should appreciate the present, and live life to the fullest and stop pondering the future. The author's arguments are very convincing and thought-provoking. I cannot but agree with him (or her) on the point that to be truly happy we do not need to exist ad infinitum but we should fill our lives with memorable moments and invaluable experience, immerse ourselves into things activities and hobbies we are fond of. In my opinion, it is a salient key to happiness and satisfaction with our lives the way our lives are going. I also agree and find it reasonable to think that people need to change, to grow up, to become wiser and become old and grey at the set of their lives. This is a rule created by Mother Nature and we cannot change it.

10

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 X West.

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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'	E. Waugh
3.	'The Sea Wolf'	J. London
4.	'A Handful of Dust'	W. Faulkner
5.	'Death on the Nile'	Agatha Christie
6.	'Our man in Havana'	Gr. Green
7.	'Sister Carrier'	Th. Dreiser
8.	'Twilight'	J. Steinbeck
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

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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 is <u>on its last legs</u> . I've had it twenty-five years ago.	My washing machine is going to break down. I've had it twenty-five years ago.
2.	We had to work hard at our last programmes, and they weren't always successful, but <u>no pains, no gains</u> .	We had to work hard at our last programmes, and they weren't always successful, but it's impossible to achieve high results without applying the best efforts.
3.	No <u>ifs and buts</u> , just do what I tell you.	No more excuses, 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> .	Please stop wasting your time and start working at last. Time flies!
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 mind your language and not tell rubbish but be as clever as a button when you meet your girlfriend's mother for the first time.

10

6

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?

The given statement touches on a relevant issue. There ~~are~~ ^{used to be} a lot of myriad of disputes between scientists and ~~IT~~ ^{modern} IT specialists regarding the possibility of computers' ability to think. Some very interesting experiments have been carried out recently and they ^{have} proved that ~~computers~~ ^{modern} computers cannot think. In a nutshell, To cut the long story short, some people have been were asked to chat ~~to~~ with either a real person or a computer that generated answers and questions. Their aim was to guess ~~whether they~~ ^{who they} who they ~~shared~~ ^{talked} talked with. Different groups of people were involved in the research and plenty of computers were used. ~~No~~. Although there were some logic answers and questions but most of the messages ~~received by people~~ ^{sent by computers} were erroneous and sounded odd. That's why ^{the} people could easily differ a real person from a computer.

All things considered, I believe that ^{these days} contemporary computers cannot think as human-beings do.

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

(1). Shadow Cabinet is a term for a political party which is not a government body. ~~It is a legal opposition of the Queen.~~ The Members of Shadow Cabinet legally oppose to the Queen and the main policy offered by the Parliament. The minister of the party is called the Leader of Opposition.

(2). Tory is a historical term for a conservative party. There were Tories and Whigs. Tory supported the king's power and usually opposed reforms. They also supported ~~the king~~ ^{Charles I} Charles I during the Great revolution in England which ended up with a Charles I's execution. Today Tory is a derogatory name for the conservative party.

3

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."

The moral of the wise fable is that ~~everybody~~ ^{ones} and even including the most terrifying and strongest ones can be easily taken for a ride by anyone else and others and even ~~those~~ ^{that} are considered to be reliable. According to the fable, the Lion deceived the Ass, and the Fox deceived the Lion. Significantly, the Lion pounced on the ~~Ass~~ ^{naive} naive Ass thanks to the scheme conceived by the cunning Fox and when the Lion ~~left~~ ^{Lex} left, the Fox ate the brains of ^{the} Ass. Therefore, the Fox deceived both the Lion and the Ass. That is why it is so crucial ~~to~~ ^{not} to believe in other people's words at once ~~but~~ and to make sure that their words are trustworthy at first. Lex



2

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~~ ^{had broken} returned to her flat she saw at once that burglars ~~broke~~ ^{had broken} 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~~ ^{had} rather hoping that they ~~did~~ ^{had} it. It was given to her by her late husband, yet she didn't like it and if it ~~was~~ ^{had been} stolen she would have ~~got~~ ^{got} the insurance money.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	had returned	returned

2	broke	had broken
3	upside down	upside-down
4	just left	had just left
5	they found	had found
6	was hoping	hoped
7	did	had
8	was given	had been given
9	was stolen	had been stolen
10	would have got	would have got

+ ~~was~~ still burnt was burning

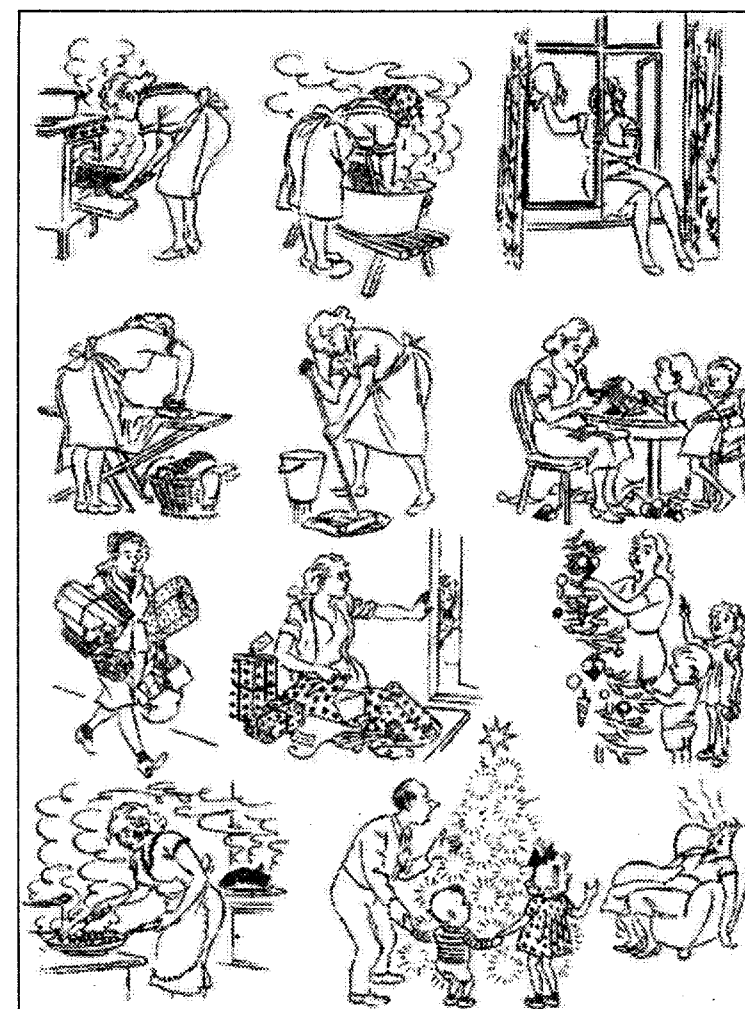
4. Comment on the following quotation:

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

(Aristotle)

The given statement belongs to wise ~~pr~~ Aristotle. He insisted that it is impossible not to be criticised and that people should not take even the most harsh criticism ^{close} to heart. I totally agree with him and must (admit) assert that his quotation is very inspiring. as it galvanizes to keep on working and stop being afraid of the public opinion because it ~~doesn't~~ can't bring a taste of success. and engenders (only) a sense of insecurity.

5. Comment on the story in pictures.



They say that the ~~to~~ life of a woman is much easier than that of a man. However, I'm sure that it is a blunt lie...

It was a serene Christmas morning the day before the New Year. Mary woke up in high spirits, realized that it was ~~to~~ 9.30am and rushed to the kitchen. Firstly, she cooked a mouth-watering turkey and almost succumbed to the temptation to grab a bit. Secondly, she did laundry and washed all windows at home. Then she pressed ~~at~~ a heap of clothes, mopped the floor, crafted presents with children, wrapped them, made the Christmas tree coruscating with splendence, ~~and when~~ met her dear husband and when it was 11.0'clock she suddenly fell asleep. Children and father had to celebrate without the most important ^{part} of their family. Mother Mary was so exhausted ~~that she~~ because she worked as a horse and nobody helped her.

That's why it is a matter of paramount importance to take care of our dearest and nearest women, help them and not take everything they do for us for granted.