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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 САНКТ - ПЕТЕРБУРГ

Дата 17.03.19

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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.

The extract given is dedicated to solving the issue of people getting on. It is claimed that there is no biological age limit, thus, immortal human cells are likely to be activate one day in order to prevent people from aging. However, no one knows how much time this process will take so nowadays animals are used as guinea pigs to try up to date drugs influencing ageing. The author also predicts anti-ageing pills to become one of the largest industries in the world.

As far as I am concerned, I approve of such high interest in this problem. No wonder that lots of scientists take active participation in discovering anything which might give clue to the recipe of immortality. As other mortal people, they eager to live and breathe on our beautiful planet as much as possible too. That's why I believe this dream will come into reality in foreseeable future thanks to our ever-developing, innovative technologies and human desire as well.

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.

In my opinion, the fable above is suggestive enough. That firstly, it is about significance of not being boastful. Many people, as we begin behaving towards

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

1. He hadn't said a word since the 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 a 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'	Charles Dickens
2.	'The Happy Prince'	Oscar Wilde
3.	'Sister Carrie'	Theodor Dreiser
4.	'The Old Man and the Sea'	Ernest Hemingway
5.	'The Moon and Sixpence'	S. Maugham
6.	'The Quiet American'	Gr. Green
7.	'Pygmalion'	Bernard Shaw
8.	'Hamlet'	William Shakespeare
9.	'Martin Eden'	Jack 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> .	Mr. Davis thinks he can teach us the trombone. He must be obsessed with it.
2.	She likes to <u>have a finger in every pie</u> in the village.	She likes to interfere in others' people's lives in the village.
3.	When the missing money was noticed, she chose to disappear rather than <u>face the music</u> .	When missing money was noticed, she chose to disappear rather than be responsible for consequences of her actions.
4.	What you say is <u>double Dutch</u> for me.	I can't understand what you say at all. (= make out)
5.	On the night of the play, Ann's father told her to <u>break a leg</u> .	On the night of the play Ann's father told her 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?

In my view, there is hardly one clear answer to the question as paper books have both pros and cons.

On the one hand, paper books are unlikely to be used in future. Firstly, people are aware of the ecological situation which is getting worse and worse. That's why most try to become green consumers to avoid adding to pollution levels and other natural disasters. Thus, there is a decline in sales of the paper books. Secondly, more and more contemporaries are used to accustomed to using electronic devices including E-books and are not able to give up and turn to paper format. Thirdly, it is a well-known fact that books cost an earth nowadays so many people can't afford buying to paper (it) but prefer reading more economic for cheaper E-books.

On the other hand, paper books might have chance to survive in modern world due to their past significance. There are humans who buy them in order to enjoy their smell and touch their fragile leaves. It E-books won't substitute these happy feelings. Secondly what is more the book is a more reliable source of information than its opponent: the text will never be deleted or vanish into thin air. Last but not least, it is proved that reading paper books is easier and less harmful than E-books because your eyes get less tired while reading the first.

In conclusion, I must admit, unfortunately, that paper books will be exchanged for electronic ones in foreseeable future as humanity ought to keep up with the times.

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

(1). The House of Commons British parliament consists of two chambers: the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The first has more executive power than the latter. They both sit and rule in White Hall.

(2). FLOTUS accounts for first lady of the United States of America. It is used to name the president's wife.

3

others in a superior way as soon as they obtain something unique or long-desired. This results in onlookers becoming jealous of things they don't have as well as hating their owner. For this reason, it is important to not to cry about your happiness because someone might dislike it. If you really value anything, unlike the rest, you will try to share your emotions with those ~~only~~ who will be happy for your success too. Happiness can't stand loud voices.

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" ^{was written} 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 ^{ed} 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	the life of the Pilgrims	the Pilgrims' life	+
3	had been landed	had landed	+
4	unload	unloaded	+
5	had been put	were put	+

6	were being built	were built	+
7	had discussed	discussed	+
8	had made	made	+
9	In the winter months	In the winter	
10	made fires	made fire	+

4. Comment on the following quotation:

A friend to all is a friend to none

(Aristotle).

It reminds me of the ^{familiar} saying, expressed in English as idiom "Jack of all trades". It means the one who is aware of everything but is good at nothing. Similarly, having a lot of friends or being on good terms with everyone is not better than is not always good the best lifestyle. This may result in unpleasant situations when you will find out how little you know about your mates' character or lives. The latter may also feel offended. In such a context, there is a huge likeliness to stay without friends at all.

For this reason, I am convinced that it is better to have one loyal friend rather than a hundred of friends who ~~which~~ remember about you as little as you ~~recall~~ ^{remember} about them. In other words, quantity is not quality.

5. Comment on the story in pictures.



Once a very hard-working man called Jack became fed up with his boss' abuses and disrespect towards him. But he was afraid of sticking up for himself: the boss was a well-built and strong man whose appearance made others obey and put up with his manner of ordering others around. Walking home, Jack noticed the advertisement of a gym which contained their attendant's impressive photograph. Jack wished to become a strong man too. Being too shy to join the gym, he bought some sports equipment. At home he began training with complicated exercises and failed to lift the lightest burden. Then he decided to try himself in boxing but that task was difficult to tackle with too. Finally, Jack gave it up. Having disposed all the appliances, he came up with a more trustworthy plan. He had a new suit sewed for him which made him look as strong as his boss. He was determined to avenge for past offence!