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САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

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ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ

2019–2020

заключительный этап

Предмет (комплекс предметов) Олимпиады ИНОСТРАННЫЙ ЯЗЫК (АНГЛИЙСКИЙ)

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада Роснов - на -Дону

Дата 15.02.2020

ВАРИАНТ 3

1. Comment on the following extract.

A Wet Year Causes Stress For Farming

The damage from the destructive spring flooding in the Midwest of the USA has been followed by a miserable autumn that is making a bad farming year worse. It was the wettest year on record for the lower 48 states, with the kind of extreme rainfall events that are increasingly associated with climate change. And then autumn came in with unseasonably heavy rains and snow. Over all, farmers reported being unable to plant because soils were saturated throughout the spring and many farmers couldn't get crops in the ground.

The intense downpours are characteristic of climate change. The trends are clear – climate change has changed the atmosphere itself. And the rains are falling hard not in the middle of the growing season, when it could be of the most use, but in the spring and autumn. After the wettest September on record the soil has become so saturated that it won't support heavy equipment like combines and beet harvesters, - they sink in and get stuck. Farmers report that they were only able to harvest two-thirds of their crop.

The year, as hard as it was for corn farming, does not mean shortages of food, feed, ethanol or exports. But it is adding to the financial squeeze on many farmers and for many farmers, the troubles of this year are likely to stretch into the next. Mr. McDougall, the North Dakota farmer, said "That will mean "round-the-clock work" in a few months if conditions are favorable. "That's part of farming, I guess".

The theme is: climate change, and it's effects. The effects of global warming are having serious effects on weather patterns around the world. In this extract we see the effects in the context of the

Midwest in the USA. Changes in weather systems has at obviously caused difficulties for the farming industry there. But, as stated above, this is the beginning of fossil fuels, as a result of increased industrial activity throughout the world. Higher levels of CO₂ has led to a reduction of the ozone layers which forms part of the earth's atmosphere. This means that more radiation from the sun can get through the atmosphere and so heat up the earth to a greater extent. The solution is to try to reduce industrial activity based on coal burning. We also need to harness alternative forms of energy, such as solar power and nuclear energy. It's not a pretty picture but if we don't act the situations such as the one mentioned in the extract will continue and even get worse.

2. Comment on the following statement:

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

(Aristotle)

Everyday people meet criticism of what they do or what they wear and of their behaviour. People like to complain. Receiving criticism is an unpleasant experience but it is also inevitable. Should we pay attention (or) criticism? In my opinion, no. I absolutely agree with Aristotle's thought: 'do nothing, say nothing and be nothing'. People should enjoy their lives and do what they want to do. If you want to get rid of criticism, just try not to pay any attention to it. Do not listen to the people who criticize you. You are able to live your best life.

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.

How do birds know where to migrate?

2. Explain the meaning of the following words which reflect peculiarities of British or American cultures:

A donkey and an elephant are well-known as symbols of the Democratic and Republican parties in the US.

10. Read the titles of some of the best novels in English. Who were these novels written by?

	Book	Author
1.	Jane Eyre	Charlotte Brontë
2.	The Grapes of Wrath - John Steinbeck	Theodore Dreiser
3.	An American Tragedy	Theodore Dreiser
4.	The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde
5.	Of Human Bondage	W. Somerset Maugham
6.	Brave New World	Aldous Huxley
7.	Cat's Cradle	Kurt Vonnegut
8.	Oliver Twist; or, the Parish Boy's Progress	Charles Dickens
9.	Absalom, Absalom!	William Faulkner
10.	The Wings of the Dove	Henry James

Authors: Theodore Dreiser, Kurt Vonnegut, John Steinbeck, Aldous Huxley, Oscar Wilde, Charlotte Brontë, William Faulkner, W. Somerset Maugham, Henry James, Charles Dickens.

7. Here is the list of rivers. Seven of them are in the UK and three are located in other countries. Find them and cross out.

The Trinity River, the Cumberland River, the River Severn, the River Avon, the River Trent, the Yukon River, the River Thames, the River Tweed, the River Dee, the River Foyle

8. Below is the list of some of the funniest English idioms, most of which came from British English. Match them with the situations given both lexically and grammatically.

- 1. My sister was a big clown in the family and people had to follow her whims no matter how silly they sounded. +
- 2. I've been a vegetarian for donkeys but then I suddenly started eating meat again. +
- 3. Be careful. Politicians are known to be all talk and no trousers. +
- 4. We'd planned to go away for the weekend, but it all went pear-shaped. I applied to such good colleges with my average grades but I was rejected. +
- 5. I went pear-shaped. I applied to such good colleges with my average grades but I was rejected. +
- 6. She used to be a very passionate woman who wore her heart on her sleeve but repeated rejections and mistreatment at the hands of the ones she trusted made her go into a shell and bottle her emotions up. +
- 7. We were hoping to have an exciting party, but in the end, it turned out to be a damp squib. +
- 8. After smoking for so long, I should have never tried to quit cold turkey. +
- 9. We were all keen as we waited for them to announce the winner. +
- 10. I'm not really interested in fashion, but once in a blue moon I bought a fashion magazine, just to see what people are wearing. +

Idioms: once in a blue moon, be a damp squib, for donkey's years, go pear-shaped, be a big cheese, sit on the fence, bark up the wrong tree, be all talk and no trousers, quit cold turkey, wear one's heart on one's sleeve, be all ears

9. Explain the origin and name the principal ingredients of the traditional British dish:

Black pudding

(1). The origin

Black pudding is a type of blood sausage originating in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

(2). The ingredients

It is made from pork blood, also with pork fat, a cereal or oat meal.

Forty percents of bird species migrate every year, with some traveling tens thousands miles. (Arctic terns fly about 50,000 miles every year, from the pole to the pole.) Migrating birds can even find their destinations if researchers make them to start from unusual locations, according to an article in the Conversation by Richard Holland, the senior lecturer in animals cognition at the Bangor University. How are they doing it? Holland and his team published a study last year suggesting that some songbirds use a magnetic map to navigate long distances, but no body knows how they can detect the Earths magnetic field.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	no body	nobody
2	forty	fourty
3	tensd thousands	tens of thousands
4	percents	percent
5	pole to the pole	pole to pole
6	make themnted start	make them start
7	the senior lecturer	the senior lecturer
8	animals cognition	animal cognition
9	how are they doing it?	How do they do it?
10		

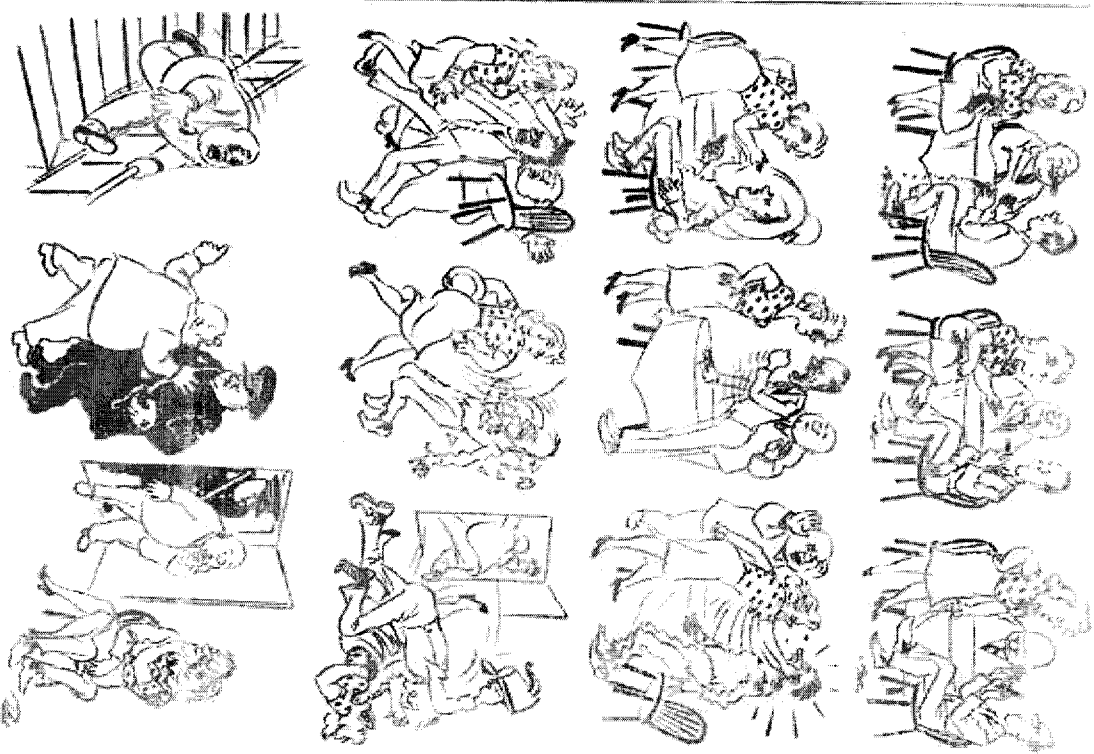
4. Below is a number of famous colourful quotes that came down to us from time immemorial. They are all based on logic and common sense, so can you possibly make a full phrase, adding some words.

Example: All roads LEAD TO ROME

- 1. It's a matter of time!
- 2. Christmas comes.
- 3. All good things come to an end.
- 4. No gain no pain
- 5. What goes around comes around
- 6. When Greek meets Greek,
- 7. It takes money to make the world go round
- 8. Trying to find my contact lens on the floor was like trying to find a needle in a haystack.
- 9. Don't cry over spilt milk.
- 10. Anna complains all the time. I of her.



5. Comment on the story in pictures:



Human behaviour can sometimes be very strange indeed. For example, sometimes in situations of conflict between a couple you as a third party might feel that you should get involved. This is especially so in cases which involve violence, but often it turns out that the couple who are arguing with each other or even fighting the cat and dogs, have their own special relationship which you don't understand. This cartoon illustrates this point in a humorous way.

6. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below

Lautisse Paints Again

(after H.A. Smith)

Everybody knows by this time that we met Lautisse on board a ship, but few people know that in the beginning, Betsy and I had no idea who he was.

At first he introduced himself as Monsieur Roland, but as we talked he asked me a lot of questions about myself and my business and finally he asked me if I could keep a secret and said: "I am Lautisse."

I had no idea who he was. I told Betsy and after lunch we went up and talked to the ship's librarian, asked him a few questions. And then we found out that my new friend was probably the world's best living painter. The librarian found a book with his biography and a photograph. Though the photograph was bad, we decided that our new acquaintance was Lautisse all right. The book said that he suddenly stopped painting at 53 and lived in a villa in Riviera. He hadn't painted anything in a dozen years and was heard to say he would never touch the brush again.

Well, we got to be real friends and Betsy invited him to come up to our place for a weekend.

Lautisse arrived on the noon train Saturday, and I met him at the station. We had promised him that we wouldn't have any people and that we wouldn't try to talk to him about art. It wasn't very difficult since we were not very keen on art.

I was up at seven-thirty the next morning and I remembered that I had a job to do. Our vegetable garden had a fence around it which needed a coat of paint. I took out a bucket half full of white paint and a brush and an old kitchen chair. I was sitting on the chair thinking, when I heard footsteps and there stood Lautisse. I said that I was getting ready to paint the garden fence but now that he was up, I would stop it. He protested, then took the brush from my hand and said, "First, I'll show you!" At that moment Betsy cried from the kitchen door that breakfast was ready. "No, no," he said. "No breakfast, — I will paint the fence."

When he was leaving, he shook my hand and said that he hadn't enjoyed himself so much in years. We didn't hear anything from him for about 10 days but the newspapers learnt about the visit and came to our place. The next day the papers had quite a story and the headlines said: ...

Think of the ending of the story. What did the headlines say? Why? What happened to Lautisse and the author?

The next day the papers had quite a story and the headlines said: the most famous painter visited village of his friends ten years ago. The painter for a long time didn't want to paint anything but thanks to his new friends they needed to paint their old fence and a painter decided to help them and do it by himself. After doing that work he said: "I hadn't enjoyed myself so much in years! At that moment when the visit of the famous painter and he started to paint again."

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