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ГОСКИЙ 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 Челябинск

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ВАРИАНТ 8

1. Comment on the following extract.

**What is biodiversity?**

The air you breathe, the water you drink and the food you eat all rely on biodiversity, but right now it is in crisis – because of us. Biodiversity is the most complex feature of our planet and it is the most vital. It is the variety of life on Earth, in all its forms and all its interactions.

The huge global biodiversity losses now becoming apparent represent a crisis equalling climate change. Biological species are becoming extinct due to the changing weather patterns, extensive fires and man-made disasters, such as oil-spills.

Biodiversity is comprised of several levels, starting with genes, then individual species, then communities of creatures and finally entire ecosystems, such as forests or coral reefs, where life interplays with the physical environment. These myriad interactions that have been making Earth habitable for billions of years are now being threatened.

For many people living in towns and cities, wildlife is often something you watch on television. But the reality is that the air you breathe, the water you drink and the food you eat all ultimately rely on biodiversity.

Some examples are obvious: without plants there would be no oxygen and without bees to pollinate there would be no fruit or nuts. Others are less obvious – coral reefs and mangrove swamps provide invaluable protection from cyclones and tsunamis for those living on coasts, while trees can absorb air pollution in urban areas.

When scientists explore each ecosystem, they find countless such interactions. If undamaged, this produces a finely balanced, healthy system which contributes to a healthy sustainable planet.

The author of the text ~~states~~ states that biodiversity, the most complex feature of our planet, is now in crisis because of people.

In my opinion, the loss of biodiversity is a huge problem because it ~~causes~~ causes further horrible consequences. For example, if ~~we~~ we

A-St.

disappear

coral reefs, people living on coasts will no longer be protected from cyclones and tsunamis. Unfortunately, the crisis, represented by the global biodiversity losses, equals climate change, and hence is a huge ~~problem~~ problem. However, people living in cities and towns do not notice such a disaster. They tend to think it was nothing to do with them. But in fact the air we breathe, the water we drink and everything else on our planet relies on biodiversity. And as it is in crisis, everything is in jeopardy. The point is that if we want to keep our planet healthy, we should pay more attention to biodiversity and protect all the ecosystems because, if undamaged, they remain balanced and healthy. And hence does humanity.

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## 2. Comment on the following statement:

Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it. (Henry David Thoreau)

I agree with Henry David Thoreau's statement in which it is claimed that people that are devoted to their dreams who ~~there~~ work really hard to succeed, never have time to find out how to reach their goals before they attempt to achieve what they want. ~~There~~ ~~they~~ just spend all their time working for what they believe in, and hence do not have time for anything else such as looking for inspiration.

I am convinced that nowadays people do not understand that they'd better be making their first steps towards success than spending too much time preparing for that and trying to ~~wait~~ find the best way to do it. Months are spent wasted on watching inspirational videos, making plans, ~~wait~~ and dreaming. All this time that people try to get their act together and finally start doing something ~~should~~ have ~~been~~ been spent on actually working for their success. And as the end, those who managed to start early will become successful, but ~~the~~ people that spent too much time preparing for the hour

2.	For Whom the Bell Tolls	Ernest Hemingway	+
3.	Slaughterhouse-Five	Kurt Vonnegut	+
4.	Great Expectations	Jane Austen	-
5.	Persuasion	Henry James	-
6.	A Handful of Dust	Evelyn Waugh	+
7.	Three Men in a Boat (To Say Nothing of the Dog)	Jerome K. Jerome	+
8.	Fahrenheit 451	Ray Bradbury	+
9.	Cakes and Ale	Charles Dickens	-
10.	The Ambassadors	Rudyard Kipling	-

Authors: Jane Austen, Ray Bradbury, Evelyn Waugh, Rudyard Kipling, Henry James, Kurt Vonnegut, Jerome K. Jerome, W. Somerset Maugham, Charles Dickens, Ernest Hemingway.

The Secret

5

dirty

there was no band in there. Leila told him that Garmad was so amazed, that took it away to sell it as a real masterpiece.

Here is the list of subway stations. Seven of them are in London and three are located in other cities. Find them and cross out.

Green Park, Cannon Street, Franklin Street, Penn Station Piccadilly Circus, Bank, Bond Street, Moorgate, Christopher Street, Tottenham Court Road

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. She was nervous about her driving test, but it ended up being a piece of cake.
- 2. I loved the first film but the sequel is a different kettle of fish.
- 3 I forgot to water my flowers, and now they're as dead as a doornail
- 4. I was almost ready to go out but losing one of my shoes really threw a spanner in the works.
- 5. We trying to bath the dog, having fun and games
- 6. She was as during her job interview. cool as a cucumber
- 7. You're calling me stupid? Talk about the pot calling the kettle black.
- 8. You can do better, Mary. This essay has in it more holes (in it) than Swiss cheese.
- 9. That child is a real pain in the neck
- 10. He has his if he thinks he can pass his test without studying. head in the clouds

Idioms: cool as a cucumber, head in the clouds, piece of cake, dead as a doornail, more holes than Swiss cheese, a different kettle of fish, throw a spanner in the works, pot calling the kettle black, a pain in the neck, have fun and games.

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

Cornish pasty

(a). The origin

It was invented in one of the British cities where foot was predominantly worn. It was mixed with leftovers of other vegetables, crops, and that's how this dish was invented.

(b). The ingredients

Corn, water, flour, crops, grains, salt.

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

The Capitol is a building (with a big dome) where the legislative power is exercised. It is a representative of the legislative power of the United States of America are seated.

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

Book	Author
1. Kim	W. Somerset Maugham

work or taking it will end up the same as they used to be. All in all, it does without saving so that blood, sweat and tears are required to get become successful. But trying to avoid these unpleasant labors and looking for other easier ways is never an option for those who really want to achieve their goals.

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.

Why are traffic lights green, yellow, and red?

Red for stop has the most simple explanation: Red has the longest wavelength of any color on spectrum of visible light, and as such its easier to see from far away than others colors. Railroad's systems used red as a stop signal long before the automobiles were on the roads. Trains originally used a white light to mean "go," but engineers probably had a harder time telling it a part from the light of stars and other lanterns, so green took its place. Yellow was the original choice for stopping signs because it was easier to see than red at the night, but as reflective paint, streetlights, and headlights proliferated, the signs were changed over to red. Yellow is the second-easy color to see from a distance, so it was added as the "caution" signal in traffic lights.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	the most simple	the simplest +
2	of	than -
3	on	in -
4	its	it's +
5	Others	Other +
6	harder	hard -
7	a part	apart +
8	stopping	stop +
9	at the night	at night +
10	the second-easy	second-easiest +

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. Haste makes PERFECT
- 2. Love is blind. BLIND IS BLIND.
- 3. Money has all the power. DO NOT CROSS A RIVER... at midstream.
- 4. Do not cross a river. DO NOT CROSS A RIVER... at midstream.
- 5. Every cloud has a silver lining. A SILVER LINING
- 6. First impressions are THE MOST IMPORTANT
- 7. Don't count your chickens before they hatch. (are hatched). BEFORE THEY HATCH (ARE HATCHED)

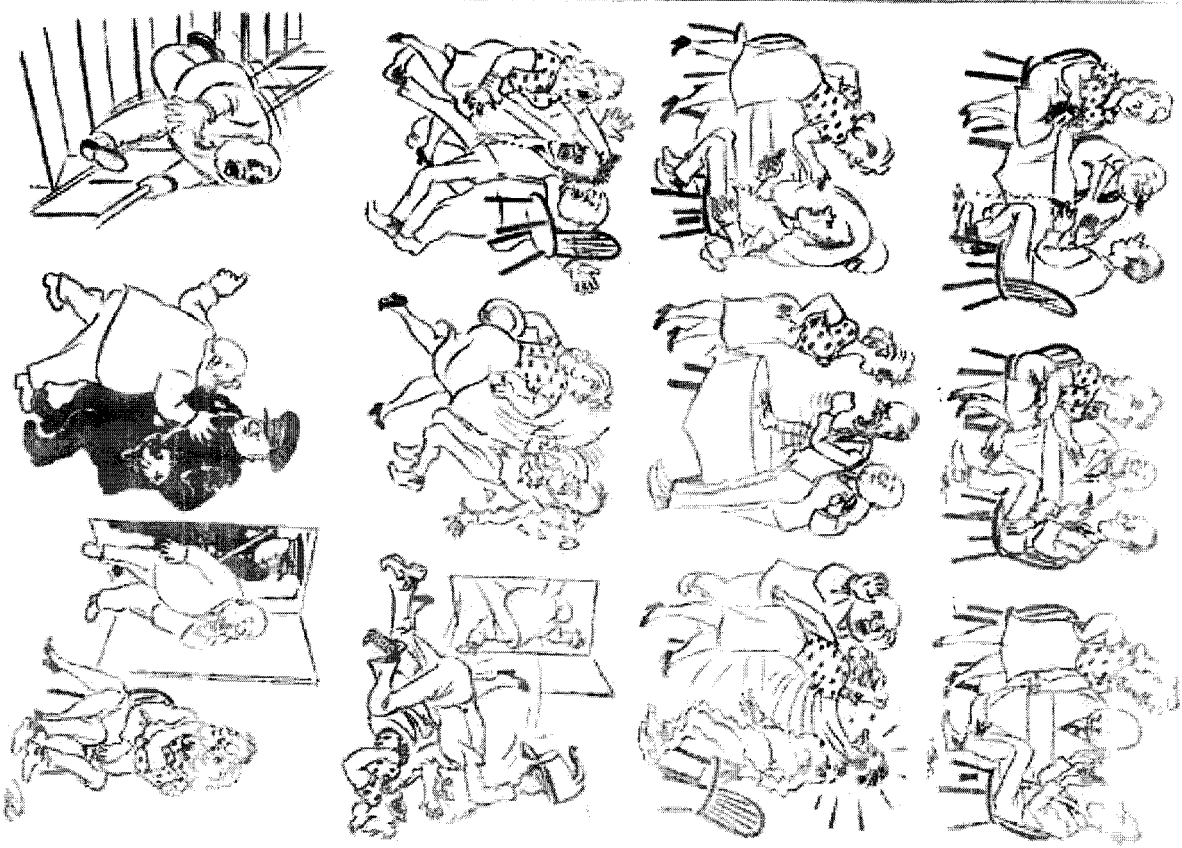
8. A cat has nine lives NINE LIVES

9. Still waters are the shallowest ARE THE MOST TROUBLED

10. Among the blind the man that can see is a king

SEE IS A KING

5. Comment on the story in pictures:



THE MAN THAT CAN

6

If you happen to be a witness of a conflict make sure to follow ~~some~~ the following tips: ~~take~~ anybody's side as

first and foremost, do not try to ~~escape~~ anybody's side as it takes too long. The man in the picture tried to suppress both of the arguing people but it didn't do any good. They still ended up fighting.

Moreover, do not try to get other people involved, even

police men, before you figure out who's going on. It may turn out to be a storm in a teacup.

And last but not least, never make a mountain out of a molehill. Just stay out of a conflict and let the people involved figure everything out on their own. Then you will see that every disagreement eventually runs its course.

He tried.

#### 6. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below

##### A Good Start

Bill liked painting more than anything in life. He started painting when he was 15 and people said that as a painter he had quite a lot of talent and had mastered most of the technical requirements. At 22 he had his first one-man show when he was discovered by the critics and his pictures were all sold out. With the money he could afford to marry Leila, rent a studio and stop being a student. To complete his education he went to Italy but after 5 months all the money was spent and he had to return.

Bill never had another show like the first one, though he became a better painter. The critics did not think him modern enough and said he was too academic. From time to time he managed to sell some of his paintings but eventually things had got very tight and he was obliged to look for a job.

The day before he went for an interview with his uncle Bill was especially gloomy. In the morning he went up to one of his unfinished pictures in the studio but he felt he couldn't paint. He threw down his brush and a bright red spot appeared on the board already covered with black and yellow paint from his previous work. The board had been used to protect the floor and was at that moment a mixture of bright colours.

When Bill left, Leila got down to cleaning the studio. She took up the board and put it against the wall to clean the floor. At that moment Garrad, Bill's dealer, came in. Bill had asked him to come, look at his work and arrange a show but the dealer had for some time been uncertain on the matter. So he was looking around the studio, explaining how the gallery was booked up for a year and how he could not really promise Bill a show yet for two years or so. Suddenly the board against the wall attracted his attention.

Think of the ending to the story and write it in the space below.

He had never seen it before. And the style was quite modern and unusual for Bill. At first Garrad was confused. At first Garrad was confused. He had never seen this painting before. And the style was quite unusual for Bill.

I didn't know you paint too, Leila, he said glancing at the badly staining standing by him. She was wise and could well people like an open book. She realised that Garrad liked the board. So she just tried my hand in it, she replied without thinking twice.

When Bill came back home, satisfied that he was immediately hired as from that moment they could finally pay all the bills, he found his wife painting in his studio. And to his surprise, he didn't

6. Bill got angry. He ~~could~~<sup>would</sup> never let anyone make it look like he ~~etc~~ could change his style and sell a dirty band as a real painting. But he ~~also~~ managed to ~~to~~ make him calm down. She said that the band ~~will~~ be sold ~~as~~ ~~there~~ it with her signature on it. ~~that~~ Bill was shocked: his wife was 'seemed' to be plotting something behind his back. But he never dared to stop her from becoming an artist.

After three years he loose works were so popular ~~in the market~~ that she became air well-known all around the globe. She managed to buy a big house. ~~for her own use~~. But her husband couldn't painting more. Instead, he ~~first started~~ started writing and became a great novelist. In one of his books he wrote this phrase: "Sometimes, the world doesn't need what we can offer. But if your aim is not to ~~win~~ fight ~~for~~ what you love, but for what you need, try to change. You will see that you ~~are talented~~ are talented, and ~~new~~ perhaps, new activity. It will be better for your family than remaining ~~conventional~~ and ~~conventional~~ to your style of painting or something you're stubborn and conventional."

Full. Mc  
Full Annual.

