

76 Баллов

ГОСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ



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ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА  
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ  
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заключительный этап

Предмет (комплекс предметов) Олимпиады ИНОСТРАННЫЙ ЯЗЫК (АНГЛИЙСКИЙ)

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада Екатеринбург

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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.

*What is biodiversity?*

*This extract touches upon a topic of our planet's biodiversity and all its aspects. It carries an appropriate title: 'What is biodiversity? The purpose'*

The purpose of this extract is to give the readers ~~some~~ information about the importance of addressing environmental issues and sustaining natural balance in every existing ecosystem.

The text is divided (in six parts. The first one introduces the topic and gives a brief explanation of the significance of biodiversity on Earth. The second informs the readers about massive threats to biological species and harm caused by mankind. The third offers a detailed structure of biodiversity and provides examples. The remaining paragraphs cover the benefits of interactions between ecosystems and the purpose of protecting this crucial process.

The author's vocabulary is rather vivid and rich, which makes the extract more gripping and interesting to read. I find this text exceptional and very informative. It deals with modern issues and attracts attention to problems, that need to be solved as soon as possible.

In conclusion, I believe this extract would certainly influence anyone who reads it. To my mind, people's awareness of global ecological issues should be increased and ~~reading this~~ spreading this article would already be a good start, as it ~~gives~~ contains all the necessary information in an understandable way and the author's choice of words and expressions makes it more appealing and easy to read.

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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)

In my opinion, Henry David Thoreau's saying 'success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it' means, that people, who seek fame and recognition deliberately are less likely to get it, while the ones who spend all their time on hard work are rewarded.

It is similar to another phrase: 'Work hard in silence, let the success be your noise'. They both explain, that it's better to focus on your goals and improve your skills than to wait for praise and expect good ~~resulting~~ results right away.

I personally agree with the author's message. In our life the ones, who are committed to their purpose and don't get their hopes up, ~~are~~ usually succeed, while individuals that attract everyone's attention, but don't do their best, can't achieve anything major and significant, so the saying is reliable for ~~anyone~~ everyone.

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

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

The Success Life

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6 Ch. 1. 1st. 2nd.  
The dealer explained Bill, that this board could be a major success and many people would love to see it (in. 1st. 2nd. 3rd.)  
7. 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, Barbican, Bond Street, Moorgate, Christopher Street, Tottenham Court Road

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. 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 have had her and games bet during her job interview.
6. She was as cool as a cucumber during her job interview.
7. You're calling me stupid? Talk about the pot calling the kettle black.
8. You can do better, Mary. This essay has more holes in it than Swiss cheese.
9. That child is a real pain in the neck.
10. He has his head in the clouds if he thinks he can pass his test without studying.

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  
This dish came from the romans, but is now widely known in Britain.  
(b). The ingredients  
Corn, butter, salt, spices, garlic, sauce

(2). Explain the meaning of the following words(word) which reflect peculiarities of British or American cultures:  
The Capitol  
The capitol is a place where building, which is where the legislative branch is seated. It has about 600 rooms.

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

Book	Author
1. Kim	Rudyard Kipling

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	its	it's
2	a part	apart
3	the second easy color to see	the second easy to see color
4	on spectrum	on the spectrum
5	and as such	so
6	others	other
7	af	than
8	harder	hard
9	stopping	stop
10	at the night	at night

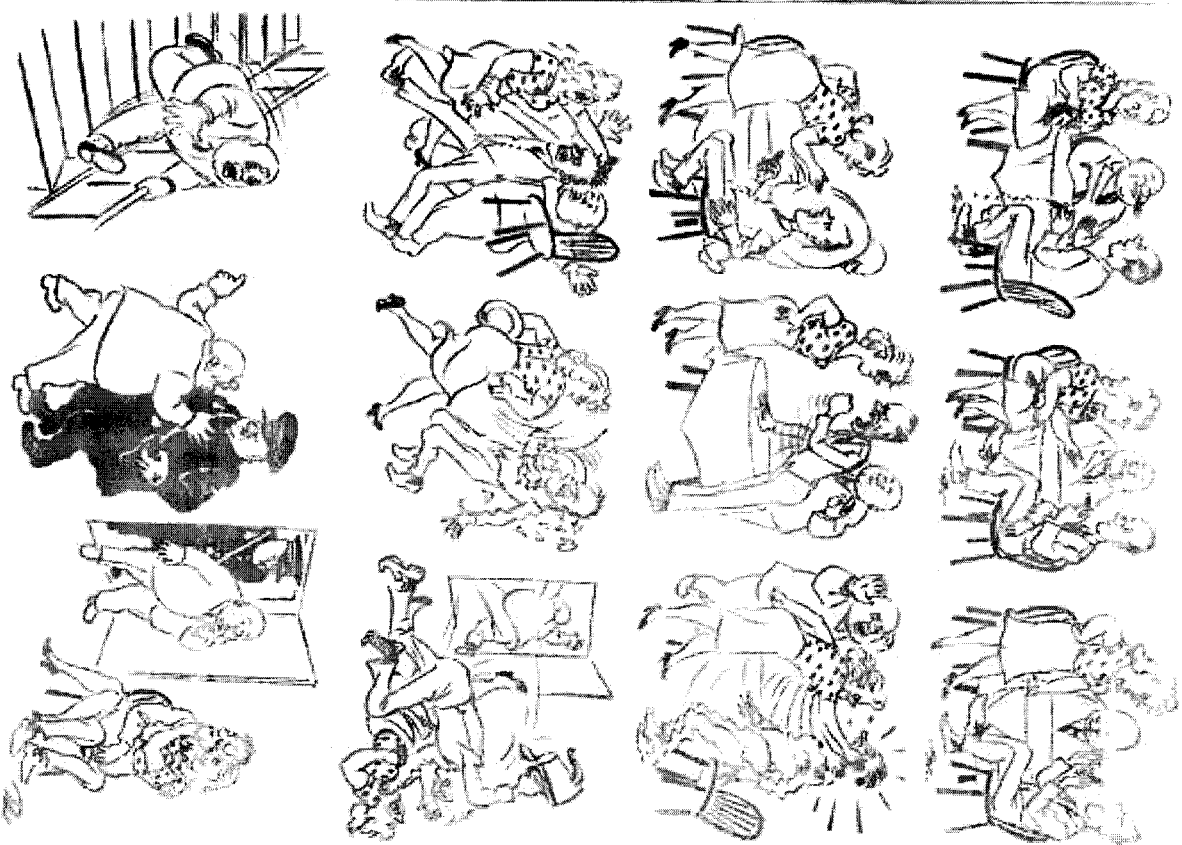
4. Below is a number of famous colourful quotes that came down to us from time immemorial. They are all based on logic and common sense, so can you possibly make a full phrase, adding some words.

Example: All roads LEAD TO ROME

1. Haste makes time go to waste.
2. Love is all you need.
3. Money has no smell.
4. Don't say you've crossed a river at midstream.
5. Every cloud has a silver lining.
6. First impressions are not always true.
7. Don't count your chickens before they hatch.

8. A cat has hide lives.
9. Still waters hide secrets.
10. Among the blind \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Comment on the story in pictures:



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These pictures show a story of two men and a woman. A rather plump man ~~could~~ <sup>might</sup> be the woman's husband as they are sitting closer, but ~~that~~ <sup>they</sup> all three of them could also be friends, it's not easy to determine their relationship. They were sitting at the table, ~~and~~ <sup>the</sup> men ~~was~~ <sup>were</sup> were smoking and ~~the~~ <sup>she</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>she</sup> started angrily pointing at the stairs.

The plump man left, but when he came back, the two people were yelling at each other and even hitting each other. He ran away to break up, look for help and break up the fight and met a policeman. The man explained the situation and led him to the place, but instead of two furious men and one person they saw a couple on the chair in each other's arms.

This story is quite amusing and unusual, but, luckily, has a happy ending. It also shows how fast men we get frustrated, but then people fight make up after a fight, which is very surprising, but still common behaviour.

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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 ~~carefully~~ <sup>carefully</sup> walked up to it and carefully examined. 'Oh, don't pay attention to it, it's just a protesting board', Bill's wife said. 'Are you sure?' - the dealer replied with doubt. 'I've never seen anything like it. Could you please call Bill and ask him to come back?' When Bill's phone rang, he was just about to enter the building, where the interview was supposed to be held. He rushed to his wife and ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> rushed home as fast as he could. Of course he was putting his job at risk, but deep down he knew, that nothing could replace painting in his life. No career could replace painting for him.

Lucasnot.

the government gave me 6  
... purchase it, as the style is very modern  
and attractive for the current audience.

He kept on ~~telling~~ telling about a possibility  
of a show and the necessary arrangements, but  
Bill was deep in his thoughts - he couldn't believe  
that this time of suffering might come to an end.

The painting was indeed a breakthrough in the world of art.  
An auction was even organised, because so many people wished  
to have it. Afterwards Bill discovered that such ~~style~~  
abstract style allows him to express himself better and  
spent days ~~in~~ working in the studio. Thanks to new paintings,  
he now had a stable income.

Sometimes pure luck can be a beginning of something amazing,  
what matters is just a good start.

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