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БУРГСКИЙ 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

Дата 29.02.2020

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.

Biodiversity has always been the biggest supporter of men as it has provided us with everything we need to live during the whole history of mankind. However, now it is suffering and there is nothing to blame except for men.

is happening
Unfortunately, this ~~happens~~ for many reasons. To start with, many people, ~~even~~ especially those who live in towns and cities, have no idea of how nature works and provides ~~you~~ them with things that are ^{necessary} for their wellness. Furthermore, human beings have become addicted to producing more and more goods, which results in the fact that ~~that~~ they constantly ~~dam~~ damage the environment and cause many problems like the extinction, climate change and so on. ~~In addition~~ Adding to this, there are people who do harm for our planet due to lack of information about the danger of their actions.

All ~~The~~ environmental problems should be solved as soon as possible, so I would like to suggest some ideas on how to overcome it. Firstly, we need to opt for energy-consuming devices and minimize the usage of ~~not renewable~~ not renewable natural ^{resources}. Secondly, we should raise awareness on how critical the issues are and what are the best methods to deal with them. Besides, ~~we~~ humans have to take the responsibility for ~~helping some animals and species~~ preventing all species from dying out.

Overall, the future of mankind relies on our generation, so we must take action on condition that we want to save our planet for future generations.

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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 believe that this quotation means that people who achieve ^{success} ~~success~~ do not spend time procrastinating or dreaming of a perfect life because they work as hard as they can instead of it. ~~As for me, I do agree with Henry David T~~

As for me, I do agree with Henry David Thoreau. It does not come as a surprise that if a person wants to become successful, they need to work for it. Unfortunately, it is not enough to only wait for it. Moreover, it is worth mentioning that people who constantly think of how they want to achieve their goals tend to focus on negative details. ^{As a result,} they feel down and upset most of the time and do not do anything beneficial for themselves as they feel lack of energy.

To sum up, success is a thing we should not be looking for - all we need to do is ~~concentrate on the process~~ concentrating on the process of working, ~~studying~~ and learning and becoming a better person.

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

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

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In the end, Bill has become one of the most well-paid and admired modern artists. Of course, he never forgot that it was his wife to thank for his huge success.

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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 fun and games trying to bath the dog.
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 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.*

Cornish pasty

(a). The origin

The dish has a British origin and is associated with Cornwall.

(b). The ingredients

~~be~~ Its ingredients include beef skirt, potatoes, turnip and onions.

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

The Capitol is a famous and one of the most recognised buildings in the USA which is located in Washington D.C. ~~In this building~~
The Congress of the USA is situated in that building.

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

	Book	Author
1.	Kim	Rudyard Kipling +

[illegible]

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 ^{simplest} most simple explanation: Red has the longest wavelength ^{than} of any color on spectrum of visible light, and as such ^{it is} ~~it is~~ easier to see ^{from far away} than ^{other} ~~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} ~~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 most simple	the simplest +
2	of	than -
3	as	at -
4	its	it is (it's) +
5	others	other +
6	Railroa Railroad's	Railroad +
7	harder	hard -
8	a part	apart +
9	at the night	at night -
10	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 _____.
2. Love is blind.
3. Money has no smell.
4. _____ at midstream.
5. Every cloud has a silver lining.
6. First impressions are the most important.
7. Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.

8. A cat has nine lives.
 9. Still waters make a rainstorm.
 10. Among the blind one is a non-blind one has the power.

5. Comment on the story in pictures:



A QUICK QUART FIGHT

It was a cold evening and three colleagues were ~~sitting in a~~ discussing their plans for the future in a cafe. The atmosphere was quite peaceful. However, suddenly it changed.

"What the hell?" exclaimed a lady, Jenna, ~~angrily~~ after realising that someone ~~has~~ hurt her leg.

"I'm really sorry. Calm down, please," begged a man named Mark.

"Calm down? How dare you talk to me like this?" Jenna started because furious.

Being hot-minded, Mark became angry as well. As a result, both of them were on the verge of a fighting. Surprisingly, Jenna slapped his colleague in his face. After that they ~~were fighting with chairs, dishes~~ were fighting with a chair, dishes and so on for a long time, but the third colleague, Ben, ran downstairs and asked a policeman to help as he was afraid they could kill each other.

"Mr. Brown, come with me, please," he pronounced ~~being~~ while being on the verge of crying his eyes out.

"What's happened?" ~~he~~ asked the policeman asked.

"There is no time to explain, just follow me!" said Ben nervously.

However, when two men ~~of~~ went upstairs, they could see nothing but two of a couple of friendly people.

"Are you alright, guys?" asked both the policeman and Ben being shocked.

"Sure, there is nothing to worry about," answered Jenna and Mark together.

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.

"What is it?" the dealer whispered.

"Hmm, don't even look at it. It's not finished yet, and I never considered it a good one for a show," Bill replied with a note of sadness in his voice.

"Stop pulling my leg!" Garrad exclaimed.

"What do you mean?" Bill had no idea what was going on.

"I bet this is the best work you've ever ~~made~~ ^{created}, Mark. It looks so fresh and unique, you see?" said the dealer.

Being extremely impressed by the painting, Garrad changed his plans immediately.

Surprisingly, he managed to arrange the show ~~in a month~~ ^{in a month}.

Moreover, ~~after that~~ all critics and visitors supported a young ~~for~~ artist as they realised he had created something amazing.