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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

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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.

Eternal life and youth have been discussed by the greatest thinkers for ~~many~~ centuries. Just as some of them, I believe that human life extension is unnecessary and the fact that anti-ageing medicine ~~is~~ is going to make a huge industry seems terrifying. Although actual anti-ageing medicine will be made, it will probably not be affordable for regular people, so more fake medicine will be made to fool those who want to extend their lives without spending lots of money and will buy fake medicine if it is slightly cheaper than the real anti-ageing drugs. lex
lex

However, slowing the ageing process and "hacking the code" of life are interesting challenges for modern scientists and, of course, should be studied. And if "fixing" ageing turns to be possible, it should not become achievable and acceptable for people in general and should be used only in extraordinary cases, or it will only ~~add~~ add global problems for the humanity.

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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.

The moral of this fable is that you should not pretend to be someone else, because it can be easily uncovered and you will be punished. Feeling powerful and important

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 X 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'	Ch. Dickens	+
2.	'The Happy Prince'	Oscar Wilde	+
3.	'Sister Carrie'	Gr. Green	
4.	'The Old Man and the Sea'	Ernest Hemingway	+
5.	'The Moon and Sixpence'	S. Maugham	+
6.	'The Quiet American'	Bernard Shaw	
7.	'Pygmalion'	J. Galsworthy	
8.	'Hamlet'	W. Shakespeare	+
9.	'Martin Eden'	J. London	+
10.	'The Man of Property'	Bernard Shaw Th. Dreiser	

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 have a bee in his bonnet.	Mr. Davis thinks he can teach us trombone. He must be very ambitious.
2.	She likes to have a finger in every pie in the village.	She likes to know everything about what happens.
3.	When the missing money was noticed, she chose to disappear rather than face the music.	When the missing money was noticed, she chose to disappear rather than deal with consequences.
4.	What you say is double Dutch for me.	I do not understand what you say.
5.	On the night of the play, Ann's father told her to break a leg.	On the night of the play, Ann's father told her to do her best during the play.

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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 opinion, paper books have a chance for the ^{nearest} future, ~~especially~~ ~~the nearest~~ but not too many chances, for example, for the next century. Although one can google any information instead of searching for it in libraries or their own books, many people nowadays prefer paper books over e-books. For some the reason to use paper books is that their eyes become tired soon after they start reading an e-book or using other electronic devices so they cannot use them often and for a long time. Others say that paper books are much more aesthetically pleasing than e-books. Besides, some people say that e-books are too expensive for them, and elderly people are often just not used to e-books.

However, I believe that soon most paper books will be replaced by e-books. People express more and more interest in ecology so reducing of forests will probably become a significant reason not to use paper books. Moreover, you need less space for one e-book than for dozens of paper books that can be downloaded into it, so e-books are very convenient. Nevertheless, it will take time for e-books to become as popular as paper books.

The situation with e-books and paper books may become similar to the situation with money we have now, when most people carry some cash with them but ~~store~~ ^{store} more money on their credit card and prefer it over cash.

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

(1). The House of Commons. The House of Commons is a part of the parliament of the United Kingdom.

(2). FLOTUS. FLOTUS is the first lady of the United States - the wife of the current president of the USA.

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may be ~~very~~ delightful but it is easy to see when one tries to play someone else. ~~Probably~~ ^{Probably} will probably make you satisfied, but you will not be happy anymore when people learn who you really are, and it will happen very soon after they meet you.

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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" 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 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 fetchd 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 being written
2	of diary	of a diary
3	he was writing	he wrote
4	had been landed	had land
5	unloaded	unloaded

6	were being built	were built	+
7	had discussed	discussed	+
8	had made	made	+
9	someone	some of them	
10	etched	chopped	

4. Comment on the following quotation:

A friend to all is a friend to none

(Aristotle).

It is true that a person who considers themselves a friend to everyone's friend is actually a friend to none. The matter is that if you try to be friendly and loyal to everyone, you will probably not have true friends, because you will neither have enough time for all your friends nor be able to stay their friend forever, even if you give them enough attention. People who want to be friends to all usually misunderstand the concept of friendship. Friendship means ^{mutual} understanding, respect and support, but such people's aim is to get more benefits from their friends than they give, and they think that if they started getting along with someone, it can already be called friendship. All people are different, so getting along with everyone means not having your own opinion and standards. Thus, your friendship cannot be sincere, because you make friends with people just to have friends, cannot truly agree with everyone's views and truly respect everyone.

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5. Comment on the story in pictures.



It is a story about a man who decided that he needs to become strong like the man he saw earlier. He ~~tried~~ to work out but found it too difficult for him and simply ordered a suit that made him look bigger and stronger.

This story shows that people often look for easier ~~and~~ ways to achieve what they want. The man ~~did~~ not really need to be strong but he wanted to look impressive like the man in the street so he bought a suit instead of doing sports. On one hand, what he did was unfair, because people would not see who he really was when he wore his suit. On the other hand, it is important that the man did not lie to himself. He ^{understood} that he did not like training and made a decision that ~~he was~~ happy let him become happy. Nevertheless, it is sad that the man gave up so fast, because becoming strong as a result of hard work would probably make him a lot more happy and self-confident than creating an illusion of strength by wearing a special suit.

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