



1

8854

28

О.Т.

**ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА  
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ**

**2018–2019**

заключительный этап

Предмет (комплекс предметов) Олимпиады **ИНОСТРАННЫЙ ЯЗЫК (АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК)**

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада *Липецк*

Дата *16.03.2019*

**ВАРИАНТ 3**

**10-11 классы**

**1.Comment on the following extract.**

Living for ever may be a terrible fate but living a lot longer in good health sounds like a wonderful one. As we reflect on the relation between time and experience, for instance, there is an interesting and important paradox to be observed: the more life is experienced as meaningful, the less we are aware of time. The activities that give us the most satisfaction and happiness are those in which we are totally absorbed. Performing music, doing sports, reading good books, writing texts: there are many examples of activities that demand all our attention. In those activities that constitute human happiness there seem to be no time and space, no subject and object. From this one may infer that what we basically seek as human beings is not more time to live, but meaningful experiences.

If your body could be kept going for a thousand years, in what sense would the you that exists now still be around then? It would be more like a descendant than it would a continuation of you. I sometimes find it hard to identify with my teenage self, and that was less than 40 years ago.

If I change, I eventually become someone else. If I don't, life becomes stagnant and loses its direction.

Even if we could survive for hundreds of years, focusing too much on the future always risks neglecting the present. There is a very real sense in which we only ever exist in the here and now.

Being fully alive requires staying yourself, safe and sound, in that present as fully as possible. Dreams of eternal life interfere with making the most of the reality of temporal life.

In this extract the author raises the question of what ~~is~~ the true value of human life is. He proposes an idea that the human longing for eternal life, this perennial of philosophy, is really an attempt to find the meaning of our lives and gain happiness.

Indeed, if ~~(in)~~ endless living has long lost its charm thanks to ~~(the)~~ many philosophers' and writers' works, a long life is still <sup>looked upon</sup> ~~seen~~ by some as a dream. Yet, if they are told it would be a meaningless, unhappy life, hardly anyone would still want to live through it.

The thoughts about the difficulty of self-identification as well as written down by the author ~~are~~ <sup>other problems caused by the shortness of human memory against a long life</sup> are also very true. They were first ~~These~~ ideas were first proposed by an ~~ancient~~ Ancient Greek philosopher Heraclite, who said, "One cannot enter the same river twice", meaning that both the river, the waters of which run without stopping, and the man will never be the same again in with the course of time. He proved his ideas by creating a puzzle of the ~~Eds~~ Iliad ship. The ship, on which the crew started their ~~four~~ voyage, got damaged in the storm, so some of its parts were replaced. During the voyage several members of the crew died and were also replaced by new people. So, by the time the ship came back, all ~~the~~ its parts and all the people were new. Heraclite rose the ~~question~~ question whether it was the same ship. His answer was no.

The moral that we can carry out of this theory is that, since <sup>we change</sup> every moment of our lives, ~~we change~~ <sup>one</sup> can only exist between their "past <sup>self</sup> one" and the "future <sup>self</sup> one", who are <sup>in fact</sup> ~~really~~ different people.

Writing these thoughts in the text, the author ~~an~~ encourages people ~~to not~~ to dwell on their dreams, not to think about the past times or about those, which are yet to come, but to live in <sup>its</sup> full meaning.

2. Read the fable and write down the moral it contains in the space below the fable.

#### The Lion and the Fox Fable

The Lion and the Fox were hunting together.

8. Insert the required articles where necessary. If no article is required put X.

1. The highest mountain chain, which is called the Himalayas, is situated in X Asia. 2. The dinner was substantial, but she asked to buy an ice after it. 3. Why not go to the Netherlands in X summer to practice the Dutch language. 4. When he left X school, he built houses in the West.

9. These are among the best novels of the English-speaking world. Who are their authors?

	Book	Author
1.	'Othello'	William Shakespeare
2.	'The Grapes of Wrath'	W. Faulkner
3.	'The Sea Wolf'	J. London
4.	'A Handful of Dust'	J. Stainbeck
5.	'Death on the Nile'	Agatha Christie
6.	'Our man in Havana'	Gr. Green
7.	'Sister Carrier'	Th. Dreiser
8.	'Twilight'	E. Waugh
9.	'The importance of being earnest'	Oscar Wilde
10.	'The Pick Papers'	Charles Dickens

Authors: Ch. Dickens, J. Stainbeck, Oscar Wild, Gr. Green, J. London E. Waugh, W. Shakespeare, Th. Dreiser, Agatha Christie, W. Faulkner

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.	My washing machine is on its last legs. I've had it twenty-five years ago.	My washing machine <del>is</del> can hardly work and will soon break down. I've had it twenty-five years ago.
2.	We had to work hard at our last programmes, and they weren't always successful, but no pains, no games.	We had to work hard at our last programmes, and they weren't always successful, but we cannot <del>become</del> succeed without making mistakes.
3.	No ifs and buts, just do what I tell you.	Do not argue with me, just do what I tell you.
4.	Stop wasting your time and start working at last. Time and tide wait for no man.	Stop wasting your time and start working at last. Time goes fast and you won't be able to reverse it.
5.	You'll have to mind your Ps and Qs when you meet your girlfriend's mother for the first time.	You'll have to mind your tongue and manners when you meet your girlfriend's mother for the first time.

## 6. Answer the question and comment on the statement.

Thinking - the maximum step of human knowledge. Yet the computer solves precisely formulated problems much more quickly than the person. However, the computer does not solve indistinctly formulated problems, and the person solves. Do you share the opinion that a computer can think?

*No, I do not share the opinion that a computer can think. Thinking is a much more complicated process than people are used to consider. It is something that we regard as the criteria of one's sensibility and requires a high level of development of the organism. One of the vital elements of thinking is the access to new information. <sup>Though modern</sup> ~~Modern~~ computers do have cameras, microphones and keyboards, which project the information onto their hardware, ~~but~~ they do not analyse this information in its original state, as it is converted into a computer code. Therefore, a computer misses an important ~~part~~ source of <sup>thought</sup> ~~thinking~~ - empiric experience, without which thinking is simply impossible, as there are no ideas, <sup>considered</sup> ~~of~~ no understanding of the subject. It is just ~~mechanic~~ following the <sup>downloaded</sup> ~~algorithm~~ mechanically. This feature of computers is the <sup>inability to solve</sup> ~~drawback~~ <sup>in their successful solving of</sup> ~~problem~~ <sup>formulated</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>ones.</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>in the</sup> ~~past decade~~ <sup>However, modern technologies have reached such a</sup> ~~A~~ <sup>high level of development that many people have started wondering whether</sup> ~~it is possible~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>it should be created then</sup> ~~it can~~ <sup>become</sup> ~~be~~ <sup>a thinking creature.</sup> This wondering led to <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>creation of the now famous Turing test, when a person and a computer is put</sup> ~~into a room and told they would have a message conversation with another person,~~ <sup>but is really to be talking to a computer. Turing thought that if a person failed to recognise a machine in their opponent, then it would mean that a computer</sup> ~~has become a sensible thinking creature.~~ <sup>Yet, no</sup> ~~However, no computer~~ <sup>has succeeded to pass the Turing test so far, which brings us to a thought</sup> ~~that computers, however modern and complicated, cannot think for themselves yet.~~*

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

(1). Shadow Cabinet *It is a place*

(2). Tory *It is a political party of conservatives in the UK.*

The Lion, on the advice of the Fox, sent a message to the Ass, proposing to make an alliance between their families.

The Ass came to the place of meeting, overjoyed at the prospect of a royal alliance.

But when he came there the Lion simply pounced on the Ass, and said to the Fox:

"here is our dinner for to-day. Watch you here while I go and have a nap. Woe betide you if you touch my prey."

The Lion went away and the Fox waited; but finding that his master did not return, ventured to take out the brains of the Ass and ate them up.

When the Lion came back he soon noticed the absence of the brains, and asked the Fox in a terrible voice:

"What have you done with the brains?"

"Brains, your Majesty! It had none, or it would never have fallen into your trap."

*The moral of this fable is that one should not trust their enemies so easily, and <sup>should</sup> choose their friends more carefully.*

*This motive is twice repeated in the fable. First, it is ~~can~~ <sup>is</sup> seen in the when the Ass is fooled at once by <sup>(a)</sup> simple lies of the Lion. The author shows us that people should be more realistic and <sup>as well as</sup> that a sudden ~~and~~ <sup>increase</sup> interest from those <sup>powerful</sup> can be a fatality.*

*The second time we can see it is when the Fox lies to the Lion, having eaten the Ass's brains. We can see there that the Lion himself is not as clever as his helper, <sup>also because</sup> ~~as~~ the trap was made up by the Fox. ~~It~~ <sup>The</sup> author meant that one should ~~choose them~~ <sup>not</sup> surround oneself by ~~untrustworthy~~ people, even ~~then~~ <sup>if</sup> they are smart, because they can ~~soon~~ <sup>turn</sup> their skills against their masters.*

## 3. Find and underline ten mistakes (lexical and grammar) and underline the wrong variant in the left and the correct variant in the right column of the table below the text.

When the old lady had returned to her flat she saw at once that burglars broke in during her absence, because the front door was open and everything in the flat was upside down. The burglars themselves were no longer there, but they probably just left because a cigarette still burnt on an ornamental table. She wondered if they found her jewellery and was rather hoping that they did. It was given to her by her late husband, yet she didn't like it and if it was stolen she would have get the insurance money.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	had returned	returned

2	broke	had broken	+
3	left	had left	+
4	burnt	was burning	+
5	found	had found	+
6	rather hoping	really hoping	+
7	was given	had been given	+
8	late husband	last husband	+
9	was stolen	were stolen	+
10	would have get	would get	+

#### 4. Comment on the following quotation:

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

(Aristotle)

The words of the Ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle suggest that there are no two men in the world who think the exact same way and, therefore, one will always meet criticism on their way to true knowledge and success. However, the philosopher thinks that criticism is not an obstacle in this way and one should not be afraid of it, on the contrary, it is the sign that one is moving in the right direction. The more meaning, the more truth, so far hidden from people's eyes there is in one's thoughts, words and action, the more reaction there will be among other people. It is a principle discovered by another group of philosophers (determinists), who believed that every action has its cause and its consequences, its reaction.

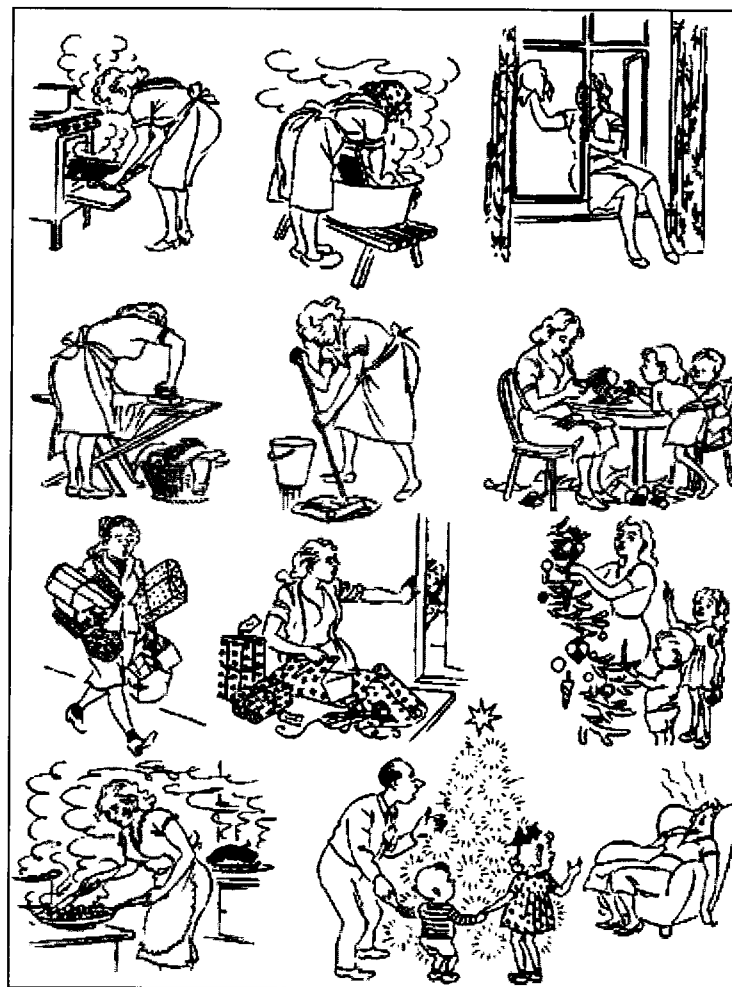
Indeed, the only way to avoid criticism is making no actions at all, saying no words, not even thinking, therefore, not being. However, that is a high price to pay for being loved by everyone. It can be done.

It can be clearly seen why Aristotle thought this way. His philosophy was in many aspects built on his teacher's, Plato's, philosophy, who in his turn was greatly affected by Socrates's scholarship. Socrates preferred to think in a form of a dialogue, where criticism is thought of as the way one's opponent helps to find the truth. Aristotle himself had to go through criticism on his way of becoming a great thinker and philosopher.

These words of an ancient philosopher should be remembered and kept in mind by everyone who wants to achieve their goals and become successful.

10

#### 5. Comment on the story in pictures.



The story shown in the pictures is about a woman and her way she spent her day before the New Year's Eve (Christmas Eve). She had to work hard all day, doing daily household chores, ~~laundry~~ cooking special meal for the holiday, buying presents and helping her children decorate the Christmas tree, but by the time everybody was ready to celebrate the holiday, she was <sup>absolutely</sup> exhausted.

The most striking part of this story is the reaction of the woman's family on the fact that she is too tired to join them. The children ~~although~~ the children may be too little to understand the situation, the reaction of the woman's husband, who is just as well surprised to see his wife so tired, is difficult to understand.

The story shows ~~the~~ unjust attitude <sup>towards</sup> hostesses' labour in the modern world. It is considered to be easy and is often looked down at by working men. These pictures should ~~I be~~ The story shown in these pictures should encourage the modern society to respect ~~men~~ women's labour and share at least some of the household chores.

9