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Зураева

**ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА**

**ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ**

**2018–2019**

**заключительный этап**

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

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада **Челябинск**

Дата **02.03.2019**

**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.

*I've always had a quite peculiar way of perceiving the life itself and the meaning of this life. Comparing our terrestrial ~~reality~~ life in reality to the eternal Universe, the tangled mixture of billions now and here, where planets are born and exploded ~~at the~~ in one fell swoop and at the same moment ~~we~~ <sup>I am</sup> writing this text, <sup>appeals</sup> me. What I mean is - our lives in reality are totally worthless. There are 8 billion people on planet Earth and they are all doing something in their own realities, they have their thoughts, ideas, worries and emotions. ~~These~~ These precious moments are valuable only while they're happening ~~they are~~. They have a precise point of ending. They don't possess eternal life, just like us, humans. These miraculous seconds, this experience of yours and even the memories of it will die much sooner than you will be six feet under. But I guess, I have found the solution. The only remedy for death is eternity. And the only step to eternity is your legacy. You will die and no one will remember your name soon after. But what if everyone will? The eternity lies on the memories of you, of what you have ~~done~~ done during your multiple moments of reality. You have to do something significant, something overwhelming enough so it would create new history. Stop being a part of your reality's second. Become the part of universe's history. Make your life eternal by yourself.*

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 X Himalayas, is situated in X Asia. 2. The dinner was substantial, but she asked to buy X ice after it. 3. Why not go to the Netherlands in X summer to practice X 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'	W. Shakespeare
2.	'The Grapes of Wrath'	W. Faulkner —
3.	'The Sea Wolf'	J. London
4.	'A Handful of Dust'	E. Waugh
5.	'Death on the Nile'	Agatha Christie
6.	'Our man in Havana'	J. Stainbeck —
7.	'Sister Carrier'	Th. Dreiser
8.	'Twilight'	Gr. Green +
9.	'The importance of being earnest'	Oscar Wild
10.	'The Pick Papers'	C. 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 <u>on its last legs</u> . I've had it twenty-five years ago.	<i>My washing machine is about to break apart. My washing machine is very old and I think it will be broken soon.</i>
2.	We had to work hard at our <u>last programs</u> , and they weren't always successful, but <u>no pains, no games</u> .	<i>There is no success and further amenities without hard work.</i>
3.	No <u>ifs and buts</u> , just do what I tell you.	<i>No complaints, no hesitation. Just do what I tell you.</i>
4.	Stop wasting your time and start working at last. <u>Time and tide wait for no man</u> .	<i>We're running out of time and the time won't stop for you.</i>
5.	You'll have to mind your <u>Ps and Qs</u> when you meet your girlfriend's mother for the first time.	<i>You'll have to take care of all the details into account when you meet your girlfriend's mother for the first time.</i>

*(You'll have to take care of everything including the smallest details when you meet...)*

## 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 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?

*Lex* ~~For~~ In today's reality the computer or the artificial <sup>intelligence</sup> intellect, as we call it, is a programmed machine, that is ~~possible~~ capable of doing and performing certain commands. Even the smartest ones - robots can't think without certain data and program code. Can we program the computer to think? I guess, we can't now, or else we would have done that already. The robots can't have their own opinions, preferences and ideas. But they can collect information, do research and make conclusions out of what they've learnt or explored. I believe, the computer mind will evolve using this skills and in some time it will come to a point of an autonomous creature, that will be able to produce ideas and thoughts, as well as feelings. I'm not sure about the robots - dreamers, but nevertheless, these machines are fast learners, and they will probably adapt to the human's environment, trying to ~~transfer~~ <sup>transfer</sup> sync their advantages ~~against~~ <sup>against</sup> humans and ~~transfer~~ the things that are <sup>still</sup> hard for them to do. The robot of the future is half robot (half computer) - half-human. Well, that's just the way I see it.

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

(1). Shadow Cabinet - a secret part of government that runs ~~top~~ secret events and influences everything

*Lex* (2). Tory is the name of a political party, ~~that~~ which had a noble influence on British culture. The constant opponent of tory was another political party - ~~vigi~~ <sup>vigil</sup>. The party of Tony ~~was~~ <sup>has</sup> evaluated and became the conservative party, which we know today

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."

If you don't want your brains eaten, be careful of your actions, and most importantly, of your company. Better safe than sorry. Don't be too naive or gullible. The lion is the lion, and the fox is the fox. Call things with their names. Remember, people never change.

## 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.

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	when the old lady had returned	when the old lady returned

2	They probably just left	They <u>have</u> probably just left
3	A cigarette still burnt	A cigarette was still <sup>burning</sup>
4	... if they found her	... if they had found
5	was rather hoping that they did	was rather hoping that they had
6	by her late husband	By her last husband
7	she would have got	She would have got
8	that burglars broke in	that <del>the</del> burglars had broken <sup>in</sup>
9	on an ornamental table	on the ornamental table
10		

## 4. Comment on the following quotation:

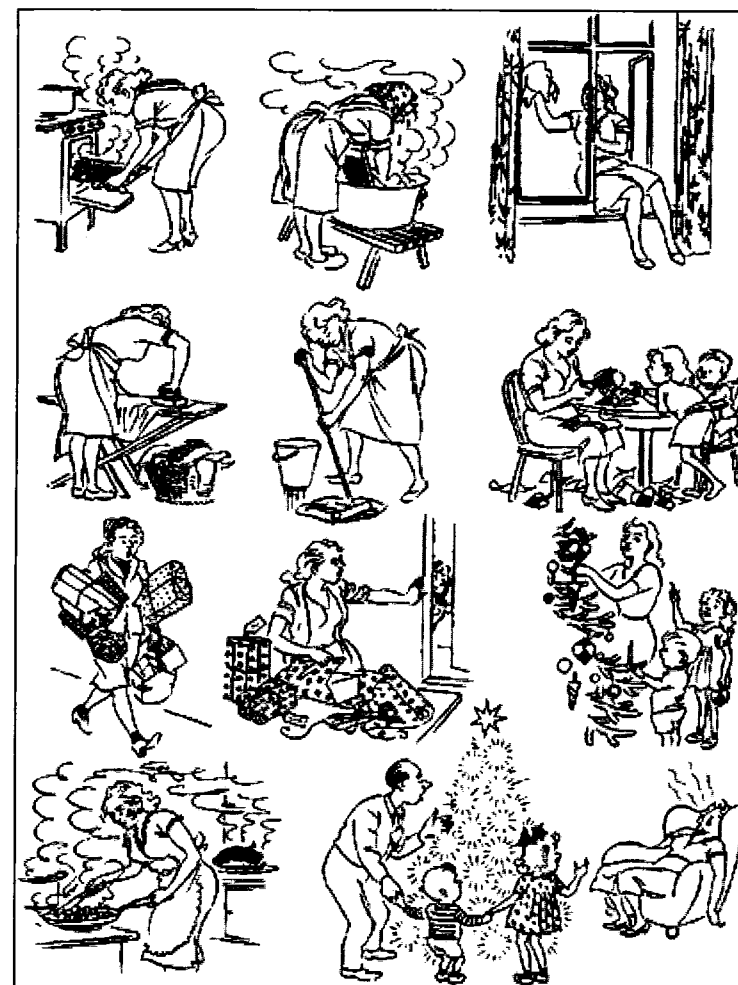
There is only one way to avoid criticism: do nothing, say nothing, and be nothing.

(Aristotle)

I frantically support Aristotle's point of view on this question. Criticism is a perpetual burden, ~~that~~ which haunts every living human being. Whoever you are you will face the variety of disagreements on your life path: disapproving glances of your peers, booring audience, rigid comments and etc. Yes, I can see, it is a scathing, poisonous and highly unpleasant experience. Criticism can be ruthless for your ideas, thoughts and new beginnings. But can't it be fertile at the same time? The types of criticism, that I've mentioned happen occasionally, not consistently, and most of the times are conducted by so-called armchair critics, who have achieved nothing in their mundane lives and are eager to elevate ~~themselves~~ their self-confidence by kindling the conflict. These individuals must be low brows them. However there is another type of criticism - the one that aims to help you thrive more. The one that marks your mistakes and gives you an opportunity to correct them. So, don't be appalled by criticism. Learn to stand your ground and don't forget that doing nothing, saying nothing and being nothing can be criticized too.



## 5. Comment on the story in pictures.



Oh, how hard is the life of a housewife! Have you ever wondered what stands behind these yummy biscuits, behind the immaculately clean windows and tidy shirts? Behind all of these there stands a strong woman. No doubts, she is physically strong, you try to get up at 9 o'clock, make breakfast, do the chores, do the washing, do the ironing, wash the floor, and wash the window, without any breaks. She has so much on her plate, it must be harsh emotionally to manage to deal with everything. Behind all the holidays there stands a cook, a designer, a janitor and mostly of all in X-mas time there stands a Santa-Claus with hordes of elves, but in our case it is all one person - our mom. Despite all her everyday routine, which we sometimes neglect to think of, she loves us, her children, her family and makes sure we're not only clean, but also happy. A woman is the most powerful creature on Earth, but at the same time it is the most caring and loving person in our lives. Take care of your mothers, sisters of your ~~wives~~ wives, they make your life better, sometimes forgetting of themselves. Appreciate what they do for you and don't be surprised if your mom suddenly falls asleep during your X-mas feast.

W.D