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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 ХабаровскДата 14. 03. 2020

ВARIANT 4

1. Comment on the following extract.

Recycling Is in Crisis. Could These Innovations Be the Answer?

Since China stopped accepting much of the world's recyclable waste last year, many countries have been faced with the challenge of how to deal with their own trash. Leaders in Australia made bold moves toward eventually banning the export of any recyclable waste. The ultimate goal is to prevent the waste from ending up in the ocean, they said, summing it up in one slogan: "Our waste – our responsibility". Australia's commitment also involves developing new approaches to recycling that waste.

Sixteen miles north of Melbourne, there is a road paved with the equivalent of 200,000 plastic bags and 63,000 glass bottles. It is the first road in the world made of Reconophalt, a combination of recycled materials and asphalt.

Factories that reprocess materials like plastic, glass and paper are usually large, expensive operations that produce one or a few recycled products. But researchers at the University of New South Wales in Sydney are exploring the possibility of "microfactories": small, modular machines that can be used together in various combinations to create new materials. The system is designed to "decentralize" recycling as there's more than enough waste available, and there's more than enough demand.

"At the end of trying to reduce, reuse and recycle, there will always be some fraction of residue material," said Pete Shmigel, the chief executive of the Australian Council of Recycling. But it still gives us fantastic experience and hope for the future".

In the modern world, one of the key issues that humanity faces is recycling for the benefit of the global environment. Unfortunately, many of the countries around the planet are not entirely self-reliant in this effort. The text provides Australia as

the example of one such country and explains the measures that the government there has undertaken to be, as they put it, "responsible for their waste".

While I am not an expert on the matter, or an avid eco-activist myself, I find the valiant efforts of Australia's government and people to preserve the integrity of nature through their recycling programs quite a noble initiative. One concept that especially captures my imagination is the idea of "microfactories". The notion that one day recycling could be done locally, without the need to transport waste, that in the future each street might have its own recycling station is an astonishing one. The bright promises of this future are exciting, and will surely grant Australia's ecological initiatives the popular support they need for without full backing from the people, any such effort is ultimately futile.

However, I cannot help but express some doubt over some other projects, such as the reconphalt road. While it's a useful method of disposing some waste that would otherwise end up in a landfill, I am concerned about the potential effect on the environment — isn't a road just another way to dump plastic in this case?

Nevertheless, the optimistic picture of a future with minimal waste that the Australian Council of Recycling aims to provide, instills a sense of great dedication in my heart, and hopefully in the hearts of countless Australians, who will face the duty of protecting the nature of their homeland.

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2. Comment on the following statement:

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds that you plant (R.L. Stevenson).

In our daily lives we are often motivated by the ~~van~~ prospect of short-term personal gain. And while it is perfectly fine to aim for one's prosperity, that same desire often manipulates us to overlook the good things ~~around us~~ that may happen ^{to others} as the result of our actions. I believe R.L. Stevenson put it best when he said these wise words, as he deeply understood the true nature of human charity.

For example, one could look at Charles Dickens' novel "The Christmas Carol", where the protagonist is rich, and extremely money-focused — he reaps a great harvest, metaphorically speaking. But he can never be truly happy in life (or in death) for he never cared about the well-being of another soul — he's never sown a seed. Dickens' art imitates life, of course, and in reality no one too can call himself a good man if no deed of his benefits anyone but himself. This is the message of Stevenson's words — a life well lived is one that is

(2). The ingredients

Eggs

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

Tory — a member or supporter of the Conservative Party in the UK. It is also sometimes used to refer to the party itself (e.g. — the Tories won the election that year).

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

	Book	Author
1.	Fahrenheit 451	Ray Bradbury +
2.	White Fang	Jack London +
3.	Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen +
4.	Ulysses	James Joyce +
5.	East of Eden	John Steinbeck +
6.	The Catcher in the Rye	J.D. Salinger +
7.	Gulliver's Travels	Jonathan Swift +
8.	A Farewell to Arms	Ernest Hemingway +
9.	The Woman in White	Wilkie Collins +
10.	Vanity Fair	William Makepeace Thackeray +

Authors: James Joyce, J.D. Salinger, Ray Bradbury, Jane Austen, Wilkie Collins, Jonathan Swift, Jack London, William Makepeace Thackeray, John Steinbeck, Ernest Hemingway.

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I expected accusations to start erupting, but the gentlemen kept it civil. The prince broke the silence, calmly asking everyone in the room to empty their pockets, hoping the ring would be found forgotten in someone's vest. Looking at the sour faces I could tell how awkward the situation was for everyone involved. The newspaper proprietor emptied his pockets first, evidently having nothing to fear. There was a wallet with some bills, but no ring. One after the other the guests followed, but no ring was found. Eventually, it was Uncle Octavian's turn, but he was stalling, his hands moving in his pockets for a good two minutes. The prince approached him, and Uncle Octavian, with the most miserable look on his face, got his hand out. ~~When I saw~~ I ~~had~~ heard the princess gasp, as the ring emerged from Uncle Octavian's trousers. The prince looked at his old friend, grabbed the ring and walked away, leaving the party. His wife and the other guests preferred to leave as well. Uncle Octavian and I were the only ones left in the room, both of us knowing that what happened that night was no accident.

7. Here is the list of lakes. Seven of them are in the USA and three are located in other countries. Find them and cross out.

Lake Superior, Great Salt Lake, Lake Michigan, Lake Windermere, Lake St. Clair, ~~Lake Albert~~, Lake Oahe, ~~Lake Ontario~~, Iliama Lake, Fort Peck Lake

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.

- The government _____ about this issue for the past five years, but they must make a decision sooner or later!
- We reached the airport _____. In fifteen minutes the plane took off.
- She may want to argue, but _____ and I won't stoop to her level.
- Her confession _____. I never knew she could behave this way.
- Don't _____ - get to the point!
- I have helped him in every way I can - _____ now.
- Billy just won't sit still in class. I think he's got _____.
- He keep trying to get it published but I think he is _____.
- These shoes cost me _____.
- I _____ and picked the kids up on the way to the supermarket.

Idioms: sit on the fence, be a real eye-opener, ants in one's pants, in the nick of time, the ball is in one's court, it takes two to tango, kill two birds with one stone, flog a dead horse, beat around the bush, an arm and a leg.

9. Explain the origin and name the principal ingredients of the traditional British dish:

Scotch eggs

(1). The origin

lived for the benefit of others, and merit is measured by the good deeds towards fellow men, and not by "raw harvest" that is the eternal egoistic chase for one's own wealth or power.

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 some people left-handed?

About 90 percents of humans are righties, and its not at all clear why that proportion continues to hold. If there were a major evolutionarily advantage to being left-handed, more people would have the trait; if there were a clear disadvantage, it would have disappeared. The last thinking between scientists is that a large number of different genes effect handedness, according to the Smithsonian Magazine. Many of the genes that have been studying play a part in the body's left-right symmetry, and certain mutations can lead to unusual organ placements (like the heart being on the right side despite of the left).

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	(90) percents	percent
2	its	it's
3	that	this
4	were	was
5	evolutionarly	evolutionary
6	were	was
7	thinking	opinion
8	effect	affect
9	studying	studied
10	despite	instead

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

- I often think of my loved ones back home, and long for the day I will see them again.
- There is nothing new under the sun.
- A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.
- Don't put the cart before the horse.

5. Half a loaf is better than nothing.
6. You cannot get blood from a rock.
7. East or West, home is best.
8. Early to bed and early to rise, _____.
9. Let bygones be bygones.
10. Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's.

5. Comment on the story in pictures:



The story, narrated through a small comic, starts with two men and a woman sitting at a table. The woman interrupts a conversation between the men by what appears to be criticizing the manners of one of them. The man talks back, starting a heated argument, which quickly devolves into a fight, which the other man tries to stop in vain. He then runs out of the room to report the occurrence to a policeman. The last panel of the comic depicts the two

returning to the scene, only to find the assaulters in each others' embrace, revealing that they are in a relationship, perhaps married.

The comic's slapstick violence is quite funny, and the story itself is very entertaining to read, with a brilliant subversion of the ~~reader's~~ readers' expectations at the end, which is especially surprising, given that the comic is just twelve panels ~~in length~~ long. The plot is a witty commentary on the fluctuating extremes of spouses' relations, and is overall an example of ~~a~~ wonderfully crafted satire.

6. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below

The Dinner Party

(after N. Monsarrat)

Rich people do have their problems. They are seldom problems of finance, but there are other, more genuine problems. They are the problems of behaviour.

Let me tell you a story which happened to my uncle Octavian a full thirty years ago. At that time I myself was fifteen. My uncle Octavian was then a rich man. He was a charming and accomplished host whose villa was an accepted rendezvous of the great. He was a hospitable and most amiable man – until January 3, 1925.

There was nothing special about that day in the life of my uncle Octavian, except that it was his fifty-fifth birthday. As usual on such a day he was giving a party for twelve people. All of them were old friends.

I, myself, aged fifteen, was deeply privileged. I was allowed to come down to dinner. It was exciting for me to be admitted to such company, which included a newspaper proprietor of exceptional intelligence and his fabulous American wife, a recent prime-minister of France and a distinguished German prince and princess. I should also stress that they were all old and intimate friends of my uncle Octavian.

Towards the end of a wonderful dinner, my uncle leant forward to admire a magnificent diamond ring on the princess's hand. She was a handsome woman. She turned her hand gracefully towards my uncle. Across the table, the newspaper proprietor leant across and said: "May I also have a look?" She smiled and nodded. Then she took off the ring and held it out to him. "It was my grandmother's – the old empress," she said. There were exclamations of delight and admiration. The ring was passed from hand to hand. For a moment it rested on my own palm, gleaming splendidly. Then I passed it on to my neighbour. As I turned away again, I saw her pass it on.

It was some 20 minutes later when the princess stood up and said: "Before we leave you, may I have my ring back?" ... There was a pause, while each of us looked expectantly at his neighbour. Then there was silence.

The princess was still smiling, though less easily. She was unused to asking for things twice. The silence continued, I still thought that it could only be a practical joke, and that one of us – probably the prince himself – would produce the ring with a laugh. But when nothing happened at all, I knew that the rest of the night would be dreadful.

Think of the ending to the story and write it in the space below.



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Заповни № 8

1. has been sitting on the fence +
2. in the nick of time +
3. it takes two to tango +
4. was a real eye-opener +
5. beat around the bush +
6. the ball is in his court +
7. ants in his pants +
8. flogging a dead horse +
9. an arm and a leg +
10. killed two birds with one stone +