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САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ



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ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ
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Предмет (комплекс предметов) Олимпиады ИНОСТРАННЫЙ ЯЗЫК (АНГЛИЙСКИЙ)

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада Санкт-Петербург

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ВАРИАНТ 6

1. Comment on the following extract.

How a Rooftop Meadow of Bees and Butterflies Shows N.Y.C.'s Future

As bird and insect populations plummet, sounding new alarms about the health of the natural world, one promising arena where humans can help is also a surprising one: cities. In New York, scientists and officials are calling for residents and companies to do their part, with projects as ambitious as the rooftop meadow and as simple as choosing native plants for home window boxes.

A Greenpoint building in New-York is part of a push to combat climate change and make the city more welcoming to wildlife. The wild-looking meadow on the roof of the building creates a welcoming environment for the bees and butterflies of the season. Tall grasses glow in the afternoon sunlight. Silver orbs that look like alien spacecrafts shimmer nearby.

For some species, scientists say, cities can be more hospitable than rural and suburban areas, because fewer lawns and farms mean fewer pesticides. The green roof in Brooklyn draws endangered monarch butterflies, a panoply of birds and wild bees that are native to New York City but threatened by what scientists have called an “insect apocalypse.”

Green roofs like the one in Greenpoint are expected to multiply under a city law that will require new buildings to be topped with green spaces or solar panels.

It is difficult to quantify the effect of wildlife corridors, scientists say, but research shows that such corridors increase the number of species and individual creatures able to thrive in cities and may serve as a patchwork of habitats in the future.

Creating green spaces all over cities is essential, not only for preserving endangered species of insects but also for maintaining a comfortable environment for mankind to live in. While humans with the help of green rooftops

try to increase the number of species of bees and butterflies, these insects help the planted plants to flourish, as a result, they produce more oxygen, lessen the amount of carbon dioxide in the air and thus lessens the destruction of ozone layer.

Nowadays it is essential to help the nature restore its resources, its wide range of animals, species of trees and flowers in order to resolve environmental global problems and stop destroying the place where only place where humans can live.

It is significant to raise people's awareness of the ~~pro~~ problems and make them get involved in ~~programmes~~ ~~good~~ ~~systems~~ eco-friendly programmes and schemes to conserve nature. By creating rooftop ~~meadows~~ meadows and caring for plants those people will definitely help the environment, ~~by~~ save birds and insects and make to live in a city more green, beautiful and pleasant place to live.

In my opinion, more and more programmes ~~that are~~ ~~created~~ ~~which~~ ~~will~~ ~~be~~ ~~made~~ ~~our~~ ~~world~~ ~~a~~ ~~better~~ place should be created because it is people who are responsible for all the damages ~~ever~~ done to ~~the~~ earth and it is people who are to correct the mistakes they have made.

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2. Comment on the following statement:

Selfishness is not living as one wishes to live, it is asking others to live as one wishes to live.

Some people believe that living ~~on~~ on one's own, not minding the needs of people around is selfish. However, it is not like that at all because a person can choose the way to live on his or her own and not respond to what others want or think. Selfishness is when some people make others to lead their lifestyle according to one's will and beliefs. ~~Selfish people try to create~~ a so welcoming environment for themselves no matter what others think or feel.

At most times being selfish won't lead to a successful, happy life because people are sociable creatures, will need to be surrounded by loved ones and friends and loved ones. While selfishness only drives people away from a self-centered person being supportive and understanding will help to create strong relation-

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

The White House is a ~~state~~ residence of the current president of the United States of America. It is located in Washington DC and is regarded as US heritage. It is even open for tourists, though not all of the rooms are available for entrance.

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

	Book	Author
1.	Nineteen Eighty-Four	George Orwell
2.	The Wind in the Willows	Charles Dickens
3.	Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Mark Twain
4.	The Great Gatsby	Francis Scott Fitzgerald
5.	Kim	Kenneth Grahame
6.	The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde
7.	Death on the Nile	Agatha Christie
8.	The Painted Veil	W. Somerset Maugham
9.	Our Mutual Friend	Rudyard Kipling
10.	The Sun Also Rises	Ernest Hemingway

Authors: Agatha Christie, Kenneth Grahame, W. Somerset Maugham, Francis Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Rudyard Kipling, Charles Dickens, Oscar Wilde, Mark Twain, George Orwell

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Yet she never complained until she noticed that his attitude to her had changed. So she wanted him to confess. One charming evening they were drinking their usual tea when I after seeing one more residence when Ruth asked: "Are you sure about ~~our~~ marriage?" "Yes, why?" He tried to sound surprised shocked, though his voice was trembling and eyes were listless. "We have seen so many places where people can only dream about and you rejected them because you didn't like the walls colour! Please, be honest and say what you really think." "I don't want to hurt you." "It doesn't hurt when people are honest. It hurts when they lie so much." And then they spit out up.

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

- Princeton University, Macquarie University, James Cook University, Yale University, Carnegie Mellon University, Georgetown University, Clark University, Imperial College, Drexel University, Dartmouth College

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. I was on cloud nine after receiving the news of my promotion.
- 2. The browser was as slow as molasses.
- 3. After some reflection, he decided to bite the bullet.
- 4. The roads were full of traffic and we were travelling at snail's pace for two hours.
- 5. I was left out in the cold in the annual promotions in the company.
- 6. My wife's a night owl, but I like to be in bed by 10 o'clock.
- 7. I go out for walks once in a blue moon.
- 8. We only see the glamor and money in showbiz. But the other side of the coin is that only one in hundreds reach there.
- 9. I am dizzy. I'm feeling under the weather.
- 10. We told her it was a delicate situation but she went into the meeting like a bull in a china shop.

Idioms: on cloud nine, the other side of the coin, left out in the cold, a bull in a china shop, bite the bullet, once in a blue moon, under the weather, night owl, at a snail's pace, (as) slow as molasses.

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

Sunday roast

(a). The origin

(b). The ingredients

ships and connections between people. Everybody wants to create his or her own way of living. However, it is always important to keep in mind that others have their needs too.

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 most blackboards green and not black?

Before blackboards were large enough to take in an entire wall in a classroom, students would use individual size boards making of slate or wood that had been painted in black. So the first blackboards, were in fact, black. Once teachers realized they need more space to teach there students, they put the multiple boards of slate together on the wall to make bigger blackboards. Finally, as the demand for blackboards raised, companies started making them out of steel plates coated with green porcelain-based enamel in spite of the traditional dark slate. This way the boards were more light, less fragile, and easier to ship. This is what the school was like a 100 years before.

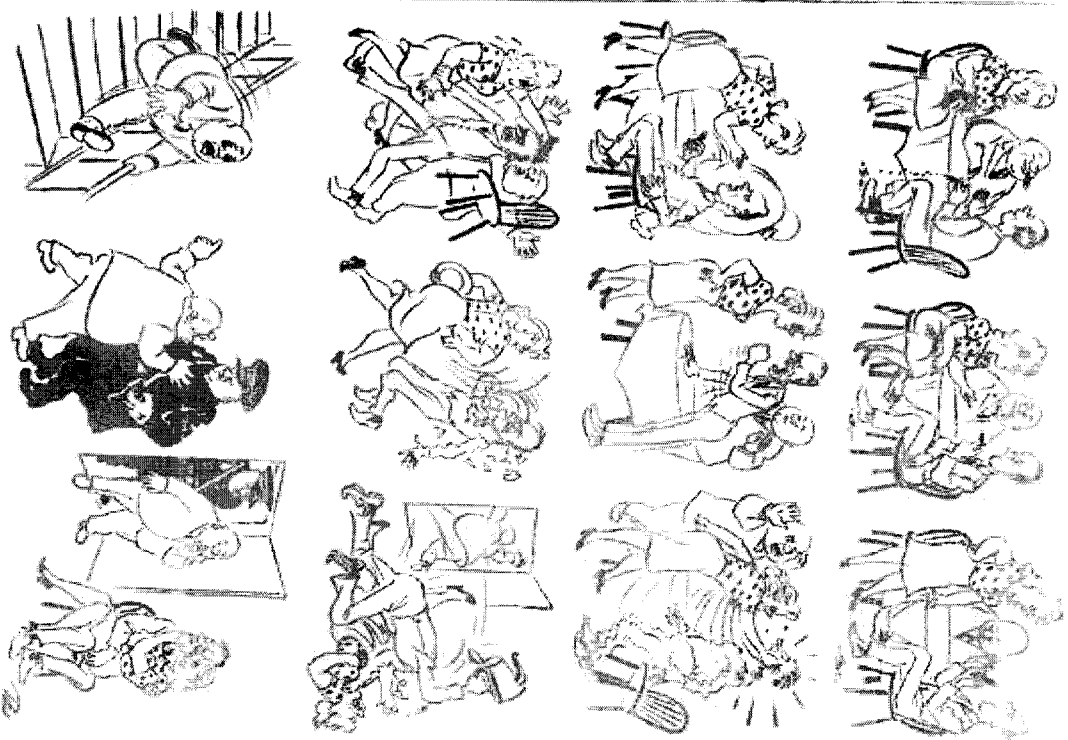
	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	to take in	take
2	would use	had used
3	making of	made of
4	in	—
5	need	had needed
6	there	their
7	raised	had raised
8	individual size	individually-sized
9	—	—
10	before	ago

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. When my friend and I go out, it is always as both of us don't have much money.
- 2. Bad news is better than no news.
- 3. Let sleeping dogs sleep.

4. Don't help those who help themselves
5. You will really see your friends' true face when you call upon them in a time of crisis.
6. Opera is not _____.
7. When in Rome, do what Romans do _____.
8. Once bitten, twice shy _____.
9. Don't judge a book by its cover _____.
10. The grass is greener in spring _____.
5. Comment on the story in pictures:



It is always a pleasure to meet the Smiths unless they get in a fight.

Charles Smith was my best friend since we were eight. When he got married, I took his wife Clara into my house because she was kind and modest. She seemed to be the perfect wife for my friend as she could have possibly

calmed down his furious nature. Well, at least I thought so. Last Sunday was a disaster. We were having a usual smoke in the dining room. Clara started arguing with Charles about the ash-tray. Since Charles hated when anybody's hearted at him, he started shouting back. And that is how it began. At first I tried to calm them down but it was useless. I waited very much they quarrelled more and more and then Clara suddenly stopped Charles. He couldn't handle it and they started fighting. I couldn't do anything but ran out and asked a policeman for help. I was scared because they could have killed each other. However, when the policeman and I got back, they my friends were as sweet and as loving as ever. They hugged and kissed each other as if nothing had happened.

From now on, I invite them over in order to avoid any serious fights because they cannot let themselves use my pieces of furniture as their fighting tools.

6. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below

The Escape

(after W.S. Maugham)

Roger Charing was no longer young when he fell in love with Ruth Barlow and he had had enough experience to make him careful; but Ruth Barlow had a gift that makes most men defenceless. This was the gift of pathos. Mrs. Barlow was twice a widow. She had splendid dark eyes and they were the most moving I ever saw. They seemed to be always on the point of filling with tears and you felt that her sufferings had been impossible to bear. Mrs. Barlow was one of those unfortunate persons with whom nothing goes right. If she married the husband beat her; if she employed a broker he cheated her; if she took a cook she drank.

When Roger told me that he was going to marry her, I wished him joy. As for me I thought she was stupid and as hard as nails.

Roger introduced her to his friends. He gave her lovely jewels. He took her everywhere. Their marriage was announced for the nearest future. Roger was very pleased with himself, he was committing a good action.

Then suddenly he fell out of love. I don't know why. He realized that Ruth Barlow had made up her mind to marry him and he swore that nothing would make him marry her. Roger knew it wouldn't be easy. Roger didn't show that his feelings to Ruth Barlow had changed. He remained attentive to all her wishes, he took her to dine at restaurants, he sent her flowers, he was charming.

They were to get married as soon as they found a house that suited them; and they started looking for residences. The agents sent Roger orders to view and he took Ruth to see some houses. It was very difficult to find anything satisfactory. They visited house after house. Sometimes they were too large and sometimes they were too small; sometimes they were too far from the centre and sometimes they were too close; sometimes they were too expensive and sometimes they wanted too many repairs; sometimes they were too stuffy and sometimes they were too airy. Roger always found a fault that made the house unsuitable. He couldn't let his dear Ruth to live in a bad house.

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

At last, Ruth became suspicious because her loved one was rejecting every offer she was satisfied with.