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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 Кремль

Дата 15.02.20

ВАРИАНТ 3

1. Comment on the following extract.

A Wet Year Causes Stress For Farming

The damage from the destructive spring flooding in the Midwest of the USA has been followed by a miserable autumn that is making a bad farming year worse. It was the wettest year on record for the lower 48 states, with the kind of extreme rainfall events that are increasingly associated with climate change. And then autumn came in with unseasonably heavy rains and snow. Over all, farmers reported being unable to plant because soils were saturated throughout the spring and many farmers couldn't get crops in the ground.

The intense downpours are characteristic of climate change. The trends are clear – climate change has changed the atmosphere itself. And the rains are falling hard not in the middle of the growing season, when it could be of the most use, but in the spring and autumn. After the wettest September on record the soil has become so saturated that it won't support heavy equipment like combines and beet harvesters, – they sink in and get stuck. Farmers report that they were only able to harvest two-thirds of their crop.

The year, as hard as it was for corn farming, does not mean shortages of food, feed, ethanol or exports. But it is adding to the financial squeeze on many farmers and for many farmers, the troubles of this year are likely to stretch into the next. Mr. McDougall, the North Dakota farmer, said "That will mean "round-the-clock work" in a few months if conditions are favorable. "That's part of farming, I guess".

This news extract serves as proof that there is, indeed, an ongoing environmental crisis caused by climate change, thus showing those still in denial that our actions have a severe affect on the environment we live in, posing a threat to our collective well-being. *zp*

The extreme levels of precipitation outside of the growing season are due to the global warming, which is caused by excessive industrial activity and a growing number of motor vehicles emitting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The pressure it has placed on farmers so far is immense, and if it forces some of them to quit, that would mean a major decrease in food supply. It is not that hard to imagine what this could possibly lead to - a rise in prices followed by an economical crisis and a reduction in the average quality of life.

This is why trying to hide from the consequences of consumerism is unreasonable and, as I would say, infuriatingly ridiculous. My opinion is that action must be taken immediately.

2. Comment on the following statement:

There is only one way to avoid criticism: do nothing, say nothing, and be nothing (Aristotle)

Different people have different opinions - that is a fact known universally. Criticism is rooted in those differences, and this is why every human being endowed with a unique and complex personality is subjected to criticism every now and then. There is no way to avoid it other than by denying your own individuality. But what is individuality? It is one of the greatest aspects of our life, and the ability to define oneself and develop ~~your~~ own system of beliefs stands at the very core of all basic human rights. Individuality serves as the foundation of freedom, and criticism must therefore be viewed as nothing more than a necessary evil, a small price to pay for such a miracle.

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

A donkey and an elephant

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

	Book	Author
1.	Jane Eyre	Charlotte Brontë
2.	The Grapes of Wrath	John Steinbeck
3.	An American Tragedy	Theodore Dreiser
4.	The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde
5.	Of Human Bondage	W. Somerset Maugham
6.	Brave New World	Aldous Huxley
7.	Cat's Cradle	Kurt Vonnegut
8.	Oliver Twist; or, the Parish Boy's Progress	Charles Dickens
9.	Absalom, Absalom!	William Faulkner
10.	The Wings of the Dove	Henry James

Authors: Theodore Dreiser, Kurt Vonnegut, John Steinbeck, Aldous Huxley, Oscar Wilde, Charlotte Brontë, William Faulkner, W. Somerset Maugham, Henry James, Charles Dickens.

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.

How do birds know where to migrate?

definitely struck a chord with him. To this day, we work together while I am in charge of finding potential clients, Louise goes from one house to another to make masterpieces out of fences and bring colours into other people's lives.

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

The Trinity River, the Cumberland River, the River Severn, the River Avon, the River Trent, the Yukon River, the River Thames, the River Tweed, the River Dee, the River Foyle

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. My sister ~~is~~ a big cheese in the family and people had to follow her whims no matter how silly they sounded.
- 2. I've been a vegetarian for donkey's years but then I suddenly started eating meat again.
- 3. Be careful. Politicians are known to be all talk and no trousers
- 4. We'd planned to go away for the weekend, but it all went pear-shaped
- 5. I backed up the when I applied to such good colleges with my average grades of her sleeve
- 6. She used to be a very passionate woman who wore her heart but repeated rejections and mistreatment at the hands of the ones she trusted made her go into a shell and bottle her emotions up.
- 7. We were hoping to have an exciting party, but in the end, it turned out to be a damp squib
- 8. After smoking for so long, I should have never tried to quit cold turkey
- 9. We were all ears as we waited for them to announce the winner.
- 10. I'm not really interested in fashion, but once in a blue moon I bought a fashion magazine, just to see what people are wearing.

Idioms: once in a blue moon, be a damp squib, for donkey's years, go pear-shaped, be a big cheese, sit on the fence, bark up the wrong tree, be all talk and no trousers, quit cold turkey, wear one's heart on one's sleeve, be all ears

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

Black pudding

(1). The origin

the Worcester county of England

(2). The ingredients

Meat, blood, wheat, spices (optional)

Forty percents of bird species migrate every year, with some traveling tens thousands miles. (Arctic terns fly about 50,000 miles every year, from the pole to the pole.) Migrating birds can even find their destinations if researchers make them to start from unusual locations, according to an article in the Conversation by Richard Holland, the senior lecturer in animals cognition at the Bangor University. How are they doing it? Holland and his team published a study last year suggesting that some songbirds use a magnetic map to navigate long distances, but no body knows how they can detect the Earths magnetic field.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	traveling	travelling
2	forty percents	forty percent
3	make them to start	make them start
4	the senior lecturer	a senior lecturer
5	animals cognition	animal cognition
6	the Bangor University	Bangor University
7	no body	nobody
8	are they doing it	do they do it
9	the Earths	the Earth's
10	tens thousands	ten thousand

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. It's a matter of time!
- 2. Christmas comes but once a year.
- 3. All good things come to an end.
- 4. No gain without pain.
- 5. What goes around comes around.
- 6. When Greek meets Greek,
- 7. It takes money to buy fame.
- 8. Trying to find my contact lens on the floor was like grasping in the dark.
- 9. Don't cry over spilled milk.
- 10. Anna complains all the time. I have had enough of her.



5. Comment on the story in pictures:



One day, a friend of mine was invited to dinner at the home of a colleague. When the meal was finished, the two men talked shops and smoked cigars for a while. When they were ready to call it a night, they heard a loud knock of a heel on the kitchen tile. The colleague's wife, who was also at the table with them, got up and started shouting at her husband furiously, pointing at the small heap of tobacco ash on the floor. She told him she would kill him if she saw such disregard for her work ever again. After all, it was her who had to clean their place on a daily basis and not him. As soon as the husband shouted back at her, she slapped him on the face, applying great force. The spouses got into a fight with each other and my frightened friend could not do anything about it other than get out and look for a policeman. When he came back and brought one

with him, though, the conflict seemed to have disappeared without a trace. The married couple were cuddling and smiling at each other lovingly. "It's hard to explain," said the husband. "Tough love," his wife added.

6. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below

Lautisse Paints Again

(after H.A. Smith)

Everybody knows by this time that we met Lautisse on board a ship, but few people know that in the beginning, Betsy and I had no idea who he was.

At first he introduced himself as Monsieur Roland, but as we talked he asked me a lot of questions about myself and my business and finally he asked me if I could keep a secret and said: "I am Lautisse."

I had no idea who he was. I told Betsy and after lunch we went up and talked to the ship's librarian, asked him a few questions. And then we found out that my new friend was probably the world's best living painter. The librarian found a book with his biography and a photograph. Though the photograph was bad, we decided that our new acquaintance was Lautisse all right. The book said that he suddenly stopped painting at 53 and lived in a villa in Rivera. He hadn't painted anything in a dozen years and was heard to say he would never touch the brush again.

Well, we got to be real friends and Betsy invited him to come up to our place for a weekend.

Lautisse arrived on the noon train Saturday, and I met him at the station. We had promised him that we wouldn't have any people and that we wouldn't try to talk to him about art. It wasn't very difficult since we were not very keen on art.

I was up at seven-thirty the next morning and I remembered that I had a job to do. Our vegetable garden had a fence around it which needed a coat of paint. I took out a bucket half full of white paint and a brush and an old kitchen chair. I was sitting on the chair thinking, when I heard footsteps and there stood Lautisse. I said that I was getting ready to paint the garden fence but now that he was up, I would stop it. He protested, then took the brush from my hand and said, "First, I'll show you!" At that moment Betsy cried from the kitchen door that breakfast was ready. "No, no," he said. "No breakfast, - I will paint the fence."

When he was leaving, he shook my hand and said that he hadn't enjoyed himself so much in years. We didn't hear anything from him for about 10 days but the newspapers learnt about the visit and came to our place. The next day the papers had quite a story and the headlines said: ...

Think of the ending of the story. What did the headlines say? Why? What happened to Lautisse and the author?

The headlines said: "The art genius trades canvas for fences." Lautisse himself didn't seem to be bothered, though - he told me he had, perhaps, found a new hobby. "I never liked any of my own paintings to start with," he confessed to me. "I have no idea what it is that makes everyone so fascinated with them. I just find them dull, that's all." When I asked him about the reason for his painting fences, he replied: "At least this way I can be of some help. Otherwise, I'm useless." This was the exact moment a brilliant idea came into my mind: what if we combined art and fences? I suggested Lautisse went around our grey little neighbourhood and added some colour to it, and this idea of mine

tens thousands - ten thousand
forty percent

signature

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The extreme levels of precipitation outside of the growing season ~~are~~ are due to the global warming, which is caused by excessive industrial activity and a growing demand for number of motor vehicles ~~running on petrol~~ emitting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. If the pressure it has placed on farmers so far is immense, and if it forces some of them to quit, that ~~will~~ ^{that} mean a decrease in food supply. It is not hard to imagine what this ^{perceive the major} could possibly lead to - a rise in prices ~~and~~ followed by an economical crises and a reduction in the average quality of ^{life} living.

This is why ...

N2 ~~From~~ Different people have different opinions - that is a fact known universally. Criticism comes from those differences, and that is why every human being ^{endowed} with a complex ^{unique and} personality is subjected to criticism every now and then. There is no way to avoid it ~~than~~ other than by denying your individuality. But what is individuality? It is one of the ~~most~~ greatest ~~or~~ aspects of our life, and the ability to define oneself ~~to step~~ and to promote your own belief is at the very core of all basic human rights. Individuality serves as ~~the~~ foundation of freedom, and criticism ~~she~~ must be viewed as nothing more than a necessary evil, (a side effect).

Tough Love

Republique

(13)

One day, a friend of mine was invited for dinner at the home of his colleague. When the meal was finished, the two men ~~got started~~ ^{and smoked cigars} talked shop for a while and ~~thought it~~ ^{then} ~~set down~~ when they were ready to call it a night, ~~then~~ they heard a loud knock of a heel on the kitchen tiles. The colleague's wife, who was also at the table with them, got up and started shouting at her husband furiously, pointing to the ~~small~~ ^{handful} small heap of tobacco ~~on~~ ^{on the} floor. She ~~said if~~ ^{told} ~~he~~ ^{him} ~~that~~ ^{that} he would kill him if she saw ~~him~~ ^{after all,} such disregard for her work ever again. ~~She~~ It was her who had to clean the place on a daily basis and not him. ~~When~~ ^{As soon as} the husband shouted back at her, she slapped him on the face, applying great force. The spouses got into a fight ~~there~~ ^{and} ~~my~~ friend ~~could~~ ^{look for} not do anything about it other than ~~run~~ ^{get} out of the door and ~~see~~ ^{find} a policeman. When he ~~came~~ ^{came} back, ~~through~~ and brought one with him, though, the conflict seemed to have disappeared ~~without~~ ^{lovingly} a trace. The married couple were cuddling and ~~emitting~~ ^{looking} at each other ~~passionately~~ ^{lovingly}. "It's hard to explain", - said the ~~colleague~~ ^{husband} "Tough love", - his wife added.

(14)

The headlines said: "The art genius trades canvas for fences", in capital letters "Lautisse goes Sayer" and so on. Lautisse himself didn't seem to be bothered, though - he told me he had, perhaps, found a new hobby. "I ~~we~~ never liked any of my own paintings to start with", - he confessed. "I have no idea what it is that makes everyone ~~see~~ ^{finds} so fascinating ^{with} them. I just find them boring. dull, that's all." When I asked him about the reason for his painting fences, he replied; "At least this way I can be of any help. ^{I'm useless} Otherwise, this was the ^{exact} moment to brilliant idea came into my mind: what if ~~his previous~~ we combined art and fences? ~~From that day,~~ I suggested Lautisse went around our grey neighbourhood and added some colour to it, and this definitely struck a chord with him. To this day, we work together: I am in charge of finding potential clients, ^{people} ~~people~~ ^{to} ~~bring~~ ^{bring} up the Lautisse goes from one house to another to ~~brighten up~~ ^{brighten up} the ~~gardens~~ ^{people's} of bring some bright colours into other people's lives.