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САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ



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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 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.

*Nowadays the issue of <sup>bird and insect</sup> populations' disappearance or climate change are a matter of landscaping urban areas and the problem. Scientists are offering a great variety of great debates on a global scale. Landscaping urban areas with wild-looking meadows on the roofs of the*

different buildings to welcome insects.

In my opinion, making these zones all over the world will not only increase the number of ~~self~~ bees and butterflies but also decrease the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere as ~~plants~~ the more diverse plants, the more oxygen they emit. However, being spoiled for choice, people tend to be lazy and ~~won't~~ not by care about our nature. Therefore, a government should promote the danger of global warming by and large, making ~~add~~ stop meadows is very vital for environmental issues and should be done in the nearest future. Think globally, act locally.

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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.

A well-known quotation "Selfishness is not living as one wishes to live, it is asking others to live as one wishes to live" implies that selfish people are not those who live as they want but those who say others how to live. These words have their backbone in reality.

As for me, I ~~am~~ to fully agree with the author and assume that ~~one~~ one is not an egoist if he lives as he desires since it is the life right. However, as soon as a person tries to contribute to one's life without asking, they are no helpers but ~~not~~ egoists. The most vivid example comes from my friend's life. Her mum does not allow her to study in one of the most prestigious universities in the world, because she is afraid of being alone. Therefore, she deprives my friend of a great possibility and dictates how to live due to her selfishness. To sum up, undoubtedly the idea expressed in the quote is being

~~It is not a strategy because it is not a plan to achieve a goal. It is a way of thinking.~~

(2). Explain the meaning of the following words which reflect peculiarities of British or American cultures:  
The White House - the residence of the president of the USA in Washington, D.C.

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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	Kenneth Grahame
3. Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Mark Twain
4. The Great Gatsby	Francis Scott Fitzgerald
5. Kim	Rudyard Kipling
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	Charles Dickens
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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76 correct

and me  
Roger were talking about his marriage, if he was still going to be a husband of Mrs. Barlow. He replied that she was a very good person and he didn't want her to leave the blues ~~because~~ he didn't love her anymore. Out of the blue, we heard some noise behind the door. When Roger went to check who it had been, he saw a heart-breaking ~~picture~~ picture. It turned out that his bride-to-be had listened and had understood everything. Sadness and pain were written all over her face. Finally, she said with tears crying: "You were going to be the man for me, the man who doesn't love me." ~~Afterwards~~ After a year, Ruth understood: "Whatever happens, happens for the best", and found a new man who was her destiny.

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, but it worked.
3. After some reflection, he decided to bite the bullet.
4. The roads were full of traffic and we were travelling at a 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 ~~with~~ word of the

The first name of the dish is not permanent as it ~~changes~~ depends on the day it ~~was~~ cooked.

(b). The ingredients

Beef, onions, gravy, mushrooms

disputed. I strongly believe that people should think about themselves, their life and not to interrupt one's living.

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	would use	used to use had used
2	made making	made
3	need	needed
4	there	their
5	more light	lighter
6	this is	this was
7	before	ago
8	demand for	demand on
9	In spite that spiders started making	spiders started to make eat
10	so	therefore

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.

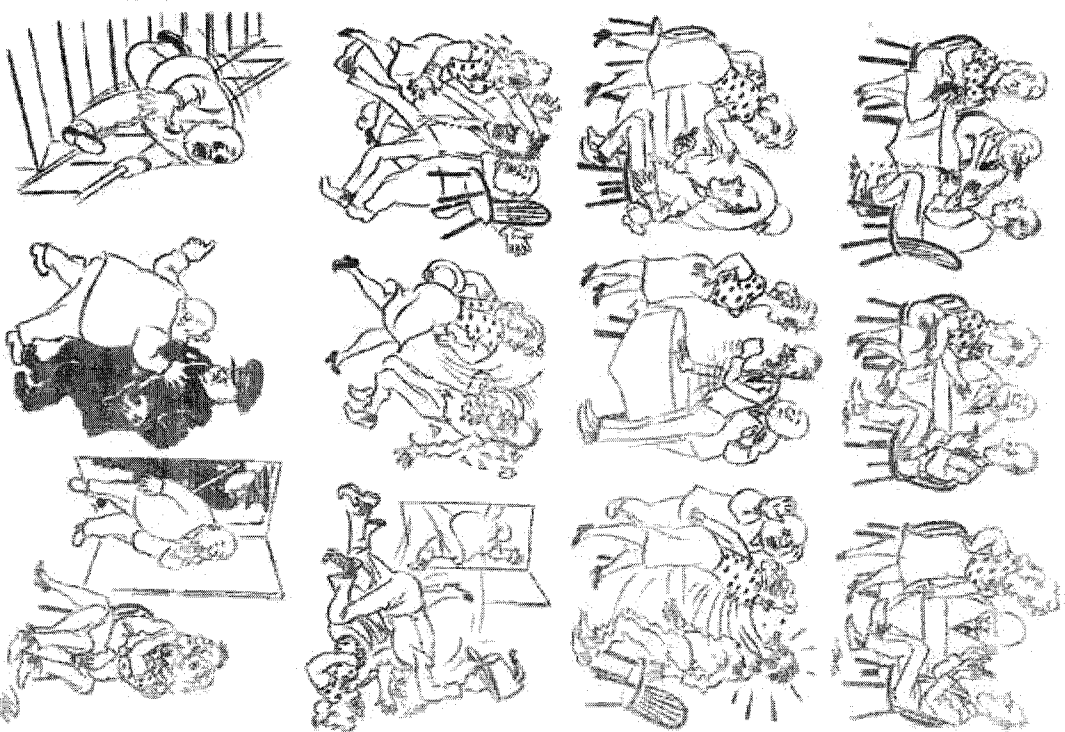
Example: All roads LEAD TO ROME

1. When my friend and I go out, it is always as both of us don't have much money.
- + 2. Bad news has wings
- + 3. Let sleeping dogs lay lie for



4. The God helps those who help themselves
5. You will really see your friends' real faces when you call upon them in a time of crisis.
6. Opera is not written in a day.
7. When in Rome, do as Romans do.
8. Once bitten, run being beaten.
9. Don't judge a book by its cover.
10. The grass is greener over the fence.

5. Comment on the story in pictures:



### Superficial Love

One summer evening, a ridiculous story happened to Mr. Thick and the Screens. Kate and Peter invited Mr. Thick for a dinner and everything was going fine until Peter dropped some pieces of his cigarette on the floor. Unfortunately, Kate was not in a good mood and this was the last straw that broke the camel's back. She started to scream at

her husband. To her amazement, he replied <sup>very</sup> aggressively. Kate exclaimed: "You don't appreciate my labour! You don't love me!" However, Peter didn't want to hurt her as he was also saying: "I'm the man here!"

All of a sudden, they started to fight using chairs, plates, the screens were so sad that Mr. Thick was so terrified and when he understood that he couldn't stop it he called for a policeman. Mr. Thick said: "If you don't come, they'll kill each other!"

Surprisingly, when they entered the room, it turned out that the Screens were hugging. Peter said: "Was to my dying day will I argue with my love!"

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. 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.

However, Ruth felt that something was going on in her bones. She asked Roger about it but he pretended that all was great. A few days later, he