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САЛЫСТ ПЕТЕРБУРГСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ



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ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ

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заключительный этап

Предмет (комплекс предметов) Олимпиады ИНОСТРАННЫЙ ЯЗЫК (АНГЛИЙСКИЙ)

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада Санкт-Петербург

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ВАРИАНТ 5

1. Comment on the following extract.

Ocean Pollution

If Columbus, Magellan and the other great explorers were to re-enact their journeys today, they would marvel at yet another wonder of the new world—vast currents of pollution and debris slicking the surface of hundreds of thousands of square miles of the Atlantic and Caribbean. More than 665,000 square miles of waters atop the American continental shelf and in the Caribbean are blighted by the floating pollutants.

Scientific surveys undertaken have found the Atlantic ocean's waters to be littered with floating oil, tar and chunks of plastics. Studies have found waste in the Pacific, too. Scientists conclude that in the future "we can anticipate that our children will set sail into a plastic sea, accompanied by all the no-deposit-no-return products of our technology."

How the plastics manage to get into the oceans is a mystery to scientists at this point. Chemical contamination of the ocean, such as by these petroleum and plastic products, is widely viewed by scientists as a potential danger to the world fish population and indeed to the whole chain of marine life. In a few cases, for example, fish have been known to swallow plastics and die from intestinal obstructions.

There are suspicions that refined petroleum products may be injurious to the reproduction of some forms of marine life. Hydrocarbons have been found in the livers of fish from the Georges Bank off New England and plankton off the Louisiana coast. But the full extent of the peril is still unknown.

The crux of the given excerpt is but lamentable, if not tragic altogether. Apparently, the present-day world stands into the face of peril with intractable insolence and the airs of callous audacity. That is to say, human beings continually conduce to the accumulation of

The Earth being

(new paragraph)

burning issues with the main gamble at stake. Not acceptance with the extract, your posterity might well be exposed to a pestilential "plastic sea" instead of a pristine water reservoir. What makes the acute crisis all the worse is the unravelled mystery of the origins of endless rubbish in the waters. The author of the text muses at the unknown help behind the environmental atrocities: "How the plastics manage to get into the oceans is a mystery to scientists at this point". One of the numerous conjectures the writer seizes, is that refined petroleum products are the root of all evil. Apart from injuring the existing marine life they prevent future generations from procreation and thus the revival of a certain species is doomed ("refined petroleum" products may be injurious to the reproduction of some forms of marine life"). Nevertheless, it remains to be seen whether the effects of refined petroleum products are as virulent and ruinous as is estimated at juncture.

To conclude, the current environmental situation seems to be exacerbated by ~~the~~ lack of profound research in the sphere of marine life.

Verid Langgast, 11

2. Comment on the following statement:

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give (Winston Churchill)

Spoken by one of the most powerful orators of the past millennium, the quotation teems with wisdom, sagacity and sober acumen. In essence, what W. Churchill did was to articulate an unperishable adage, a golden rule. The so-called "bread-winning" occupations are of secondary concern, from an existential viewpoint. Put simply, the profits we turn and the capitals we amass are but mere means of sustenance, while it is charity and intrinsic kindness that spread volumes.

By giving away what we have and lending a helping hand we ultimately enrich our innatest being in the sense that we exercise laudable generosity and altruism. Conversely, when one is fastened solely on a more pragmatic vested interest, the person enlarges his household budget but woefully decreases his sense of purpose and self-worth. At the end of the day, one is bound to derive much more contentment from the act of succeeding and

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

Bangers and mash

(a). The origin

(b). The ingredients

The main ingredients include mask potatoes and sausages.

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

Royal Assent Royall Assent is the order in which the heirs to the crown proceed to become fully-fledged monarchs.

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

Book	Author
1. Tess of the d'Urbervilles	Thomas Hardy
2. Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus	Mary Shelley
3. Uncle Tom's Cabin	Harriet Beecher Stowe
4. The Moon and Sixpence	W. Somerset Maugham
5. Wuthering Heights	Emily Brontë
6. Great Expectations	Charles Dickens
7. The Last of the Mohicans	James Fenimore Cooper
8. The Hound of the Baskervilles	Arthur Conan Doyle
9. Martin Eden	Jack London
10. The Bostonians	Henry James

Authors: Mary Shelley, Emily Brontë, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Arthur Conan Doyle, Charles Dickens, Henry James, James Fenimore Cooper, Jack London, W. Somerset Maugham, Thomas Hardy.

My friend

Poor George! I wondered now what else Tom had done. I was prepared for the worst. George could hardly speak. Then he said: ...

Think of the ending of the story. What happened to Tom?

"Who could have imagined that my next of kin would go so far as to strip me of my own spouse, not to mention the opportunities of affluence and perquisites of a sound life. ~~It is~~ it indeed the destiny preordained to a mindless, law-abiding, conscientious being? How come does he have it all together and I get to scrap by with the bottom dollar?"

At this I could only sigh wistfully and offer something of a cold comfort: "Well, so what if Tom gets all and you lose all? Isn't it so much the better to start anew and adresh? Fancy the vista of opportunities which has opened up before you. Isn't it but a blessing in disguise?"

Just as I finished extending my consoling courtesies, George's prodigal sibling raced by on his brand new sports car. That's when I realised that my optimistic outlook was lost or woe-begone George, the incurable one who had been ~~hounded~~ by an incurable grasshopper.

What's the point of using ~~English~~ with someone in language? (8)

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

- Bath, Birmingham, Derby, Oakland, Peterborough, Bakersfield, Worcester, Wells, Swansea, Pittsburgh

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. "Wow, he really put the cat among the pigeons." When he revealed to the team that he was leaving for a new club at the end of the season.
- 2. After he came to know that I'm close to the power in the organization, he changed his tune.
- 3. Max fell head over heels in love with his colleague and wants to marry her.
- 4. I had to burn the midnight oil for nearly three months to write my first book.
- 5. The manager was giving him sock in front of the team today.
- 6. Jack made no bones about getting a hike in his salary. weight around
- 7. "Oh my, here we go. He's throwing us again."
- 8. Mass media has traditionally been up in with the government of the day.
- 9. The new tax has proved to be a banana skin for the government.
- 10. The CEO was really getting on his high horse in that meeting.

Idioms: put the cat among the pigeons, get on his/her high horse, throw one's weight around, give someone stick, banana skin, head over heels, up in arms, make no bones about something, change one's tune, burn the midnight oil.

sacrificing rather than processing and acquiring.

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 do we always see the same face of the moon?

Here on Earth, we can always see the "man in the moon" because the same surface faces toward us no matter where is the moon in it's orbit. That's why the moon is tidally locked with Earth, meaning that our gravitational pull keeps it rotate on its axis at a speed that's coordinated with its orbit around our planet. We humans didn't get a look at the moon's another side unless 1959, when the Soviet Luna spacecraft took the first photoes and scientists realized its much different: There are few large lava seas like the ones on side facing us and much more impact craters.

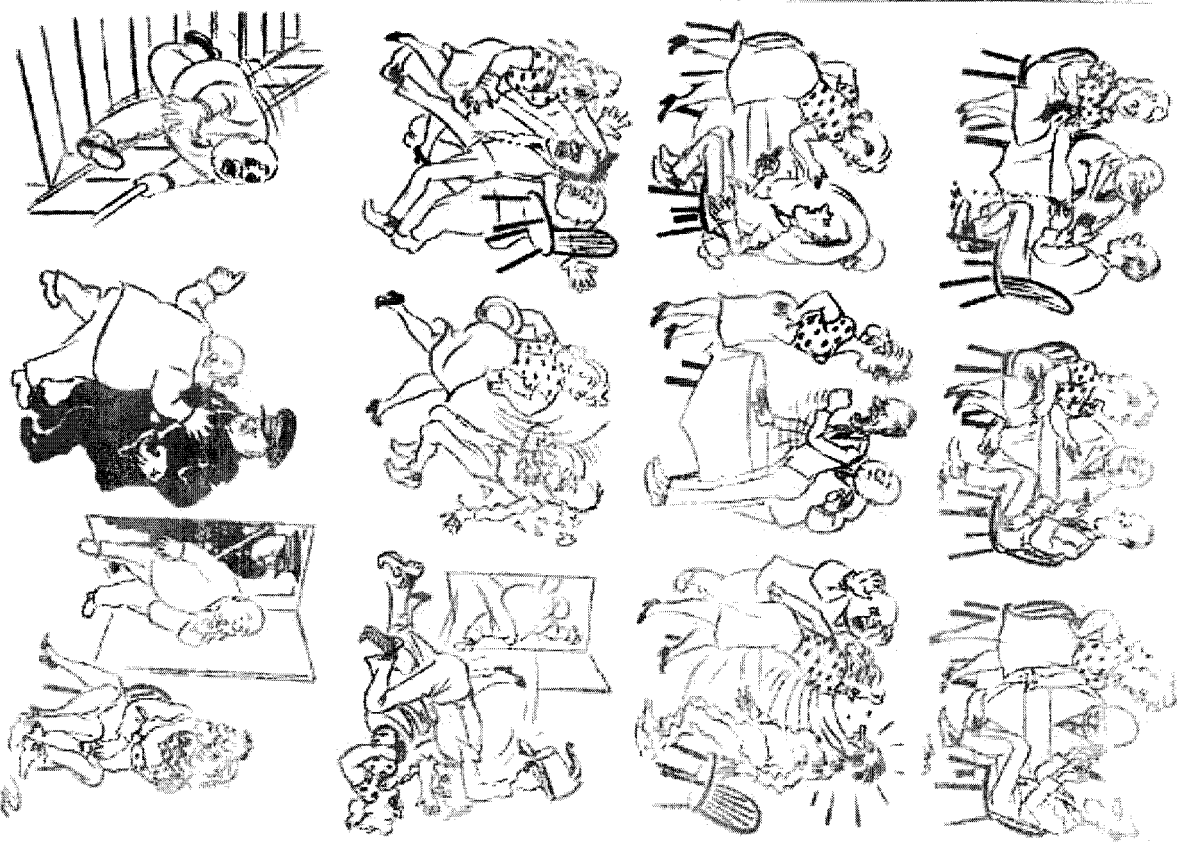
	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1	the same face of the moon	the same face on the moon
2	faces toward us	faces us
3	no matter where is the moon	no matter where the moon is
4	tidally latched	tidally linked
5	keeps it rotate	keeps it rotating
6	didn't get a look	hadn't got a look
7	the moon's another side	the moon's other side
8	unless 1959	until 1959
9	photoes	photos
10	the ones on side facing us	the ones on the side facing us

- 1. ~~the ones on side facing us~~ realized it was much different
- 4. much more impact craters many more impact craters
- 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. Where there's a will, there's a way
- 2. Money is ~~not~~ the root of all evil
- 3. Beggars can't be choosers
- 4. Practice makes perfect
- 5. You can't make an omelet without ~~the~~ eggs
- 6. No man can
- 7. There are two sides to every ~~thing~~ story
- 8. Rome ~~was~~ built in three days
- 9. The first hundred years are the most difficult
- 10. Make haste and not waste

5. Comment on the story in pictures:



It being a pleasant Sunday morning, Mr. Baywater called on his capital friends, Halway, into an innominate discussion, Mrs. Jones noticed that her dear husband had been disposing of his cigarette remnants in a most hideous fashion. Every single speck of ash had fallen down to ignominiously smelt the carpet. Mrs. Jones's household toil - the spick and span floor - without second thought the doating wife sprang for her pet and began reading her sports the riot act in the full glare of Mr. Baywater's presence. Mr. Jones,

of course, being no less self-assertive and high-handed, attempted to vindicate himself by means of strong language. His gentle Paternoster mat only followed suit, but surpassed her husband in that she struck him a severe blow. That's when Mr. Jones ~~was~~ ^{was} seeing red and blew a fuse. Engaged in the squabble were even culinary appliances, namely - plates and a teapot. At so critical a juncture Mr. Baywater decided to act drastically. Fleeing in a frenzy, he came back in the blink of an eye with a police officer, what a ~~citizen~~ ^{citizen} of good standard indeed! It's too bad though that upon their arrival the couple appeared to be cooling and joggling with no malice intended. So much for Sunday visits!

6. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below

The Ant and The Grasshopper

Not very clear!
Weird language!
(after W.S. Maugham)

The other day I saw my friend George Ramsay lunching in a restaurant. I never saw an expression of such deep gloom. He was staring into space. I was sorry for him: I suspected at once that his unfortunate brother had been causing trouble again.

I went up to him. "How are you?" I asked. "Is it Tom again?" He sighed. "Yes, it's Tom again."

I suppose every family has a black sheep. In this family it had been Tom. He had begun life decently enough: he went into business, married and had two children. The Ramsays were respectable people and everybody supposed that Tom would have a good career. But one day he announced that he didn't like work and that he wasn't suited for marriage. He wanted to enjoy himself.

He left his wife and his office. He spent two happy years in the various capitals of Europe. His relations were shocked and wondered what would happen when his money was spent. They soon found out: he borrowed. He was so charming that nobody could refuse him. Very often he turned to George. Once or twice he gave Tom considerable sums so that he could make a fresh start. On these Tom bought a motor-car and some jewellery. But when George washed his hands of him, Tom began to blackmail him. It was not nice for a respectable lawyer to find his brother shaking cocktails behind the bar of his favourite restaurant or driving a taxi. So George paid again.

For twenty years Tom gambled, danced, ate in the most expensive restaurants and dressed beautifully. Though he was forty-six he looked not more than thirty-five. He had high spirits and incredible charm. Tom Ramsay knew everyone and everyone knew him. You couldn't help liking him.

Poor George, only a year older than his brother, looked sixty. He had never taken more than a fortnight's holiday in the year. He was in his office every morning at nine-thirty and never left it till six. He was honest and industrious. He had a good wife and four daughters to whom he was the best of fathers. His plan was to retire at fifty-five to a little house in the country. His life was blameless. He was glad that he was growing old because Tom was growing old, too. He used to say: "It was all well when Tom was young and good-looking. In four years he'll be fifty. He won't find life so easy then. I shall have thirty thousand pounds by the time I'm fifty. We shall see what is really best to work or to be idle."

