

**Олимпиада школьников «Покори Воробьевы горы!» 2023/24**

**Очный тур**  
**АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК**  
**5-8 классы**  
**Вариант 1**

**Задание 1 – 20 баллов.**

**Fill in each of the gaps 1-20 with one of the words below. There is one extra word.**

**City Adventure**

Yesterday I had a great day exploring the city. I began my **1**\_\_\_ at the local market, filled with the **2** \_\_\_ colours of fresh fruit and vegetables. The enticing aroma of spices filled the air as I wandered **3**\_\_\_ the lanes.

Next, I visited a museum showcasing the rich **4**\_\_\_ heritage of the region. The exhibits were informative, providing a glimpse into the past. I was impressed by the collection of ancient artifacts, **5**\_\_\_ pottery.

After the museum, I took a stroll in the city park. Towering trees provided shade, and the sound of birds **6**\_\_\_ created a peaceful **7**\_\_\_. I found a bench and sat down to **8**\_\_\_ through a book.

Feeling hungry, I headed to a charming café **9**\_\_\_ lunch. The menu offered a diverse range of options. I **10**\_\_\_ for a delicious pasta dish, bursting with **11**\_\_\_.

With my energy **12**\_\_\_, I continued my exploration. I stumbled **13**\_\_\_ a lively street market, where artists were showcasing their **14**\_\_\_ crafts. I couldn't resist **15**\_\_\_ a quaint piece **16**\_\_\_ pottery.

As the day closed, I **17**\_\_\_ a nearby hill to catch the sunset. The **18**\_\_\_ view of the city below was spectacular, and the changing colours of the sky created a **19**\_\_\_ scene. I took photos to **20**\_\_\_ the memory.

**The words:**

singing

handmade

look

mine

atmosphere

cherish

cultural

opted

through

flavours

of

including

vibrant

for

panoramic  
breathtaking  
upon  
journey  
refilled  
climbed  
buying

**Задание 2 – 10 баллов.**

**Choose the correct word to complete each proverb.**

- 1 Don't look a gift horse in the \_\_\_\_\_. (mouth/ eyes/ stable)
- 2 You can't teach an old \_\_\_\_\_ new tricks. (monkey / peasant/ dog)
- 3 It's no use crying over spilt \_\_\_\_\_. (blood/ water/ milk)
- 4 A leopard cannot change his \_\_\_\_\_. (skin/ spots/ hide)
- 5 A little learning is a \_\_\_\_\_ thing. (dangerous/ wonderful/ useful)

**Match the beginnings and endings of proverbs. There are three extra endings.**

6 Many hands	A that breaks the camel's back.
7 Birds of a feather	B shouldn't throw stones.
8 More haste,	C that blows nobody any good.
9 It's the last straw	D make light work.
10 There's no smoke	E less speed.
	F nothing gain.
	G flock together.
	H without fire.

**Задание 3 – 20 баллов.**

**Read this article about housing in the UK and China. Decide if the sentences below are about the UK (A), China (B) or both (C).**

1. Many young people don't have the money to buy a home even if they're working.
2. Property prices have risen quickly in the last year.
3. There aren't enough places for people to live.
4. In general, people prefer not to live too close to others.
5. Wages are generally increasing for middle-class people.
6. A lot of foreign people are buying property as an investment.
7. The current situation will probably change soon because of economic reasons.
8. Many people try to stop big building projects near where they live.
9. A lot of people's salaries are different from what they were hoping for.
10. The country is going through a housing crisis.

WAITING FOR THE BUBBLE TO BURST

**Priced out of the market**

Li Jian is a 28-year-old salesman from Guangzhou, China. He is a member of China's growing middle class, who are highly educated and in good jobs with rising salaries, but who cannot afford to buy a home. Property prices in China have been rising steadily for over a decade and the price of a home is currently 25 times the average wage. Li Jian is frustrated by the situation:

'It's impossible for me to buy a home now. I will need the help of my parents, but I also need to find a wife and that's not easy if all I can offer is life in a tiny apartment. I have seen one or two places on sale with a discount, so maybe now the market is beginning to slow down, but then that is a new problem. When do you know the market has hit the bottom? I don't want to buy somewhere and find it's worth less a year later!'

### **A worldwide problem**

China is not alone in experiencing problems with house prices. From London to Seoul and Oslo to Taipei, young people in work are finding that their opportunities in life are being limited by high housing costs. Research in the UK has found a growing gap between reality and people's expectations for 'life goals'. In general, young people expect to earn £30,000 a year by the time they're 31. However, over 70% fail to reach this target. Interestingly, even when they do, most people can still not afford to buy the house of their dreams because property prices have risen so much faster than wages. It is, therefore, not surprising that although the average person expects to leave home before they're 22, nearly 10% of adults aged between 30 and 34 still live with their parents. Similarly, while most people hope to have found love by the age of 25, one third are actually still single 15 years later.

### **Hope in a crash**

So what hope is there for people like Li Jian? Well, there are people who believe that the best hope is for the property bubble to burst. Some believe that the current high price of real estate is not good for standards of living or the economy and with over 20% of all homes in China's urban areas currently empty, it is entirely possible that prices could go down in the near future.

### **Cultural barriers to change**

In the UK, the problem is different. There is a shortage of housing which generally keeps prices high and over the last year prices have increased sharply - to 15 times the average income. The problem is particularly bad in London, where investors from abroad are buying huge amounts of property. However, there are also cultural attitudes that prevent change. Take, for instance, the saying 'An Englishman's home is his castle.' As it suggests, many people in the UK like their space and privacy and will fight for it. As such, most buyers prefer to own a house with a garden, rather than live in an apartment block. Finally, when there are plans to build new large blocks, many local people often protest, to protect their homes from the shadows of large buildings and the increased people, noise and traffic they bring. Without a change of attitudes, falling house prices are less likely than in China.

### **Задание 4 – 50 баллов.**

Write a story (app. 220-250 words). In your story you need to include the following sentences:

- 1) It was a dark rainy night. (the first sentence of your story)
- 2) Suddenly the door opened. (introducing the main part of the story)
- 3) I could not believe that something like that could happen. (introducing the ending of the story)