

Олимпиада школьников «Покори Воробьевы горы!»

2024/25

Заключительный этап

Английский язык

9-10 классы

Вариант 1

Блок 1. Лексико-грамматический тест (20 баллов)

Task 1. *For questions 1-10 Read the text below. Choose the correct option from the brackets. Transfer your answers into the answer sheet. Each correct answer earns you 1 point.*

Of the seven “How to Pass Exams” books which we reviewed for this article, six **1 (had/ have/ were)** rejected. Because apart from rather obvious **2 (advise/ advice/ advices)** like “read the questions carefully” or “eat a good breakfast”, they seemed to have **3 (little/ few/ a few)** to offer. Only one, “Maximizing Exam Performance: A Psychological Approach” by Don Davis, a principal lecturer and former examiner for Birmingham University, looked at the question of why performance in exams is not **4 (necessary/ necessarily/ necessity)** related to ability and why good students occasionally do **5 (bad/ hardly/ badly)**.

He doesn’t offer a substitute **6 (of/ to/ for)** knowing your subject, only practical suggestions for **7 (those/ this/ that)** who know they overreact to stressful competitive situations.

The outcome of his book is extremely **8 (encouraging/ encouraged/ encouragement)**. A technique proposed by Davis is to learn “positive self-talk”. He suggests **9 (replacing/ to replace/ replace)** such sentences as “I never have any luck with the question” and “I’m hopeless at exams” with “Now I know how to relax I shall do better” or “I’m gaining **10 (confidentiality/ confidence/ confident)** every day”.

Task 2. *For questions 11-20, complete the second sentence, so it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and four words including the word given. There is an example at the beginning (0). Transfer your answers into the answer sheet. Each correct answer earns you 1 point.*

(0) I like sports, especially basketball. (into)
I'm into sports, especially basketball.

The Challenges of Friendship

11. In today's world, many young people find it easier to stay in touch with friends through social media compared to face-to-face communication. (rather)

In today's world, many young people.....in touch with their friends through social media than face-to-face.

12. While online communication offers convenience, it's not as deep as in-person conversations. (lacks)

While online communication offers convenience, the depth of in-person conversations.

13. Although disagreements are a natural part of relationships, resolving them can be difficult when emotions run high. (Despite)

..... a natural part of relationships, resolving them can be difficult when emotions run high.

14. Friendships can survive even when people disagree, as long as both sides communicate with respect. (eye)

Friendships can survive even when people.....eye as long as both sides communicate with respect.

15. When you fight with a friend as a teenager, it can feel like the world is ending. (fall)

When you.....a friend as a teenager, it can feel like the world is ending.

16. In those times, anxiety can you make you think that all other friends will turn their backs on you and you will end up alone. (left)

In those times, anxiety can make you think that all other friends will turn their backs on you and you will alone.

17. When conflicts occur, it's important to resolve the issue and move forward. (sort)

When conflicts occur, it's important to.....the issue and move forward.

18. Sometimes, avoiding confrontation can leave unresolved issues that continue to affect the friendship, so it's healthier to address issues rather than ignore them. (instead)

Sometimes, avoiding confrontation can leave unresolved issues that continue to affect the friendship, so it's healthier to address issues..... them.

19. The fear of losing close friends is common, and even updating each other on your lives can take effort. (catching)

The fear of losing close friends is common, and even..... on each other's news can take effort.

20. However, despite the challenges, it's rewarding to put effort into friendships. True connections can help us grow, learn, and become more resilient in the face of life's obstacles. (worth)

However, despite the challenges, friendships the effort. True connections can help us grow, learn, and become more resilient in the face of life's obstacles.

Блок 2. Понимание письменного текста (10 баллов)

Task 3. *Read some forum messages on how people are exploring hobbies to develop personally and professionally. For questions 21-30 choose the best answer from sections A-D. Some of the choices may be required more than once. Transfer your answers into the answer sheet (boxes 21-30) and write out the evidence from the texts that proves your point. Each correct answer earns you 1 point.*

Who does each sentence refer to?

21. *Who believes hobbies can be useful for maintaining work-life balance?*
22. *Who enjoys the social aspect of their hobby?*
23. *Who finds their hobby helpful for dealing with stress?*
24. *Who appreciates that their hobby requires them to think creatively?*
25. *Who hopes their hobby might become their future profession?*
26. *Who finds their hobby to be a rewarding physical activity that brings results?*
27. *Who recommends prioritizing hobbies despite other commitments?*
28. *Who tried their activity for several times before they felt passionate about it?*
29. *Who uses their hobby as a way to unplug from the internet?*
30. *Who felt sceptical about trying the activity for the first time?*

A. Emma I've always baked, but it was something I used to do only occasionally, usually when there was a special occasion or I wanted to surprise my family with homemade treats and I didn't feel over the moon when I was doing it. Then, a few months ago, I decided to join a weekend artisan bread-making workshop. I was amazed at how much I learned and how satisfying it felt to create something from scratch. Since then, I've been practising every week, trying out new recipes and techniques. At weekends, I've started selling some of my breads to a local café, which has been a fun experiment. For now, it's just a hobby, but who knows? Maybe one day I can turn this passion into a small business. What I love the most about baking is how calming it is—it really takes my mind off everything else. Plus, there's nothing better than the smell of fresh bread in the kitchen!	B Jacob I never thought anything of yoga, but after a particularly stressful year, I decided to give it a shot. At first, it was just something I tried out of desperation—my friend had been insisting for ages that I join them for a class. It didn't take long for me to see the benefits. Yoga isn't just about the physical exercise, although it's a great workout. For me, it's the mental clarity it brings that makes it so valuable. Even when work gets crazy, I make sure to carve out time for a session. I think it's essential to have something in your life that helps you stay grounded. I've noticed I'm much more focused and productive when I keep up with my practice. It's become a non-negotiable part of my week, and I genuinely believe everyone should find their version of yoga to stay balanced and happy.
C Sophia I never pictured myself joining a drama club—it felt so outside my comfort zone, I also really doubted that I could ever like something like that. However, a friend convinced me to go along to a class, and that one night completely changed my	D Liam Before last year, I'd never thought of myself as someone who enjoyed outdoor activities. I spent most weekends indoors, either catching up on work or watching TV. Then, a friend invited me to go hiking with them, and I decided to give it a try.

perspective. I was nervous at first, even about reading lines in front of a small group, but I quickly grew to love it. Acting has allowed me to think outside the box and explore a side of myself I never really tapped into before. It's incredibly freeing to step into a character's shoes and imagine life from their perspective. What's more, being part of the club has introduced me to some wonderful people who've become close friends. We spend time together even outside the rehearsals. I also realized how much acting has helped me build confidence—it's given me the courage to take on challenges I'd have avoided in the past. Drama has truly become a passion I didn't know I needed.	That one trip changed everything. Hiking has become my favourite way to spend my weekends. It's not just about the physical exercise, although climbing trails definitely has got me in my best shape. What I love most is how disconnected I feel from the online world while I'm out there. There's no buzzing phone, no endless emails—just the sound of the wind and the crunch of my boots on the path. It's the perfect way to reset my mind and realise the importance of being present in the moment instead of scrolling endlessly on your phone. Hiking has also taught me patience and resilience; every climb makes me feel a little stronger, both mentally and physically. I can't imagine my life without it now.
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Блок 3. Творческое задание (70 баллов)

Task 4. *A travel magazine has asked readers to send in articles on their favourite cultural event in their town or city, a festival or an exhibition, for example. You decide to write an article in which you describe your favourite cultural event, explain why it is your favourite event and assess its significance for the wider community (250-300 words).*

Follow the structure for writing a newspaper/magazine article:

- *An eye-catching title which attracts readers' attention;*
- *Introduction that clearly defines the topic to be covered and keeps the readers' attention;*
- *The main body paragraph 1;*
- *The main body paragraph 2;*
- *Conclusion (either a summary of the theme or a final opinion, recommendation or comment).*