



Федеральное государственное автономное образовательное учреждение
высшего образования

«Российский государственный гуманитарный университет»
(ФГАОУ ВО «РГГУ»)

ОЛИМПИАДА РГГУ ДЛЯ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ ПО ИНОСТРАННОМУ ЯЗЫКУ

АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

2024/2025 учебный год

Отборочный этап

9 класс

Вариант № 25-ОШ-1-9 Английский язык

На выполнение олимпиадных заданий отводится 120 минут. Вам предлагается выполнить три категории заданий. При выполнении заданий внимательно читайте инструкцию к каждому заданию.

Максимальное количество баллов за ответы:

- Часть 1. (Reading) - 26 баллов;*
- Часть 2. (Use of English) - 62 балла;*
- Часть 3. (Cultural Study) - 12 баллов.*

Part 1. Reading

Read the four texts and answer the questions below by indicating which text each question relates to: A, B, C, D, or None.

Please note that there are two questions which do not refer to any of the texts.

Text A – THE OLDEST TADPOLE EVER FOUND

Frogs, like butterflies and salamanders, have what is called a "bi-phasic life cycle." They undergo metamorphosis to grow from their larval stage, as a non-reproductive tadpole, a small black creature with a large head that swims underwater, to their adult stage, as a frog that can jump on land. This drastic transformation is considered by scientists to be a marvel of nature — and now, experts know a little more about its history.

This week, a paper published in the journal *Nature* detailed a tadpole fossil that proves that tadpoles existed at least 161 million years ago, in the mid-late Jurassic period. This is 20 million years earlier than scientists previously thought.

"When I first saw the fossil, I said, 'Okay, it is a tadpole, there is no doubt,'" says biologist Mariana Chuliver, one of the paper authors. "But then when I saw it under the binocular microscope, I said, 'Okay, this is the best tadpole ever!' Because up to now, there wasn't any other type of fossil tadpole with the gill skeleton preserved."

Well-preserved tadpole fossils like this one, found in Argentina, are especially hard to come by. Tadpoles are delicate creatures. They're made of much more cartilage (a type of strong tissue in

the joints) than a frog and this larval phase only lasts a few months before they transform. Because of this, the study has been really exciting to tadpole experts across the world.

Text B - CHINA BANS IVORY TRADE

China has put a ban on all ivory trade in the country. The ban came into effect on January 1 of 2017. 67 official ivory processing factories and shops were closed last year and a remaining 100 were shut down on December 31. A similar ban in the U.S. went into effect in June 2016.

The Chinese decision to stop the ivory trading business has been welcomed by the World Wildlife Fund and other organizations as a major effort in protecting the world's elephant population. It is estimated that over 30,000 African elephants are killed every year.

Chinese citizens regard ivory as a status symbol. People buy jewelry, chopsticks and other objects made of ivory, leading to the development of one of the world's largest ivory markets. When trading ivory was officially banned worldwide in 1990, China continued to sell it through shops and factories. The legal trade also brought illegal ivory into the country.

However, there is a major concern that the new law does not apply to Hong Kong, an important ivory trading hub. Authorities in the former British colony are working on a ban of their own, expected to take effect soon. On the other side, customers will probably go to Laos, Vietnam or other Asian countries, where trading laws are not so strict.

In the past year, ivory prices started to go down as more and more Chinese shops were closing. The ban will have a big impact on African countries, especially Kenya and Tanzania, where most of the elephant poaching is taking place.

Text C - DISCOVERY IN A MODEST HOME IN ANCIENT POMPEII

A tiny house full of exquisite frescos has been discovered in the ancient city of Pompeii. While the home is modest in size, researchers say that its decorations are equal to those of much larger nearby residences.

Found during recent excavations in the central district of the city, the painted dwelling also exemplifies a shift in Roman building styles. The small space doesn't include an atrium, which was a common feature in wealthy Pompeian homes, according to a statement from the Pompeii Archaeological Park. Traditionally, grand residences featured rooms surrounding a central, open-air space that housed a basin for collecting rainwater.

The newly discovered structure is called the House of Phaedra, named for a well-preserved painting of the mythological Hippolytus and Phaedra on its wall. In Euripides' ancient Greek tragedy Hippolytus, Phaedra, the wife of hero Theseus, falls in love with her stepson Hippolytus. In the fresco, Phaedra sits draped in cloth, while Hippolytus stands before her.

Other frescos show the sensual embrace of a satyr (a half-man, half-goat) and a nymph (a maiden goddess). Another wall painting likely depicts the goddess Venus with her beau Adonis, according to the park. One painted scene, though damaged, appears to illustrate the Judgment of Paris.

Inside the house, researchers discovered a small altar containing several ritual objects, including a ceramic container for burning incense, which still held material from its last use two millennia ago. They also found a lamp, parts of a dried fig and an iron knife.

Text D - THE WORLD'S FIRST BARBECUE MUSEUM IS COMING TO KANSAS CITY

A new museum will celebrate America's long love affair with fire- and-smoke-kissed meat. Next spring, the Museum of BBQ is scheduled to open in Kansas City, Missouri, a place that's famous for its thick, sweet-and-spicy sauce and burnt ends.

According to an announcement, it will be the world's first museum dedicated to barbecue. The museum is being co-founded by Jonathan Bender, a food writer and barbecue judge, and Alex Pope, a chef who owns a whole animal butcher shop.

Visitors will be able to explore two distinct "storytelling trails" spanning 4,223 total square feet, according to the announcement. First, they'll learn about the different components of barbecue,

including meat, rubs, spices, sauces, wood, fire and smoke, and learn how chefs transform these basic elements into **succulent** dishes.

Next, they'll explore four main regions of American barbecue—the Carolinas and Texas, and Memphis and Kansas City—and see what makes each one unique.

Little ones will also be able to play in a ball pit-style area designed to look like a giant crock of barbecued beans. That area will also feature custom bean illustrations and bean puns.

“We saw this as a natural fit, for kids and adults to experience it together,” Bender tells Starland News’ Joyce Smith.

To round off the experience, visitors will be able to examine rubs, sauces, aprons, shirts, hats and other barbecue-themed items in the gift shop.

Tasks 1-14. (14 points)

Example:

0. Which text states that people enjoy spending time outdoors cooking over an open fire?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E (None)

001. Which text reveals that an initiative was booed internationally?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E (None)

002. Which text denies a kind of contradiction between exterior and interior?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E (None)

003. Which text mentions some evidence of a species’s longer existence?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E (None)

004. Which text presents a venue with a combination of various enjoyable activities?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E (None)

005. Which text notices that an artefact helped to trace a new step in evolution?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E (None)

006. Which text refers to a scientific fact as a breathtaking one?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E (None)

007. Which text informs the reader about launching a unique project?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E (None)

008. Which text implies that a separate region is excluded?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E (None)

Answer the following questions by choosing the correct option.

009. In Text A, the underlined adjective “drastic” can be best replaced with:

- strong
- impressive
- sharp
- effective

010. In Text B the underlined verb “apply” can be best replaced with

- address
- belong
- relate
- use

011. In text C the underlined adjective “exquisite” can be best replaced with

- perfect
- extravagant
- colourful
- slim

012. In text C the underlined noun “beau” can be best replaced with

- brother
- admirer
- cousin
- stepson

013. In text D the underlined adjective “spanning” can be best replaced with

- uniting
- joining
- combining
- covering

014. In text D the underlined adjective “succulent” can be best replaced with
fleshy

juicy
meaty
beefy

Tasks 15-26. (12 points)

Read the article and circle the best option to complete the text – a, b, c, or d.

You Can Listen to a Lost Chopin Waltz That Hasn't Been Heard for Nearly Two Centuries

A curator in New York City has identified a lost waltz by Frederic Chopin, marking the first discovery of (015. _____) by the renowned 19th-century composer since the 1930s.

Robinson VcClellan, a curator at the Morgan Library & Museum, noticed the manuscript while cataloging items from a newly donated collection in 2019. The waltz was on a small piece of paper—about the size of an index card—with the name “Chopin” written at the top. However, when McClellan couldn't match it to any of Chopin's works, he grew increasingly (016. _____).

“I thought, ‘What's going on here? What could this be?’” he tells *the New York Times*' Javier C. Hernández. “I didn't recognize the music.”

Chopin is thought to have written dozens of waltzes, but only about 17 have been published. The rest were lost to history.

McClellan sent a picture of the manuscript to Jeffrey Kallberg, a Chopin (017. _____) at the University of Pennsylvania. Kallberg was bewildered when he received the image.

“My jaw dropped,” he tells the *Times*. “I knew I had never seen this before.”

McClellan and Kallberg started working to (018. _____) the piece, getting the help of Chopin experts and paper conservators, according to a statement from the museum. Along the way, they (019. _____) a few obstacles.

While the document features Chopin's name, the musician had not actually signed it himself. A handwriting analysis (020. _____) that the name was written by someone else. What's more, the piece is only about a minute long. Chopin is known for his (021. _____), but the newly discovered waltz is shorter than his others. Its structure is also quite striking.

Still, none of these qualities (022. _____) the composition from being a Chopin. It dates to around the 1830s, when the composer was in his 20s, and experts say he may have been experimenting more during these early years.

Born in Poland in 1810, Chopin was a child prodigy who began composing at a young age and went on to study at the Warsaw Conservatory. He died when he was only 39, but even though his career was cut short, he is considered one of history's greatest composers for the piano. During the authentication process, paper conservators confirmed that the paper and ink were (023. _____) with what Chopin would have used at the time. The handwriting also matches other manuscripts by the composer. Based on this research, the museum concludes there is a strong (024. _____) that Chopin wrote the piece.

“I feel about 98 percent sure,” McClellan tells BBC News' George Wright. “Many people who have heard it already feel in their (025. _____) this sounds like Chopin.”

Although the waltz is short, experts don't think it's unfinished. Chopin sometimes (026. _____) small pieces like this one to friends. However, he usually signed these works, “suggesting that he changed his mind and withheld” the newly discovered composition, according to the museum.

Thanks to McClellan's discovery, the music, which was hidden for nearly 200 years, is finally seeing the light of day.

015.

operetta
music
opera
musical

016.

perplexed
glad
scared
terrified

017.

friend
acquaintance
scholar
scientist

018.

perform
authenticate
play
restore

019.

provided
admitted
accepted
encountered

020.

expected
hypothesized
ciphered
revealed

021.

bravery
brevity
cowardness
courage

022.

prove
approve
qualify
disqualify

023.

irrelevant
confident
consistent
dependent

024.

likelihood
likeness
necessity
obligation

025.

eye
gut
mind
ear

026.

lend
borrowed
sold
gifted

Part 2. English in Use

Tasks 27-36. (20 points)

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence using the word given. DO NOT CHANGE the word given. DO NOT USE SHORT FORMS. The number of words you should write is specified in each sentence. Type the needed words. The words of your answers should be divided by one space.

Example:

0. I consider him my worst enemy.

look

I _____ my worst enemy (4 words)

look upon him as

027. My grandma always said there was an explanation for everything.

used

My grandma always _____ an explanation for everything. (5 words)

028. I can't wait to see you at the theatre tomorrow.

forward

I'm really _____ you at the theatre tomorrow. (4 words)

029. They made Jane apologize when she arrived late.

made

Jane _____ being late (5 words)

030. "Can I take a day off tomorrow?" asked Emma.

wondered

Emma _____ the next day off. (5 words)

031. He always wanted to be a scientist.

ambition

It was _____ a scientist. (4 words)

032. Which of the places you visited interested you most?

the

Which was _____ that you visited. (4 words)

033. The last time Nancy came here was in April.

since

Nancy _____ April. (5 words)

034. During our dinner my phone rang.

We

While _____ my phone rang. (4 words)

035. Can you swim faster than that?

fastest

Is _____ can swim? (4 words)

036. I recommend going by train.

you

I think _____ by train. (3 words)

Tasks 37-41. (10 points)

Choose the sentence in reported speech which is a summarized version of the first sentence in direct speech. The example (0) is done for you.

Example:

0. "No, you really must stay the night, Sophia", Ann said.

-Ann invited that Sophia would stay the night.

-Ann told Sophia that she could stay the night.

+Ann insisted on Sophia staying the night.

-Ann said that Sophia ought to stay the night.

037.

"Please, mom, don't open the window," said Sam.

Sam threatened his mom against opening the window.

Sam forbade his mother to open the window.

Sam said he'd rather his mom didn't open the window.

Sam said he didn't mind opening the window.

038.

"I am sure you killed Mrs. Burns," said the police inspector.

The police inspector accused me of murdering Mrs. Burns.

The police inspector said I should have murdered Mrs. Burns.

The police inspector admitted to suspecting me of killing Mrs. Burns.

I wasn't blamed for murdering Mrs. Burns by the police inspector.

039.

"This director can't be making another film with almost the same plot," exclaimed Ann.

Ann was excited that the director was making a new film with the same plot.

Ann doubted whether the director was capable of making another film with the same storyline.

Ann was sure the new film the director was making had a different plot

Ann exclaimed that the director was used to making films with a similar plot.

040.

"Analysis of the results proves we should have done more experiments," said the scientists.

Having analyzed the results the scientists decided they must have done more experiments.

The analysis of the results made the scientist wish they had done more experiments.

The analysis of the results convinced the scientists they needn't have done more experiments.

The scientists claimed the analysis of the results suggested they should experiment more.

041.

"You needn't have bought so much cheese," said Carol.

Carol said it is no use buying so much cheese.

Carol told me I didn't need to buy such a lot of cheese.

Carol reproached me for having bought so much cheese.
 Carol was very angry with me for buying an enormous amount of cheese.

Tasks 42-51. (20 points)

In the following sentences possible grammatical errors are underlined and lettered.

In each sentence there can be one error or no error at all. Find an error in each sentence if any. If a sentence is grammatically correct, select choice E. In choosing the answer, follow the requirements of standard written English.

Example:

0. Scientists have long warned (A) that these (B) hotter and drier climate will contribute (C) to fires becoming more (D) frequent and more intense. No error (E) (подчеркнуть в примере)

-A

+B

-C

-D

-E

042.

Belgium has always thought (A) of herself (B) as the home (C) of the tastiest (D) chocolate in the world. No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

043.

Some Belgians would suggest (1) that the best examples of the country's (B) skill at chocolate-making (C) are the small chocolates which are known as (D) pralines. No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

044.

According to researchers (A), we have reached the limits for (B) some sports, and no matter how hard (C) we train or however the technical improvements (D), we're just not going to get any better. No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

045.

A mathematical analysis (A) was carried out (B) to show that in fact the most (C) track and field records are broken by chance (D). No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

046.

Many drivers are anxious of (A) hiring or buying a car in order to travel (B) across the country as they are unfamiliar with (C) driving in remote areas and are unsure about costs (D). No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

047.

There are two kinds of packers in terms of (A) how much they carry out (B): some believe the less the better (C), others that more is best (D). No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

048.

Anyone can happily get by (A) with one suitcase because they will feel freer (B), pay fewer tips (C), have no back pains and have to keep track off (D) only one bag. No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

049.

If you lay out (A) everything (B) you intend to take (3), this will give you a good picture of what you are going to carry (C) and what you might have forgotten (D). No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

050.

You should beware of (A) buying a car in a small town and then (B) trying to sell it in a big city where the prices and demand (C) are considerably lowest (D). No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

051.

A team of experts having arrived at (A) Venice to save it from increasing incidents of flooding (B), came up with (C) a controversial plan to construct a barrier and were given a permission to go ahead (D). No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

Tasks 52-57. (12 points)

Read this passage and find the places for the idioms extracted from it. There are two extra idioms you will not need.

DOCTOR HERBERT'S CURE-ALL TONIC

Unlike some "remedies", whose creators' claims have to be taken with a pinch of salt, DR. HERBERT'S LIFE TONIC IS NO GIMMIK!

Whether you're (052. _____), or simply feeling a bit (053. _____) Dr. Herbert's Life tonic will have you feeling (054. _____) again in no time. But don't just take our word for it. Mr. Jethro Franklin of Dogdeville, Texas had been suffering from heart problems and severe head pains for over ten years before he turned to Doctor Herbert for help. "I had been (055. _____) for a long, long time before I came to Doctor Herbert. I had lost so much weight that I was nothing but skin and bone, and on most days, I couldn't even get out of bed in the mornings! However, Dr. Herbert's Life Tonic changed all that. I was just a shadow of my former self when I started taking his Life Tonic, but I was (056. _____) again in just two weeks. That was just six months ago and now I feel as strong as an ox – in fact, after giving me just three months to live last year, my doctor now says that I should live to a (057. _____)!"

052.

Going downhill
At death's door
Ripe old Age
Up and about
A man of words
Off colour
Old as the hills
Full of beans

053.

Going downhill
At death's door
Ripe old Age
Up and about
A man of words
Off colour
Old as the hills
Full of beans

054.

Going downhill
At death's door
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Old as the hills
Full of beans

Part 3. Cultural Study

Tasks 58-63. (12 points)

Read the following passages and identify the personality each text tells about. Choose the name of the personality from the list coming after the text. There are more names than you will need.

Text 1

The son of a distinguished geographer, he attended Yale University and studied painting in England. He returned home to work as an itinerant painter; his portraits still rank among the finest produced in the U.S. He cofounded the National Academy of Design and served as its first president. Independent of similar efforts in Europe, he developed an electric telegraph in 1832–35, believing his to be the first. He also developed the system of dots and dashes that were used to spell out messages over the telegraph. In 1838 it became known internationally as a code named for him. Though denied support from Congress for a transatlantic telegraph line, he received congressional support for the first U.S. telegraph line, from Baltimore to Washington; on its completion in 1844 he sent the message “What hath God wrought!”, which demonstrates his strong religious feelings. It was the fastest way to communicate over long distances. His patents brought him fame and wealth. The 1837 telegraph instrument is preserved by the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.

058.

King Arthur
Samuel F.B. Morse
Elizabeth II
Isaac Newton

Francis Scott Fitzgerald
 Lewis Carroll
 Walter Scott
 Thomas More
 Jonathan Swift
 James Watt

Text 2

He was a renowned English writer, mathematician, and photographer. Brought up in a family of clergymen, he exhibited talent in singing, storytelling and writing poetry from early childhood. He was excellent in academics and graduated with first-class honours in mathematics from Oxford. He was working there as a lecturer for 25 years. He shared a very special bond with little children. One of the daughters of the college dean convinced him to write the stories he would narrate to them during their outings. He obliged and his manuscript was soon published. The book became a global bestseller in children fiction and earned him worldwide fame. In 6 years the second book appeared. Both of them are amusing adventure stories of an intelligent little girl in a fantasy world inhabited by strange beings. The books are considered to be some of the best examples of the literary nonsense genre. A memorial stone in his honour is placed in Poets' Corner, Westminster Abbey.

059.

King Arthur
 Samuel F.B. Morse
 Elizabeth II
 Isaac Newton
 Francis Scott Fitzgerald
 Lewis Carroll
 Walter Scott
 Thomas More
 Jonathan Swift
 James Watt

Text 3

His ideas about motion and gravity are very important to the science of physics. He was born in England in the family of a farmer. Studying at Cambridge University he became interested in new scientific ideas that were coming out of Europe. They included the idea that Earth and the other planets travel around the sun. This idea challenged the long-held belief that Earth was the center of the universe. He also wanted to know what keeps the Moon in its orbit around Earth. He thought that only an attraction, or gravity, between Earth and the Moon could explain it. His work showed how gravity controls the motion of the planets around the sun as well as the motion of the Moon. The other great discovery came from his experiments with light which he did on his own. He found that when white light passes through a prism, or triangular piece of glass, it breaks up into a band of colors. He concluded that white light is a mixture of colors. In 1705 the queen of England made him a knight because of his breakthroughs.

060.

King Arthur
 Samuel F.B. Morse
 Elizabeth II
 Isaac Newton

Francis Scott Fitzgerald
 Lewis Carroll
 Walter Scott
 Thomas More
 Jonathan Swift
 James Watt

Text 4

A legendary British king who appears in a cycle of medieval romances (known as the Matter of Britain) as the sovereign of a knightly fellowship of the Round Table. It is not certain how these legends originated or whether the figure of him was based on a historical person. The legend possibly originated either in Wales or in those parts of northern Britain inhabited by Brythonic-speaking Celts. Assumptions that a historical leader led Welsh resistance to the West Saxon advance from the middle Thames are based on a conflation of two early writers, the religious polemicist Gildas and the historian Nennius, and on the *Annales Cambriae* of the late 10th century.

Early Welsh literature quickly made him into a king of wonders and marvels. A round table was made by him so that none of his barons, when seated at it, could claim precedence over the others. The story of his adventures became widely popular in the succeeding centuries. In the 21st century, the legend continues to have prominence, not only in literature but also in adaptations for theatre, film, television, comics and other media.

061.

King Arthur
 Samuel F.B. Morse
 Elizabeth II
 Isaac Newton
 Francis Scott Fitzgerald
 Lewis Carroll
 Walter Scott
 Thomas More
 Jonathan Swift
 James Watt

Text 5

A Scottish novelist, poet, historian, and biographer who is often considered both the inventor and the greatest practitioner of the historical novel. From his earliest years, he was fond of listening to his elderly relatives' accounts and stories of the Scottish Border, and he soon became a voracious reader of poetry, history, drama, fairy tales and romances. He was educated at the high school at Edinburgh then he was apprenticed to his father as writer to the lawyer. His immense youthful energy was diverted into social activities and into miscellaneous readings in Italian, Spanish, French, German, and Latin. In the mid-1790s he became interested in German Romanticism, Gothic novels. His interest in border ballads led to the collection *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border* (1802–03). The extremely popular series consists of more than two dozen works dealing with Scottish and English history, including the masterpieces *Rob Roy* (1817), and *Ivanhoe* (1819).

062.

King Arthur
 Samuel F.B. Morse
 Elizabeth II
 Isaac Newton

Francis Scott Fitzgerald
 Lewis Carroll
 Walter Scott
 Thomas More
 Jonathan Swift
 James Watt

Text 6

Though largely self-taught, he began work early as an instrument maker and later as an engineer. He became famous as an inventor whose steam engine contributed substantially to the Industrial Revolution. He was also known for patenting the double-acting engine and an early steam locomotive. In 1769 he took out the famous patent for "A New Invented Method of Lessening the Consumption of Steam and Fuel in Fire Engines." Demands for his engine came quickly from paper mills, flour mills, cotton mills, iron mills, distilleries, canals, and waterworks. Through its application in manufacturing and as a power source in ships and railway locomotives, the steam engine increased the productive capacity of factories and led to the great expansion of national and international transportation networks in the 19th century. He introduced the concept of horsepower; a unit of power is named for him. He also experimented on the strength of materials. He was a member of a group of writers and scientists who wished to advance the sciences and the arts. In 1785 he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of London.

063.

King Arthur
 Samuel F.B. Morse
 Elizabeth II
 Isaac Newton
 Francis Scott Fitzgerald
 Lewis Carroll
 Walter Scott
 Thomas More
 Jonathan Swift
 James Watt