

**Задания заключительного этапа Олимпиады школьников
Санкт-Петербургского государственного университета 2022/2023 учебного
года по иностранному языку (английский)**

Variant I

Английский язык

1. Comment on the following extract.

Laughter

Laughter just might be the most contagious of all emotional experiences. Although laughter is one of the distinguishing features of human beings, little is known about the mechanisms behind it. Laughter is not limited to communicating mirth. It can be triggered by embarrassment and other social discomforts. Laughter may have evolved to facilitate bonding across large groups of people. In primates, the grooming process releases chemicals that help build social bonds; humans eventually came to live in groups that were larger than the grooming process allowed. Laughter, as well as speech, enables us to bond quickly and easily with a large community.

Although laughter is not generally under voluntary control, it has numerous health benefits. Bouts of laughter can boost the immune system, relax muscles, aid circulation, and protect against heart disease. It can abet mental health, too; laughter can lower anxiety, release tension, improve mood, and foster resilience.

A hearty chuckle releases endorphins, feel-good neurotransmitters that have an effect similar to narcotics, and endorphins are part of the reason laughing is so contagious. Laughing also has many health benefits such as increasing blood flow and improving mental and physical resilience. In fact, it's not unlike a vigorous workout session.

Psychologists agree that laughter isn't really about humor. He contends that it's more about relationships. Cutting-edge humor straight out of Comedy Central is great, but people actually laugh more in conversation and through interaction.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

2. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below:

That week the principal of our school announced over the loudspeaker that the Parent-Teacher Association was giving a Thanksgiving square dance for the three sixth-grade classes. For the next two weeks our gym period was devoted to square-dancing lessons. Mr. Benedict said if we were being given this party the least we could do to show our appreciation was to learn to do the basic steps. We practiced with records and Mr. Benedict jumped around a lot, clapping his hands.

The problem with square-dance lessons was that most of the boys were a lot more interested in stepping on our feet than they were in learning how to dance. And a few of them were so good at it they could step on us in time to the music. Mostly, I concentrated on not getting my feet squashed.

On the morning of the square dance I dressed in my new skirt and blouse. We had a genuine square-dance caller. He stood on the stage and told us what steps to do.

We had to line up every time there was a new dance. The girls lined up on one side and the boys on the other. That's how you got a partner. The only trouble was there were four more girls than boys, so whoever wound up last on line had to dance with another leftover girl.

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.

“Ring out the old, ring in the new,” wrote Alfred Lord Tennyson, the nineteenth-century English poet. And that’s exactly that Americans do every December 31. New Year’s Eve is a time for merriment. At midnight, bells ring, horns blow, and friends change kisses. Everyone stays up lately to celebrate the arrival of another January.

At home or in restaurants, most Americans spend the final hours of the old year and the first hours of the new year drinking and dining with friends. One popular drink is eggnog, a thick, yellow concoction made with eggs, milk or cream, and sugar. Throughout the Christmas season, eggnog mixed with rum or brandy is a familiar party beverage.

One of the noisiest and crowdest of New Year’s Eve celebrations takes place in New York City at the Times Square. Thousands of New Yorkers gather there, and millions of Americans across the country join them via TV. The New Year arrives earlier on the East Coast than in other parts of the country because the United States span four time zones.

The New Year’s Day had traditionally been the occasion for starting new programs and giving away bad habits. Many Americans make New Year’s resolutions, promising themselves and their families to improve their behaviour.

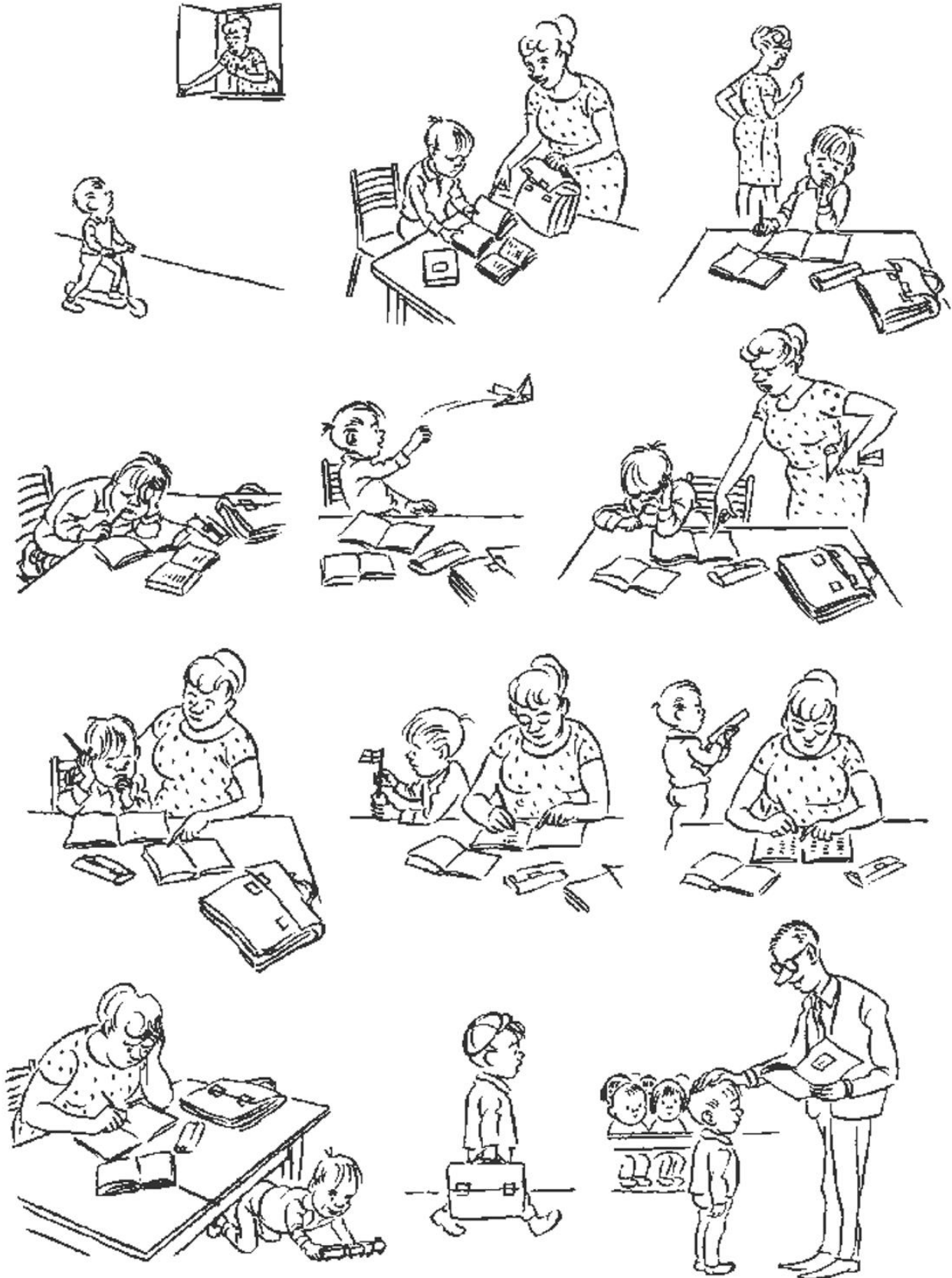
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4. Comment on the following saying: *Hold fast to the words of your ancestors.*

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

5. Comment on the story in pictures.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).



6. Explain the processes below as if you were talking to a six-year-old child. Remember to keep your English clear and simple answering the question.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

Explain *why the Sun disappears at night?*

7. Find synonyms of the following words and underline them.

1. timeless

credulous vehement enduring classy

2. arrest

detain charged convicted sentence

3. cogent

truculent convincing brusque tentative

4. ponderous

unwieldy contemplative dreamy compact

5. contrite

defeated disheartened apologetic stolid

6. austere

destitute prodigal ostentatious strict

7. indignant

terrified seditious uptight disgruntled

8. fastidious

ambivalent careless meticulous endemic

9. obstinate

flaky passionate stubborn dilettantish

10. restive

calm pacific tired restless

8. Explain the meaning of the following words which reflect peculiarities of British/American cultures.

(1). Self-deprecation

(2). *The Capitol*

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

	<i>Book</i>	<i>Author</i>
1.	The History of Tom Jones, a Foundling	
2.	The Quiet American	
3.	Jude the Obscure	
4.	The Remains of the Day	
5.	All the King's Men	
6.	Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus	
7.	Lord of the Flies	
8.	Martin Eden	
9.	Our Mutual Friend	
10.	To the Lighthouse	

Authors: Mary Shelley, Virginia Woolf, Charles Dickens, Henry Fielding, William Golding, Graham Greene, Thomas Hardy, Kazuo Ishiguro, Jack London, Robert Penn Warren.

10. 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. "How did you know I wanted this for my birthday?" "_____".
2. I wish I didn't have to work overtime, but I simply have no choice, what with two young children to support. Somebody must _____.
3. Your information is very valuable. However, it's _____ – I am afraid we have already finalized the report and sent it off.
4. The problem with this article is that the author is getting caught up in details and missing _____.
5. The management have clearly _____ . Where are they going to find the money to pay all the new staff they have hired recently?
6. The patient had been suffering from a rare disease for months before his doctor had _____ and was finally able to figure out what the problem was.

7. Conflicts may happen in any team. I am sure your classmates will be able _____ and remain good friends.

8. After 25 years in show business, the rock band is very much _____ and remains hugely popular despite having released several unremarkable songs.

9. My parents met in Paris and fell _____ in love with each other. They got married three weeks after their first date.

10. Hurray, the exams are over! Let's get dressed up, go out and _____ tonight!

Idioms: *bitten off more than they could chew; a day late and a dollar short; an aha moment; bring home the bacon; alive and kicking; the big picture; paint the town red; head over heels; a little bird told me; to iron out their differences.*

Variant II

Английский язык

2. Comment on the following extract.

Shyness

Some people welcome new experiences and new people. They look forward to any opportunity to socialize. They're often the first to introduce themselves and they jump into a conversation easily. Other people are quiet and shy, and prefer to warm up slowly to new people or situations.

Shyness is an emotion that affects how a person feels and behaves around others. Shyness can mean feeling uncomfortable, self-conscious, nervous, bashful, timid, or insecure. People who feel shy sometimes notice physical sensations like blushing or feeling speechless, shaky, or breathless. Shyness is partly a result of genes a person has inherited. It's also influenced by behaviors they've learned, the ways people have reacted to their shyness, and life experiences they've had.

Like other emotions, shy feelings can be mild, medium, or intense — depending on the situation and the person. Someone who usually or often feels shy might think of himself or herself as a shy person. People who are shy may need more time to get used to change. They might prefer to stick with what's familiar.

People are **more likely** to feel shy when they're not sure how to act, don't know how others will react, or when attention is on them. People are **less likely** to feel shy in situations where they know what to expect, feel sure of what to do or say, or are among familiar people. Sometimes being quiet and introverted is a sign that someone has a naturally shy personality. But that's not always the case. Being quiet is not always the same as being shy.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

3. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below:

The next day we went to the hardware store where my father bought a deluxe power lawn mower. That evening, after our first at-home-in-New-Jersey supper, my father went out to cut the grass with his new mower. He did fine on the front, but when he got around to the back yard he had to check to see how much grass there was in the bag on the mower. It's a very simple thing to do. The man at the hardware store demonstrated just how to do it. Only you have to turn the mower off before you reach inside and my father forgot that.

I heard him yell, "Barbara-I've had an accident!" He ran to the house. He grabbed a towel and wrapped it around his hand before I had a chance to see anything. Then he sat down on the floor and turned very pale.

"Oh my God!" my mother said when the blood seeped through the towel. "Did you cut it off?"

When I heard that I raced outside to look for the limb. I didn't know if they were talking about the whole hand or what, but I had read about how you're supposed to save limbs if they get cut off because sometimes the doctor can sew them back on. But I couldn't find a hand or any fingers and by the time I came back into the house the police were there.

4. 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.

Concerned about pollution? Than start depolluting...

If you're thinking of buying a metal antipollution badge, don't! Metal badges are indestructive.

The world's water supply is limited. If too much water is used, it has to be recycled quickly – too quickly to be properly purified.

Cars are major polluters. Better for others if you walk or bike; better for you either.

Stop to smoke! It hurts you – and those around you.

Be critical of supersonic transport. Remember there is such thing as noise pollution.

Fight litter and litterbugs. Next time you see someone to drop a sweetwrapper or an empty matchbox, pick it up and hand it back to him politely.

If we used only as much detergent as recommended by the manufacturer on the packet, pollution of rivers and lakes would drop on 40%.

Be container-conscious: if you can't destroy it, or give it back, don't buy it. What happens to PVC bottles? They can't be burnt as PVC (polyvinyl chloride) then gives up deadly hydrochloric acid.

Have you ever wandered why are you tired – even after a good night's sleep? The chances are that though you weren't disturbed by noise in the night, your dreams were and this, doctors say, is harmful.

Keep your devices turned down at night and maybe your neighbours will follow your example.

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4. Comment on the following saying: *When the going gets tough, the tough get going.*

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

5. Comment on the story in pictures.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).



6. Explain the processes below as if you were talking to a six-year-old child. Remember to keep your English clear and simple answering the question.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

Explain why there are 12 months in a year.

7. Find synonyms of the following words and underline them.

1. funambulist

a traveler	a tightrope walker	promptness in response	a singer in a choir
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2. captious

coherent	hypercritical	fastidious	adept
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3. bibulous

bedraggled	supreme	clearheaded	absorbent
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4. discomfit

supersede	eliminate	nonplus	soothe
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5. impecunious

penniless	prosperous	fastidious	fail-safe
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6. chivy

transpire	entertain	acquiesce	pester
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7. trenchant

long-term	smooth	keen	apathetic
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8. turpitude

tenuousness	maxim	depravity	significance
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9. redoubtable

formidable	disinterested	esoteric	vacillating
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10. noisome

sanitary	harmful	clamorous	fragmentary
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8. Explain the meaning of the following words which reflect peculiarities of British/American cultures.

(1). *The Order of the Bath*

(2). *Caucus*

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

	<i>Book</i>	<i>Author</i>
1.	<i>Far From the Madding Crowd</i>	
2.	The Moon and Sixpence	
3.	The Golden Bowl	
4.	The Grapes of Wrath	
5.	Tender is the Night	
6.	Ulysses	
7.	Bleak House	
8.	The Man of Property	
9.	Middlemarch	
10.	The Way We Live Now	

Authors: George Eliot, Charles Dickens, Francis Scott Fitzgerald, John Galsworthy, **Thomas Hardy**, Henry James, James Joyce, W. Somerset Maugham, John Steinbeck, Anthony Trollope.

10. Below is the list of some of the funniest English idioms, most of which came from British and some from American English. Match them with the situations given both lexically and grammatically.

1. He says his latest video went viral. Well, I think this story simply _____.
Number one, the video is dumb and primitive. Number two, it's not even available online!
2. Did you hear Sam has just got promoted AND won a jackpot in a lottery? To some people, _____!
3. At the press conference, the politician kept _____ when asked direct questions on controversial topics and tried to avoid saying anything relevant to the subject.
4. Thank you for spotting that error in my research data. However, this doesn't mean you should _____ with me. Don't you recall how many times I have helped you out?
5. Your house is so conveniently located – just a short drive from the city centre, and close to the national park too! You really have _____!
6. It will be _____ before the local authorities repair this bridge. So far, they haven't delivered on any of their promises.
7. My partner and I are _____. We enjoy doing many activities together; we laugh at the same things; some people say we even look alike.
8. The manufacturers found themselves _____: they could either increase their prices and lose customers – or lower the prices and lose profits.
9. Are you saying that you have an exam tomorrow but you haven't done any revision? Now that's just _____!
10. "I lent my brother \$200 ages ago, and he still hasn't paid me back." "Why don't you just tell him you need this money? Remember: _____."

Idioms: *a cold day in July; an accident waiting to happen; act high and mighty; the best of both worlds; between the devil and the deep blue sea; a cat in gloves catches no mice; doesn't hold water; beating around the bush; like two peas in a pod; life is a bowl of cherries*

Variant III

АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

1. Comment on the following extract.

Surprise

Surprise is one of the major human emotions and arises when we encounter sudden and unexpected sounds or movements. As the briefest of the universal emotions, its function is to focus our attention on determining what is happening and whether or not it is dangerous.

Some people never want to be surprised, even if it is by a positive event. They tell people never to surprise them. Others love being surprised; they deliberately leave many things unplanned so that they can often experience the unexpected. They seek experiences in which it is likely they will be surprised.

Surprise is the briefest of all the emotions, lasting a few seconds at most. Other emotions can be very brief, but they can also endure much longer, whereas surprise has a fixed, limited duration. Within seconds, surprise passes as we figure out what is happening. From there, surprise may merge into fear, amusement, relief, anger, disgust, and so forth depending upon what it was that surprised us. It may also be followed by no emotion at all if we determine that the surprising event was of no consequence to us.

Whereas surprise is an emotion, startle is a physical reflex. Startle has an even more constrained timing than surprise: the startle expression becomes apparent in 1/4 of second and it's over in 1/2 second. While being told about a surprise beforehand can eliminate feeling surprise, no one can inhibit the startle reaction. Being warned that you will be startled by a loud noise may reduce, but won't eliminate, its expression. Conversely, you can't be surprised if you know what's going to happen.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

2. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below:

We got in the car and off we went, in search of adventure. We parked beneath a huge old tree. About six metres from the ground the first branch stuck out over the road. We discussed what we might do. One of the guys remarked how the loop at the bottom end of our tow-rope looked like a noose - used for hanging. All at once the young thrill-seekers hatched an idea – we would fake a hanging! I was nominated as 'hangee'.

The plan was absurdly simple. As I stood upon the roof of the car, the rope was threaded down my jacket through my collar and down one leg of my jeans. I put my foot through the loop at the bottom and the car was driven away and hidden down the road. There I hung, motionless. The boys rolled about laughing until.. A car, I hear a car!

To our collective disappointment, the car simply turned off for town without even slowing. We discussed the situation, surely they had seen me, hadn't they? Then we heard another car, but still without any apparent reaction. We played the game about five or six times, but as no one seemed to notice. What we did not know was that every car that had passed had definitely seen 'the body' and each one, too scared to stop, had driven directly to the local Police Station.

5. 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.

Have you ever wondered what its like to be left-handed? Left-handed people make great tennis players, and many famous people have been left-handed. But just think of the problems they are having every day. Opening a bottle with a right-handed corkscrew; using a tin opener; writing in an ordinary address book. Potato peelers, electric irons, pen nibs and tens more of the things that we use all the time without thinking are of little or no use to the left-hander.

But their difficulties have not gone unnoticed. In the heart of the London's Soho is a little business called 'Anything Left-Handed Limited', and the people there have left-handers very much in mind. The biggest problems for left-handers, says the owner Mr Broom, occur in the two activities of writing and cutting. Left-handed children face they're first problems early on – often they are discouraged of using the left hand at all in writing, which can only make things more bad. Those who do write left-handed have their own problems with pen nibs slanted the wrong way so that they are awkward to use. Mr Broom sells pen nibs, and he has solved the problem of cutting, either. Using ordinary scissors can be a great struggle for left-handers. Turning them upside down won't do – to work properly the blades have to be reversed.

As well as scissors the shop sells a wide range of left-handed knives with the cutting edge on the right, not the left. There is even a special knife for cutting horse's tails! 'Anything Left-Handed Limited' aims to help left-handers whatever they want to do – "You've a right," as they say, "to be left!"

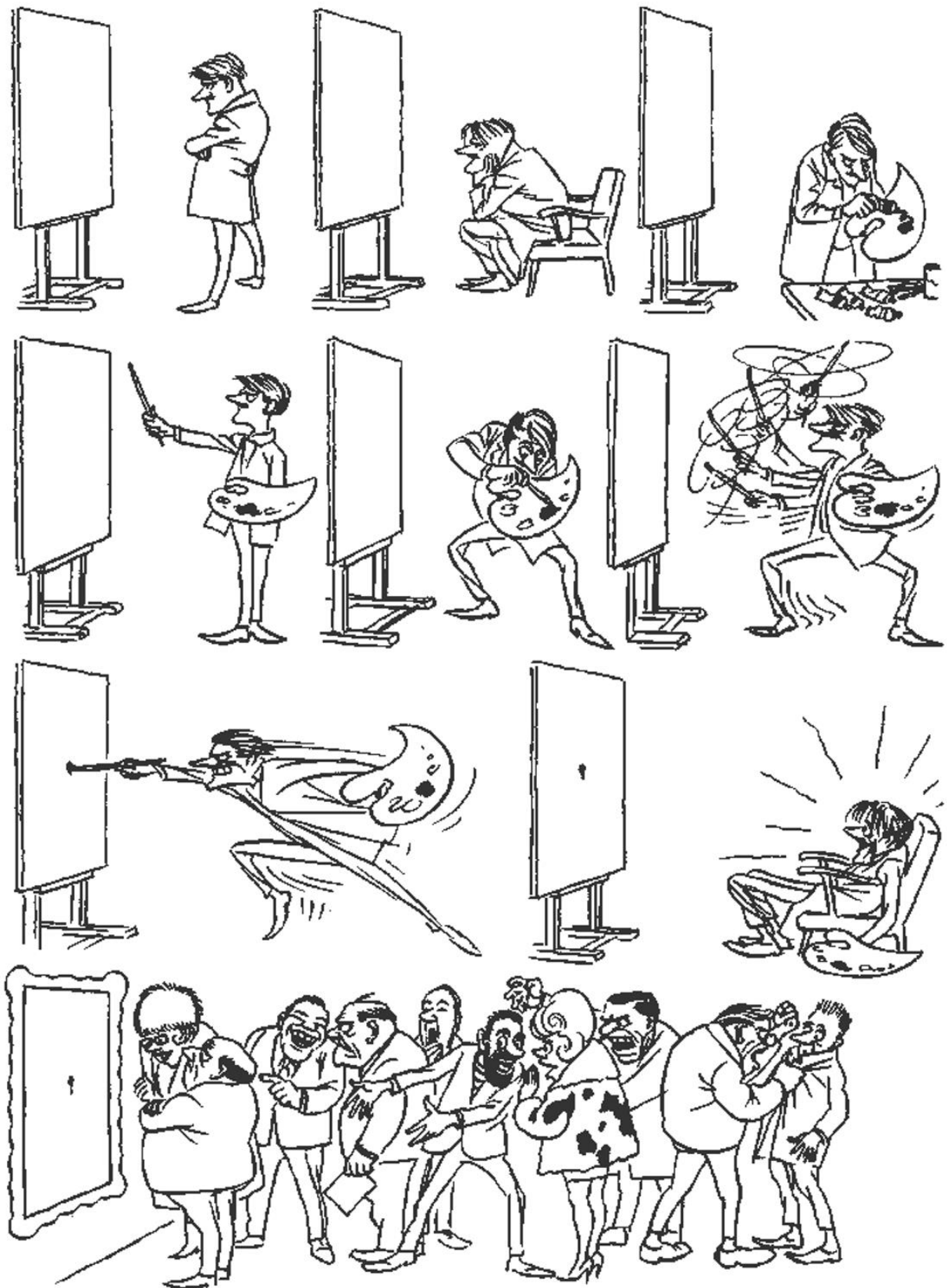
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4. Comment on the following saying: *A rolling stone gathers no moss.*

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

5. Comment on the story in pictures.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).



6. Explain the processes below as if you were talking to a six-year-old child. Remember to keep your English clear and simple answering the question.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

Explain *how planes fly*

7. Find synonyms of the following words and underline them.

1. enmity

salary	expectation	hostility	intelligence
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2. fray

battle	noise	crowd	motion
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3. flaccid

neat	political	limp	meaningful
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4. intuitive

single	openhearted	sincere	perceptive
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5. insurrection

crisis	compulsion	rebellion	awakening
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6. gall

deceit	nerve	courtesy	shame
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7. ensue

follow	delete	shut	offer
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8. intrigue

mend	threaten	attach	interest
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9. eleemosynary

modern	educational	charitable	lucky
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10. ennui

satisfaction	desperation	boredom	glee
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8. Explain the meaning of the following words which reflect peculiarities of British/American cultures.

(1). *Suffragettes*

(2). *The running mate*

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

	<i>Book</i>	<i>Author</i>
1.	Vanity Fair	
2.	The Thirty-Nine Steps	
3.	An American Tragedy	
4.	The Public Image	
5.	The Wind in the Willows	
6.	Of Human Bondage	
7.	The Wings of the Dove	
8.	Wuthering Heights	
9.	Uncle Tom's Cabin	
10.	Cat's Cradle	

Authors: Emily Brontë, Muriel Spark, Harriet Beecher Stowe, John Buchan, Theodore Dreiser, Kenneth Grahame, Henry James, W. Somerset Maugham, William Makepeace Thackeray, Kurt Vonnegut.

10. Below is the list of some of the funniest English idioms, most of which came from British and some from American English. Match them with the situations given both lexically and grammatically.

1. "How was your interview?" "_____". They asked me a few questions, then said I was ideal for the job!" "Congratulations!"

2. I know we are never going to overcome our opinion differences on this matter, so let's just _____, shall we?

3. We still haven't decided where we are going to stay during our holiday trip. I guess we'll have to _____.
4. Young children may often misbehave because they feel this kind of conduct is a _____ way of getting attention.
5. Her boyfriend broke up with her, and to _____, he did it through a text message. The man didn't even have the decency to phone her!
6. This essay needs a solid structure and a strong conclusion. As it is, your ideas seem to be _____.
7. We wanted to organise a surprise birthday party for dad, but mum _____ and ruined our plan. Well, one can't control everything.
8. "You are being unusually quiet tonight – _____. Is anything the matter?" "Not really. I've just had a hard day, that's all."
9. The online store was _____ with orders; as a result, some purchases were delivered later than planned.
10. This mobile application is easy to install and simple to use even if you are _____.

Idioms: *a penny for your thoughts; add insult to injury; agree to disagree; sure-fire; let the cat out of the bag; like taking candy from a baby; snowed under; play it by ear; all thumbs; all over the map*

Variant IV

Английский язык

4. Comment on the following extract.

Happiness

Does happiness matter? People react to this question in surprisingly different ways. Some suggest that there are far more significant things to worry about; others see happiness as vitally important and something that every human being ultimately wants in life.

Happiness relates to how we feel, but it is more than just a passing mood. We are emotional beings and experience a wide range of feelings on a daily basis. Negative emotions – such as fear and anger – help us to get away from danger or defend ourselves. And positive emotions – such as enjoyment and hope – help us to connect with others and build our capacity to cope when things go wrong.

One popular misconception about happiness is that happy people are somehow more likely to be lazy or ineffective. In fact research shows the opposite is true: happiness doesn't just feel good, it actually leads to a wide range of benefits for our performance, health, relationships and more. In healthcare, doctors who are happy have been found to make faster and more accurate diagnoses. In education, schools that focus on children's social and emotional wellbeing experience significant gains in academic attainment as well as improvements in pupil behaviour. Happiness has also been linked to better decision-making and improved creativity.

So, rather than success being the key to happiness, research shows that happiness could in fact be the key to success.

There is even evidence that happiness is contagious, so that happier people help others around them to become happier too.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

2. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below:

Janie and I had gotten pretty friendly. We were especially friendly in gym because Ruth, the girl who was second in line, was absent a lot. So Janie and I got to talk and once I came right out and asked her if she went to church.

"When I have to," she said.

So I asked her if I could go with her some time just to see what it was like and she said, "Sure, how about Sunday?"

So I went. The funniest thing was it was just like temple. Except it was all in English. But we read from a prayer book that didn't make sense and the minister gave a sermon I couldn't follow and I counted eight black hats, four red ones, six blue and two fur. At the end of the service everyone sang a hymn. Then we stood on line to shake hands with the minister. By then I was a pro at it.

Janie introduced me. "This is my friend Margaret Simon. She's no religion."

I almost fainted. What did Janie have to go and say that for? The minister looked at me like I was a freak. Then he smiled with an Aha-maybe-I'll-win-her look.

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.

In the early days of the 19th century, going home for Christmas meant travelling by coach for anyone not rich enough to owe a carriage or to hire a post-chaise; and by 1820s, when Britain could boast of the finest public transport system in the world, even the well-to-do gentry often preferred the fast stage and mail coaches to the hazards of taking a long-distant journey alone.

Passengers crammed themselves into the inside of the coach with their children and their dogs, their boxes and bundles of luggage they have brought with them. But at Christmas time the coachmen somehow managed to pack everyone in, turning blind eye to the strict regulations against overloading.

It was always cold on the road at night and the perils of frost and fog added to the passenger's discomforts. One outsider was found freezed to death when the mail coach stopped at Chippenham. Fog was no less frightening than the chances of freezing. If visibility was very badly when the mails left London in the evening, the Post Office sent outriders with torches ahead of the coaches to guide the coachman out of the city; otherwise, he had to rely at his own skill and the instinct of the horses to find the road when he could sometimes see no more than the rumps of the wheelers. But the passengers suffered most in the snow, when the roads were merged into the countryside by the drifting whiteness that obscured everything and caused even the most experienced coachman to loose his way.

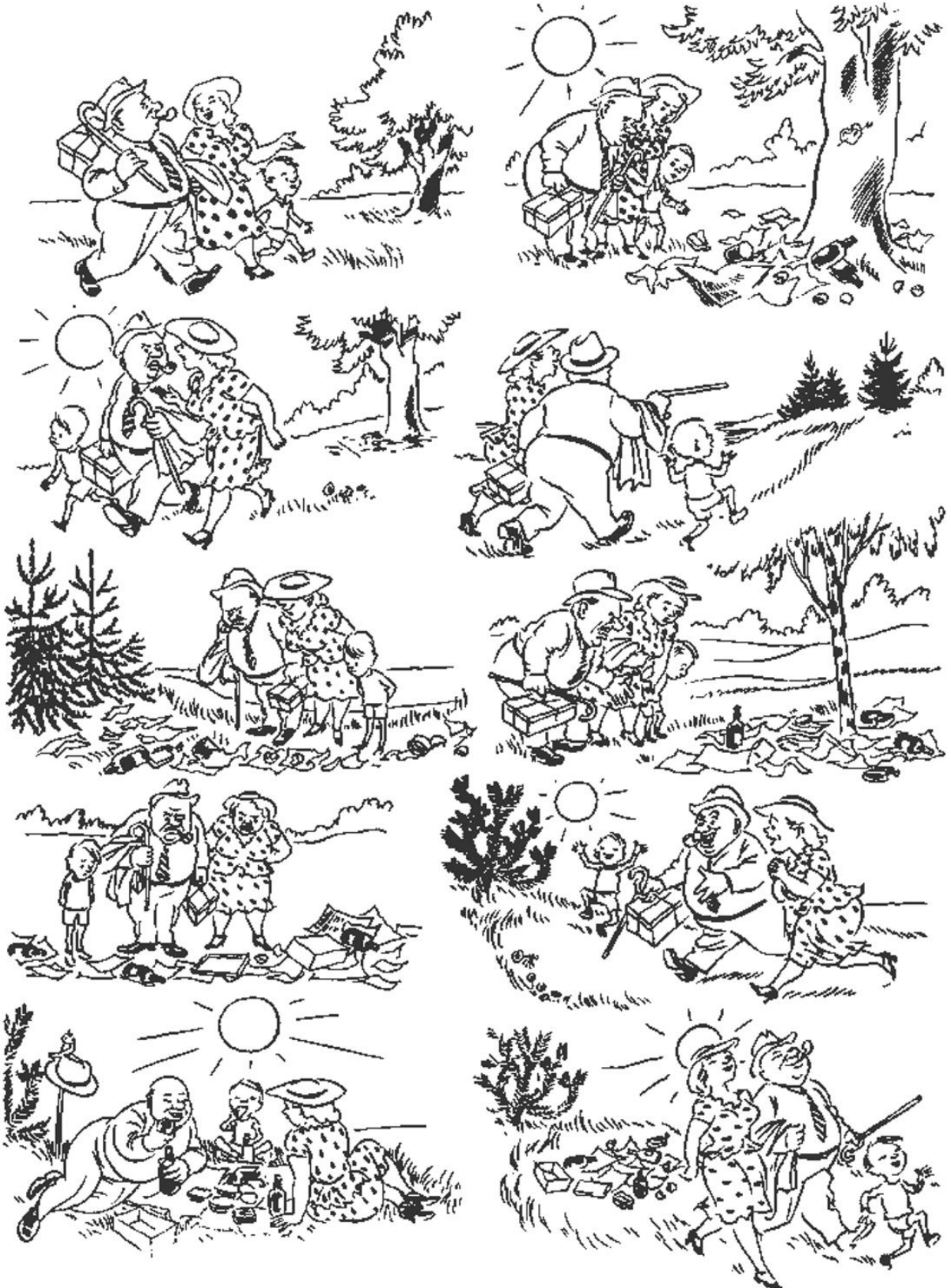
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4. Comment on the following saying: *Time and tide wait for no man.*

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

5. Comment on the story in pictures.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).



6. Explain the processes below as if you were talking to a six-year-old child. Remember to keep your English clear and simple answering the question.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

Explain *why metal ships don't sink*

7. Find synonyms of the following words and underline them.

1. malevolent

relaxed	selfish	laughable	hateful
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2. atrocious

awful	resourceful	inspiring	challenging
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3. animus

selfishness	hostility	selection	partner
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4. assent

agreement	business	confidence	resistance
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5. derelict

cluttered	abandoned	accessible	hidden
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6. latent

reliable	inactive	second-hand	priceless
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7. aversion

dislike	luck	appetite	bonus
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8. copacetic

disappointing	exact	fluffy	satisfactory
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9. dissipate

scatter	lose	retrieve	secure
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10. inclement

steady	fearful	stormy	funny
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8. Explain the meaning of the following words which reflect peculiarities of British and American cultures.

(1). *The West Lothian question*

(2). *Swing states*

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

	<i>Book</i>	<i>Author</i>
1.	Lord of the Flies	
2.	To the Lighthouse	
3.	Beloved	
4.	The Light That Failed	
5.	The Sun Also Rises	
6.	The Invisible Man	
7.	The French Lieutenant's Woman	
8.	Wide Sargasso Sea	
9.	The Remains of the Day	
10.	The Scarlet Letter	

*Authors: Toni Morrison, Jean Rhys, Virginia Woolf, John Fowles, **William Golding**, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Kazuo Ishiguro, Rudyard Kipling, Ernest Hemingway, H.G. Wells.*

10. Below is the list of some of the funniest English idioms, most of which came from British and some from American English. Match them with the situations given both lexically and grammatically.

1. This city has such a lot to offer visitors, from beautiful architecture to excellent food and great nightlife. I feel like a _____ !

2. To create a work that is unusual and appeals to the audience in a meaningful way, an artist must be able to _____ and make even the ordinary things seem special.

3. We tried this new recipe last week and were very pleased with the result. Our guests also gave it a _____.

4. "I have this idea for a start-up, but it needs some development. Right now it looks a bit like a _____." "Think carefully. Life is too short to spend it on things that aren't going to work."
5. The world leaders are meeting at a summit to discuss how to approach the global challenges and _____ on injustice, poverty and climate change.
6. People in new relationships may sometimes misinterpret each other's behavior and _____. Don't jump to conclusions or assume the worst about your partner!
7. This discussion is getting us nowhere. Let's make a decision now, or else we will just sit here talking _____.
8. Your research adviser is a brilliant expert. Granted, she looks stern and intimidating, but don't let it scare you off – she is _____.
9. "The job promotion comes with a higher salary, but you will also have to take on many new responsibilities." "Well, I guess _____."
10. The Prime Minister's joke made the audience laugh and cheer. Later, however, this _____ remark was heavily criticised on social media for being insensitive.

Idioms: *turn the tables; there's no such thing as a free lunch; think outside the box; thumbs-up; until the cows come home; tongue-in-cheek; get the wrong end of the stick; all bark and no bite; kid in a candy store; pie in the sky*

Variant V

Английский язык

5. Comment on the following extract.

Stress

Stress is often viewed as an exclusively negative sensation: work deadlines pile up, family drama takes its toll, and we wind up drained. Moreover, many recent social phenomena are attributed to stress. For example, ‘quite quitters’, people who have given up putting in additional effort at their workplace, are believed to retreat into their job description due to the stress associated with monitoring their emails during the weekend or working on a pressing project during the evening. Another stress-inflicted condition is pandemic-induced burnout, which meant working in unsuitable conditions, suffering through uncertainty, and being overworked for the last several years.

These phenomena are definitely having a moment. In small doses, though, stress can actually have some unexpected upsides. While heightened stress can feel overwhelming and decrease motivation, a little bit can be useful when it comes to kickstarting your work. The stress of the deadline can help people focus because time is running out. Stress also forces people to problem-solve, ultimately building confidence and skills that are important for future experiences. Thanks to increased resiliency and confidence, people tend to feel less threatened and more in control of their situations.

One of the most surprising benefits of stress is that it can help build interpersonal relationships, which are beneficial to overall health. When people feel loved and understood by another person, they feel less alone and isolated. Support groups, for example, are a great place for people to talk about their stress with others, which builds compassion and positive hormones.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

2. Write the appropriate ending to the story given below:

A young air force officer had a very beautiful wife. Early each morning he left his house and went to the airport, and an hour later his wife always left the house too, with a big white towel, and went for a walk on the beach.

Her husband always flew over every morning, and when she saw his airplane, she held the white towel high above her head. When the husband saw it, he made either the left wing or the right wing of his airplane go down. The left wing meant, ‘I will be busy tonight and won’t be home.’ The right wing meant, ‘In eight hours I will be holding you in my arms.’

One morning he flew over with eight other aeroplanes, and his left wing went down. Before his wife had time to feel sad about this, all the other aeroplanes flew over, and each of them turned its right wing down.

4. 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.

In 1959 Americans welcomed Alaska into the Union as the 49th state. Attitudes toward Alaska were different in 1867, when the peninsula was purchased from Russia. Than most Americans had a little interest in “586,000 squared miles of icebergs and polar bears” - beyond Canada’s western borders, far from the settled areas of the United States.

In those parts which lie above the Arctic Circle, Alaska still is a land of icebergs and polar bears. Ice masses lay buried in the earth, which is permanently frozen to a depth of several hundreds feet. From early May until early August, the midnight sun never sets on this flat, treeless region, but the sun cannot melt the icy soil more than two-thirds of a meter down.

Alaska is America’s largest state, but only about 302,000 people live there. According to estimates, 2,000,000 acres of it’s land area is fit for plowing, but only about 12,000 acres are being cultivated.

The Japan Current of Pacific warms Alaska, and the Arctic chills it. The temperature may be dropped as low as –47 Fahrenheit in some places and may raise to 86 degrees in other parts of the state. In a year, more than 450 inches of snow may fall in the north, while some 85 inches of rainfall may descend upon the capital city of Juneau in the south.

	The wrong variant	The correct variant
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

4. Comment on the following saying: *Close, but no cigar.*

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

5. Comment on the story in pictures.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).



6. Explain the processes below as if you were talking to a six-year-old child. Remember to keep your English clear and simple answering the question.

(Advisable length of the answer is up to 200 words).

Explain *what keeps water on the Earth while it rotates.*

7. Find synonyms of the following words and underline them.

1. Sluggish

crazy rich rare lackadaisical

2. Loaded

capable unkind laden mature

3. Neglectful

selective annoying remiss safe

4. Only

honest sole cruel heartfelt

5. Shameful

terrifying communal louche near

6. Occasional

unnatural sporadic constant orderly

7. Clever

shrewd ugly unknowing good-natured

8. Payment

gift remuneration island holiday

9. Concise

involved laconic explanatory young

10. Pay

swindle deposit remit transfer

8. Explain the meaning of the following words which reflect peculiarities of British and American cultures.

(1). *The Senedd*

(2). *Gerrymandering*

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

	<i>Book</i>	<i>Author</i>
1.	Great Expectations	
2.	Brideshead Revisited	
3.	Rebecca	
4.	East of Eden	
5.	North and South	
6.	A Farewell to Arms	
7.	The War of the Worlds	
8.	Emma	
9.	Wuthering Heights	
10.	Mrs. Dalloway	

Authors: Jane Austen, Emily Brontë, Elizabeth Gaskell, Daphne du Maurier, Virginia Woolf, Charles Dickens, Ernest Hemingway, John Steinbeck, Evelyn Waugh, H.G. Wells.

10. Below is the list of some of the funniest English idioms, some of which came from British and some from American English. Match them with the situations given both lexically and grammatically.

1. Arnold will give your books back _____, so forget about them.
2. What's wrong with daddy? He's feeling a little _____ so don't make much noise and let him rest.
3. When she first started working for that company, she was a real _____.
4. You can tell her to clean her room until you are _____, but she won't do it.
5. He keeps trying to get his first book published but I think he's _____.
6. Crag just stood there and didn't say a thing. I think he had _____.
7. Those three boys are cooped up inside the room. I wonder what _____ they are planning this time?
8. At last! Rob _____ and come round to my way of thinking.
9. He _____, working in the daytime and going to school at night. I don't know how much longer he can go on like this.
10. Come on, Bob! Tell us what you think about our little party. What's the matter? _____?

see the light, monkey business, under the weather, when pigs fly, cat got your tongue, eager beaver, flogging a dead horse, blue in the face, a frog in the throat, burn the candles at both ends