

**Задания заключительного этапа Олимпиады школьников
Санкт-Петербургского государственного университета
2023/2024 учебного года по иностранному языку**

**Английский язык
7-8 класс**

Variant 1

I. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen friend Zoe. This is what she wrote:

... I'm so fascinated that smartphones are now actively making their way into classrooms. I strongly believe that there are ways to use them responsibly to teach and educate the young minds. There are many educators, however, who view smartphones with suspicion and caution. Do you face similar problems in your school? How do you solve it and what can I as a student do to demonstrate the nearly unlimited value smartphones hold as teaching tools? On second thoughts, maybe I should just take things easy?

Using 60–80 words, write a letter to Zoe, answer Zoe's questions, and ask her 3 questions of your own. Follow the rules of letter writing.

II. Explain the meaning of the following proverb using 60–80 words:

Do not cry over spilled milk.

III. Read the Russian article below. Summarise the article in English and express your opinion about the story using 40–60 words. DO NOT translate the original article!

Изменения в языке

Интересно и не всегда объяснимо, с точки зрения лингвистов, то, что язык постоянно изменяется. Самый частый тип изменений связан с тем, что слова в языке перестают иметь свое прежнее значение, после чего они либо употребляются в новом значении, либо исчезают из языка вовсе.

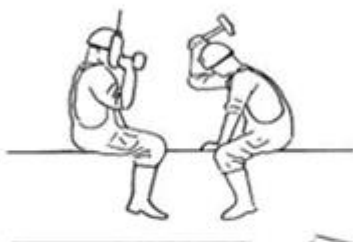
Бывает так, что новое слово берется из другого языка. Такие слова называют заимствованиями. Заимствований много во всех языках: языки, живущие по соседству друг с другом, легко обмениваются своими словами. Так, в английском языке много заимствований из старофранцузского (из-за завоевания Англии норманнами в XI веке).

Некоторые слова, однако, живут дольше, чем другие. В каждом языке есть своя группа «слов-долгожителей» (такие слова, как *отец, мать, вода, сердце, два* и т.д.). Такие слова очень важны для лингвистов, поскольку они позволяют установить, являются ли языки родственными.

Еще один тип изменений связан с изменением звучания слов. Активные изменения в произношении слов часто совпадают с бурными периодами в истории народа, говорящего на этом языке (завоевания, переселения и т.п.).

Последний тип изменений связан с изменениями в грамматике. Так, например, в древнерусском языке у существительных было двойственное число, которое употреблялось, когда речь шла только о двух предметах. В современном русском языке двойственного числа нет.

IV. Comment on the story in pictures using 60–80 words:



V. Choose the correct response by marking letter (a) or (b):

1. A: I'm having a busy time at work, and on top of everything, I've got my cousin staying with me.

- B: (a) **I see. Well, don't overdo things.**
(b) Don't mention it.

2. A: Please give my regards to Professor van Dijk.

- B: (a) Ok. Where are they?
(b) **Thank you. I will.**

3. A: I don't suppose you could lend me \$20 until next week, could you?

- B: (a) **I'm sorry, but I'm rather short of money at the moment.**
(b) I'm sorry, I didn't know.

4. A: I'm sorry I'm late. I spent ages in a traffic jam.

- B: (a) Oh, did you? What time?
(b) **That's all right. We haven't started yet.**

5. A: I think the film recreates the atmosphere of the novel very successfully.

- B: (a) **Yes, I must say they have done a brilliant job.**
(b) Yes, I'll go along with whatever you decide.

VI. Choose the correct option:

1. Until the middle of the 18th century, coal _____ to power tools and machines.

- a) uses
b) **was used**
c) used
d) has been used

2. If we _____ paying attention to race inequality, will it just go away?

- a) **stop**
b) will stop
c) stopped
d) were stopped

3. I need some ideas to motivate myself to work _____ during the day.

- a) more hard
b) **harder**
c) more hardly
d) hardly

4. _____ of residents had to leave their houses due to the flood.

- a) A great deal
b) Several
c) **A large number**
d) Thousand

5. I wonder if we _____ in touch after we move.
 a) stay
 b) would stay
 c) **will stay**
 d) stayed
6. I regret _____ about my experience at my job interview yesterday.
 a) **lying**
 b) lieing
 c) to lie
 d) to lye
7. He sounds _____ he is really shocked by what you said.
 a) as thought
 b) **as though**
 c) as through
 d) as tough
8. It _____ all day, there is snow everywhere and no way to get about.
 a) has been snow
 b) had snowed
 c) **has been snowing**
 d) had been snowing
9. When we stayed at my friends' country house, we _____ wake up very early every day.
 a) used
 b) **would**
 c) should
 d) had
10. She _____ him, but she had too much work to do, so she chose not to.
 a) was unable to help
 b) could help
 c) **could have helped**
 d) had been able to help

VII. Form plurals of the nouns.

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Photo _____ | 1. Photos |
| 2. City _____ | 2. Cities |
| 3. Thief _____ | 3. Thieves |
| 4. Salmon _____ | 4. Salmon |
| 5. Father-in-law _____ | 5. Fathers-in-law |
| 6. Analysis _____ | 6. Analyses |
| 7. Standby _____ | 7. Standbys |
| 8. Judge _____ | 8. Judges |
| 9. Criterion _____ | 9. Criteria |
| 10. Chief _____ | 10. Chiefs |

VIII. Fill in the gaps with the correct homophone.

1. The Chairwoman delivered her opening speech in a high-pitched nasal _____.
a) **whine**
b) wine
2. Trim the celery and _____ and wash well before chopping.
a) leaks
b) **leeks**
3. Legend has it that the vampire was killed with a _____ through the heart.
a) steak
b) **stake**
4. The webcam captured a small black _____ object on the horizon.
a) **stationary**
b) stationery
5. Sunlight slants through the _____ and the hillside is fresh and green with wild heather.
a) **beeches**
b) beaches
6. He was told he could sing but he would be a clanging _____. Not much of a compliment, I'm afraid.
a) symbol
b) **cymbal**
7. I think Brown is the real deal: he is a zealous Republican, a _____ *politician, a man* with a plan.
a) chased
b) **chaste**
8. Rebecca arrived right on _____ as we were discussing her recent paper.
a) queue
b) **cue**
9. Every muscle of my body is aching; I think I've come down with the _____.
a) **flu**
b) flue
10. The two went over to the mountain hut by the short cut across the crook and up the _____ hill grove.
a) **firry**
b) furry.

IX. Below you will find a list of major tourist attractions in the UK and the US. Match them with their locations.

	Tourist attraction	Location
1.	The Shard	London
2.	Bryce Canyon National Park	Utah
3.	Central Park	New York City, NY
4.	Caernarfon Castle	Wales
5.	The Betsy Ross House	Philadelphia, PA

6.	Beacon Hill	Boston, MA
7.	Leeds Castle	Kent
8.	Arthur's Seat	Edinburgh
9.	Blenheim Palace	Oxfordshire
10.	The Golden Gate Park	San Francisco, CA

Locations: *Edinburgh; Kent; London; Oxfordshire; Wales; Boston, MA; New York City, NY; Philadelphia, PA; San Francisco, CA; Utah.*

X. Below is the list of some English idioms. Match them with the situations given both lexically and grammatically.

- The expression “ _____ ” indicates something impossible that can never happen.
- The partnership between the two firms is more of “ _____ ” than actual financial dealings.
- After hours of struggling with the complex math problem, Lucy decided to _____.
- The show is excellent, but the tickets _____.
- Sophie, please don't tell me fairy tales, I just want to know the real matter _____.
- He has never worked hard for anything because he was _____. His parents brought everything to him instead.
- “ _____!” shouted the stage director to the actors before the beginning of the play.
- She may want to argue, but _____ and I won't stoop to her level.
- We'd better start doing this early rather than wait now and then race _____ to meet the deadline.
- While my grandmother loved all of us very much, my younger brother was the _____.

Idioms: against the clock; born with a silver spoon in one's mouth; cost an arm and a leg; it takes two to tango; if you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours; in a nutshell; break a leg; apple of one's eye; throw in the towel; when pigs fly.

- when pigs fly;
- if you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours;

3. throw in the towel;
4. cost an arm and a leg;
5. in a nutshell;
6. born with a silver spoon in his mouth;
7. Break a leg;
8. it takes two to tango;
9. against the clock;
10. apple of her eye

Variant 2

I. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen friend Zoe. This is what she wrote:

...Yesterday at school I witnessed my classmate being bullied by two senior boys. I was horrified and appalled at the scene. I strongly believe bullying should be eradicated, with bullies charged under criminal law. What can I do as a teenager to raise awareness about this problem? Have you ever come across a similar issue at your school? On second thoughts, maybe I should just take things easy and stop worrying about all this?

Using 60–80 words, write a letter to Zoe, answer Zoe’s questions, and ask her 3 questions of your own. Follow the rules of letter writing.

II. Explain the meaning of the following proverb using 60–80 words:

A picture is worth a thousand words.

III. Read the Russian article below. Summarise the article in English and express your opinion about the story using 40–60 words. DO NOT translate the original article!

Прошлое и будущее лингвистики

По сравнению с астрономией или физикой, лингвистика – очень молодая наука. Современная теоретическая лингвистика начинается с Фердинанда де Соссюра, то есть с XX века. Как считают ученые, из наук XXI века лингвистика, безусловно, должна быть не последней, потому что язык – это очень важное звено в понимании человека, ключ к человеческой психике, к культуре и ко многому другому. Проникновение в природу языка может дать человечеству очень много.

Лингвистика как наука очень перспективна, но может оказаться так, что у этой науки исчезнет объект изучения. Это связано с глобализацией, с теми изменениями, которые идут последние 300–400 лет: мир становится меньше, контакты между людьми интенсивнее, и это ведет к сокращению числа языков.

Основной проблемой является проблема выживания языков малых народов. Крупные языки непрерывно «проглатывают» мелкие – люди перестают говорить на своем родном языке ради безопасности, благополучия, успеха, продвижения по социальной лестнице. Для лингвистики это катастрофа, ведь каждый язык уникален и неповторим, и если мы любой из них потеряем, пусть самый маленький и незначительный, то наша теория языка станет непоправимо беднее.

IV. Comment on the story in pictures using 60–80 words:



V. Choose the correct response by marking letter (a) or (b):

1. A: Is that the time? I must be off now.
B: (a) Stay and have a cup of coffee first.
(b) You should be ashamed of yourself!
2. A: I hear you won the first prize in the table tennis competition – congratulations!

B: (a) Same to you!

(b) Thanks! I never expected to win.

3. A: I am terribly sorry, but I'm afraid I've broken one of your coffee cups.

B: (a) Never mind. I never did like those cups anyway.

(b) No problem. Better luck next time!

4. A: In my opinion we have spent long enough discussing this matter. I propose that a vote be taken.

B: (a) Well, what do you suggest then?

(b) I object. We need more information to make a decision.}

5. A: This novel is very difficult to understand. I have spent hours trying to get through the first chapter!

B: (a) I think that would be a mistake.

(b) You should try something easier first.}

VI. Choose the correct option:

1. The grey whale is an animal we _____ on television shows recorded off the Pacific coast of Mexico.

a) are used to see

b) use to seeing

c) use to see

d) are used to seeing

2. If you go the market tomorrow, remember _____ your purse-belt with you to keep your money safe from pickpockets.

a) to take

b) taking

c) your taking

d) to be taking

3. This castle was mostly rebuilt in the 15th century and was restored after being in the Second World War.

a) damaged hardly

b) damaged bad

c) enough damaged

d) badly damaged

4. Napoleon's plans to invade Britain failed _____ the inferiority of his navy.

a) so as

b) due to

c) so that

d) unless

5. I wish I _____ to my grandmother yesterday.

a) had not lied

b) had not lyed

c) wouldn't have lyed

d) did not lie

6. Always remember _____ the oven when you go out of the kitchen.
- switch off
 - to have switched
 - to switch off
 - switching off
7. It rained heavily all day, _____ we did not take the dog out for a walk.
- so that
 - consequently
 - hardly
 - in particular
8. _____ did he know that there was a hidden camera in the room and their conversation was being recorded.
- Little
 - As
 - A little
 - What
9. He was the first man _____ a river on this island.
- to discover
 - to have discovered
 - has discovered
 - discovering
10. The defendant denied _____ the jewellery box from the bedside table.
- to have been taken
 - to take
 - having taken
 - have taken

VII. Form plurals of the nouns.

- Piano _____ Pianos
- Cloth _____ Cloths
- Wolf _____ Wolves
- Sheep _____ Sheep
- Runner-up _____ Runners-up
- Alumnus _____ Alumni
- Goose _____ Geese
- City _____ Cities
- Ox _____ Oxen
- Grown-up _____ Grown-ups

VIII. Fill in the gaps with the correct homophone.

- A yellow field of _____ stretched to the distance; it was so vast you could almost get lost in it.
 - maize
 - maze

2. _____ marketing is a type of advertising strategy that uses low-cost marketing techniques to generate maximum exposure for a certain product.
- a) gorilla
b) **guerrilla**
3. It may sound strange, but stress can really make an animal or human more prone to _____ attacks.
- a) **flea**
b) flee
4. The news has been filled with _____ of loss and horror resulting from yesterday's tsunami.
- a) tails
b) **tales**
5. The newly decorated rooms are _____ and airy with whitewashed walls covered with a few stunning paintings.
- a) **chic**
b) sheikh
6. The World Championship will certainly test the athlete's _____.
- a) **mettle**
b) metal
7. Children, I believe, are human beings to whom respect is _____; they are superior to adults by reason of their innocence and of the greater possibilities of their future.
- a) dew
b) **due**
8. What is the _____ reason for your change of mind? -- I can't explain it, I just feel that's the right thing to do.
- a) **principal**
b) principle
9. The cathedral sits amid picturesque remains of outbuildings in a spacious _____ courtyard.
- a) stared
b) **staired**
10. Her son was now almost delirious, his heartbeat grew ragged, for his blood _____ with the virus.
- a) teamed
b) **teemed.**

IX. Below you will find a list of major tourist attractions in the UK and the US. Match them with their locations.

	Tourist attraction	Location
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1.	The Washington Monument	Washington, D.C.
2.	Brooklyn Bridge	New York City, NY
3.	Arches National Park	Utah
4.	Sherwood Forest	Nottinghamshire
5.	Nelson's Column	London
6.	The Palace of Holyroodhouse	Edinburgh
7.	Independence Hall	Philadelphia, PA
8.	St Michael's Mount	Cornwall
9.	Mount Denali	Alaska
10.	Tintern Abbey	Wales

Locations: Cornwall; Edinburgh; London; Nottinghamshire; Wales; Alaska; Philadelphia, PA; New York City, NY; Utah; Washington, D.C.

X. Below is the list of some English idioms. Match them with the situations given both lexically and grammatically.

- When my kids play, it turns into a _____ in no time.
- My grandfather was a _____. He had never attended college, but he was a musician, gardener, piano player, and spoke several languages.
- High costs were the only _____ for the otherwise promising new technology.
- Singapore is a _____ of traditions and cultures, from its multicultural people to its high-spirited nightlife.
- The supermodel has stayed _____ for over two decades.
- A _____ in finances taught my kids good lessons in budgeting, saving, and spending wisely.
- My son has a _____; he always asks for candies after dinner.
- It's no use _____; it was a bad investment, the money has been lost, and there's nothing we can do.
- I'm afraid that this new physics equation will always be a _____ to me.
- She _____ lame excuses to hide the fact that the work is not done.

Idioms: closed book; in the limelight; barrel of monkeys; melting pot; come up with; sweet tooth; crash course; fly in the ointment; cry over spilt milk; jack of all trades.

- barrel of monkeys;

2. jack of all trades;
3. fly in the ointment;
4. melting pot;
5. in the limelight;
6. crash course;
7. sweet tooth;
8. crying over spilt milk;
9. closed book;
10. comes up with.