

7-8 классы

Variant 1

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

...I keep thinking about the issue of global warming. The planet has never been hotter, whereas the last summer in my country was the warmest on record. Are you concerned about the processes like the rapid glacier melt or thawing permafrost that can transform natural systems into entirely different states? Are you engaged in any activities at school or other teenager clubs to stop this process? Or is it possible that the recent inundation and other natural disasters sweeping around the globe have little to do with these issues, so I should just take things easy? What's your viewpoint?

Using 60–80 words, write a letter to Tanya, answer Tanya'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:

If you play with fire, you'll get burned.

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!

Почему языки такие разные?

Пытаясь ответить на вопрос о сущности человеческого языка, мы часто говорим о нем в единственном числе и забываем о необыкновенном разнообразии человеческих языков. Сегодня считается, что на земле около семи тысяч языков. Есть языки, похожие друг на друга (например, испанский и португальский), а есть такие, которые совсем, кажется, не имеют ничего общего.

Когда мы сравниваем языки, в голову приходит простой вопрос – почему же языки такие разные? Люди давно заметили этот факт и пытались его как-то осмыслить. В древности проблему решали просто: самый лучший язык – наш, а все остальные языки принадлежат варварам. В XVIII-XIX веках в Европе лингвисты считали, что самые совершенные языки – это древние индоевропейские языки, такие, как латынь или санскрит. В начале XX столетия датский лингвист Отто Есперсен стал доказывать, что самый лучший язык – английский.

Современная лингвистика категорически отказывается считать, что есть языки удобные и неудобные, плохие и хорошие. Язык – настолько сложная система, что он не может быть весь устроен одинаково. Человеку привычней всего его собственный язык.

The cartoon consists of three panels. In the first panel, a girl in a red dress and a boy in a blue tank top are in a pond. The girl is holding a small black mouse, and the boy is holding a black umbrella with a teddy bear inside. In the second panel, the mouse is jumping out of the water, and the teddy bear is floating in the water. In the third panel, the boy is kneeling on the grass, washing the mouse in a blue bowl, while the girl stands next to him, holding the teddy bear.

1. A: She had to break the news to him that the project would be closed.
B: (a) Poor her! He often gets angry when things are not going well.
(b) This is unacceptable! She should have told him the truth!

2. A: The research group carried out several fruitful experiments.
B: (a) Too bad. I hope they will be luckier next time.
(b) Have the results been published yet?

3. A: I'm considering taking cooking classes.
B: (a) Great idea!
(b) Congratulations! You are a qualified cook now!

4. A: I feel like screaming!
B: (a) I like your voice too.
(b) Why? Is anything wrong?

5. A: I am so worried about the mathematics test.
B: (a) Oh, I'm sure it's going to be a piece of cake.
(b) You are right. Mathematics are really hard!

1. If you're a hero in a horror film, it's almost certain that at a key moment, just when you absolutely need to call for help, you _____ any coverage at all.

a) will not have c) would not have had
b) would not have d) will not have had

2. The organic molecules were found in Mars's Gale Crater, a large area that may have been a watery lake over three _____ years ago.

- a) billion
- b) billions

- c) billions'
- d) billion's

3. Some parties _____ concerns about telephone tapping.

- a) have risen
- b) have raised
- c) rose
- d) risen

4. Many of the students were made _____ their work.

- a) resubmit
- b) resubmitting
- c) to resubmit
- d) resubmitting

5. We insist that law _____ confused with custom.

- a) not to be
- b) are not to be
- c) should not be
- d) have not to be

6. According to NASA, Mars _____ thousands of tons of methane at a time.

- a) emits
- b) emit
- c) is being emitting
- d) have been emitting

7. _____ knows if homelessness programs are working.

- a) Not one
- b) No one
- c) None
- d) Noone

8. The average 10 _____ old consumes the equivalent to 13 sugar cubes a day.

- a) years
- b) years'
- c) year
- d) year's

9. We know that human language is far more complex than _____ of even our nearest and most intelligent relatives like chimpanzees.

- a) it
- b) that
- c) they
- d) two

10. We understand the origins of the Indo-European group of languages, _____ includes Norwegian, Hindi and English, and can trace them back to tribes in eastern Europe in about 3000 BC.

- a) that
- b) what

- c) who
- d) which

VII. Write the plural forms of the words:

1. Quiz
2. Roof
3. Aircraft
4. Analysis
5. Magus
6. Belief
7. Lady-in-waiting
8. Potato
9. Loaf
10. Sister-in-law

VIII. Fill in the gaps with the correct homophone:

1. Mary went into _____ for her dead husband.
a) morning
b) mourning
2. The word '_____' derives from a Latin word, which means 'ear'.
a) aural
b) oral
3. The expression on the girl's face gave me a visual _____ about her feelings.
a) queue
b) cue
4. The new secretary is on his _____ to please his employer.
a) metal
b) mettle
5. We run out of office _____ every two weeks.
a) stationary
b) stationery
6. Your _____ is composed of the muscles that stabilize and move your lower back and hips.
a) core
b) corps
7. His cousin is on probation; he is now living in a _____ house and receives £30 a week from the social security.
a) council
b) counsel
8. The unexpected news made Pete's heart skip a _____.
a) beet
b) beat
9. Four stale loaves of bread formed a dark blot on the otherwise _____ shelves.
a) baron
b) barren
10. I have never met such an _____ bunch of students in my life!
a) idle
b) idol.

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

	<i>Tourist attraction</i>	<i>Location</i>
1.	Conwy Castle	
2.	Old Faithful	
3.	Colonial Williamsburg	
4.	Tate Modern	
5.	Sequoia National Park	
6.	Urquhart Castle	
7.	Elizabeth Gaskell's House	
8.	The American Museum of Natural History	
9.	Carrickfergus Castle	
10.	The Library of Congress	

Locations: London; Manchester; Northern Ireland; Scotland; Wales; California; New York City, NY; Virginia; Washington, D.C.; Wyoming.

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

1. What do you think we should do about the project? _____.
2. My brother and I are _____. We both like the same things.
3. He _____ the guidebooks _____, preferring to follow his instincts.
4. I'm feeling a bit _____. I think I'm getting a cold.
5. I was trying to keep the party a secret, but Mel went and _____.
6. Don't _____. Get to the point!
7. I want a new car that doesn't _____.
8. Someone suggested that we play a party game _____.
9. It's no use _____. He's spent all the money, and there's nothing you can do about it.
10. My sister lives in Alaska, so I only see her _____.

Idioms: break the ice; let the cat out of the bag; two peas in a pod; cost an arm and a leg; under the weather; once in a blue moon; the ball is in one's court; cry over spilt milk; take with a grain of salt; beat around the bush.

Variant 2

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

...I have recently read a UN report about global poverty. The number of people who are starving without access to basic services is rapidly growing, despite humanitarian efforts and charity missions. This summer I'm planning to join a volunteer fundraising project to help undernourished children in Africa. I believe everyone must be engaged to eliminate this problem. Do you have the same concerns as I do? Is poverty a critical issue in your country? Are you engaged in any projects to help the most vulnerable members of society? Do you think there are any chances of achieving zero global poverty in the long-term? Or should common people like you and me stay idle and let national governments do this job?

Using 60–80 words, write a letter to Julia, answer Julia'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 journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

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!

О вежливости

Мы довольно легко можем определить, вежлив ли тот или иной человек, наблюдая, как он общается с другими людьми. Вежливый человек специально употребляет некоторые «вежливые» слова: *спасибо, пожалуйста, простите*. Кажется, эти слова почти ничего другого и не выражают, как только желание сообщить другому человеку о своем (к нему) вежливом отношении.

Быть вежливым особенно важно по отношению к незнакомым людям, поскольку это способ показать, что говорящий не представляет для них опасности. Не случайно в мире распространены приветствия, которые состоят из пожеланий чего-то хорошего (например, пожелание хорошего дня в английском или здоровья в русском приветствии «здравствуйте»).

Вежливость – это еще и способ показать человеку, что он находится выше тебя на общественной лестнице. Во всех обществах взрослый стоит выше ребенка и вообще старший по возрасту – выше младшего по возрасту. Начальники стоят выше подчиненных.

В русском языке мы можем обратиться к человеку на «ты» или на «вы», мы можем назвать его по полному или уменьшительному имени, по имени-отчеству или по фамилии. Многим восточным культурам свойственна «уничижительная» форма вежливости.

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



V. Choose the correct response:

1. A: He said he would help, but he may change his mind.
B: (a) I wouldn't rely on his promises if I were you.
(b) Yes, he told me that he would keep his promise.
2. A: This situation makes me feel uneasy.
B: (a) I feel uncomfortable about it myself.
(b) Oh no, the situation is really easy to understand.
3. A: I can't agree more with this argument.
B: (a) I don't agree with it either.
(b) Absolutely. The argument is very strong.
4. A: This dessert is so dry. I think I'll leave it.
B: (a) Yes, the Sahara is such a hot and waterless place, isn't it?
(b) Why don't you try some apple pie instead?
5. A: We all had such a terrific time at the Christmas party.
B: (a) Oh dear, I am so sorry to hear that. What happened?
(b) I'm so sorry I missed it. What did you do?

VI. Choose the correct option:

1. _____ to parliament should also be a criminal offence.
a) Laying
b) Lieing
c) Lyeing,
d) Lying
2. At some point, our brains became able to make our mouths _____ vowel and consonant sounds.

- a) to produce
- b) producing

- c) produce
- d) to have produced

3. _____, a successful new treatment for one of the diseases is likely to reduce the need for human genome editing.

- a) Futhermore
- b) Furthermore

- c) Farthermore
- d) Fathermore

4. Would you say it differently if you _____ give the talk again?

- a) would have to
- b) were have to

- c) have had to
- d) had to

5. A new study published in the journal Science shows definitive evidence of organic matter on the surface of _____.

- a) Mars
- b) the Mars

- c) Mars'
- d) Mars's

6. Researchers have found a gene mutation that _____ between 200,000 and 100,000 years ago.

- a) occurred
- b) was ocured
- c) was occurred
- d) occured

7. The public and the experts _____ that hamburgers, diet soda, white bread, and chocolate chip cookies are not healthy food options.

- a) were agree
- b) agreed
- c) were agreed
- d) are agree

8. The rocks also contain sulphur, _____ scientists speculate helped preserve the organics even when the rocks were exposed to the harsh radiation on the surface of the planet.

- a) what
- b) that
- c) which
- d) whose

9. They explained _____ that palm trees do not grow in such conditions.

- a) so
- b) like
- c) us
- d) to us

10. United Fruit, the main grower and exporter in South America at the time, mass-produced _____ bananas in the most efficient way possible.

- a) its
- b) it's
- c) of
- d) off

VII. Write the plural forms of the words:

1. Piano
2. Species
3. Stimulus
4. Elf
5. Cliff
6. Alumna
7. Kangaroo
8. Caveman
9. Nanny
10. Hypothesis

VIII. Fill in the gaps with the correct homophone.

1. The terminally ill CEO had to _____ control of the company to his elder son.
a) seed
b) cede
2. Virtually anyone can easily become a bitcoin _____.
a) minor
b) miner
3. My heavy boots waded through deep _____.
a) dew
b) due
4. This bright silk scarf is a perfect _____ to your impeccable outfit.
a) compliment
b) complement
5. The restaurant serves Chinese food adapted for the French _____.
a) palate
b) palette
6. The man is the toughest military ruler so far and has responded harshly to any _____.
a) dissent
b) descent
7. Open the _____ and build a fire in the prepared fireplace.
a) flu
b) flue
8. His dad's ashes were in a little _____ sitting on the mantelpiece.
a) earn
b) urn
9. Moving that massive _____ will require the strength of at least two athletic men.
a) boulder
b) bolder
10. Though these two authors are only months apart in age they seem to belong to _____ different generations.
a) holy
b) wholly.

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

	<i>Tourist attraction</i>	<i>Location</i>
1.	Balmoral Castle	
2.	Shakespeare's Schoolroom & Guildhall	
3.	The Space Needle	
4.	Tate Britain	
5.	Mount Rushmore	
6.	The Pontcysyllte Aqueduct	
7.	The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum	
8.	The Washington Monument	
9.	Dunluce Castle	
10.	The Alamo	

Locations: London; Northern Ireland; Scotland; Stratford-upon-Avon; Wales; New York City, NY; San Antonio, TX; Seattle, WA; South Dakota; Washington, D.C.

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

- Empty promises are _____. We need to see real actions.
- After fifteen years living and working in a foreign country, she thinks it's time _____.
- I didn't mean _____, but I just had to tell your mom about your promotion.
- He is a nice guy, always ready _____ for his friends.
- When Alice agreed to do two big projects at once, she _____.
- I panicked when he said the test was tomorrow, but then I realized he was just _____.
- To solve this puzzle, you'll have _____.
- As finals approached, she felt that at last she could see the _____.
- She suddenly came into the room with a _____.
- You just need a good night's sleep, and then you _____.

Idioms: light at the end of the tunnel; pull someone's leg; be as right as rain; face like thunder; bite off more than one can chew; steal someone's thunder; ten a penny; call it a day; go the extra mile; think outside the box.