

Федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение  
высшего образования

Российская академия народного хозяйства и государственной службы  
при Президенте Российской Федерации

Олимпиада школьников РАНХиГС по Иностранному (английскому) языку  
2024 – 2025 учебный год  
8-9 класс  
Заключительный этап  
Вариант 1

**TASK 1. Choose the word(s) in brackets with the same stressed syllable as in the underlined word. Write down these words on your answer sheet.**

Example: deliver (recover, manager, to postpone). Answer: deliver, recover, to postpone.  
Adult (average, colleague, to export, import, moral, monotonous).

ОТВЕТЫ:

**TASK 2. Situation: you are walking along a forest path. Suddenly you see/hear/notice...**

**a) You have to make up three episodes and describe them according to the following positions:**

- What you saw/heard/noticed (20-30 words)
- What emotions you felt (20-30 words)
- What actions you took (20-30 words)

**b) Write down the summary of your impression of the stroll (40-50 words).**

Write down all your answers on your answer sheet. Do not exceed or lessen the number of words as indicated above. Remember: besides meaningful words, articles and prepositions are counted. If you fail to observe the indicated number of words, your task will receive 0 points.

**TASK 3. Read the article and decide which statements are TRUE, FALSE or NOT GIVEN. Explain your choice (true, false) with 20-30 words and write down your answers on your answer sheet.**

### CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change refers to significant changes in global temperatures and weather patterns over time. While climate fluctuations can be natural, human activity has been a major cause since the industrial age. Greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide trap heat from the sun and warm the planet, which is essential for life. However, the excessive levels of these gases are resulting in a warmer Earth. This phenomenon leads to various problems including extreme weather events, melting ice caps and rising sea levels.

One of the main contributors to greenhouse gas emissions is the burning of fossil fuels. Using coal, oil, and natural gas for energy and transportation releases vast amounts of carbon dioxide. Deforestation is another contributor, as trees absorb carbon dioxide but are being cut down rapidly. Therefore, reducing emissions is crucial in tackling climate change. This can be done by switching to renewable energy sources such as wind or solar power, and by improving energy efficiency.

Additionally, individuals can also play a role by changing their daily habits. This could involve using less electricity, recycling waste, or choosing public transport over a personal vehicle. Governments and businesses are also responsible for setting and following guidelines to curb emissions. International cooperation is equally vital for effective action because climate change is a global issue. Special agreements aim to unite countries in reducing global warming.

Climate change has already impacted ecosystems and communities worldwide. It's imperative to address this crisis urgently, as the longer we wait, the more drastic the changes are and the harder it will be to reverse them. Education on the significance of these climate issues is essential, and although change can be difficult, it is necessary for future generations. Only through sustained efforts across the globe we can hope to mitigate the effects of climate change and preserve our planet for future prosperity.

1. Human activities have only recently begun influencing climate change.
  2. Rising sea levels is the result of the Earth cooling down.
  3. Solar power is one alternative to fossil fuels mentioned in the text.
  4. Deforestation contributes to climate change because trees release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere when they are cut down.
  5. Using public transport instead of personal vehicles can reduce the effects of climate change.
  6. Special agreements are a local initiative to improve urban environmental standards.
  7. Businesses do not need to follow any guidelines regarding climate change.
  8. Climate change currently affects all ecosystems and societies around the world.
- 
9. Education about climate is considered unnecessary in the text.
  10. The text specifies that certain animal species have become extinct to climate change.

**TASK 4. Read the sentences below. They are examples for different English grammar rules.**

**Your task is to:**

- 1) Write down the rule for each point.**
- 2) Give an example of your own and write it on your answer sheet.**

**Example**

*John hasn't lost his driving license. Here it is!*

*Her children have watched all the episodes of their favorite TV series.*

*Helen's family has lived in this cozy flat for 5 months.*

*Scientists have made a lot of important inventions this century.*

**Answer:**

- 1) *The rule: Present Perfect Tense*
- 2) *Your example: It's the best film I've seen recently.*

1. If you drink a lot of water, you don't get thirsty.  
 If I wasn't afraid of spiders, I would have bought one as a pet.  
 I would never think about going to that restaurant again, if I were you.  
 She would have become a teacher if she had graduated from the university.
2. I was not hungry because I had had lunch with my colleague.  
 They had run out of money by the end of the month.  
 I was very upset as my son had forgotten about my birthday.  
 I analysed my colleague's report which I had received yesterday.
3. I don't feel well. I am going to bed.  
 We are flying to India next week.  
 He is being weird after he lost his job.  
 I'm speaking with my mom a lot these days.

ОТВЕТЫ:

**TASK 5. You are provided with the list of English idioms. Look at them. Then read the dialogues below and fill them with the correct missing idiom. On your answer sheet write down these idioms in the correct order and form.**

*run out of time      on the deadline      be in the red      be snowed under*

- 1) – Hi, Kate! How about going to Nick's birthday party tomorrow evening?  
 – Hi, Steve! I am so sorry, but I \_\_\_\_\_ with work.
- 2) – Hey Jennifer! How was your meeting with our boss? You look upset.  
 – Oh, Nick, he was furious because we \_\_\_\_\_ on our workday, so we couldn't finish a contract.
- 3) – What do you think about this new medical center?  
 – The service is perfect, but prices are so high! To be honest many people living \_\_\_\_\_ can't afford it
- 4) – Wow, your new flat is incredible! I suppose it costs a fortune!  
 – You are right. I took a loan to buy this flat, now I \_\_\_\_\_.

ОТВЕТЫ:

**TASK 6. Match the portraits of famous English people below with their names and their quotes. Write down your answers on your answer sheet.**



1.



2.



3.

- a) Guy Fawkes
- b) Isaac Newton
- c) William Shakespeare

Quote 1 - "A desperate disease requires a dangerous remedy."

Quote 2 – There is no evil angel but love.

Quote 3 - Errors are not in the art but in the artificers.

ОТВЕТЫ:

**TASK 7. Read the topic about government and political system in the UK. There are 9 mistakes hidden in the text. These mistakes are factual.**

**Your task is to:**

- **Find these mistakes**
- **Write down the correct information (You do not need to rewrite the whole text!)**

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is an absolute monarchy and it is governed within a liberal democracy. The head of the state is the monarch who is a hereditary member of the Royal Family, the current monarch is King Richard, and the head of the government is the Prime minister. In practice, the monarch takes a huge part in the government's work, he or she just gets monthly oral reports from the prime-minister.

The executive power in the country is exercised by the Houses of Parliament. The British Parliament consists of two chambers: the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The House of Lords is composed of elected by the people members, and the number of members in the House of Lords is about 250. The members of the House of Commons are elected by the members of the Royal Family. They are elected from the constituencies in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The House of Commons is the real governing body of the United Kingdom.

Ответы: в скобках указана верная информация.

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**Заключительный этап**

**Вариант 2**

**TASK 1. Choose the word(s) in brackets with the same stressed syllable as in the underlined word. Write down these words on your answer sheet.**

*Example: deliver (recover, manager, to postpone). Answer: deliver, recover, to postpone.*

Attention (deliberate, apartment, export, to import, morale, record).

ОТВЕТЫ:

**TASK 2. Situation: you are climbing a hill. Suddenly you see/hear/notice...**

**a) You have to make up three episodes and describe them according to the following positions:**

- What you saw/heard/noticed (20-30 words)
- What emotions you felt (20-30 words)
- What actions you took (20-30 words)

**b) Write down the summary of your impression of the stroll (40-50 words).**

Write down all your answers on your answer sheet. Do not exceed the number of words as indicated above. Remember: besides meaningful words articles and prepositions are counted. If you fail to observe the indicated number of words your task will receive 0 points.

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**PRACTICE OF GREENWASHING**

In today's world many people are very worried about the environment, and make an effort to make "green" choices. Most of the world's big companies now try to demonstrate that they are eco-friendly, and use recyclable packaging and green marketing slogans to show this. However, beneath the surface there is a worrying trend, where companies pretend to be greener than they actually are. This is called *greenwashing*, and it is very important for consumers, particularly young adults, to be aware of the practice. By learning to recognize greenwashing, you can become a better consumer and encourage companies and governments to be more honest in their approach. By understanding greenwashing we can promote a better world and support companies that genuinely aim for a greener future. As the next wave of consumers, young adults have the power to inspire real change and help protect our planet.

Greenwashing happens when people promote their products or policies as environmentally friendly, while in actual fact this is not the case. The word became popular in the 1980s when people first began to understand that the world's environment was under threat. Companies began to showcase their so-called "eco-friendly" practices and policies, often exaggerating or making false claims to attract customers, improve their image, and increase their profits.

One famous example of greenwashing is the "*Conscious Collection*" marketed by one of the world's biggest clothing companies. According to the advertising this collection is "a wonderful step towards meeting one of our main goals – to use only 100% recycled or other sustainably-sourced materials by 2030". Though it's a very good intention many critics argue that the fashion industry's overall business model of "fast fashion" leads to more consumerism, massive use of energy and natural resources, and waste. By concentrating their marketing on some of their collections that may indeed be genuinely eco-friendly, manufacturers divert attention away from their other collections that definitely are not eco-friendly.

1. The term 'greenwashing' has appeared quite recently.
2. Greenwashing is an instrument of marketing practices.
3. The process of recycling waste is widely used in fashion business.
4. The 'fast fashion' refers to quick delivery of online orders.
5. Analysis of greenwashing approach is particularly common among young adults.
6. The term 'sustainable' refers to products that are made from artificial materials.
7. All companies tend to demonstrate that their activities are eco-friendly.
8. Consumers can encourage business and governments to be more eco-friendly.
9. The practice of some companies to showcase their eco-friendliness does not promote their profits.
10. 'Conscious collection' was copied by a few clothing manufacturers.

ОТВЕТЫ:

**TASK 4. Read the sentences below. They are examples for different English grammar rules.**

**Your task is to:**

- 1) **Write down the rule for each point.**
- 2) **Give an example of your own write it on your answer sheet.**

**Example**

*John hasn't lost his driving license. Here it is!*

*Her children have watched all the episodes of their favorite TV series.*

*Helen's family has lived in this cozy flat for 5 months.*

*Scientists have made a lot of important inventions this century.*

**Answer:**

1. *The rule: Present Perfect Tense*
2. *Your example: It's the best film I've seen recently.*

1. When it is hot, we will go to the beach.  
He would have been on time for the interview if he had left the house at nine.  
If I'd (had) known that he is such a liar, I would have never trusted him.  
She'd have become a millionaire if she had won a competition.

2. She came to the office to meet him, but he had already left.  
My sister had finished all her wedding preparation by the end of the spring.  
I got this job because I had prepared for the interview really well.  
He failed his exam yesterday because he had skipped so many classes.
3. Arthur is buying a new phone tomorrow.  
I'm coming in 5 minutes. Can you meet me up?  
Sarah is always leaving her coffee mug in the sink.  
An average day temperature is slowly increasing.

ОТВЕТЫ:

**TASK 5. You are provided with the list of English idioms. Look at them. Then read the dialogues below and fill them with the correct missing idiom. On your answer sheet write down these idioms in the correct order and form.**

*Give someone a hard time      a black sheep      eat one's words      a hot potato*

1. — I can't find my wallet. Did you see it?  
— I think our new babysitter stole your wallet, I don't trust her. But if she didn't, I'll be happy to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. — What do you think about this new reform? To tell you the truth, I am really shocked!  
— Oh, the debate over this reform became \_\_\_\_\_ in our office.
3. — Mike, who do you think we should give some bonuses for the previous month? I thought about Helen and Mark, but I am not sure about Kate. What do you say to this?  
— I think Kate is quite a good worker, but she is still \_\_\_\_\_ of our team.
4. — Hey, Polly. Long time no see! How is your new job? Share your impressions about your co-workers.  
— Hi, Nick! Oh I am snowed under with work and it gets me inspired! But my new boss is a tough person, he \_\_\_\_\_ twice this week.

ОТВЕТЫ:

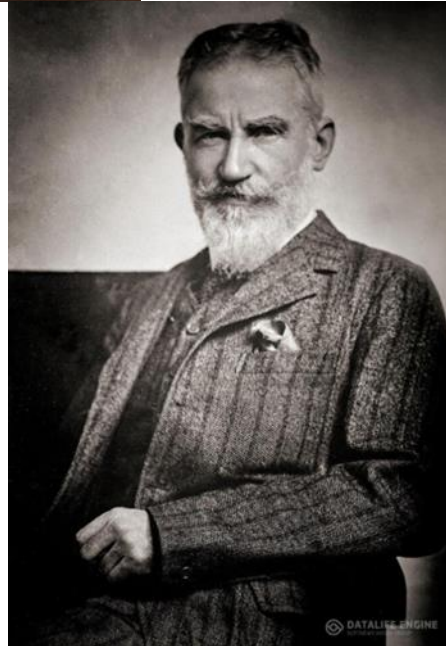
**TASK 6. Match the portraits of famous English people below with their names and their quotes. Write down your answers on your answer sheet.**



1.



2.



3.

- a. Sir Winston Churchill
- b. George Bernard Shaw
- c. Charles John Huffam Dickens

Quote 1 – “Life isn’t about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself”

Quote 2 – I never worry about action, but only inaction.

Quote 3 - A very little key will open a very heavy door.

ОТВЕТЫ:

**TASK 7. Read the topic about government and political system in the UK. There are 9 mistakes hidden in the text. These mistakes are factual.**

**Your task is to:**

- **Find these mistakes**
- **Write down the correct information (You do not need to rewrite the whole text!)**

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is constitutional monarchy. This means that Great Britain is governed by the Parliament and the Prime Minister is Head of State. The UK is a parliamentary democracy with the elected British Government, the head of which is the monarch.

The UK Parliament consists of two legislative parliamentary bodies, the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The House of Lords is the lower chamber and the House of Commons is the upper Chamber. All legislation has to be approved by at least one of the Houses of Parliament. The House of Commons consists of democratically elected Members of Parliament from different political parties, while most members of the House of Lords are hereditary peers. General elections are held every five years.

The legislative power is exercised by Prime Minister and his Cabinet. The government is usually formed by the political party which is supported by the majority in the House of Lords. Prime Minister is the majority party leader and is appointed by the head of the House of Lords. Prime Minister chooses a team of ministers; twelve of the ministers are in the Cabinet.