



International English Olympiad
 “Formula of Unity” / “The Third Millennium”
 Year 2025/2026. Final round

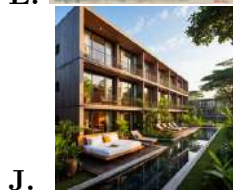
Tasks for grades R7–R9

1. (10 points) Here you can see neologisms, their meanings and AI-generated pictures (Artificial Intelligence created these pictures based on the description of these word combinations). Your task is to match a neologism, its explanation and the picture that describes the idea best of all. Use every explanation and every picture only once. Write a combination of a number+a letter+a letter in your blank.

For example: 1). AC, 2). DE, etc

1). Hushpitality 2). Inheritourism 3). Onebagging 4). Newstalgalia 5). Readaway 6). Thrift tripping 7). Salvaged stay 8). Townsizing 9). Glampervanning 10). Green stay

A. The act of planning a holiday around visiting vintage shops, flea markets etc. to buy second-hand clothes and other items. **B.** A trend where travellers visit smaller, quieter towns and villages rather than the better-known big tourist cities. **C.** A style of tourism that focuses on providing travellers with quiet places to stay and a peaceful atmosphere with no loud activity or disturbance. **D.** An old building that has been converted from its original purpose into a hotel. **E.** A travel trend where people choose the same types of holiday and often the same accommodation as their parents and grandparents did in the past. **F.** A stay in a hotel that actively tries to minimize its environmental impact, for example by reducing waste and conserving water. **G.** A trend where old and new ideas and styles are combined to create a comforting, familiar mood that is also up to date and modern. **H.** The practice of travelling with only a single carry-on sized bag, to simplify the trip and reduce costs. **I.** A short holiday where the main activity is reading and talking about books. **J.** A holiday in a camper van that is more comfortable and luxurious than traditional.



2. (10 points) Match the word with its transcription (the British norm). Use every letter only once. Write a letter in front of every number in your blank..

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1) Wander | A) [pɜː.sən'el] |
| 2) Wonder | B) [ðen] |
| 3) Then | C) ['em.ɪ.grɪt] |
| 4) Than | D) ['wɒn.der] |
| 5) Personal | E) [prɪ'si:d] |
| 6) Personnel | F) ['pɜː.sən.əl] |
| 7) Immigrate | G) ['wʌn.dər] |
| 8) Emigrate | H) [ðæn] |
| 9) Precede | I) [prə'si:d] |
| 10) Proceed | J) ['ɪm.ɪ.grɪt] |

3. (10 points) Match every linguistic phenomenon with its example. Use every letter only once. Write a letter in front of every number in your blank. Sometimes some parts are underlined to help you pay attention to a particular thing..

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) Idiom | A) /p/ |
| 2) Passive voice | B) selfie |
| 3) Clause | C) to cost an arm and a leg |
| 4) Tense | D) sunflower |
| 5) Phoneme | E) I know that you are right . |
| 6) Collocation | F) was broken |
| 7) Neologism | G) Google → to google |
| 8) Compound word | H) Past Perfect Continuous |
| 9) Acronym | I) NASA |
| 10) Conversion | J) to make a mistake |

4. (10 points) Read the text and change the form of words in parenthesis to make them suitable (lexically and grammatically) for the text. Write only ONE word in every gap.

Everybody likes to feel special. Sadly, many of **1.**(we) grow up believing that we're not special at all. We wish that we could be more attractive or better at sports. We wish we **2.**(have) more money or more beautiful clothes. Like the Tin Man, the Scarecrow, or the Cowardly Lion from The Wizard of Oz, we think we're not good enough just as we are. In the film, The Tin Man wishes he had a heart. The Scarecrow wishes that he had a brain, and the Lion wants courage. **3.**(eventual), each of them realizes that he already has what he wants.

Nearly all parents want us to be the best we can be. They occasionally attempt to encourage us to do better by comparing us to others. They mean well, but the message we usually get is that we're not good enough. We start to believe that the only way we can be special is by **4.**(be) better than somebody else, but we are frequently **5.**(disappoint). There will always be somebody out there that is better than we are at something. There are a lot of people around who may not be as intelligent as we are but who are better at sports. Or they may not be as handsome, but they have more money. It is **6.**(thinkable) for us to be better than everybody else all the time. Like the Tin Man, the Scarecrow, and the Cowardly Lion, we all need what we believe will make us better people.

What we don't understand is that often we already have inside us the very things that we look for in life. Our parents often forget to tell us that we are special, that we are good enough just as we are. Perhaps no one told them when they were growing up, or maybe they just forgot. Either way, it's up to us to remind them sometimes that each of us, in our own way, is special. What we are is enough!

The way to feel special starts with accepting yourself. It means seeing your good points and not being too hard on **7.**(you) about your weak points. You can begin by thinking about the good things you have — a kind heart, a curious mind, or the ability to make friends laugh. When you stop thinking "I'm not good enough" and start thinking "I have good qualities", things slowly change. You become kinder to yourself, stop comparing yourself to **8.**(other), and start noticing what makes you unique. This doesn't happen quickly, but every little step helps.

Also, when you believe in yourself, it's easier to be happy for other people. Instead of thinking "They're **9.**(good) than me", you can think "It's great that they're good at this!". This makes a good circle: when you accept yourself, you become nice to others. And when you appreciate other people, you feel better about yourself too. Remember — you don't need to be perfect or better than **10.**(every). You just need to be yourself. What you are is enough, and it's good to remember this every day.

5. (10 points) Read the text and answer the questions. For questions 1-6 choose the correct answer (only ONE). For questions 7-10 write a word/word combination in your blank..

Incredible hoaxes

For centuries, people have tried to make money or to look important with hoaxes about anything, from fake discoveries to made-up stories about creatures. Hoaxes can be exciting stories that grab our attention, but they are just clever lies. Here are some hoaxes that have made history.

The Piltdown Man

Charles Dawson was passionate about archaeology – the study of ancient cultures by looking for and examining their buildings, tools, and bones. In 1912, he announced that he had found the creature that developed from monkeys into humans. He said to have discovered part of a skull – the bones in our heads – that looked human-like among a pile of small stones near Piltdown village in Sussex, England. Dawson and a fossil expert at the National History Museum worked together and found more pieces of bones and some simple tools in the area. They thought all these belonged to the same person. After putting the pieces of bones together, they suggested that this showed evidence of a human living about 500,000 years ago.

But in 1949, an expert at the Natural History Museum used special tests and found out that the Piltdown remains were only 50,000 years old. This meant that the Piltdown Man couldn't be the missing link between monkeys and humans because humans had already evolved into their current form by then. It was also found that the bones were from two different species, a human and a large type of monkey. Under the microscope, it was possible to see that someone had filed them down to make them look human. They also found out that many of the Piltdown site discoveries had been artificially painted to match the colour of the local stones.

The Fiji Mermaids

The Fiji mermaids, also known as Feejee mermaids, are nothing like the beautiful, enchanting creatures you might imagine from fantasy films: they are ugly, scary, and quite small – about 30 to 45 cm. Instead of gracefully swimming through clear blue waters, they often appear as if they're coming out of a nightmare. P.T. Barnum, a famous showman, played a big part in the fame of Fiji mermaids. It is said that he bought the original mermaid from a fisherman in Japan for his circus.

In 1842, Barnum advertised three mermaids at his American Museum in New York, but what people saw inside was shocking—a creature with the body of a fish and the head of a monkey. Despite, or perhaps because of, this strange display, the mermaid became very popular. In reality, these creatures were fake. They were formed by putting together the front body of a monkey and the tail of a fish.

But later in life, Ashrita learned meditation, and with this, he learned that nothing is impossible. He tested this idea in 1978 by entering a 24-hour bike race in New York. Without any training, Ashrita came third! After that, he started thinking about breaking records again.

America's Stonehenge

"America's Stonehenge" is an intricate network of stone structures in North Salem, New Hampshire, believed to have been built by an ancient civilisation. It's evident that a native society lived in this area, with carbon dating indicating that some parts of the site could be as old as 4000 years. Some believe that pre-Columbian European migrants may have built this site for religious rituals and ceremonies, although no objects and tools from the Bronze Age have been found in North America.

The belief in ancient European colonisation in America dates back to the 19th century and has been popularised by various individuals, including archaeologist William Goodwin and author Barry Fell. However, their claims have been dismissed by a wide group of archaeologists due to the lack of reliable evidence. It was thought that it was Goodwin who built the site to recreate ancient megalithic structures.

- 1) What fundamental scientific error made the Piltdown Man an impossible evolutionary link?
 - A) The bones were found in a region where early humans never lived.
 - B) The age of the remains was inconsistent with the stage of human evolution it was claimed to represent.
 - C) The skull had too many modern human features for any pre-human species.
 - D) The tools found alongside were too advanced for that period.
- 2) Which method was used to deliberately mislead observers about the authenticity of the Piltdown remains?
 - A) The bones had been buried in a secret location for centuries.
 - B) They were coated with a radioactive substance to fake carbon dating results.
 - C) They were artificially painted and filed down to look older and more human-like.
 - D) A forged diary of Dawson's was discovered to support the find.
- 3) What was the primary reason for the popularity of the Fiji mermaids despite their unattractive appearance?
 - A) Scientific proof was presented that they were real.
 - B) Their display was marketed as a rare scientific discovery.
 - C) The public was fascinated by the bizarre and the grotesque, and the showmanship of P.T. Barnum amplified interest.
 - D) They were displayed alongside genuine marine fossils, lending credibility.
- 4) Why is the theory of pre-Columbian European construction of "America's Stonehenge" considered unconvincing by most archaeologists?
 - A) Because Native American tribes have always claimed the site as their own.
 - B) Because no physical evidence (such as tools or artifacts from the relevant period and culture) has been found.
 - C) Because the stones are too large to have been moved by ancient people.
 - D) Because carbon dating showed the site is only 200 years old.

- 5) What is the most plausible explanation for the origin of “America’s Stonehenge”, according to the critical view presented in the text?
 - A) It was built by pre-Columbian European migrants for religious rituals.
 - B) It is a natural geological formation that people mistakenly attribute to human activity.
 - C) It was constructed by a Native American society, with parts dating back about 4 000 years.
 - D) It was intentionally built in modern times by William Goodwin to resemble ancient megalithic structures.
- 6) What is the overall style and purpose of the text “Incredible Hoaxes”?
 - A) Academic research paper — it presents original data, detailed methodology and peer-reviewed conclusions about historical hoaxes.
 - B) Informative popular science article — it explains famous historical hoaxes in an engaging way for a general audience, using clear language and factual narration.
 - C) Persuasive essay — it aims to convince readers that all archaeological discoveries are unreliable and should be treated with suspicion.
 - D) Creative fiction — it tells imaginative stories about mythical creatures and ancient mysteries without concern for historical accuracy.
- 7) Find a verb in the text that means «to develop gradually, or to cause something or someone to develop gradually». Write it in the infinitive form.
- 8) Find an adjective in the text that means «having very strong feelings or emotions/like something very much».
- 9) Find a verb in the text that is a synonym for «reject/turn down». Write it in the infinitive form.
- 10) Find an adjective in the text that is a synonym for «sophisticated/elaborate».

6. (10 points) Find only ONE word in every sentence that makes this sentence grammatically incorrect. Don’t correct the mistake. Just find the word and write it in your blank.

- 1) The meeting might has been cancelled; I don’t see anyone in the conference room.
- 2) This document must be signing by all members before submission.
- 3) Unless you don’t hurry, you’ll miss the train. So, we’ll have to change our plans.
- 4) The results of the experiment is being analyzed now. If you want to help, don’t disturb the assistant.
- 5) The more you hesitate, the worst the result. Thinking is your enemy. It ruins everything.
- 6) I’ve witnessed so things, you can’t even imagine. I prefer to forget the situation as soon as possible.
- 7) After some years of trying I’ve finally been used to waking up early.
- 8) I’d rather you don’t choose this color. It is the worst choice ever. It’ll distract you from work.
- 9) But for Mike, I wouldn’t had done that. I have the right to blame him!
- 10) I need other cup of coffee to feel more energetic. Will somebody help me?

7. (10 points) Match every sentence with one preposition to fill in the gap. Use every letter only ONCE..

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1) I have to cut _____ on coffee. I drink too much. | |
| 2) Firefighters managed to put _____ the fire quickly. Nobody suffered. | A) Into |
| 3) They had to call _____ the concert because of the storm. I hope it will be postponed. | B) Out |
| 4) Please fill _____ this application form. | C) Up |
| 5) I need some time to think _____ your proposal. Then I’ll make a decision. | D) Over |
| 6) The homeless often hang _____ the shopping centre. That’s why I don’t go there. | E) Down |
| 7) I’ve never gone in _____ sports competitions. But I respect your desire. | F) For |
| 8) She spends hours on the phone, catching _____ with old friends. | G) Through |
| 9) We bumped _____ Amy when we were in town last week. | H) In |
| 10) They said the operation had been successful and they expected his brother to pull _____ . | I) Off |
| | J) Around |

8. (10 points) Read the text and fill in the gaps using the words below. Use every word/word combination only ONCE. Write a letter in front of every number in your blank.

Wars of the Roses

Wars of the Roses, (1455–85), in English history, the series of dynastic civil wars whose violence and civil strife

preceded the strong government of the 1)_____. Fought between the houses of Lancaster and York for the English throne, the wars were named many years afterward from the supposed badges of the contending parties: the white rose of York and the red rose of Lancaster.

Competing claims to the throne and the beginning of civil war

Both houses claimed the throne through descent from the sons of Edward III. Since the Lancastrians had occupied the throne from 1399, the Yorkists might never have pressed a claim but for the near anarchy prevailing in the mid-15th century. After the death of 2)_____ in 1422 the country was subject to the long and factious minority of Henry VI (August 1422–November 1437), during which the English kingdom was managed by the king's council, a predominantly aristocratic body. That arrangement, which probably did not accord with Henry V's last wishes, was not maintained without difficulty. Like Richard II before him, Henry VI had powerful relatives eager to grasp after power and to place themselves at the head of factions in the state. The council soon became their battleground.

Great magnates with private armies dominated the countryside. Lawlessness was rife and taxation burdensome. Henry later proved to be feckless and simpleminded, subject to spells of madness, and dominated by his ambitious queen, 3)_____, whose party had allowed the English position in France to deteriorate.

Between 1450 and 1460 Richard, 3rd duke of York, had become the head of a great baronial league, of which the foremost members were his kinsmen, the Nevilles, the Mowbrays, and the Bourchiers. Among his principal lieutenants was his nephew Richard Neville, 4)_____, a powerful man in his own right, who had hundreds of adherents among the gentry scattered over 20 counties. In 1453, when Henry lapsed into insanity, a powerful baronial clique, backed by Warwick, installed York, as protector of the realm. When Henry recovered in 1455, he reestablished the authority of Margaret's party, forcing York to take up arms for self-protection. The first battle of the wars, at 5)_____ (May 22, 1455), resulted in a Yorkist victory and four years of uneasy truce.

A new phase of the 6)_____ began in 1459 when York, goaded by the queen's undisguised preparations to attack him, rebelled for the last time. The Yorkists were successful at Blore Heath (September 23) but were scattered after a skirmish at Ludford 7)_____ (October 12). York fled to Ireland, and the Lancastrians, in a packed parliament at Coventry (November 1459), obtained a judicial condemnation of their opponents and executed those on whom they could lay hands.

From then on the struggle was bitter. Both parties laid aside their scruples and struck down their opponents without mercy. The coldblooded and calculated ferocity that now entered English political life certainly owed something to the political ideas of the Italian Renaissance, but, arguably, it was also in part a legacy of the lawless habits acquired by the nobility during the 8)_____.

In 9)_____ Warwick regrouped the Yorkist forces and returned to England in June 1460, decisively defeating the 10)_____ forces at Northampton (July 10). York tried to claim the throne but settled for the right to succeed upon the death of Henry. That effectively disinherited Henry's son, Prince Edward, and caused Queen Margaret to continue her opposition.

- A) civil war
- B) Margaret of Anjou
- C) Hundred Years' War
- D) Tudors
- E) Lancastrian

- F) the earl of Warwick
- G) Bridge
- H) France
- I) St. Albans
- J) Henry V

9. (20 points) Imagine that you are a space traveller. You took this photo during your journey. Write a blog post about your adventures. Write 150–200 words, articles and contractions are counted as ONE word each.

Don't forget to tell:

- The place where you've been
- The description of the environment/the climate/the local citizens
- A curious case that happened to you
- Your opinion whether it's worth visiting or not + recommendations what to visit there

