

Межрегиональная предметная олимпиада КФУ  
Профиль «Иностранный язык (английский язык)»  
Заключительный этап  
2022-2023 учебный год  
8 класс

PART 1. READING COMPREHENSION

Maximum: 25 points. 1 point for each correct answer

**Task 1. Fill each gap with the correct sentence (A-J). Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet.**

We all travel in time! 1) \_\_\_\_\_ And we are all traveling in time at approximately the same speed: 1 second per second.

NASA's space telescopes also give us a way to *look* back in time. Telescopes help us see stars and galaxies that are very far away. 2) \_\_\_\_\_. So, when we look into the sky with a telescope, we are seeing what those stars and galaxies looked like a very long time ago.

However, when we think of the phrase "time travel," we are usually thinking of traveling faster than 1 second per second. That kind of time travel sounds like something you'd only see in movies or science fiction books. Could it be real? Science says yes!

How do we know that time travel is possible?

More than 100 years ago, a famous scientist named Albert Einstein came up with an idea about how time works. He called it relativity. 3) \_\_\_\_\_ Einstein also said our universe has a speed limit: nothing can travel faster than the speed of light (186,000 miles per second).

What does this mean for time travel? Well, according to this theory, the faster you travel, the slower you experience time. Scientists have done some experiments to show that this is true.

4) \_\_\_\_\_ One clock stayed on Earth, while the other flew in an airplane (going in the same direction Earth rotates).

After the airplane flew around the world, scientists compared the two clocks. The clock on the fast-moving airplane was slightly behind the clock on the ground. So, the clock on the airplane was traveling slightly slower *in time* than 1 second per second.

Can we use time travel in everyday life?

We can't use a time machine to travel hundreds of years into the past or future.

5) \_\_\_\_\_ But the math of time travel *does* affect the things we use every day.

For example, we use GPS satellites to help us figure out how to get to new places. (Check out our video about how GPS satellites work.) NASA scientists also use a high-accuracy version of GPS to keep track of where satellites are in space.

6) \_\_\_\_\_

GPS satellites orbit around Earth very quickly at about 8,700 miles (14,000 kilometers) per hour. This slows down GPS satellite clocks by a small fraction of a second (similar to the airplane example above).

However, the satellites are also orbiting Earth about 12,550 miles (20,200 km) above the surface. This actually *speeds up* GPS satellite clocks by a slighter larger fraction of a second.

Here's how: Einstein's theory also says that gravity curves space and time, causing the passage of time to slow down. High up where the satellites orbit, Earth's gravity is much weaker. 7) \_\_\_\_\_

The combined result is that the clocks on GPS satellites experience time at a rate slightly faster than 1 second per second. Luckily, scientists can use math to correct these differences in time.

If scientists didn't correct the GPS clocks, there would be big problems. GPS satellites wouldn't be able to correctly calculate their position or yours.

8) \_\_\_\_\_GPS maps might think your home is nowhere near where it actually is!

In Summary:

Yes, time travel is indeed a real thing. But it's not quite what you've probably seen in the movies. 9) \_\_\_\_\_And there are important reasons why we need to understand this real-world form of time travel.

So, let's cut a long story short. 10) \_\_\_\_\_

- A. That kind of time travel only happens in books and movies
- B. This theory says that time and space are linked together
- C. We travel one year in time between birthdays, for example.
- D. This causes the clocks on GPS satellites to run *faster* than clocks on the ground.
- E. Under certain conditions, it is possible to experience time passing at a different rate than 1 second per second.
- F. For example, there was an experiment that used two clocks set to the exact same time.
- G. It takes a long time for the light from faraway galaxies to reach us.

H. Although humans can't hop into a time machine and go back in time, we do know that clocks on airplanes and satellites travel at a different speed than those on Earth.

I. But did you know that GPS relies on time-travel calculations to help you get around town?

J. The errors would add up to a few miles each day, which is a big deal.

**Task 2. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only ONE word in each space. Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet**

What are the origins of April Fools' Day?

There are many stories and theories surrounding the history of April Fools' Day, but one of the most popular takes us 11) ..... to medieval times when Pope Gregory XIII ordered a new calendar (the Gregorian calendar) to replace the old Julian Calendar, in 1582. The new calendar called for New Year's Day to 12) ..... celebrated on 1 January, when previously it 13) ..... marked between 25th March and 1st April.

However, many people either refused to accept the new date 14) ..... did not learn about it and continued to celebrate New Year's Day on 1 April. 15) ..... time these traditionalists became the butt of jokes and people would tease them by calling 16) ..... fools for believing that the year started on 1 April. This eventually 17) ..... to the custom of April Fools' Day, when it was acceptable to play a prank 18) ..... the name of fun.

In the UK, the first British reference 19) ..... April Fools' Day was in 1698 when an article was written about people 20) ..... tricked into going to the Tower of London to see the lions being washed.

April Fools' Day remains popular in the UK. Big companies even produce adverts promoting products and services that are not real, just 21) ..... a joke. Traditionally, in England a prank can only be pulled before midday and an April Fool joke is revealed by shouting "April fool!" 22) ..... the recipient.

In Scotland and Ireland, the traditional prank 23) ..... to ask someone to deliver a sealed message that supposedly requests help when, 24) ..... fact, the message reads "*Dinna laugh, dinna smile. Hunt the gowk another mile.*" which translated means "*don't laugh, don't smile, send the messenger another mile*". The recipient, upon reading it, will explain he can only help if he first contacts another person, and sends the victim to another person 25) ..... an identical message.

**PART 2. USE OF ENGLISH**

**Task 1. Can you fill in the blanks in the following expressions with the names of places? Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will get 2 points for each correct answer.**

- 1) to carry coals to N.....;
- 2) meet one's W.....;
- 3) to grin like a C..... cat;
- 4) all roads lead to R.....;
- 5) the Old Lady of T..... Street;
- 6) to set the T..... on fire;
- 7) cross the R..... .

**Task 2. Write out 7 dishes that are of British origin. Write your answers in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will get 2 points for each correct answer.**

Bangers and mash	Irish stew	Chicken tikka masala
Chutney	Shepherd's pie	Cornish pastry
Moules frites	Lamington	Saskatoon berry pie
Sausage roll	Fabada Asturiana	Bubble and squeak

- 8) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) \_\_\_\_\_

**Task 3. Fill in the gaps with a preposition that correctly completes each phrasal verb. The synonym is given in brackets. Write your answers in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will get 1 point for each correct answer.**

- 15) At the last minute Mary backed ..... (withdrew) and refused to attend an event.
- 16) They tore ..... (demolished) and built a new one.
- 17) If you stick ..... (adhere) it long enough you can find the answer to that problem.
- 18) He promised to come on Monday but he never showed ..... (appeared).
- 19) I wish I could think ..... (discover) a good excuse to give the teacher for not having prepared my homework.
- 20) You have to hand ..... (submit) weekly reports in time.
- 21) Those unexcused absences must be made ..... (compensated)

**Task 4. Identify the mistakes (A, B, C or D). You do not need to correct them. Write your answers in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will get 1 point for each correct answer.**

- 22) I (A) will be given all the documents (B) as soon as I (C) will arrive (D) at the airport.
- 23) (A) I'm trying to teach (B) oneself to (C) play the guitar but I'm not making (D) much progress.
- 24) The water in the Great Salt Lake is (A) at less (B) four times (C) saltier (D) than sea water.
- 25) My brother was angry (A) with me and (B) said that he (C) won't need the car (D) the following day.
- 26) They want their (A) a fifteen-year-aged girl (B) to become a doctor and they even (C) even don't think that she (D) can be against it.

**Task 5. Give Russian equivalents to the following proper names. Write your answers in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will get 1 point for each correct answer.**

- 27) Canary Islands
- 28) the South Pole
- 29) the Middle East
- 30) the Caucasus
- 31) the Mediterranean Sea

**Task 6. Rewrite the transcribed text. You will get 10 points for the correct text.**

ə 'ju:sfʊl 'mʌfrʊm

ə frɛntʃ 'dʒɛntlmən 'hæpənd tə bi in 'switsələnd ət ə 'rəʊdsaid in weə 'dʒɜ:mən wəz ði 'əʊnli 'læŋgwɪdʒ 'spəʊkən; ənd əz hi kəd nɒt spi:k 'dʒɜ:mən, hi həd səm 'dɪfɪkəlti in 'meɪkɪŋ nəʊn hɪz wɒnts. ə 'mʌŋ 'ʌðə θɪŋz hi 'wɒntɪd səm 'mʌfrʊmz, bət kəd nɒt meɪk hɪz 'lænlɔ:d ,ʌndə'stænd ðɪs. ət lɑ:st ə 'brɪljənt aɪ'drɪə strʌk hɪm. hi si:zd ə pi:s əv 'tʃɑ:kəʊl ənd dru: ɒn ðə wɔ:l ə rʌf 'pɪktʃər əv ə 'mʌfrʊm. ət ðɪs ði 'ɪn,kɪ:pə wəz drɪ'laɪtɪd ənd 'hʌrɪd ɒf tə feɪʃ wɒt hi naʊ pə'sɪ:vɪd ðə gɛst tə wɒnt. "ət lɑ:st!" ɪks'kleɪmɪd ðə 'frɛntʃmən, "ɪt s ə 'fə:ʃnɪt θɪŋ aɪ hɪt ɒn ðət plæn; 'ʌðəwaɪz aɪ ʃəd həv həd tə gəʊ wɪ'ðəʊt maɪ 'feɪvərɪt 'mʌfrʊmz."

ðə 'lænlɔ:d rɪ'tɜ:nd in ə fju: 'mɪnɪts, 'kæɪrɪŋ - nɒt ðə 'mʌfrʊmz, fə ðət wəz nɒt haʊ hi həd ,ʌndə'stʊd ðə 'pɪktʃə - bət ən ʌm'brɛlə.

### **PART 3. WRITING. Maximum: 20 points**

*Unexpected kindness is a powerful thing. With just a few kind words, you can change someone's entire day.*

*The people we care about the most are often the ones we forget to be kind to – we know they'll love us anyway and forgive our grumpiness. But one simple sentence can change everything. You have the power with every comment you make, every day, to help lift those around you – and yourself in the process. Don't underestimate the effect of a few kind words...*

**Choose ANY OPTION below and write an e-mail message to:**

- your trainer explaining that he or she inspires you;
- your teachers explaining that they make coming to school fun;
- your friend explaining that you love spending time with him or her;
- your parents explaining how much their support means to you;
- your brother or sister explaining that you feel lucky to have them.

**Your e-mail message must be 150-200 words long.**