

Межрегиональная предметная олимпиада КФУ
Профиль «Иностранный язык (английский язык)»
Заключительный этап
2024-2025 учебный год
9 класс

PART 1. READING COMPREHENSION.

Maximum: 25 points.

Task 1. Read the passage. Then fill in the gaps with the appropriate part of the sentence. Write A-O on the separate answer sheet. Write your answers in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will earn 1 point for each correct answer. Please, be careful with spelling.

George Bridgetower, black violinist and composer who 1)....

George Bridgetower was a violinist and composer who 2)...an important time during the development of Western Classical music.

George was born in 1778 in Poland to a Polish-German mother and an Afro-Caribbean father. They soon moved to England, where the Bridgetower family 3) By the age of 10, George was already performing on stage as a violinist in venues such as the Drury Lane Theatre, 4)

George's talent and his parents' good connections led to the British Prince Regent, who 5) ... , taking George under his wing. George received the best violin education from renowned musicians at that time such as François Barthélemon, Ivan Mane Jarnović and Thomas Attwood. Attwood was himself a pupil of Mozart.

6) ... , George Bridgetower played in the King's orchestra in Brighton and London. Even Thomas Jefferson, one of the founding fathers of the United States, heard George Bridgetower play, at a concert in Paris in 1789.

7)... , George Bridgetower's path would cross with Ludwig van Beethoven. Beethoven was at the height of his creative powers, and the two musicians struck up an unlikely but profound friendship.

Beethoven's admiration for George's virtuosity led to him dedicating his Violin Sonata No. 9 in A minor (Op. 47) to Bridgetower. They premiered the piece together in Vienna in 1803, with Beethoven on piano and Bridgetower on Violin. Bridgetower purportedly had to sightread some of the piece over Beethoven's shoulder while they were playing it

Something happened shortly after this premiere that led to a falling out between Beethoven and Bridgetower. Most accounts mention that Bridgetower had said something about a woman, or had insulted a woman, who **8)**... Beethoven purportedly broke all ties with Bridgetower and changed his dedication of Sonata N°9 to Rudolphe Kreutzer instead. Kreutzer never ended up playing what is now unequivocally known as 'the Kreutzer Sonata'.

Bridgetower was a composer of music as well. Sadly, most of his work is lost, as has happened **9)** Only the most famous and prestigious compositions of the Age of Western Classical Music have survived until this day. A few compositions of Bridgetower do survive, including Diatonica armonica for pianoforte and the lovely Henry: A Ballad.

10) Were it not... , George Bridgetower might have been a much more celebrated and famous Classical composer today.

A) mingled with the English high class

B) rubbed shoulders with Beethoven, King George, and Thomas Jefferson

C) in front of royalty and nobility

D) for his falling out with Beethoven

- E) with many compositions of that time
- F) under their tutelage and guidance
- G) during a visit to Vienna in 1803
- H) would later become King George IV
- I) turned out to be a close friend of Beethoven.
- J) lived in the 18th century

Task 2. Complete the text with the necessary words in the appropriate form (tense, for example) using the definitions of the required words in the brackets. The first letter of the word is given. The number of letters in the word is given. Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will earn 1 point for each correct answer. Please, be careful with spelling.

For those looking to learn a new language, the process can feel **11) d..... (tending to make people afraid or less confident about doing something; 8 letters)**, especially as an adult.

It's long been thought that the earlier you learn new skills, the easier they are to pick up. The idea that age can play a huge role in a person's language learning ability is one of the reasons why early childhood was once considered the best time to introduce a second language. But whether that holds true has been heavily **12) d..... (disputed, considered to be controversial; 7 letters)** in the scientific community.

Unfortunately, the idea has helped perpetuate **13) d..... (an uncertainty about something; 5 letters)** in older individuals' ability to quickly adapt to new grammar, syntax, and semantics, thwarting the rise of many potential **14) p..... (people who are able to speak several languages; 9 letters)**.

A complex organ capable of constant evolution, the human brain has potential for higher learning after **15) p..... (a stage of life which makes one transition from a child to an adult; 7 letters)**, research suggests—adults and children simply **16) a..... (understand and remember the information studied; 6 letters)** and learn things differently.

“Research says that adults are better learners at everything because we have a lot of self-regulation and we're very **17) i..... (eager and determined to do something; 6 letters)** when we want to learn something,” says Lourdes Ortega, a professor of linguistics at Georgetown University, who herself speaks four languages. “Adults all over the world arrive at different proficiencies, fluencies, capacities for what they want to do with language, but there is no **18) c.....(an upper limit; 7 letters)** to it.”

People who can communicate outside their mother tongue also experience a number of **19) c..... (relating to conscious intellectual activities; 9 letters)** benefits, suggesting that it may be well worth expanding your verbal horizons.

What it takes to learn a second language

According to the U. S. Census Bureau, about 20 percent of the U. S. population speaks another language other than English, compared to 59 percent of Europeans who can speak at least a second language, illustrating how different regions **20) v..... (rate in importance, usefulness, or general worth; 5 letters)** language learning.

Yet Ortega, who **21) s..... (knows a great deal about and chiefly works with something; 11 letters)** in how people learn new languages beyond childhood, says that factors beyond age, like immersion, make a bigger difference in language learning success. “Without [the] opportunity to be exposed to the language, there's no learning that can happen, early or late,” she says.

For most, it can take years to reach **22) p..... (advanced knowledge or skill in something; 11 letters)** in a foreign language, says Ortega. According to The Foreign Service Institute (FSI), factors like a person's natural ability, their previous linguistic **23)**

e..... (knowledge gained after doing or encountering something yourself; 10 letters), and the consistency of their lessons affect the language learning process.

The FSI says languages that native English speakers would find similar to their own, such as Spanish or French, can be taught relatively quickly in about 24-30 weeks. In contrast, languages that have significant cultural differences from English, like Greek or Russian, will take about 44 weeks. Learning time could double that for languages considered **24) e..... (to a greater degree, compared to others, unusually; 11 letters)** hard, such as Arabic or Mandarin.

Such estimates reflect a stringent study model, with a dedicated number of hours spent practicing for multiple days per week, says Ortega. It's impossible and unlikely to expect one individual to follow such a strict schedule on their own, especially as the rise of language learning apps like Babbel and Duolingo has widened accessibility to foreign education by allowing people the time and confidence to reach certain goalposts at their own **25) p..... (rate of speed or progress; 4 letters)**.

(from www.nationalgeographic.com)

PART 2. USE OF ENGLISH

Maximum: 50 points. 1 point for each correct answer

Task 1. For questions 1-7 translate the following sentences from English into Russian. The idioms are underlined. Translate the sentence using equivalent idioms in Russian for these underlined phrases. Write your answers in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will earn 1 point for each correct answer. Please, be careful with spelling.

Example: Banks try to lure customers by promising the moon.

Answer: Банки заманивают клиентов, суля им золотые горы.

1. Unfortunately — as he knows only too well — it never rains but it pours.
2. The little boys were swimming in their birthday suits.
3. He is a good worker, responsible enough, but he won't set the Thames on fire.
4. Haven't you ever seen a taxi without a driver before? They're a dime a dozen here in the big city.
5. Will you quit Mickey Mousing around and behave yourself. It's high time you took studies seriously.
6. I have never met such a gossip girl. She likes chewing the fat.
7. He stole my thunder when he said that he had written the song.

Task 2. Identify the idioms (A-P) that correspond to the situations described below (8-16). Write your answers (A-P) in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will earn 1 point for each correct answer.

8. Sometimes I just decide to ignore the news for a few days because there's a lot of informational junk that is just no good for me.
9. When a group of coworkers is struggling to come up with a solution to a complex problem, one employee suggests a completely different approach that none of them had considered before. This new method ends up being much more efficient and effective, demonstrating that there are multiple ways to solve a problem.
10. The boss was on vacation, so the employees, usually kept in line by his strict rules, decided to have a pizza party in the office and play video games on company time.
11. The powerful CEO, known for his aggressive leadership, was confident his company would pull through anything. But when the economic recession hit, his company, built on risky ventures, crumbled. Meanwhile, the small, adaptable startup, focused on sustainable practices, survived and even thrived during the crisis.
12. A student who is determined to excel in their studies despite facing many obstacles such as a heavy workload, lack of resources, and personal challenges. Despite these challenges, the student's strong will and determination drive them to seek out extra help, find creative

solutions, and work tirelessly to achieve their academic goals. In the end, their hard work pays off, and they succeed in obtaining high grades and accomplishing their academic aspirations.

13. The small family business, once thriving under the leadership of the two brothers, began to crumble. Constant disagreements about strategy and direction led to bitter arguments. The brothers, each pulling the business in opposite directions, eventually led to its downfall.

14. The team knew they needed to make a bold move to win the game. Their coach, though hesitant, realized that they have to try something new for their game. He decided to pull their star player, a reliable defender, and put him on offense, a risky but potentially game-winning move.

15. A naive and overly accommodating employee constantly says yes to every request from their colleagues, even when it compromises their own work and boundaries. As a result, they become overloaded with tasks and responsibilities, leading to burnout and resentment from peers who take advantage of their constant willingness to help. The employee realizes too late that trying to please everyone has backfired, and they are left feeling drained and unappreciated.

16. A talented employee at a company who is consistently promoted to higher positions due to their skills and hard work eventually starts to let their ego get the best of them. As they rise through the ranks, they become arrogant and disrespectful towards their peers, showcasing their true negative qualities as they climb higher in the company hierarchy.

A. Make yourself all honey and the flies will devour you.	I. Oaks may fall when reeds stand the storm.
B. Where there's will, there's way	J. There are more ways than one to skin a cat.
C. Ignorance is bliss.	K. Rome wasn't built in a day.
D. The grass is greener on the other side of the fence.	L. The fish always stinks from the head downwards.
E. The higher the monkey climbs, the more he shows his tail.	M. It's better to lose the battle and win the war.
F. You can't make an omelet without	N. While the cat is away, the mice will play.

breaking eggs.	
G. Learn to walk before you run	O. People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.
H. A house divided cannot stand.	P. It takes two to tango.

Task 3. Match the people (17-26) with their descriptions (A-J). Write your answers (A-J) in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will earn 1 point for each correct answer.

17. DavidLivingstone	A. ___ was a champion for the British anti-slavery movement and made a significant contribution to the passage of the 1807 Slave Trade Act and the 1833 Slavery Abolition Act.
18. EmmelinePankhurst	B. ___ was the author of the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin, which contributed so much to popular feeling against slavery that it is cited among the causes of the American Civil War.
19. WilliamWilberforce	C. ___, also known as the Father of Railways, is credited with pioneering rail transport which is widely regarded as one of the most prominent inventions of the 19th century.
20. FlorenceNightingale	D. ___ is well-known for his extensive explorations of the African continent. He was one of the most popular national heroes of the 19th century Victorian Britain. He is also credited for shaping the Western attitude towards Africa.
21. LewisCarroll	E. ___ was the national poet of Scotland, who wrote lyrics and songs in Scots and in English.

	One of his most famous works is Auld Lang Syne.
22. GeorgeStephenson	F. ____ is remembered for his iconic children's fiction such as Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass.
23. Susan B. Anthony	G. ____ was a Renaissance philosopher and author who was known as the Father of Empiricism, because of his belief in the scientific method and theory that scientific knowledge can only be created through inductive reasoning and experience. He was later knighted and served as the first Queen's counsel.
24. RobertBurns	H. ____, known as The Lady with the Lamp, is remembered for her relentless efforts in nursing soldiers during the Crimean War.
25. HarrietBeecherStowe	I. ____ was an American activist who was a pioneer crusader for the women's suffrage movement in the United States, her work helped pave the way for the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution, giving women the right to vote.
26. FrancisBacon	J. ____ was a British political activist who organised the British suffragette movement and helped women win the right to vote.

Task 4. Correct the mistakes in the collocations. The wrong word in the collocation is underlined. Write the correct word.

The first letter of the correct word is given. The total number of letters is given in brackets. The example is given. Write your

answers in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will earn 1 point for each correct answer. Please, be careful with spelling.

Example: Strong rain delayed the harvest and resulted in significant losses. D. rain (7 letters)

Answer: DRIVING

27) I love diving! One time, while walking across the bottom of the sea, I saw a flock of rare tropical fish swimming around. S ____ (6 letters)

28) Josh is one of the regulars in the dean's office – he always gets caught when he tries to go truant. P ____ (4 letters)

29) He is fluent in four languages and he is only twelve! I could definitely call him a wonder kid with a present for languages. G ____ (4 letters)

30) John McCarthy was the one to do the phrase 'Artificial Intelligence' when he used it in an academic conference in 1956. C ____ (4 letters)

31) Call centres are notorious for their high rollover of staff – at most, employees usually work for 3 months. T ____ (8 letters)

32) Chinese phones offer excellent quality for money due to the dog-eat-dog nature of the market – how else could they win customers over? V ____ (5 letters)

33) Chris is definitely getting fired for his swearing, isn't it obvious that you can't just casually use low language while talking with your boss? F ____ (4 letters)

34) I just got a glorious magazine showcasing some fashion designs in the mail – I must say, the pages feel so premium and it is so shiny! G ____ (6 letters)

Task 5. There are 5 pairs of false friends given to you – translate each of them as it is shown in the examples (0) and (00). You only need to translate the underlined words, not the entire sentence. Write your answers in CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will earn 1 point for each correct answer. Please, be careful with Russian spelling.

(0) She handcrafted a set of bowls out of red <u>clay</u> .	ГЛИНА
(0) Join two blocks of wood with <u>glue</u> .	КЛЕЙ
35) He made a <u>brilliant</u> career in music.	
36) Sometimes, a <u>diamond</u> in a rough is brighter than any gems.	
37) The latest piece of this <u>artist</u> featured a busy New York street.	
38) The <u>performer</u> shocked the audience by his dazzling moves.	
39) A young <u>composer</u> became famous after he wrote the soundtrack for a blockbuster.	
40) The font for the novel was chosen by the <u>compositor</u> , and not the author himself.	
41) Elephants are known for their <u>affection</u> for people – some even become friends for life!	
42) We want to give you our most heartfelt condolences and <u>sympathy</u> .	
43) These birds have powerful hooked beaks, strong legs, powerful <u>talons</u> , and keen eyesight.	
44) Food <u>coupons</u> are provided to the employees so	

they can have their meals whenever they'd like to.	
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Task 6. Complete the spaces by finding one word which fits in all three sentences. Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet. You will earn 1 point for each correct answer. Please, be careful with spelling.

45) 1. This is without a _____ of a doubt the best movie I've seen all year.

2. Her father's illness had cast a _____ over the birth of her baby.

3. Tom's been nothing but a _____ of his former self ever since the accident. His bubbly, outgoing personality is gone, replaced by constant gloom and cynicism.

46) 1. Nothing - not even the prospect of dinner in a Michelin star restaurant - could _____ his spirits.

2. We ended up stuck in the _____ when Albert jumped with all his weight.

3. They just watch TV and never _____ a finger to help with the dishes.

47) 1. I'll be in a _____ spot if I arrive at the train station and don't have enough money for the tickets!

2. The race was extremely _____ with the lead changing twice in the last 250m.

3. I'm just going to tuck the kids in for bed and tell them to sleep _____, then I'll be right back downstairs.

48) 1. Let's take things one _____ at a time

2. Someone will need to _____ up and lead this project now that Dylan has gone.

3. Dad, you're nearly 70—why don't you _____ aside and let someone younger do that job?

49) 1. Hammer a nail into the wall and we'll hang the _____ on it.

2. The law is a _____ of the nation's character.

3. Our newspaper aims to _____ the opinions of ordinary people.

50) 1. London used to be the financial _____ of the world.

2. We put \$20,000 _____ into the business, but we're unlikely to see any return for a few years.

3. If you write in _____ letters, it looks as though you are shouting.

PART 3. WRITING

Maximum: 25 points (for both tasks)

3. 1 Maximum: 5 points.

3. 2 Maximum: 20 points.

Task 3. 1. Complete the given sentence in 5 different ways. Each sentence must contain a body idiom, for example, *face the music*, *lend a hand* and etc. Underline the idiom! Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Two examples are given. Do not use the idioms given in the examples and in the task itself. It must be a full sentence where the meaning of the idiom is clearly understood or explained. You will earn 1 point for each correct answer. Please, be careful with spelling.

I realized that

Example: a) I realized that kids gave Tom a head start in the race because he was the youngest participant.

b) I realized that if I don't let my hair down, I am likely to get a nervous breakdown.

- 1) I realized that.....
- 2) I realized that.....
- 3) I realized that.....
- 4) I realized that.....
- 5) I realized that.....

Task 3. 2. Write an election speech as a school president.

Your speech must have an introduction, main body and a conclusion.

In your speech mention:

- a reason why you decided to run for presidency;
- your achievements;
- why you think you are the best candidate.

Use the following idioms in your speech: ***have one's wits about one; come rain or shine***. Also, use the following phrasal verbs: ***pull through, put down to***. Remember to underline these expressions otherwise they will not be counted.

Write 200-250 words in a neutral style.