

ПЛЕХАНОВСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ 2022/23 ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ

2 вариант (8-9 класс)

I. LISTENING TEST

You'll hear people talking in eight different situations. For Questions 1-8, choose the best answer A, B or C.

- 1. You hear part of a radio programme about a sports personality. What has he recently achieved?**
 - A. a new sporting record
 - B. another gold medal
 - C. a financial reward
- 2. You hear a woman asking for a recipe. What does she want to make?**
 - A. something for supper
 - B. something for a party
 - C. something for a picnic
- 3. You hear a man talking about animals. What is he recommending?**
 - A. feeding a pet a balanced diet
 - B. giving a pet plenty of exercise
 - C. making sure a pet is looked after
- 4. You hear part of a radio programme about travelling abroad. Who is speaking?**
 - A. a journalist
 - B. a tour guide
 - C. a travel agent
- 5. You overhear a student talking about one of her classes. What has she done?**
 - A. missed attending a class
 - B. withdrawn from a class
 - C. complained about a class
- 6. You hear a woman talking about a new book on the theatre. What is the best title for the book?**
 - A. Popular Street Theatre
 - B. Travelling Theatre Players
 - C. Open-air Plays and Players
- 7. You overhear two people discussing a museum they have recently visited. What kind of museum was it?**
 - A. a costume museum
 - B. a natural history museum
 - C. a transport museum



8. You hear a woman discussing a new fashion. What does she like about it?

- A. the colours
- B. the designs
- C. the materials

II. READING

Task 1. Read a magazine article about five people who were interviewed about going on holiday. For questions 1- 8, choose from the people (A-E). The people may be chosen more than once.

Which person

1. found the atmosphere reduced his / her usual anxieties?
2. got most pleasure from another person?
3. felt as if he / she was interfering in people's lives?
4. was surprised by the comfortable conditions?
5. found other people spoilt his / her holiday?
6. appears interested in the history of the place?
7. hadn't planned his / her holiday?
8. chose a holiday to find out more about him / herself?

Holidays

Many people go away on holiday and discover as much about themselves as they do about the places they visit.

[A] Hugo

When my eldest daughter, Alice, was ten, she asked for a holiday with me - just the two of us. I have four children so it can be difficult for Alice to get a word in, and I understood what she wanted. I decided to show her Venice, because it has such warm associations for me. I first went there with my wife shortly after we were married, and Alice was curious to see it.

We arrived at night, which was completely magical. The water gives the city a sense of mystery. Even if you've been down a street before, the next time you find it you see something different and that stops you recognising it. So you constantly get lost.

Alice loved Venice. We laughed a lot, and the best thing for me was seeing her excited face.

[B] Maria

I love deserts. I usually travel on my own and with more camera equipment than clothes. I've been to deserts all over the world but my favourite is the Sahara. During my last trip I went to Timbuctoo, which is an amazing place. Centuries ago it was at the centre of the trans-Saharan caravan routes, routes used by travellers and traders who rode their camels for weeks on end across the Sahara, north to south and east to west. There was even a university there. Today it's a strange place, rather like a ghost town.

There are tribesmen called Tuaregs who ride through the town on camels, very proud-looking men wearing blue robes, but although the local inhabitants are very friendly, I felt curiously out of place. It might have been to do with the fact that there were no other travellers or tourists there. I felt almost as if I should not be there, as if I was an intruder, and the last thing I felt able to do was to take photographs. People's lives seemed so private.

[C] Krystyna

I thought I would try an activity holiday last year as I enjoy the outdoor life. I usually end up lying on a beach somewhere but I reckoned an activity holiday would help me discover hidden talents, skills that I never knew I possessed. Perhaps I would turn out to be a brilliant canoeist, mountain climber or skydiver.



The trouble with holidays like this is that you may not like what you discover. I had forgotten that I would be with a group of people each day. It had never occurred to me how competitive some people would be. Whatever we did, they had to be first. First to put up their tent, first to reach the top of the mountain, fastest cyclist, and so on. They will also have the loudest voices and make the most irritating remarks. Such daily companions can come as a bit of a shock if you are more used to quiet conversations with your best friend.

[D] Robin

We arranged to go on safari, staying in one of those extraordinary hotels in the middle of nowhere in Africa. Our room was luxurious, with hot and cold running water and a fridge. At night we went out on a lake and when we got back to shore, a row of lantern lights led back to the main lodge. Then you sat in front of a huge fire and the guides told stories.

Part of the holiday included a canoe safari on the Zambezi River. In our canoe there was just my friend and myself and the guide. I'm not terribly athletic and when I got into the canoe I managed to tip it over and we all ended up in the water. I was quite frightened because of the crocodiles there. We couldn't turn the canoe upright but the guide was very calm. He pointed to a rock in the middle of the river and told us to swim to it as fast as we could, while he went to get help. Then he came back with another canoe, but after that I refused to go back on the water. I was quite surprised by my reaction. Not that I'd thought of myself as a particularly brave person, but the shock of what happened left me feeling very nervous.

[E] Daniel

I made a decision at the last minute to go to Jamaica. I booked a package holiday with a friend which included accommodation in a cottage and all our meals. We had so much fun - it was one of the best holidays I've ever had.

There are amazing sunsets in Jamaica and you can sit on the rocks and watch the sun go down. Everyone and everything is very relaxed. The thing you hear most often is 'No problem, man'. At first I thought they were just saying it, but then you realise nothing is a problem because the whole place is so relaxed. And that attitude makes you relax and forget about all the things you usually worry about.

We spent one day at a port watching a cruise ship come in. When that happens, all the shops double their prices and you have to bargain for anything you want to buy. You look at something and shake your head and they lower the price and you still shake your head, but you eventually find out at what stage you should agree a price. I bought some really great wooden statues for half the original price!

Task 2. Read an article about the Irish language. For questions 9-14, choose the answer (A,B,C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

The Irish Language Today

Until about the seventeenth century, Irish was the normal everyday language of Ireland. At that time, though, the English who had colonised the country began to impose their own language and the Irish people gradually accepted this, mostly for economic reasons. All official business was conducted in English and the British economy dominated the country. This practical motivation to use English grew even stronger when people began to leave Ireland in vast numbers in the nineteenth century. Families thought that it would be difficult to move to an English-speaking

country such as America, Australia or England if they knew nothing but Irish.

Nowadays it is estimated that a little more than one per cent of the population of the country use Irish as their daily first language. Even in the areas of the country which are supposed to be Irish-speaking, the use of the language is decreasing. These areas, known officially as the 'Gaeltacht', are mainly in the remote far west of the country and have a total population of 83,000,



of whom nearly all can speak Irish, although only about 30,000 use it as their normal language of communication.

All children in Ireland have to learn Irish. Until 1973 pupils had to gain a pass in Irish if they were to be awarded their school leaving certificate. This rule was very unpopular and was dropped. Pupils still have to take Irish for these examinations but it no longer seems to matter very much if they fail.

Most children in primary schools seem to enjoy their Irish lessons but in secondary schools the situation is often different. As examination pressure mounts, pupils often find Irish to be boring and irrelevant, as compared with French or German, which can at least be useful for getting a job.

The most surprising development of recent years has been the rapid rise in the number of state schools in towns that do all their main teaching in Irish. This is not a scheme imposed by the state but one that has grown up in response to the demands of parents. Some parents send their children to these schools for patriotic reasons, believing them to be a defence against the country being swamped with American and English culture. Many other parents choose these schools simply because they see them as being better than the English-language schools. They tend to be newer and to have smaller classes and better motivated teachers. One criticism made of these schools is that they could be distracting pupils from learning 'more useful' modern languages. In fact, in modern languages, as in most subjects, these schools have results which are better than the national average.

Only time will tell whether the new rise in Irish in the towns will compensate for its decline in the Irish-speaking areas of the rural west.

9. People who left Ireland thought

- A. they needed nothing more than Irish.
- B. they would find life easy in an English-speaking country.
- C. they ought to know some English.
- D. they should pretend not to be Irish.

10. In the 'Gaeltacht'

- A. 83,000 people use Irish as their normal language of communication.
- B. almost everybody uses Irish as their first language.
- C. 30,000 people do not understand Irish.
- D. there is a fall in the number of people using Irish as their first language.

11. Since 1973 pupils in Irish schools

- A. have not needed to pass Irish in order to gain their school leaving certificate.
- B. have had to drop Irish.
- C. have needed to pass Irish in order to gain their school leaving certificate.
- D. have not had to study Irish.

12. Why are French and German often more popular than Irish in secondary schools?

- A. They ensure that pupils can find a job.
- B. They are not boring.
- C. They can help pupils find work.
- D. They ease examination pressure.

13. The government introduced schools where teaching was done in Irish because

- A. they have better results.
- B. parents wanted them.
- C. pupils in towns do not learn Irish.
- D. the teachers are more committed



14. Some people have criticised these Irish language schools because

- A. they prevent pupils from learning modern languages.
- B. they have classes which are too small.
- C. their results are only a little better than average.
- D. they do not teach any useful subjects.

Task 3. Read the text about the evolution of hands. Six sentences have been removed from the article. For questions 15 – 20 choose from the sentences A-G the one which fits each gap. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Our amazing hands

The hand is where the mind meets the world. We use our hands to build fires, to steer airplanes, to write. The human brain, with its open-ended creativity, may be the thing that makes our species unique. But without hands, all the grand ideas we think up would come to nothing.

The reason we can use our hands for so many things is their extraordinary anatomy. [15 _____] Some are connected to bones within the hand, while others

snake their way to the arm. The wrist is a floating group of bones and ligaments threaded with blood vessels and nerves. The nerves send branches into each fingertip. The hand can generate fine forces or huge ones. A watchmaker can use his hands to set springs in place under a microscope. A sportsman can use the same anatomy to throw a ball at over 100 kilometres an hour.

Other species have hands too. [16 _____] In other cases we have to look closer. A bat's wings may look like sheets of skin. But underneath, a bat has the same five fingers as a human, as well as a wrist connected to the same cluster of wrist bones connected to the same long bones of the arm.

In exploring how hands have evolved, researchers over the past 150 years have dug up fossils on every continent. They've compared the anatomy of hands in living animals. They've studied the genes that build hands. It appears that our hands began to evolve at least 380 million years ago from fins - not the flat, ridged fins of a goldfish but the muscular, stout fins of extinct relatives of today's lungfish. Inside these were a few chunky bones corresponding to the bones in our arms. [17 _____] The digits later emerged and became separate, allowing the animals to grip underwater vegetation as they clambered through it.

[18 _____] Some species had seven fingers. Others had eight. But by the time vertebrates were walking around on dry land 340 million years ago, the hand had been scaled back to only five fingers. It has retained that number of fingers ever since - for reasons scientists don't yet know.

Nevertheless, there are still many different types of hands in living species, from dolphin flippers to eagle wings to the hanging hooks of sloths. [19 _____] They can also see that despite the outward differences, all hands start out in much the same way. There is a network of many genes that builds a hand, and all hands are built by variations on that same network. It takes only subtle changes in these genes to make

fingers longer or to turn nails into claws.

The discovery of the molecular toolbox for hand building has given scientists a deeper understanding of evolution. [20 _____] It may just be a little more of one

protein here, a little less of another there. In the past, scientists could recognise only the outward signs that hands had evolved from a common ancestor. Today scientists are uncovering the inward signs as well.



- A. Over time, smaller ones developed that would eventually become wrists and fingers.
- B. Although a vulture's wing and a lion's paw may appear to have nothing in common, the difference between them may come down to tiny variations.
- C. They also use them for a number of different purposes.
- D. No one would doubt that the five fingers at the end of an orangutan's arm are part of anything else.
- E. By studying these, scientists are beginning to understand the molecular changes that led to such dramatic variations.
- F. The thumb alone is controlled by nine separate muscles.
- G. Early hands were more exotic than any hand today.

III. USE OF ENGLISH

Task 1. For questions 1- 11, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Remnants of the Past

While skyscraper offices and elegant apartment blocks remain the public face of most major cities, these cities also have a mass of secret tunnels and hidden pipes below (1) ___ which keep everything working. This other world exists beneath many of the greatest cities, forgotten or neglected by all but a tiny (2) ___ of engineers and historians.

For example, there are more than 150 kilometres of rivers under the streets of London. Most have been (3) ___ over and, sadly, all that (4) ___ is their names. Perhaps the greatest (5) ___ to the city is the River Fleet, a (6) ___ great river which previously had beautiful houses on its (7) ___. It now goes underground in the north of the city and (8) ___ into the River Thames by Blackfriars Bridge.

The London Underground has 1,000 kilometres of underground railway tracks winding under the capital and more than 100 stations below street level. Along some underground railway lines, commuters can sometimes catch a (9) ___ glimpse of the platforms of more than 40 closed stations which have been left under the city. (10) ___ some are used as film sets, most lie forgotten. Some have had their entrances on the street turned into restaurants and shops, but most entrances have been (11) ___ down.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 1. A land | B ground | C soil | D earth |
| 2. A number | B amount | C total | D few |
| 3. A covered | B protected | C hidden | D sheltered |
| 4. A stays | B stops | C remains | D keeps |
| 5. A miss | B absence | C waste | D loss |
| 6. A once | B past | C then | D prior |
| 7. A borders | B coasts | C banks | D rims |
| 8. A gets | B flows | C leaks | D lets |
| 9. A rapid | B brief | C fast | D sharp |
| 10. A Despite of | B Unlike | C Although | D Beside |
| 11. A pulled | B broken | C brought | D cut |



Task 2. For questions 12 - 18 complete each of the groups of sentences by choosing one of the verbs from A - L. Use each verb once only. There are more verbs than you will need.

A	bring	D	fall	G	keep	J	put
B	call	E	get	H	look	K	take
C	come	F	go	I	make	L	turn

12	I have to	off fatty foods.
	I wish he wouldn't	on about his new car all the time.
	He likes to	up with the latest news.
	These lights should	away any burglars.
	Why should he	back such vital information?
	They weren't able to	up the payments on their car.
13	It's nice to	forward to your holidays, isn't it?
	Remember to	up any words you don't know.
	Could you	after our cat while we're away?
	Why don't you	in on her on your way to work?
	They're snobs. They	down on pupils from my school.
	The police must	into lots of similar crimes every year.
14	Why didn't that alarm	off? I was late again.
	I never want to	through such an experience again.
	Don't stop. Please	on with your work.
	Would you like to	out for a meal this evening?
	We'll have to	through with it. We can't pull out!
	Which option will he	for?
15	I'll have to	up early tomorrow morning.
	When does her train	in?
	It's important to	on well with your colleagues.
	Try not to let the criticism	to you.
	If I can't do it myself, I'll	an electrician in.
	She can just	by on her salary and no more.
16	The dentist had to	out two teeth.
	With that red hair they	after their mother.
	We usually	on extra staff in the summer.
	Please	off your jacket if you want to.
	Will you help me	down those notices?
	You should	up some kind of sport to keep fit.
17	Unfortunately, I	on weight during my holiday.
	The employees have	in for a pay rise.
	Don't be	off by his clothes. He's really very nice.
	She	forward her proposal at the meeting.
	I try to	by a little money each week.
	I just can't	up with these arguments any longer!
18	That box might	in useful one day.
	He expects to	into a lot of money very soon.
	The subject didn't	up in the course of our discussion.
	They	across as really nice people, don't they?
	Have you	up with a solution to our problem?
	Will the stain	out if I wash it?



31. I _____ driving on the left because I've lived in Singapore for a long time.
 A. used to B. am used C. got used to D. am use to
32. We can't start our work until the instructor _____ to us what to do.
 A. explains B. will explain C. doesn't explain D. won't explain
33. Huge sums of money _____ by this company to develop the new model of computer.
 A. was spent B. have been spent C. spends D. is spent
34. There was a lift in the building, so we _____ to climb the stairs.
 A. mustn't B. were able C. hadn't D. didn't have
35. "Oliver Twist" is one of _____.
 A. the best novels by Charles Dickens' C. Charles Dickens' best novels
 B. Charles Dickens's best novels D. Charles's Dickens's best novels
36. I like your new car! _____ it?
 A. Since when have you been having C. How long did you have
 B. How long ago have you had D. Since when have you had
37. Have you got any idea _____ ?
 A. how much does a taxi cost C. how much a taxi costs
 B. how much costs a taxi D. where will you go tomorrow

Task 5. For questions 38 - 47, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS on your answer sheet.

Airports

Because of the recent (38) _____ in air travel, airports have become more than ever before symbols of international importance. They therefore have to look good and are (39) _____ designed by well-known architects. In addition to this, competition and customer demand mean that airports generally have to have (40) _____ facilities nowadays. For instance, there are (41) _____ departure lounges, where passengers can wait before their (42) _____ takes off, luxurious restaurants, shopping areas and banks. Good road and rail (43) _____ with nearby towns and cities are also essential, with large numbers of people needing to get to and from the airport quickly and efficiently.

However, it is becoming (44) _____ difficult to find land on which to build airports. One reason for this is that aircraft, despite (45) _____ in engine design, are still very noisy, and need a considerable amount of space in which to land and take off. This of course means that (46) _____ residential areas need to be avoided, so, (47) _____, travellers often find that the airport they need to use might be situated at an inconvenient distance from the city.

GROW

FREQUENT

**IMPRESS
COMFORT
FLY
CONNECT**

**INCREASE
IMPROVE**

**CROWD
FORTUNATE**



Task 6. Country Studies. For questions 48 – 52 choose the best answer (A, B, C or D).

48. What is the tallest mountain in the UK?

- A. Snowdon B. Ben Nevis C. Scafell Pike D. Braeriach

49. Which part of the UK is not found in its flag (Union Jack)?

- A. England B. Wales C. Scotland D. Northern Ireland

50. Several seas surround the British Isles. Which one does not?

- A. The Atlantic Ocean C. The North Sea
C. The Irish Sea D. The Baltic Sea

51. What were the names of the four main children in ‘The Chronicles of Narnia’ by Clive Staples Lewis?

- A. Lauren, Edmund, Susan & Paul
B. Lucy, Eustace, Sarah & Peter
C. Lucy, Edmund, Susan & Peter
D. Lauren, Eustace, Sarah & Paul

52. Mark Twain was an American author, essayist, and humorist who wrote a series of famous books, including ‘The Adventures of Tom Sawyer’ and ‘The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.’ Mark Twain is the pen name of

- A. Samuel Langhorne Clemens
B. George Eliot
C. Herman Melville
D. John Ernst Steinbeck

IV. WRITING

**Nowadays we are producing more and more rubbish. Why do you think this is happening?
What can governments do to help reduce the amount of rubbish produced?**

Write 180-200 words in the lines provided below.

