

Всероссийская олимпиада школьников

Муниципальный этап

2022 – 2023 учебный год

Английский язык

Ленинградская область

9 – 11 классы

Listening (20 min)

Task 1. You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about their favourite adverts. For questions 1-5, choose from the list (A-H) what made the advert special for them.

- A a celebrity endorsement
- B imaginative lyrics
- C a recurring topic
- D the glossy colours
- E the musical accompaniment
- F the simplicity of the idea
- G the use of the product
- H the expertise involved

1.	Speaker 1	
2.	Speaker 2	
3.	Speaker 3	
4.	Speaker 4	
5.	Speaker 5	

Task 2. You will hear Mike, a leading journalist, being interviewed about his job. For questions 6 – 12 listen and choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

6. What did Mike initially plan to study at college?
 - A) English and creative writing
 - B) business
 - C) business journalism
7. What used to be a common way into journalism?
 - A) gaining a college diploma, then joining a newspaper
 - B) finding a reporter that would take you on as a trainee
 - C) getting a job with a newspaper and learning from experience
8. In his first real job as a crime reporter, Mike remembers that the police
 - A) took some persuading before they would allow him to report on even some events.
 - B) let him report on any event he wanted to once he had gained their trust.
 - C) were so suspicious of reporters that they limited the number of jobs he could join them on.
9. Mike explained that when Prince Charles was at university, reporters
 - A) would try and persuade his bodyguards to give them information on what he got up to.
 - B) used to constantly follow him in order to get a really good story.
 - C) respected his need for privacy and allowed him space to enjoy himself.
10. In Mike's opinion, if you want to be a good journalist, above all you need to be
 - A) the type of person who can communicate with everyone and anyone.
 - B) dedicated to the job and able to work in difficult circumstances.
 - C) committed to creating a well-written story.
11. When talking about how the job has changed, Mike said that
 - A) he now loves the job more than ever.
 - B) the work has become less people-orientated.
 - C) technology has made the job a whole easier.
12. What advice would Mike give now to anyone thinking of becoming a journalist?
 - A) If you want a really well-paid job which is full of excitement, do it!
 - B) If you don't mind working long hours and competing for stories, go for it!
 - C) If you enjoy working with others and are happy working whenever you need to, go for it!

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Reading (40 min)

Task 1. For questions 1 – 5 read the text and choose the best answer, A, B, C or D.

LAS FALLAS

Every year the colourful Mediterranean city of Valencia in Spain celebrates the final days of winter and the arrival of spring with one of the most popular and spectacular festivals in the country, *Las Fallas*. From 15th to 19th March the whole city comes alive in a carnival type atmosphere of fiesta, fireworks and bonfires and its population of one million swells to over three million. The purpose of the festival is to create and then burn huge life-like cardboard, wood, or paper-maché puppets or dolls called *ninots*.

The *ninots* are crafted by neighbourhood organisations from different districts around the city and usually take many months to make. Each one is designed to make fun of a political figure, a sports celebrity, a famous actor, or a soap star. They are often several stories tall and need to be moved into their final locations, at intersections and parks around the city, by cranes. The *ninots* are displayed until 19th March, the day known as *La Cremá*, or the burning. On the evening of the 19th, young men chop holes in the puppets and stuff **them** with fireworks. The crowds start to chant, the streetlights are turned off and all of the *ninots* are set on fire at exactly midnight. Each year, one of the *ninots* is pardoned and spared from destruction by popular vote and is exhibited in the local *Museum of the Ninot* with the ones from previous years.

The festival is not only about burning *ninots*, though, as there are a variety of other activities for people to enjoy. During the day, bullfights, parades, paella and beauty contests are held around the city. Every day at 2 pm, fireworks explode around a main square. This noisy but extremely popular event is called *La Mascletá* and involves different neighbourhood groups competing for the most impressive display, ending with the *terremoto*, or earthquake. Another important event is the *Ofrenda de Flores a la Virgen de los Desamparados*. In this ceremony, thousands of people take to the streets wearing traditional costumes and dancing to their neighbourhood bands. Everyone comes together to form a procession to the Plaza de la Virgen where they offer bouquets of flowers to a giant image of the Virgin Mary.

The origin of *Las Fallas* is far from clear. Some people believe that it evolved from pagan rituals that celebrated the onset of spring and the planting season. Centuries ago, Valencia used streetlights they hung on wooden structures called parrots. When the days became longer they ceremoniously burned the parrots on St Joseph's Day. Others say that the origins of the festival go back to the time when carpenters cleared out their workshops at the end of winter, throwing out unused pieces of wood and old candles and lighting them on the street the day of Saint Joseph. *Las Fallas* is Valencian for 'the fires' and aptly describes the festival.

1. According to the text, before the festival begins, people

- A) decorate the streets. B) prepare bonfires.
C) make giant puppets. D) design costumes.

2. The pardoned ninot is displayed

- A) for five days. B) for 1 month. C) for 1 year. D) indefinitely.

3. According to the text, the origins of the festival are

- A) Christian. B) foreign. C) pagan. D) uncertain.

4. The word 'them' in bold in paragraph 2 refers to
A) fireworks. B) holes. C) puppets. D) young men.

5. The writer's purpose is to
A) describe a festival. B) justify the reasons for a festival.
C) promote a festival. D) make fun of a festival.

Task 2. You are going to read a text about names and how they can affect a person. Choose from the paragraphs A-G the one which fits each gap (6 - 11). There is one extra paragraph.

Can our names shape us as people?

Does what we're called have any effect on who we are as a person? We look at this interesting idea and consider why your name matters.

We often wonder what's in a name. As it turns out, potentially quite a lot; from your personality down to your success in life.

6

While these ideas sound quite radical, you might be surprised that they aren't anything new. In fact, as far back as 1948, academics surmised that rare names had a negative effect on the psychology of the owner.

7

Another factor that examines the link between names and behaviour is the implicit-egotism effect. A theory that states that we tend to be drawn to things that resemble us, such as the letters found in our names. Other studies have also discovered that a person's initial might unconsciously impact their thinking. However, not all scientists and experts agree on what extent our names influence these factors, with some arguing that the impacts, if any, are mild at best.

8

In one famous study, researchers sent five thousand CV's to different job advertisements in Chicago and Boston. They identified what they believed to be common sounding names and more uncommon sounding ones.

9

Names, they concluded, send strong messages about who we are and our roots. Few other words in the CVs it seemed, carried the same amount of weight as the one simple noun that we have no control over.

10

The more initials used the more intellectual the person was perceived to be. So perhaps J.R.R Tolkien had the right idea when he wrote the Hobbit! Another more extreme way that we can use our name to our own advantage is by changing it ourselves.

11

So if you ever find yourself becoming a parent, think carefully about what you call your child. It might just be the most important decision you make in your life!

A Or do we? According to research in the European Journal of Social Psychology, perhaps we can turn this idea around. The paper observed that using a middle initial increases the positive opinion of your intelligence and competence.

B Regardless of how academics feel about the impact of a name upon the individual, one thing that is clear is the effect our names have on the people around us. Various experts observed that names play a large role in the way others perceive us, and the opportunities that may, or may not, be presented to us as a result.

C This is often done by immigrants when they move to a new country. The reason being that changing a name to a local alternative substantially improves income as well as educational prospects for children.

D Through the years, ideas about exotic names have been taken further, with recent studies finding that the choices parents make for the names of their children could even be related to genetics. Professors noticed that adventurous parents choose exciting names, which could signal the underlying genes of the baby and their likelihood to be outgoing.

E The results showed a great deal about preconceptions of background, and the way names open doors for some, and slam them shut for others. The study showed, shockingly, that the 'common' names received fifty percent more callbacks than the more unusual ones.

F Research now shows how a simple word which we use to designate ourselves has remarkable power. It can impact your education, how hireable you are, and even your behaviour and character traits!

G The most popular name in the country actually came from a famous athlete who was well known for his success both on and off the athletics track. Keen to cash in, parents named their children after the runner for good luck.

Task 3. Read the article below. Are these statements 12 - 17 True (T) or False (F)?

12. Genetically, it is believed that all humans originate from less than 100 individuals. _____
13. It was once thought that blood was the means by which family characteristics were passed on. ____
14. Research has shown that newborns are most fascinated with people's eyes. _____
15. Throughout time, the human concept of beauty has continually changed. _____
16. According to Susan Greenfield, our brain's capacity is not fixed as it is a living organism which grows when cared for. _____
17. Steven Pinker considers that a human's ability to competently use language to communicate is completely spontaneous. _____

Four classic science books

Oliver Mansell reviews four books, all of which are must-reads for people who want to learn more about themselves.

A In the Blood: God, Genes and Destiny, by Steve Jones

This is the book for anyone who wants to understand the thinking behind theories of DNA. Did you know, for example, that whoever our parents may be, we are all united by 'the basic stuff of life', which contains our genes? And did you know that most of the population of the world may have descended from fewer than 100 people? Other discoveries like these are still being made almost every week, which is why genetics is at the forefront of 21st-century science. Before they'd heard of genes, people believed that family traits were carried in the blood. Today we know that they were wrong. Issues like these are among those discussed in this thrilling book by Professor Jones. As with his earlier books on other subjects, you will find it hard to put down.

B The Human Face, by Brian Bates with John Cleese

This fascinating book collects together the findings of various scientific studies concerning the human face. One of these has shown that 30 minutes after birth, when our eyes can hardly focus, we gaze at faces rather than anything else. And it seems that we continue to be fascinated with them all through life. There have been a number of psychological tests designed to investigate beauty but their conclusions only prove what the Ancient Greeks always knew: a beautiful face is one with regular features. So maybe this is not the book to buy if you want new facts but it does provide some fascinating insights into how faces have developed over the years and wheth-

er one can judge a person by their appearance alone. Although rather serious in places, the book is packed with eye-catching photos, making it an ideal birthday present even for the most reluctant student of science.

C Brain Story, by Susan Greenfield

When she was Director of the Royal Institution of Science, Susan Greenfield's main objective was to encourage the greater public understanding of scientific ideas. In this book, she introduces us to the inside of our heads and shows the kind of enthusiasm about the brain that other writers reserve for fine art or football. The idea of 'intelligence' worries her, however, because this suggests that a person's 'brain power' is pre-determined. She agrees with those who insist that the brain, which is capable of amazing things, is constantly developing, and gets better and better with age, providing you look after it. Although this book develops the ideas introduced in her previous one, *The Private Life of the Brain*, it clearly had television audiences in mind (there was a tie-in series on BBC 1) and as a consequence, it is rather shorter on detail, focusing instead on one or two interesting examples.

D The Language Instinct, by Steven Pinker

Where does our feeling for language come from? How do we learn to speak it so effortlessly? Why is it so hard for adults to learn a foreign language? Cleverly structured, with many amusing anecdotes, linguist Steven Pinker's book examines why we use language and where this ability comes from. His personal belief is that language is as instinctive to us as flying is to geese and that we use it to great effect in order to communicate. He illustrates his theory with examples of language taken from various sources, including children's conversations, pop culture and politicians' speeches. Pinker has packed his book full of original ideas; it does not make for light reading but it will nonetheless appeal both to specialists and anyone who finds language and human beings fascinating in the widest sense.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Use of English (20 min)

Task 1. For questions 1 – 10 put the words in brackets in the correct form.

Stereotypes and change

Societies change over time while their reputations lag behind. Many things which are often regarded as (1) (**typical**) British derive from books, songs or plays which (2) (**write**) a long time ago and which are no longer (3) (**represent**) of modern life. One example of this is the popular belief that Britain is a 'land of tradition'. This is what most tourist brochures claim. The claim (4) (**base**) on what can be seen in public life and on centuries of political (5) (**continue**). And at this level – the level of public life – it is (6) (**doubt**) true. The annual ceremony of the state opening of Parliament, for instance, carefully follows customs which are centuries old. So does the military ceremony of 'trooping the colour'. Likewise, the (7) (**change**) of the guard outside Buckingham Palace never changes.

However, in their private lives, the British as individuals are probably (8) (**little**) inclined to follow tradition than are the people of most other countries. There are very few ancient customs that (9) (**follow**) by the (10) (**major**) of families on special occasions. The English language has fewer sayings or proverbs that are in common everyday use that many other languages do.

Task 2. For questions 11 – 15 complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the sentence above, using the word given. Use from three to six words. You must not change the word given.

11. It was very easy for someone to steal the car because Dad forgot to lock it. **STOLEN**
Dad forgot to lock the car which explains easily.

12. Anne told me that she doesn't intend to stop working. **INTENTION**
Anna told me that she up her job.

13. I don't usually learn anything useful from the TV, but last night I did. **CHANGE**
It useful from the television last night.

14. Jill wished she had tried to have a better relationship with her father. **GET**
Jill regretted better with her father.

15. The team are determined to finish the race however tough it is. **MATTER**
The team are determined to finish the race be.

Task 3. For questions 16 – 20 complete the phrasal verbs or phrasal expressions in the second speaker's answers. Put the verb in the correct form.

blow roll pass letdown shoot

16. Ramesh: Was the concert as good as you expected?

Steve: No, it was a big Very poor. A complete disappointment.

17. Kerry: Did you have a nice date with Sheila last night?

Gerard: No, she me out. I waited for her for over an hour and then I went home.

18. Louise: Can't you stay for dinner? We've got loads of food.

Ron: No, I'd better off now. I've got a report to do for tomorrow morning.

19. Freda: Jim, how nice to see you! I wasn't expecting a visit!

Jim: Well, I was just by so I thought I'd come and say hello.

20. David: How was Harry's birthday celebration?

Rachel: Well, we all up expecting a big party, but there were only a few members of his family there.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Writing (40 min)

Your class has watched a television programme on the reasons why many teens have stress. You've made the notes below:

Factors which influence why many teens have stress:

- family
- school
- friends

Some opinions expressed in the discussion:

1. *"Teens can feel stress because of disagreements with parents over rules and expectations."*
2. *"Students feel pressure to complete daily homework assignments and do well in courses."*
3. *"Peer and social pressure to look and behave a certain way can cause anxiety in teens."*

Write an essay for your tutor discussing **two** of the factors in your notes which influence why many teens have stress. You should identify which factor you think is more significant, providing reasons to support your opinion.

You may, if you wish, make use of the opinions expressed in the discussion, but you should use your own words as far as possible. Write your **essay** in 200-250 words.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.