

**ВСЕРОССИЙСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ
ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ
МУНИЦИПАЛЬНЫЙ ЭТАП
2023–2024 учебный год
7–8 классы**

**LISTENING
Time: 10 minutes**

Task 1

Listen to the conversation about the human body and circle the best option to complete sentences 1–8.

1. Only about one tenth of the cells in your body are ...
 - a. alive.
 - b. really you.
 - c. bacteria.
2. Bacteria are mostly ...
 - a. really helpful.
 - b. bad for humans.
 - c. neither good nor bad.
3. Animals need bacteria to ...
 - a. fight diseases.
 - b. provide energy.
 - c. digest food.
4. You have _____ cells in your body.
 - a. 7 million
 - b. 7 trillion
 - c. 7 octillion
5. Most of the atoms are ...
 - a. tiny cubes.
 - b. not used.
 - c. empty space.
6. You probably have mites in your ...
 - a. hair.
 - b. ears.
 - c. eyelashes.
7. Mites are very small creatures that are about ...
 - a. 3 millimetres long.
 - b. a third of a millimetre long.
 - c. 0.03 millimetres long.
8. Mites eat ...
 - a. dead skin.
 - b. your eyelashes.
 - c. tiny insects.

READING
Time: 20 minutes
Task 1

Read this extract from an article about keeping animals in zoos. Decide if the following statements (9–20) are true or false.

Are zoos a good thing?

Zoos are hugely popular attractions for adults and children alike. But are they actually a good thing?

Critics of zoos would argue that animals often suffer physically and mentally by being enclosed. Even the best artificial environments can't come close to matching the space, diversity, and freedom that animals have in their natural habitats. This deprivation causes many zoo animals to become stressed or mentally ill. Capturing animals in the wild also causes much suffering by splitting up families. Some zoos make animals behave unnaturally: for example, marine parks often force dolphins and whales to perform tricks. These mammals may die decades earlier than their wild relatives, and some even try to commit suicide.

On the other hand, by bringing people and animals together, zoos have the potential to educate the public about conservation issues and inspire people to protect animals and their habitats. Some zoos provide a safe environment for animals which have been mistreated in circuses, or pets which have been abandoned. Zoos also carry out important research into subjects like animal behaviour and how to treat illnesses.

One of the most important modern functions of zoos is supporting international breeding programmes, particularly for endangered species. In the wild, some of the rarest species have difficulty in finding mates and breeding, and they might also be threatened by poachers, loss of their habitat and predators. A good zoo will enable these species to live and breed in a secure environment. In addition, as numbers of some wild species drop, there is an increased danger of populations becoming too genetically similar. Breeding programmes provide a safeguard: zoo-bred animals can be released into the wild to increase genetic diversity.

However, opponents of zoos say that the vast majority of captive breeding programmes do not release animals back into the wild. Surplus animals are sold not only to other zoos but also to circuses or hunting ranches in the US or South Africa, where some people are willing to pay a lot of money for the chance to kill an animal in a fenced enclosure. Often, these animals are familiar with humans and have very little chance of escaping.

So, are zoos good for animals or not? Perhaps it all depends on how well individual zoos are managed, and the benefits of zoos can surely outweigh their harmful effects. However, it is understandable that many people believe imprisoning animals for any reason is simply wrong.

9. Modern zoos can offer animals a living environment that is as good as their natural habitats.
 - a. True
 - b. False
10. One of the reasons zoo animals become distressed is because they are separated from their families.
 - a. True
 - b. False
11. Dolphins and whales usually live longer in zoos than in the wild.
 - a. True
 - b. False

12. People who have visited zoos are more likely to support animal conservation and protection.
 - a. True
 - b. False
13. Zoos protect animals from being used for scientific research.
 - a. True
 - b. False
14. Endangered animals kept in zoos are less likely to meet a mate and breed.
 - a. True
 - b. False
15. In their natural habitats, animals suffer problems related to human activity.
 - a. True
 - b. False
16. Endangered species often lack genetic diversity in their population.
 - a. True
 - b. False
17. Zoos promote genetic diversity by breeding animals and then releasing them back into the wild.
 - a. True
 - b. False
18. If zoos have more animals than they can look after, they always give them to another zoo or release them back into the wild.
 - a. True
 - b. False
19. Animals that have been bred in captivity quickly adapt to life in hunting ranches.
 - a. True
 - b. False
20. The author thinks that, on balance, zoos are generally a good thing.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Task 2

Complete the gaps (21–28) with a word from the box.

habitat	suicide	tricks	illnesses
mate	wild	environment	species

21. Even the best artificial environments cannot come close to an animal's natural
22. Whales and dolphins in zoos are often made to perform
23. Distressed and depressed zoo animals sometimes try to commit
24. Zoos can provide a safe for animals that have been mistreated or abandoned.
25. Zoos carry out important research into how to treat
26. International breeding programmes are particularly important for endangered
27. In the wild, some of the rarest species have difficulty finding a
28. One criticism of breeding programmes is that they do not always release animals back into the

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 30 minutes

Task 1

For each question (29–34), choose the correct answer.

The history of surfing

Surfing is one of the oldest sports on the planet. No one really knows (29) when it first started but it is (30) that people have used wooden boards to ride waves for about three thousand years. The first surfers were probably fishermen from islands in the Pacific Ocean, who found that brining the fish they had (31) to shore was much easier if they rode waves onto the beach in their small boats. Over time, this developed from part of the working day into a (32) activity.

The first (33) records of surfing appeared in the late eighteenth century. English explorer Captain James Cook wrote in his diary about seeing locals riding the waves for (34) on a Pacific island called Tahiti.

In the early twentieth century, surfing spread to the US state of California and Australia. It's not popular all around the world.

- | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| 29 | a. certainly | b. correctly | c. exactly | d. totally |
| 30 | a. thought | b. supposed | c. intended | d. expected |
| 31 | a. gained | b. kept | c. held | d. caught |
| 32 | a. rest | b. leisure | c. relaxation | d. entertainment |
| 33 | a. ancient | b. historical | c. antique | d. old |
| 34 | a. pleasure | b. happiness | c. wish | d. choice |

Task 2

For questions **35–42**, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example: (0) *what*

The amazing Atacama Desert

When you think of a desert, (0) first comes to mind? Is it a hot, dry and empty landscape? For the Atacama Desert in Chile, that image is only partly true. It is actually pretty cold, with daily temperatures ranging (35) 0 to 25 degrees centigrade. But (36) is certainly no doubt that the Atacama Desert is dry. Despite (37) located right next to the Pacific Ocean, it's actually the world's driest desert, some parts of which have not had any rainfall for over 400 years. So it may come (38) a surprise to learn that it does actually rain in this desert. Every five to seven years (39) average, heavy rainfall soaks the landscape and then, all (40) a sudden, something magical happens: the desert is transformed into a carpet of colourful flowers. The incredible sight lasts for just a (41) short weeks and attracts thousands of visitors, eager (42) enjoy such a rare occurrence.

Task 3

For questions **43–50**, match the fictional characters to the titles of works in which they appear.

Fictional character		Book	
43	Hermione Granger	A	Treasure Island
44	Baloo	B	The Hobbit, or There and Back Again
45	The Cheshire Cat	C	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
46	Bilbo Baggins	D	A Christmas Carol
47	Long John Silver	E	The Jungle Book

48	Tinker Bell	F	Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
49	Ebenezer Scrooge	G	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
50	Willy Wonka	H	Peter Pan

WRITING

Time: 20 minutes

You have received an email from your English-speaking friend, Mel.

Hi

There's a problem which I definitely need some help with. I've got a friend, Chris, who's always borrowing things from me (and other people), but who doesn't return them. What do I need to do? What should I tell him? Do you think I should stop being friends with him?

Thanks for your help.

Mel

Write your email to Mel.

Remember the rules of email writing.

(100–120 words)

From:
To: mel@email.me
Subject: