

ВСЕРОССИЙСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ

МУНИЦИПАЛЬНЫЙ ЭТАП 2023-2024 уч.г.

ПИСЬМЕННЫЙ ТУР

9-11 классы

Уважаемый участник олимпиады!

Вам предстоит выполнить письменные задания.

Время выполнения заданий письменного тура - 2 академических часа (90 минут).

Выполнение заданий целесообразно организовать следующим образом:

- не спеша, внимательно прочитайте формулировку задания;
- напишите правильный вариант ответа в бланке ответов;
- после выполнения всех предложенных заданий еще раз удостоверьтесь в правильности ваших ответов;
- если потребуется корректировка выбранного Вами варианта ответа, то неправильный вариант ответа зачеркните крестиком и рядом напишите новый.

Предупреждаем Вас, что:

- при оценке тестовых заданий, где необходимо определить один правильный ответ, 0 баллов выставляется за неверный ответ и в случае, если участником отмечены несколько ответов (в том числе правильный), или все ответы;
- при оценке тестовых заданий, где необходимо определить все правильные ответы, 0 баллов выставляется, если участником отмечены неверные ответы, большее количество ответов, чем предусмотрено в задании (в том числе правильные ответы) или все ответы.

Задание письменного тура считается выполненным, если Вы вовремя сдаете его членам жюри.

Максимальная оценка – 59 баллов.

LISTENING (10 points)

Time: 15 minutes

Task 1. Complete the table below. Write no more than TWO words for each answer

THE HISTORY OF THE ELECTRIC GUITAR			
DATE	MAKER	NAME OF GUITAR	FEATURES
1890s	Orville Gibson	no name	similar in shape to a 1
1925	John Dopyera	The National Guitar	made of metal, good for playing 2 music

1930s	C.F. Martin Company	The Dreadnought	strings made of 3
1931	George Beauchamp	The 4	used two 5 shaped like horseshoes to increase sound
1935	Adolph Rickenbacker	The Rickenbacker Electro Spanish	made from 6
1941	Les Paul	The Log	the first to be completely 7
1950	Leo Fender	The Fender Broadcaster	its simplicity made it ideal for 8
1951	Leo Fender	The 9	easy to carry around
1952	Ted McCarty	The Gibson Les Paul	10 in colour
1954	Leo Fender	The Fender Stratocaster	double cutaway design

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet

READING (14 points)

Time: 25 minutes

Endangered languages

‘Never mind whales, save the languages’,
says Peter Monaghan, graduate of the Australian National University

Worried about the loss of rainforests and the ozone layer? Well, neither of those is doing any worse than a large majority of the 6,000 to 7,000 languages that remain in use on Earth. On half of the survivors will almost certainly be gone by 2050, while 40% more will probably be well on their way out. In their place, almost all humans will speak one of a handful of megalanguage – Mandarin, English, Spanish.

Linguists know what causes languages to disappear, but less often remarked is what happens on the way to disappearance: languages’ vocabularies, grammars and expressive potential all diminish as one language is replaced by another. ‘Say a community goes over from speaking a traditional Aboriginal language to speaking a creole¹,’ says Australian Nick Evans, a leading authority on Aboriginal languages, as ‘you leave behind a language where there’s very fine vocabulary for the landscape. All that is gone in a creole. You’ve just got a few words like ‘gum tree’ or whatever. As speakers become less able to express the wealth of knowledge that has filled ancestors’ lives with meaning over millennia, it’s no wonder that communities tend to become demoralised.’

If the losses are so huge, why are relatively few linguists combating the situation? Australian linguists, at least, have achieved a great deal in terms of preserving traditional languages. Australian governments began in the 1970s to support an initiative that has resulted in good documentation of most of the 130 remaining Aboriginal languages. In England, another Australian, Peter Austin, has directed one of the world’s most active efforts to limit language loss, at the University of London. Austin heads a programme that has trained many documentary linguists in England as well as in language-los hotspots such as West Africa and South America.

At linguists meetings in the US, where the endangered-language issue has of late been something of a flavour of the month, there is growing evidence that not all approaches to the

¹ a language developed from a mixture of two different languages

preservation of languages will be particularly helpful. Some linguists are boasting, for example, of more and more sophisticated means of capturing languages: digital recording and storage, and internet and mobile phone technologies. But these are encouraging the 'quick dash' style recording trip: fly in, switch on digital recorder, fly home, download to hard drive, and store gathered material for future research. That's not quite what some endangered-language specialists have been seeking for more than 30 years. Most loud and untiring has been Michael Krauss, of the University of Alaska. He has often complained that linguists are playing with non-essentials while most of their raw data is disappearing.

Who is to blame? That prominent linguist Noam Chomsky, say Krauss and many others. Or, more precisely, they blame those linguists who have been obsessed with his approaches. Linguists who go out into communities to study, document and describe languages, argue that theoretical linguists, who draw conclusions about how languages work, have had so much influence that linguistics has largely ignored the continuing disappearance of languages.

Chomsky, from his post at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been the great man of theoretical linguistics for far longer than he has been known as a political commentator. His landmark work of 1957 argues that all languages exhibit certain universal grammatical features, encoded in the human mind. American linguists, in particular, have been focused largely on theoretical concerns ever since, even while doubts have mounted about Chomsky's universals.

Austin and Co. are in no doubt that because languages are unique, even if they do tend to have common underlying features, creating dictionaries and grammars requires prolonged and dedicated work. This requires that documentary linguists observe not only languages' structural subtleties, but also related social, historical and political factors. Such work calls for persistent funding of field scientists who may sometimes have to venture into harsh and even hazardous places. Once there, they may face difficulties such as community suspicion. As Nick Evans says, a community who speak an endangered language may have reasons to doubt or even oppose efforts to preserve it. They may have seen support and funding for such work come and go. They may have given up using the language with their children, believing they will benefit from speaking a more widely understood one.

Plenty of students continue to be drawn to the intellectual thrill of linguistics field work. That's all the more reason to clear away barriers, contend Evans, Austin and others. The highest barrier, they agree, is that the linguistics profession's emphasis on theory gradually wears down the enthusiasm of linguists who work in communities. Chomsky disagrees. He has recently begun to speak in support of language preservation. But his linguistic, as opposed to humanitarian, argument is, let's say, unsentimental: the loss of a language, he states, 'is much more of a tragedy for linguists whose interests are mostly theoretical, like me, than for linguists who focus on describing specific languages, since it means the permanent loss of the most relevant data for general theoretical work'. At the moment, few institutions award doctorates for such work, and that's the way it should be, he reasons. In linguistics, as in every other discipline, he believes that good descriptive work requires thorough theoretical understanding and should also contribute to building new theory. But that's precisely what documentation does, objects Evans. The process of immersion in a language, to extract, analyse and sum it up, deserves a PhD because it is 'the most demanding intellectual task a linguist can engage in'.

Task 1. Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer. In boxes 1-6 on your answer sheet, write true (if the statement agrees with the views of the writer), false (if the statement contradicts the views of the writer), not stated (if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this)

1. By 2050 only a small number of languages will be flourishing.

2. Australian academics' efforts to record existing Aboriginal languages have been too limited.
3. The use of technology in language research is proving unsatisfactory in some respects.
4. Chomsky's political views have overshadowed his academic work.
5. Documentary linguistics studies require long term financial support.
6. Chomsky's attitude to disappearing languages is too emotional.

Task 2. Choose the correct letter A, B, C or D.

7. The writer mentions rainforests and the ozone layer
A because he believes anxiety about environmental issues is unfounded.
B to demonstrate that academics in different disciplines share the same problems.
C because they exemplify what is wrong with the attitudes of some academics.
D to make the point that the public should be equally concerned about languages.
8. What does Nick Evans say about speakers of a creole?
A They lose the ability to express ideas which are part of their culture.
B Older and younger members of the community have difficulty communicating.
C They express their ideas more clearly and concisely than most people.
D Accessing practical information causes problems for them.
9. What is similar about West Africa and South America, from the linguist's point of view?
A The English language is widely used by academics and teachers.
B The documentary linguists who work there were trained by Australians.
C Local languages are disappearing rapidly in both places.
D There are now only a few undocumented languages there.
10. Michael Krauss has frequently pointed out that
A linguists are failing to record languages before they die out.
B linguists have made poor use of improvements in technology.
C linguistics has declined in popularity as an academic subject.
D Linguistics departments are underfunded in most universities.

Task 3. Complete each sentences with the correct ending, A-G, below. Write the correct letter, A-G, in boxes 11-14 on your answer sheet.

11. Linguists like Peter Austin believe that every language is unique
12. Nick Evans suggests a community may resist attempts to save its language
13. Many young researchers are interested in doing practical research
14. Chomsky supports work in descriptive linguistics

- | |
|---|
| <p>A even though it is in danger of disappearing.
B provided that it has a strong basis in theory.
C although it may share certain universal characteristics.
D because there is a practical advantage to it.
E so long as the drawbacks clearly understood.
F in spite of the prevalence of theoretical linguistics.
G until they realise what is involved.</p> |
|---|

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet

USE OF ENGLISH (20 points)

Time: 20 minutes

Task 1. Match the two columns.

Idiom		Meaning	
1	Wrap your head around something	A	just barely
2	Pull someone's leg	B	very expensive
3	By the skin of your teeth	C	we agree
4	Cost an arm and a leg	D	understand something complicated
5	Hit the nail on the head	E	offend another person
6	Have your head in the clouds	F	get something exactly right
7	We see eye to eye	G	good luck
8	Break a leg	H	involved in many activities
9	Put one's foot in mouth	I	joke with someone
10	A finger in every pie	J	not be concentrating

Task 2. Complete the text with the correct form of the words in brackets.

In 2007 a rumour spread by chatrooms and text message hit the price of bananas from China's Hainan island. The messages claimed the fruit contained viruses that bore a strong **11** _____ (**SIMILAR**) to SARS, the severe respiratory **12** _____ (**ILL**) which has killed hundreds of people worldwide. **13** _____ (**PRODUCE**) of the bananas in Hainan say the **14** _____ (**RESULT**) price slump cost them up to 20 million yuan (US\$2.6m) a day. China's Agriculture Ministry dismissed the SARS claim as completely **15** _____ (**TRUE**). Officials claimed that there was no **16** _____ (**SCIENCE**) evidence to support the rumour and that it was **17** _____ (**TOTAL**) without foundation. They added that it was **18** _____ (**POSSIBLE**) for humans to contract a plant virus. The banana fears come amid international concerns over tainted Chinese exports, including **19** _____ (**ALLEGED**) of poisons in pet food and toothpaste. The state-owned China Daily newspaper **20** _____ (**RECENT**) criticized China's food safety regulators and called on the government to do more to protect Chinese consumers.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet

WRITING (15 points)

Time: 30 minutes

You work in Nalychevo Nature Park, Kamchatka. Your manager has asked you to write a report in English on the park popularity with tourists. You should briefly describe the facilities that are currently available to visitors. Your report should also recommend at least two improvements that would enhance the park further and attract more visitors.

Write your report.

Use the following words in your text: *efficiency, expertise, increase, cooperate, reduce*.

Underline the required words when used in your text and put them in the correct grammar form if necessary.

Write 200-250 words.

Remember to:

- include a title and subtitles;
- use an appropriate style;
- organise the information logically and clearly;
- make a critical evaluation of the facilities;
- give 2-3 recommendations to the park administration.

You should use your own words and expressions as far as possible.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet