

LISTENING**Time: 15 minutes (15 points)****Task 1**

You will listen to the extract from a videoblog by a piano teacher, musician and overall music enthusiast as she calls herself, Allysia. She tells about the early days and the beginning of the career of the Russian magnificent pianist and composer Sergey Rakhmaninoff. Listen to her story and choose True or False according to the information you hear. You will hear the recording twice.

You have 20 seconds to read the task.

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Sergei Rachmaninoff was a famous Russian composer who lived up to 70 years. | True/False |
| 2. Rachmaninoff only wrote late Romantic style pieces. | True/False |
| 3. Tchaikovsky was Rachmaninoff's idol and greatly influenced his compositions. | True/False |
| 4. Rachmaninoff's elder sister introduced him to the music of Tchaikovsky. | True/False |
| 5. Rachmaninoff's public debut as a pianist happened when he was 18 years old. | True/False |
| 6. Rachmaninoff's first symphony was well-received by critics and audiences. | True/False |
| 7. Rachmaninoff's first symphony was never performed again in his lifetime. | True/False |
| 8. Rachmaninoff's depression had a positive impact on his compositional output. | True/False |
| 9. Rachmaninoff sought professional help to deal with his depression. | True/False |
| 10. Rachmaninoff's second piano concerto was dedicated to Leo Tolstoy. | True/False |

Task 2

You will listen to a short conversation between a journalist of ABC Arts Alice Keath with the pianist Sonya Lifschitz about the beginnings of Russian classical music. Listen to her story and choose A, B, C or D according to the information you hear. You will hear the recording ONLY ONCE.

11. What is the "Mighty five"?

- A. A group of Russian composers
- B. The five most influential Russian musicians
- C. A famous Russian music festival

12. Why did Glinka travel the world?

- A. To learn about different cultures
- B. To find inspiration for his music
- C. To perform in different countries

13. What is one reason why Russian composers drew on oriental influences?

- A. They wanted to create a unique Russian sound
- B. They were influenced by Eastern exoticism
- C. They were inspired by the invasion from the East

14. What is the main theme of the conversation?

- A. The influence of Russian composers on world music
- B. The importance of cultural diversity in music
- C. The development of authentic Russian music

15. What is the essence of Russian expressions through music according to Sonya Lifschitz?

- A. Eclecticism and diversity
- B. Authenticity and tradition
- C. Emotional depth and complexity

READING**Time: 20 minutes (15 points)****Task 3**

Read the text about some amazing facts from the history of deltiology or collecting cards in Ufa. Choose the option (A, B, C or D) which best fits according to the text.

"I congratulate you, Maria Petrovna, on the day of your Angel and wish both to meet and to spend it in good health and every good thing..."

"Dear Julia, I congratulate you on your Angel and wish you all the best. Loving you Vera L."

"Dear Lidok! How good I feel as a telegraph apprentice. My progress is moving fast. Ahead of me, my supervisor wants to persuade me to get a working machine. I'm not bored. We ride horses. Does our Lydia write to you? I haven't heard from her. Kisses, your Liza."

One can know nothing about deltiology, but guess: such old postcards, inscribed by young ladies at the dawn of the last century, are of great value to collectors. Marked with postmarks, with simple addresses such as "Melitopol to Her Excellency Lydia Alexandrovna Shmalzen" or "E.V.B. Julia Ivanovna Pankova Arbat Bolsh. Afanasievsky per. own house" they had lain for decades in bundles tied with fading blue or pink ribbons, in some cupboards that had miraculously survived the fire, which Fate had pushed into the most secret corners of communal neighbourhoods...

These three "unfamiliar" postcards are united by the Ufa postmark. Sent from Ufa in 1903, 1909 and 1913, almost a hundred years later they returned to the "sender's address".

It is only a deltiologist who knows how these "Benardot cartons" returned to their native places. This was the name given to illustrated post cards in France during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871 where at some place Conley in Brittany the soldiers ran out of paper and envelopes. A clever local boy, bookseller Léon Benardot, who cut the cardboard into small pieces measuring 6.6 × 9.8 centimetres (the size of today's standard postcards is 10.5 × 15 cm), painted them with vignettes in a patriotic spirit and began to sell them to the soldiers. Without realising it, Benardot had revolutionised the history of postal communication.

Although the Austrians believe that the open letter (postcard) was invented by their compatriot economist E. Hermann, who in 1869 cleverly solved the problem of saving paper and envelopes: they say that most people already write short letters that do not contain secrets, so is not the time, gentlemen, to start making marked cards?

The Germans, in turn, are convinced that the first art card dealer was A. Schwarz from Oldenburg. In 1870 he published and put on sale a postcard with the image of a German soldier-artilleryman.

Whatever the case may be, postcards appeared in Russia from abroad in 1870-80s. The first "home-grown" ones were published in 1872. The exact date of issue of the first postcards in Ufa is not established. Local postcards collectors conditionally trace back to November 1898, it was when a postcard with the image of the Mariinsky Gymnasium went through the post. Later it became one of the rarities of the collection of the Ufimian collector Zemil Shakirovich Latypov.

There are not so many deltiologists in Ufa today. Vladimir Nikolaevich Buravtsov, who works as a programmer at UMPO, has gone further than collecting: he actively co-operates with publishing houses and the city newspaper, where he writes about his local history discoveries. Buravtsov is a frequent guest of the S.T.

Aksakov Memorial House-Museum. Any event or exhibition happens, Buravtsov is already there with his "cards". Vladimir Nikolaevich likes to make gifts. The Shalyapin Museum in Ufa has recently received some rare postcards to exhibit.

Vladimir Nikolayevich became interested in deltiology about thirty years ago. It all started with several sets of reproductions of paintings from the collections of the Hermitage and Tretyakovka, which were bought "for erudition" by an inquisitive girl Galya Malyutina, who later became his wife.

The main themes of Buravtsov's collection are: "Native Land", "Ufa", "Pushkiniana", "Patriotic War of 1812", "Russian Artists". In 1995, the first exhibition from Vladimir Nikolaevich's collection, dedicated to the 250th anniversary of M.I. Kutuzov, was held in the S.T. Aksakov House-Museum. The exposition included more than 200 postcards of famous pre-revolutionary and modern publishing houses engaged in the publication of art postcards named "Richard-St. Petersburg", "Greenberg-Stockholm", "Pollak", as well as private publishers such as I. Lapin in Paris, I. Selin in Moscow and others.

Then Buravtsov realised the main thing: people are interested in what he does. Exhibitions allow the collector to share the results of his search for what connects the past with the present, and the present with the future. Both are built from the same bricks. Buravtsovskiye "cards" were exhibited in Aksakov's museum and at the Ufa post office more than once. They also decorate the books "Gostiny Dvor" and "Mariinka".

1. What is the significance of the postcards inscribed by young ladies at the dawn of the last century?

- A. They are valuable to collectors.
- B. They were sent to soldiers during the Franco-Prussian War.
- C. They contain secret messages from the past.
- D. They were used to communicate important news.

2. Which of the following statements is true about the invention of postcards?

- A. The open letter (postcard) was invented by E. Hermann, an Austrian economist.
- B. A. Schwarz from Oldenburg was the first art card dealer.
- C. Postcards first appeared in Russia in the 1870-80s.
- D. The first postcard in Ufa was published in November 1898.

3. What is Vladimir Nikolaevich Buravtsov's main contribution to deltiology?

- A. He actively cooperates with publishing houses and the city newspaper.
- B. He writes about his local history discoveries.
- C. He organizes exhibitions of his postcard collection.
- D. He donates rare postcards to museums.

4. What is one of the main themes of Buravtsov's postcard collection?

- A. Famous Russian artists.
- B. The Patriotic War of 1812.
- C. M.I. Kutuzov.
- D. Reproductions of paintings from the Hermitage and Tretyakovka.

5. According to the text, what do exhibitions of postcards allow the collector to do?

- A. Educate the public about the history of deltiology.
- B. Showcase rare postcards from his collection.
- C. Share the results of his search for connections between the past, present, and future.
- D. Collaborate with other collectors and experts in the field.

6. Which of the following statements about postcards is NOT supported by the text?

- A. Postcards were initially used as a way to save paper and envelopes.
- B. The first postcards in Ufa were published in 1872.
- C. Postcards from abroad started appearing in Russia in the 1870-80s.
- D. Postcards with patriotic vignettes were sold to soldiers during the Franco-Prussian War.

7. Which title best fits the text?

- A. The Fascinating History of Benardot's Cartons
- B. How to Start a Postcard Collection in Ufa
- C. Exploring the Evolution of Postal Communication
- D. Deltiology

Task 4

Read the passage below and choose which of the sentences A–K fit into the numbered gaps in the text. There is one extra sentence which does not fit in any of the gaps.

QANTAS

The Australian airline Qantas was founded in 1920. Queensland and Northern Territories Aerial Services, from which the word Qantas derives, is the longest-serving airline in the English-speaking world and the second longest-serving airline world-wide. (8.) _____.

The airline was formed by two former Australian Flying Corps officers, W.Hudson Fysh and P.J'McGuinness. They were keen to enter a contest with a prize of £10,000 for the first Australian to fly from England to Australia in less than 28 days. Unfortunately, they were prevented from entering the race by the death of the man who had offered to provide money to pay their expenses. (9.) _____.

It took Fysh and McGuinness fifty-one days to plan the populated territory on poorly built roads that were often route, travelling by car through the thinly flooded in the wet season. (10.) _____.

After a chance meeting with Fergus McMaster, a wealthy cattle farmer who agreed to give the two financial support, Fysh and McGuinness were on their way to making their dream of connecting far-distant parts of the continent by air a reality. (11.) _____.

On November 2, 1922, a larger plane was bought by Qantas and the airline's first regular mail and passenger flights began between Charleville and Cloncurry. Qantas' services grew throughout the 1920s. An important landmark along the way came in March 1928 when Qantas was contracted to operate the first flying doctor service to sick people in remote parts of the country. (12.) _____.

In 1934 the airline changed its name to Qantas Empire Airways Ltd, reflecting its desire to expand beyond the borders of Australia. Air mail services first to Singapore and soon after to Britain began in 1935. (13.) _____.

In 1947 Qantas became a national airline when the government purchased the company. In December of that year the airline's first passenger service between Sydney and London was introduced. (14.) _____.

Important changes in the airline industry announced in 1992 meant that aviation reforms would result in Qantas and Australian, the airline which links cities within Australia, becoming one. (15.) _____.

- A. In the following years more overseas passenger services were introduced linking Australia with countries all over the world - Japan, Hong Kong, South Africa, the United States.
- B. Australian were at first in favour of joining Qantas but eventually decided to remain independent.
- C. However, they were asked by the government to plan a route and landing sites across the Northern Territory and Western Australia that would be used for the race.
- D. The service flew 255 patients more than 30,000 kilometres in its first year.
- E. Although it is now well-respected as an international carrier which flies people around the world in style, the airline's origins were rather more humble.
- F. Qantas bought Australian and agreed to the new name: Qantas, The Australian Airline.
- G. It was in the same year that the airline carried its first overseas passenger on a flight from Brisbane to Singapore.
- H. In 1920 they bought their first plane and then a second one soon after and for the first two years of Qantas' life, the planes were used as an air taxi service and for pleasure flights.
- I. Their experience on the journey convinced them that air travel was a necessity in such a huge country with often inhospitable terrain.

11.

He took two hours deciding which seeds to buy.

mind

He took two hours _____ which seeds to buy. (5 words)

12.

After the storm the repairs to my house cost me £200.

have

It cost me £200 _____ after the storm. (5 words)

13.

The population of Spain is increasing.

people

The _____ is increasing. (5 words)

14.

The train is due now.

time

It _____ arrived. (4 words)

15.

You should join the football club.

member

You should _____ the football club. (4 words)

Task 7

Read the text below. Use the word given in capitals to form a new word that fits in the space in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example answer: 0. confidence

THE IDEAL SPEECH

Giving the ideal speech is a matter of (0.) _____ in yourself and in what you're going to say. This may be easier said than done, but part of the answer lies in your careful (16.) _____. Note down your key points, preferably on postcards or other small slips. Don't make the mistake of trying to script your speech word for word. You may gain a sense of security from doing this but when you come to deliver your speech it will sound (17.) _____.

Keep it brief. It's no good saying afterwards, I delivered it well but they fell asleep.' To grab their (18.) _____, begin your speech with a few arresting thoughts or phrases, but steer clear of jokes. As a beginner, you'll show your (19.) _____ in your face as you wonder whether your joke will succeed. Be a top-class speaker – not an amateur (20.) _____.

CONFIDENT

PREPARE

NATURE

ATTEND

NERVOUS

COMEDY

Task 8

Match the items 21 – 30 to the phenomena A – N. There are some extra phenomena which do not match.

21.	Hadrian's Wall	A.	serves as a safeguard to limit the scope of police interrogation
22.	"The father of waters"	B.	an annual ceremony at Windsor Castle
23.	Morris dancers	C.	something close to out-of-date, but with more pride behind it
24.	The Guardian	D.	wishing good luck to actors and musicians before they go on stage to perform or before an audition.
25.	Dippy	E.	one of the biggest waterways in the USA
26.	Museum tricksters	F.	a structure built on the U.S.-Mexico border
27.	Old school	G.	a celebration performed at seasonal festivals and holidays to banish the dark of winter, celebrate the warmth and fertility of summer, and bring in autumn's golden harvest
28.	Break a leg	H.	one of the oldest royal institutions in Canada
29.	Garter Service	I.	a British daily newspaper which was founded in 1821
30.	Miranda warning	J.	a 26-meter-long diplodocus skeleton exhibited in the NHM
		K.	a former defensive fortification of the Roman province of Britannia, begun in AD 122
		L.	a ceremonial war dance or challenge which is usually performed in a group and represent a display of a tribe's pride, strength and unity
		M.	a special kind of visitors who like to play jokes
		N.	an open-source multiprotocol instant messaging application, designed for Microsoft Windows

WRITING

Time: 45 minutes (20 points)

Task 9

Comment on the following quotation.

The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.

Aristotle

Write 200-250 words.

Use the following plan:

- make an introduction, explaining how you understand the author's point of view;
- express your personal opinion and give reasons to support it;
- give examples from literature or history to illustrate your reasons;
- make a conclusion restating your position.