

Всероссийская олимпиада школьников

Муниципальный этап

2024 – 2025 учебный год

Английский язык

9 – 11 класс

Ленинградская область

Уважаемый участник олимпиады!

Вам предстоит выполнить задания письменного тура:

- 1) конкурс понимания устного текста,
- 2) лексико-грамматический тест,
- 3) конкурс понимания письменного текста,
- 4) творческое задание «Письменная речь».

Время выполнения заданий письменного тура – 120 минут.

Выполнение заданий письменного тура целесообразно организовать следующим образом:

- ☐ внимательно прослушайте инструктаж члена жюри;
- ☐ ознакомьтесь с Листом ответа;
- ☐ не спеша, внимательно прочитайте задание и определите наиболее верный и полный ответ;
- ☐ отвечая на вопрос теста, обдумайте и сформулируйте конкретный ответ только на поставленный вопрос;
- ☐ впишите правильный ответ в бланк ответа, указав букву / цифру;
- ☐ если Вы допустили ошибку, то ее можно исправить простым зачеркиванием «/», указав рядом правильный ответ;
- ☐ после выполнения каждого задания удостоверьтесь в правильности выбранных Вами ответов, исправьте обнаруженные при Вашей самостоятельной проверке ошибки.

Предупреждаем Вас, что:

- ☐ при оценке ответов на задания, 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 ответов на задания, 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.

Задания письменного тура считаются выполненными, если Вы вовремя сдаете их членам жюри.

Максимальная оценка баллов за все задания – **100 баллов**.

Listening (15 min – 20 points)

Task 1. *You will hear a speech made by Martin at his old school's Alumni Speech Day. Complete all three parts. You will hear the recording twice.*

Part 1. Complete the following gaps. Use no more than three words for each gap.

1. Life in an office working at a desk is now
2. I was shy, physically weak, rather overweight, and any kind of self-confidence.
3. I grew older, of course, but that alone, wouldn't
4. I would still have been the boy people laughed at, who wasn't anything, and was afraid of everybody.
5. Sport was really popular then, as it is now, but PE classes were to put it mildly.

Part 2. Answer the questions.

6. What did Martin do when he *first* left school?
.....
7. What problems did Martin have as a teenager? List three.
.....
8. What did Martin do to escape his problems?
.....
9. What effect did running have on Martin's self-confidence?
.....
10. What is the real lesson the friend taught Martin?
.....

Part 3. Select the correct answer from the options.

11. From the speech we know that Martin is:
a) living in Africa. b) truly happy in his work. c) working in an office.
12. Martin's work is:
a) generally abroad. b) rather tedious. c) different every day.
13. Martin went for long walks as a teenager to:
a) meet his friends. b) get away from his mother. c) lose weight.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Reading (25 min – 20 points)

Task 1. You are going to read the text about water shortages. Answer the following questions.

WHY FRESH WATER SHORTAGES WILL CAUSE THE NEXT GREAT GLOBAL CRISIS

As **reservoirs** dry up across the world, a billion people have no access to safe drinking water. Rationing and a battle to control supplies will follow.

Water is the driving force of all nature claimed Leonardo da Vinci. For our planet, unfortunately, supplies are now running dry – at an alarming rate. The



world's population continues to soar, but that rise in numbers has not been matched by an accompanying increase in supplies of fresh water.

The consequences are proving to be profound. Across the globe, reports reveal huge areas in crisis today as reservoirs and aquifers dry up. More than a billion individuals – one in seven people on the planet – now lack access to safe drinking water.

Recently, in the Brazilian city of São Paulo, home to 20 million people, and once known as the City of Drizzle, the drought became so bad that residents began drilling through basement floors and car parks to try to reach groundwater. At the time, city officials warned that rationing of supplies would soon be likely and that citizens would only have access to water two days a week.

In California, officials have revealed that the state has seen four years of continuous drought. At the same time, per capita water use has continued to rise.

In the Middle East, swathes of countryside have been reduced to

desert because of overuse of water. Iran is one of the most severely affected. Heavy overconsumption, coupled with poor rainfall, have ravaged its water resources and devastated its agricultural output. Similarly, the United Arab Emirates is now investing in desalination plants and waste water treatment units because it lacks fresh water. As Crown Prince General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan admitted: 'For us, water is [now] more important than oil.'

The global nature of the crisis is underlined in similar reports from other regions. About 600 million people live on the 2000 sq km area that extends from eastern Pakistan, across the hot dry plains of northern India and into Bangladesh, and the land is the most intensely irrigated in the world. Up to 75 per cent of farmers rely on pumped groundwater to water their crops and water use is intensifying – all this at the same time that satellite images show water supplies are shrinking at an alarming rate. The world faces a water crisis that will touch every part of the globe.

1. What is the main theme of this text?

.....

2. What do you think Leonardo da Vinci meant when he said, 'Water is the driving force of all nature?'

.....

3. What is rising faster than supplies of fresh water?

.....

4. What countries with water problems are mentioned?

.....

5. Who said that water had become more important than oil? What country is he from?

.....

6. Find a word in the text that means 'the limiting of water that people have access to'.

.....

7. Find a word in the text that means 'a prolonged period of no rain'.

.....

8. Which of the following words best explains the meaning of 'desalination'?

a) reduction of quantity b) removal of salt c) improvement of quality

9. Which word in the text means 'water present beneath the surface'?

.....

Task 2. *You are going to read the text about vacuum travel. For questions 10-14, choose the answer (A,B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.*

Vacuum Travel

The idea of teleportation has been around for a long time but has so far remained the subject of science-fiction novels and films like Star Trek. However, that could all be about to change with the introduction of vacuum trains. These futuristic transporters, designed to be catapulted through tunnels that have had the air removed from them, could theoretically reach speeds of up to 4,000 km/h and cross the Atlantic from Europe to North America in just one hour. In this high-speed future train, passengers would actually arrive four hours before they left.

The history of vacuum trains stretches back at least 100 years, when American engineer Robert Goddard designed prototypes for rapid transport systems to connect American cities based on his own design of the world's first liquid-fuelled rocket. The idea behind the vacuum train is to pump all of the air out of a sealed tunnel and then propel trains through it. Today's trains push a wall of air ahead of them when moving through a tunnel. They also create an area of lower pressure

behind them which acts to almost pull the train back. This uses energy and limits the speed of the train – the faster they go, the higher the air resistance and friction, so the more energy used. By removing the air from the tunnel, you remove the problem. Unfortunately, to do this you would have to have huge powerful pumps every 20 or 30 km to keep a near vacuum in the tube and the train would have to pass through a series of airlocks that progressively reduce the pressure before it could accelerate to top speed.

The high cost of a vacuum train system means that it has never been commercialised. Today, however, there is hope that by combining vacuum technology and the already existing magnetic levitation technology, a cost-effective system could be developed. Several systems that combine these two technologies have been proposed. One of the most feasible proposals is that of American engineer Daryl Oster who says that our train technology is over 100 years old and in need of upgrading. His futuristic design consists of a six-person capsule, roughly the size of a car, which is shot along a 1.5m diameter vacuum tube. He believes we could be using such trains in less than 10 years. But his theory is not just restricted to travel between cities or countries. Dr James Powell, the co-inventor of maglev technology, also proposes a system called [Startram](#) that uses a maglev vacuum train to launch objects into space. If this technology takes off, we could also be getting closer to cheap space travel.

10. Up until very recently, the concept of teleportation
 - A has only been a feature of science fiction.
 - B had been a complete failure.
 - C has never been applied fully.
 - D has not been developed.
11. Vacuum trains would be faster because of
 - A better design.
 - B less air resistance.
 - C lower pressure.
 - D rocket technology.
12. In the last sentence of the second paragraph, ‘this’ refers to
 - A air resistance.
 - B using energy.
 - C removing air.
 - D the problem.
13. Daryl Oster based his design of a vacuum train on
 - A one of his earlier designs.
 - B one featured in a science-fiction film.
 - C a rocket.
 - D a contemporary train.

14. The writer
A is hopeful this technology will work.
B is doubtful this technology will ever work.
C doesn't express his opinion.
D is certain vacuum trains will be in service in 10 years.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Use of English (40 min – 40 points)

Task 1. For questions 1-8, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap.
Use only one word in each gap.

The origin of our language

Sir William Jones, born in 1746, was undoubtedly one of the greatest linguists whoever lived. He had an amazing talent (1) languages and learnt several at a young age. (2) the time of his death, he has a thorough knowledge of 13 languages and knowledge of a further 28.

Apart (3) studying languages, he also studied law and became a judge in India. He was fascinated by this vast subcontinent and wrote about Indian life. He also translated important works of Indian literature.

Jones noticed (4) Sanskrit, a classical Indian language, was similar to Greek and Latin in a number of ways. The resemblance (5) not be a coincidence. Several other people (6) also noticed similarities, but Jones was (7) first to suggest that these three languages had a common origin. He also suggested that they could be grouped together with other European and Asian languages into one family, known (8) Indo-European languages, which included English.

Task 2. For questions 9-14, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. You cannot change the word in bold. Use from two to five words.

9. The concert will begin in a moment.
ABOUT
The concert
10. It won't help if you worry about your exam results.
POINT
There's about your exam results.
11. He's going to learn some French before he moves to Canada.
WILL
He some French by the time he moves to Canada.
12. They had an argument weeks ago and now they don't talk to one another.
EACH
They stopped weeks ago, when they had an argument.

13. I had planned to go out but changed my mind because it started to rain.

GOING

I _____ but then it started to rain.

14. Are you planning to get a taxi home?

BE

_____ a taxi home?

Task 3. For questions 15-19, fill in the gaps with a suitable idiom.

(an) eager beaver	(a) stalking horse	(a) shaggy dog
(a) fly in the ointment	dog days	

15. I enjoy my job - is that I start early in the morning.
16. My grandad insists on telling these stories which nobody finds funny except him.
17. I do not think we ought to use the working man as for this sort of thing.
18. Every winter there is a week or two of when sales drop dramatically.
19. Ever since he got his new drill set my husband has been around the house.

Task 4. For questions 20-28, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals (in brackets) to form a word that fits in the gap.

Shakespeare's Globe

Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London attracts thousands of (20) (VISIT) every year. It is in fact a reconstruction of the famous theatre on its (21) (ORIGIN) site on the banks of the Thames.

(22) (ARCHAEOLOGY) have been able to establish that the building that Shakespeare and his troupe acted in was not a true circle, but was 20-sided. The 1599 theatre has been (23) (BUILD) using, as far as possible, the techniques and (24) (CONSTRUCT) materials that would have been used in Shakespeare's time. There are, of course, extra exits, illuminated signs and other concessions to comply with modern day fire regulations.

(25) (SURPRISE), very little is known about something most people would consider crucial in a theatre – the (26) (APPEAR) of the stage itself. Almost nothing survives from 1599 Globe to suggest what it (27) (ACTUAL) looked like. The design of the stage people see today was drawn from (28) (EVIDENT) provided by existing buildings from the period.

Task 5. For questions 29-34, choose the answer (A, B, C or D).

29. The Mississippi river flows into:

a) the Gulf of St. Lawrence b) the Gulf of Mexico

- c) the Gulf of Alaska d) the Gulf of California

30. What historical event gave rise to the Bonfire Night?

- a) Battle of Trafalgar b) Battle of Hastings c) The Gunpowder Plot d) Bishops' Wars

31. What is a special day in England set aside to remember men and women who were killed during the two World Wars and other conflicts?

- a) Victory Day b) Eternal Light Day c) Remembrance Day d) The Day of Peace

32. What is National Gallery famous for?

- a) It is home to a permanent dinosaur exhibition.
b) It has one of the largest collections of arts and crafts including furniture, jewellery, ceramics and textiles.
c) It exhibits the works of man from prehistoric to modern times from all over the world
d) It has the greatest collection of European paintings in the world.

33. The flag of the USA is called 'Stars and stripes'. What do the stripes represent?

- a) the original states b) the oceans' waves c) the national rivers d) the diversity of life

34. Who is called by the British people 'Our National Bard', 'The Bard of Avon'?

- a) Robert Burns b) Charles Dickens c) William Shakespear d) Jane Austen

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Writing (40 min – 20 points)

ARTICLES WANTED

You have read a magazine article entitled 'Too Much Too Young' in which the writer says that some young people today are given too much by their parents and therefore have the impression that life is easier than it really is. Readers have been invited to send their own articles on this subject, with the same title.

*Write your **article**, addressing the points made in the original article and giving your own views:*

- introduce the theme to the readers,*
- address the points and give your opinion with justifications,*
- summarise your ideas in the conclusion.*

Write your **article** (180-200 words).

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.