

## **ПИСЬМЕННЫЙ ТУР**

**Комплект олимпиадных заданий для муниципального этапа  
Всероссийской олимпиады школьников по английскому языку**

**(для учащихся 7–8 классов)**

**LISTENING (20 points)**

*Time: 15 minutes*

**Task 1. You will listen to a talk about space and stars. Do the following statements agree with the information given in the recording?**

**In boxes 1-10 on your answer sheet, write**

**A (TRUE) if the statement agrees with the information**

**B (FALSE) if the statement contradicts the information**

1. To the naked eye, most stars appear to be white.
2. The colour of a star is related to its temperature.
3. In physics, the colour blue indicates a higher temperature than red.
4. A star emits light in only one specific colour.
5. Our Sun gives off most of its light in the green part of the spectrum.
6. The human eye perceives our Sun as white because it mixes different colours of light.
7. A star's temperature provides information about its mass and age.
8. A star's life is described as a struggle against the force of gravity.
9. Massive stars have longer life than smaller stars.
10. A cool, dim red star is likely to be a very young star.

**Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**

## **READING (20 points)**

*Time: 20 minutes*

**Task 1. Read the text. For questions 1-10, choose the answer A, B, C or D which you think fits best according to the text.**

### **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: A Russian Musical Genius**

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky is one of the most famous and beloved composers in classical music history. Born in 1840 in Russia, he did not initially plan to become a musician. He studied law and even worked as a civil servant before fully dedicating himself to music at the age of 21, when he entered the Saint Petersburg Conservatory.

Tchaikovsky's music is celebrated for its strong emotions, beautiful melodies, and powerful orchestration. He had a unique talent for expressing deep feelings, from great joy to profound sadness, which makes his compositions very accessible and moving for listeners. Some of his most famous works include the ballets "Swan Lake," "The Nutcracker," and "Sleeping Beauty." These ballets are so popular that they are still performed by companies all over the world today. Besides ballets, he also wrote magnificent pieces like the "1812 Overture," with its dramatic cannon fire, and his passionate First Piano Concerto.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's three iconic ballets fundamentally transformed the art form, elevating the symphony orchestra's role from mere accompaniment to a central narrative force. "Swan Lake" (1877), his first, established the template with its dramatic dual role of Odette/Odile and its haunting, melodic score. Despite a disappointing premiere, its themes of enchanted love and tragic fate are timeless. "The Sleeping Beauty" (1890) is a grand imperial spectacle, a sprawling work in the French courtly tradition that features some of his most sophisticated and regal music. Finally, "The Nutcracker" (1892), though initially a mixed success, has

become a global Christmas phenomenon, celebrated for its brilliant orchestration, including the celestial sounds of the celesta, and its enchanting journey into a child's fantasy world. Together, these masterworks form the cornerstone of classical ballet repertoire.

Tchaikovsky died in 1893 under circumstances that are still debated by historians. His legacy, however, is undeniable. He created a national Russian style of classical music that became popular worldwide. His compositions continue to be a central part of concert programs and ballet repertoires, captivating audiences with their emotional power and brilliant craftsmanship.

1. Based on the text, what can be inferred about Tchaikovsky's decision to pursue music?

- a) It was a carefully planned decision made in his childhood.
- b) It was a decisive career change.
- c) It was encouraged by his superiors in the civil service.
- d) It was primarily to achieve financial stability quickly.

2. The text states that Tchaikovsky's music is "accessible." What is the most likely meaning of this in context?

- a) It is easy for amateur musicians to perform.
- b) It is widely available in music stores.
- c) It is easy for audiences to understand and appreciate.
- d) It was written in a simple, uncomplicated style.

3. Which Tchaikovsky ballet was his first and infamously had a poorly received premiere, despite later becoming a cornerstone of the repertoire?

- a) The Sleeping Beauty
- b) The Nutcracker
- c) Swan Lake
- d) Romeo and Juliet

4. What instrument did Tchaikovsky famously introduce to the ballet orchestra in "The Nutcracker" to create an ethereal sound?

- a) The Harp
- b) The Celesta
- c) The Piccolo
- d) The Glockenspiel

5. According to the text, how did Tchaikovsky transform the role of the symphony orchestra in ballet?

- a) He simplified it to better support the vocalists.
- b) He transformed it from a simple background element into a driver of the story.
- c) He replaced it with smaller, folk-inspired ensembles.
- d) He was the first to integrate it into a ballet score.

6. Which ballet is noted for its "dramatic dual role of Odette/Odile"?

- a) The Sleeping Beauty
- b) The Nutcracker
- c) Swan Lake
- d) All of the above

7. Which Tchaikovsky ballet is explicitly described as a "grand imperial spectacle"?

- a) Swan Lake
- b) The Nutcracker
- c) The Sleeping Beauty
- d) None of the above

8. What can be inferred about the performance history of "Swan Lake," "The Nutcracker," and "Sleeping Beauty"?

- a) They were not successful during his lifetime.
- b) They have maintained continuous global popularity.
- c) They are performed more often in Russia than elsewhere.
- d) They were his only successful compositions.

9. The phrase "circumstances that are still debated by historians" implies that his death:

- a) Was clearly from natural causes.
- b) Is not definitively explained and is a topic of discussion.
- c) Was the direct result of his depression.
- d) Has no impact on the understanding of his music.

10. Which statement best summarizes the central paradox of Tchaikovsky's life as presented in the text?

- a) He was a Russian composer who was more popular in other countries.
- b) He was a wealthy man who wrote music about poverty.
- c) He was a recluse who enjoyed public performances.
- d) He created music of great beauty and emotional power

**Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**

## USE OF ENGLISH (32 points)

*Time: 30 minutes*

**Task 1. For items 1–10 read the text about the State Hermitage Museum. Use the scrambled word given in brackets to form a new word that fits in the space. There is an example at the beginning (0).**

### The State Hermitage Museum

The State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg is one of the (0) **largest** (GALTRSE) and most respected museums in the world. Its (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (CEILTOOLCN) boasts over three million items, ranging from prehistoric artefacts to modern art. For any art lover, a visit to the Hermitage is an (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (ALLEOSUTBY) essential experience.

The museum's history is as (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (FTNIANACISG) as the art it houses. It began with the private collection of Empress Catherine the Great, who was an (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (ESINTUSAITHC) collector of European paintings. The heart of the museum is the Winter Palace, a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (MGIEAINNFCT) baroque building that was the official residence of the Russian tsars. Wandering through its grand halls and galleries is an (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (UFOBGTARENLTE) journey through history and culture.

The Hermitage is not just about the past; it is also a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (SNGIAFCIINT) contributor to modern culture. It actively engages in (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (EUAIDOCATNL) programs and collaborates with international institutions. The museum's (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (CAATUOIRRL) team works tirelessly to preserve the artworks and organize new exhibitions. Thanks to their (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (DOCTDIEAIN), the Hermitage remains a vibrant center of global art heritage.

**Task 2. For questions 11-23, read the text below and look carefully at each line. Some of the lines are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. If a line is correct put a tick. Use letter “V” as a tick. If a line has a word which should NOT be there, write the word in a given space. There are two examples at the beginning (0 and 00).**

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                 |    |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <b>0</b>  | Mark Twain is a famous novelist, socialist and adventurer.                                                                                                                      | V  |
| <b>00</b> | The full name of the writer is Samuel Langhorne Clemens, he used it the pen name Mark Twain to write his stories.                                                               | IT |
| <b>11</b> | Some of the most famous works of Twain include “Adventures of Tom Sawyer” and “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.”                                                                 |    |
| <b>12</b> | These novels are now considered American classics. Twain is designated as “Father of American Literature.”                                                                      |    |
| <b>13</b> | According to many literature experts, he is considered be among the greatest humorists of American literature.                                                                  |    |
| <b>14</b> | Although he is famously known for his writings, many of the Mark Twain short of biographies mentions him as a riverboat pilot, journalist, lecturer, entrepreneur and inventor. |    |
| <b>15</b> | Almost every Mark Twain short biography mentions the role and the impact being of his journeys and his writing style.                                                           |    |
| <b>16</b> | Twain embarked on the journey of a five-month sea cruise in the Mediterranean, in 1867.                                                                                         |    |
| <b>17</b> | Even in Mark Twain autobiography, the main purpose of the journey was to have an undivided focus towards writing his book.                                                      |    |

|    |                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 18 | During of this time he wrote mostly about the plight of American society and journalism in particular.                                                                 |  |
| 19 | Not too much surprise two years after the trip, he published his as best-seller book.                                                                                  |  |
| 20 | The book was titled “innocents abroad.” The book was very well commercially received.                                                                                  |  |
| 21 | He was around 34 when the book was published and gained nationwide popularity.                                                                                         |  |
| 22 | The Mark Twain is among the most notable and prominent writers of English literature.                                                                                  |  |
| 23 | The writings of Twain were liked and reviewed by many authors as well. His short stories brought international attention and were translated into different languages. |  |

**Task 3. Match the following magical objects (24-32) with their descriptions (A-K). There are TWO extra letters.**

|    |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 24 | Aladdin's Lamp    | <b>A.</b> A magic sword, usually a treasure frequently hidden inside a wall, under a rock, or under a sacred tree, waiting to be discovered by the hero in Russian fairy tales and epic poetry. |
| 25 | Excalibur         | <b>B.</b> A powerful hammer from Norse mythology that can create lightning and always returns to its owner's hand when thrown.                                                                  |
| 26 | The Golden Fleece | <b>C.</b> A magical lamp that, when rubbed, releases a powerful genie who must grant three wishes to the person who holds the lamp.                                                             |
| 27 | The Flying Carpet | <b>D.</b> The legendary sword of King Arthur, which only the                                                                                                                                    |

|           |                         |                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|           |                         | true king could pull from a stone, making him the rightful ruler.                                                                          |
| <b>28</b> | The Philosopher's Stone | <b>E.</b> A small piece of footwear that magically fits only one person's foot, helping a prince find his true love.                       |
| <b>29</b> | Glass Slipper           | <b>F.</b> A magical stone that can turn ordinary metals like lead into pure gold and can be used to make a potion that gives eternal life. |
| <b>30</b> | Thor's Hammer (Mjolnir) | <b>G.</b> A rug that can fly through the air, carrying people wherever they want to go, featured in Middle Eastern stories.                |
| <b>31</b> | Kladenets               | <b>H.</b> A mythical prize from Greek mythology, the golden wool of a winged ram, sought by heroes on a great journey.                     |
| <b>32</b> | Jack's Magic Beans      | <b>I.</b> Simple seed that grow overnight reaching into the clouds, leading to a land of giants.                                           |
|           |                         | <b>J.</b> A magical mirror that can show the future or answer any question asked by its owner.                                             |
|           |                         | <b>K.</b> A pair of shoes that allow the wearer to travel instantly to any place they can imagine.                                         |

**Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**

## WRITING

**Time: 25 minutes (20 points)**

**Task:** You are a member of your Internet language club community. One of the members posted the following.

*Hey guys! Exams are coming up, and honestly, they're nerve-wracking. I'm worried I won't do well, but I know I just have to stay calm and study hard. Sometimes I feel overwhelmed, but I remind myself that it's only a test, and I can do my best. Do you feel anxious before exams? What do you do to stay calm? Wish me luck!*

Posted by **Noah'sArk00**

**Like | Reply**

Write you **blog** (use **100-140** words). In your blog **answer the questions** Noah asks and **ask a question to your followers** to keep them interested.

**Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**