

Всероссийская олимпиада школьников по английскому языку

Муниципальный этап

2025/26 учебный год 9-11 класс

Уважаемый участник олимпиады!

Вам предстоит выполнить письменные задания.

Время выполнения заданий письменного тура - **100 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.

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

Максимальная оценка – 75 баллов.

LISTENING (10 points)

Time: 10 minutes

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about the places where they live. **While you listen you must complete both tasks** (Task 1 and Task 2). You will hear the recording twice.

Task 1

For questions **1-5**, choose from the list (**A-H**) what each speaker likes **least** about the place where they live.

- A** feeling nervous
- B** the absence of a garden
- C** the smell of other people's cooking
- D** the uninspiring view
- E** the lack of space for preparing meals
- F** being obliged to get rid of favourite possessions
- G** the sense of claustrophobia
- H** the noise from other people living in the building

Speaker 1	1	
Speaker 2	2	
Speaker 3	3	
Speaker 4	4	
Speaker 5	5	

Task 2

For questions 6-10, choose from the list (A-H) what each speaker sees as **the main advantage** of the place where they live.

A plenty of storage	Speaker 1	6	
B entertainment facilities nearby	Speaker 2	7	
C the freedom to furnish the home without limitations	Speaker 3	8	
D spending less time on domestic chores	Speaker 4	9	
E having a close friend next door	Speaker 5	10	
F social contact with others living nearby			
G being able to make good use of the entire space			
H knowing you can always ask a neighbour to help			

Transfer your answers to the ANSWER SHEET

READING (20 points)

Time: 30 minutes

Task 1.

For questions 1–10 choose the option which best fits according to the text.

Things did not turn out as Marco had expected. He had been living in Paris for half a year, and his initial enthusiasm had almost entirely faded, drained away along with his savings. Not a single gallery had shown any interest in his paintings, and he was growing tired of carrying the same portfolio from one potential buyer to another. The reaction was always identical: a dismissive shake of the head, a remark about portraits being out of style, and a suggestion to try another place, usually one he had already visited. He was starting to lose faith and was about **to throw in the towel** and returning to his hometown. It would be difficult, particularly having to face his parents saying, “I told you so,” but at least he could find stable employment.

He was sitting on a park bench, contemplating this, when he noticed a newspaper beside him. His eye was immediately drawn to the word ‘artist.’ He picked it up and read more carefully. It was a job advertisement; a marketing firm was looking for a portrait artist for a new advertising campaign. Marco tore the ad out of the paper and began searching for a public telephone. ‘I won’t have the freedom to choose my subjects,’ Marco thought, ‘but at least I’ll be able to pay my rent, and that’s what matters most at the moment.’ He found a phone, inserted a few coins, and dialled the number. After a few rings, a woman answered. Marco introduced himself and expressed his interest in the position. They arranged an interview for the following day and asked him to bring samples of his work. He returned home feeling both excited and anxious.

That evening, he selected three paintings from the dozens in his apartment that he believed demonstrated his abilities. He chose a self-portrait he had painted a few years before, which as he felt revealed a thoughtful dimension of his work. He also picked a portrait of an elderly man he had met in a café; it was straightforward yet expressive, and Marco thought this might be the style required for advertising. The third was a painting of his mother, which he knew was his best work and would **blow them away**.

The next morning, he woke up early and prepared for his interview. He carefully rolled the canvases, placed them in a protective tube to prevent any damage, and set off for the bus stop. The traffic was heavy, but he arrived on time. Upon entering the office, he saw apprehensively that four other applicants were waiting, each holding a large tube identical to his. The secretary politely asked him to take a seat.

Marco sat down and waited for his name to be called. He was aware that the next half hour would be crucial. With this job, he could finally get his life back on track and perhaps continue doing his art in his free time. He knew he would never completely abandon his dream, but he had also come to accept that he had to be practical, as talent alone **does not pay the bills**. Without a steady income, he wouldn't survive the month; he had just enough money left for a ticket home. The secretary picked up the phone, had a brief, quiet conversation, and then turned to him. "You can go in now," she said with a smile.

1. What was the main reason Marco was considering returning home?

- A He missed his family and friends.
- B He found Paris too expensive and noisy.
- C He failed to gain recognition for his art and was running out of money.
- D He received a better job offer in his hometown.

2. What does the expression '*throw in the towel*' in the sentence 'He was starting to lose faith and was about **to throw in the towel** and return to his hometown' mean (paragraph 1)?

- A to aggressively protest the art world's rejection
- B to give up his efforts and admit defeat
- C to pack his things, including his towels
- D to argue with the gallery owners who rejected him

3. What was Marco doing when he first noticed the newspaper?

- A He was actively looking for job advertisements in the park.
- B He was outdoors, deep in thought about his future.
- C He was painting a portrait of someone in the park.
- D He was walking to another art gallery.

4. Why did Marco have mixed feelings ("excited and anxious") about the interview?

- A He saw it as a chance for stability despite a compromise on his artistic freedom.
- B He was afraid of the woman he spoke to on the phone.
- C He was eager to work in advertising but dreaded the prospect of long working hours.
- D He was nervous about returning to his apartment in Paris.

5. Which factor most influenced Marco's decision to include his self-portrait among the three selected paintings?

- A He believed it stuck to traditional painting techniques very well.
- B He thought it was the most appealing creation to potential buyers at galleries.
- C He felt it was the most visually colorful piece he had produced for his collection.
- D He believed it showed a deep reflective side of his art.

6. What does the expression ‘*blow them away*’ in the sentence ‘The third was a painting of his mother, which he knew was his best work and would ***blow them away***’ mean (paragraph 3)?

- A to physically destroy the painting in front of them
- B to create a strong wind that would push them back
- C to impress them greatly
- D to make them angry

7. When Marco arrived for the interview, what did he observe that made him nervous?

- A The secretary was rude and unwelcoming.
- B He was late due to the heavy traffic.
- C There were other applicants waiting who were also carrying portfolios.
- D The secretary was polite.

8. Why was the interview described as ‘crucial’ for Marco?

- A He had another appointment scheduled right after this one.
- B The result of the interview would determine his future.
- C He needed to catch a bus home immediately after the meeting.
- D The secretary told him the conversation would be very brief and quiet.

9. What was Marco’s primary motivation for applying for the job at the marketing firm?

- A He needed a reliable source of money to afford life in Paris.
- B He was eager to abandon his dream of being a gallery artist.
- C He wanted to become famous through a major advertising campaign.
- D He wanted to prove his parents wrong.

10. In the last paragraph, the phrase ‘***talent alone does not pay the bills***’ means that

- A artistic skill is not useful for everyday tasks.
- B people with talent should not be responsible for household expenses.
- C bills should be paid by people who are not talented.
- D having a skill is not enough to earn the money needed to live.

Task 2.

You are going to read an extract about Anna Pavlova, a famous Russian ballet dancer. Ten sentences have been removed from the extract. Choose from the sentences A-K the one which fits each gap (11-20). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Anna Pavlova: The Ballerina Who Inspired the World

Anna Pavlova is a very famous name in the world of ballet. She was known for her beautiful, graceful dancing and excellent skill. Many people say she made ballet popular for everyone and helped it become a loved art form all over the world. Her career was marked by numerous achievements and contributions that have left an indelible mark on the history of dance. From her iconic role in “The Dying Swan” to her extensive tours that introduced ballet to new audiences, Pavlova’s legacy is one of unparalleled influence and inspiration.

She was born on February 12, 1881, in Saint Petersburg, Russia. Her family was of very modest means; her mother was a laundress and they lived a simple life. 11 _____. When she was eight, her mother took her to see “The Sleeping Beauty” at the Mariinsky Theatre. This experience made her want to become a dancer.

12 _____. There, she trained with some of the best teachers. The training was very hard, but Pavlova was dedicated and talented, so she quickly became one of the best students.

Anna Pavlova's professional career began in 1899 when she started performing at the Mariinsky Theatre. Her first major role was in *La Fille Mal Gardée*, which drew public attention. 13 _____. Audiences and critics were deeply moved by how she captured the spirit of the tragic heroine.

The early part of her career was difficult. Ballet requires extreme physical discipline, and the profession is intensely competitive. 14 _____. Her relentless effort eventually established her as one of the era's most celebrated ballerinas.

Among her most iconic performances was *The Dying Swan*, a solo choreographed for her by Michel Fokine, set to music by Camille Saint-Saëns. 15 _____.

She worked with other famous choreographers and composers, like Marius Petipa and Sergei Diaghilev. These partnerships created some of her best performances. She also won many awards, including the very special title of Prima Ballerina Assoluta.

Her impact on ballet was immense. She toured extensively across Europe, the Americas, and Asia, introducing ballet to new audiences and elevating its status. 16 _____.

17 _____. Her movements were flawlessly precise and naturally elegant. Her approach to dance influenced many future generations of ballerinas, who sought to emulate her distinctive style and technical mastery.

18 _____. She tried new choreography and wanted to change traditional ballet. Her willingness to take risks helped ballet evolve.

Beyond the stage, Anna Pavlova was known to be kind and generous. She had a great affection for animals and often traveled with her pet swans. Her character was marked by strong empathy and compassion.

19 _____. She became a teacher and mentor to young dancers. She still toured sometimes until she died unexpectedly in 1931.

Her death was a great loss for ballet, but her legacy continues. 20 _____. They include the establishment of the Anna Pavlova Foundation, which supports young dancers and promotes the art of ballet.

A	This ballet piece created for a single dancer became her signature work, demonstrating her profound ability to convey emotion through movement.
B	But, staying true to her passion and determination, she refused the procedure.
C	Despite these humble beginnings, Pavlova's fascination with ballet began at a young age.
D	She was also an innovator.
E	This helped to make ballet a global art form and inspired many people to become dancers.
F	Seeing her daughter's talent, Pavlova's mother enrolled her in the Imperial Ballet School at the age of ten.
G	As her performing career gradually slowed, she transitioned to other roles within the ballet community.
H	Yet Pavlova persevered, dedicating countless hours to daily practice.
I	Pavlova's technique also set her apart.
J	Posthumously, she has been honored with numerous tributes and recognitions.
K	However, her true breakthrough occurred in 1903 when she performed as Giselle.

Transfer your answers to the ANSWER SHEET

USE OF ENGLISH (30 points)

Time: 20 minutes

Task 1 (10 points)

For items 1–10 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: (0) scientist

MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY

Welcome to Moscow State University (MSU), the first Russian University founded in 1755 on the initiative of Mikhail Lomonosov, an outstanding (0) <u>scientist</u> of the Enlightenment, whose unsettled encyclopedic mind and energy gave the inner impetus to the project.	SCIENCE
As the oldest and most (1) ... university in Russia, Lomonosov Moscow State University has been a center of academic excellence since its establishment in 1755.	PRESTIGE
(2) ..., it has maintained its leading position through centuries of social and technological change.	REMARK
The university offers a rich (3) ... of programs in science, humanities, engineering, and social sciences.	VARY
Students receive a high-quality education that prepares them for successful careers. with an MSU degree, students join the ranks of the rarely (4) ... , as employers worldwide actively recruit them.	EMPLOY
The main MSU building, located on Sparrow Hills, is one of Moscow's most famous landmarks. The university has modern facilities, including advanced laboratories, a large library, and research centers. Students also enjoy a vibrant campus life with clubs, sports, and cultural events. The campus is well-connected to Moscow's metro system, making it easily (5)	ACCESS
Studying here is (6) ... , with a mix of historic traditions and modern education.	FORGET
Students face (7) ... coursework, but the hard work is worth it – MSU graduates are respected worldwide.	DEMAND
Many successful scientists, (8) ... , and business leaders studied at MSU.	POLITICS
Moscow University has a rich academic history. Yet the major (9) ... remains the same as it has been in centuries: to provide outstanding teaching, scholarship and research.	COMMIT
The energy of the University comes from intellectual spirit and inexhaustible (10)	CURIOUS

Task 2 (10 points)

For questions **11–20**, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one word** for each gap. *There is an example at the beginning (0).*

The Melbourne Brain Centre is one example of a new trend (0) in science building design emerging in universities around the world. It is a significant building at the University of Melbourne, a gatepost at the main entry (11) _____ the campus.

Instead (12) _____ the isolating partitions and cubicles intended to promote competition, the architects (13) _____ designed the Brain Centre set out to promote openness and collectivity. Both are qualities which, (14) _____ to historian of innovation Steven Johnson, have (15) _____ a far greater contribution to scientific advancement. Johnson's analysis of innovative thinking highlighted the importance of creating an environment in (16) _____ ideas can develop. (17) _____ the case of the Brain Centre, this includes cafes and lounges throughout the building and laboratories, which are open spaces where equipment and conversation can (18) _____ shared. The walls of lounges are covered in a markable surface (19) _____ that two researchers talking about their work can write their thoughts down (20) _____ having to interrupt the flow to look for pen and paper.

In short, the Brain Centre is an environment designed to inspire.

Task 3 (10 points)

Match items **21–30** to the phenomena (A–M). There **are some extra** phenomena which do not match.

21	Charles Dickens	A	This writer traveled to the Arctic on a whaling expedition.
22	Mikhail Bulgakov	B	This writer voiced himself in The Simpsons episode "Insane Clown Poppy"
23	Antoine de Saint-Exupéry	C	As a part of a bet, this writer once wrote a short story formed of only 6 words.
24	Stephen King	D	This writer got his first name out of his parent's admiration of the polar explorer Amundsen.
25	Leo Tolstoy	E	This writer was also a daring aviator who lost his life in action during a war.
26	Roald Dahl	F	This writer was once sentenced to death, but the sentence was canceled at the last moment
27	Agatha Christie	G	This writer left school at 12 to work in a boot-blackening factory when his father was sent to a debtors' prison.
28	Fyodor Dostoevsky	H	This writer had a degree in medicine.
29	John Ronald Reuel Tolkien	I	Some of this writer's ideas were about nonviolent resistance to evil. Besides, this writer became a vegetarian when he was more than 50 years old.

30	Joanne Rowling	J	This writer once disappeared for 11 days and sparked a nationwide hunt.
		K	This writer's manuscript was rejected about 12 times by different publishing houses.
		L	This writer published children's poems and translations of the most popular foreign works for children, but still the most important contribution to children's literature was his/her verse fairy tales for kids.
		M	This writer created several constructed languages which was his/her lifelong occupation.

Transfer your answers to the ANSWER SHEET
WRITING (15 points)

Time: 40 minutes

Read the following message posted on a blog dedicated to travelling.

www.travelblog.ru
<i>In our blog, you will find all the necessary information to plan your next trip, but today we want to hear from you!</i> <i>Are you a travel lover or are you still looking for inspiration? Share your travel experience with us in our blog.</i> <i>We are waiting for you!</i>

Write a comment to send to the blog in which you explain:

- if you plan every step or go with the flow when you travel and why;
- positive and negative aspects of travelling by car
- what one destination in Russia you would absolutely recommend to a fellow traveler and why.

You should write **120-150** words.

Do not forget

- about the norms of politeness (greetings, farewell, etc.);
- differentiate the parts of your post;
- order and relate the ideas well.

Transfer your writing to the ANSWER SHEET