

ПИСЬМЕННЫЙ ТУР

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

(для учащихся 9–11 классов)

LISTENING (20 points)

Time: 15 minutes

Task 1. You will hear a talk about polar bears. 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. The idea of moving polar bears to Antarctica was partly inspired by their status of a well-known species.
2. The surviving techniques of Arctic seals are influenced by the presence of polar bears.
3. Penguins in Antarctica are generally cautious and tend to avoid unfamiliar creatures.
4. The primary immediate consequence of introducing polar bears to Antarctica would be a dramatic increase in seal and penguin numbers.
5. Polar bears in the Arctic are currently being affected by pollutants in their environment.
6. Antarctica is completely free of the toxins that are found in the Arctic.
7. Transportation of polar bears to Antarctica is a task connected with unpredictable factors.
8. The risk of polar bears catching new diseases does not worry scientists.
9. According to the speaker, historical examples of moving animals always have positive outcomes.
10. The speaker concludes that the best conservation strategy is to protect the polar bears' existing home.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

READING (22 points)

Time: 20 minutes

Task 1. You are going to read the texts about Russian regional holidays. For questions 1-10, choose the correct holiday (A-E). Holidays may be chosen more than once.

Which holiday...

		Letter
involves an activity that would be considered extremely challenging by most people due to the physical conditions?	1	
uses artistic expression to reflect on themes of nature and peace?	2	
has its main events focused on artistic creation using the natural environment?	3	
is centered around the judging of a locally sourced food product?	4	
features a contest that is primarily intended for entertainment and amusement rather than testing vital skills?	5	
includes a contest that tests skills directly related to the participants' traditional livelihood?	6	
emphasizes the act of giving and sharing within the community as a key tradition?	7	
is most explicitly linked to a specific time in the agricultural calendar?	8	
involves a performance where people imitate the movements of an animal?	9	
highlights the geographical uniqueness and historical connections of its region?	10	

A. The Sabantuy Festival (Tatarstan and beyond). Originating from the Tatar people, Sabantuy is an ancient festival celebrating the end of the spring sowing season. While its roots are in Tatarstan, it is widely celebrated across many Russian regions. The word "Sabantuy" itself translates to "plough feast." The festival is a vibrant spectacle of national culture, featuring traditional Tatar music, dance, and most notably, energetic competitions. These

include *koresh* (Tatar belt wrestling), sack racing, and the hilarious and popular contest of climbing a greased pole to claim a prize at the top. A central tradition is the exchange of handmade gifts, emphasizing community and generosity. It's a joyful, family-friendly event that showcases the rich ethnic diversity within Russia.

B. The Day of the Crane (Republic of Dagestan). This ecological and cultural celebration, held in the foothills of the Caucasus, honors the return of migrating cranes, which are seen as symbols of peace, happiness, and the arrival of spring in many local cultures. The festival is a blend of environmental awareness and ancient tradition. Schoolchildren and local artists create drawings and crafts featuring the elegant bird, while folk ensembles perform dances that mimic the graceful movements of the cranes. A poignant moment of the celebration involves participants releasing figures of cranes made from paper into the sky, a ritual steeped in symbolism and hope for the future, connecting the people to the natural rhythms of their mountainous homeland.

C. The Feast of the Reindeer Herder (Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Region). Held in the late winter or early spring in the far north of Siberia, this holiday is a tribute to the ancient culture of the indigenous Nenets people. It is far more than a tourist attraction; it is a vital preservation of a nomadic way of life. The festival's core is a series of traditional competitions that are essential survival skills in the Arctic. Participants engage in reindeer sled racing, lasso throwing, and a unique "national triathlon" that tests strength and agility. Visitors can also marvel at the stunning traditional clothing, made from reindeer fur and intricately beaded, and sample authentic northern cuisine.

D. The Baikal Ice Festival (Irkutsk Region). Taking place in late winter on the frozen surface of Lake Baikal, the world's deepest lake, this festival is a celebration of ice, light, and imagination. The main attraction is the competition among teams to create magnificent sculptures from the lake's incredibly clear and thick ice. Artists use chainsaws and chisels to carve everything from mythical creatures to intricate castles, which are then beautifully illuminated at

night. Visitors can enjoy ice skating, ice slides, and even take rides on hovercrafts. A particularly brave tradition involves the "Ice Dive," where participants cut a hole in the ice and take a chilling plunge into the lake's pristine waters.

E. Herring Day in Kaliningrad (Kaliningrad Region). Celebrated in April in Russia's westernmost exclave, this festival pays homage to the region's deep-rooted fishing heritage and its most famous catch. The city's coastline becomes a bustling hub of activity where fishermen proudly display their finest herring, prepared in dozens of ways—salted, smoked, pickled, and fried. The highlight is the "Best Herring" competition, where a jury of chefs and local dignitaries crowns the winner. The atmosphere is distinctly Baltic, with music, dance, and the scent of the sea filling the air. It serves as a reminder of Kaliningrad's unique geographical and cultural position, blending Russian traditions with maritime history.

Task 2. For questions 11-16, read the following text and then choose from the list A-I below the best phrase to fill each of the space. Each correct phrase may only be used once. Some of the suggested answers do not fit at all.

Climbing Big Ben

It has long been possible to climb Big Ben, the famous clock that stands outside Parliament, but few visitors to London know this. Brian Davis, claims it is the most accurate clock in the world and he should know, (11) _____.

He greets his tour group at the foot of the clock tower, where 334 steps separate them from the top or 'belfry'. It is 11.30 a.m. and he aims to be there when Big Ben strikes noon. Some people have brought ear plugs but are quickly reassured that they won't be needed. The bell is loud (12) _____.

We drag ourselves up the first 114 steps and into a little museum. This is the clock tower prison room. It looks very inhospitable (13) _____. We continue to tackle the steps in stages and reach the belfry five minutes before midday. Here

Brian points out that, strictly speaking. Big Ben is the name of the bell (14) _____.

When Big Ben booms, I don't put my fingers in my ears because I want to experience the full might of the noise. Imagine a clap of thunder breaking directly over your head (15) _____. I could feel it in my teeth. Above the clock face is a mechanism, controlled, Brian explains, not by technology but by a pile of old coins. And with that he leads us down again, a man who clearly enjoys (16) _____.

- A. and so we move on and up quickly
- B. having taken such a long time to build
- C. and then repeated several more times
- D. having spent so much time talking about it
- E. having a job in such an important place
- F. but it is not really that uncomfortable
- G. and is not like any of the other clocks
- H. having a sound that is difficult to hear
- I. and not the clock as people often believe

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

USE OF ENGLISH (25 points)

Time: 35 minutes

Task 1. For items 1–5 read the text about the Loch Ness monster. 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).

(0) The Loch Ness Monster, affectionately known as "Nessie," is a cryptid of **legendary** status. (GENLYDEAR)

The (1) _____ (FIELEB) of a mysterious creature inhabiting Loch Ness in Scotland has persisted for centuries. The earliest reported sighting might be found in a 7th-century biography of St. Columba, but the legend gained worldwide (2) _____ (FMAE) in the 1930s after a series of alleged encounters and a famous photograph.

The most (3) _____ (MOFASU) piece of evidence, the "Surgeon's Photograph" from 1934, was later revealed to be an elaborate hoax. This deception significantly damaged the (4) _____ (DBRIILCTEY) of the monster's existence for many. However, for the people of the Scottish Highlands, Nessie is more than just a myth; the creature has tremendous (5) _____ (CEMIOAMRCL) value, attracting countless tourists from around the globe. This ongoing public interest means that the search continues.

Task 2. In each of the following sentences (6-11) there is a misprint. Find this word and write in correctly.

Example:

*The suspect was described as tall, with a scar on his left check and a tattoo on his neck. Correct word: **cheek***

6. The recipe for a classic Ploughman's lunch includes crusty bread, a wedge of Cheddar cheese, and picked onions.

7. In a traditional Russian izba, you would often find a large brick oven used for both cooking and keeping warm during the long winter.
8. The Trooping the Colour ceremony marks the Queen's official birthday with a military parade and flypast by the Royal Air Force.
9. A 'samovar' is a traditional Russian metal urn used to boil water for tea.
10. Afternoon tea in Britain is a beloved custom that involves drinking tea while eating scones with jam and clotted cream, as well as small sandwiches and pasties.
11. William Shakespeare is often called England's national playwright, and his plays like "*Hamlet*" and "*Romeo and Juliet*" are performed globally.

Task 3. For items 12-19 you are given the definitions of words which are homonyms. For each number provide the appropriate pair of homonyms. Be careful and mind the spelling! You must write the homonyms in each pair in the correct order.

Example:

0. Greater in altitude; or, to employ someone.

0. – higher/hire

12. A unit of currency in many countries; past form of 'send'.
13. To take another person's property without permission; a hard, strong metal alloy.
14. A man awarded a non-hereditary title by a monarch for service, or a historical medieval soldier; the period of darkness between days.
15. To endure or tolerate something; not covered or clothed.
16. The underside of a foot or shoe; the spiritual or immaterial part of a human, often regarded as immortal.
17. To separate or cause to separate into pieces as a result of a blow, shock, or strain; a device for slowing or stopping a moving vehicle.
18. Not moving or not intended to be moved; writing and other office materials, such as paper, envelopes, and pens.

19. An accidental hole that allows fluid to escape, or the escape itself; a vegetable of the onion family with long leaves and a white bulb.

Task 4. Match the following new the Cambridge Dictionary words (20-25) with their definitions (A-H). There are TWO extra letters.

20	hopecore	A	an object that could remain on the Earth for a very long period after it has been thrown away and is likely to be found and studied by people in the future
21	technofossil	B	a very rich man who works in the digital technology industry and is politically influential
22	glazing	C	a style of online content that features positive, optimistic images and messages, often as a deliberate contrast to the negative content often found on social media
23	smartphone face	D	the tendency of AI programs to use excessive praise and flattery towards the user
24	meta face	E	a type of artificial intelligence that can make decisions and take actions without the need for human input
25	brologarch	F	the situation where an actor's face looks too modern for them to be believable in a drama set in the past
		G	a trend where photos that have been enhanced using AI technology make everyone look similarly flawless and unrealistically beautiful
		H	the practice of using computers, smartphones etc. less in order to reduce the negative impact of technology on the environment

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

WRITING

Time: 50 minutes

(20 points)

Using the opening sentence below, write a complete story of 200-250 words that includes an opening, a clear setting (time and place), a story trigger (incident that sets action in motion), a climax (highest point of tension) and a conclusion (resolution of the problem).

Opening sentence:

It all happened when I accidentally picked up the wrong suitcase at the airport.

Guidelines:

- Begin by establishing where and when the story takes place.
- Describe the circumstances that lead to the accidental pick-up.
- Introduce the event or discovery that acts as the story trigger.
- Build up to the story's climax — an exciting or surprising moment.
- Conclude with how the situation is resolved or what the main character learns.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.