

ВСЕРОССИЙСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ
ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ 2017–2018 УЧ. Г.
ШКОЛЬНЫЙ ЭТАП. 9–11 КЛАССЫ

LISTENING

Time: 10 minutes

(10 points)

*For items 1–10 listen to a dialogue between a famous actor and his woman colleague and decide whether the statements 1–10 are TRUE according to the text you hear (A), or FALSE (B), or the information on the statement is NOT STATED in the text (C). You will hear the text **twice**.*

1. The woman says that her colleague likes the process of film-making.
2. The man never drinks tea from plastic cups.
3. The man thinks it's important to find a place where he could feel at home.
4. The man has never worked in a theatre.
5. The woman says that many people in the film industry become bored with their work.
6. The man says that his new film is coming soon.
7. *The Daughter* was filmed in summer.
8. In *The Daughter* the man plays a role of a Comanche.
9. The man is Irish.
10. The man thinks *The Daughter* is a western.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

READING

Time: 30 minutes

(15 points)

Read the passage below and answer questions 1–15.

Even the tactful Japanese would probably smirk or at the very least express puzzlement if someone told them about a ‘traditional Russian tea party’. And yet, it is a well-known fact that Russians are unstoppable in their **incessant** consumption of tea and in fact cannot live without it. It has become an extremely significant part of Russian culture. Tea warms you up, wakes you up, and is nice after a big meal. Tea in Russia is not just a beverage – it’s a social activity with a long-reaching tradition behind it. Even coffee that has been slowly but surely making inroads onto Russian tables still has not been able to replace tea. Russians will drink tea on any occasion and with no occasion whatsoever.

For the first time four pounds of tea were brought to Russia in 1638 by the Russian ambassador as a gift from the Mongol Khan for the Russian sovereign of Moscow Michael Fyodorovich. At first the tsar and the boyars were not particularly impressed with the astringent and bitter drink. When all the tea presented by the Mongol Khan had been drunk and the Moscow court began to forget its taste, it was once again the diplomats who reintroduced tea to Russia. Another Russian ambassador Nicholas Spafary brought some tea from China. This time tea was already a known substance in Moscow and in 1679 a contract was entered into with China under which the Chinese were to supply Russia with dried tea. After that, caravans carrying tea began regular journeys from the Great Wall of China to the walls of the Moscow Kremlin.

However, the new beverage took quite some time to grow on Russians, who at first viewed it with suspicion as they did with everything that originated abroad. In addition, Chinese tea was too expensive while Russian herbal teas, such as cranberry, currant, briar, and sweet lime were always easy to get. And it was only by the early 18th century that tea had been fully accepted in Russian households and become a national drink.

An indispensable component of a Russian tea party is the samovar. Samovars are tea poetry; they come in all sorts of different shapes and sizes. Many of them are true works of art. A samovar is always placed in the middle of the table. It commonly has curved shapes suggesting warmth and kindness. While water is boiling inside the samovar and smoke is coming off the top of it, its sides reflect the people around the

table, adding a surreal feel to the gathering. Samovars are usually heated up using charcoal and sometimes even fir cones. The slightly bitter aroma of the smoke relaxes and soothes those present. In addition to good looks and efficiency, samovars were always valued for their sound. When the water starts boiling a samovar would announce it with its own unique “song” that would add to the cosiness and intimacy of the occasion.

When you’re invited for tea in Russia, you can almost always expect to eat. Guests are offered several types of jam, honey, cakes, pies, chocolates and other sweets. Often you also get sandwiches, light salads, and fresh fruit and vegetables. Everything is served on ornate plates and dishes.

It is almost an insult not to offer tea to someone who came by your house, as it is an insult to refuse it when offered. In some parts of the former Soviet Union, especially in the North Caucasus region and Central Asia, the amount and quality of the food served when drinking tea indicates a level of respect that a host has for a guest, and it’s not uncommon for relationships to go sour just because only jam and sugar were served during tea.

There is a story about how in 1802 Prince Shakhovskoy met J.W. Goethe in a hotel in Munich. The famous German poet invited the Prince for tea. Having arrived and seeing that there was nothing but tea on the table, the Prince ordered sandwiches and some pastries without further ado. The two spent a most pleasant evening talking about German and Russian literature. To Shakhovskoy’s surprise, the next day he got a bill for the food he had ordered, which J.W. Goethe refused to pay, since he had only invited the Prince for tea.

There is another tradition that foreigners often fail to understand: Russians drink tea from glasses, which they put in special glass holders. This tradition dates back to the 17th and 18th century teahouses and it was only in the early 19th century that it was picked up by the commoners. Expensive glass holders were usually made from silver, the more commonplace glass holders were made primarily from alloys of nickel and silver. The finely decorated holders were used both for esthetic and practical purposes preventing the palms from direct contact with hot tea. Today almost nobody will drink tea from glasses at home and yet it has still survived on trains. It is a special unique kind of pleasure to drink hot tea from a glass in a glass holder sitting in the car of a long distance train and looking out at the landscapes speeding past outside!

Task 1. Questions 1–8

*In boxes 1–8 on your answer sheet, circle: **A (TRUE)** if the statement agrees with the information given in the text; **B (FALSE)** if the statement contradicts the information given in the text or if there is no information given in the text.*

1. Tea and coffee are equally favoured by the Russian people.
2. Russians indulge in having tea whenever the opportunity affords itself.
3. The Russians instantly favoured the peculiar flavour of the new beverage.
4. Envoys introduced the new beverage to Russia twice.
5. Tea drinking gradually evolved into a kind of social ceremony.
6. The Russian samovar was a symbol of prosperity, well-being, and comfort.
7. Water in samovars is boiled ahead of time and just warmed up afterwards.
8. Glass holders were made to help the tea cool quicker.

Task 2. Questions 9 – 15

*Choose option **A, B, C** which best fits according to the text. Circle the correct letter in boxes 9–15 on your answer sheet.*

9. For the Japanese the idea of having tea parties in Russia seems
 - A. perplexing.
 - B. explicable.
 - C. evasive.
10. The word “incessant” in the first paragraph means
 - A. constant.
 - B. temporary.
 - C. irregular.
11. The Russians did not welcome the new drink as
 - A. they were forced to drink it.
 - B. it took long to make it.
 - C. it was totally alien to them.
12. In the North Caucasus region and Central Asia
 - A. sour fruit and vegetables are commonly served during the tea party.
 - B. lavish snacks are served at the tea party if the guest is highly honoured.
 - C. traditionally only jam and sugar are served during the tea party.

- 13.** Samovars placed in the middle of the table usually
- A. warmed the water quicker and more economically.
 - B. helped gather the guests by their special “song”.
 - C. added to the calming atmosphere round the table.
- 14.** The story about Prince Shakhovskoy's meeting with J.W. Goethe
- A. demonstrates Russian hospitality and generosity.
 - B. illustrates the different national tea-drinking habits.
 - C. shows a way to build cross-cultural connections over a cup of tea.
- 15.** The tradition of having tea from glasses in glass holders
- A. is completely forgotten now.
 - B. has survived on railroads.
 - C. has become a family tradition.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 20 minutes

(20 points)

Task 1. Questions 1–10

For items 1–10, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

0	development
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RUSSIAN IMPRESSIONISM

Impressionism is a very natural stage of art's (0)...	DEVELOP
Russian painters had started their (1) ... of experiments with light and modified colour schemes before they visited France and got acquainted with French impressionism.	HEARD
And yet, there is a difference between Russian and French impressionistic (2) ... in terms of their subject matter, light and colour scheme .	DEPICT
As far as French artists were concerned, they portrayed life differently in (3) ... to Russian painters.	COMPARE
However, Russian impressionists never attempted to break away from (4) ...	REAL
Strictly speaking, Vasily Polenov can be regarded as a path (5) ... in this field.	BREAK
He was one of the first Russian painters who visited Paris in the 1870s and became (6) ... fascinated by impressionism.	ENORMOUS
He didn't abandon his own distinct painting style, but he made every effort to (7) ... his students in Russia with his French findings and encouraged their own artistic explorations.	FAMILIAR
Thanks to his (8) ... support, his like-minded contemporary artist Konstantin Korovin felt confidence to work differently.	ENTHUSIASM
The Moscow School of Painting, Sculpture and (9) ... had never had landscape painting classes as this genre was seen as the one for amateurs.	ARCHITECT

V. Polenov was the first to introduce such classes and he was (10) ... besieged by students who wanted to paint nature.	VIRTUAL
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Task 2. Questions 11–20

For items 11–20, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. Use from three to five words. The number of words you should put in the gap is specified in each case. Do NOT use contracted forms. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example: 0. “Let’s go to the cinema on Sunday,” said Ann.

wanted

Ann _____ to the cinema on Sunday. (4 words)

0	<i>wanted us to go</i>
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11. Betty was the only one who didn’t enjoy the performance.

apart

Everyone enjoyed the performance _____. (3 words)

12. The price of the meal includes dessert.

is

The dessert _____ the price of the meal. (3 words)

13. My sister is too short to be a basketball player.

not

My sister _____ to be a basketball player. (4 words)

14. I have to clean up the studio before I can leave.

until

I cannot _____ cleaned up the studio. (4 words)

15. She regrets not having gone to university.

wishes

She _____ to university. (4 words)

16. She isn't repainting the kitchen until Monday.

being

The kitchen _____ until Monday. (4 words)

17. Everyone left except for Mike.

exception

With _____, everyone left. (4 words)

18. The fridge is completely empty.

left

There _____ the fridge. (4 words)

19. They've only got half the boys they need to make up a team.

twice

They need _____ they've got to make up a team. (5 words)

20. I'm certain she wrote the article herself.

must

She _____ the article herself. (3 words)

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

WRITING

Time: 30 minutes

(15 points)

Write a **short review of your favourite book you have read in English** for your school library.

Write the name of the author and the title of the book at the beginning on a separate line (*words are not counted in this line*). The title and the author should be real, not imaginary.

Remember to mention in your review:

- why you like the book;
- why you have read it in English and not in the Russian translation;
- why your school library should have this book.

Write **100–140 words**.

Transfer your review to the answer sheet!