

ЗАВДАННЯ ДЛЯ ПРОВЕДЕННЯ II ЕТАПУ
ВСЕУКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ОЛІМПІАДИ З АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ

ПАМ'ЯТКА
ПРО РАЙОННІ ТА МІСЬКІ ОЛІМПІАДИ З ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ
ОЛІМПІАДИ ПРОВОДЯТЬСЯ В ЧОТИРИ ТУРИ
ПРОТЯГОМ ОДНОГО ДНЯ

МОВЛЕННЄВА КОМПЕТЕНЦІЯ

Учень повинен висловитись без підготовки на одну з двох запропонованих тем, кожна з яких відповідає орієнтовній тематиці усного мовлення навчальної програми.

Монологічне висловлювання повинно бути повним, відповідати ситуації, послідовним, комунікативно спрямованим, лексично насиченим, правильно фонетично і граматично оформленим та містити елементи співбесіди із членами комісії. Максимальний обсяг висловлювання для учнів 8-9 класів 15 речень, 10-11 класів – 20 речень

Критерії оцінювання:

Повнота розкриття теми – 1-3 бали
Комунікативна спрямованість – 1-3 бали
Інформаційна значимість – 0-2 бали
Вимова – 1-4 бали
Лексичний запас – 1-6 бали
Функціональна адекватність – 1-2 бали
Граматична правильність – 1-8 бали
Заохочувальний бал – 1-2 бали
Загальна сума – 30 балів

ТВОРЧА ПИСЬМОВА РОБОТА

Учням пропонується написати міні-твір на одну з трьох запропонованих тем. Написання твору повинно тривати 60 хвилин.

Обсяг письмової роботи: 8-9 клас – 18 речень; 10-11 клас – 20 речень.

Критерії оцінювання:

Обсяг письмового повідомлення – 0-2 бали
Зовнішній вигляд і структура – 0-2 бали
Повнота розкриття змісту – 0 – 6 балів
Лексична насиченість – 2 – 8 балів
Рівень розвитку граматичної компетенції – 0-10 балів
Заохочувальний бал – 0-2 балів
Загальна сума – 30 балів

АУДІЮВАННЯ

Учням кожного з 9-11 класів пропонується прослухати тексти з певною кількістю незнайомих слів, частина з яких, але не більше трьох може бути виписана на дошку з їх значеннями. Аудіотекст пред'являється двічі з голосу вчителя. Після першого прослуховування учасники виконують перше завдання (10 хвилин), після другого прослуховування учасники виконують друге завдання (10 хвилин). Користуватися словниками або іншою довідковою літературою не дозволяється. Проведення туру займає не більше 30 хвилин. Вартість кожного правильно виконаного завдання – 2 бали. За виправлення знімається 50% вартості правильно виконаного завдання. Максимальна оцінка за тур – 30 балів.

ЧИТАННЯ

Учням роздаються тексти для читання (кожному окремо), які є єдиними для всіх учасників відповідного класу. Тексти можуть бути уривками з оригінальної художньої, суспільно-політичної або науково-популярної літератури. Тексти є цільним, сюжетно-завершеним.

У тексті допускається наявність 3-5% незнайомої лексики. Користуватися словниками не дозволяється.

Тестові завдання складаються з правильних та неправильних тверджень до тексту, незавершених тверджень з різними варіантами відповідей, запитань з різними варіантами відповідей. Тривалість виконання післятекстових завдань – 20 хвилин.

Вартість кожного правильно виконаного завдання – 2 бали. За виправлення знімається 50% вартості правильно виконаного завдання. Максимальна оцінка за тур – 30 балів.

МАКСИМАЛЬНА ОЦІНКА ЗА ЧОТИРИ ТУРИ 120 БАЛІВ

READING 8th Form

Read the text. Choose the best answers.

Text : From: "Made in America: The History of Coca-Cola," Levi's to Barbie to Google, by Nick Freeth, 2005

Coca-cola is probably the world's best-known taste, and was the first truly global brand. Dr. John Stith Pemberton, a pharmacist from Atlanta, Georgia, invented the drink. He mixed the Coca-Cola syrup, which was combined with carbonated water to make a popular soda fountain drink, in the local Jacob's Pharmacy. The first customers, who paid a handsome 5 cents a glass, pronounced the drink to be "excellent," "delicious and refreshing."

Dr. Pemberton's partner and bookkeeper, Frank M. Robinson, suggested the product's unusual name and wrote it down in his florid handwriting, feeling that the "two C's would look well in advertising." The first advertisement for the drink appeared in the Atlanta Journal, and hand-painted oilcloth signs indicated which soda fountains offered the product. This was just the first step in a fantastic cooperation between the brand and advertising, which has made the trademark universally recognized. A continuous stream of slogans have entered the collective consciousness, from "Drink Coca-Cola" in 1886, the iconic "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing" television advertisement of 1971, right up to the simple assertion "Real" of today's campaign.

From its original output of around nine drinks a day, Coca-Cola is now the world's most **ubiquitous** brand, serving over 1.3 billion drinks every day, around the world.

1. The coca-cola logo comes from ...
 - A. an idea that Dr. John Stith Pemberton had.
 - B. an advertisement in the Atlanta Journal.
 - C. Frank M. Robinson's belief that the name would market well.
 - D. the first customers at Jacob's Pharmacy.
2. Coca-cola has been advertised for about years.
 - A. 90
 - B. 120
 - C. 150
 - D. 200
3. Coca-cola first became popular with ...
 - A. young people who saw the TV commercials.
 - B. Dr. Pemberton's friends and family.
 - C. the customers at the local pharmacy.
 - D. Frank M. Robinson.
4. Coca-cola has become the popular and recognized product that it is today due to ...
 - A. its cheap price in Jacob's Pharmacy.
 - B. the first customers who drank it.
 - C. Dr. Pemberton's disgusting recipe.
 - D. the brand and advertising together.
5. "Ubiquitous" means ...
 - A. delicious.
 - B. existing everywhere.
 - C. important.
 - D. least popular.

Have you seen a football match recently? If you have, I'm sure that you heard lots of comments about the referee as well as about the players! Referees have a very difficult job. They have to make quick and important decisions in the middle of a fast-moving game. And, of course, there are thousands of people shouting at them too. The crowd is never happy when the ref sends off their favourite player. Also, in football today there still isn't the same technology as there is in other sports, like tennis. The job can get even more difficult when you're a woman who is refereeing a men's match!

There is no reason why there should not be the same number of male and female referees in the sport today. However, the number of female refs is still very low – particularly at the highest levels of professional football. This is something that one woman, Pat Dunn, who died in 1999, would have been very sad about.

Pat was the first woman in the UK to referee a men's football match but she wasn't allowed to do this for a long time. Pat was a strong supporter of women's rights in sport and became President of the Ladies' Football Association in 1969. Then she decided to train to be a referee. For a long time the Football Association refused to give her a certificate although she had passed the exams. But Pat continued fighting and she finally got permission in 1976. The next month she became famous when she refereed her first official FA game. Pat became a very good and successful referee and even saved a footballer's life. She helped him when he was injured during a match!

Today there are some famous female referees, like Bibiana Steinhaus from Germany who has just refereed the final of the Women's Football World Cup. Bibiana decided to become a referee at the age of 16 and later was the first female referee in the German men's professional league. But there are only a few like her.

Football is still mainly a men's game – both for players and referees. But for how long? Will we see more women referees in the future? We'd like to know what YOU think. So, please go online and leave a comment on our website. We'll print the most interesting ones in the magazine next week.

Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 6 The article is from a magazine. ____
- 7 The writer says that women are better referees than men. ____
- 8 Pat Dunn is still alive today. ____
- 9 Pat didn't get her referee certificate immediately. ____
- 10 Bibiana Steinhaus played in a football final. ____

Choose the best answers.

11. Referees have a difficult job because...
 - A they need to run fast.
 - B the players shout at them.
 - C they have to think quickly.
12. In the sport of tennis...
 - A they use more technology.
 - B there are more women players.
 - C there are bigger crowds.
13. Who was Pat Dunn?
 - A A woman football player.
 - B A nurse at football matches.
 - C An important member of the Ladies' Football Association.

14. When was the first female referee in the UK appointed?

A 1969

B 1976

C 1999

15. Bibiana Steinhaus...

A wanted to be a referee when she was a teenager.

B recently refereed a men's football final.

C plays in the top women's league.

STAGE II NATIONAL STUDENTS OLYMPIAD IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Listening Comprehension Test for 8th Form Students

It's summer again and we can't wait to go on our holidays. But not all holidays are so nice and relaxing! Here's another story in our series "A holiday that went wrong". Agnes, over to you.

Agnes: Last year I decided to go on a walking tour along the coast of the Baltic Sea. I was fed up with the idea of lying on the beach, sunbathing and doing nothing; what I wanted was an active holiday. I started the preparations in June. I was very excited about it, and I couldn't wait to start!

The first day was pretty good. I walked for about four hours in the morning, and about three in the afternoon. But when I got to the place where I planned to spend the night, it turned out that there was not a single bed left free. I had to sleep out on the beach. The second day started with heavy rain, so my things got very wet. On the third day I began to have problems with my shoes. They were supposed to be 'perfect trekking boots for all conditions', but it just wasn't true. My feet hurt so much that I had to take a bus to the nearest town to buy some other shoes. When I was there, I accidentally met an old friend. She invited me to her holiday home in the Lake District, but I refused to go because I wanted to keep walking along the seashore! So I did.

Next day, though, there was not only a problem with my shoes (I mean the new ones), but also another worry: there was no way to go! The track along the shore was blocked for some reason. I thought it would take me a long time to find another route. To make things worse, my feet hurt, so I didn't feel like waling any more. In the end, I decided to call my friend with a house in the Lake District. When she heard my voice, she said happily, 'Great! We'll be lying on the beach, sunbathing and doing nothing!' Well, I must say I quite liked this idea...

STAGE II NATIONAL STUDENTS OLYMPIAD IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Listening Comprehension Test for 8th Form Students

Task 1.

Decide if the statements are True (T) or False (F).

- _____ 1) Agnes didn't want to lie on the beach because she was bored with it.
- _____ 2) On the first day of her holiday, she spent about ten hours walking.
- _____ 3) She went to the town because she wanted to see her old friend.
- _____ 4) Even though she changed her shoes, her problems didn't stop.
- _____ 5) She had to stop her walking tour because she had lost her way.
- _____ 6) Agnes said that her bed at the hotel was uncomfortable.
- _____ 7) She had problems because she had bought the wrong kind of shoes.
- _____ 8) She asked her friend if they would be able to lie on the beach and do nothing.
- _____ 9) She didn't want to go to her friend's lake house at first.
- _____ 10) She started preparations for her trip very early.

Task 2.

Choose the best answer.

11) Agnes wanted to take a tour...

- a) In a small town near the Baltic Sea.
- b) Along the shore of the Baltic Sea.
- c) Around the Lake District.

12) At the beginning of the second day...

- a) it rained and Agnes got wet.
- b) she began having shoe problems.
- c) she met a friend in the town.
- d) the road was blocked.

13) Agnes went to town...

- a) on foot.
- b) with an old friend.
- c) by boat.
- d) by bus.

14) On the third day, she didn't...

- a) take a bus.
- b) visit an old friend.
- c) meet an old friend.
- d) buy new shoes.

15) She didn't continue walking along the shore because...

- a) she met her old friend.
- b) there was no path.
- c) it was raining.
- d) the way was blocked.

STAGE II NATIONAL STUDENTS OLYMPIAD IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Speaking Comprehension Test for 8th Form Students

DIRECTIONS: *In this test you will select three task slips from those before you. After selecting three, choose the one you feel you are most capable to speak about and return the other two to the table face down. Then take about a minute to collect your thoughts before you begin to speak on the topic. You may refer to the topic as needed. Take a deep breath and begin.*

1. Tell us about your reading habits.
 1. Do you prefer reading fiction or non-fiction? Why?
 2. What are you reading at the moment?
 3. Do you read mostly for relaxation or for study purposes?
2. Explain football to an alien that has never seen it before.
 1. How do you play football? What are the rules?
 2. How do you keep score? How do you win?
 3. Why do so many people watch football?
3. You use technology every day, from the stove that you cook food on, to the mobile phone in your pocket. It has changed almost every part of life.
 1. What technology is most important in your life?
 2. How do you use that technology? Do you need it in your daily life?
 3. Imagine living without that technology. What would it be like?
4. "Well done is better than well said." ~Benjamin Franklin
 1. What does this quote mean to you?
 2. Do you agree with this quote?
 3. Describe a time when you did more than you said you would.
5. Describe the perfect house
 1. What does it look like? Where is it located in the world?
 2. What is more important to you, its location or its appearance?
 3. Describe one room in the house that is special to you.
6. Imagine that you are alone on a desert island and have three things with you.
 1. What three things do you want to have on the desert island?
 2. How will you use these things to survive?
 3. Would you like to live on the desert island or try to be rescued?
7. Describe your brother or sister or a close friend.
 1. What do they look like?
 2. What do you like about their personality? Give an example.
 3. What don't you like about their personality? Give an example.
8. If you could be in any TV show, what would it be?
 1. Would you be a new character or an existing one?
 2. How would you introduce yourself to the plot?
 3. What relationship would you have with the other characters?

9. Imagine that you are writing an email to a new friend in America. Your friend has asked about your town.
 1. Describe your town or village to your friend.
 2. What places and buildings are there? How big is the town? How many people live there?
 3. What do you do for fun? What is the nearest city?
10. Describe a time when you had a problem with a friend and how you overcame it.
 1. What was the problem? How did the problem start?
 2. How did you and your friend resolve the problem?
 3. Did you get help from any other friends or family members?
11. It is especially important for young people to eat healthy food in order to maintain their growing bodies. Think about the food you eat.
 1. Describe what you eat on a typical day. What do you have for breakfast? Lunch? Dinner?
 2. What do you eat that isn't healthy but is really tasty?
 3. Do you think that you have a healthy diet? Why?
12. Imagine you are making your favorite dish for a friend.
 1. What ingredients do you need?
 2. Who taught you to make this dish?
 3. Do you have any special memories connected to this dish?
13. What subjects do you enjoy studying at school?
 1. Have you always enjoyed these subjects?
 2. Why is it that you prefer these subjects to others?
 3. How much homework do you get in your favourite subject and how would you feel if you had to do more homework?.
14. How do you usually spend your free time?
 1. Do you prefer to spend your free time with family or friends?
 2. What did you do last weekend?
 3. How do you think you'll spend your free time when you are older?
15. The average person who plays video games spends more than 6 hours every week playing video games.
 1. Do you think that video games are a waste of time?
 2. Can we learn anything from video games?
 3. Do you play video games? Why/why not?
16. Describe the perfect vacation
 1. Where would you travel to?
 2. Who would you travel with? How long would you stay?
 3. What is things you would do there?
17. Someone has offered to take you shopping for one day, and will buy you anything that you want from one single store, no matter the price.
 1. What store would you choose to go to? Why?
 2. What things would you buy from that store? You can buy as many things as you want.
 3. Why would you choose those things? What would you do with them?

18. Describe the best holiday memory you have
 1. Where did you go? What did you do?
 2. Who did you go with?
 3. What happened that made it so memorable?

19. Imagine you can choose a superpower: the ability to fly, super speed, or super strength.
 1. Which superpower would you choose?
 2. Why would you choose that power?
 3. Would you use that power to help others or yourself?

20. Imagine that a genie is willing to teach you one skill or talent perfectly. After you learn it, you will be one of the best in the world at that skill.
 1. What talent or skill would you learn?
 2. Why would you learn that skill? Is it something you have always wanted to learn?
 3. What would you do with your new talent or skill?

Reading Comprehension 9th form

From “About Coming of Age”

Source: http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/humanplanetexplorer/life_events/coming_of_age

Coming of age is the transition from child to adult, boy to man, girl to woman. But when exactly that happens – and how you celebrate or action the change - may depend entirely on where in the world you live.

In the UK, depending on your point of view, people come of age when they reach 16, 18 or 21 years old. At 16 you can get married without parental consent in England and Scotland, but you have to wait until you are 18 before you are allowed to vote, drink alcohol, or buy cigarettes. Turning 21, in comparison, has few legal effects but may be even more strenuously celebrated.

In other cultures, the graduation into adulthood may not depend on age so much as on experience and development. Young Hamar boys of Ethiopia, for instance, becoming a man is marked when they can run four times over the backs of their cattle, while the boys of Brazil's Xavante tribe come of age through a series of tasks including spending fifteen days immersed in water.

Only allowed to leave the water for the occasional sleep, the men-in-waiting are taken to the point of complete exhaustion under the watchful eyes and instruction of the village elders. Once their skin is sufficiently softened, the boys are then ritually scarred and their ears pierced with the bone of a jaguar. Having proved their stamina, they are finally painted with red dye as a sign of their transition to manhood.

Decide if the statements are true or false

1. In the USA people can get married at age 16 without parental consent.
2. Hamar boys have their ears pierced by the bone of a jaguar.
3. Hamar boys of Ethiopia and boys of Brazil's Xavante tribe come of age based on experience and development.
4. The coming of age ritual is more complex for the Xavante tribe than the Hamar boys of Ethiopia.
5. Being painted red can be seen as a badge of merit for the Xavante boys.

From The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint Exupéry

The sixth planet was ten times larger than the last one. It was inhabited by an old gentleman who wrote voluminous books.

"Oh, look! Here is an explorer!" he exclaimed to himself when he saw the little prince coming.

The little prince sat down on the table and panted a little. He had already traveled so much and so far!

"Where do you come from?" the old gentleman said to him.

"What is that big book?" said the little prince. "What are you doing?"

"I am a geographer," said the old gentleman.

"What is a geographer?" asked the little prince.

"A geographer is a scholar who knows the location of all the seas, rivers, towns, mountains, and deserts."

"That is very interesting," said the little prince. "Here at last is a man who has a real profession!" And he cast a look around him at the planet of the geographer. It was the most magnificent and stately planet that he had ever seen.

"Your planet is very beautiful," he said. "Has it any oceans?"

"I couldn't tell you," said the geographer.

"Ah!" The little prince was disappointed. "Has it any mountains?"

"I couldn't tell you," said the geographer.

"And towns, and rivers, and deserts?"

"I couldn't tell you that, either."

"But you are a geographer!"

"Exactly," the geographer said. "But I am not an explorer."

Choose the multiple-choice item that makes the sentence correct.

6. According to the text, a "geographer" is:

- A) An educated person who knows where features of the earth are located.
- B) An educated person who travels to different places.
- C) Someone who explores.
- D) Someone who looks for new information.

7. "Panted" means:

- A) breathed heavily
- B) sighed loudly
- C) drooled
- D) Cried

8. "Voluminous" means:

- A) geographical
- B) many
- C) beautiful
- D) large

9. Why does the geographer not know where the seas, rivers, towns, mountains, and deserts are located on his planet?

- A) Because he is not a scholar.
- B) Because he is not an explorer.
- C) Because it is not a professional.
- D) Because he writes books.

10. What do you think the geographer is writing about in his book?

- A) The story of the little prince.
- B) The geography of his planet.
- C) The story of an explorer.
- D) The story of a man who has a real profession.

From Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

“What in the world are you going to do now, Jo?” asked Meg, one snowy afternoon, as her sister came tramping through the hall, in rubber boots, old sack and hood, with a broom in one hand and a shovel in the other.

“Going out for exercise,” answered Jo, with a mischievous twinkle in her eyes.

“I should think two long walks this morning would have been enough! It's cold and dull out; and I advise you to stay warm and dry, by the fire, as I do,” said Meg, with a shiver.

“Never take advice! Can't keep still all day, and, not being a pussy-cat, I don't like to doze by the fire. I like adventures, and I'm going to find some.”

Meg went back to toast her feet and read Ivanhoe; and Jo began to dig paths with great energy. The snow was light, and with her broom she soon swept a path all round the garden, for Beth to walk in when the sun came out; and the invalid dolls needed air. Now the garden separated the Marches' house from that of Mr. Laurence. Both stood in a suburb of the city, which was still country-like, with groves and lawns, large gardens, and quiet streets. A low hedge parted the two estates. On one side was an old, brown house, looking rather bare and shabby, robbed of the vines that in summer covered its walls, and the flowers which then surrounded it. On the other side was a stately stone mansion, plainly betokening every sort of comfort and luxury, from the big coach-house and well-kept grounds to the conservatory and the glimpses of lovely things one caught between the rich curtains. Yet it seemed a lonely, lifeless sort of house; for no children frolicked on the lawn, no motherly face ever smiled at the windows, and few people went in and out, except the old gentleman and his grandson.

Choose the multiple-choice item that makes the sentence correct.

11. The character Jo could be best described as:

- A) Cold and dull
- B) Adventurous and independent
- C) Tired and opinionated
- D) Introverted and boring

12. According to the text:

- A) It is a winter afternoon.
- B) It is a winter evening.
- C) Both Meg and Jo enjoy snow.
- D) Both Meg and Jo enjoy reading.

13. According to the text, “tramping” means:

- A) Running loudly
- B) Running quickly
- C) Walking quietly
- D) Walking heavily

14. The “old, brown house” is:

- A) Separated from the mansion by a wooden fence.
- B) A symbol of every comfort and luxury.

- C) Covered with pretty vines and flowers in the summer.
- D) Lonely and lifeless.

15. The “stately stone mansion” is:

- A) Inhabited by two people.
- B) Covered with pretty vines and flowers in the summer.
- C) Simple and dilapidated.
- D) Lively and full of children.

Listening Comprehension Test for the 9th form Students

Sometimes a soccer ball is more than just a ball. Sometimes, it's a lifesaver. Tim Jahnigen has always followed his heart, whether as a carpenter, a chef, a lyricist or now as an entrepreneur. So in 2006, when he saw a documentary about children in Darfur who found solace playing soccer with balls made out of garbage and string, he was inspired to do something about it. The children, he learned, used trash because the balls donated by relief agencies and sporting goods companies quickly ripped or deflated on the rocky dirt that doubled as soccer fields. Kicking a ball around provided such joy in otherwise stressful and trying conditions that the children would play with practically anything that approximated a ball.

During the next two years, Mr. Jahnigen, who was also working to develop an infrared medical technology, searched for something that could be made into a ball but never wear out, go flat or need a pump. Many engineers he spoke to were dubious of his project. But Mr. Jahnigen eventually discovered PopFoam, a type of hard foam made of ethylene-vinyl acetate, a class of material similar to that used in Crocs, the popular and durable sandals. Creating a prototype, it turned out, cost about one-tenth as much as expected and took about a year. Sting called it the One World Futbol, a homage to a song he sang with the Police, "One World (Not Three)."

To test the balls' durability, Mr. Jahnigen sent them to places like Rwanda, where they were used at a camp for former child soldiers. A lion at the Johannesburg Zoo, who would go through six regular balls a day, played with two balls. A German shepherd spent a year biting on a ball. In every case, the balls withstood the abuse.

Mr. Jahnigen has developed a fifth generation of the ball, which is rounder than earlier versions. He carries samples around the world to conferences, potential buyers and sponsors. For effect, he crushes them and even drives cars over them. All of them bounce and hold their shape. By his estimate, the ball can last for 30 years, eliminating the need for thousands of hand-sewn leather balls that are typically donated by relief agencies.

Mr. Jahnigen has produced about 33,000 balls. About half of them were bought for \$40 each. For each ball purchased, another is given away. Word has spread. The ball is being used by a hundred different organizations and has made its way to more than 140 countries. Flight attendants, Doctors Without Borders and a United States Army colonel in Afghanistan have taken balls with them on their travels.

In time, Mr. Jahnigen said, he hopes to get millions of other balls into the hands of children. "A child can play to their heart's content where there are no content hearts," he said. "We don't understand that having a ball is like the best PlayStation 3 or a rocket to Mars."

Listening Comprehension Test for the 9th form Students

TASK 1. Decide if the statements are true or false

1. Tim Jahnigen was inspired to create a better soccer ball after learning of the plight of the children of Darfur.
 2. A durable football is important to relief organizations because playing helps children deal with stress.
 3. Mr. Jahnigen's soccer ball can last for an estimated 3 decades.
 4. The children played with balls made out of trash because they could not afford conventional balls.
 5. A dog spent two years biting one of Mr. Jahnigen's soccer balls and the ball was still in good condition.
 6. Mr. Jahnigen's soccer ball is currently used by different organizations in over 140 countries.
 7. The children were not content with playing soccer with balls made out of trash and string.
 8. The prototype of Mr. Jahnigen's soccer ball only cost a fraction of its original estimated cost.
 9. Mr. Jahnigen's soccer balls are created out of the same material used for a line of popular footwear.
 10. The current fourth generation model of the ball is lighter than the earlier versions.
-
11. Tim Jahnigen is currently:
 - A. A businessman.
 - B. A chef.
 - C. A musician.
 - D. A soccer coach.
 12. Tim Jahnigen used all of the following criteria in the development of the ball, EXCEPT:
 - A. Would not need a pump.
 - B. Would be lightweight.
 - C. Would not go flat.
 - D. Would not wear out.
 13. The primary reason that the soccer balls donated by the agencies would deflate is:
 - A. The children would play too often with the balls.
 - B. The children did not take care of the balls.
 - C. The children could not afford to buy a ball pump.
 - D. The children played soccer on rocky dirt fields.
 14. While creating the soccer ball, Mr. Jahnigen was also working on:
 - A. An affordable car.
 - B. A medical device.
 - C. A durable sandal.
 - D. Forming a relief organization.
 15. The durability of Mr. Jahnigen's soccer ball was tested by:
 - A. The children of Darfur.
 - B. The soldiers in Afghanistan.
 - C. An elephant in Rwanda.
 - D. A lion in Johannesburg.

STAGE II NATIONAL STUDENTS OLYMPIAD IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Speaking Comprehension Test for 9th Form Students

DIRECTIONS: *In this test you will select three task slips from those before you. After selecting three, choose the one you feel you are most capable to speak about and return the other two to the table face down. Then take about a minute to collect your thoughts before you begin to speak on the topic. You may refer to the topic as needed. Take a deep breath and begin.*

1. Imagine you can choose a superpower: the ability to fly, super speed, or super strength.
 - a. Which superpower would you choose?
 - b. Why would you choose that power?
 - c. Would you use that power to help others or yourself?
2. Smartphones are everywhere now. And they are not just telephones- they are entire small computers, complete with apps, games, navigation, music and even the internet! How have smart phones changed communication?
 - a. Do you have a smartphone? What do you usually do with it?
 - b. Describe some apps that you know. What do they do?
 - c. How do you think communication will be different 20 years from now?
3. Every culture has literature that is important to it, including traditional stories and classic literature.
 - a. Describe the most famous traditional or classical literature in Ukraine.
 - b. Do you read this literature in school? How did you like it?
 - c. What have you learned about your culture or yourself by studying these stories?
4. Describe your favorite fairy tale/folk tale.
 - a. Who are the characters? Where do they live?
 - b. What happens in the story?
 - c. What is the message of the story?
5. Imagine that a genie is willing to teach you one skill or talent perfectly. After you learn it, you will be one of the best in the world at that skill.
 - a. What talent or skill would you learn?
 - b. Why would you learn that skill? Is it something you have always wanted to learn?
 - c. What would you do with your new talent or skill?
6. Describe someone who inspires you.
 - a. How do you know this person? Tell us a little about them.
 - b. What do they do that inspires you?
 - c. What lessons have you learned from them that have changed the way you live?

7. If you could spend one hour with someone person from history who would it be?
 - a. What would you talk about with them?
 - b. What would you do with them? Where would you go?
 - c. What is one question you think they might ask you?
8. All systems have their problems, education systems included. Think about your school.
 - a. Why is it important to get an education?
 - b. What do you like about the teaching at your school? What don't you like?
 - c. If you could change one thing about your school, what would it be?
9. "Good actions give strength to ourselves and inspire good actions in others" -Plato
 - a. What does this quote mean to you? Do you agree with it?
 - b. Describe a good action that you saw that inspired you or gave you strength.
 - c. What can you do to try and inspire others?
10. "The greatest wealth is health." –Virgil
 - a. What do you think this quote means? How important is health to you?
 - b. What do you do to stay healthy?
 - c. How does health affect our lives?
11. Describe the plot of your favorite movie.
 - a. Who are the main characters? What are they like?
 - b. What happens to them?
 - c. Why do you like the movie?
12. Everyone has a hobby or something they are interested in.
 - a. What hobbies are most popular with men in your country? With women?
 - b. Do you have the same hobby as anyone in your family? How did you learn this hobby?
 - c. Describe a hobby that you would like to try.
13. 90% of young people in Ukraine use the internet at least once a week. Many of them make friends on the internet.
 - a. Have you ever made any friends on the internet? What are other ways to use the internet?
 - b. Do you think it is safe to meet people on the internet? What are the risks?
 - c. Would you ever meet a friend that you met on the internet in real life?
14. All children are taught to be polite, to say "please" and "thank you", to ask permission for things, to greet people they know. These things together are referred to as "manners."
 - a. What are some other examples of good manners? What are some examples of bad manners in Ukraine?

- b. Are manners important? What difference to manners make in society?
 - c. What do you think when you see someone with very bad manners? Can you give an example?
- 15. Most people will never need to physically defend themselves, but it is very common for people to practice a martial art, such as boxing, karate, judo, or others.
 - a. Have you ever studied a martial art? Did you know someone who has studied?
 - b. Why do people study martial arts? What benefits does it give them?
 - c. Do martial arts have a role in society today?
- 16. Fashion changes all the time, from year to year and from decade to decade.
 - a. What clothes are fashionable now? What do people usually wear?
 - b. Is the current fashion practical?
 - c. Do you think it is important to stay fashionable?
- 17. An English proverb says, "The pen is mightier than the sword"
 - a. What does this proverb mean to you? Do you agree with it?
 - b. Do you believe that an idea or a poem or a book can change the world? Why or why not?
 - c. Describe a time that you used words and ideas to solve a problem instead of violence.
- 18. Everyone is good at something. Finding and nurturing that skill is one of the healthiest and most rewarding things that a person can do.
 - a. Describe something that you are good at. Did you practice to become good at it?
 - b. How can you work to improve this ability? What motivates you to improve it?
 - c. How have you used this ability?
- 19. It is common for people to have pets. Sometimes the pets are large, like dogs or cats. Sometimes they are smaller, like fish, or birds. Talk about some pets you know.
 - a. Do you have a pet at home? What kind of a pet?
 - b. What are the good things about owning a pet? Bad things?
 - c. What is the difference between a pet and another animal?
- 20. As you get older you have more responsibilities and are usually expected to help your parents.
 - a. What are some responsibilities that you have at home?
 - b. Do you always fulfill all of your responsibilities there?
 - c. Who is the most responsible person in your family? Explain some of their responsibilities.

10th Form Listening

The Iditarod Sled Dog Race

Abridged

From a news story by
CNN San Francisco Reporter Dan Knapp

3/7/99

Every year in Alaska there is a big race with sleds pulled by dogs. On the day of the race, the Alaskan huskies seem eager to go on what may be the world's longest and most difficult race. It is called the Iditarod dog sled race. The voice of the race announcer booms over the streets of Anchorage as the racers set off on their long journey "They're off. The last great race..."

Fifty-six sleds leave downtown Anchorage to start the race. A sled leaves every two minutes. It will take ten days to two weeks before they reach the finish line at Nome on the other side of Alaska. The men and women who guide the sleds are called mushers.

Linda Joy, a musher says "It's not important to win, I have a yearling team and I want as many happy tails when I cross the finish line."

Russell Lane is a full-blooded Eskimo. He thinks his rookie, or very first, run may help his people maintain a tie to the old ways. "I'm the only musher from the Arctic slope, so I'm real proud to be representing my people."

One musher from Australia, Stephen Carrick, says he knows why he runs the race when he crosses the finish line. "I did it last year. When I got to Nome, the sensation was awesome and I knew I had to have more of this."

Dee Dee Jonrowe has finished in the top ten racers in eight other races. "I was just telling my husband, happy birthday, today's his birthday and his present is sending me out of town."

Gary Collins, an actor, helps the race by giving money. He and others get to ride on the sleds for 20 miles of the trail. They are called Iditariders. The day the race starts is an exciting event in Anchorage. There's a big crowd to watch the race start. The trail loops around Anchorage, and smaller crowds of fans cheer the sleds on.

Twenty miles out of Anchorage the ceremonial part of the race is over and its time to get serious about the Iditarod. For the one thousand miles, it's just the mushers and their dogs on the frozen land. Racer Aaron Burmeister says of the first day "Really there's not a whole lot of strategy, just get yourself into the schedule and get rolling."

And try to enjoy the ride.

10th Form Listening

Tasks

Task 1.

Choose the best answer.

- 1) The big dog sled race in Alaska is called the
 - a) Arctic Slope
 - b) Iditarod
 - c) Eskimo
 - d) Nome
- 2) Many of the dogs that pull the sleds are
 - a) Huskies
 - b) Wolves
 - c) Beagles
 - d) Collies
- 3) Men and women who guide the sleds are called
 - a) Eskimos
 - b) Mushers
 - c) Rookies
 - d) Yearlings
- 4) The finish line for the race is in
 - a) Anchorage
 - b) Eagle River
 - c) Nome
 - d) Arctic Slope
- 5) The Iditarod dog sled race is known as the world's
 - a) worst race
 - b) longest and most difficult race
 - c) most ceremonial race
 - d) easiest race
- 6) The people in Anchorage
 - a) don't like the race
 - b) wish the race was someplace else
 - c) make a big event of the race
 - d) are iditariders
- 7) A rookie run means:
 - a) a straight course
 - b) the first time
 - c) last place
 - d) first place
- 8) In the Iditarod, sleds travel on
 - a) paved roads
 - b) snow and ice

- c) rivers
- d) dirt roads
- 9) One Eskimo musher believes that the race will help his people
 - a) become more famous
 - b) earn a lot of money
 - c) maintain their traditions
- 10) Aaron Burmeister says that in the beginning racers *don't* need
 - a) a schedule
 - b) dogs
 - c) strategy

Task 2.

Decide if the statements are True (T) or False (F).

- 11) For most mushers, the most important part of the race is to win.
- 12) The Iditarod is held every year in Northern Canada.
- 13) One racer from Australia said that he felt terrible when he got to Nome.
- 14) Dee Dee Jonrowe usually finishes in the top ten racers.
- 15) An actor named Gary Collins is making a movie about the race.

Reading Comprehension 10th Form

From “**Important Questions Answered: Is Belgium Still the Chocolate Capital of the World?**”

By: Laura Beck, *Jezebel*, 2012

The BBC reports that countries such as Australia and Japan are rising up through the chocosphere. In fact, the next World Chocolate Masters is happening in Paris in November 2013 and entrants are coming from 20 different countries. Also, how do we all secure tickets to this immediately? My inner Augustus Gloop is literally bursting at the seams with excitement.

As far as the Belgian's packing up their candy thermometers and going back to a time without chocolate, Veerle de Pooter, a magazine writer who has also worked as a chef for the country's federal government, says "Just because one [non-Belgian] chef happens to win a few prizes, sponsored by a chocolate brand, I don't think Belgian chocolatiers should start to quake in their boots." Since only Germany sells more chocolate abroad, I think de Pooter is probably right.

Of course, while Belgium is still Queen de Chocolat, their association with chocolate has terrible roots — cocoa was first shipped from the Congo, one of their African colonies. Not to be a super downer, but as we all know, chocolate can come from some incredibly human-rights-violating sources. When I binge on the good stuff, I stick to the Food Empowerment Project's list of fair-trade chocolatiers that don't fund child slavery. Well, this story took a turn for the worse.

Point is, nobody is the boss when it comes to chocolate, but everyone else is gonna have to really pop-off to officially take the chocolate crown from Belgium. Personally, I hope it's somewhere on the continents of Africa or South America because, you know, that's where the heart of the delicious product comes from.

Decide if the statements are True or False

1. The World Chocolate Masters is a competition in which chocolatiers compete for international prestige.
2. This year the World Chocolate Masters will take place in France.
3. Veerle de Pooter is a French writer and chef.
4. de Pooter is worried that Belgium is losing its place in the chocolate-making world.
5. Germany sells the most chocolate internationally.
6. The cocoa that Belgium uses to make its chocolate comes from South America.
7. The cocoa used to make chocolate can be controversial because of how the laborers in those countries are treated.
8. The Food Empowerment Project condemns chocolatiers that don't fund child slavery.
9. The author of this article thinks that other countries will have to try very hard to surpass Belgium in its chocolate-making expertise.
10. The author hopes that Mexico wins the World Chocolate Masters competition this year.

from “**Philadelphia**”

Source: http://www.englishforeveryone.org/PDFs/Level_8_Passage_3.pdf

Philadelphia is a city known for many things. It is where the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776, and it was also the first capital of the United States. But one fact about

Philadelphia is not so well-known: it is home to nearly 3,000 murals painted on the sides of homes and buildings around the city. In fact, it is said that Philadelphia has more murals than any other city in the world, with the exception of Rome. How did this come to be?

More than 20 years ago, a New Jersey artist named Jane Golden started a program pairing troubled youth with artists to paint murals on a few buildings around the city. From this small project, something magical happened. The young people involved helped to create magnificent pieces of art, but there were other, perhaps more important benefits. The young people learned to collaborate and get along with many different kinds of people during the various steps required to paint and design a mural. They learned to be responsible, because they needed to follow a schedule to make sure the murals were completed. They also learned to take pride in their community. It is hard for any resident to see the spectacular designs and not feel proud to be a part of Philadelphia.

Take a walk around some of the poorest neighborhoods in Philadelphia, neighborhoods full of broken windows and littered front steps, and you will find beautiful works of art on the sides and fronts of buildings. Of course the murals are not just in poor neighborhoods, but more affluent ones as well. Special buses take tourists to different parts of the city to see the various murals, which range from huge portraits of historical heroes, to cityscapes, to scenes depicting the diverse ethnic groups that call Philadelphia home. As a result of its success, the mural program has now become the nation's largest public art program and a model for other cities throughout the country seeking to help troubled youth.

Choose the best option

11. In the passage, "collaborate" means:
 - A. To work alone.
 - B. To work hard.
 - C. To be creative.
 - D. To work together.
12. What was the most important thing this project taught the participants?
 - A. Painting skills and techniques
 - B. Responsibility and pride in the city
 - C. Key historical events and figures
 - D. The geography of Philadelphia
13. What is the nationwide impact of this program?
 - A. There are similar programs in other countries.
 - B. There are similar programs in other cities.
 - C. Crime rates are decreasing.
 - D. There is no nationwide impact.
14. What is the main idea of the passage?
 - A. An art program that helps troubled youth
 - B. Encouraging youth to participate in community service
 - C. Improving Philadelphia's tourist industry
 - D. Inexpensive city beautification

15. Why did the author describe the “broken steps and littered front steps”?
- A. To discourage people from visiting Philadelphia
 - B. To create a sense of contrast between Rome and Philadelphia
 - C. To illustrate the contrast of the poorer and wealthier neighborhoods
 - D. To illustrate the contrast between the beautiful mural and its surrounding

STAGE II NATIONAL STUDENTS OLYMPIAD IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Speaking Comprehension Test for 10th Form Students

DIRECTIONS: *In this test you will select three task slips from those before you. After selecting three, choose the one you feel you are most capable to speak about and return the other two to the table face down. Then take about a minute to collect your thoughts before you begin to speak on the topic. You may refer to the topic as needed. Take a deep breath and begin.*

1. Zoos are places where animals are collected for study and education. The first zoo was created by the Egyptians in 3500 BC! But many people think that keeping animals in zoos is not right, and that it is cruel to keep animals in cages.
 - a. What do you think of zoos? Have you ever visited a zoo, petting farm or animal preserve?
 - b. What are the positive and negative aspects of zoos?
 - c. Do you think that it is cruel to keep animals in zoos? Why or why not?
2. “A good traveler has no fixed plans and is not intent on arriving.” – Lao Tzu
 - a. What does this quote mean to you? Do you agree with it?
 - b. Describe a memorable journey that you took with your family or friends.
 - c. How has technology changed the ways we travel, and what we do as we travel?
3. “What are you going to do when you grow up?” is a commonly asked question of teenagers.
 - a. What is your answer to this question?
 - b. What type of preparation and/or training will it involve in order to join this occupation?
 - c. What are your responsibilities likely to be in this occupational field?
4. “I’m not smart, but I like to observe. Millions saw the apple fall, but Newton was the one who asked why.” –William Hazlitt
 - a. What does this quote mean to you? What does Hazlitt say is the difference between seeing and understanding?
 - b. Do you agree that there is a difference between seeing and understanding? Why or why not?
 - c. How observant are you? How has that helped you in life?

5. Traditionally we say that people have 5 senses; seeing, hearing, smelling, feeling, and tasting.
 - a. What sense is your favorite? Give some examples of why you like it.
 - b. If you had to lose one sense, what would it be?
 - c. Describe your favorite smell, or favorite sound. Where does it come from?
6. “Tragedy is when I cut my finger; comedy is when you fall down the stairs.” Mel Brooks
 - a. What does this quote mean to you?
 - b. What kinds of things do you find funny?
 - c. Do you agree with this quote?
7. Humans have accomplished some amazing things while we have been on this planet. Things like the Pyramids of Egypt, the Great Wall of China, the Taj Mahal, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon and other things have been declared “wonders of the world.”
 - a. What are some new wonders of the world? What do you think are the greatest things that humans have accomplished?
 - b. What are some of the wonders, or famous buildings or monuments of your country? Have you ever visited them?
 - c. Which would you prefer to see, human wonders or natural wonders?
8. 34% of Ukrainians between the ages of 15 and 24 have jobs, and even more of them do some work or are looking for work. Jobs and employment are a huge part of life, and as you get older, it is something you must spend some time thinking about.
 - a. What kinds of jobs are the most common in your region?
 - b. What kind of job would you like to have, if you could have any job? Why?
 - c. Have you ever had a job, or known someone your age who has? Did that person like it?
9. Musical styles change so quickly, sometimes year by year! And of course the music of today is very different from the music of 20 or 30 or 40 years ago. What do you think of the changes in musical style over time?
 - a. What kind of music do your parents listen to? Do you like that music, too?
 - b. What do you think of traditional Ukrainian music? How does it compare with current popular music?
 - c. How and where do you usually listen to music? Are you alone or with friends? Do you buy songs or listen to music online?
10. The relationship between neighbors is different everywhere. In many parts of America, people often know their neighbors but aren't really friends with them. In some places, people go years without ever meeting their neighbors! In a few places, people are good friends with their neighbors. What is the relationship between neighbors like in Ukraine?
 - a. What do you think of your neighbors? Are you friends with them?
 - b. What kind of a person would make the perfect neighbor? Describe them

- c. Are your neighbors important in your life at all? Why or why not?
11. Thomas Edison said, “Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration.”
- a. What does this quote mean to you?
 - b. Do you usually work hard to achieve your goals or rely on brilliant ideas?
 - c. Describe a time when you had to work very hard in order to complete a difficult task.
12. Fashion changes all the time, from year to year and from decade to decade.
- a. What clothes are fashionable now? What do people usually wear?
 - b. Is the current fashion practical? Should clothing be practical?
 - c. Do you think it is important to stay fashionable?
13. An English proverb says, “The pen is mightier than the sword”
- a. What does this proverb mean to you? Do you agree with it?
 - b. Do you believe that an idea or a poem or a book can change the world? Why or why not?
 - c. Describe a time that you used words and ideas to solve a problem instead of violence.
14. All children are taught to be polite, to say “please” and “thank you”, to ask permission for things, to greet people they know. These things together are referred to as “manners.”
- a. What are some other examples of good manners? What are some examples of bad manners in Ukraine?
 - b. Are manners important? What difference to manners make in society?
 - c. What do you think when you see someone with very bad manners? Can you give an example?
15. Describe your favorite fairy tale/folk tale.
- a. Who are the characters? Where do they live?
 - b. What happens in the story?
 - c. What is the message of the story?
16. Every culture has literature that is important to it, including traditional stories and classic literature.
- a. Describe the most famous traditional or classical literature in Ukraine.
 - b. Do you read this literature in school? How did you like it?
 - c. What have you learned about your own culture by studying these stories?
17. Everyone is good at something. Finding and nurturing that skill is one of the healthiest and most rewarding things that a person can do.
- a. Describe something that you are good at. Did you practice to become good at it?

- b. How can you work to improve this ability? What motivates you to improve it?
 - c. How have you used this ability?
18. An English proverb says, "No man is an island."
- a. What does this mean to you?
 - b. Do you think that it is important to connect with people?
 - c. Describe a time when you felt alone. How did you connect with people?
19. In 200,000 years, humans have risen to be one of the most successful animals on the planet. Today there are more than 7 billion humans on earth, and we affect the planet in many ways.
- a. What traits or characteristics have made humans such a successful species?
 - b. Describe one way that humans have changed the planet.
 - c. Have humans made more positive or negative changes? Explain your reasoning.
20. 15 % of the population in Ukraine is older than 60. In many cultures, it is considered important to respect your elders and to care for them.
- a. Is it important to respect your elders? How do you and Ukrainian culture show respect for them?
 - b. What things can we learn from old people? What role do they play in your life?
 - c. What do you know about the life of your grandfather or grandmother? Do you know any stories about them?

Listening Comprehension Test for the 11th form Students

The biggest house of cards, the longest tongue, and of course, the tallest man: these are among the thousands of records logged in the famous Guinness Book of Records. Created in 1955 after a debate concerning Europe's fastest game bird, what began as a marketing tool sold to pub landlords to promote Guinness, an Irish drink, became the bestselling copyright title of all time (a category that excludes books such as the Bible and the Koran). In time, the book would sell 120 million copies in over 100 countries—quite a leap from its humble beginnings.

In its early years, the book set its sights on satisfying man's innate curiosity about the natural world around him. Its two principal fact finders, twins Norris and Ross McWhirter, scoured the globe to collect empirical facts. It was their task to find and document aspects of life that can be sensed or observed, things that can be quantified or measured. But not just any things. They were only interested in superlatives: the biggest and the best. It was during this period that some of the hallmark Guinness Records were documented, answering such questions as "What is the brightest star?" and "What is the biggest spider?"

Once aware of the public's thirst for such knowledge, the book's authors began to branch out to cover increasingly obscure, little-known facts. They started documenting human achievements as well. A forerunner for reality television, the Guinness Book gave people a chance to become famous for accomplishing eccentric, often pointless tasks. Records were set in 1955 for consuming 24 raw eggs in 14 minutes and in 1981 for the fastest solving of a Rubik's Cube (which took a mere 38 seconds). In 1979 a man yodeled non-stop for ten and a quarter hours.

In its latest incarnation, the book has found a new home on the internet. No longer restricted to the confines of physical paper, the Guinness World Records website contains seemingly innumerable facts concerning such topics as the most powerful combustion engine, or the world's longest train. What is striking, however, is that such facts are found sharing a page with the record of the heaviest train to be pulled with a beard. While there is no denying that each of these facts has its own, individual allure, the latter represents a significant deviation from the education-oriented facts of earlier editions. Perhaps there is useful knowledge to be gleaned regarding the tensile strength of a beard, but this seems to cater to an audience more interested in seeking entertainment than education.

Originating as a simple bar book, the Guinness Book of Records has evolved over decades to provide insight into the full spectrum of modern life. And although one may be more likely now to learn about the widest human mouth than the highest number of casualties in a single battle of the Civil War, the Guinness World Records website offers a telling glimpse into the future of fact-finding and record recording.

TASK 1. Decide if the statements are true or false

1. The originators of the book were the explorers Norris and Ross McWhirter.
2. The book was created after people were discussing the world's fastest bird.
3. The book was made to produce the Irish beer, Guinness.
4. The Guinness Book of World Records is the best-selling non-religious copyright title of all time.
5. The content in the book has changed slightly over time to keep readers interested.
6. The book started by recording interesting facts about the natural world.
7. You can now find the Guinness World Records exclusively on physical paper.
8. The facts produced by the people of the Guinness World Records have become less entertaining and more educational over time.
9. Material used in the Guinness Book of Records is quantitative.
10. In the text, the word "incarnation" means "desecration".

11. The Guinness Book of Records was created in which year?
- A. 1855
 - B. 1865
 - C. 1955
 - D. 1965
12. The book was originally used for what purpose?
- A. To collect world records
 - B. To record interesting facts
 - C. To help pubs promote an Irish beer
 - D. To create a record of Irish drinks
13. The Guinness Book of Records has been sold in how many countries?
- A. 100 countries
 - B. Over 200 countries
 - C. Over 100 countries
 - D. 200 countries
14. What was the book's original goal?
- A. Impress people around the world
 - B. Satisfy peoples' curiosity about the natural world
 - C. Collect facts from around the world
 - D. Impress Irish pub owners
15. One of the original Guinness Records documented was:
- A. "What is the brightest star?"
 - B. "What is the biggest bird?"
 - C. "How long is the longest train?"
 - D. "How heavy is the biggest spider?"

Reading Comprehension Test for 11th Form Students

In the spring, at the little park on Country Lane, a small boy sits on the swings underneath the green, budding branches of the tall shade tree. The sun is shining and the high-pitched laughs and squeaks of children playing fill the air. The boy watches over them in the sandbox, on the slide, running to catch a seat on the red and blue merry-go-round whose chrome handles glisten in the sun. The harder the boy swings his feet, kicking outward while leaning back against the will of the chains in his hands, the higher he climbs. On the swings, the chase isn't important and the sand doesn't get inside your shoes. Alone under the eaves of the tall shade tree, he is in motion, safe from the darkness, the other children, even the screams of his parents as their distance from each other grows. In the summer, at the little park on Country Lane, a young man struggles awkwardly within a group of friends on the basketball court – flat, grey cement – near the fences which separate the park from the manicured lawns and sculpted hedges of neighbouring suburban homes. The young man ducks, pivots, looks for the ball and dodges back to the three-point line drawn in chalk an hour before the game. He barely notices the unwelcome sweat on his brow and under his shirt and the heavy feeling in his chest – he hasn't played basketball since his parents' divorce.

A short, thin teenager, a natural, ducks gracefully under the outstretched arms of the other players with an agility that continues to surprise everyone. His path to the basket blocked, he fires the ball with its tan and orange rubber over his shoulder – not to the players inside the key, but to the young man, quiet and patient, who stands on the three point line. Two points would tie the game; three would win.

The young man catches the ball, cradles it, leaps into the air and pushes the ball toward the hoop, rolling it off his fingertips amid grunts and arms and hands and frantic bodies. It circles the rim then drops off the side. Someone near the court calls "Time!" and the other team huddles to congratulate themselves.

His team-mates look at each other, anxious to redeem their loss, but the young man has left the game already, his eyes concentrating on a lone figure on the swings. The tall shade tree above has given her shelter from the glare of the late afternoon sun, leaving her concealed in cool shadows. He grins sheepishly as he approaches her, taking pleasure in her smile and the playful wink from her eye. "Nice shootin', Tex," she teases warmly.

The young man sits down on the swing next to hers. She receives his outstretched hand with hers and together they sit in the peace of the advancing evening, swinging and watching the sun turn the sky to a fiery expanse of crimson and magenta as it hastens to slumber under the distant horizon.

In the autumn, at the little park on Country Lane, a father rocks on the swings, back and forth, back and forth, though gently in deference to his age. In the sandbox, his two children, six and eight, dig a moat around a pile of sand they've been pushing and shaping for an hour now. He watches them intently, curiously, as their giggles take to the air.

The children's faces, small copies of their mother's – gone a year now – are rosy from the cool air. How long has it been since their mother had sat with him here on the swings, he thinks pensively. A wanton breeze from the south sings its solemn lullaby of warmer days past. It nips and tugs and taunts the thinning gold and auburn leaves of the resilient shade tree of his youth. The leaves clutch their branches and twigs with uncertainty and desperation as destiny threatens.

The once shiny slide, covered with the smiles and tears of a thousand summer days reflects the flicker of a black and white television that struggles through the curtained window of a dignified, stately house. The mighty harvest moon watches the man intently as it slips between windblown clouds. The children turn briefly toward their father, wave, then return to the mountains they have created – to the sandbox kingdoms where they are gods.

In the winter, at the little park on Country Lane, an old man sits on a motionless swing, arms akimbo, watching his laboured breaths hang in the air. The park is otherwise deserted in the evening's dusky glow. Inverted pyramids of fragrant smoke rise slowly from the stone chimneys of nearby homes. The crooked basketball hoop rises staunchly into the crisp evening sky, bent from the weight of missed slam-dunks and forgotten ambitions. It looks abused. Abandoned. There are no chalk marks on the court, no signs of recent use.

The old man turns his gaze toward the slide. The metal has lost its shine and the wooden rails and ladders have faded and warped. The merry-go-round is gone, replaced by two picnic tables and a dented, overturned garbage can missing its lid.

The sandbox remains, however, brimming with sand as always. The old man slowly pulls himself up from the swings where he has been resting his tired, stiff legs. Tentatively, he makes his way to the sandbox. Night is quickly overtaking the last rays of the frozen sun. In the fading twilight, he looks up and down the park. Confident no one is watching, he lowers himself to the grainy dirt beneath his feet. With great effort he begins pushing and pulling sand into a pile with his bony, arthritic fingers. As the mound grows, he pauses to observe his progress, feeling the harsh, penetrating cold. A tear begins to form in a melancholy, sentimental eye, but is wiped away before it can escape. Several blocks to the north, a car door slams, unnoticed by the old man on his knees in the sand. A light snow begins to fall on the little park on Country Lane.

Decide if the statements are True or False

1. The merry-go-round handles are made of brass.
2. The park was located in a city centre.
3. If the young man had made the three-point shot, his team would have won the game.
4. The young man was happy because of the girl's smile.
5. The young man and the girl on the swings are holding hands.
6. The father watches his two children playing on the merry-go-round.
7. The mother of the two children is not at the park because she is working.
8. The children's faces resembled their mother's face.
9. Two picnic tables and a trash can have replaced the merry-go-round.
10. When it begins to snow, the man is standing in the sandbox.

Choose the best answer

11. In the spring in the little park on Country Lane...
 - A. a small boy plays on the merry-go-round.
 - B. a young man sits on the swings with a girl.
 - C. a small boy watches children playing in the park.
 - D. an old man sadly remembers his childhood.
12. What colour is the merry-go-round at the beginning of the story?
 - A. red
 - B. red and blue
 - C. blue
 - D. blue and white
13. "The chase isn't important" was used to describe which place on the playground?
 - A. the merry-go-round
 - B. the basketball court
 - C. the sandbox
 - D. the swings
14. According to the text, during the summer...
 - A. a young man is playing in the sandbox.
 - B. a girl draws a line on the pavement with white chalk.
 - C. an old man hears a car door slam and hides behind a tree.
 - D. a boy and a girl watch the sun set.
15. In the autumn in the little park on Country Lane...
 - A. the man sees smoke rising from the chimneys of nearby homes.
 - B. the young man hears parents yelling at their children.
 - C. a father moves back and forth on a swing.
 - D. a father sees a garbage can without a lid.

Stage II National Students Olympiad in the English Language

Speaking Comprehension Test for 11th Form Students

DIRECTIONS: *In this test you will select three task slips from those before you. After selecting three, choose the one you feel you are most capable to speak about and return the other two to the table face down. Then take about a minute to collect your thoughts before you begin to speak on the topic. You may refer to the topic as needed. Take a deep breath and begin.*

1. In 200,000 years, humans have risen to be one of the most successful animals on the planet. Today there are more than 7 billion humans on earth, and we affect the planet in many ways.
 - a. What traits or characteristics have made humans such a successful species?
 - b. Describe one way that humans have changed the planet.
 - c. Have humans made more positive or negative changes? Explain your reasoning.
2. In many cultures, women traditionally do most of the cooking. In America, women cook 78% of dinners. But it is becoming more and more common for men to cook, for many reasons.
 - a. Does your father/brother/you cook?
 - b. Is it important for men to know how to cook? Why or why not?
 - c. Would it change the family if fathers cooked?
3. In America, it is considered bad luck to meet a black cat, or to walk under a ladder, good luck to find a penny, and if your ears burn it means someone is talking about you. These are some common superstitions- old beliefs that people still sometimes hold onto.
 - a. What are some superstitions in Ukraine? What things are supposed to bring good or bad luck? Are there other superstitions?
 - b. Where do you think superstitions come from? Do people still believe in them?
 - c. Do you believe in superstitions? Why or why not?

4. “Some people go to priests; others to poetry; I to my friends.” –Virginia Woolf.
 - a. What can people get from these three things; religion, poetry, and friendship?
 - b. What do you think Virginia Woolf is saying about herself in this quote?
 - c. Where do you find comfort and help?
5. “Beauty is not in the face; beauty is a light in the heart.” –Khalil Gibran
 - a. What do you think the poet is expressing in this quote?
 - b. What does this quote mean to you? Do you agree with it?
 - c. Describe a time when you met someone whose character was different from their appearance.
6. Everyone is good at something. Finding and nurturing that skill is one of the healthiest and most rewarding things that a person can do.
 - a. Describe something that you are good at. Did you practice to become good at it?
 - b. How can you work to improve this ability? What motivates you to improve it?
 - c. How have you used this ability?
7. 15 % of the population in Ukraine is older than 60. In many cultures, it is considered important to respect your elders and to care for them.
 - a. Is it important to respect your elders? How do you and Ukrainian culture show respect for them?
 - b. What things can we learn from old people? What role do they play in your life?
 - c. What do you know about the life of your grandfather or grandmother? Do you know any stories about them?
8. Urbanization is the process of people moving into the city, causing it to grow and expand. Cities all over the world are getting bigger and more crowded.
 - a. Do you think it is better to live in the city or in the country. Why?
 - b. Is it a good thing for so many people to move into the city? What are some positive or negative effects?

- c. If you could live in any place, in any city or any country, where would you live? Why?
- 9. Dreams are part of our sleep cycle, and are important for the brain.
 - a. Do you think that dreams have meaning?
 - b. Can you describe one dream that you've had?
 - c. Do dreams have any traditional meaning in your culture? If so, what?
- 10. Scientists have found liquid water on Mars. Astronauts are running a simulation of a trip to Mars. Some world leaders have even said that they want to send people to Mars. In your lifetime it might become possible to visit Mars.
 - a. Do you think that exploring space is important? Is it necessary? Why or why not?
 - b. If you could live on Mars, would you? Why or why not?
 - c. What do you think would be the challenges of living on Mars?
- 11. Humans have accomplished some amazing things while we have been on this planet. Things like the Pyramids of Egypt, the Great Wall of China, the Taj Mahal, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon and other things have been declared "wonders of the world."
 - a. What are some new wonders of the world? What do you think are the greatest things that humans have accomplished?
 - b. What are some of the wonders, or famous buildings or monuments of your country? Have you ever visited them?
 - c. Which would you prefer to see, human wonders or natural wonders?
- 12. Musical styles change so quickly, sometimes year by year! And of course the music of today is very different from the music of 20 or 30 or 40 years ago. What do you think of the changes in musical style over time?
 - a. What kind of music do your parents listen to? Do you like that music, too?
 - b. What do you think of traditional Ukrainian music? How does it compare with current popular music?
 - c. How and where do you usually listen to music? Are you alone or with friends? Do you buy songs or listen to music online?

13. An English proverb says, "The early bird gets the worm."
- What does this mean to you?
 - Describe a time when you benefitted by being the first person to volunteer.
 - There is another saying that states, "The second mouse gets the cheese." What does this mean? How is it different from the previous saying?
14. Imagine that an alien has to Earth. Explain basketball to them.
- What are the rules of basketball?
 - What people like basketball? Why do we play it?
 - Do you like basketball? Describe a personal experience with basketball.
15. All children are taught to be polite, to say "please" and "thank you", to ask permission for things, to greet people they know. These things together are referred to as "manners."
- What are some other examples of good manners? What are some examples of bad manners in Ukraine?
 - Are manners important? What difference to manners make in society?
 - What do you think when you see someone with very bad manners? Can you give an example?
16. Many people enjoy gambling. Some do it just a little, but there are many people who are addicted to gambling, and who lose tremendous amounts of money.
- Do you believe that gambling is a problem? Why or why not?
 - Is there a difference in risk? Is there such a thing as good risk and bad risk? What's the difference?
 - Describe one time that you took a risk and how it turned out.
17. "TV is chewing gum for the eyes." Frank Lloyd Wright, famous architect
- What do you the speaker means by this?
 - How much time do you spend watching TV? Is that too much time or do you wish you could watch it more?
 - Is TV artistic? Do you think that culturally important things happen on TV? Why?

18. The internet has made it easier than ever before to find people with similar interests and hobbies. Many of these people have formed into groups called subcultures, with their own unique culture and philosophy. Some examples include, goth, emo, punk, cosplayers, gamers, hipster, steampunk, etc.

- a. Describe one subculture that you know of. How do they look? Act? What are they interested in?
- b. Is there any subculture that you are interested in knowing more about or joining?
- c. Do you think that subcultures are a good thing or a bad thing? Why?

19. What do you think the most important invention of the last 100 years has been?

- a. How has that invention changed people's lives?
- b. How has that invention changed your life?
- c. What would the world be like without that invention?

20. Two years ago, the mayor of New York City made it illegal to sell soda larger than a certain size. The people of New York were very angry about this.

- a. Why do you think he made this law? What problem might he have been fighting?
- b. Why do you think the people became so angry over a law about soda?
- c. Do you think that it is right for the government to tell people what they can and can't do with their own bodies?

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Stage II National Students Olympiad in the English Language

Writing Comprehension Test for 8th Form Students

1. You have been asked to contribute to an information leaflet for people coming to live in our country for a year or more. Write your contribution, including information about daily life, climate and culture.
2. Are out-of-school activities as important as schoolwork? What different skills can students learn from out-of-school activities? Give examples. How can out-of-school activities help a student's future? What might be some disadvantages of participating in out-of-school activities?
3. This is your first letter to your pen-friend in Canada. You would like to write him\her about the way you spend your spare time. Write how you usually spend your spare time, include the information about your hobbies and the entertainment you would have if your pen-friend came to your country.

Writing Comprehension Test for 9th Form Students

1. Ghandi said, **"You must be the change you wish to see in the World"**. What does this quote mean to you? Describe a situation that you have experienced or have heard about in which this quote was proven to be true. Do you agree or disagree that what you personally do will change the world you live in?
2. You recently went on a day trip to a popular tourist attraction in your country. Write a letter to your Canadian pen-friend, describing the day and explaining which part you enjoyed the most and why.
3. **"Laughter is the best medicine"**. In your own words explain what this quote means to you. How does positivity impact our health? Describe a time when you had to be positive in a negative situation.

Writing Comprehension Test for 10th Form Students

1. Charles Dickens, author of numerous classics including *Oliver Twist*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, and *A Christmas Carol*, attended elementary school until his life took a twist of its own when his father was imprisoned for debt. At age 12, he left school and began working ten-hour days in a boot-blackening factory. Despite his hardships he became a very successful and famous author. Charles Dickens is one example of many successful people that did not receive a formal education experience. In your opinion, how important is education in relation to success? Describe the challenges people experience without education. What other attributes do people need to have besides formal education?
2. Littering is a big problem in many countries, including Ukraine. In some countries, there are enforced laws in which people receive fines for littering. Do you think this is the best concept for resolving the trash problem? Defend why or why not you agree with this approach. Provide an alternative approach as well. Explain why it is important to keep the environment clean.
3. People often say the phrase “**Treat others as you would want to be treated**”. Explain how this phrase is applicable to everyone’s life. Use examples and anecdotes from your own experience to support your viewpoint.

Writing Comprehension Test for 11th Form Students

1. You have had a discussion about the older generation and what they can offer young people. Write a composition, giving your opinions on the following statement: **There are many things that young people today can learn from the older generation.**
2. John Sawhill states that: “**A society is defined not only by what it creates, but by what it refuses to destroy.**” How do you interpret this quotation, and do you agree? What does it mean in the context of Ukrainian society? What would your ideal society refuse to destroy?
3. In many modern societies and throughout human history, tattoos have been used to represent age, cultural milestones, personal achievements, or social status. They can also be purely decorative. What are some common stereotypes surrounding people with tattoos? Do you hope to get a tattoo someday? If so, what image would you choose? Can tattoos be considered a form of art?

Keys

READING

8 form

- 1.C
- 2.B
- 3.C
- 4.D
- 5.B
6. T
- 7.F
8. F
9. T
- 10.F
- 11 C
- 12 A
13. C
14. B
15. A

9 form

1. False
2. False
3. True
4. True
5. True
6. A
7. A
8. D
9. B
10. C
11. B
12. A
13. D
14. C
15. A

10 form

1. True
2. True
3. False
4. False
5. True
6. False
7. True

8. False
9. True
10. False
11. D
12. B
13. B
14. A
15. D

11th form

- 1.F
2. F
- 3.T
4. T
5. T
6. F
- 7.F
- 8.T
- 9.T
- 10.F
- 11.C
- 12.B
13. D
- 14.D
- 15.C

LISTENING

8th Form

KEY

- 1.T
- 2.F
- 3.F
- 4.T
- 5.F
- 6.F
- 7.F
- 8.F
- 9.T
- 10.F

- 11.b
- 12.a
- 13.d
- 14.b
- 15.d

9th Form

1. T
2. T
3. T
4. F
5. F
6. T
7. F
8. T
9. T
10. F
11. A
12. B
13. D
14. B
15. D

10 th form

1. b
 2. a
 3. b
 4. c
 5. b
 6. c
 7. b
 8. b
 9. c
 10. c
-
11. F
 12. F
 13. F
 14. T
 15. F

11 th form

1. F
2. F
3. F
4. T
5. F
6. T
7. F
8. F
9. T
10. F
11. C
12. C
13. C
14. B
15. A