

САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

Шифр:

**ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РАБОТА УЧАСТНИКА
ОЛИМПИАДЫ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ СПбГУ**

2012–2013

Отборочный этап

Предмет (комплекс предметов) Олимпиады
АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

Иностранный язык

Город, в котором проводится Олимпиада _____

Дата _____

За каждый правильный ответ – 2 балла

АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

I. Read the text.

Eighty years after his death, the name Harry Houdini remains synonymous with escape under the most dire circumstances. But Houdini, the immigrants' son whose death-defying career made him one of the world's biggest stars, was more than a mere entertainer.

A new biography of the legendary performer was released on Halloween, the anniversary of Houdini's untimely death at 52. It suggests that the elusive superstar worked as a spy for some European states, all before he was possibly murdered. The authors lay out a scenario where Houdini, using his career as cover, managed to travel the world while collecting information for law enforcement.

The authors believe that at Scotland Yard in the early 20th century they helped launch Houdini's European career by allowing the performer to demonstrate his escape skills. Once, at an arranged demonstration Houdini slipped free from a pair of Scotland Yard handcuffs as an audition for a London theater owner. A similar situation occurred in Chicago, where Houdini's career took off after a publicity stunt aided by a local police lieutenant.

Houdini was a relentless self-promoter, although he didn't play his audience for suckers. The biography recounts one 1902 escape, in Blackburn, England, where Houdini refused to surrender despite the use of plugged locks that made his freedom almost impossible.

After two hours, Houdini escaped to a standing ovation. The next day his arms were "hideously blue and swollen, with large chunks of flesh torn out," the book recounts. Because of the way the chains and rigged locks were fastened, Houdini "had no choice but to tear out the chunks of his flesh to get free."

Houdini's renown was such that he could get out of anything, which was a myth, but it eventually overshadowed the man. Some people thought, 'He's a human, I'm a human, he can beat anything, so maybe I can beat some things'.

Yet, he was known around the world by a single name long before Sting or Madonna.

1. Choose the correct answer.

1. A new book about Harry Houdini's life
 - a) has brought to light some of the previously unknown facts
 - b) showed him as a victim of dire circumstances
 - c) provided a description of law enforcement activities in his time
2. The authors have come up with a story that
 - a) law-enforcement promoted Houdini's career
 - b) police officers assisted Houdini in his demonstrations
 - c) Scotland Yard hired Houdini to show public that a man could do the impossible
3. The book described Houdini as
 - a) a tireless performer eager to promote his skills
 - b) a person who underestimated his audience
 - c) a stubborn performer ready for any falsification
4. Sometimes during his stunts Houdini was forced to
 - a) deliberately hurt himself not to surrender
 - b) tear his flesh to demonstrate how difficult his art was
 - c) use them as cover for his espionage activities
5. Houdini's biographers do believe that
 - a) his unsurpassed invincibility was a myth
 - b) it was his name that brought him fame
 - c) he was by far the greatest falsifier of the 20th century

2. Mark the following statements as True or False.

6. Even though Houdini's name is still associated with escapist skills beyond human comprehension, his life is a topic for much speculation.
 - a) True
 - b) False
7. Houdini traveled in Europe as a Scotland Yard officer
 - a) True
 - b) False
8. In the eyes of his audience he remained invincible, no matter what it cost him.
 - a) True
 - b) False
9. Houdini was so dedicated to his craft, so hard-working and relentless that one year he showed as many as 1902 publicity stunts.
 - a) True
 - b) False
10. In the eyes of his biographers Houdini was less than a magician or rather not only.
 - a) True
 - b) False

II. For questions 11 – 25, read the text below and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits each space.

HIV Breakthrough

Scientists believe that they have made a 1) _____ breakthrough in fighting HIV- they have shown what happens when an infection-fighting antibody attacks a 2) _____ in HIV's 3) _____ defences. Finding a vaccine against HIV has been very difficult because the proteins on the surface of the virus are continually mutating, but they have shown an antibody, called b12, attacking a weak spot of the virus where the protein is 4) _____. The virus is able to 5) _____ rapidly to avoid 6) _____ by the immune system, and is also covered in sugary molecules which block access by antibodies. 7) _____, certain parts of the virus must remain 8) _____ unchanged so that it can catch hold of and enter human cells. One protein that sticks out from the surface of the virus and binds to receptors on host cells is one such region, which makes it a target for vaccine development.

Previous analyses of the 9) _____ of people that have been able to keep HIV from developing into AIDS for long periods of time 10) _____ revealed a 11) _____ group of antibodies - including b12 - that seem to fight HIV with some degree of 12) _____. The latest study showed how the antibody and 13) _____ protein interact. Scientists hope that revealing the 14) _____ of this bond in such 15) _____ detail will provide clues about how best to attack HIV.

11)	a) majority	b) major	c) solution	d) final
12)	a) gap	b) space	c) line	d) shape
13)	a) consider	b) considerate	c) considerably	d) considerable
14)	a) stable	b) instability	c) unstable	d) stability
15)	a) mutation	b) mutant	c) mutate	d) mutating
16)	a) detective	b) detect	c) detecting	d) detection
17)	a) Though	b) However	c) Also	d) Even though
18)	a) relatively	b) relative	c) relatives	d) relation
19)	a) bleed	b) bleeding	c) blood	d) bloody
20)	a) was	b) has	c) have	d) were
21)	a) seldom	b) rare	c) rarely	d) occasional
22)	a) succeed	b) successful	c) successfully	d) success
23)	a) a	b) the	c) these	d) ---
24)	a) stricture	b) structure	c) blueprint	d) plan
25)	a) precise	b) precision	c) exacting	d) quite

III. Mark the right answer

26. They don't earn much money, but their children want _____ nothing.

a) -----	c) for
b) in	d) about

27. Jill is always so friendly and helpful that people walk _____ her.

a) by	c) with
b) over	d) on

28. You are a fool! – Oh, then you are _____!

a) the other	c) another
b) also	d) other

29. There were two intervals _____ the performance.

a) during	c) at
b) in	d) within

30. Ask me _____!

a) another	c) an other
b) the other	d) others

31. Why is the washing machine shaking like that? Quickly, _____ it off.

a) set	c) let
b) make	d) turn

32. There is a lot of government help these days for anyone who wants to set _____ their own business.

a) off	c) up
b) for	d) down

33. He is being very mysterious about his _____ last Monday.

a) whereat	c) where ins
b) whereof	d) whereabouts

34. These toys could be swallowed, so they should not be given to the _____-fives.

a) below	c) over
b) under	d) sub

35. I am happy to fall _____ anything you suggest.

a) over	c) into
b) with	d) in with

IV. Choose the correct combination

36. We can avoid _____ such diseases by _____ to eat healthy food.

a) to risk/ having chosen	c) having risked/ choosing
b) risking/ choosing	d) being risked/ having to choose

37. _____ but him knew which questions _____ at the exam.

a) Neither one/ were going to be asked	c) No one/ were going to be asked
b) Neither one/ were to be asked	d) No one/ were not to be asked

38. Although I _____ tennis for more than five years, I _____ any national trophy.

a) have played/ shall not win	c) play/ could not win
b) have been playing/ could not	d) will have been playing/ won't win

39. After he _____ a heart attack, he was ordered _____ in bed and rest for one month.

a) had/ to lie	c) had/ to be lying
b) had/ to be laid	d) had/ to lay

40. If I _____ that I hurt you so badly yesterday I _____ right away.

a) had known/ would apologize	c) had known/ would have apologized
b) knew/ would have apologized	d) knew/ would apologize

V. Mark the correct transcription of the word

41	Aerial	a) [??ri?al]
		b) [?eri??]
42	Chaos	a) [?kei?s]
		b) [?ha ?ous]
43	Abacus	a) [?æb?k?s]

		b) [ˈbʊkʊs]
44	Clothes	a) [ˈkləʊ(ð)z]
		b) [ˈklou(θ)s]
45	Hereditary	a) [ˈhɪrɪdəˈtɪəri]
		b) [həˈredəˈteri]
46	Thesaurus	a) [θɪˈzɔːrəs]
		b) [θɪˈsɔːrəs]
47	February	a) [ˈfebru(ə)ri]
		b) [ˈfebj(ə)ri]
48	Rational	a) [ˈræʃənəl]
		b) [ˈreiʃənəl]
49	Volcano	a) [ˈvɒlˌkeɪnəʊ]
		b) [vʊlˌkɑːnəʊ]
50	Metropolis	a) [miˈtrɒp(ə)lɪs]
		b) [metrɒˈp(ə)lɪs]