

**САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ**

**Олимпиада школьников Санкт-Петербургского государственного  
университета по иностранным языкам**

**(английский, испанский, немецкий и французский языки)**

**Задания отборочного и заключительного этапов**

**2014-2015 учебный год**

## **Отборочный этап Олимпиады школьников СПбГУ по иностранным языкам**

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### **Критерии оценки**

Олимпиадные задания состоят из набора тестовых заданий, полностью правильный ответ на задание оценивается в 2 балла; максимальное число баллов – 100, проверка осуществляется автоматически.

Победителями отборочного этапа Олимпиады по иностранным языкам в соответствии с регламентом Олимпиады признаются участники, набравшие не менее 70 баллов, занимающие **первые 10 процентов** мест в рейтинговом списке участников, призерами отборочного этапа признаются участники, набравшие не менее 70 баллов, занимающие **следующие 25 процентов** мест в рейтинговом списке участников, при этом общее число победителей и призеров отборочного этапа по филологии **не должно превышать 200 человек**.

## Задания отборочного тура

### Английский язык

(Правильные ответы выделены серым цветом)

#### *I. Read the text*

A paradox is a sentence which defies logic and embraces absurdity, while holding on to truth and compelling one to think. In fact, paradoxes have become a part and parcel of English Language now. A paradoxical statement is self contradicting, still possibly true. It takes you a while to get a grip on such statements, even though it stares right at you.

'I always lie' is one of the classic examples because if I always lie, then I would be lying now too. If we are considering the above sentence untrue, then it implies that I don't always lie, which means if this statement is in fact true, then it's probably false. Confused? Well, take another example which would make your head spin. Suppose, someone is a psychopathic grandma killer who managed to grab hold of a functional time machine and, turned on their grandma for their next prey. Does the statement, 'time traveling grandma killer' makes fun of logic besides being hypothetical and ridiculous?

Paradox is a kind of irony which is profoundly true, though at the face value it might sound quite ludicrous. Authors from different genres use this element to force the reader dig deeper and search for a meaning which is not visible in plain sight. Often, paradox is confused with irony as both display hidden truths. However, a paradox is much more complex than irony and sometimes dependent on the other to serve its purpose. This illogical statement works as a puzzle and contains a philosophical or symbolic meaning which the author intends the reader to find. By making the readers think and work to get to the real meaning, the author cleverly disposes of boredom. Let us discuss the age-old question: What came first, the chicken or the egg? Even though a cliché, it surely catches the essence of a paradox. Oscar Wilde, Barnard Shaw, Bertrand Russell, G. K. Chesterton were some of the gifted authors who were adept in spinning up fine paradoxes in their works.

"Take some more tea," the March Hare said to Alice, very earnestly.

"I've had nothing yet," Alice replied in an offended tone, "so I can't take more."

"You mean you can't take less," said the Hatter: "it's very easy to take more than nothing."

"Nobody asked your opinion," said Alice.

"Who's making personal remarks now?" the Hatter asked triumphantly.

#### *1. Mark the correct answer*

- 1) In the author's opinion paradoxes
  - a) defy description
  - b) are inherent to contemporary language
  - c) are beyond comprehension
- 2) The two examples of paradoxes given demonstrate
  - a) how ideas collide
  - b) a rule to overcome contradictions
  - c) a method to pose dead-end questions
- 3) Men of letters employ paradoxes to
  - a) make their readers enjoy the irony
  - b) arouse excitement
  - c) deliberately conceal their meaning
- 4) A paradox may
  - a) lean on irony
  - b) garble reality
  - c) smother irony
- 5) Intricate reading
  - a) makes readers boredom-prone
  - b) arises anticipation
  - c) is thought-provoking

**2. Mark the following statements as TRUE or FALSE**

- 6) A paradox may appear daft, which eventually turns erroneous
  - a) TRUE
  - b) FALSE
- 7) People turn their never-ending lying to a paradox
  - a) TRUE
  - b) FALSE

8) A paradox is a deliberate, though outlandish riddle

- a) **TRUE**                                      b) FALSE

9) Irony always overshadows the philosophy of a paradox

- a) **TRUE**                                      b) **FALSE**

10) Intricate reading facilitates brainwork

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

III. Choose the correct word to complete the sentence:

26. I was \_\_\_\_\_ with fear when I worked out what had happened.

a) forthcome	c) <b>overcome</b>
b) downcome	d) downcast

27. It is illegal to \_\_\_\_\_ and distribute copyrighted music on p2p networks.

a) <b>upload</b>	c) onload
b) download	d) unload

28. The rumor soon obtained \_\_\_\_\_ and he had to leave the town.

a) current	c) <b>currency</b>
b) currence	d) currant

29. His remark was very \_\_\_\_\_ and she took offence.

a) ambiguite	c) ambient
b) <b>ambiguous</b>	d) amble

30. A seemingly minor problem was brought to the \_\_\_\_\_ and everybody understood how important it was.

a) <b>foreground</b>	c) forebrain
b) forearm	d) forehead

31. The shop is giving \_\_\_\_\_ free software with every computer.

a) out	c) in
b) to	d) <b>away</b>

32. Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ you.

a) fits	c) makes
b) <b>becomes</b>	d) suits

33. I never thought that skirts for men would catch \_\_\_\_\_, but they have!

a) up	c) through
b) on	d) by

34. The book \_\_\_\_\_ well.

a) sells	c) is sold
b) has been sold	d) is on sale

35. Jane does a/an \_\_\_\_\_ each week for the local newspaper. It's usually quite funny!

a) animation	c) cartoon
b) comedian	d) comic

**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) ['æri:əl]
		b) ['eri:əl]
42	Chaos	a) ['keiəs]
		b) ['ha:ous]
43	Abacus	a) ['æbəkəs]
		b) [ə'bəkus]
44	Clothes	a) ['kləu(ð)z]
		b) ) ['klou(θ)s]
45	Hereditary	a) ['hiredə ,teri:]
		b) [hə'redə ,teri:]

46	Thesaurus	a) [θɪ'zaurəs]
		b) [θɪ'sɔrəs]
47	February	a) ['febru(ə)ri]
		b) ['febj(ə)ri]
48	Rational	a) ['ræʃənəl]
		b) ['reɪʃənəl]
49	Volcano	a) [vɒl'keɪnəʊ]
		b) [vul'ka:nəʊ]
50	Metropolis	a) [mi'trɒp(ə)lis]
		b) [metrɒ'p(ə)lis]