

ПЛЕХАНОВСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ

(очный тур) 2016-2017 уч. год

Listening

Transfer all your answers to the answer sheet

Task 1. Questions 1 – 7. You will hear a radio interview with a leading industrialist and business consultant, Philip Spencer.

1. When visiting companies Philip Spencer's objective is to
A improve staff productivity B identify problem areas C re-train weak management
2. Problems at Manson's had continued after Spencer's first visit because of
A poor distribution systems B inadequate market research C out-dated production methods
3. Philip Spencer blames his early business difficulties on
A inexperience with new companies B lack of knowledge of the financial sector
C bad advice from established organisations
4. He defends his unusual personal style by saying that
A it is important in business to make a strong impression
B his business ideas are more important than his appearance
C most business people are too serious and traditional
5. He thinks he was appointed chairman of LBI because the company
A knew of his success with failing companies C liked his fearless approach to problem solving
B felt he had a positive image with the public
6. According to Philip Spencer, successful managers are distinguished by their
A concern for detail B desire to make money C strong leadership
7. His final advice to people starting in business is to
A make every effort to prevent mistakes C maintain a positive attitude at all times
B find the best sources of information

Task 2

Part 1. Questions 8 – 11

8. The total number of lectures mentioned by the lecturer is
A ten B thirteen C six D eight
9. The lunch break of the average British worker is
A on the increase B shorter than it used to be C 36 minutes D precisely 30 minutes
10. There will be another lecture on stress in work and study
A given by Professor Butt B on the calendar C in about a fortnight D in a week's time
11. Which of the following is mentioned?
A Most workers say they do not take all their holidays
B Under half of the workers say they do not take all their holidays
C Employers do not believe workers
D About a third of healthy workers take days off sick

Before you hear the rest of the lecture, you have 30 seconds to look at the questions 12 – 14.

Part 2. For questions 12 – 14 write no more than three words for each answer.

Student's notes

Employees	now working (12) _____	physically and mentally
In 2002, local car plant	vehicles per employee on rise to (13) _____	
Car industry	once thought to be (14) _____	

Question 15

Dr Butt asks those students to see him who

- A want to work at the plant B have chosen to do the project C want to write extra essays D are new

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Reading

Transfer all your answers to the answer sheet

Task 1. For questions **1-9** read the following text. Do the following statements agree with the information in the reading passage?

Write: YES if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer
NO if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer
NOT GIVEN if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

Attitudes to language

It is not easy to be systematic and objective about language study. Popular linguistic debate regularly deteriorates into invective and polemic. Language belongs to everyone, so most people feel they have a right to hold an opinion about it. And when opinions differ, emotions can run high. Arguments can start as easily over minor points of usage as over major policies of linguistic education.

Language, moreover, is a very public behaviour, so it is easy for different usages to be noted and criticized. No part of society or social behaviour is exempt: linguistic factors influence how we judge personality, intelligence, social status, educational standards, job aptitude, and many other areas of identity and social survival. As a result, it is easy to hurt, and to be hurt, when language use is unfeeling attacked.

In its most general sense, prescriptivism is the view that one variety of language has an inherently higher value than others, and that this ought to be imposed on the whole of the speech community. The view is propounded especially in relation to grammar and vocabulary, and frequently with reference to pronunciation. The variety which is favoured, in this account, is usually a version of the 'standard' written language, especially as encountered in literature, or in the formal spoken language which most closely reflects this style. Adherents to this variety are said to speak or write 'correctly'; deviations from it are said to be 'incorrect.'

All the main languages have been studied prescriptively, especially in the 18th century approach to the writing of grammars and dictionaries. The aims of these early grammarians were threefold: (a) they wanted to codify the principles of their languages, to show that there was a system beneath the apparent chaos of usage, (b) they wanted a means of settling disputes over usage, and (c) they wanted to point out what they felt to be common errors, in order to 'improve' the language. The authoritarian nature of the approach is best characterized by its reliance on 'rules' of grammar. Some usages are 'prescribed,' to be learnt and followed accurately; others are 'proscribed', to be avoided. In this early period, there were no half-measures: usage was either right or wrong, and it was the task of the grammarian not simply to record alternatives, but to pronounce judgement upon them.

These attitudes are still with us, and they motivate a widespread concern that linguistic standards should be maintained. Nevertheless, there is an alternative point of view that is concerned less with standards than with *the facts* of linguistic usage. This approach is summarized in the statement that it is the task of the grammarian to *describe*, not *prescribe* - to record the facts of linguistic diversity, and not to attempt the impossible tasks of evaluating language variation or halting language change. In the second half of the 18th century, we already find advocates of this view, such as Joseph Priestley, whose *Rudiments of English Grammar* (1761) insists that 'the custom of speaking is the original and only just standard of any language' Linguistic issues, it is argued, cannot be solved by logic and legislation. And this view has become the tenet of the modern linguistic approach to grammatical analysis.

In our own time, the opposition between 'descriptivists' and 'prescriptivists' has often become extreme, with both sides painting unreal pictures of the other. Descriptive grammarians have been presented as people who do not care about standards, because of the way they see all forms of usage as equally valid.

Prescriptive grammarians have been presented as blind adherents to a historical tradition. The opposition has even been presented in quasi-political terms - of radical liberalism vs elitist conservatism.

1. There are understandable reasons why arguments occur about language Yes No Not given
2. People feel more strongly about language education than about small differences in language usage. Yes No Not given
3. Our assessment of a person's intelligence is affected by the way he or she uses language. Yes No Not given
4. Prescriptive grammar books cost a lot of money to buy in the 18th century. Yes No Not given
5. Prescriptivism still exists today. Yes No Not given
6. According to descriptivists it is pointless to try to stop language change. Yes No Not given
7. Descriptivism only appeared after the 18th century. Yes No Not given
8. Both descriptivists and prescriptivists have been misrepresented. Yes No Not given
9. What is the writer's purpose in this reading passage?
 A to argue in favour of a particular approach to writing dictionaries and grammar books?
 B to present a historical account of differing views on language?
 C to describe the differences between spoken and written language?
 D to show how a certain view of language has been discredited?

Task 2 For questions 10 -14 read the following extracts and choose the best answer A,B,C,D

A.

The most populous metropolis of the Western hemisphere, New York is, depending on one's point of view any one of four cities: to social scientists it is a laboratory in which to study the challenges of urban life, from ghastliest slum to tycoon luxury; to tourist it is a city of jostling crowds, horn-honking traffic jams, dirty streets, smelly subways – all in dramatic contrast to such international symbols as the skyscraper skyline, the United Nations building, Wall Street, the Statue of Liberty, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Times Square and Broadway theatres; to commuters it is an enervating beehive of world trade and finance, mass media, business administration, fashion and associated entrepreneurial activities and manufacturing – a place to leave as soon as possible in the evening for the more serene atmosphere of greener suburbia.

B

Okay, so New York is crowded, dirty noisy and impolite! But it's one of the world's most exciting and beautiful cities and, surprisingly, a very human place.

Other Americans often fear and dislike New York. With a typical shrug, New Yorkers dismiss this as a provincial jealousy. Fire sirens may wail all night while steam billows hellishly from manholes, the subway cars may be defaced by graffiti and people move faster than taxis. So what? New York is the place where it's all happening.

C

New York. If I leave my writing table in the hotel and go to the window I can look down on a corner of Central Park where I was jogging a short while ago.

Spring is still some weeks distant and it was cold out there. Squirrels, not birds, were most evident among the bare trees. The few early morning walkers – mostly with their dogs – were well-wrapped. The exercise

followed by the hot, then cold shower that I returned to so stimulated my appetite for breakfast that I ate buckwheat pancakes with maple syrup to preface bacon and eggs.

Such enthusiastic self-indulgence is a vice I am more prone to in New York than in any other city in the world. Although this may owe something to the exercise, and something to that shedding of inhibitions which is one of the most evident consequences and rewards of travel, it owes yet more, I think, to a quality which is peculiar to New York itself.

D

The popular image of New York conjures up a jungle of muggers, dope addicts, and hustlers creating an obstacle course for the city's normal citizens. But the tourist will find that the Big Apple threatens only his budget. New York's menacing streets, while not entirely mythical, fortunately do not approach their notoriety. Common sense and an alert eye should insure the safety of all but the most reckless: steer clear of run-down neighborhoods (especially after dark) and keep to the more touristed parts of the city and trouble will not find you.

10. A feature of New York mentioned in both extracts A and B is

- a the uncomfortably humid heat of the streets
- b the spectacular height of buildings
- c the characteristic sound of the traffic
- d the writing on walls and public transport

11. In extract C, we understand that in New York the writer

- a enjoys taking exercise more than usual
- b prefers American breakfast to English ones.
- c is struck by the strangeness of the environment
- d is less restrained in his behavior than usual.

12. Extracts B and C share

- a a relish for the city's particular character
- b an awareness of the city's imperfections.
- c a sense of the city's startling contrasts.
- d an appreciation of the beauty of the city.

13. In extract D, the writer points out that in New York

- a it is extremely difficult to get about.
- b it is easy to be cheated over prices.
- c the violence has been exaggerated.
- d the traffic can present a hazard.

14. In extract D, the reader is advised

- a to avoid going out at night.
- b to keep an eye open for crime.
- c not to run unnecessary risks.
- d only to drive in the city centre.

Task 3 Read four reviews of a film. For questions 15-18 , choose from reviews A – D . The reviews may be chosen more than once.

Four critics comment on the film *The King's speech*

A

History and film buffs will delight in Seidler's *The King's Speech*. Its strong historical context might deter those not falling within these two categories, however. The film largely involves the actors Colin Firth, formal and decent, and Geoffrey Rush, large and expansive, in psychological struggle, Helena Bonham Carter, who can be merciless, is here filled with mercy, tact and love for her husband; this is the woman who became the much-loved Queen Mother of our lifetimes, dying in 2002 at 101. As the men have a struggle of wills, she tries to smooth things and raise her girls Elizabeth and Margaret. In the wider sphere, Hitler takes power, war comes closer, and the dreaded day approaches when Bertie (Firth), as George VI, will have to speak to the world and declare war. The director's handling of that fraught scene is masterful. Firth internalizes his tension and keeps the required stiff upper lip, but his staff and household are terrified on his behalf as he marches towards a microphone as if it is a guillotine. At the end, what we have here is a superior historical drama and a powerful personal one.

B

Some films turn out to be unexpectedly good. Not that you've written them off; only they ply their craft on the hush-hush. Tom Hooper's *The King's Speech*, looked no more than a well-spoken costume drama, optimistically promoted for Sunday tea-time; decent cast, nice costumes and posh carpets. That was until the film finished a sneak-peak at a festival in deepest America and the standing ovations began. Tweeters, bloggers and Internet spokespeople of various levels of elocution, announced it the Oscar favorite, so it arrives in our cinemas with a fanfare of trumpets. But for all its pageantry, it isn't a film of grandiose pretensions. Much better than that, it is an honest-to-goodness crowd pleaser. *Rocky* with dysfunctional royalty. *Will Hunting* set amongst the staid pageantry and fussy social mores of the late 30s. A film that will play and play. A prequel to *The Queen*. Where lies its success? Let's start with the script, by playwright David Seidler, a model for transforming history into an approachable blend of drama and wit. For a film about being horrendously tongue-tied, Seidler's words are exquisitely measured, his insight as deep as it is softly spoken.

C

W. H. Auden wrote his poem "September I, 1939" while sitting in a New York bar:

"Uncertain and afraid /
As the clever hopes expire /
Of a low dishonest decade."

The King's Speech takes a rather different view of Britain and the 1930s, though it's not entirely inconsistent with Auden's judgment and isn't in any sense what is sneeringly called, 'heritage cinema'. It is the work of a highly talented group of artists who might be regarded as British realists. The film is the private story of a famous public man, King George VI (known in his family circle as Bertie), the woman who loved him and became his queen and the innovative Australian speech therapist Lionel Logue, who helped him control and come to terms with the stammer that had tortured him since childhood. Although the film involves a man overcoming a serious disability, it is neither triumphalist nor sentimental. Its themes, which are of universal appeal, are courage, where it comes from, how it is used, responsibility, and the necessity to place duty above personal pleasure or contentment - the subjects, in fact, of such enduringly popular movies as *Casablanca*.

D

It could have been a bunch of pip-pip, stiff-upper-lip Brit blather about a stuttering king who learns to stop worrying and love the microphone. Instead, *The King's Speech*, a crowning achievement powered by a dream cast, digs vibrant human drama out of the dry dust of human history making it a real crowd-puller. King George VI (Colin Firth), father of the present Queen Elizabeth, found his own *Dr. Strangelove* in Lionel Logue (Geoffrey Rush), a wildly eccentric Australian speech therapist who made it possible for the stammering monarch to go on radio in 1939 and rally his subjects to support the declaration of war on Hitler's Germany. *The King's Speech* plays out on the battlefield of words, not action. Writer David Seidler breathes fresh, urgent life into every frame of this powerhouse. The film's director Tom Hooper, 37, is a prodigious talent. The emotion this film produces is staggering.

Which review

- 15 does not make a comparison between *The King's Speech* and another film? _____
- 16 highlights the work of the film's writer like review **D**? _____
- 17 like review **D**, was forced to re-assess any preconceptions they had had about the film? _____
- 18 disagrees with the other three reviews, in saying *The King's Speech* does not have popular appeal?_

Use of English

Task 1 For questions 1–5 choose the words which are closest in meaning to the words in bold.

1. Until the late nineteenth century all rubber was extracted ***haphazardly*** from trees found in the jungles of South America. It was expensive and the supply was uncertain. However, during the 1860's the idea of transporting rubber trees to the British colonies in Asia was conceived. This led to the larger-scale cultivation of rubber trees on organized plantations.
- A carelessly B secretly C constantly D dangerously

2. The National Film Board of Canada was established in 1939 to produce films that reflect Canadian life and thought, and to distribute them both domestically and abroad. By winning awards from film festivals around the world, it has earned international ***acclaim*** for the artistic and technical excellence of its work.
 A fascination B praise C acceptance D attraction
3. Seeking to take advantage of new economic trends of the late 1800s, Manitoba’s leaders made important changes in economic politics. These changers, which ***anticipated*** new directions in economic development of the region, took advantage of the unique business attributes of the province. During the early 1900s, these politics gave the province an advantage over other prairie provinces.
 A encouraged B analyzed C modified D predicted
4. The game of chess was not well organized until 1946, when the world chess governing body, FIDE, ***asserted*** its control over international play. At that time, national chess groups immediately welcomed the chance to join the new federation. However, FIDE’s authority has not been universally recognized and even today there is no general agreement as to the status of the world championship.
 A enhanced B empowered C permitted D declared
5. The Seneca Falls Convention, held in 1848, started the woman’s suffrage movement in the United States. A “Declaration of Sentiments”, which called upon women to organize and to ***petition*** for their rights, was passed. However, one controversial resolution, calling for the right of women to vote, narrowly passed. The ridicule of that provision of the Declaration caused many backers of women’s rights to withdraw their support later on.
 A vote B demand C appeal D persist

Task 2 For questions **6–10** think of one word from the list which can be used appropriately in all 3 sentences to make them idiomatic. There are more words than you will need.

Greek Scottish Dutch French Indian Irish China Chinese Spanish

6. As they were both students, they always ***went*** _____ when they went to a restaurant.
 She was very shy and always needed some _____ ***courage*** before she would get up and dance.
 He showed me a computer program he had written in Java. I didn’t understand a thing. It was ***double*** _____ to me.
7. Talks about his arrival are like _____ ***whispers***.
 Financial corporations have to build _____ ***walls*** to prevent information leakage.
 When he tried to explain the rules of the game to me, it was like _____ ***arithmetic!***
8. The students lined up and walked _____ ***file*** into the auditorium.
 A period of warm weather in autumn is called _____ ***summer***.
 We will never finish this project if everyone keeps trying to give orders. There are ***too many chiefs and not enough*** _____ ***s*** .
9. Travelling to the south in this old car is like travelling in ***a slow boat to*** _____.
 I wouldn’t want to move away from Switzerland – ***not for all the tea in*** _____!
 Lester felt ***like a bull in a*** _____ ***shop***; reaching for an orange, he made several elaborate pyramids of fruit tumble down.

10. You lent that leech John more money? It'll be _____ *calends* when he pays you back.
 I don't understand a word of what he's saying. *It's all _____ to me.*
 When the rival company invited all his employees to a Christmas party, Tom's first impulse was to **beware of** _____ *s bearing gifts*, but then he upbraided himself for being paranoid.

Task 3 For questions 11 – 16 complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Don't change the word given.

11. I went down with 'flu' as soon as I recovered from bronchitis.
No sooner
12. He always wants to borrow money when he telephones.
Whenever
13. They are relaying the news by satellite.
The news ...
14. Although it rained torrentially all day, we all enjoyed the excursion.
Despite ...
15. If you didn't contribute generously, we couldn't continue our work.
But for
16. If I have plenty of warning I'll willingly do this work for you.
Provided you ...

Task 4 Questions 17 - 22. The words in the following sentences have been jumbled up. Unjumble them and write the sentences on the answer sheet. Punctuation marks follow the same word that they follow in the sentence.

17. say, no be let matter persuaded. what don't they yourself
18. whole deforestation, consequence from as area soil a uncontrolled of the erosion. suffers
19. sorted quickly. calm, everything as everyone long stays should out as be
20. it what there? how long difference make get does to it takes
21. you didn't just rather I what I'd tell you. anyone have told
22. earth beyond did thing utterly why she such me. is a on

Task 5 For questions 23-30 fill the gaps in the following sentences with derivatives of the words given below. There are two derivatives for each word. You don't need to use all the words.

due relate agree place resist conscious appreciate

23. Many works of art were lost during the war, some of them _____.
24. Although I am in total _____ with everything that has been said, I believe we have made progress in our negotiations.
25. My father was presented with a watch in _____ of his long service.
26. She was terrified of flying, so the _____ advantages of air travel didn't tempt her at all.
27. The main objective is to find a solution that is _____ to the company in terms of cost.

28. Coal has been _____ by natural gas as a major source of energy.
29. Our new boss is a real joy to work for. She is so _____ of anything you do for her.
30. _____ speaking is used for saying that something is true when you compare it with other similar things.

Task 6 For questions 31 - 39 complete the sentences with commonly used foreign words borrowed from French and Latin languages. You don't need to use all of them.

hors d'oeuvre	cul-de-sac	carte blanche	alumnus	nouveaux riches	status quo
curriculum vitae	per capita	dilettante	persona non grata	vice versa	misanthrope
connoisseur	potpourri				

31. The advantage of living in a _____ is that there is no through traffic, so it's very quiet.
32. Let's order. I'm hungry. I'm going to start with a nice _____.
33. The boss didn't tell me how he wanted the project carried out. He gave me _____ to do it as I thought best.
34. His severe criticism of just about everyone and everything earned him a reputation of a _____.
35. As a _____ of modern art, he was invited to all of the gallery openings.
36. Applicants for this post should enclose a detailed _____.
37. He was barred from this country in 1985 and has been _____ since that time.
38. Some people just want to preserve the _____ in this country, but others want change, reform, development.
39. Canada has a _____ income of over \$20,000.

Task 7 For questions 40 - 47 put the following words or phrases in its correct place in the passage below. You don't need to use all of them.

proportional representation	call an election	constituencies	turn-out
stand for election	secret ballot	constituents	eligible
polling stations	by-election	campaigns	polling day

Middlford. Election Result.

A General Election has just taken place all over the United Kingdom. These must take place every five years unless the Prime Minister decides to (40) _____ earlier. Above is the result in Middleford, one of the approximately 635 (41) _____ into which the country is divided for this purpose. (42) _____ was last Thursday, when the election campaigns and door-to-door canvassing stopped and the people of Middleford went to the polling stations to make their choice, in a secret ballot, from the four candidates (anyone over the age of 21 can (43) _____, on payment of a deposit of £500, which is returned if he or she receives at least 5% of the votes cast). Voting is not compulsory and the number of people (44) _____ to vote in Middleford (everyone over 18) was 100,000, so the (45) _____ was 70%. Now Mr Smith will become the Member of Parliament for Middleford, which means he will represent the people of Middleford in the House of Commons in London. If he should die or be forced to give up his seat, the people of Middleford will have to vote again, in a (46) _____ to replace him. It is a very simple system and Mr Smith will try to represent all his (47) _____ fairly, whether they voted for him or not. However, the fact remains that most voters in Middleford voted for candidates (and parties) other than Mr Smith, and their votes are now lost. It is seats which are important in Parliament, not votes, and it is easy to see why the smaller parties would like a system of proportional representation, in which the number of votes they won was reflected in the number of seats they received in Parliament.

Transfer all your answers to the answer sheet

Answer sheet

	<i>Listening</i>	7	
1		8	
2		9	
3		10	
4		11	
5		12	
6		13	
7		14	
8		15	
9		16	
10		17	
11		18	
12			<i>Use of English</i>
13		1	
14		2	
15		3	
	<i>Reading</i>	4	
1		5	
2		6	
3		7	
4		8	
5		9	
6		10	

11			
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23		36	
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26		39	
27		40	
28		41	
29		42	
30		43	
31		44	
32		45	
33		46	
34		47	
35			