

**Федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение
высшего образования**

**Российская академия народного хозяйства и государственной службы
при Президенте Российской Федерации**

Олимпиада школьников РАНХиГС по Иностранному (английскому) языку

8 – 9 класс

2021 – 2022 учебный год

Отборочный этап

Task 1. Максимум 10 баллов

Listen to the Russian interpretation of some part of a film. Suggest YOUR idea how this part may sound. Guess the name of the film.

[Follow the link to get the audio file](#)

Для оценивания представленных переводов участников олимпиады мы будем отталкиваться от корректности перевода, творческого подхода и наличия характерных особенностей/маркеров устной речи.

Task 2. Podcast. Максимум 15 баллов

You are invited to take part in the episode of a podcast as a guest. The podcast is about future-orientated professions and the expectations of teenagers about their career. Choose the sphere you would like to be involved in and prove your career choice with arguments.

NB! Do not introduce yourself and do not mention your name in terms of privacy.

The podcast should:

- be 3 minutes long;
- deal with the subject matter in an appropriate and interesting way;
- be original and innovative.

Tips! Think about the following:

- your target audience;
- the title of the podcast cues;
- smooth transitions;
- the way to present material.

Possible Spheres:

- IT
- marketing;
- blogging;
- business;
- your own ideas;
- ...

Record the podcast with the help of <https://vocaroo.com> and share the link.

The structure of the podcast:

- Introduce the podcast topic;
- Move to the main topic;
- Summarize (in a non-intrusive way);
- Say goodbye to the audience.

Task 3. StartUp. Максимум 12 баллов

You have to come up with the idea of a new service or gadget that can solve some social problems and ease the life of people. You have decided to launch a startup. Unfortunately, you have a lack of finances, so you have decided to find investors in the coming annual event at Skolkovo. Now it is time to prepare a business plan for the qualifier and present your project in the best way possible. Write 350-400 words.

The problem to solve	Target audience and the image of a potential buyer or user	Description of the product	Competitive advantage of the product (USP)	Financial Plan

Task 4. Максимум 16 баллов

Read the text ‘The difficulties of cross-cultural communication’. Match ‘True’, ‘False’ or ‘DS’ (‘does not say’) definitions with the statements below. Write your answers on your ANSWER SHEET: indicate the number of the statement and your choice.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION

by William Barnes

English has frequently been compared to Latin, which flourished for centuries as an international language, even after the collapse of the Roman Empire, becoming a shared resource for much of the globe. English is rapidly becoming an international lingua franca, as it becomes the essential skill of any manager with ambition. It is a language that in some ways is becoming separated from its origins. One consequence is that non-native speakers may be better at using English with each other than native speakers.

David Graddol, an applied linguist and consultant, observes: ‘Conventional wisdom has it that native speakers must be best at communicating in English. That may not be true. In fact, native speakers may be poor at using English as an international language. What is more, the presence of native speakers may hinder communication within a group of non-native speakers.’

Mr Graddol says research shows that, whereas intelligibility is the most important thing for non-native speakers, native speakers - who have never been challenged to acquire the ability to make themselves clear to ‘foreign’ speakers – may struggle to overcome what may be, by international norms, their personal usage. It is likely that any manager working in Asia will agree that merely speaking a common language does not amount to mutual comprehension, let alone a guarantee of trust or friendship.

It is used to be thought in the high days of the British empire that everything worth knowing could be known in English. We are more likely to feel these days that a language carries with it certain cultural baggage, ways of thinking that cannot be expressed well in another language.

A man who runs a design company in Bangkok thinks that foreign-educated Thais often do not fit well into his work teams. ‘They think that because they are fluent in the “global language”, they somehow know all the secrets of the world. In acquiring an “international” culture, they have lost some of their cultural yardsticks and consequently often don’t communicate as well as they think they do’, says this continental European, who has worked in Asia for more than 30 years. They are, he explains, Thais who have forgotten how to switch between their social personalities.

As a first language, English has already peaked – the number of native speakers is growing, but not nearly as fast as non-native speakers. There are many experts who say that the future of English is uncertain, as the economic centre of the world shifts east.

Nevertheless, its current global use appears as strong as ever. China alone adds 20 million to the global community of English speakers every year. Many native English speakers who have worked in Asia will not necessarily accept Mr Graddol’s warning about the ‘native-speaker problem’, while accepting his idea that cross-cultural communication is a tricky thing. A matter of more than just language.

1. Latin was developing very successfully as an international language during the best times of the Roman Empire.
2. Non-native speakers are always better at using English than native speakers.
3. The presence of native speakers may result in making communication within a group of non-native speakers more complicated.
4. Besides fluent English managers should have other essential skills.
5. Native speakers' personal usage of English may provide negative influence on mutual comprehension.
6. Different languages can carry specific nuances of their culture.
7. It is a common practice when non-native speakers do not communicate as well as they think they do.
8. Many experts are sure that the number of native speakers will grow as fast as non-native speakers.

Task 5. Максимум 2 балла

What is the most important point in the article above? Write your answer on your ANSWER SHEET: indicate the number of the statement and your choice.

1. The difficulties of cross-cultural communication encourage non-native speakers to master their English.
2. International communication is based on adequate use of English both by native and non-native speakers.
3. Non-native speakers are growing in number in comparison with native speakers.

Task 6. Максимум 12 баллов

Change the sentences below to use the tense in brackets. You have to justify introduction of the tenses by adding corresponding parts of speech. Write your answers on your ANSWER SHEET. The sentences should be presented in full.

Example: Last Monday our teacher showed us some interesting experiments with chemical substances (To use Present Perfect Tense). Our teacher has just shown us some interesting experiments with chemical substances.

1. A team coach usually sits next to the employee during the first training session. (To use Present continuous tense)
2. There are regular meetings with team coaches and the team leader. (To use Present perfect tense)
3. New ideas often threaten the profits of existing products and services. (To use Past perfect tense)
4. Last decade corporate hospitality evolved. (To use Present continuous tense).

Task7. Максимум 11 баллов

Fill in the gaps with a correct preposition. Write your answers on your ANSWER SHEET: indicate the number of the sentence and your choice. You do not have to copy the sentences.

1. This training course is regarded (1)_____ many participants as an important contribution to the company successful activity.
2. But how do you make sure that it really works (2)_____ your advantage?
3. Does this job fit (3)_____ (4)_____ your career?
4. I'd really advise (5)_____ this plan.
5. Your choice will vary according (6)_____ an organizational structure.
6. Remember to blow (7) _____ the candles.
7. Frankly speaking, I don't like the blouse you have (8) _____ .
8. Because of the economic crisis these companies had to lay (9)_____ dozens of employees.
9. Can you drop (10)_____ the nearest supermarket (11)_____ fresh vegetables?

Task 8. Максимум 3 балла

Identify an odd word. Explain your choice. Write your answer on your ANSWER SHEET.
Add, claim, decline, doubt, edge.

Task 9. Максимум 9 баллов

Rhyme the first line with the second one. Write your answer on your ANSWER SHEET. Both sentences should be presented in full.

*Example: I was riding a big whale
But it is a fairy-tale!*

- 1.....
I'm ready to play football.
- 2.....
All the tigers are in a cage.
- 3.....
These are flowers I love.

Task 10.

Decipher the following scrambled words. Write your answer on your ANSWER SHEET.

1. etunhdr
2. gtdruho
3. vtwehaae
4. whreaet
5. gfoyg
6. elrorhbi
7. apeatnls
8. itgrbh
9. liesm
10. euuqe