

Региональный конкурс школьников
Челябинского университетского образовательного округа
по иностранным языкам
Английский язык
Отборочный этап 2021/2022

Уважаемые участники!

Вам предстоит выполнить задания отборочного этапа конкурса по английскому языку. Отборочный этап включает следующие разделы: работа с видеоматериалом страноведческого содержания, чтение, лексико-грамматические задания и творческое письменное высказывание объёмом 200–220 слов. Время прохождения всех испытаний – 2 часа 30 минут; максимальное количество баллов – 100.

Для успешного выполнения заданий первого раздела конкурса рекомендуем предварительно ознакомиться с информацией по теме *The British Royal Family*. Часть вопросов основана на документальном фильме *Kate: A Young Queen In Waiting* на английском языке; продолжительность фильма – 50 минут.

Ссылка на документальный фильм:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CFL5JxJCnlw&t=16s>

Выполняя тестовые задания, отвечайте на вопросы точно, соблюдайте правописание, избегайте лишних пробелов и случайных знаков. При написании творческой письменной работы исключите заимствования из текстов других авторов. В конкурсе принимают участие только оригинальные работы.

Желаем удачи!

HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD

Time: 20 minutes
Maximum score: 25

Fill in the gaps in the following text with the necessary information. Use capital letters where necessary.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is a constitutional **1 monarchy**, which means that the country is governed by a king or queen within laws which limit his or her power. In 1953, at the age of 27, Elizabeth Alexandra Mary of The House of **2 Windsor** was crowned Queen and given the title ‘Elizabeth **3 II**, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of Faith’.

Apart from the UK, the Queen is also Head of State in 15 countries, including **4 Canada / Australia** and **5 Australia / Canada**, the biggest of all, and many smaller ones, such as New Zealand, Jamaica, the Bahamas, and so on. She is Supreme Governor of the Church of England and The Commander-in-Chief of the British Armed Forces. The Queen is the longest-reigning monarch in British history – she will celebrate her **6 Platinum Jubilee** (70 years on the throne) in June 2022.

As Head of State The Queen has to remain strictly neutral with respect to political matters. She cannot vote or stand for election, however Her Majesty does have important ceremonial and formal roles in the UK **7 government / parliament**. Her duties include appointing a new **8 Prime Minister**, whom she formally invites to form a government. The Queen starts the Parliamentary year with the State Opening Ceremony, during which she will read out the government’s policy ideas and plans, in a speech delivered from the throne in the House of **9 Lords**. The Queen grants Royal Assent to legislation – when a piece of legislation is passed through Parliament, it must be formally agreed to by The Queen in order to become **10 law**. The Queen and other senior Royals carry out official engagements, represent the country overseas, are patrons for **11 charities / charity organisations**, and have close ties to the armed forces too.

In 1947, The Queen married Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and the couple had four children. **12 Charles**, The Prince of Wales, is The Queen’s eldest son and first in line to the throne. In 1981, he married Lady Diana Spencer, who became The Princess of Wales. They had two sons, William and Harry. Prince William, Duke of **13 Cambridge**, is second in line to the throne. The Duke was 15 when his mother died. He went on to study at St Andrews University, where he met his future wife, Catherine **14 Middleton**. The couple were married in 2011 and have **15 3 / three** children. Prince George, their eldest son, was born on 22 July 2013 in London. He is third in line to the throne, after his father and grandfather.

According to a survey conducted in 2021, The Queen is the most-liked member of the British Royal Family. The Queen’s grandson, Prince William, and his wife Catherine are the second and third most popular Royals in the UK today.

Complete the sentences with the correct information.

16. Catherine Middleton was born in a(n) ... family, which has become a solid backdrop to her future life.

- A **upper middle class**
- B aristocratic
- C working class

17. She studied at the University of St Andrews, Scotland, where she got a degree in... .

- A **art history**
- B psychology
- C geography

18. When Catherine and William married, the couple became known as

- A **The Duke and The Duchess of Cambridge**
- B The Prince and The Princess of Wales
- C The Earl and Countess of Wessex

19. According to Richard Kay, Editor-at-Large in *The Daily Mail*, in the early years of her marriage Kate was often criticised for

- A **being reticent and reluctant to reveal much about herself**
- B not understanding her role and being unable to find her feet
- C trying to replicate her parents' family in her own family

20. Penny Junior, journalist and author, believes that William and Kate take a lot of advice from ... , and William has modelled himself on his grandmother.

- A **The Queen**
- B their parents
- C the public

21. As *Vanity Fair*'s Royal correspondent Katie Nicholl puts it, Catherine's mission in life is

- A **to invest in the well-being and mental health of young children**
- B to give her own children a stable and loving environment so that they could go forward and prosper
- C to do what she can with the position she holds, to become a relevant and respected member of The Royal Family

22. Kate used her educational background and her passion for ... to organise *Hold Still*, the first virtual exhibition of its kind.

- A **photography**
- B drawing
- C fashion

23. *Hold Still* is a community projects aimed at showing

- A **families up and down the country adapting to life during lockdown**
- B videos of people clapping together for the NHS
- C the Holocaust survivors with their children and grandchildren

24. In 2021, William and Kate have been jokingly called ‘The Duke and The Duchess of Zoom’ for...

- A **the role they play in keeping in touch with the nation and the number of video calls they have made during the pandemic in order to be more accessible to people**
- B having filled the void that Harry and Meghan left behind when they stepped back as senior members of the Royal family
- C giving online lectures about how people should be living their lives during the pandemic

25. William and Kate recognise that the monarchy has to remain relevant to the new generation, which means... .

- A **opening up to the public more, being visible and supportive in times of ...**
- B making the world a better place through social work
- C taking big diplomatic roles and going on high-level politically sensitive tours

READING

Time: 40 minutes
Maximum score: 25

Read the article. Decide in which paragraph the ideas below are expressed. Choose from the paragraphs (A-E). The paragraphs may be chosen more than once.

Have you ever made a decision to change your way of life? Hannah Wright talked to five people about some life-changing decisions they made.

A Homework was done as quickly as possible, to be finished in time for their favourite soap, and family conversation would be limited to comments on what was happening in EastEnders, or Friends. The last straw, however, came when my son was diagnosed as obese. We decided drastic action was needed, so the TV was relegated to the back of the garage, and the children were signed up for swimming three times a week. Friends accused us of going too far, the kids blamed us for cutting them off from the rest of the world, but this was countered by the fact that my son lost ten pounds within a month, and daughter suddenly found an interest in music that had so far been lying dormant. What's more, dinnertime conversation now centred on the children's real lives. So, saying goodbye to the "box" was the best thing for our family, for in so doing, we learned to concentrate on actually living.

B 'I simply decided I'd reached the end of my tether. I'd been on the treadmill for too long, and the daily battle of travelling to work each day had begun to wear me down. Having to listen to so-called experts expounding their theories all day had become sheer torture, and I realised I just wasn't enjoying life. So, I left, and have never looked back. Making my home in a tiny village in rural France, I now wake up each morning to the sound of birds singing. My staple diet is salad grown mainly in my own garden, goat's cheese made by the lady down the lane, and eggs provided by another neighbour's hens. The pace of my life has slowed almost to a standstill, but nothing can compare to the peace in my mind. I may not have as much money, or a fast car, but I've now got far more time to appreciate the simple fact of living.'

C 'Saying goodbye to the place that had been our home for 35 years was a huge wrench. After we retired, however, we realized that managing such a large house was becoming too difficult. Then my wife fell and broke her hip, and that clinched it. By far the hardest thing about downsizing was deciding what to part with. Heartbreaking though it was, we had to be ruthless, both with ourselves and each other. It was a very emotional time, and we didn't always see eye to eye, but we got through it. We told ourselves it wasn't the end of the world, merely the end of one phase of our life and the beginning of a new one. I won't say we don't miss the old place, and some of our things, but life is both a lot easier and less stressful than it was before we moved.'

D ‘A professed animal lover, I nevertheless remained a confirmed meat eater, not allowing the glaring ethical dilemma to cloud my conscience. I blandly dismissed the arguments of morally superior friends who had already forsaken animal products for a life eating lettuce as exaggerated and extreme. Until, that is, a documentary about the horrors of battery farming and the slaughterhouse shocked me out of my ignorance. The hamburger I’d been tucking into went straight into the bin, I made a vow that my consumption of animal products was a thing of the past. I’d always thought it would be difficult to maintain a healthy diet without meat, but some well-chosen books on nutrition soon dispelled that myth, and I can honestly say, one year down the line, I’ve never felt better. My skin has improved, and I find I’ve got a lot more energy and enthusiasm for daily life.’

E ‘By the time of my daughter’s fourth birthday, I was deep in the process of procrastination. Should I homeschool her or send her to kindergarten? I agonised over the decision, as I doubted my capacity to teach her. Then I asked my neighbour Peter, a dad who homeschooled his five children, for advice. He told me, ‘You’ve made it through the sleepless nights of infancy and the tantrums of the two-year old. You’ve taught your daughter to speak, feed herself, dress herself and behave correctly. Now you’re finally dealing with a rational little human being! This is when the real fun of being a parent is about to begin... but suddenly you think you’re no longer qualified?’ My daughter never made it to kindergarten, and now, almost a decade later, I’m very glad I heeded Peter’s advice.’

Which person (s) ...

1. felt they were stuck in a rut before they made their change? **B**
2. found the process of change surprisingly easy? **D**
3. received valuable support when making their decision? **E**
4. were forced by circumstances to make their decision? **C**
5. were accused of being extreme in their treatment of the situation? **A**
6. received unexpected benefits from making the change? **A, D**
7. miss certain elements of their previous situation? **C**
8. gave the matter a lot of thought before making their decision? **E**
9. have learned to take pleasure in small things? **B**
10. made a decision which affected others? **A, E**
11. initially chose to ignore an obvious fact about the way they lived? **D**
12. have changed their priorities in life? **A, B, D**

Choose which of the paragraphs A-G match the numbered gaps in the article below. There is one extra paragraph which does not belong in any of the gaps.

Negotiating

Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we could all get what we wanted without trying. The truth is that most of us have to learn how to get what we want. Often achieving this at work,

whether it's a new job or just an upgrade, depends upon good negotiating skills. We start negotiating when we are little children, and we continue to negotiate throughout our lives. Remember saying something like, 'I promise to be a good girl if ...' to your parents?

1 – C

One of the basic principles of negotiation is that you ask for more than you really want so you end up getting what you want or pretty close to it.

2 – B

He or she also completes a form. You both then get together and reach a consensus. You may not always get what you want, but you stand a better chance of doing it this way.

3 – A

You are also negotiating when you send out a CV. Some people send out CVs without covering letters and wonder why they never get a response. Other people send out a CV with the wrong sort of covering letter.

4 – F

When you send out a CV you want to get 'your foot in the door', so you can have an opportunity to sell yourself.

5 – E

And then you word the letter in such a way that you get what you want: an interview. The letter is then addressed appropriately. Forget about 'To Whom It May Concern' and make sure you address it to 'Dear Mr / Ms X'. This will make much more of an impression.

6 – D

Your tact has helped you get what you want from another. In this instance, an opportunity to get an interview. Any prospective employer realises now that how he deals with your application has an effect on his company's image, and he wants that to be positive.

A This is another example of negotiating in the workplace. This idea works very well where there is an atmosphere of open and honest communication in your organisation.

B A properly conducted performance appraisal is also an exercise in negotiation. The way I recommend is that your boss gives you a blank performance appraisal form and asks you to complete it as you see your performance.

C We negotiated with our friends, 'I'll go to see a film with you tonight if you will play tennis with me on Saturday morning'. You negotiated your terms of employment when you started your job, and this discussion no doubt covered the topic of salary.

D Having received such a letter the recipient is now in the position of having to keep your CV which he will have to refer to when you phone.

E Effective negotiation in these situations requires a little homework. Firstly, you find out the name and title of the person to whom you should be applying for a job.

F They also wonder why they get so few replies. The reason is that they haven't concentrated on what they really want. Always include in your covering letter a sound

reason for your application and make sure that you mention the company and know something specific about it.

G The terminology you use provides an indication of your confidence. Your use of appropriate words helps your cause. You should avoid being aggressive, as this turns people off and can be counterproductive.

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 40 minutes
Maximum score: 25

Read the letter below. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the gap.

Hi Jeanette!

How are you? Just wanted to tell you my news. Our school went on an **1 outing** OUT to Blackpool yesterday, and the students had a great time.

You haven't been to this area of England before, so I'll tell you a few things about the place. Blackpool is a **2 seaside** SEA town, and so it's really **3 touristy / touristic** TOURIST. It used to be really popular years ago, and if you ignore the run down and boarded up places, many of the houses along the sea front have kept the air of **4 grandeur / grandness** GRAND from the days when the town was booming. It's making a comeback now, though, with the help of **5 investment / investments** INVEST from some local businessmen, and more people are starting to visit again.

I took my class to Pleasure Beach fairground, and they went on all the rides. Julie Kerr was sick after going on the roller coaster, but that didn't stop any of the others going! Then Pete Jones won a prize in an Elvis **6 lookalike / look-alike** LOOK contest and everyone teased him.

We had some **7 unforeseen / unforeseeable** FORESEE problems on the way home, caused by roadworks on the motorway, but that didn't dampen the kids' spirits. They sang all the way. All in all, it was one of the most **8 memorable** MEMORY school trips I've ever been on.

Take care and let me know when you're coming.

Love,
Sally

Complete the following sentences using the expressions. Drag the expressions to their correct places.

1. Whether a book is written by a well-known author or not makes no difference **whatsoever** to me. If it appeals to me, I'll read it.
2. There is **no way** we can afford to go to that art exhibition in Paris. It would be too expensive.
3. Buying a first edition of a book is **way beyond** my budget.
4. Dickens was a colourful character and a gifted writer **into the bargain**.
5. When I was younger, I used to read **ever such a lot** of detective stories.
6. It's **no wonder** English became so widespread. It was the first language in so many countries.
7. We got **well and truly** lost when we were looking for the modern art gallery in Madrid.

8. Spanish and Portuguese are **by far** the most popular languages in South America.
9. This is **not just any** old painting – it’s a Picasso!
10. **Why on earth** did you drop out of the literature course? I thought it was fascinating.

Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

Alongside extreme sports, endurance sports are gaining in popularity. **1 Since** its debut at the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000, the triathlon has become one the world’s fastest developing ‘multi-sport’ endurance challenges, with thousands of races **2 being** held every year.

Usually races consist **3 of** a swimming section, followed by a cycling stretch, then culminating **4 in / with** a run. The individual legs of each course may vary in distance, and events are held on different levels. For instance, the Olympic event **5 involves / includes / has / comprises** a 1.5 km swim, a bike ride of 40 km, with a 10 km run to finish. This is **6 known** as the ‘standard course’. For those masochists who really want to push **7 themselves / far** beyond the pain barrier, there are the Ironman long-distance triathlons, requiring competitors to swim 3.8 km, cycle a gruelling 180 km and then run 42 km. However, **8 few** athletes have the stamina to endure such distances. Most **9 find** the Olympic course more accessible.

In any typical triathlon event, competitors are separated into categories **10 according** to age and gender. Some events **11 also / may / can** include special categories called ‘heavyweight’ and ‘lightweight’ divisions, and shorter races are organised to allow children and teenagers to compete. The sport is popular **12 with / among** all ages, but particularly 35–50-year-olds. Sociologists have suggested that **13 this** is because of a need within this age group to break **14 out / away / free** from the routine of their daily life, and a desire to push themselves **15 to** the limit. Whatever the reason, the triathlon now constitutes a major multi-sport event in many parts of the world.

Match the sentences to make correct dialogues.

1. Frank is telling Jim how to write a CV although he has never written one in his life.
That’s funny, indeed. The blind leading the blind.
2. The policeman had to steal a bicycle to catch the pickpocket. Imagine that!
Not bad if he succeeded. The end justifies the means.
3. I was afraid to ask Cindy for a date and now I hear she’s dating some other guy.
Don’t wait too long next time. He who hesitates is lost.
4. In the morning I overslept, then my car broke down and finally my boss told me I was fired. What a day!
Horrible! It never rains but it pours.
5. Tom has broken hundreds of women’s hearts, yet there are still more of them who want to date him!

The devil looks after his own. That's for sure.

6. I've shown him a hundred times the easier way of writing a memo and he still uses his old typewriter!

You can't teach an old dog new tricks. He should have retired a long time ago.

7. See, I have tried to open the vault by breaking that code, but it doesn't work.

Let's have a go at it. There is more than one way to skin a cat.

8. The city mayor was cleared of bribery accusations a long time ago, yet people still speak ill of him.

That's how it goes ... If you throw enough mud, some of it will stick.

Choose the right word for each sentence.

1. I've had to forget about gambling. I've been down on my ... since I lost my job.

- a) fate
- b) luck**
- c) money
- d) fortune

2. Take the doctor's advice into consideration. He's in ... earnest about the epidemic.

- a) mortally
- b) fatally
- c) deadly**
- d) gravely

3. I knew the frown on the constable's face ... ill for me. And indeed, I got a ticket for parking my car in the wrong place.

- a) boded**
- b) stood
- c) pointed
- d) hinted

4. The policeman got on his ... horse when the driver who was caught speeding questioned his authority.

- a) big
- b) fat
- c) clever
- d) high**

5. It's true I am late for the meeting, but by ... of excuse let me tell you that my plane was delayed in Hannover.

- a) means
- b) aid
- c) way**
- d) reason

6. The boys could not take their eyes off Sheila at the party. She was dressed to

- a) murder
- b) kill**
- c) execute
- d) die

7. The place we stayed at was horrible. There were no tourist attractions, our hotel was no hotel at all, and to ... it all, we all got food poisoning.

- a) **top**
- b) sum
- c) total
- d) peak

8. However, he managed to keep his ... up while suffering so much during the therapy is a mystery to me.

- a) **end**
- b) self
- c) frame
- d) edge

WRITING

Time: 50 minutes
Maximum score: 25

The post below appeared in an online forum. Read the post and write a forum entry expressing your opinion.

Becoming famous at a young age: a curse or a blessing?



Prince George (8), Princess Charlotte (6), and Prince Louis (3) of Cambridge

Members of the British Royal Family; have been in the public eye since early childhood



Greta Thunberg (18)

Swedish environmental activist; became world famous at the age of 15



Billie Eilish (19)

American singer and songwriter; first gained attention at the age of 13

In your forum entry

- express your opinion on the topic by answering the question
- support your opinion with 2-3 arguments
- use one quotation from the list below
- mention one or more of the people in the photographs and the information about them to give an example or to prove your point

Do not forget to include an opening and closing sentences, express your ideas in a clear and logical way, and use an appropriate style.

Quotations:

- *Fame is the thirst of youth* (Lord Byron)

- *A life without fame can be a good life, but fame without a life is no life at all* (Clive James)
- *If you're lucky enough to be famous, then it's great if you can use your fame and the power your fame gives you to draw attention to things that really matter* (Michael Schumacher)
- *Fame can take interesting men and thrust mediocrity upon them* (David Bowie)
- *If you come to fame not understanding who you are, it will define who you are* (Oprah Winfrey)

Write 200–220 words in the space below.