

Межрегиональная предметная олимпиада КФУ
профиль «Иностранный язык (английский язык)»
заключительный этап
2020-2021 учебный год
8 класс

PART 1. READING COMPREHENSION. Maximum: 22 points.

TASK 1.1. Read the text and decide whether each statement (1-12) is true (T), false (F) or there is no information about it in the text (NI).

Once upon a time...

Once upon a time there lived in Germany two brothers who loved a good story – one with magic and danger, royalty and villains. At school they met a wise man who led them to a treasure – a library of old books with tales more enchanting than any they had ever heard. Inspired, the brothers began collecting their own stories, listening to the folktales people told them. Soon they produced their own treasure – a book of fairy tales that would charm millions in faraway lands for generations to come.

The brothers Grimm, Jacob and Wilhelm, named their story collection *Children's and Household Tales* and published it in Germany in 1812. The collection has been translated into more than 160 languages, from Inupiat in the Arctic to Swahili in Africa. As a world publishing phenomenon it competes with the Bible. The stories and their characters continue to feature in virtually every media: theatre, opera, comic books, movies, paintings, rock music, advertising, fashion. The Japanese have built two theme parks devoted to the tales. In the United States the Grimms' collection helped launch Disney as a media giant.

Such fame would have shocked the humble Grimms. During their lifetimes the collection sold few copies in Germany. The early editions were not even aimed at children. They had no illustrations, and scholarly footnotes took up almost as much space as the tales themselves. Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm viewed themselves as patriotic students of folklore. They began their work at a time when Germany had been occupied by the French under Napoleon. The new rulers suppressed local culture. As young scholars, the brothers Grimm began work on the fairy tale collection in order to save the endangered oral storytelling tradition of Germany.

Long before the Grimms' time, storytelling thrived in inns, barns and the homes of peasant women. During winter nights, as they sat spinning wool, women kept each other company and entertained themselves with tales of adventure, romance and magic. Altogether, 40 such storytellers delivered tales to the Grimms, many of them coming to their house in Kassel. One of them, 'Marie', was credited with narrating many of the most famous tales: *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Snow White* and *Sleeping Beauty*. But these were not from the German oral tradition. Marie had had French nannies who retold stories to her that they themselves had read in a collection written by Charles Perrault in 1697, *Tales of My Mother Goose*.

Although the brothers implied that they were just keeping records of tales, Wilhelm continued to polish and reshape the stories up to the final edition of 1857. In an effort to make them more acceptable to children and their parents, he stressed the moral of each tale, and emphasised gender roles. According to the Grimms, the collection served as 'a manual of manners.' To this day, parents read them to their children because they approve of the lessons in the stories: keep your promises, don't talk to strangers, work hard, obey your parents.

Yet despite all Wilhelm's additions, the core of these stories was left untouched, in all their medieval coarseness. The cruel treatment of children (the children Hansel and Gretel are put in a cage by a witch and then fattened ready for eating), the violent punishments handed out to the stories' villains (in the original

Snow White the evil stepmother is forced to dance in red-hot iron shoes until she falls down dead), are too much for some parents.

So what accounts for their popularity? Some have suggested it is because the characters are always striving for happiness. But the truth probably lies in their origin. Grimms tales were born out of a storytelling tradition without boundaries of age or culture. The brothers' skill was to translate these into a universal style of writing that seems to mirror whatever moods or interests we bring to our reading of them. And so it was that the Grimms' fairy tales lived happily ever after.

**True / False /
No Information**

The idea to collect fairy tales was inspired to the brothers Grimm by their father.

1. _____

The Grimms tales are popular all over the world.

2. _____

There is no book that is as popular as *Children's and Household tales*.

3. _____

The Grimms tales have brought a lot of money to Disney.

4. _____

At the beginning the brothers Grimm wrote tales for children.

5. _____

Their book immediately became successful in their home country.

6. _____

The brothers Grimm used the nickname 'Marie' when they published their first book.

7. _____

All the Grimms tales come from German culture.

8. _____

Both brothers made some changes to the stories.

9. _____

The Grimms stories teach moral values to the younger generations.

10. _____

Some of the Grimms tales tell about cruel penalties.

11. _____

The author of the article believes that the Grimms tales are popular not because they are for children.

12. _____

TASK 1.2. Some words have been removed from the text and changed into transcription. Fill in the gaps with the correct words. There are more words than you need.

Why should we read old stories?

Old stories are sometimes (0) _____ strange. They display beliefs, values and ways of life that the reader may not recognise. As an English professor, I believe that there is value in reading stories from (13) _____ or even centuries ago. The example has been done.

Teachers have their students read old stories to connect with the past and to learn about the present. They also have their students read old stories because they build students' brains, help them develop empathy and are true, strange, delightful or fun. In Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, for example, teenagers speak a language that's almost completely unfamiliar to modern readers. They fight duels. They get married. So that might seem to be really different from today. And yet, *Romeo and Juliet* fall in love and make their parents mad, very much like many teens today. So Shakespeare's play may be more (14) _____ than it first seems.

Additionally, many modern stories are based on older stories. To name only one, Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* has turned up in so many novels since its original publication in 1848 that there are (15) _____ articles and book chapters about its influence and importance. For example, I found references to *Jane Eyre* lurking in *The Princess Diaries*, the *Twilight* series and a variety of other novels. So reading the old story can (16) _____ the experience of the new.

Reading specialist Maryanne Wolf writes about the "special vocabulary in books that doesn't appear in spoken language" in *Proust and the Squid*. This vocabulary – often more complex in older books – is a

big part of what helps build brains. The sentence structure of older books can also make them difficult. Consider the opening of almost any (17) _____: “Once upon a time, in a very far-off country, there lived ...” None of us would actually speak like that, but older stories put the words in a different order, which makes the brain work harder. That kind of exercise builds brain (18)_____.

Stories also make us feel. Indeed, they teach us (19) _____. Readers get scared when they realize Harry Potter is in danger, excited when he learns to fly and happy, relieved or delighted when Harry and his friends defeat Voldemort.

Older stories, then, can provide a rich depth of feeling, by exposing readers to a broad range of experiences. Stories featuring characters from a (20) _____ range of backgrounds or set in unfamiliar places can have a similar effect. Old stories are sometimes just so weird that you can’t help but enjoy them. Or I can’t, anyway. In Charles Dickens’s *Great Expectations*, there’s a character whose last name is “Pumblechook.” Can you say it without smiling? In Lewis Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*, a cat disappears bit by bit, eventually leaving only its smile hanging in the air. Again, new stories are also lots of fun, but the fun in the older stories may turn up in those new stories. For example, that cat returns in many newer tales that aren’t even related to *Alice in Wonderland*, so knowing the cat’s history can make reading that new story more (21) _____.

I won’t (22) _____ that some old stories contain offensive language or reflect attitudes that we may not want to embrace. But even those stories can teach readers to think critically. Not every old story is good, but when your teacher asks you to read one, consider the possibility that you might build your brain, grow your feelings or have some fun. It’s worth a try, at least.

Example: (0) / streɪndʒ / Answer: (0) strange

/ 'mɪsʃɪf/	/ 'plɛʒərəbl/
/ 'ɛmpəθi/	/ dɪ 'naɪ/
/ ɪn 'rɪʃ/	/ 'trʌbl ,ʃu:tə/
/ 'θɪəri/	/ ɪn 'taɪə/
/ kə 'pæsɪti/	/ 'reɪlvənt/
/ daɪ 'vɜ:s/	/ 'feəri teɪl/
/ 'dekeɪdʒ/	

PART 2. USE OF ENGLISH. Maximum: 38 points.

TASK 2.1. This task is based on homonyms. Complete the sentences with the correct words according to the transcription given and the meaning of each sentence.

1. The stars come out at _____ /naɪt/.
2. He was my _____ /naɪt/ in shining armour.
3. There used to be wolves in the _____ /wʊd/, but they are gone now.
4. Where _____ /wʊd/ you like to go out tonight?
5. My _____ /'fɑ:ðə/ taught me to play rugby.
6. How much _____ /'fɑ:ðə/ do we have to walk?
7. There are beautiful villas along the _____ /si:/ shore.
8. If you climb to the top of that hill, you can _____ /si:/ for miles!
9. If you _____ /sti:l/ goods from a shop, this is called ‘shoplifting’.
10. A lot of modern office buildings are made entirely from glass and _____ /sti:l/.
11. Our company sales figures are _____ / 'haɪə / this year.
12. There’s no need to take bicycles because we can _____ / 'haɪə / them at the park.
13. Match officials have to _____ / wei / each boxer before a professional fight.

TASK 2.2. Complete these mini-dialogues with an appropriate expression from the box.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. Be my guest. | B. I'd rather you didn't. |
| C. Fire away, I'm all ears. | D. A little bird told me. |
| E. I'm having second thoughts. | F. Sure, touch wood. |
| G. My lips are sealed. | H. The name doesn't ring any bells. |
| I. And pigs might fly! | J. Who let the cat out of the bag? |

14. - Do you mind if I sit here?

- _____

15. - How do you know the test has been canceled?

- _____

16. - I'd be really grateful if you didn't tell anyone about it.

- _____

17. - I've got some really interesting news.

- _____

18. - I thought you were going to apply for a place on the Theory of Knowledge course.

- _____

19. - I promise to work harder from now on.

- _____

20. - I hear that you're going to throw a surprise party for my birthday.

- _____

21. - Do you mind if I open the window?

- _____

22. - Have you ever heard of the Pulitzer Prize?

- _____

23. - Do you think you'll do well in tomorrow's exam?

- _____

TASK 2.3. Read the text and look carefully at each line. Some of the lines are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. If a line is correct, put a tick (✓). If a line has a word which should not be there, write the word.

The Tower on the north of bank of the Thames is one of the most ancient buildings of London.	(24) _____
It was founded in the 11th century by William the Conqueror.	(25) _____
But each monarch across left some kind of personal mark on it.	(26) _____
For many centuries the Tower has not been a fortress, a palace, a prison and royal treasury.	(27) _____
It is now a museum of arms and as armour, and as one of the strongest fortresses	(28)

in Britain, it has the Crown Jewels.	_____
The ravens, whose forefathers used to find food in the Tower, would still live here as part of its history.	(29) _____
There is a legend that if the ravens disappear, the Tower will be fall.	(30) _____
That is why the birds are never carefully guarded.	(31) _____
The White Tower was built by William the Conqueror to protect and control the City of London.	(32) _____
It is the oldest and the most important building, is surrounded by other towers, which all have different names.	(33) _____

TASK 2.4. Rewrite the words so that they make a short rhyme.

34. 'wɛðə ðə 'wɛðər ɪz kəʊld

35. ɔ: 'wɛðə ðə 'wɛðər ɪz hɒt,

36. wi:l 'wɛðə ðə 'wɛðə,

37. wɒt' ɛvə ðə 'wɛðə,

38. 'wɛðə wi: lɑ:k ɪt ɔ: nɒt.

34. _____

35. _____

36. _____

37. _____

38. _____

PART 3. COUNTRY STUDY. Maximum: 20 points.

TASK 3.1. Complete the gaps with the correct proper names. There are two names that you do not need.

Armada Wimbledon Derby Normandy Hogmanay Norway
 Barbican Eisteddfod Scandinavia Sheridan Wembley Westminster Abbey

1. England was often at war with Viking invaders from _____ during the tenth century.
2. William the Conqueror was born in _____.
3. _____ was built in the 11th century and is located in London.
4. Every year _____ presents a Christmas tree to London as a sign of friendship.
5. Queen Elizabeth I defeated the Spanish _____.
6. If you are a fan of football, you should definitely see a match in _____ Stadium.
7. _____ is the oldest tennis tournament in the world and is widely regarded as the most prestigious.
8. Horseracing is one of the Queen's favourite pastimes, and she rarely misses a big event such as Epsom _____ .
9. _____ is a Scottish name for New Year's Eve.
10. _____ is a Welsh festival of songs and poetry.

TASK 3.2. Complete the names of some US cities. The number of letters you need has been given. Write a full name in the Answer Sheet.

Example: Chi _ _ _ _ (4 letters) = Chicago

- 11 Sea _ _ _ _ (4 letters)
- 12 Den _ _ _ (3 letters)
- 13 Pho _ _ _ _ (4 letters)
- 14 Hou _ _ _ _ (4 letters)
- 15 India _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (7 letters)
- 16 Dal _ _ _ (3 letters)
- 17 Okl _ _ _ _ _ (5 letters)
- 18 Memp _ _ _ (3 letters)
- 19 Was _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (7 letters)
- 20 Det _ _ _ _ (4 letters)

PART 4. WRITING. Maximum: 20 points.

You see this announcement on an English-language website.

Competition!

Write an article on *“I will never forget the first time I ...”*.

The article must be 200-250 words long.

We will publish the best articles on our website.