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Всероссийская олимпиада школьников по английскому языку

2024–2025 учебный год

Школьный этап

9-11 КЛАССЫ

LISTENING

Time: 10 minutes

(10 points)

Итого: 95

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For items 1–10, listen to a young man called Simon talking about the 'gap year' he took after finishing secondary school and choose the best answer. You will hear the text twice.

1. Simon's parents

- A supported the idea of a gap year.
- B preferred him to continue his education.
- C wanted him to work until he retired.

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2. What was the main reason Simon wanted a gap year?

- A to become independent.
- B to get away from his family.
- C to forget about his schooldays.

3. Life at university is

- A pretty much the same as at school.
- B unbearable for some students.
- C full of entertainments.

4. What did Simon do in his last year of school?

- A prepare for a change of lifestyle.
- B daydream instead of studying.
- C plan his gap year trip.

5. Simon planned to visit some particular countries because

- A they were not very far from his home country.
- B the language would be no problem there.
- C he would be able to earn his living there.

6. What did Simon enjoy about working in France?

- A He learnt to pick fruit.
- B He improved his language skills.
- C He became interested in Vietnam.

7. What proved to be useful when Simon got to Vietnam?

- A having met a lot of other gap year students.
- B brushing up his French.
- C fruit picking skills.

8. When Simon got to Australia he
 A. got a job in a zoo. —
 B. had no money left.
 C. bought a pet.
9. Simon ended his gap year
 A. working as a waiter. +
 B. travelling as a tourist.
 C. in the USA and Brazil.
10. How did his gap year affect Simon?
 A. He was encouraged to diet.
 B. He decided to follow a different career. +
 C. He wanted to go to university when he was older.

READING

Time: 20 minutes

(15 points)

Read an extract from a novel and answer questions.

Australian Road Trip

Dad had been driving our family through the beautiful countryside of Australia for some days, mainly along the coast. Then he suddenly decided we should explore what the scenery was like inland too, so we turned away from the sea and drove for miles through the countryside. Dad was very optimistic about what an adventure it would be, but it wasn't long before the rest of us suspected it was going to be pretty dull, not to mention uncomfortable as the roads were now full of hazardous holes.

The scenery was mostly dry plains, spotted with eucalyptus trees and a few flowering plants somehow managing to survive the climate. It seemed just about the loneliest place I'd ever visited. We drove through several towns – tiny groups of houses with a handful of stores – separated by miles and miles of empty road in between, sometimes punctuated by the odd house on the roadside here and there.

I was curious about the signs that pointed away up endless long driveways to single houses, and started to wonder about the lives of people living there. But immediately the thought of living in such a quiet, remote place made my heart sink, and I thought longingly of my own house thousands of miles away.

If we were hoping to see some wildlife, we weren't disappointed. Large adult kangaroos were a common sight as the sun started to go down, feeding off the rather thin grass on the roadside – probably because on the other side of the fences the cattle had eaten absolutely all the nicer stuff, so nothing else remained for the poor kangaroos. Luckily they stayed away from vehicles, so at least we weren't in danger of crashing into them.

Further along the way, we met some cattle drovers who'd been driving their cattle thousands of miles over a period of months, towards areas where they knew there'd been small amounts of rain. There were just five of them to look after more than a thousand animals, and we learnt that they just drove their cattle towards wherever it rained. They never knew what would happen from one day to the next, which seemed a strange, unattractive sort of life to me.

Then we finally approached a big town, where there was a huge zoo. By this time, we

really wanted to get out of our car and do something, so we parked up and went in. The zoo had mainly Australian animals, some of which we'd already come across along the way, so we were quite keen to find out more about them. We saw a crocodile show, where they get crocodiles to jump out of the water by hanging some meat in the air. Far from being the quiet animals they look when they are fast asleep on a riverbank, they were transformed into fierce, snapping creatures that reminded me of ancient, terrifying dinosaurs.

While we were there, two new crocodiles arrived. The two adults had been found injured in the wild, and transported to the zoo in a plane, inside special long wooden boxes designed to keep crocodiles cool and quiet during a journey. Once they were at the zoo, they were released into their pond, and they ran straight into the water to cool off, sinking down until just their eyes were visible.

Then we went off to see some kangaroos. This time, rather than just seeing them from afar, you could touch them if you wanted and feel their soft fur. One actually had a baby in its special pouch, like a little pocket, with just the baby's tail sticking out! The keeper happened to mention that adult kangaroos can kick at their enemies really fiercely, so I decided against getting too near the mother, even though she was with the keeper, and just settled for a photo instead.

Task 1

*In boxes 1–7 on your answer sheet, circle: **TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information given in the text; **FALSE** if the statement contradicts the information given in the text, or if the information on the statement is **NOT STATED** in the text.*

1. Sara had never been to Australia before.

- TRUE • FALSE • NOT STATED +

2. The vegetation of the inland territory they were driving across was very diverse.

- TRUE • FALSE • NOT STATED -

3. In the afternoon, the travelers saw a number of kangaroos along the road.

- TRUE • FALSE • NOT STATED +

4. The cattle drovers were trying to keep the animals safe from the rain.

- TRUE • FALSE • NOT STATED +

5. The zoo didn't appeal to the travelers as it kept only animals endemic to Australia, which they had already seen along the way.

- TRUE • FALSE • NOT STATED -

6. The new crocodiles were transported to the zoo by air in individual cases.

- TRUE • FALSE • NOT STATED +

7. Sarah decided to steer clear of the mother kangaroo for fear of being attacked.

- TRUE • FALSE • NOT STATED -

Task 2

Choose option which best fits according to the text. Circle the correct letter in boxes 8–15 on your answer sheet.

8. Sarah says that when her dad drove off the coast road to explore the countryside
- A. he quickly decided he had made a mistake.
 - B. the family were relieved to be on better roads.
 - C. he was thrilled with the views they discovered
 - D. the family soon realised the drive wouldn't be very exciting.

9. How does Sarah describe the towns they passed through?
- A. There was no sign of life between each one.
 - B. They were located very far apart.
 - C. There were a lot of gardens in each one.
 - D. They had quite a few shops.

10. How was Sarah affected by the remote homes she saw along the way?
- A. She began to feel quite homesick.
 - B. She was keen to know more about the owners' lifestyles.
 - C. She found the thought of living there scary.
 - D. She wondered why people wanted to live so far from other people.

11. When Sarah first spotted some wild kangaroos, she
- A. hoped they wouldn't be the only wildlife they saw.
 - B. was afraid they might be dangerous.
 - C. felt concerned about their lack of food.
 - D. was surprised at their size.

12. What did Sarah feel about the cattle drovers' way of life?
- A. She envied them their lifestyle.
 - B. It was very unpredictable.
 - C. It was physically exhausting.
 - D. She decided she'd like to work with animals too.

13. When Sarah saw the crocodile show at the zoo, she was
- A. frightened by their behaviour
 - B. disappointed that they were asleep.
 - C. keen to have a better look at them.
 - D. attracted by their unusual appearance.

14. Sarah says that the new crocodiles at the zoo
- A. appeared stressed by the journey they'd had.
 - B. had been transported there in an inappropriate way.
 - C. seemed pleased to be in their new home.
 - D. had been brought in because they were babies.

15. At the zoo, Sarah managed to
- A. photograph some kangaroos.
 - B.** see how kangaroos defend themselves.
 - C. ask the kangaroos' keeper some questions.
 - D. stroke the kangaroos.

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 60 minutes

(40 points)

Task 1

For items 1–10, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

0 EDITOR

WANT TO BE A TEENAGE MODEL?

Ceri Palmer used to be the (0) <u>EDITOR</u> of a magazine for teenagers and	EDIT
has made several (1) _____ on TV.	APPEAR
She recently added 'designer' to her growing list of (2) _____.	ACHIEVE
Ceri's experience in the magazine industry means she has lots of advice on starting a career in (3) _____:	MODEL
"A lot of the most (4) _____ girls and boys become models because	SUCCESS
they are spotted on the street by the owner of an (5) _____.	AGENT
But this is (6) _____ to happen to many people, so you should send your photos to an agent instead.	LIKE
Don't pay to have photos taken (7) _____ - if an agent likes you, they'll organize this.	PROFESSION
You may find it (8) _____ to hear that models don't need to be really good-looking.	SURPRISE
Your (9) _____ and your look matter more.	HIGH
Finally, schools for models are (10) _____ and a waste of money, in my opinion."	EXPENSE

Task 2

For items 11–20, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

	A	B	C	D
0	Conservatively	Traditionally	Customarily	Practically

0 B

A YOUNG CONTENDER

(0) B, bowls is described (11) ___ being a game which is played by senior citizens, so the announcement that a ten-year-old will be taking part in the National Bowls Championship has come as a shock to many players.

At the age of five, Ean Morton (12) ___ his football boots for a set of bowls which once (13) to his great-grand-mother. He (14) to bowls at once but it (15) ___ have been easy for Ean because he had to play against people who could take (16) ___ of his inexperience. In spite of the fact that Ean did not achieve (17) ___ success at bowls, he refused to allow it to spoil his enjoyment of it.

Now, five years later, Ean is more than a match for most of his opponents. He is very excited (18) ___ playing in the tournament but admits that he doesn't really know what to expect. His father, who will also be playing in the Championship, is more optimistic. He believes that Ean will reach the (19) and is prepared to (20) ___ by him every step of the way.

	A	B	C	D
11	from	<u>with</u>	as	for
12	swapped	converted	switched	bartered
13	owned	belonged	possessed	effected
14	liked	stood	set	took
15	mustn't	can't	oughtn't	shouldn't
16	benefit	advantage	profit	gain
17	sudden	straight	direct	instant
18	for	from	about	with
19	peak	top	summit	crest
20	support	set	stand	back

Task 3

For questions 21–35, read the text below 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. Use the letter "V" as a tick. If a line has a word which should not be there, write the word in a given space. There are two examples at the beginning (0 and 00).

NEIGHBOURS FROM HELL

0 The BBC has just announced that it will be showing V

00	a new series called <i>Neighbours from Hell</i> from by the	
21	beginning of next month. Since it is being thought that	by
22	many citizens have to stand up for their neighbours' rude	
23	behaviour either because they do not have enough of	
24	evidence for the police to act or they are too much	
25	frightened	
26	of their neighbours, the show is likely to be popular.	
27	Although the first episode shows the case of two elderly	
28	men who have had an argument about a water supply	
29	last year. As a result of this, one of the men threatened	
30	the other. Despite of the fact that threats had been	
31	made, the police could not do nothing until they	
32	had proof that the law had been broken. The man	
33	who had been threatened decided that he should to get	
34	the evidence required so he went to home, got out his	
35	video camera and waited for his neighbour to carry out	
	his threat. When his neighbour reached to his garden and	
	started to destroy his vegetables, he secured the evidencethe	
	police needed.	

Task 4

For items 36-40, match the two columns to make English sayings. In the right column, there are three extra phrases you don't need. There is an example at the beginning.

0	E
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0	To kill two birds with
36	Between the devil and
37	To have a card up
38	An iron fist in
39	To keep the wolf from
40	To have several irons in

A	the fire.
B	a velvet glove.
C	the horse.
D	the door.
E	one stone.
F	the deep blue sea.
G	the other side.
H	a brick wall
I	your sleeve.

Writing
Time: 30 minutes
(20 points)

Comment on the following problem:

«Elderly people who live alone should be taken care of».

In your comment use the information from the article below.

Elderly people who live alone can be monitored by new technology that analyses household sounds to ensure their safety.

The new sound monitoring system, developed by Fujitsu, the Japanese electronics company, examines noises in homes via a microphone connected to a data centre. The technology is refined enough to differentiate between the sound of a falling object or a collapsing human and can instantly alert family members or security firms if any abnormality is detected.

From breathing and coughing to sleeping, all noises made by the resident can be detected by the technology, in addition to analysis of daily routines, heat and humidity levels.

Write 100 – 140 words.

• **Remember to:**

- make an introduction
- express your personal opinion on the problem and give reasons for your opinion
- express your attitude towards the information from the article
- make a conclusion.

Write in your own words.