

Listening (Конкурс понимания устной речи)

Task 1.

Вариант 1

Listen to the radio interview and choose the correct answer. You will hear the recording twice.

1. At the beginning of the radio programme we learn that
a digital detox is a type of alternative medicine.
the presenter wants to disconnect from all electronic devices.
nowadays, more and more people are taking a digital detox.
2. Amanda's job involves
being online round the clock.
taking photos and videos at fashion shows.
spending a lot of time online.
3. Amanda got the idea for a digital detox
while surfing the net.
because she had long dreamt of changing some habits of hers.
thanks to a book she had read.
4. As the first step to changing her digital habits, Amanda turned off
notifications from her family.
most of the noises her phone made.
all notifications.
5. Amanda often checked her phone
to answer urgent calls.
to develop automatic habits.
to distract herself from reality.
6. Both Amanda and the presenter
believe that people should not waste time standing in lines.
spend a lot of time waiting for trains.
think that smartphones help people pass the time.
7. Which of the statements is true?
Amanda never used to check her phone in front of her friends.
Amanda didn't like spending time with her family.
Amanda used her phone when she was with other people.
8. Amanda and her partner
looked forward to switching off their devices on Saturday.
did not enjoy a digital detox week.
did not find it difficult to spend two days without digital devices.

9. How does the presenter feel about not using digital devices a whole weekend?
enthusiastic.
terrified.
doubtful.
10. Amanda believes that
for everyone the first step of a digital detox should be a weekend without devices.
all people should do a digital detox at the same pace.
the presenter will not be disappointed with a digital detox.

Правильные ответы:

1. nowadays, more and more people are taking a digital detox.
2. spending a lot of time online.
3. thanks to a book she had read.
4. most of the noises the phone made.
5. to distract herself from reality.
6. think that smartphones help people pass time.
7. Amanda used her phone when she was with other people.
8. did not find it difficult to spend two days without digital devices.
9. doubtful.
10. the presenter will not be disappointed with a digital detox.

Вариант 2

Listen to the radio interview and choose the correct answer. You will hear the recording twice.

1. The guest of the radio programme is
a nursery school teacher.
a student.
a person whose job is to teach others.
2. The presenter is not good at
giving speeches in public.
teaching students.
understanding oral speech.
3. Which of the statements is true?
The presenter feels confident while listening to native German speakers.
It is difficult for the presenter to speak German.
The presenter has some knowledge of German.
4. According to Gabriella,
in an exam you can listen to the same text as many times as you need.
exams are similar to situations in real life.
many people do better in speaking than in listening.
5. The presenter feels uncomfortable communicating in real life because
people get annoyed when he asks them to repeat something.

he doesn't know what to say.
people speak too fast for him to understand.

6. Gabriella says that
it is always advisable to pretend you understand everything.
having small talk with a stranger is more important than getting some information at a bank.
it is useless to pretend you understand everything if the conversation is important to you.
7. The presenter dreads
opening bank accounts.
not being able to get some official documents.
failing to understand something important in a bank or a government office.
8. One of the strategies Gabriella describes involves
practising listening skills at home.
making a list of questions you might be asked.
asking a lot of questions.
9. Gabriella is sure that
if you don't ask questions, the other person will think you understand everything.
not asking questions is impolite.
if you ask short questions, others are likely to answer them.
10. Which of the statements is NOT true, according to the text?
A lot of people have difficulty doing listening tasks.
Summarising what the other person said can help you.
There are no practical ways to help you understand native speakers.

Правильные ответы:

1. a person whose job is to teach others.
2. understanding oral speech.
3. The presenter has some knowledge of German.
4. many people do better in speaking than in listening.
5. people speak too fast for him to understand.
6. it is useless to pretend you understand everything if the conversation is important to you.
7. failing to understand something important in a bank or a government office.
8. asking a lot of questions.
9. if you ask short questions, others are likely to answer them.
10. There are no practical ways to help you understand native speakers.

Вариант 3

Listen to the radio programme and choose the correct answer. You will hear the recording twice.

1. The world's first passenger train
took a long time to build.
travelled from London to Manchester.
was constructed in England.
2. According to the text, Edward Entwistle
is a well-known person.
was an inventor.
was the first engine driver in the world.
3. Entwistle worked in an engineering company because
he wanted to help Stephenson construct the first engine.
his parents were engineers.
his parents wanted him to become an engineer.
4. The manager of the plant suggested that Edward should drive the "Rocket"
because
he was the youngest person working there.
Stephenson thought young people would be more suitable for the job.
there was no grown-up man who could drive it.
5. Which of the statements is true?
Edward was reluctant to become an engine driver.
Edward knew everything about steam engines.
Edward leapt at the chance to drive the "Rocket".
6. The Liverpool and Manchester Railway
is notorious for train crashes.
was opened in the 18th century.
is almost 200 years old.
7. During the test run
there was only one person on the engine.
a tragedy happened.
the "Rocket" covered about fifty percent of the whole distance.
8. The "Rocket's" historic journey
was reported to be a success.
was more strenuous than Edward had expected.
was scheduled on a weekday.
9. Edward stopped driving the "Rocket" because
he couldn't cope with the job.

he was responsible for the tragedy.
his health deteriorated.

10. Which of the statements is NOT true?

Edward Entwistle worked on a ship.

Edward was very young when he stopped working as an engine driver.

Edward never changed jobs.

Правильные ответы:

1. was constructed in England.

2. was the first engine driver in the world

3. his parents wanted him to become an engineer.

4. there was no grown-up man who could drive it.

5. Edward leapt at the chance to drive the "Rocket".

6. is almost 200 years old.

7. the "Rocket" covered about fifty percent of the whole distance.

8. was scheduled on a weekday.

9. because his health deteriorated.

10. Edward never changed jobs.

Task 2.

Вариант 1

Listen to 6 people speaking. Decide whether statements 1-6 are true (T) or false (F). You will hear the recording once.

1. Speaker A buys presents to all of his relatives and friends.

2. Speaker B persuaded her parents to learn a new skill.

3. Speaker C and her cousin have a mutual friend.

4. Speaker D is curious about his grandmother's career.

5. Speaker E is an elder brother.

6. Speaker F had a romantic wedding.

Правильные ответы:

1.F 2.T 3.F 4.F 5.T 6.T

Listen to the recording again. Match the statements (7-15) to the speakers (A- F). You can use the letters (A-F) more than once.

7. This speaker's childhood dream was different from what they experienced in real life.

8. This speaker learnt some surprising information about their parent.

9. This speaker cannot see their parents in person.

10. This speaker doesn't want to put somebody in an awkward position.

11. This speaker lives far from their immediate family.

12. This speaker has a big extended family.

13. This speaker changed their opinion of a person.
14. This speaker used to take care of their sibling.
15. This speaker communicates with their family using modern technologies.

Правильные ответы:

7.F 8.D 9.B 10.D 11.B 12.A 13.C 14.E 15.B

Вариант 2

Listen to 6 people speaking. Decide whether statements 1-6 are true (T) or false (F). You will hear the recording once.

1. Speaker A studies hard.
2. Speaker B has not made a decision yet.
3. Speaker C is looking forward to becoming an accountant.
4. Speaker D finds it wise to make plans and stick to them.
5. Speaker E is afraid that her father will not approve of her choice.
6. Speaker F would like to have a job relating to space exploration.

Правильные ответы:

1.T 2.T 3.F 4.F 5.F 6.T

Listen to the recording again. Match the statements (7 - 15) to the speakers (A-F). You can use the letters (A-F) more than once.

7. This speaker is aware of the challenges they are going to face.
8. This speaker would rather pursue another career.
9. This person's role model is famous all over the world.
10. This speaker tends to make spontaneous decisions.
11. This speaker has a slim chance of achieving their dream.
12. This speaker cannot choose between two options.
13. This person is not sure whether it makes sense to go to university.
14. This person is eager to gain financial independence.
15. This person wants to develop the family business.

Правильные ответы:

7.A 8.C 9.F 10.D 11.F 12.B 13.B 14.B 15.E

Вариант 3

Listen to 6 people speaking. Decide whether statements 1-6 are true (T) or false (F). You will hear the recording once.

1. Speaker A doesn't recommend visiting the museum.
2. Speaker B speaks about a famous museum.
3. Speaker C was disappointed at the museum.
4. Speaker D doesn't think this museum is worth visiting.
5. Speaker E thinks all schoolchildren should visit this museum.
6. Speaker F is keen on books.

Правильные ответы:

1.F 2.T 3.T 4.F 5.F 6.T

***Listen to the recording again. Match the statements (7-15) to the museums (A- F).
You can use the letters (A-F) more than once.***

7.This museum has unreasonably high admission fees.

8. A visit to this museum is unlikely to be enjoyed by people of a particular age group.

9.Visiting this museum is tiring and time-consuming.

10.Few people visit this museum.

11. Contrary to its name, the museum is entertaining.

12. In this museum you can do practical things.

13. Visitors to this museum can win prizes.

14.In this museum you can learn about a food product.

15.In this museum there are a lot of objects relating to a particular means of transport.

Правильные ответы:

7.C 8.E 9.B 10.A 11.F 12.E 13.F 14.A 15.D

Reading (Конкурс понимания письменной речи)

Task 1.

Вариант 1

Read about people who describe their feelings at the top of Mount Everest and match the questions to the texts (A-E). Each text may be used more than once. When two answers are required, they can be given in any order.

The highest mountain in the world

A. Haraldur Orn Olafsson, Iceland

To me Everest was like a mystical mountain from a different world. So taking the last few steps to the summit was my biggest moment in climbing, and it was like walking into space. I felt more like an astronaut than a climber, looking down on the Himalayan giants and the valleys below. It was a joyful moment and I felt a great sense of achievement and relief. Everest is a gigantic mountain that you must stay focused on all the time. You have to push hard and have luck on your side, but the rewards are great. I shall never forget it.

B. Erik Weißenmayer, USA

I don't climb mountains to prove to anyone that blind people can do this or that. I climb for the same reason that an artist paints a picture: because it brings me great joy. But I'd be lying if I didn't admit my secret satisfaction in facing those cynics and blowing away their doubts, destroying their negative stereotypes, taking their narrow parameters of what's possible and what's not and then shattering them into a million pieces. When those parameters are rebuilt, thousands and thousands of people will live with fewer barriers placed before them, and if my climbs can play a small role in opening doors of opportunity and hope for those who will come after us, then I am very proud of what we were able to achieve.

C. Rodrigo Jordan, Chile

On the summit of Everest, my climbing partner Cristián García-Huidobro took a picture of the footprints he left on the snow as he approached it. The steps of only one climber but the collective effort of many. Is it the summit of Everest which really matters? To me what really matters are the people with whom I climb: the climbers with whom I share the extreme experience of attempting Everest. They help you become more understanding and tolerant. The human experience is the highest reward in deep adventure. On the summit of Everest, I experienced the most intense expression of the collective art of mountaineering.

D. Brigitte Muir, Australia

In 1988 when I started on my project to climb the highest peak on each continent, I was someone who was good at starting things but not so good at finishing them. I

swore to myself that I would not stop until I had climbed the 'seven bloody mountains' as my fellow mountaineer Jon Muir called them. It took me nine years to complete the task, doing the ascent of Everest on my fourth go. And by the way, I never stood on top of Everest: I sat on it. "No more up" was my first thought from the summit. I then recorded a message to all Australians asking them to take care of the country and its wilderness. The climb gave me the confidence to meet new challenges in my life. If you believe in something, you can make it happen.

E. Denis Urubko, Kazakhstan

My aim was to reach the summit without oxygen or Sherpa support. In the spring of 2000 we arrived at the foot of Everest. After setting up the camps, we were caught by a storm on the South Col, where we spent three nights at 8,000 metres. And although we were already exhausted we made an attempt. The weather was terrible and on the way my emotions were slightly deadened, but I still remember the joy that filled my soul. The goal was reached in an honest way with sporting principles that I have remained faithful to. Being at the summit was a moment of truth and with Everest in my heart I became a stronger person.

Which of the people states the following?

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| I was proud of having done something difficult and felt content. | 1.____ |
| The team is what is important in mountaineering. | 2.____ |
| The weather affected my progress. | 3.____ |
| A photo symbolises our achievements. | 4.____ |
| I compare myself to someone whose profession is different. | 5.____ |
| I wanted to do it without assistance. | 6.____ |
| A lot of people thought that someone like me could never climb Everest. | 7.____ |
| I did something rather different from what is expected perhaps. | 8.____ |
| I wanted my climb to make the world a better place. | 9.____ 10.____ |

Правильные ответы:

1.A 2.C 3.E 4.C 5.A 6.E 7.B 8.D/B 9.B/D 10.B/D

Вариант 2

Task 2. Read about people who talk about their jobs and match the questions to the texts (A-E). Each text may be used more than once. When two answers are required, they can be given in any order.

A. Dave, a designer

I am a passionate designer and I love my job. I enjoy creating beautiful and functional designs that help people. One of the biggest advantages of being a designer is the ability to express my creativity every day. I find joy in solving

problems and making ideas come to life. However, the job also has its challenges. Sometimes, clients have different opinions, which can be frustrating. Deadlines can be stressful, too. Despite these difficulties, I feel fulfilled when I see my work appreciated. For me, being a designer is not just a job; it's a way to share my vision with the world.

B. Robert, an office manager

My main responsibility is ensuring the business is operating smoothly on a day-to-day basis without any problems. Being a manager means that some of the most important skills to possess are leadership skills. You also need great people skills, as listening, talking and understanding are all crucial. Depending on the day, I will either work in the office or have a meeting with clients. I meet many clients each month, and so have to maintain a neat appearance at all times. My work also involves motivating my team, and I have to do my best so that other people in the office can work efficiently. Ultimately this can mean there is a lot of pressure!

C. Pam, a volunteer at an animal centre

I am proud to be able to say that I make a difference in my community by making it safer for animals. I spread the word about being a responsible pet owner, and assist with fundraising events. Walking dogs at the shelter also means I am physically quite fit! The job can sometimes be tough, particularly when I have to be the bearer of bad news if, for example, an animal becomes ill. I feel honoured to be able to help the animals here and dream of working full time in this line of work. There is a new opening for a supervisor at the shelter, and I think I'm going to send in an application!

D. Nancy, a school teacher

I remember being really passionate about my subject at school and my love for the subject is what inspired me to teach it; it just makes me tick. I adore being creative and thinking of new ways to teach the children something. Being a sociable person, I also really enjoy the interaction with children that teaching provides. They can provide such laughs! The main drawback which many teachers find is the work-life balance. Mine isn't too bad, but I do have to work at home quite often - even after the school day has finished.

E. Kevin, an author

I've always wanted to write. The pleasure I feel from putting myself in someone else's shoes is just immense, and I love creating different worlds away from this dreary two-bedroom house in this busy industrial city. I have been working from home for many years as a freelance writer, and thoroughly enjoy the freedom it gives me. For example, I can choose when to work - personally, my best working times are first thing in the morning and last thing at night. I love the fact that I don't have to commute every day at 7am either. I must admit though that sometimes I wish I

had colleagues to bounce ideas off - asking my wife is fine, but sometimes it would be useful to hear a couple of opinions on a new idea.

Which person / people

- prides themselves on helping the community? 1.____
- discusses how important it is to work well with staff? 2.____
- mentions a sad and unpleasant aspect of their job? 3.____
- use creativity in their job? 4.____ 5.____ 6.____
- value their communication skills? 7.____ 8.____
- enjoys being free to choose when to work? 9.____
- sometimes feels annoyed when discussing something with their clients? 10.____

Правильные ответы:

1.C 2.B 3.C 4.E/A/D 5. A/D/E 6. D/A/E 7.B/D 8. D/B 9.E 10.A

Вариант 3

Read about the people who say what they would like to get for their birthdays and match the questions to the texts (A-E). Each text may be used more than once. When two answers are required, they can be given in any order.

A. Sonia, housewife and mother, 33

We've just bought our first flat so money's very scarce. Something for the flat would be good - a mirror perhaps or a table lamp. Either of those would be good. I've been making stuff like curtains myself. Have even managed a couple of book-cases and they look quite good and are pretty stable. I think it'll be quite some time before I have the leisure to read any of the books on the shelves, though!

B. Matt, designer, 28

It's hard to choose. If you'd asked me yesterday, I'd probably have gone for something to wear. I was feeling that I had nothing much interesting to put on. But then my brother gave me a pile of great clothes he doesn't wear anymore, so I'm quite well set up now. I don't have much wardrobe space in my flat so I don't want anything extra now. CDs are always good, of course, or books though there's always a risk you'll be given something you've already got - or that you wouldn't want to read or listen to. I find I sometimes don't get round to actually spending book or music tokens, so they're a bit of a waste. I think what I'd really go for would be a proper coffee machine. You can get one of those for under fifty quid, can't you? That should help me to start the day feeling fresh and in a good mood.

C. Suzi, shop assistant, 35

I work in a clothes shop so I can get lots of fashionable clothes at a discount - that's the main reason why I work there! I love clothes. For a present, though, I like things that I'd never buy myself, things that are real treats. A weekend in Paris, that's my ideal present. But, of course, it would cost a bit more than £50, unfortunately. I once gave my mum a night in a really classy hotel in London and she said that was one of the best presents she'd ever had. I think I'd go for something a bit like that myself. Perhaps tickets to the theatre for me and a friend. Musicals, that's what we really like, but they're so expensive these days that we hardly ever go. So that would make the best present for me.

D. Alan, doctor, 45

Well, it would have to be something to do with sport as that's how I relax. Golf's my favourite sport, probably, but I'm pretty well set up with everything I need. I suppose I could do with a new tennis racquet but I think I'd rather choose my own. I know what would be perfect, a set of last year's issues of *Golfing Today* and a subscription for the next year too - that would come to less than £50 but would be a fantastic gift. They are always sold out when I try to get a copy. You can learn a lot from it - one of the people I play with claims he's learnt all his tips from there and he always beats me! I'd certainly like to improve my game and show him a thing or two for a change.

E. Gia, mechanic, 26

I used to work as a nurse and had a very busy and fulfilling job but now staying at home all day with three small children, I feel as if my brain's going a bit flabby. My body is too but I'm already working on that - I make sure I play tennis at least once a week and I'm also trying to eat more healthily. It's too tempting just to finish off what the children have left on their plates. To get my brain going is going to be harder, though. I think I'd like a course, a book and a cassette, to help me learn a new language. I could use it whenever I had a few spare moments so it would be quite a realistic thing for me to manage, I think.

Which of the people states the following?

- | | |
|---|---------|
| My perfect present would be above the price allowed. | 1.____ |
| I want something to help me learn about a specific skill. | 2.____ |
| My flat is not spacious enough. | 3.____ |
| I'm trying to lose weight. | 4.____ |
| I've been given clothes that I like. | 5.____ |
| I've been quite successful at making things. | 6.____ |
| I know exactly what sports equipment I want. | 7.____ |
| What I'd like would fit in a small envelope. | 8.____ |
| I don't go to work now. | 9.____ |
| I'm short of money at the moment. | 10.____ |

Правильные ответы:

1.C 2.D 3.B 4.E 5.B 6.A 7.D 8.C 9.E 10.A

Task 2.

Вариант 1

Read the text and mark the statements true(T) or false (F)

THE ELGIN MARBLES

The Elgin Marbles are statues which date back to the fifth century BCE. Although they were created in Greece and were located in the Parthenon in Athens until the late eighteenth century, they are now exhibited in the British Museum, London.

The statues were removed from their original site by the Englishman Lord Elgin, who wanted to bring them back to Britain as part of his personal art collection. However, on the sea voyage back to England, the ship carrying them sunk and the 'Marbles' were temporarily lost. It would be an incredibly expensive operation to recover them. Nevertheless, Elgin did so, and consequently, put himself in enormous debt. Despite his own desires, he had to sell them to the British Government and they were housed in the British Museum, where they have been ever since.

More recently, the statues have become the subject of debate between Britain and Greece and, indeed, among British historians and archaeologists. While the Greek authorities have requested their return on many occasions, the request has always been refused. One of the main arguments for not returning them, valid though the Greek request may have been, was because of the pollution that is affecting the Parthenon and the possibility of earthquakes in Greece. This argument is less valid now, since the completion of the new Acropolis Museum.

There are of course compelling arguments for their return. Firstly, it cannot be denied that the statues are part of the Greek heritage and belong in their original environment; secondly, with the opening of the new Acropolis Museum, these works of art would now be as accessible to the public in Athens as they are now in London. For these reasons the Greek authorities have already received parts of the Parthenon statues back from other sources. Moreover, spaces have been left in the new museum for the return of the rest of the statues, and it would seem rude not to let them go home now.

1. Originally, the statues were in the Parthenon.
2. The Elgin Marbles have been housed in the British Museum for more than 200 years.
3. Lord Elgin wanted the statues to be exhibited in one of the world's biggest museums.
4. It was not financially challenging for Elgin to recover the 'Marbles'.
5. The Elgin Marbles are objects of intense controversy.
6. The 'Marbles' will be damaged by pollution if they are returned to Greece.
7. It is much easier for visitors to view the statues in London than it could be in Athens.

8. There is not enough room for the Parthenon statues in the Acropolis Museum.

Правильные ответы:

1.T 2.T 3.F 4.F 5.T 6.F 7.F 8.F

Read again and decide, which items correct, according to the text

9. The Elgin Marbles got their names because

Lord Elgin had them carved.

Elgin was a famous art collector.

they belong to Lord Elgin's family.

Lord Elgin was the one who brought them to Britain.

10. The 'Marbles' got lost on their way to Britain

because they were stolen.

because the sailors lost their way in the ocean.

and were never recovered.

as a result of the shipwreck.

11. In the second paragraph it is said that

the 'Marbles' were delivered to Britain soon after they had been purchased.

it was easy to transport them to Britain.

Lord Elgin got money from the British Government for rescuing the statues.

Lord Elgin spent a lot of money in order to recover the statues.

12. British historians and archaeologists

are sure that the statues must be returned to their homeland.

are not interested in the 'Marbles'.

often debate historical and cultural value of the 'Marbles'.

have different opinions on whether the statues should belong to Britain or Greece.

13. Which of the statements is true, according to the text?

The new Acropolis Museum will be heavily guarded by the police.

The original statues will not be displayed in the museum.

Earthquakes will be predicted more accurately.

The new museum can protect them from natural disasters and pollution.

14. One of the arguments why the 'Marbles' should be sent back to Greece is the fact that

Lord Elgin obtained them illegally.

the British Museum has a lot of other priceless objects.

the Greek authorities will take much better care of them.

they were created in Greece and are part of Greek culture.

15. According to the text,

Britain has more rights to keep the 'Marbles' than any other country.

a lot of countries used to have parts of Greek statues.

the arguments Greeks put forward are not valid.
there are more arguments in favour of returning the Elgin Marbles to Greece than against this idea.

Правильные ответы:

9. Lord Elgin was the one who brought them to Britain.
10. as a result of the shipwreck.
11. Lord Elgin spent a lot of money in order to recover the statues.
12. have different opinions on whether the statues should belong to Britain or Greece.
13. The new museum can protect them from natural disasters and pollution.
14. They were created in Greece and are part of Greek culture.
15. There are more arguments in favour of returning the Elgin Marbles to Greece than against this idea.

Вариант 2

Read the text and mark the statements true(T) or false (F)

THE DA VINCI MYSTERY

A team of art historians has been examining a picture at a laboratory in Paris. Tests have revealed a fingerprint near the top of the painting which is remarkably similar to the one found on a da Vinci work in the Vatican called *St. Jerome in the Wilderness*. If the team is correct, the painting could be worth many millions of dollars.

The painting was previously believed to be an early 19th century work by an unknown German artist. It was sold at Christie's in New York in 1988 for \$19,000. In 2007 Canadian-born collector, Peter Silverman bought it for a similar sum of money. Mr Silverman knew there was something special about the painting. He wasn't convinced it was a 19th century work and so he discussed the painting with Dr Nicholas Turner of the British Museum. As a result of these discussions, Mr Silverman decided to begin a thorough investigation of the picture.

Professor Martin Kemp of Oxford University, an expert on da Vinci's work, believes the picture may be a portrait of Bianca Sforza, daughter of the Duke of Milan. The duke's daughter was only a teenager at the time, and the picture clearly shows a teenage girl. The girl is depicted in profile, the usual way in which Italian artists of the 15th century portrayed women. The costume and hairstyle indicate that she was a member of the Court of Milan during the 1490s. If it truly is a Renaissance work, it would have been executed in the late 15th century.

Carbon dating analysis has confirmed this date. Further scientific evidence has been provided by infra-red photography. This indicates that the picture was painted by a left-handed artist. Leonardo da Vinci, as is well known, was left-handed.

Perhaps the most convincing piece of evidence is the matching fingerprint on the painting of Jerome, which is undisputedly a work by da Vinci. At the time the artist worked by himself, without assistants. There is therefore a strong probability that this is Leonardo's own fingerprint.

If it is proved that the picture in question was painted by the great Leonardo then one can only speculate as to its potential value on the open market. We all know that works by da Vinci are incredibly rare and, as he is the world's most famous old master, any work of his which does come up for sale is likely to reach a phenomenal sum.

1. The art historians left their fingerprints on a masterpiece by da Vinci.
2. The picture in question has changed hands more than once.
3. Peter Silverman thought that the picture was possibly from another period.
4. There is some proof that the picture was painted much earlier.
5. It is a well-known fact that da Vinci could paint with both hands.
6. A young female is depicted in the portrait.
7. The fingerprint revealed on the picture is absolutely unique and cannot be found elsewhere.
8. It is easy to calculate how much money the picture can fetch at auction.

Правильные ответы:

1.F 2.T 3.T 4.T 5.F 6.T 7.F 8.F

Read again and decide, which items correct, according to the text

9. The art historians working in Paris
 - were careless while examining the picture.
 - are sure the picture was painted in the Vatican.
 - found fingerprints on many works of art.
 - might have been examining a priceless work of art.
10. The picture was sold
 - to a museum in New York.
 - to an art expert.
 - to Oxford University.
 - to an art collector.
11. Mr Silverman decided
 - to sell the picture.
 - to become an art historian.
 - to display the picture in the British Museum.
 - to find out the truth behind the picture.
12. It was typical of Italian Renaissance artists
 - to make portraits of women.
 - to dedicate their works to noble women.

to make pictures of the members of the Court of Milan.
to paint their sitters in profile.

13. Which of the statements is true?

The girl's costume and hairstyle are the only clues to when the picture was painted.

Carbon-dating analysis proves that Bianca Sforza was from Milan.

Infra-red photography shows that the portrait was created by Leonardo da Vinci.

A noble Italian lady must have sat for the portrait.

14. Art examiners employ various scientific techniques and equipment in order to match fingerprints on different paintings.

find fingerprints left by artists.

prove that Leonardo had no assistants.

find out whether the picture was made by Leonardo.

15. Which of the following is NOT true?

There are not many works by da Vinci.

Sometimes works by Leonardo come up for sale.

Experts have different opinions on who and when painted the picture.

All art historians and experts attribute the picture to Leonardo da Vinci.

Правильные ответы:

9.might have been examining a priceless work of art.

10. to an art collector.

11. to find out the truth behind the picture.

12. to paint their sitters in profile.

13. A noble Italian lady must have sat for the portrait.

14. find out whether the picture was made by Leonardo.

15. All art historians and experts attribute the picture to Leonardo da Vinci.

Вариант 3

Read the text and mark the statements true(T) or false (F)

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a fast-growing field that involves creating machines and software capable of performing tasks that usually require human intelligence. These tasks include understanding natural language, recognizing images, making decisions, and solving problems. AI is used in various applications today, from virtual assistants like Siri and Alexa to more complex systems like self-driving cars and advanced robotics.

One important type of AI is machine learning, which allows computers to learn from data and improve their performance over time without explicit programming. For example, a machine learning algorithm might be trained to recognize cats in photos by being shown thousands of images labeled as either "cat" or "not cat." Over time, the algorithm becomes better at identifying new images that contain cats.

Another significant area in AI is natural language processing (NLP). NLP allows computers to understand and interact with human language. This is used in applications like chatbots, translation services, and sentiment analysis. When you use a translation app to convert text from one language to another, NLP algorithms are at work.

When it comes to healthcare, AI has a lot of applications. It helps to improve the accuracy of medical diagnoses, facilitate drug research and development, manage healthcare data and automate online patient experiences. It is also a driving factor behind medical robots, which work to provide assisted therapy or guide surgeons during surgical procedures.

AI has many benefits, such as increasing efficiency, providing insight through data analysis, and performing tasks that are dangerous or monotonous for humans. However, it also brings challenges, including ethical concerns and the potential for job displacement. Another point of debate is the control and decision-making processes of AI systems, especially in critical areas like healthcare and autonomous vehicles.

The future of AI holds tremendous potential, but it is crucial to develop and use it responsibly. With ongoing advancements, AI is likely to play an even more significant role in our daily lives and various industries. It is essential to understand both its capabilities and limitations to ensure it benefits society as a whole.

1. AI is applied in a wide range of modern technologies.
2. Chatbots are people whose job is to interact with customers.
3. Machine learning is a type of computer.
4. NLP enables computers to comprehend what is said or written.
5. Robots offer benefits like enhancing efficiency or taking on tasks that are repetitive or not safe for humans.
6. There are different opinions on the use of AI systems in certain areas.
7. Understanding the capabilities and limitations of AI is crucial for maximizing its positive impact on society.
8. AI is not expected to affect our everyday lives in the future.

Правильные ответы:

1.T 2.F 3.F 4.T 5.T 6.T 7.T 8.F

Read again and decide, which items correct, according to the text

7. Which is true according to the first paragraph?

Computer programs created by artificial intelligence only can recognise images.

Nowadays, a lot of people use virtual assistants.

Some tasks are performed more efficiently by AI than by humans

Robotics is just one of many fields where AI is used.

8. Machine learning

allows computers to recognise cats in real life.
helps programmers improve their skills.
encourages programmers to write sophisticated programs.
enables computers to work better.

9. NLP algorithms

help teach creative writing.
are not used in translation services.
are the most important area in AI.
are employed in applications analysing human emotions.

10. Use of AI in medical field

can be extremely expensive.
is limited.
leads to numerous mistakes in diagnoses.
is beneficial for both doctors and patients.

11. In paragraph five it is implied that

AI has more benefits than drawbacks.
Humans should not perform risky tasks.
AI should be used in healthcare.
AI might replace people in their jobs.

12. In the future, AI

will be used more wisely and responsibly than nowadays.
will have limited applications.
is likely to be only used in industries.
is likely to be used more extensively.

13. Which is NOT true, according to the text?

AI is already part of our daily life.
People should consider both advantages and disadvantages of AI.
AI can make our life easier.
AI is so dangerous that it should not be used.

Правильные ответы:

9. Robotics is just one of many fields where AI is used.

10. enables computers to work better.

11. are employed in applications analysing human emotions.

12. is beneficial for both doctors and patients.

13. AI might replace people in their jobs.

14. is likely to be used more extensively.

15. AI is so dangerous that it should not be used.

Use of English (Лексико-грамматический конкурс)

Task 1.

Вариант 1

Read the text and complete the sentences with the correct word from the list.

Example: 0. special

This laptop is really **0.(special/peculiar/especially/specially)** to me. I bought it when I was at university. I had never had one before and I wanted the best model available. I didn't have enough money as I had to pay the rent and tuition **1.(fees/fares/cost/price)**. Being a medical student I spent all my time studying and never **2.(considered/thought/regarded/dreamt)** having a part-time job. I didn't want to **3.(lend/borrow/mortgage/rent)** money from my parents although I was sure they wouldn't **4.(deny/reject/refuse/resist)** to help me. Taking out a bank **5.(credit/loan/installment/mortgage)** was not an option, either. Yet, I needed a laptop **6.(badly/well/strongly/much)** and I was **7.(short/insufficient/adequate/lack)** by quite a big sum of money. So, I **8.(made/did/gave/took)** the plunge and joined an ambulance crew. I never **9.(regretted/resigned/resisted/rejected)** this decision. Not only did I save enough money but also gained **10.(priceless/invaluable/worthless/expensive)** skills, which boosted my confidence.

Правильные ответы:

1. fees 2. considered 3. borrow 4. refuse 5. loan 6. badly 7. short 8. took 9. regretted 10. invaluable

Вариант 2

Read the text and complete the sentences with the correct word from the list.

Example: 0. fascinated

I didn't know much about orcas until I saw them in a show. I was so **0. (fascinated/fascinating/fascination/amazing)** by their incredible performance that I decided to find out more about these **1.(submarine/aqua/aquarium/marine)** mammals. They are the largest member of the dolphin family. You can easily **2.(recognise/recall/revise/remember)** them by their black and white colouring. Orcas can be **3.(found/founded/fond/funded)** in every ocean. Smart and social, orcas make a wide **4.(variation/various/variants/variety)** of sounds. In the **5.(nature/wilderness/habitat/wild)**, orcas live in tight-knit family groups that share a sophisticated culture that is passed **6.(in/out/across/down)** through generations. Watching them in their natural **7.(inhabitant/inhabited/habit/habitat)** must be an unforgettable experience. These beautiful mammals are part of marine park entertainment, performing shows for audiences. However, they suffer a lot in **8.(cage/captive/captions/captivity)**. This was

9.(breathtaking/heartbreaking/outbreak/breakthrough) news to me. I hope that someday there will be a ban on using orcas, dolphins and other mammals for entertainment. Now, I want to become a marine biologist and **10.(defend/safe/safety/protect)** animals living in seas and oceans.

Правильные ответы:

1. marine 2. recognise 3. found 4. variety 5. wild 6. down 7. habitat 8. captivity 9. heartbreaking 10. protect

Вариант 3

Read the text and complete the sentences with the correct word.

Example: 0. ideal

According to our teachers, I am an **0.(best/first/special/ideal)** student. They say I always work hard and am actively **1.(included/related/contained/involved)** in the learning process. I have a good educational background and **2.(succeed/able/capable/manage)** to do exceptionally well in all subjects. I am never late **3.(for/in/at/on)** lectures and seminars and hand **4.(out/in/about/around)** my essays on time. Consequently, I **5.(achieve/reach/fulfill/earn)** excellent results. I am **6.(respected/respectable/respectful/respecting)** by all the teachers because I am always **7.(eager/anxious/impatient/interested)** to learn. Unlike many others, I have never been caught **8.(cheating/to cheat/deceive/cheat)**. Besides, I take part in lots of extra-curricular activities. My mother **9. (has/gets/shows/takes)** great pride in my achievements. It sounds like I am a real role model, aren't I? Come on, stop being so **10.(trusting/trusted/trustworthy/trust)**. I wish I were, but I am just a daydreamer and a lazybones.

Правильные ответы:

1. involved 2. manage 3. for 4. in 5. achieve 6. respected 7. eager 8. cheating 9. takes 10. trusting

Task 2.

Вариант 1

Read the sentences and find a spelling mistake that changes the meaning of the word in each of them. Write the correct word.

Example: 0.hole

0. Water was dripping through a small whole in the ceiling.

11.As an English proverb goes, quite conscience sleeps in thunder.

12. His voice sounded horse and he kept sneezing and coughing.

13. They were in the habit of going out after dinner for a breathe of fresh air.

14. The pupil asked politely weather he could use the dictionary.

15. She sat down besides the boy and opened a big book with colourful pictures.

16. He spent hours wondering around cobbled streets of a quaint old town.

Правильные ответы:

11. quiet 12. hoarse 13. breath 14. whether 15. beside 16. wandering

Вариант 2

Read the sentences and find a spelling mistake that changes the meaning of the word in each of them. Write the correct word.

Example: 0. hole

0. Water was dripping through a small whole in the ceiling.
11. Your belt is lose, you'd better buckle it up more tightly.
12. The stuff in the restaurant were all helpful and well-trained.
13. The vegetables were overcooked and the meat was as tough as old leather boots.
14. I am grateful to you for your invaluable peace of advice.
15. I'm starting to wonder whether I did the right thing when I rejected their offer.
16. There are a lot of arguments in favour of raising children in the countryside.

Правильные ответы:

11. loose 12. staff 13. tough 14. piece 15. wonder 16. raising

Вариант 3

Read the sentences and find a spelling mistake that changes the meaning of the word in each of them. Write the correct word.

Example: 0. hole

0. Water was dripping through a small whole in the ceiling.
11. Older children should always set a good example to their younger siblings.
12. The rusty sword founded in the trench could have belonged to a Viking.
13. The experts could not prove the painting was a forgery.
14. A bolt of lightning lit up the sky and was followed by a deafening clap of thunder.
15. The sails on the boat swung from one side to the other.
16. The flesh of this exotic fruit can be cooked or eaten raw.

Правильные ответы:

11. set 12. found 13. prove 14. lightning 15. sails 16. flesh

Task 3

Вариант 1

Read the text and fill in the gaps with the missing parts of the correct idioms. Use ONE WORD in each gap.

Example: 0. flung

Can't wait to share some great news with you. As you know, I enrolled on a course on interior design last September. It turned out to be rather challenging but I 0. ____ myself into it. Although it was really hard to juggle studies and my part-time job

and sometimes I was **17. down in the _____**, I was determined not to give up. No one expected me to be such **18. an _____ beaver!** Thankfully, mum and dad **19. stuck to me _____ thick and thin.** Anyway, as soon as I finished the course, I applied to several companies. Before the first interview I was so nervous that I put my blouse on inside out. I **20. wanted the earth to _____ me up** when I noticed it. Gradually though, I got more confident and stopped feeling **21. on _____** getting ready for job interviews. I guess I made a favourable impression at the last one and I **22. waited with _____ breath** for their feedback, which I got a couple of days later. And guess what? They offered me my dream job! The news was **23. _____ to my ears.** Now, I'm **24. bright-eyed and _____** and I'm going to **25. put my _____ and soul** into it.

Правильные ответы:

17. dumps 18. eager 19. through 20. swallow 21. edge 22. bated 23. music 24. bushy-tailed 25. heart

Вариант 2

Read the text and fill in the gaps with the missing parts of the correct idioms. Use ONE WORD in each gap.

Example: 0. down

Hope you're OK, unlike myself. I'm **0. _____ in the dumps** because I've failed my maths exam and now I need **17. a _____ to cry on.** Dad **18. _____ the roof** when he learnt about it. He thinks it's because I waste time on social networking sites. And now he's **19. on the _____** about me surfing the net. But it's not fair! It **20. _____ me crazy.** I must **21. _____ the air** and make Dad understand that everyone spends time on social networks. Not everyone fails their exams, though. It was just my luck. I got **22. that sinking _____** the very moment I looked at the exam questions. I **23. kicked _____** for not having revised properly. Anyway, now I'll have to retake it in a month, which means that I won't be able to go on holiday with you guys. I **24. have a _____ in my throat** when I think about it. I'm sure you'll have **25. a _____ of a time** windsurfing and playing beach volleyball.

Правильные ответы:

17. shoulder 18. hit 19. warpath 20. drives 21. clear 22. feeling 23. myself 24. lump 25. whale

Вариант 3

Read the text and fill in the gaps with the missing parts of the correct idioms. Use ONE WORD in each gap.

Example: 0. cloud

I am **0. on _____ nine.** The holiday in Rome is a dream come true. The heavy workload and tight deadlines could have done me in but for this welcome break. Yes, I needed it badly. That's why the news that I could take a week off was **17. music to my _____**. Suzy agreed to join me, which is great because we have always

been **18. getting on like a ____ on fire.** Of course, we can have some minor disagreements but we always **19. patch ____ our differences** in no time. By the way, we both have **20. a ____ spot** for Roman culture and architecture and basically **21. ____ eye to eye** on everything. Of course, I know that sometimes relationships **22. ____ sour** and people **23. go their ____ ways** after having been on holiday together but I hope we won't. Anyway, I'm having **24. the ____ of my life.** Tomorrow we are going to the Borghese Gallery. Everyone says the sculptures in the houses are **25. a ____ to behold.**

Правильные ответы:

17. ears 18. house 19. up 20. soft 21. see 22. turn/go 23. separate 24. time 25. joy/sight

Task 4.

Вариант 1

Listen to music excerpts and guess the performing musician for each excerpt.

26.

Beyoncé 'Halo'
Olivia Rodrigo 'Déjà vu'
Mariah Carey 'Almost Home'
Ariana Grande 'We Can't Be Friends'

27.

Adele 'We Were Young'
Taylor Swift 'You Belong with Me'
Mariah Carey 'Almost Home'
Ariana Grande 'We Can't Be Friends'

28.

Michael Jackson 'The Way You Make Me Feel'
Elvis Presley 'Return to Sender'
Frank Sinatra 'Strangers in the night'
The Beatles 'Now and Then'

29.

Elvis Presley 'Return to Sender'
The Beatles 'Now and Then'
Justin Bieber 'Anyone'
Frank Sinatra 'Strangers in the night'

30.

Adele 'We Were Young'
Olivia Rodrigo 'Déjà vu'
Mariah Carey 'Almost Home'
Whitney Houston 'I Have Nothing'

Правильные ответы:

- 26. Beyonce 'Halo'
- 27. Ariana Grande 'We Can't Be Friends'
- 28. Frank Sinatra 'Strangers in the night'
- 29. The Beatles 'Now and Then'
- 30. Whitney Houston 'I Have Nothing'

Вариант 2

Listen to music excerpts and guess the performing musician for each excerpt.

26.

- Frank Sinatra 'Strangers in the night'
- Olivia Rodrigo 'Déjà vu'
- Michael Jackson 'The Way You Make Me Feel'
- Justin Bieber 'Anyone'

27.

- Justin Bieber 'Anyone'
- Frank Sinatra 'Strangers in the night'
- Michael Jackson 'The Way You Make Me Feel'
- Ariana Grande 'We Can't Be Friends'

28.

- Taylor Swift 'You Belong with Me'
- Olivia Rodrigo 'Déjà vu'
- Beyoncé 'Halo'
- Mariah Carey 'Almost Home'

29.

- Whitney Houston 'I Have Nothing'
- Ariana Grande 'We Can't Be Friends'
- Mariah Carey 'Almost Home'
- Adele 'We Were Young'

30.

- Justin Bieber 'Anyone'
- Frank Sinatra 'Strangers in the night'
- Elvis Presley 'Return to Sender'
- Michael Jackson 'The Way You Make Me Feel'

Правильные ответы:

- 26. Michael Jackson 'The Way You Make Me Feel'
- 27. Justin Bieber 'Anyone'
- 28. Olivia Rodrigo 'Déjà vu'
- 29. Adele 'We Were Young'
- 30. Elvis Presley 'Return to Sender'

Вариант 3

Listen to music excerpts and guess the performing musician for each excerpt.

26.

Taylor Swift 'You Belong with Me'
Olivia Rodrigo 'Déjà vu'
Ariana Grande 'We Can't Be Friends'
Whitney Houston 'I Have Nothing'

27.

Adele 'We Were Young'
Olivia Rodrigo 'Déjà vu'
Mariah Carey 'Almost Home'
Ariana Grande 'We Can't Be Friends'

28.

Adele 'We Were Young'
Taylor Swift 'You Belong with Me'
Beyoncé 'Halo'
Ariana Grande 'We Can't Be Friends'

29.

Justin Bieber 'Anyone'
Frank Sinatra 'Strangers in the night'
Elvis Presley 'Return to Sender'
Michael Jackson 'The Way You Make Me Feel'

30.

Michael Jackson 'The Way You Make Me Feel'
Elvis Presley 'Return to Sender'
Frank Sinatra 'Strangers in the night'
The Beatles 'Now and Then'

Правильные ответы:

26. Olivia Rodrigo 'Déjà vu'
27. Mariah Carey 'Almost Home'
28. Ariana Grande 'We Can't Be Friends'
29. Elvis Presley 'Return to Sender'
30. Frank Sinatra 'Strangers in the night'