

Вариант 1

Listening (конкурс понимания устной речи)

Task 1. You will hear 4 people speaking. Match the statements (1–9) to the speakers (A–D). You can use each letter more than once. You will hear the recording twice.

This person

1. improved their skills with the help of online videos.
2. pretended to be someone else in order to succeed.
3. turned new vocabulary into songs.
4. had to pay a professional.
5. surprised family members with what they had learnt.
6. first received help from a relative but later needed professional lessons.
7. used their idea to learn a language.
8. felt nervous but performed well in front of others on a special day.
9. enjoyed finally joining friends in an activity they couldn't do before.

Task 2. You will hear two extracts. For each question, choose the best option. You will hear the recording twice.

Extract 1

1. What made the male swan approach the people?
They offered him food.
They startled him with loud voices.
They moved too near his nesting place.
2. What did the male swan do after they left the boat?
He stayed on the bank and prevented them from returning.
He chased them back into the boat.
He swam away and ignored them.
3. What is the speaker's view of swans during the nesting season?
They remain calm unless attacked.
They can be highly defensive and even threatening.
They are friendly towards visitors.

Extract 2

4. What type of artwork did Bruce hope to create?

Realistic portraits

Abstract scenes

Modern sculptures

5. Why did Bruce give up painting?

Photography was said to be more precise

He lacked materials

He lost interest

6. How did Bruce's father respond to his decision not to attend art college?

He offered to help him start a business.

He was furious about it.

He insisted him to travel abroad.

Task 3. Listen to a man talking about a trip he went on. Decide whether the statements (1-10) are true (T) or false (F). You will hear the recording twice.

1. Martin thought he was fit enough to go kayaking in Croatia.

2. Some of the vehicles off the coast could be dangerous for the kayaking group.

3. Bad weather prevented the kayakers from starting their trip.

4. Tandem kayaking is safer than kayaking in a single.

5. Kayaking was not the only activity Martin could do during his trip.

6. Not many people agreed to do climbing.

7. The cave made a long-lasting effect on the paddlers.

8. All the kayakers relaxed on the second day of the trip.

9. It was impossible to visit the castle because a film was being shot there.

10. Martin bought a necklace on one of the islands.

Reading (Конкурс понимания письменной речи)

Task 1. Read the text and choose ‘true’ if the statement is true or ‘false’ if it is false.

Do you think you are smarter than your parents and grandparents? According to James Flynn, a professor from New Zealand, you might be. Over the last hundred years, IQ test scores in some countries have gone up by about three points every ten years. This rise in scores is called the *Flynn effect*. Scientists are interested in finding out what is causing it.

IQ tests measure general thinking ability, not just facts or knowledge. Flynn knew that intelligence comes partly from our parents through our genes, and partly from our life experiences. But the rise in scores was happening too fast to be explained by genetics alone. So, what changed during the 20th century that could make people do better on these tests?

Scientists have different ideas. One is that people are now more used to taking tests. From a young age, we do many kinds of tests at school, so we learn skills that help us get better results. Another possible reason is better nutrition. Children today are often born healthier and with better brain development than in the past. Education styles may also play a role. In many schools, students are encouraged to think for themselves, ask questions, and solve problems, not just memorize information. This kind of learning helps with the problem-solving needed for IQ tests.

Flynn himself thought that learning to use new technology might improve problem-solving skills. This may explain why IQ scores increased in many countries for decades. But in recent years, the trend has started to change. In countries like Norway, the Netherlands, Australia, and the UK, scores are now going down.

No one is completely sure why this is happening. Some experts think technology has changed the way we learn and find information. Today, we can quickly search for anything on the internet using tools like Google or Wikipedia. But if people depend too much on these tools, they might not practise thinking for themselves. Also, modern lifestyles have changed. Spending a lot of time on video games or watching television can mean less time talking with others and solving real-world problems.

In the 20th century, people seemed to be getting smarter. But in the 21st century, there is a risk that changes in technology and lifestyle could have the opposite effect. The challenge now is to make sure technology helps us think better, not worse.

1. IQ test scores in some countries have increased steadily over the last century.
2. IQ tests mainly check how well someone remembers facts.
3. Genetic inheritance alone cannot explain why IQ scores have gone up so quickly.
4. The Flynn effect refers to a rise in IQ scores over several decades.

5. Modern schools encourage students to memorize information rather than solve problems.
6. In some countries, IQ test scores have recently started to fall.
7. Spending a lot of time in front of the screens might reduce real-life social interaction.
8. Relying on quick internet searches always improves our ability to think critically.

Read the text again. For questions 9-15, choose the answer which fits best, according to the text.

9. What is one reason experts think IQ scores increased in the 20th century?

People became better at test-taking strategies.

Schools reduced the number of exams taken by students.

People memorized more facts for tests.

10. How might better nutrition affect IQ scores?

It helps babies grow healthier brains.

It increases the number of tests people take.

It teaches children how to use computers.

11. Which educational approach helps improve problem-solving skills?

Having students memorise large amounts of information.

Encouraging students to ask questions and think independently.

Using only textbooks for learning.

12. What did James Flynn suggest could help improve thinking skills?

Reducing homework and study time.

Focusing mainly on memorisation.

Using modern technology to learn problem-solving strategies.

13. What change has been noticed in some countries' IQ scores recently?

Scores have doubled in most countries.

Scores remain exactly the same everywhere.

Scores have started to decrease in some places.

14. What is a possible risk of relying heavily on online information?

People might stop thinking deeply on their own.

People will learn to solve problems faster.

Everyone will remember facts better.

15. Why is it important to use technology wisely in learning?

To replace all face-to-face interactions.

To help improve our ability to think, not make it worse.

To avoid learning problem-solving skills.

Task 2. Read the texts and match hobbies to the texts. Each text may be used only once. One hobby is extra; it does not need to be used.

Weird hobbies

1. Falconry
2. Numismatics
3. Geocaching
4. Journaling
5. Lockpicking
6. Whittling

A. Imagine going outside with a special device that helps you find hidden treasures that other people have placed nearby. These treasures aren't gold or jewels but small containers that hold a logbook or sometimes little trinkets. You use GPS or a smartphone app to follow clues and coordinates that lead you to these secret spots. The challenge is to find the container by carefully exploring parks, forests, or even cities, which can feel like a real-life adventure or treasure hunt. People enjoy this activity because it encourages them to get outside, discover new places they might not otherwise visit, and practice using technology for navigation. It's also a social hobby, as there are communities worldwide who share tips, create new challenges, and celebrate successful finds. The excitement comes from the search itself and the feeling of accomplishment when you locate the hidden item.

B. This hobby involves learning how to open locks without using the original key. It might sound like something only spies or thieves do, but many people study this skill legally to understand how locks work and to challenge themselves with a difficult puzzle. Participants use special thin tools to carefully manipulate the lock's internal parts, a process that requires great patience, steady hands, and concentration. The goal is to unlock the mechanism smoothly without damaging it. Many hobbyists collect different types of locks and practice on them to improve their skills. This activity is sometimes used by locksmiths or people who want to help others get back into their homes if they lose their keys. Enthusiasts often join clubs or online groups where they share tips, tricks, and new techniques.

C. This ancient practice is about working closely with certain types of birds that hunt for food. The person who does this hobby trains the bird to fly and catch small animals like rabbits or birds, and then return to the person. It's a deep relationship that requires understanding the bird's behaviour, building trust, and careful training.

This activity is both a sport and a traditional way of life in some cultures, combining human skills with nature's power. The birds used are specially trained and cared for, and the handler must learn how to keep the birds healthy and happy. This hobby often involves spending long hours outdoors, observing wildlife and practicing flying techniques. It has been practiced for thousands of years and is still enjoyed by people who appreciate nature and animals.

D. This activity is about regularly writing down your thoughts, feelings, and experiences in a notebook. It is a way to express yourself freely without worrying about rules or other people's opinions. Many people use this method to reflect on their day, set personal goals, or understand their emotions better. Sometimes it includes drawing, making lists, or writing poems or stories. Keeping a record of your life helps you remember important moments and can be a form of therapy. It improves writing skills and encourages self-awareness. Some people write every day, while others do it when they feel inspired or need to organize their thoughts. This hobby can be very relaxing and offers a private space for creativity and personal growth. Over time, a collection of these writings shows how a person changes and develops. It's an easy and flexible hobby that requires only a pen and paper but can have a big impact on how you understand yourself and your world.

E. This hobby is all about carefully shaping wood using a sharp knife or small tools. People who practice it create useful or decorative objects by slowly cutting away tiny pieces of wood. Beginners usually start with soft wood and simple designs like small animals or spoons. As skills improve, they move on to more detailed and complex projects. It's a traditional skill that has been passed down through generations and is often enjoyed in quiet settings, like at home or in craft groups. Besides being a creative outlet, it teaches fine motor control and planning since you need to think about each cut carefully. The finished products can be gifts, decorations, or tools, and many people feel proud of their hand-carved creations.

Read the texts describing people and match the names (Alex, Steve, Mark, Bella, Mathew) to the hobbies. You can use the names only once. One hobby is extra; it does not need to be used.

Alex

Alex loves solving clues and exploring the outdoors. He also enjoys discovering new places while staying active.

Steve

Steve is patient and detail-oriented, fascinated by how things work.

Mark

Deeply connected to nature and animals, Mark finds joy in traditional practices that require patience, observation, and outdoor skills.

Bella

Bella is a thoughtful and creative person. She enjoys reflecting on their experiences and expressing emotions privately.

Mathew

Mathew is creative and enjoys working with natural materials.

Hobbies:

1. Falconry
2. Whittling
3. Geocaching
4. Journaling
5. Lockpicking
6. Numismatics

Use of English (Лексико-грамматический конкурс)

Task 1. *Read the text below and think of the word from the idiom that best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. The number of letters is given in brackets.*

Example: When she said she'd help me with the project, it was music to my 0. (4 letters) ____.

Правильный ответ: ears

Alex and Mike were two men with very different lives. Alex grew up in a small, poor town. From a young age, he had his **1.** (5 letters) ____ set on building a better future for himself and his family. He worked hard at every job he found, never just twiddling his **2.** (6 letters) _____. Sometimes, he had to ask others for help and learned to fine-**3.** (4 letters) ____ his skills and communicate well. Soon, Alex became an **4.** (2 letters) ____ -and-coming manager, and everyone respected him. After some time, he had it down to an **5.** (3 letters) ____ and finally became Chief Executive Officer. He felt on top of the **6.** (5 letters) _____. At home, he enjoyed a happy life with his wife and children.

Mike, on the other hand, came from a rich family. People called him **7.** (6 letters) ____-nosed because of how he acted. He always tried to keep up **8.** (11 letters) ____, but he wasn't ready for real work. After graduation, his family helped him get a job as CEO. Mike loved to **9.** (4 letters) ____ his own horn everywhere but he didn't work hard in the office. Soon, he lost his job and spent all the family money. In the

end, he became one of the **10.** (4 letters) ____-and-outs, while Alex enjoyed his hard-earned success.

Task 2. Read the text below and look carefully at each text fragment. Some of them are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. If a fragment is correct, write OK, if it has a word which should not be there, write the word.

The first two (0, 00) have been done for you.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Arkhangelsk is a historic city in northern Russia, which located on the banks of the Northern Dvina River near the White Sea. | 0. which |
| Founded in 1584, it served as Russia's main seaport before St. Petersburg was established. Its strategic location made it a key centre for trade and shipbuilding. | 00. OK |
| Today, Arkhangelsk remains as an important transport hub and cultural centre. | 1. ... |
| The city is known for its unique wooden architecture, Arctic traditions, and vibrant museums, such as the Northern Maritime Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts. | 2. ... |
| Due to its location, Arkhangelsk has long, snowy winters and brief, cool summers. | 3. ... |
| In June and July, visitors can experience the “white nights,” when it is hardly gets dark. | 4. ... |
| Surrounded by forests and rivers, Arkhangelsk offers an excellent opportunities for outdoor activities year-round. Whether you're interested in history, nature, or experiencing life in the Russian North, Arkhangelsk is a fascinating destination. | 5. ... |

Task 3. Read the text below and decide which answer best fits each gap.

Example: 0. beat

Nothing can **0.** (beat / compare / compete / win) Russia's natural beauty when it comes to creating breathtaking landscapes. From the towering Caucasus Mountains to the deep waters of Lake Baikal, the country never **1.** (flops / falls / feels / fails) to inspire awe. One of Russia's most famous natural treasures is Baikal itself — a UNESCO World Heritage Site that supports countless endemic **2.** (species/spices/creature/creation). The vast Siberian taiga is also **3.** (accommodation / house /home / setting) to an incredible variety of plants and animals, including bears, lynxes, and Siberian tigers.

The crystal-clear waters of rivers like the Yenisei and the Volga **4.** (protect / support/ supply / provide) not only beauty but also a vital source of life for surrounding

communities. In the south, the sands of the Chara Desert feature **5.** (*wandering / wondering / wonder / wander*) dunes that create mesmerising patterns under the sun. Meanwhile, ancient rock formations in regions like the Lena Pillars **6.** (*talk / speak / tell / say*) stories from millions of years ago.

One of the most magical experiences is **7.** (*looking / watching / see / observe*) waterfalls in the Caucasus or Altai Mountains cascade down rocky cliffs. The endless horizon seen from the steppes and open **8.** (*plains / planes / plans / plants*) of southern Russia gives a sense of freedom and tranquillity. The wildlife **9.** (*inhabitants / habits / hobbits / habitats*) of protected areas such as the Kronotsky Nature Reserve preserve biodiversity and **10.** (*remain / remind / recall / remember*) us of nature's delicate balance.

Task 4. Watch the video and match it to the name of the film. There are four names that you do not need to use.

| | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 1. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.20.39_f4490e0f.mp4 | a. | Charlie and the Chocolate Factory |
| 2. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.21.04_eed36538.mp4 | b. | Avatar |
| 3. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.21.18_1ce0ddc3.mp4 | c. | The Terminator |
| 4. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.21.32_cc609e16.mp4 | d. | Cruella |
| 5. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.22.27_ecdd7ab5.mp4 | e. | Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe |
| | | f. | Maleficent |
| | | g. | Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone |
| | | h. | Jurassic Park |
| | | i. | Back to the Future |

Вариант 2

Listening (конкурс понимания устной речи)

Task 1. You will hear 4 people speaking. Match the statements (1–9) to the speakers (A–D). You can use each letter more than once. You will hear the recording twice.

This person

1. saves money regularly in a bank account.
2. does not get paid for doing a specific chore.
3. does not want to copy other people.
4. follows advice found online.
5. enjoys competing with friends to save more.
6. does not like babysitting.
7. shares things with others to reduce costs.
8. warns about the pressure of social influence.
9. realised they were overspending.

Task 2. You will hear two extracts. For each question, choose the best option.

You will hear the recording twice.

Extract 1

1. Why does the man want better transport to the island?
To increase employment opportunities
To attract more residents
To make fishing easier
2. What is the woman's main concern about tourism?
It would make local food scarce
It could harm the natural beauty of the island
It might reduce marine life immediately
3. How does the man respond to fears of overdevelopment?
He wants to limit visitors only to the summer months
He admits that the buildings will be constructed on the beaches
He believes it can be controlled without harming life on the island

Extract 2

4. What is Alan's opinion on public votes for new buildings?
They might prevent valuable projects from being built
They help ensure buildings reflect modern trends
They guarantee lower construction costs
5. Why does Alan mention St Paul's Cathedral?
To show that public opinion can change over time
To give an example of a foreign building style in London
To illustrate how quickly buildings can be constructed
6. What does Alan admire about the Netherlands?
The public's strong understanding of architecture
The number of modern skyscrapers in its cities
The cheap cost of housing compared to other countries

Task 3. Listen to a man talking about a tour he did. Decide whether the statements (1-10) are true (T) or false (F). You will hear the recording twice.

1. Dave wanted to escape pollution of the city.
2. He is not accustomed to the hectic life in big cities.
3. It was amazingly peaceful and quiet in Jersey.
4. Dave went on his cycling holiday in autumn.
5. The weather forecast had been unfavourable for cycling.
6. The island is convenient for riding bikes.
7. Dave wished he hadn't cycled along the beach.
8. Dave ran over a pedestrian.
9. While in Jersey, tourists can visit some interesting places.
10. Very few people visit the island.

Reading (Конкурс понимания письменной речи)

Task 1. Read the text and choose 'true' if the statement is true or 'false' if it is false.

In 1971, Sue Coppard worked as a secretary in London. She liked living in the city, but she missed the countryside where she had spent most of her childhood. She wanted to help on a farm, so she joined an organic farming programme near her

home. Sue asked a few friends to come with her, and they spent a weekend helping on the farm. Their jobs included clearing bushes and cleaning drains. The farm managers were happy with their work and said they could come back whenever they wanted.

After this, Sue put a small ad in a magazine to find more volunteers for the organic farm. Many people wanted to help, and soon other organic farmers asked for volunteers too. Because there were so many farms and helpers, someone needed to organise everything. A few of the first volunteers started WWOOF, which means *World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms*. WWOOF helps volunteers and farmers find each other. Now, there are WWOOF groups in at least 50 countries. Some countries have many farms involved, and others have just a few.

Today, WWOOF is not only a weekend activity. Many travellers and people who want to live and work on farms for a long time use WWOOF. Volunteers, called “WWOOFers,” can stay on farms for weeks or months. In return, they get hands-on experience with farming and gardening. The work can be hard and tiring, but most volunteers feel it is worth it. By working with farmers, they learn about organic farming and enjoy being outside. Many people also use WWOOF as a way to visit new countries and meet new cultures.

Each WWOOF experience is different. In Serbia, you might work with Misa and Olja, a couple who make hard cheeses and bake bread from their own grains. In Ecuador, volunteers can learn how to grow peanuts, plantains, and yucca. In Japan, you may help farmers grow rice.

WWOOF is only one example of many volunteer opportunities around the world. Almost anyone can volunteer, and many groups are happy to have helpers. So, if you want to do something useful during your free time or holiday, why not find a good volunteer project?

1. Sue Coppard enjoyed city life but missed spending time in the rural areas.
2. Sue invited some friends to join her in helping on the organic farm.
3. WWOOF was created by government officials to control farming activities worldwide.
4. Participants in the programme often spend extended periods living on farms, gaining practical skills in agriculture.
5. Volunteers usually find the farm work easy and do not develop any interest in nature or sustainable farming.
6. In Serbia, volunteers can learn how to grow peanuts.
7. Volunteers are welcome all over the world.
8. Volunteering opportunities are very limited and only available in a few specific places.

Read the text again. For questions 9-15, choose the answer which fits best, according to the text.

9. What was Sue Coppard's feeling about living in the city and countryside?
She preferred city life but missed the countryside.
She disliked both city and country life equally.
She enjoyed country life and avoided cities.

10. How did Sue first involve others in helping on the farm?
She asked friends to join her for a weekend of farm work.
She hired workers to clear bushes and clean drains.
She organized a government-funded farming project.

11. Why was WWOOF created?
To help volunteers and farmers connect with each other.
To sell organic farm products worldwide.
To train farmers in using machines.

12. How long can WWOOF volunteers stay on farms?
Up to one week only.
Weeks or months, depending on a farm and volunteer.
Several years as permanent workers.

13. How do volunteers usually feel about the work on farms?
The tasks are easy, and volunteers get bored quickly.
The work is hard but rewarding and helps them learn new things.
Volunteers only do office jobs and rarely work outdoors.

14. What kind of experiences might WWOOF volunteers have in different countries?
Making local foods and growing crops.
Working only in big factories with machines.
Learning to cook fast food meals from other countries.

15. What does the text suggest about volunteering opportunities?
Only a few places allow people to volunteer.
There are many options available around the world.
Volunteering is for young students only.

Task 2. Read the texts and match types of sports to the texts. Each text may be used only once. One type of sports is extra; it does not need to be used.

Weird sports

1. Canopy piloting

2. Bossaball

3. Luge

4. Wingsuit flying

5. Cycleball

6. Hurling

A. This winter sport takes place on a narrow ice track with high, curved walls. Competitors lie flat on their backs on a small sled, with their feet pointing forward, and race down the track at very high speeds. Steering is done with subtle movements of the body and legs, as there are no steering wheels or brakes. Athletes can reach speeds of more than 130 km/h, so safety gear like helmets and special suits are essential. The goal is to complete the track in the shortest possible time, with the combined times of several runs deciding the winner.

B. This traditional Irish sport is played on a large grass field between two teams. Each player carries a wooden stick with a flat, curved end, used to hit a small ball called a sliotar. The aim is to score points by sending the ball through the opponents' goalposts, either over the crossbar for one point or into a net for three points. The game is fast, physical, and often described as one of the quickest field sports in the world. Players can catch the ball in the air, run with it, or hit it along the ground.

C. This modern sport combines elements of volleyball, football, and gymnastics. It is played on an inflatable court with a trampoline in the center on each side of the net. Players jump on the trampoline to spike the ball over the net in creative ways, sometimes flipping or twisting in the air. The mix of high jumps, fast ball exchanges, and unusual moves makes the game exciting to watch and play. Teams usually have three or four players, and the objective is to land the ball in the opponents' court while preventing them from returning it.

D. In this sport, two teams compete on a court about the size of a small basketball court, but instead of running, players ride bicycles. The bicycles are designed without brakes and have fixed gears for better control. Players use their bike wheels to pass and shoot a small ball toward the opponent's goal. Balance and coordination are extremely important, as players need to control the bike while aiming accurately. The game is usually played indoors, and teamwork is essential for both defense and attack.

E. This high-adrenaline sport is a form of skydiving where the participant wears a special jumpsuit with fabric wings stretching between the arms and legs. These

wings allow the person to glide forward through the air instead of just falling straight down. Athletes often jump from planes, helicopters, or cliffs, and can cover long distances before opening their parachute to land. Controlling speed and direction requires skill, and participants need extensive training before attempting it.

Read the texts describing people and match the names (Liam, Aisha, Matt, Hannah, Kay) to the types of sports. You can use the names only once. One hobby is extra; it does not need to be used.

Liam

Liam loves cold weather and enjoys the thrill of speed. He has excellent body control and isn't afraid to lie almost flat on a tiny sled while racing down an icy track.

Aisha

Aisha likes team games that are fast and physical. She enjoys running across large fields, using special equipment to pass a ball quickly between teammates.

Matt

Matt is very energetic and loves jumping high. He enjoys games that mix different sports and give him the chance to perform flips and tricks while scoring points.

Hannah

Hannah has great balance and coordination. She likes cycling but also wants to try something competitive that doesn't involve racing on roads or tracks.

Kay

Kay is an adventurous thrill-seeker who loves heights. He dreams of gliding through the air before opening a parachute to land safely.

Types of sports:

1. Wingsuit flying
2. Bossaball
3. Luge
4. Canopy piloting
5. Hurling
6. Cycleball

Use of English (Лексико-грамматический конкурс)

Task 1. Read the text below and think of the word from the idiom that best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. The number of letters is given in brackets.

Example: When she said she'd help me with the project, it was music to my 0. (4 letters) ____.

Правильный ответ: ears

Lena and Maya were best friends who wanted to travel the world. They didn't plan much — they decided to play it by 1. (3 letters) ____ and see where the road would take them. First, they went to Thailand. They did it for 2. (5 letters) ____, to try strange foods and ride elephants. When Lena saw how far the ground was from her seat on the elephant's back, she almost jumped out of her 3. (4 letters) ____!

Next, they flew to Kenya for a safari. On their very first drive, they spotted a group of lions resting under a tree. It all happened in the 4. (5 letters) ____ of an eye — the lions stood up and began walking toward the jeep. Maya, a 5. (6 letters) ____ of nerves, froze in her seat. "They're coming this way!" she whispered. Lena, trying to stay calm, said, "Relax, it's not the 6. (3 letters) ____ of the world! Just stay still." One lion came so close that Maya held her breath and shut her eyes tight.

In Brazil, they danced through the streets during Carnival. Suddenly, Maya lost her phone and made a 7. (5 letters) ____, thinking someone had stolen it. Minutes later, a kind man returned it. Maya quickly changed her 8. (4 letters) ____ and jumped for 9. (3 letters) ____.

At the end of their trip, they gave each other a 10. (3 letters) ____ on the back for being brave and open-minded.

"Would you do it again?" Lena asked.

"Of course!" Maya smiled. "Best trip ever."

Task 2. Read the text below and look carefully at each text fragment. Some of them are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. If a fragment is correct, write OK, if it has a word which should not be there, write the word.

The first two (0, 00) have been done for you.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Khabarovsk is a major city in the Russian Far East, located on the banks of the Amur River, mostly near the border with China. | 0. mostly |
| With a population of over 600,000, it serves as an important administrative, cultural, and economic center in the region. | 00. OK |

| | |
|---|--------|
| Founded in 1858, Khabarovsk has a rich history connected to both Russian expansion and regional trade. | 1. ... |
| Its location has been made it a key transportation hub, especially for rail and river routes. | 2. ... |
| The city offers a mix of modern life and traditional culture. Visitors can really explore museums, theatres, and wide boulevards lined with plenty historic buildings. | 3. ... |
| Khabarovsk is also known for its beautiful riverfront, which becomes a popular place to walk, especially in summer. | 4. ... |
| Despite its distance from Moscow, Khabarovsk plays a vital role in connecting Russia with Asia. It offers a unique view of Russian life at far from the country's western cities. | 5. ... |

Task 3. Read the text below and decide which answer best fits each gap.

Example: 0. beat

Nothing can **0.** (*beat / compare / win / conquer*) nature's ability to create breathtaking beauty and sustain life in all its forms. Animals play a **1.** (*vicious / vivid / vital / vibrant*) role in the ecosystem and are fascinating creatures to study. They live in a **2.** (*various / variety / variant / variation*) of habitats, including forests, oceans, deserts, and grasslands.

Many animals have incredible abilities to **3.** (*adapt / adopt / adopting / adept*), which helps them survive. For example, some have sharp claws for **4.** (*haunting / hunting / handing / hounding*), while others have thick fur to stay warm in cold climates. In Russia, the Siberian tiger thrives in the snowy forests of the Far East, and polar bears roam the icy Arctic coastlines. Social animals, like wolves, often live together in groups to protect each other and find food. On the other hand, some animals, such as tigers, prefer a(n) **5.** (*solo / alone / solitary / loneliness*) life.

Humans have a(n) **6.** (*enclosed / closed / closely/ close*) relationship with animals, relying on them for food, clothing, and companionship. Pets like dogs and cats are common **7.** (*house / household / home / housemate*) members that bring joy and comfort. Unfortunately, many animal species face **8.** (*threats / trades / threads / treats*) due to habitat loss, pollution, and climate change.

It is crucial to **9.** (*raise / rise / erase / arise*) awareness of these issues. By doing so, we **10.** (*unsure / insure / ensure / reassure*) the survival of diverse animal species, from the Amur leopards of Russia to tropical rainforest parrots, keeping the balance of nature and making the world a better place for future generations to enjoy.

Task 4. Watch the video and match it to the name of the film. There are four names that you do not need to use.

| | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 1. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.23.05_090005dd.mp4 | a. | The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey |
| 2. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.23.30_65b00e0d.mp4 | b. | Men in Black |
| 3. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.24.02_1be1029c.mp4 | c. | Spider-Man |
| 4. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.24.23_da2b4c3c.mp4 | d. | The Matrix |
| 5. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.24.42_df51e5a6.mp4 | e. | Cruella |
| | | f. | The Terminator |
| | | g. | Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl |
| | | h. | Jurassic Park |
| | | i. | Star Wars: Episode II: Attack of the Clones |

Вариант 3

Listening (конкурс понимания устной речи)

Task 1. You will hear 4 people speaking. Match the statements (1–9) to the speakers (A–D). You can use each letter more than once.

This person

1. thinks that being happy is more important than following strict health rules.
2. mentions a family member who lived long in spite of unhealthy habits.
3. claims that poor eating or no exercise weakens the body's defences.
4. tries to stay healthy but doesn't let it control their life.
5. says unhealthy routines raise the chance of serious diseases later on.
6. says that some young people risk health problems if they don't change their eating habits.
7. prefers socialising and eating out more than exercise routines.
8. says that most people cannot rely only on their genes to stay healthy.
9. believes that we only find out about our genes when we fall ill.

Task 2. You will hear two extracts. For each question, choose the best option. You will hear the recording twice.

Extract 1

1. What problem did the first speaker have?
She struggled to find the club's location.
She left her map at home.
She took the wrong motorway.
2. Why hasn't the first speaker bought a sat-nav yet?
She can't afford one.
She doesn't like using electronic devices.
She believes maps are always more accurate.
3. What does the second speaker say about satellite navigation?
It never needs updating.
It works without any mapping data.
It can locate a position with high precision.

Extract 2

4. Why does the first speaker like to take nineteenth-century romances on holiday?
They help her feel connected to home
They are short and easy to read
They are full of modern slang
5. What is the main subject of the books the second speaker enjoys?
Political history of Massachusetts
Life in rural New England
The criminal world in Boston
6. Why is the second speaker particularly interested in these books?
They are based on real historical events
They include detailed travel descriptions
They contain large amounts of slang

Task 3. Listen to a woman talking about upcycling furniture. Decide whether the statements (1-10) are true (T) or false (F). You will hear the recording twice.

1. Upcycling is a popular sport.
2. It is not harmful to the environment.
3. Upcycling requires a lot of specific skills.
4. Upcycling furniture is always costly.
5. Imagination can help you give old things new life.
6. Emma believes it's better to buy old furniture from websites.
7. Your personal taste is the main criterion when it comes to the style of the upcycling.
8. Emma has got her own colour and style preferences.
9. The speaker thinks she upcycled an old picture frame beautifully.
10. Emma advises the listeners to upcycle the office furniture, too.

Reading (Конкурс понимания письменной речи)

Task 1. Read the text and choose ‘true’ if the statement is true or ‘false’ if it is false.

The human body is amazing. People can train themselves to do great things, like breaking sports records or finding ways to live with disabilities. Ben Underwood is a good example of someone who trained his body and mind to do something special.

Ben lost his sight when he was three years old because of retinal cancer, a type of eye disease. Even though he couldn’t see, Ben didn’t give up. When he was about five, his mother noticed he was making clicking sounds with his tongue. These sounds seemed to help him understand what was around him.

This ability is called echolocation. Echolocation is something animals like bats and dolphins use. They make sounds, and when the sounds hit an object, they bounce back as echoes. The animals listen to the echoes to know where things are and how big they are. It was amazing that Ben could do this too, by clicking his tongue.

Doctors checked Ben’s hearing to see if he had better hearing than others. They found that his hearing was normal. This was surprising because echolocation usually needs very good hearing. So how was Ben able to use echolocation?

At first, people thought blind people might hear better to help them “see.” But tests showed that most blind people have normal hearing. Brain scans helped explain this. They showed that when blind people hear echoes, the parts of their brain that usually help them see with their eyes become active. This means that even without sight, the brain can use sound to help understand the world.

Blind people learn to move around by clicking their tongues and listening to echoes. This helps them know the shape and size of things nearby. They use the sounds to build a picture of their surroundings in their mind.

By the time he was a teenager, Ben could ride a bike and skateboard safely in his neighbourhood using echolocation. This took a lot of practice and patience. Ben’s story shows how people can do amazing things when they are determined. Sadly, Ben died in 2009 when he was 16 years old, but he is still remembered as an inspiring example of human ability.

1. Ben Underwood was able to develop a skill that helped him “see” despite being blind.
2. Ben lost his eyesight because of an accident when he was a child.
3. The clicking noise Ben made helped him understand his environment.
4. Some animals can use echolocation.

5. Ben's hearing was better than most people's, which explained his skill.
6. Brain scans showed that blind people use parts of their brain for vision when they listen to echoes.
7. Ben's echolocation appeared to help him avoid collisions indoors.
8. It was hard for Ben to learn to navigate obstacles when doing sports.

Read the text again. For questions 9-15, choose the answer which fits best, according to the text.

9. What was the cause of Ben Underwood's blindness?
A problem with his vision from birth
A childhood injury caused by an accident
An illness that affected his eyes at a young age
10. Which sound did Ben create to help him understand where things were?
A sharp whistle made with his lips
A clicking noise made by his tongue
Snapping his fingers loudly
11. What does the term echolocation mean?
Using sound reflections to sense objects nearby
Practicing to improve eyesight naturally
Listening to sounds for relaxation and focus
12. How did scientists explain Ben's ability if his hearing was not extraordinary?
The areas of brain used normally for sight could interpret sounds.
His hearing was much more sensitive than average
He relied on special equipment to help him hear better
13. How do people without sight use echolocation to find their way?
By guessing where objects are without making any sound
By producing sounds and paying attention to the echoes they hear
By depending solely on assistance from others
14. What activities was Ben able to do when he became a teenager?
Avoiding all outdoor activities because of his blindness
Walking carefully only inside his home without support
Safely riding a bicycle and skateboard using sound cues
15. What is the main message of Ben's story?
With effort and training, people can accomplish amazing things
People who are blind have very limited abilities
Technology is the only way for disabled people to succeed

Task 2. Read the texts and match jobs to the texts. Each text may be used only once. One job is extra; it does not need to be used.

Weird jobs

1. Dinkey operator
2. Face feeler
3. Bounty hunter
4. Gumologist
5. Reindeer minder
6. Odour judge

A. This person's job is to find people who have been accused of a crime and have run away. Usually, these people were supposed to appear in court but didn't show up. The worker is not a police officer, but they often cooperate with the police or the courts. They might get information from friends, family, neighbours, or online sources to discover where the person is hiding. Sometimes, they travel long distances to find their target. They may have to watch a place secretly or follow someone without being noticed. When they find the person, they catch them and take them back to face justice. The work can be dangerous because the people they are looking for might not want to be caught and could try to escape or even fight. The payment often depends on how many people they successfully bring back, so it is not always regular. For the right person, this is an exciting but risky way to earn a living.

B. This person's job is to use their hands to feel people's skin and describe its condition. They might work for a beauty company that wants to test a new cream, lotion, or other skin care product. Before the product is used, they feel the skin to check its texture — is it smooth, soft, dry, or rough? After the person has used the product for a while, they check again to see if there is any change. The worker is trained to notice small differences in skin texture that most people would miss. They usually do this work in a laboratory or a special testing room. Hygiene is important, so they wash their hands often and sometimes wear gloves. They may also have to write detailed notes about what they feel. This helps scientists and companies understand whether their products really work. The job might sound unusual, but it is important for developing effective beauty and skin care products. Without this role, companies would not have accurate information about how their products affect the skin of real people over time.

C. This worker spends their time trying different types of chewing gum. They test the taste, smell, and texture to help companies create better products. First, they chew a piece and notice the flavour — is it sweet, sour, minty, or fruity? Then, they pay attention to how long the taste lasts. They also check how the gum feels: is it too hard to chew, too soft, or just right? After testing, they write a detailed report for the company's research team. The information they provide helps decide which gum

will be sold in shops. Sometimes, the worker may also suggest new flavours or combinations, such as mixing fruit and mint. This job requires a strong sense of taste and smell, as well as the ability to describe these sensations clearly. They might have to avoid certain foods before work so their senses are not affected. While the idea of chewing gum all day sounds fun, it can be tiring to test many samples in a short time. Still, this role is important for making sure customers enjoy the gum they buy and that it meets the company's high-quality standards.

D. This person operates a small train that carries goods or people for short distances. They might work in a factory, a mine, or a port. The train is smaller than the ones used on public railways and is usually used to move materials like coal, wood, or machinery. The worker controls the train, making sure it runs at a safe speed and stops in the right place. They also help with loading and unloading the cargo, sometimes using cranes or other machines. Before each trip, they check the train's brakes, wheels, and engine to make sure everything is working properly. Safety is very important because accidents can damage valuable goods or hurt people. The worker needs to follow a timetable so the goods arrive on time. This role may not be well-known, but it is important for industries that depend on moving materials quickly and efficiently over short distances. Without this job, many businesses could not run smoothly.

E. This worker takes care of a special type of animal that lives in very cold areas. These animals are strong, have thick fur, and can pull sleds over snow and ice. The worker makes sure they have enough food, which might include moss or other plants, and provides them with clean water. They check the animals daily for injuries or signs of illness and keep them safe from wild predators. They move the herd to new areas where there is more to eat. In the winter, they may guide the animals while they pull sleds for visitors or help transport goods. The work often takes place outdoors in freezing temperatures and can be physically challenging. The worker needs to understand animal behaviour, because these creatures can be shy or nervous around strangers. They may also train them to respond to commands and wear harnesses. In some places, this role is part of an old cultural tradition, and caring for these animals has been a way of life for many generations. Without this job, both the animals and the people who depend on them would face serious difficulties, especially in remote, snowy regions.

Read the texts describing people and match the names (Liam, Sofia, Daniel, Pam, Oskar) to the jobs. You can use the names only once.

Liam

Liam loves solving puzzles and finding people or things that are hard to track down. He is brave, determined, and not afraid to face danger.

Sofia

Sofia has an excellent sense of touch and can notice very small differences in skin texture. She is patient and works carefully.

Daniel

Daniel has a sharp sense of taste and smell. He enjoys trying new flavours and describing them in detail.

Pam

Pam is careful with machines and always follows safety rules. She likes making sure things run on time and without problems.

Oskar

Oskar enjoys working outdoors, even in cold weather. He is calm around animals and knows how to care for them.

Jobs:

1. Odour judge
2. Dinkey operator
3. Gumologist
4. Bounty hunter
5. Face feeler
6. Reindeer minder

Use of English (Лексико-грамматический конкурс)

Task 1. Read the text below and think of the word from the idiom that best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. The number of letters is given in brackets.

Example: When she said she'd help me with the project, it was music to my 0. (4 letters) ____.

Правильный ответ: ears

Tom and Jack were spending the summer holidays at their granny's cottage in the countryside. At first, they weren't too excited—no Wi-Fi, no big city fun. But Granny had other plans.

She woke them up early with a smile. "Time to get the 1. (4 letters) ____ on the road!" she said, handing them fishing rods. The boys were thrilled to 2. (4 letters) ____ when they caught their first fish. The next day they got a real 3. (4 letters) ____ out of exploring the woods and building a treehouse.

One rainy day, they both were a bit out of **4.** (5 letters) ___, and the weather really put a **5.** (6 letters) ___ on their mood. But Granny made hot chocolate and said, “**6.** (4 letters) ___ your chins up, boys. Rain never lasts forever.”

Later, they were flying a kite in the open field behind the house. The wind picked up, and the kite soared high into the sky. “Higher! Higher!” shouted Jack. But suddenly, a strong gust pushed the kite straight into a tall oak tree. Tom’s heart **7.** (4 letters) ___. “It took us hours to make that,” he said sadly. Granny just laughed. “Don’t fly near trees! I tried to **8.** (4 letters) ___ it into your heads!”

Before they left, they painted her old fence bright blue to **9.** (4 letters) ___ up the garden. Granny smiled. “You boys are a tough act to **10.** (4 letters) ___.”

By the end of the trip, they didn’t want to leave. Country life, they realized, could be fun.

Task 2. Read the text below and look carefully at each text fragment. Some of them are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. If a fragment is correct, write OK, if it has a word which should not be there, write the word.

The first two (0, 00) have been done for you.

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Kostroma is a historic city in western Russia, is located on the famous Volga River about 330 kilometers northeast of Moscow. | 0. is |
| Kostroma is an important administrative, cultural, and industrial centre with a population of about 270,000 people. | 00. OK |
| It was founded in 1152 by Prince Yury Dolgoruky and is one of the most oldest cities in Russia. | 1. ... |
| The city is part of the Golden Ring, a group of ancient Russian towns with beautiful architecture and rich cultural traditions. | 2. ... |
| Kostroma is famous for its textile industry, especially linen and flax production, which has been important since the 19th century. | 3. ... |
| One of the most famous places in the city is the Ipatiev Monastery, where Mikhail Romanov was invited there to become the Tsar of Russia in 1613. | 4. ... |
| Kostroma also has a lovely old churches and a fortress, or kremlin, which are popular with tourists. Today, the city is recognized for its historical sites, education, and connections with cities in other countries. | 5. ... |

Task 3. Read the text below and decide which answer best fits each gap.

Example: 0. beat

Nothing can **0.** (*beat / compare / suit / win*) the importance and beauty of Russia's natural landscapes. The country's vast territory **1.** (*offers / gifts / suggests / supports*) everything needed for life: clean air, fresh water, fertile soil, and breathtaking scenery.

Moreover, Russia is **2.** (*housing / house / home / accommodation*) to countless species of animals and plants. Plants play a crucial role in producing oxygen and serving **3.** (*like / as / such / alike*) food for many living creatures. They grow in various environments — some of them even **4.** (*occupy / inhabit / survive / populate*) in the Arctic cold.

Plants have fascinating features, including colourful flowers that attract **5.** (*pollinators / pollution / pollutants / pollen*) like bees and butterflies, which helps plants reproduce and supports biodiversity. Many plants have strong root systems that hold **6.** (*land / ground / earth / soil*) in place, preventing erosion and maintaining healthy ecosystems.

People are **7.** (*depend / dependent / independent / dependence*) on plants not only for food, but also for traditional medicine, textiles, and building materials. Unfortunately, deforestation, industrial pollution, and climate change **8.** (*get / suppose / offer / pose*) a threat to many plant species.

It's vital to **9.** (*assess / evaluate / value / calculate*) and safeguard life on our planet, including plants and their **10.** (*hobbits / inhabitants / habits / habitats*).

Task 4. Watch the video and match it to the name of the film. There are four names that you do not need to use.

| | | | |
|----|---|----|---------------------------------------|
| 1. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.24.57_918e32e7.mp4 | a. | The Matrix |
| 2. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.25.20_28e17b4f.mp4 | b. | Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone |
| 3. |  WhatsApp Video 2025-08-04 at 21.25.36_b0b60e09.mp4 | c. | Avatar |
| 4. |  Matrix.mp4 | d. | X-Men |

| | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 5. |  X-Men.MP4 | e. | Paddington |
| | | f. | The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe |
| | | g. | Jurassic Park |
| | | h. | Back to the Future |
| | | i. | How the Grinch Stole Christmas |