

LISTENING

Listening length: 10 minutes

*Task 1. You will hear a student giving a presentation. For questions 1-5, complete the sentences with the words you hear in the recording. Use one word in each gap. You cannot use any synonyms of the words you hear. You will hear the recording twice.*

**Flying High**

1. After university, Andreana's father worked as a teacher in a \_\_\_\_\_ school.
2. On his first flight \_\_\_\_\_ passengers were travelling to Italy on his plane.
3. Difficult passengers and bad \_\_\_\_\_ are problems that a pilot has to deal with.
4. Andreana's father says that some plane travellers feel that they lose \_\_\_\_\_ of their life when flying.
5. Andreana says that her father drinks a cup of \_\_\_\_\_ just after his plane has taken off.

*Task 2. You will hear a talk about butterflies. For questions 6-15, choose the best answer (a, b or c). You will hear the recording twice.*

6. The exhibition 'The Wonder of Butterflies' is open
  - a) three days.
  - b) one week.
  - c) two weeks.
7. How many different types of butterflies are there in the world?
  - a) about 14 thousand.
  - b) about 24 thousand.
  - c) about 34 thousand.
8. The largest butterflies can be
  - a) about thirteen centimetres.
  - b) about a hundred centimetres.
  - c) a hundred times larger than the smallest ones.
9. The female Common Birdwing
  - a) looks like a bird.
  - b) has a wingspan of 18 centimetres.
  - c) is one of the world's smallest butterflies.
10. Most of the butterflies in the exhibition come from

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- a) Europe, South America and North America.
- b) South America, North America and Australia.
- c) Asia, Central America and Africa.

11. The chrysalises are carefully attached to branches in the exhibition

- a) to allow visitors to watch the butterflies emerge.
- b) to prevent the butterflies from escaping.
- c) to ensure the butterflies have a suitable habitat.

12. The Monarch butterfly

- a) migrates long distances.
- b) migrates from one continent to another.
- c) migrates north in winter.

13. The butterfly *Dryas iulia*

- a) drinks crocodiles' tears.
- b) drinks caimans' tears.
- c) drinks nectar from flowers.

14. A proboscis is

- a) a butterfly's mouth.
- b) a butterfly's nose.
- c) a butterfly's foot.

15. Butterflies can

- a) eat with their feet.
- b) see more colours than other animals can.
- c) change colours.

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET.
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**READING**

**Reading length: 30 minutes**

**Task 1. Read the text.**

**Four sports challenges that could change your life**

*So you think you're sporty, but have you ever pushed yourself to the limit? Have you ever wondered just how far you can go? Here are four ideas for people who want a real challenge.*

**A.**

The Jungle Ultra marathon spans an impressive 230 kilometers, leading participants through some of the planet's most breathtaking and challenging environments. This five-day event takes place in Peru's Manu National Park, offering sights of vibrant parrots, playful monkeys, and stunning butterflies. Competitors will navigate through dense rainforests, maneuver across rivers, and tackle the arduous ascents and descents of mountain trails. The oppressive humidity and heat of the jungle, combined with the rarified mountain air, add to the race's demanding nature. Are you prepared to face this formidable challenge?

**B.**

The Gobi March occurs in Mongolia's Gobi Desert, forming part of the '4 Deserts' series. Although the Gobi Desert features sand, it is also characterized by rocky paths and vast grasslands. Participants face harsh conditions, with temperatures ranging from extremely cold to very hot. The race spans seven days and covers 250 kilometers, traversing varied terrains and climates. Along the way, you may encounter camels and wild horses, but sighting a Gobi bear is unlikely, as it is an endangered species like several other local animals. Success in this race demands determination and a high level of fitness. If these qualities resonate with you, consider taking on the challenge!

**C.**

The Alaska Mountain Wilderness Classic is an adventure challenge where speed is not your main concern. Instead, the emphasis lies on the completion of the demanding course, which only the most physically prepared individuals can achieve. Participants must traverse challenging terrain that includes scaling mountains, crossing glaciers, and descending icy rivers. While competitors have the freedom to carry any supplies they choose, the practicality of lugging heavy equipment over distances of 300 to 400 kilometers warrants consideration. A satellite phone is the one mandatory item for all, due to the inherent risks of the journey, occasionally necessitating rescue operations. The route is sparsely populated, although one might

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encounter wildlife such as moose or bears. A profound respect for nature is essential to successfully accomplish this extraordinary challenge.

**D.**

To participate in the Volvo Ocean Challenge, having significant sailing experience is essential. Additionally, a considerable time commitment is required since the journey to circumnavigate the globe takes approximately nine months. What might one encounter during this voyage? Competitors will navigate through four distinct oceans, face storms and large waves, and perhaps come across whales, sharks, and dolphins, all while surrounded by infinite water and skies. This race challenges participants in numerous ways. While your loved ones may be concerned for your safety—and rightly so—you will eventually be able to assure them that it was the most rewarding experience of your life.

***Which race (A-D) do the sentences describe?***

1. This race requires a deep respect for the natural environment.
2. This race lasts for one week
3. Competitors in this race overcome very hot and very wet conditions
4. This is the longest of the races.
5. One of the focuses of this race is the safety of participants
6. The harsh climatic conditions make this race particularly challenging
7. During this race competitors face navigating through dense foliage
8. Speed is not the most important thing in this race.

***Task 2. Read the definitions (9-14) and find the words from the texts A-D.***

9. conditions in which the air is wet and very warm (A, 8 letters)
10. difficult task that tests somebody's ability and skill (A, 9 letters)
11. an occasion when you see something or someone, especially when they are rare or trying to hide (B, 8 letters)
12. the quality that makes you continue trying to do something even when this is difficult (B, 13 letters)
13. care for somebody or something that you think is important (C, 7 letters)
14. to meet someone unexpectedly; or to experience something, sometimes unpleasant (D, 9 letters)

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**Task 3. Read the summary of a race. Fill in the gaps with ONLY ONE WORD from text C.**

The Alaska Mountain Wilderness Classic is a challenging adventure race that prioritizes course completion over **15**..... . Participants must be **16**..... prepared to navigate difficult terrains, which includes scaling mountains, crossing glaciers, and traversing icy rivers. While they can choose their **17**..... , the practicality of carrying heavy equipment over 300 to 400 kilometers is a key **18**..... . A satellite phone is mandatory for all competitors due to the **19**..... involved, which may require rescue operations. The route is largely remote, with occasional **20**..... sightings, such as moose and bears. Success in this endeavor requires a deep respect for nature and its challenges.

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## USE OF ENGLISH

Use of English length: 30 minutes

**Task 1. Write one word that can be used in all three sentences.**

- 1) A. The garden gnomes shook their \_\_\_\_\_ in refusal to leave the garden.  
B. When the \_\_\_\_\_ of the book club realized they had all read the wrong book, chaos ensued.  
C. Mr. Scrooge is a big cheese, he \_\_\_\_\_ up the charity committee.
- 2) A. Have you read 'Tender Is the Night' by Fitzgerald? Only a genius could \_\_\_\_\_ such a masterpiece!  
B. Unlike Lewis Carroll, A. A. Milne is not a \_\_\_\_\_ name.  
C. He's old school, he doesn't like his laptop and still uses \_\_\_\_\_ and paper.
- 3) A. I'm telling you, no one expected Batman to \_\_\_\_\_ a job as a secretary, but he did it!  
B. To \_\_\_\_\_ a plane is the hardest task in any pilot's job.  
C. After months of navigating the ocean, it was good to be on dry \_\_\_\_\_ again.
- 4) A. Anna, will you come and play with me? - No, \_\_\_\_\_ lost!  
B. She is fortunate to \_\_\_\_\_ her good looks from mom and her intelligence from dad.  
C. Honestly, I don't think they can become good friends, they don't seem to \_\_\_\_\_ on with each other at all.
- 5) A. His bride was a fairy-like lady with golden \_\_\_\_\_ .  
B. My dad \_\_\_\_\_ up his study every night for fear someone might break in and play on his laptop.  
C. J.A.R.V.I.S. always \_\_\_\_\_ Tony Stark's armour into position with a click.

**Task 2. Read the text. The words in bold have been misplaced. Put them in the right positions to restore the logic of the text.**

(from 'My Family and Other Animals' by G. Durrell)

Under the eaves of the villa itself the swallows had taken up residence. They had arrived a short time before we had, and their knobbly **(6) disappointed** \_\_\_\_\_ houses were only just completed, still dark brown and damp like rich plum cake. As these were drying to a lighter biscuit brown, the parent birds were busy lining them, foraging round the garden for rootlets, lambs' wool, or feathers.

Two of the swallows' nests were lower than the others, and it was on these that I **(7) refused** \_\_\_\_\_ my attention. Over a period of days I leant a long ladder against the wall, midway between the two nests, and then slowly, day by day, I climbed higher and higher, until I could sit on the top rung and look into the nests, now some four feet away from me. The parent birds seemed in no way **(8)**

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**considerable**\_\_\_\_\_ by my presence, and continued their stern work of preparing for a family, while I crouched on top of the ladder, and Roger lay at the bottom.

I grew to know these swallow families very well, and watched their daily work with (9) **similar**\_\_\_\_\_ interest. What I took to be the two females were very (10) **disturbed**\_\_\_\_\_ in behaviour, earnest, rather preoccupied, over-anxious, and fussy. The two males, on the other hand, displayed totally different (11) **colony**\_\_\_\_\_. One of them, during the work of lining the nest, brought (12) **mud**\_\_\_\_\_ material, but he refused to treat it as a job of work. He would come swooping home, carrying a wisp of sheep's wool in his mouth, and would waste several minutes skating low over the flowers in the garden, drawing figures of eight, or else weaving in and out of the columns that held up the grape-vine. His wife would cling to the nest and chitter at him exasperatedly, but he (13) **concentrated**\_\_\_\_\_ to take life seriously. The other female also had trouble with her mate, but it was trouble of a different sort. He was, if anything, over-enthusiastic. He seemed determined to leave no stone unturned in his efforts to provide his young with the finest nest-lining in the (14) **characters**\_\_\_\_\_. But, unfortunately, he was no mathematician, and, try as he would, he could not remember the size of his nest. He would come flying back, twittering in an excited if somewhat muffled manner, carrying a chicken or turkey feather as big as himself, and with such a thick quill it was impossible to bend it. It would generally take his wife several minutes to convince him that, no matter how they struggled and juggled, the feather would not fit into the nest. Acutely (15) **excellent**\_\_\_\_\_ he would eventually drop the feather so that it whirlpoiled down to join the ever-increasing pile on the ground beneath, and then fly off in search of something more suitable.

**Task 3. Build compound adjectives using a picture from box A and a suitable word from box B. Complete the sentences with these compounds. There is one odd compound that you do not need to use.**

**Box A**

- Box B**
- ...- crafted
  - ...- dried
  - ...- opening
  - ...- watering
  - out-of...
  - ...-dropping
  - ...- minute
  - low -...
  - ...- blind

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- 16) A \_\_\_\_\_ craft can be a perfect way to come up with that last-minute gift that could decide the fate of a family Christmas.
- 17) After Hulk had ruined half the city, Natasha decided their wedding should be a \_\_\_\_\_ event: not too many guests, not too much pressure.
- 18) \_\_\_\_\_ mushrooms, picked in a summer forest and then left outside to be preserved for the winter, are the base of many recipes.
- 19) If your friend presents you with a \_\_\_\_\_ ornament that they have created on their own, it's a sign that you are special to them.
- 20) The \_\_\_\_\_ aroma of freshly baked bread and ground coffee told us that mom was finally home.
- 21) Going to India instead of merely reading about the country was an \_\_\_\_\_ experience. I finally got the feel for the rich culture and unique mentality of this country.
- 22) You cannot produce an innovative microchip with this \_\_\_\_\_ technology, we need to reequip the factory.
- 23) Monsieur Gaga rode his bike across the ceiling of the circus and Madam Gaga hopped through flaming hoops in the air without support. It was a \_\_\_\_\_ performance.

**Task 4. One word referring to plants is hidden in each sentence. Find it and write it down. Look at the example.**

**Example:** *Nina's purple bolero sets off her green eyes. Answer: rose*

- 24) As a child Andrew Lloyd Webber was often whisked off to musicals and plays, so theatre eventually became his life and brought him to the pinnacle of fame.
- 25) Both Vasechkin and Petrov in elegant velvet suits and impeccably white dress shirts proceeded to the principal's office.
- 26) We were more than happy at the sight of the real home-made food: there were cutlets and boiled potatoes, buttered muffins and hot cocoa, kettles of boiling water for tea and all.
- 27) Everything pointed to the fact that the pirates had been here: tables turned over, bottles and glasses broken, a torn map left in the greasy corner.
- 28) A mysterious path wound down to the river away from the welcoming garden into the mist and gloom of the autumn, they called it the wasp route.
- 29) It's really scary to hear you say that 'Devil Wears Prada' is your favourite film, it just sounds like you've never heard about Fellini or anything.
- 30) As is often the case with fanatics and gypsies, they'll do their best to stop ears from hearing and eyes from seeing.

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**Подмосковная олимпиада школьников по английскому языку 2025**

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**WRITING**

**Writing length: 40 minutes**

**Read the advertisement.**

A social network is running a competition among its bloggers. To enter the competition bloggers are to make a post sharing a memorable travel experience to inspire their audience to explore new places.

The prize is help in promoting the winner's blog for a month.

**Write your post for the competition.**

Remember to include:

1. a title;
2. the first sentence starting with "It's always been my dream ...";
3. a specific travel experience: an adventure and a meeting;
4. what you learnt from the experience and how it influenced you personally;
5. two idioms (underline them).

At the end of your post, encourage your readers to share their own experiences by asking a question.

**Write your post in 150-210 words (the title is included in the word count).**

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