



Федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение
высшего образования
«Российский государственный гуманитарный университет»
(ФГБОУ ВО «РГГУ»)

ОЛИМПИАДА РГГУ ДЛЯ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ ПО ИНОСТРАННОМУ ЯЗЫКУ

2023/2024 учебный год

Заключительный этап

10 класс

Вариант № 24-ОШ-2-10 Английский язык-1

На выполнение олимпиадных заданий отводится 150 минут. Вам предлагается выполнить четыре категории заданий.

При выполнении заданий внимательно читайте инструкцию к каждому заданию.

Максимальное количество баллов за ответы:

- Часть 1. (Reading) - 30 баллов;
- Часть 2. (Writing) - 30 баллов;
- Часть 3. (Use of English) - 20 баллов;
- Часть 4. (Cultural Studies) - 20 баллов.

Part 1. Reading

You are an editor of a magazine. You have come across an interesting article but some parts of the article have been mixed up. Use the headline and the initial paragraph of the article and put the parts to the title and in the right order so that you should receive the original article.

Tasks 001-005. (5 баллов, по 1 баллу за каждый правильно расположенный абзац текста)

Article 1.

THE STORY OF THE JET AIRLINER – AN INVENTION THAT CHANGED THE WAY WE LIVE

Radlett, near London; April 1951; with a **deafening** roar, a great shining silver aeroplane **hurtles** down the runway outside the De Havilland Company's huge hangers on this airfield just north of London; a minute later, the world's first jetliner, the Comet, is **airborne** for the first time as the property of a commercial airline, B.O.A.C, the **precursor** of today's British Airways.

A) Today, thanks to a steady increase in the size of aircraft and an improvement in their efficiency, the cost of air travel has fallen by over 80% since the first Comet flights over half a century ago. Once the exclusive reserve of a privileged few, air travel has become a very ordinary event, and in North America at least, something that is considerably more of a part of everyday life than taking the train. Thanks to cheap and rapid air travel, allowing businessmen and politicians to travel vast distances at relative ease, the nature of trade and international

relations has changed profoundly. Sixty years ago, international meetings of heads of state were rare events; today they are daily occurrences; sixty years ago, few people from Northern Europe had ever seen the Mediterranean, and today's holiday resorts like Torremolinos or Cap d'Agde were just sleepy fishing ports; in military terms, the idea of a "rapid reaction force" was unheard of. But maybe the Golden Age of the jet plane is already behind us. Concorde, the fabulous supersonic "white bird" has come and gone; and since Covid appeared, most, if not all, of the world's Airbus A380 "super-jumbos" have remained on the ground, too big for the needs of a declining air travel market. So much has changed since 1950, that it leaves one wondering what people will be doing in 2050....

B) The first British jet aircraft to fly was an adapted version of the Gloster E-28 in 1941; but in the fever of the war years, priority was given not to developing experimental aircraft, but to mass producing those propellor planes, such as the famous Spitfire, whose performance was guaranteed. Thus it was not until 1944 that the world's first two real jet aircraft appeared, the Messerschmitt Me 262 in Germany, and the Gloster Meteor in England. In the immediate post-war years, with the German aircraft industry out of action, development of jet aircraft technology progressed rapidly in Britain, as did aircraft design in general; and within three years of the ending of the war, the De Havilland company was working on its great project, the first passenger jetliner. A year after being handed over to BOAC, the Comet entered commercial service, with a flight from London to Johannesburg; but it was a premature beginning. Within two years, two Comets crashed in mysterious circumstances, and all existing planes were grounded. The cause of the problem was soon identified: it was metal **fatigue**, a problem that had not existed with the smaller lighter aircraft of earlier times.

C) At that moment, few of those on the ground watching the historic take-off could have had any idea of the impact that this new invention was going to have on civilization in the second half of the twentieth century. Yet without the jet plane to carry passengers, be they businessmen, holidaymakers, politicians or even whole armies, over vast distances at high speed, the world in which we now live would be a very different place. The Comet that took to the skies that day, after a year of test flights, was of course not the first jet plane.

D) It was in the year 1930 that an English engineer called Frank Whittle had patented the first jet engine; but in an all-too common British twentieth-century manner, Whittle and others failed to grasp the commercial and military potential of his invention, and it was a German company, Heinkel, who actually produced the first jet aircraft, in 1937.

E) By 1955, a solution had been found, Comets were able to take to the skies again, and international jet services were reintroduced between London and major destinations; this time, the age of jet air travel had really begun. A pioneering aircraft, the Comet, however, was not a big commercial success. Over in the USA, Boeing had been working on an American jetliner, and within weeks of the reintroduction of Comet services by BOAC, the first Boeing 707's came into service. Stimulated by sales on the vast North American market, the 707 was soon established as the world's leading jetliner, pushing Boeing to the top as undisputed world leader in its field. The Comet, France's Caravelle, and later Britain's Vickers VC 10, products of sophisticated but small national aerospace industries, could not hope to compete in the world markets against the domination of Boeing; and it was their relative failure that eventually forced national governments to support the creation of Europe's first really successful manufacturer of jetliners, the Airbus Consortium.

Tasks 006-010. (5 баллов, по 1 баллу за каждый правильно расположенный абзац текста)

Article 2.

THE ELECTRIC CAR REVOLUTION: IS IT REALISTIC OR OPTIMISTIC?

Electric vehicles have arrived. With technology led by Tesla, and all of the world's major car manufacturers following along behind, electric **vehicles** are now a common sight on the roads of most developed countries. Yet the situation in less developed countries is rather different; the only African country to have started the change to electric vehicles is South Africa and even there, electric vehicle sales still account for less than 1% of the total. In South America,

the situation is better, with all Latin American countries beginning the move towards electric vehicles, particularly Columbia which, in 2020, had a third of the continent's total electric car fleet. In India the government is promoting the purchase of electric vehicles with tax exemptions and other incentives. So electric cars have arrived, and their share of the market is increasing almost worldwide.

A) Thus, battery exchange stations, rather than battery recharging points, may perhaps solve the problem of slow recharging times which currently prevents owners taking their electric vehicles on long trips. Yet battery exchange is not an option with today's large heavy batteries. While the latest generation of Lithium-ion batteries are almost twice as efficient as the batteries being used just five years ago, they remain big and heavy. Before batteries can become easy to exchange, a quantum leap in battery technology is needed, one which will allow batteries to store much larger amounts of electricity in much smaller and lighter units. Teams of top electrical engineers in universities and private laboratories worldwide are working on battery technology, and progress has been rapid.... New types of lithium batteries are being developed, but the radical discovery that will revolutionize battery design is still to be made.

B) So are people who believe in the ability of technology to solve all our problems being realistic, or over-optimistic? And will other problems such as environmental issues and the availability of vital materials throw a **spanner** in the works? Will all the world's countries be able to complete the electric vehicle revolution, or will the world's poorer nations get left behind.... yet again? For the time being, progress is upwards, but can it continue? In terms of volume, the electric vehicle revolution has only just got **underway**.

C) As for the availability of clean renewable electricity in sufficient quantities to cope with demand from all the world's electric vehicles, progress in this direction is already underway. Ideally, notably in hot countries and outside cities, recharging points will be autonomous, generating their own electricity from solar panels and wind or water turbines and storing it either mechanically or in high-powered batteries. The technology already exists, and a California company, Beam Global, recently installed 30 solar-powered recharging stations in sunny parts of the state.

D) Does this mean, therefore, that the world is on track to phase out the use of petrol-driven vehicles in less than thirty years? And does it mean that electric vehicles are the **sustainable** solution to our transport needs for the second half of the century? Unfortunately, to the disappointment of some people, the answer to both of these questions has to be "no". The massive development of electric vehicles can only be possible if two conditions are met. Firstly, the expansion of electric vehicle manufacturing is dependent on the fragile ability of manufacturers to source vastly increased quantities of vital components and elements without which electric vehicles cannot operate; these include lithium, cobalt and "rare earths" such as neodymium and tantalum, as well as silicon chips which have already been in short supply since 2020. Secondly, few countries currently have electricity grids that are anywhere near being able to cope with the huge increase in demand for electricity that will accompany any rapid growth in electric vehicle ownership. Without adequate supplies of all the vital ingredients of electric motors and batteries, or without power supplies that are able to provide the electricity required to recharge millions of electric batteries every day (as well as supplying the current we need for everything else, such as lighting, heating, trains and electric devices), the electric car revolution will run up against **insoluble** problems in all but the most developed countries.

E) Governments and vehicle manufacturers are fully aware of these issues, but the consensus among policy-makers seems to be that somehow technology will come up with the answers, as it often has in the past. Analysts also predict that changing social attitudes and environmental awareness will lead to a reduction in private vehicle use and a fall in the numbers of vehicles on the roads. This prediction is likely to be right, though not necessarily for those reasons alone; any shortage of essential components will force up the cost of electric vehicles, and any shortage of battery recharging facilities or capacity will discourage people from buying electric vehicles, leading to a fall in the number of vehicles on the roads. Ultimately the success of the transition to electric powered vehicles will depend on advances in technology in three fields; the weight of batteries, the amount of power that they can produce, and the speed at which

they can be recharged... or exchanged. It may surprise you to learn that electric vehicles are not a new idea; indeed, at the start of the automobile age in the late 19th century, America had as many electric cars as gas-driven cars, and New York's biggest taxi company used electric vehicles. In order to keep their taxis on the road when the batteries ran low, they set up battery points at strategic locations where instead of recharging their batteries, drivers would just exchange them for fully recharged ones, a process that took no longer than refilling with gasoline.

Tasks 011-020. (10 баллов, по 1 баллу за каждый правильный ответ на каждый вопрос)

Reread the two assembled texts. Choose the meaning the words and phrases in bold have in one of the texts.

011. The underlined word “vehicles” means the same as:

- A. means of travel
- B. means of expression
- C. means of communication
- D. means of transport

012. The underlined word “spanner” means the same as:

- A. wrench
- B. screwdriver
- C. plier
- D. pipe

013. The underlined word “airborne” means the same as:

- A. in ruins
- B. in reverse
- C. in the air
- D. in swamps

014. The underlined word “sustainable” means the same as:

- A. maintained oneself against
- B. kept at low level
- C. maintained at a steady level
- D. kept at a high level

015. The underlined word “insoluble” means the same as:

- A. dissolve
- B. dissoluble
- C. dissolute
- D. impossible to solve

016. The underlined word “precursor” means the same as:

- A. disciple
- B. predecessor
- C. heir
- D. student

017. The underlined word “deafening” means the same as:

- A. flashily
- B. soundly
- C. quietly
- D. noisily

018. The underlined word “fatigue” means the same as:

- A. exhaustion
- B. ending
- C. failure
- D. laziness

019. The underlined word “hurttles” means the same as:

- A. goes narrow
- B. goes wide
- C. goes very fast
- D. goes even

020. The underlined word “underway” means the same as:

- A. returned to a former state
- B. started out
- C. started in progress
- D. started off

Tasks 021-030. (10 баллов, по 1 баллу за правильный ответ на каждый вопрос)

Here is a summary of the article “The story of the jet airliner - an invention that changed the way we live”. However, it contains some vocabulary, grammar and factual errors. Decide which of the sentences contain an error if any. There can be more than 1 error in a sentence. Some sentences do not have errors at all. If there are no errors in the sentence choose “0”.

021. The first British jet aircraft to fly was an adapted version of the Gloster E-28 in 1941.

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4
- F. 5

022. In the fever of the war years, priority was given not to mass producing the propellor planes, such as the famous Spitfire, but to developing experimental aircraft.

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4
- F. 5

023. So it was not until 1944 that the world's first two real jet aircraft appear, the Messerschmitt Me 262 in Germany, and the Gloster Meteor in England.

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4
- F. 5

024. In the immediate post-war years, with the German aircraft industry out of action, development of jet aircraft technology progressed rapid in Britain, as did aircraft design on general.

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4
- F. 5

025. Within five years, two Comets crashing in mysterious circumstances, and all existed planes were ground.

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4
- F. 5

026. The case of the problem soon identified: it was metal fatigue, a problem that had not existed with the smaller lighter aircraft of earlier times.

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4
- F. 5

027. By 1935, a solution had been found, Comets were able to take to the ski again, and international jet services were reintroduced between London and major destiny; this time, the age of jet air travel had really begun.

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4
- F. 5

028. Air travel has become a very ordinary event, and in North America at least, something that is considerably more of a part of everyday life than taking the train.

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4
- F. 5

029. Thanks cheap and rapid air travel, allowing businessmen and politicians to travel vast distances at relatively ease, the nature of trade and international relations have changed profoundly.

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3

- E. 4
F. 5

030. For millions of people, particularly in the United States of America, boarding a jet plane for a quick journey to a city many hundreds or even thousands of miles away, is very much a routine act... or at least it was until Covid-19 struck.

- A. 0
B. 1
C. 2
D. 3
E. 4
F. 5

Part 2. Writing

Tasks 031-035. (10 баллов, по 2 балла за каждое правильно составленное предложение)

Use the following separate words in the order given to write a coherent sentence, based on information in the article “The electric car revolution: is it realistic or optimistic?” You may change the form of the given words. You may use your sentences as parts of your outline for your commentary on the article “The electric car revolution: is it realistic or optimistic?”

031. vehicles/ sustainable/ transport needs

032. electric car revolution/ run up/ problems/ countries

033. success of transition/ depend/ three fields

034. quantum leap/ technology/ need

035. electric/ vehicle revolution/ underway

Task 036. (Максимальное количество - 20 баллов)

Write your commentary on the article “The electric car revolution: is it realistic or optimistic?” Your commentary is to be between 180-200 words. You are not allowed to cite from the original text pieces longer than 4 words running. Your text should contain various points of view, including your own.

To fulfill the task successfully you are:

- to briefly convey the content of the article;
- to mention various/possible views of the issue;
- to divide your text into logically connected paragraphs.

Part 3. Use of English

Tasks 037-046. (20 баллов, по 2 балла за правильный ответ)

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. DO NOT CHANGE the word given. DO NOT USE SHORT FORMS. The number of words you should write is specified in the sentence.

The example (0) is done for you.

(0) The pass rate for the exam is 3% lower this year than it was last year.

fall

There has _____ in the pass rate for the exam this year. (4 words)

= There has **been a slight fall** in the pass rate for the exam this year.

037. Reading a thriller is far more enjoyable if you don't know the ending.

nowhere

Reading a thriller is _____ fun if you already know the ending. (4 words)

038. I had only just got home when the phone rang.

sooner

No _____ the phone rang. (6 words)

039. The government has banned all exports to the country except for food and medicine.

exception

The government has banned all exports to the country _____ food and medicine. (4 words)

040. They didn't mention the subject of unpaid holidays until the end of the interview.

bring

Not until the end of the interview _____ the subject of unpaid holidays. (4 words)

041. The accident happened because someone was very careless.

caused

Sheer _____ happen. (5 words)

042. Someone is making a new pair of dining room curtains for us.

made

We _____ for the dining room. (8 words)

043. Kerry didn't send us any postcards during her travels through Argentina.

one

Not _____ during her travels through Argentina. (6 words)

044. When I tried to make changes to the school timetable, I was faced with a lot of opposition.

against

When I tried to make changes to the school timetable, I _____ a lot of opposition. (3 words)

045. We never agreed on anything to do with the children's education.

eye

We never _____ came to the children's education. (5 words)

046. The children agreed they would each tidy the playroom on alternate days.

turns

The children agreed _____ to tidy the playroom. (5 words)

Part 4. Cultural Study

Tasks 047-056. (20 баллов, по 2 балла за каждый правильный ответ)

Now show how well you know English-speaking countries. Read the article and choose the correct option to complete the text.

THE GROWTH OF PARLIAMENTS

The English parliament grew increasingly complex and differentiated in the time after (047. _____). Edward II's ineffectiveness and Edward III's interest in foreign wars rather than administration created (048. _____) in the kingdom's government that Parliament partially filled. Increased taxation also led to the (049. _____) of Parliament as a tax-approving institution.

In the early 14th century, attendance at Parliament began to be seen not simply as a matter of the king issuing an invitation. Instead, members of certain families, so-called (050. _____) of Parliament, asserted that they possessed a hereditary right to be summoned. The difference between peers and ordinary (051. _____) led to increased legal and social stratification within the landed class and a growing separation between the different elements of Parliament.

Originally, parliaments had included representatives from the lower (052. _____), but they now met at their own convocations, a sort of parliament for the English church. There was also a gradual division between those holding baronies from the king—bishops, abbots, and peers—and others that eventually developed into the division between (053. _____).

After (054. _____), the representatives of the counties and boroughs, or towns, began to be invited to every parliament, rather than only occasionally. However, the lords continued to dominate politically, while the commons were expected to petition rather than be the actual decision makers. The (055. _____) parliament grew in a similar fashion, although its growth is not as well documented or as dramatic as the English.

It began as a council of the king's advisers, supplemented by the leading nobles, bishops, and other leaders of the realm. These full parliaments could advise the king, and on some occasions, magnates could even publicly speak against the king's policies. Like its English contemporary, the Scottish parliament made laws, ratified treaties, and settled legal disputes. Although kings summoned parliaments, they were not dependent on kings to meet: Parliaments met and had an active role in the governance of the realm during royal minorities or when a king was held (056. _____).

047.

- A. James IV
- B. Edward I
- C. George III
- D. Edward II

048.

- A. a hollow
- B. a gap
- C. a trap
- D. a pit

049.

- A. weakening
- B. depression
- C. strengthening
- D. reduction

050.

- A. owners
- B. peers
- C. peasants
- D. sirs

051.

- A. knights
- B. merchants
- C. marshals
- D. judges

052.

- A. clerks
- B. clergy
- C. cleaners
- D. clerestory

053.

- A. the House of Representatives and the Senate
- B. the House of Lords and Archbishops
- C. the House of Representatives and the House of Commons
- D. the House of Lords and House of Commons

054.

- A. 1427
- B. 1327
- C. 1527
- D. 1227

055.

- A. Irish
- B. Welsh
- C. British
- D. Scottish

056.

- A. captive
- B. office
- C. the stage
- D. valid

Председатель предметной методической комиссии
по иностранному языку
доктор филологических наук, профессор



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