

Многопрофильная олимпиада «Твой выбор»

АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

Заочный этап 2023-2024

Тип I Аудирование Listening Comprehension

Task 1. You will hear an interview with a woman called Maya Gardi, whose daily life and business are based on waste-free principles. For each question, choose the best option.

Link to audio <https://cloud.mail.ru/public/Hrru/X8cD1fWtF>

1. What did Maya find most difficult when she started shopping in a waste-free way?

having to take more time over it

having to avoid things in plastic containers

having to remember to take her own bags

2. Maya decided to adopt a completely waste-free lifestyle when she saw an article online about plastic rubbish.
noticed the bins outside her block of flats.

visited her local waste facility.

3. How did Maya's parents react to her decision to live waste-free?
They were worried that she would regret it.

They did not believe that she really meant it.

They did not think that she was likely to succeed.

4. How have Maya's cooking and eating habits changed?

She uses leftover food creatively.

She cooks more often for her friends.

She has developed her own cooking skills.

5. What does Maya say about socialising?

She sometimes has to forget her principles.

She doesn't worry about what people think of her.

She carefully chooses which events she attends.

6. What does Maya say about her new business?

She has an advantage when it comes to marketing.

Sales are increasing faster than expected.

She is expanding into a related sector.

7. How did Maya feel about the radio work she did recently?
 nervous about taking part at the last minute
pleased to have the chance to explain her views
 surprised that she was asked by a reporter

Task 2. For questions 8-17, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

You will hear five short extracts in which people talk about fitness and health. While you listen, you must complete both tasks.

Link to audio <https://cloud.mail.ru/public/GwEK/U4L8Wvji3>

For questions 8-12, choose from the list A-H, what each person says is his or her reason for attending a gym regularly.

- A. The gym has a social function for me.
- B. I have a sedentary job.
- C. My company pays for me to attend a gym.
- D. I'm studying sport science at college.
- E. Being fit gives me a sense of achievement.
- F. I compete in high-level sporting events.
- G. I come here with members of my cycling club.
- H. I started exercising regularly after an injury.

KEY

Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3	Speaker 4	Speaker 5
8 B	9 H	10 A	11 D	12 F

For questions 13-17, choose from the list A-H, what opinion each person expresses about fitness and health, generally.

- A. It is alarming that so many people have an unhealthy lifestyle.
- B. Being good at sport commands respect.
- C. I find it hard to commit myself to exercising.
- D. Diet is as important as exercise.
- E. Exercise machines are extremely boring.
- F. Achieving health requires self-sacrifice.
- G. Exercise is necessary to keep weight under control.
- H. Genetic make-up has a lot to do with fitness.

KEY

Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3	Speaker 4	Speaker 5

13 G	14 F	15 H	16 D	17 B

Typ 2. Чтение Reading Comprehension

Task 1. You are going to read an article about a psychology test carried out on very young children. For questions 18-27, choose from the sections (A-D). The sections may be chosen more than once.

KEY

In which section does the writer mention

18 how a child's background can affect behaviour? **D**

19 that the results of Mischel's long-term research were surprising? **B**

20 reasons for questioning the results of the original experiment? **D**

21 claims that training young children to resist temptation will have long-term benefits? **C**

22 the proportion of very young children who were able to resist temptation?

A

23 an everyday example of the need for self-control? **D**

24 that Mischel may have oversimplified the route to success in life? **D**

25 that Mischel's own life experience has influenced his work? **C**

26 strategies employed by participants during the test procedure? **A**

27 two major factors which affect everyone's ability to resist temptation? **D**

The Marshmallow Test

A psychology experiment carried out with a group of pre-school children in California in 1968 led to the development of ideas that are still relevant today.

A

In 1968, Walter Mischel set a challenge for a group of children aged three to five at the nursery school his daughters attended in California. A researcher offered each of them a marshmallow and then left them alone in the room. If they could resist eating the colourful sweet until the researcher returned up to 15 minutes later, they would be given a second sweet. Some children ate the marshmallow straight away, but most would engage in unintentionally comic attempts to resist temptation. They looked all around the room to avoid seeing the sweet, covered their eyes, wiggled around in their seats or sang to themselves. They pulled funny faces, played with their hair, picked up the marshmallow and just pretended to take a bite. They sniffed it, pushed it away from them or covered it up. If two children were doing the experiment together, they engaged in a conversation about how they could work together to reach the goal of doubling their pleasure. About a third

of the children, the researchers reported, managed to wait long enough to get the second treat.

B

What Mischel, a clinical psychologist, wanted was to understand how children learned to deal with temptation. Over the following years, the group of children remained friends. When Mischel chatted to his daughters about their former classmates, he began to notice an interesting pattern: the children who had exhibited the most restraint in the ‘marshmallow test’ were doing better in life than their peers. He decided to investigate further. For more than 40 years, Mischel followed the lives of the nursery students. His findings were extraordinary. It turns out that being able to resist a treat at the age of five is a strong predictor of success in life: you are more likely to perform well at school and develop self-confidence and less likely to become obese, develop addictions or get divorced.

C

Mischel still teaches psychology at Columbia University and has just written *The Marshmallow Test*, a book summing up half a century of research. When Mischel was young, his family was forced to move from a comfortable life in Austria to the US. They settled in Brooklyn, where they opened a bargain shopping store. Business was never good and Mischel believes that moving from ‘upper middle class to extreme poverty’ shaped his outlook. He is concerned with trying to reduce the impact of deprivation on an individual’s life chances. The conclusion he draws from his marshmallow research is positive: some people may be naturally disciplined but the ability to resist temptation is a skill that can also be taught. Teach children self-control early and you can improve their prospects.

D

However, no single characteristic – such as self-control – can explain success or failure. Some critics have pointed out that Mischel’s original subjects were themselves children of university professors and graduate students – not exactly a representative sample. Other scientists noted that variations in home environment could account for differences: stable homes and one-child families encourage self-control, whereas in less stable homes and those with many children, if you don’t grab a marshmallow now there won’t be any left in 15 minutes. Mischel answers these critics by noting that studies in a wide variety of schools found similar results. He acknowledges that the environment shapes our ability to resist temptation and observes that genetics plays a role too. But he still believes that the ability to resist temptation can be learnt and encouraged. I asked Mischel whether self-control comes easily to him. ‘Not at all,’ he said. ‘I have great difficulties in waiting. It’s still difficult for me to wait in a queue in the bank.’

Task 2. You are going to read a newspaper article about the diaries of two famous explorers, Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton. For questions 28-33, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

WHAT DO THE DIARIES OF SHACKLETON AND SCOTT REVEAL?

Rebecca Hunt, once a diary-keeper herself, examines the legacy of the great explorers' diaries.

I was once a conscientious diary-keeper but having realised its treacherous potential, I buried it in the bin. In a move far more decisive than mine, my aunt torched her diaries in a bonfire. The third diarist in the family is my great-grandfather, who fought in the First World War. The many letters he wrote to my great-grandmother aren't exactly a diary, yet they document his experiences on the battlefield in a similar way. He didn't do anything as extreme as my aunt or me – we edited our past into ash and landfill – but my great-grandfather's letters are still edited. The words are brave and considered rather than raw and desperate, since they were for his wife, who must have been sick with worry and had three young sons to care for. I'm sure he never foresaw me, the granddaughter of one of those boys, reading his letters 100 years later, nor that they would be on display in the Imperial War Museum.

A few years before the First World War began, Captain Robert Falcon Scott had set off for the South Pole. And in 1914, Ernest Shackleton started out on another Antarctic expedition; his object to cross the entire continent. With curious symmetry, both Scott and Shackleton's lives ended up being defined by a journey of around 800 miles, which were documented by both men in diaries. Scott, I suspect, never had it in mind for his to be made public, yet I, like countless other people, have found it greatly absorbing. (Indeed, I have relied on it for my new novel, *Everland*, dealing with the conflict between historical records and the realities of human relationships.) Ernest Shackleton, however, would not have been surprised: he edited his journal into the book published three years after he returned from Antarctica. Scott's journal, in contrast, was retrieved from his pocket after he had been dead for eight months. The difference would prove to be important.

With his ship crushed by the ice and the crew marooned on Elephant Island, Shackleton and five men sailed more than 800 miles in a boat to South Georgia to get help. Incredibly, they made it. His book *South* describes one of the most astonishing journeys ever made. And despite the overwhelming probability that no one from *Endurance* would survive, a spirit of cheerfulness permeates the book. Any mention of the conflict or anguish that occurred in brief to the point of non-

existence. As Shackleton remarks in the preface, the story is of 'high adventure, strenuous days, lonely nights, and, above all, records of unflinching determination'. Writing retrospectively, his focus is naturally on the larger triumph of the rescue and escape rather than the smaller, spikier aspects of their ordeal.

The story of Scott's last 800 miles, however, is one of grinding torture. Beaten to the South Pole by Norwegian Roald Amundsen, he slowly returns. His account is drawn from the perspective of someone whose chances of survival are being steadily destroyed. It displays just as much 'unflinching determination' as Shackleton's, yet despair seeps from the page as the distance that Scott and his four men have left to travel becomes impossible to square with diminishing supplies and deteriorating health. 'Loneliness is the penalty of leadership,' Shackleton wrote, which is possibly why Scott unburdened himself so freely on paper. In his last entries, Scott reveals a man who could be depressive, snappish and critical. People irritate him, their performance dissatisfies him and he makes biting asides about incompetence. But he was equally impatient with himself. His rigid belief in self-discipline was the result of a lifelong disgust at his own inclination towards laziness. While in the navy, he wrote 'of the hope of being more worthy; but how shall I ever be?' This relentlessness of Scott's was often a beneficial quality but his willingness to punish himself could also be considered a form of self-abuse.

'Scott's diary, had he lived, would have formed the basis of the book he would have written,' fellow explorer Apsley Cherry-Garrard later noted. There is no doubt Scott planned to revise his diary into something more selective. I'm certain Shackleton revised his diary, just as I'm certain anyone would. Such edits aren't necessarily a misinterpretation of events, but reflect the diplomacy of retrospection. As Captain Lawrence Oates, who died two weeks before Scott, once wrote to his mother: 'Please remember that when a man is having a hard time he says hard things about other people which he would regret afterwards.' For my great-grandfather, and the hundreds of thousands of other men who were sent to fight a year later, Scott's story was an inspirational example of courage. It continues to be so for several decades, until a newer, determinedly sensational form of biography became fashionable and Scott's admissions of self-doubt were used to destroy his character and explain the failure of his expedition.

Shackleton didn't initially receive the same recognition as Scott. It took another 30 years after his death before he began to gain similar levels of public renown. Their most famous expeditions are technically about failure but to classify them only as failures is deliberately to misunderstand what makes these two expeditions so extraordinary. Shackleton and Scott tell their stories in their own words, yet Scott's contains the reflective frustration and turmoil of a man writing privately at the end of each day. He never had the chance to appraise the situation

objectively, so we read it as he went through it, blind to what the next 24 hours will bring. It makes for a more intimate, but perhaps less comprehensive account.

28 When referring to the diarists in her family, the writer says

A her great-grandfather had probably not imagined he would be writing for posterity.

B she had considered it a personal obligation to uphold a family tradition.

C the family diary-keepers are all prone to occasions of melodramatic behaviour.

D her great-grandfather was more cautious in what he wrote compared to her aunt.

29 What point does the writer make about Scott and Shackleton in the second paragraph?

A Scott's story of tragedy lends itself more to fictional interpretation.

B Unlike Shackleton, Scott had no say in the decision to publish his diary.

C Reading Shackleton's writing feels much less like an invasion of privacy.

D Shackleton was frustrated by the inevitable comparisons to Scott.

30 What does the writer suggest about Shackleton's book South?

A it contains elements of embellishment characteristic of adventure writing

B it omits the detail that would have made a more engaging read

C it includes a balance of factual information and personal reflection

D it is unswervingly positive in the conveyance of tone and mood

31 When describing Scott's diaries in the fourth paragraph, the writer shows appreciation for

A the form of encouragement Scott gave his men so that they would persevere.

B Scott's acceptance of responsibility for the circumstances his team found themselves in.

C Scott's unambiguous admission of defeat regarding the attempt to reach the South Pole.

D the way Scott applied the same exacting standards to himself and to those working with him.

32 What point does the writer make about the editing of biographical material?

A any alteration detracts from the truth and is therefore unjustifiably deceptive

B the benefit of hindsight may make certain revisions acceptable

C the deliberate misrepresentation of a person creates an iconic image

D modern types of memoir may in fact be more discreet than older ones

33 In the final paragraph, the writer concludes that

A without the existence of his diary, Scott's fame would have faded by now.

B there needs to be a public reassessment of Scott and Shackleton's accomplishments.

C Scott's diary provides us with a genuinely empathetic experience.

D it is ironic that fame and credit for achievement are often acquired only after death.

Typ III. USE of English

For questions 34-39, think of one word only which can be used appropriately in all three sentences.

34

Although not a native speaker, Max can express his ideas in English with a _____ degree of accuracy.

All members of Melanie's family have the same very _____ hair.

Wallace didn't think it was _____ that he was asked to work longer hours than his colleagues.

KEY - FAIR

35

Our teacher _____ us through the poem line by line, after which we began to understand it.

Andrew _____ extensive notes during the lecture, because he wanted to remember exactly what the scientist had said.

Zoe _____ down the name and address of the company that her uncle said was looking for temporary staff.

KEY - TOOK

36

Just because your parents are both teachers, it doesn't _____ that you'll be one, too.

To get to the campsite _____ the road round to the left and then turn right opposite the supermarket.

Millions of viewers _____ the fortunes of the characters in the soap opera every week.

KEY - FOLLOW

37

When groups of visitors come to the castle, guides _____ them round and answer their questions.

The fact that sales of classical music CDs have fallen just goes to _____ how much is being downloaded from the Internet.

Any imperfections in the material will _____ up when it is put under a microscope.

KEY - SHOW

38

There has been a steady _____ in the number of guidebooks published recently.

As she'd taken on a lot of extra responsibility at work, Martina felt justified in putting in for a _____.

The ancient farmhouse had been built on a slight _____ overlooking the vast open plain.

KEY - RISE

39

To do work of such precision requires a very _____ hand.

Although he's not particularly skilful, Ralph is a very _____ worker and you can rely on him one hundred percent.

There has been a _____ increase in the number of people buying four-wheel-drive vehicles in our area.

KEY - STEADY

40

Doug was put in _____ of the garage while his boss was away on holiday.

You can have a newspaper delivered to your hotel room each day, but there is an extra _____ for this service.

The shoplifter was taken to court on a _____ of theft and resisting arrest.

KEY - CHARGE