



ВСЕРОССИЙСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ
АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК. 2023–2024 уч. г.
ШКОЛЬНЫЙ ЭТАП. 7–8 КЛАССЫ

LISTENING

Time: 10 minutes (5 points)

Listen to the dialogue between David and Mary and then do the following tasks.

There are several idiomatic expressions that David and Mary are using in their dialogue. Here are some other situations where these expressions could be used. Please finish the following sentences with these idiomatic expressions. Mind: these sentences are NOT from the dialogue between David and Mary.

You may need to change some pronouns and the grammatical form of verbs.

You will hear the text twice.

Now you have 1 minute to read the tasks.

1. Please make sure that you get a good night's sleep before the day you have an exam, Freddie. Feeling sleepy at the exam is the last things you need +
(5 words)
2. Are you telling me that you agreed to walk Mr. Bingle's horrible dog again? After he'd bitten you last time you walked him? Are you kidding +
(3 words)
3. Don't be upset! I understand that getting a bad mark for a test is very sad. But you know you didn't study hard enough for it. Next time you'll do better. Let's just say it for you. (4 words) was a good lesson +
4. Do you really believe that Peter will read this book so quickly? I wouldn't _____
(3 words) hold my breath +
5. – How about we go to the cinema tomorrow and then have some ice-cream in the nearby café?
– sounds like a plan! (4 words) +

READING

Time: 40 minutes (20 points)

Imagine you are at a bookstore holding a children's book in your hands and looking at its front cover, back cover, and the flaps of the dust jacket. You are also looking at the beginning of the Prologue. Read everything that is written there and answer the questions below. If you don't know some of the words, look them up in the GLOSSARY to this task at the very end after the questions.

The front cover contains the following information:

A puzzle maker's last clue. A friendship's last chance.

HIDE AND GEEK

T. P. JAGGER

The back cover contains the following information:

MEET THE GEEKS!

GINA – Journalist-in-training. Loves facts, mysteries, and her 100 percent adorable dog, Sauce.

EDGAR – Actor, dairy farmer, and most likely to quote *Hamilton*.

ELENA – Scientist and prankster. *Do not* get on her bad side.

KEVIN – Math genius and three-time class president.

Saving the town will take all their geeky skills combined!

“Fantastic mystery! So many cliffhangers that made me want to keep reading!!!” –
CARLY N. AGE 9

“I was surprised by the twists and turns, and it made me understand what people can do when they really care about something.” – JOSIAH F. AGE 11

The front cover flap contains the following information:

THE GEEKs:

Gina, Edgar, Elena, and Kevin have been best friends for as long as they can remember. So when their archnemesis points out that their initials make them *literally* GEEKs, they decide to go with it.

THE PROBLEM:

The GEEKs' hometown of Elmwood was once the headquarters of the famous toy maker Maxine Van Houten. Her popular puzzle sphere, the Bamboozler, put the town on the map. But Maxine passed away long ago. Now the toy factory is shutting down, and Elena's mom and Kevin's dad are losing their jobs. Their families might have to move – and that would mean splitting up the GEEKs!

THE QUEST:

Maxine left one final puzzle, a treasure hunt that could save the town and keep the friends together. But only those who know and love Elmwood best will be able to solve it. GEEKs to the rescue!

The back cover flap contains the following information:

T. P. JAGGER is an elementary school teacher turned reading specialist turned college professor and writer. He claims to have written an award-winning scientific work – *The Buoyant Brain: Why My Brain Floats and Yours Doesn't* – under the pseudonymous guise of Dr. Doogle McCrub. This is a total lie. He is also not a professional magician, although he can make pizza disappear. He and his family live in the USA in the Pacific Northwest with two dogs and an evil, ankle-biting cat.

TPJAGGER.COM

Here's the beginning of the Prologue:

PROLOGUE

Okay, by now I'm sure you've heard about everything going on in the tiny town of Elmwood, New Hampshire... You've read the headlines or seen the photos or whatever. The failing factory, the hidden fortune, the kidnappings, all that stuff.

Last week, a reporter showed up all the way from Australia... Unfortunately, except for his cool accent, he was like every other person who's flooded into Elmwood lately – chasing a fairy tale. But me? I grew up in Elmwood, and I care about the facts.....

Task 1

Answer the following questions:

1. When you read the title of the book, you may think that it sounds a little like a children's game that you know. Which letter do you need to change in the title to turn it into a name of a children's game?

Change letter c into letter e.

2. This book is probably written for readers of the following age:

- 5-8 years old
- 8-12 years old
- 12-15 years old
- 15-18 years old

3. Out of the 4 main characters in the book, who most likely

- likes music? _____
- is the best leader Kevin
- has a sense of humour? _____
- can write very well? Gina

(Each name can be used only once!)

4. You have 4 cousins of the age that this book was written for: Polly, Michael, Anna and Philip. Who would you buy it for as a gift?

- Polly enjoys reading fairy tales.
- Michael likes detective stories.
- Anna reads only fantasy books.
- Philip prefers science fiction.

5. When Gina, Edward, Elena and Kevin were first called GEEKs, it was most likely meant to be

- a sign of respect.
- a friendly joke.
- hurtful to them.

6. In the section called "THE PROBLEM" the sentence 'Her popular puzzle sphere, the Bamboozler, put the town on the map' means the following:

- The town of Elmwood became famous because of the toy.
- Bamboozler is a globe – a sphere representing our planet.
- Elmwood appeared when the toy factory was opened.
- In addition to toys, Maxine Van Houten also made maps.

7. Which of the following is NOT true?

- Toymaker Maxine Van Houten now lives in another town.
- If the factory closes down, some families will have to move. +
- Until now Elena's mother has been working at the factory. +
- There is still a small chance to save the factory from closing.

8. Gina, Edward, Elena and Kevin will be able solve the problem because they

- are very clever.
- are best friends.
- love their town. +
- have the clue.

9. If you decided to make a serious presentation about the author of the book, which facts from his biography would you consider to be true and safe to use? Choose NOT MORE than SEVEN answers.

- T. P. Jagger is or used to be an elementary school teacher. +
- T. P. Jagger is or used to be a reading specialist. +
- T. P. Jagger is or used to be a college professor. +
- T. P. Jagger is or used to be a writer.
- T. P. Jagger is or used to be a scientist. —
- T. P. Jagger once held experiments with human brain.
- T. P. Jagger is or used to be a professional magician.
- T. P. Jagger is or used to be a cook.
- T. P. Jagger knows how to make pizza.
- T. P. Jagger lives alone. —
- T. P. Jagger has pets.
- T. P. Jagger lives in New England.
- T. P. Jagger lives either in the state of Oregon or Washington. +
- Information about T. P. Jagger can be found on his personal website. +
- T. P. Jagger writes books under a pseudonym.
- T. P. Jagger has an adorable cat.

10. The story takes place in

- the USA. +
- Australia.
- England.

GLOSSARY:

- Adorable** – loveable; someone or something that is easy to love, especially because they are attractive and often small
- Ankle** – a thin part between the foot and the leg
- Archnemesis, nemesis** – someone's biggest rival or enemy. An archnemesis is the main nemesis.
- Award** – a prize
- to Bamboozle** – to trick or deceive someone, often by confusing them
- Buoyant** – able to float and not sink in the water
- to Claim** – to say that something is true or is a fact, although you cannot prove it and other people might not believe it.
- Cliffhanger** – situation in a film or a book, often dangerous or of great importance, where two opposite results are possible, and you do not know what will happen until the last moment.
- Clue** – a sign or some information that helps you to find the answer to a problem, question or mystery
- Evil** – very bad or cruel
- to Float** – to stay on the surface of a liquid like water and not sink
- Geek, geeky** – an unfashionable or socially awkward person; someone who is clever but not fashionable or popular; someone who is very interested in a particular subject and knows a lot about it
- Genius** – a very talented person, especially in science or art
- Guise** – the appearance of someone, especially when they want to deceive somebody
- Hamilton** – a very popular Broadway musical about the life of Alexander Hamilton during the American Revolution created by composer and singer Lin Manuel Miranda
- Headquarters** – the main office of an organization
- Mystery** – a book or film, especially about a crime or a murder with a surprise ending that explains all the strange events that have happened
- to Pass away** – to die
- Prankster** – a person who plays pranks on people; **pranks** are tricks that are intended to be funny but not cause harm or damage
- Pseudonymous** – using a false name, for example, as a writer
- to Quote** – to repeat the words that someone else has said or written
- to Rescue** – to save someone or help them out of a dangerous situation
- Skill** – an ability to do something well because you have practiced it
- Sphere** – an object shaped like a round ball
- to Split, to split up** – to divide into two or more parts; to form smaller groups; to end a friendship or a relationship
- Total** – complete, very great, including everything
- Treasure** – very valuable and/or expensive things
- to Turn** – to change into something else
- Twist** – a change in the way in which something happens, like a story

USE OF ENGLISH
Time: 20 minutes (23 points)

Task 1

Read the text below and choose the word that fits best for each space. The first one is done for you.

Example answer: 0 A B C D

North and South Poles

How much do you know about North and South Poles? Do you think that the North Pole and the South Pole are (0) _____? Most people (1) B -. But in fact, the two areas are (2) B + different. The North Pole is in the Arctic Ocean. The South Pole (3) B - near the center of Antarctica. Antarctica is colder (4) C + the Arctic. In fact, Antarctica is by (5) A - the coldest region on earth.

One reason for Antarctica's very cold climate is that it has mountains (6) C - above sea level. Summers (7) C + rarely get above freezing. Ice and snow (8) A + almost all of Antarctica throughout the entire year.

The Arctic region includes lands around (9) B - Arctic Ocean. The Arctic region is (10) D - at or near sea level. In parts of the Arctic, summers can be as warm as (11) A - in Boston. They just do not last as long. (12) B - of the Arctic lands have no snow or ice in the summer.

Antarctica has the biggest amount of the world's permanent ice. The ice rests on land. Its average thickness is 8,000 feet (13) C -.

If you traveled to the Arctic, you (14) D + reindeer, polar bears, seals, birds, and insects. If (15) B + stay lasted through all the seasons, you might see over (16) A + a thousand types of plants. You might also meet some of the people (17) C - live there. (18) B - people have learned to live in the cold climate rather well. They have been able to use the plants and animals there. Most of the people live near the sea, where they catch fish.

In Antarctica, all you can see is ice and more ice. Very few animals and plants can live there. Most animals live on the coast. The (19) D + animal that can live on the mainland is a small fly. And you would not see people at all, (20) A - you ran into an explorer or scientist.

	A	B	C	D
0	<i>like</i>	<i>alike</i>	<i>likewise</i>	<i>dislike</i>
1	do	does	think	thinks
2	quit	quite	quiet	quick
3	lines	lanes	lays	lies
4	---	as	than	then
5	much	way	well	far
6	high	higher	tall	taller
7	there're	their	there	they're
8	cover	covers	is covered	are covered
9	---	a	an	the
10	most	mostly	much	many
11	they	that	those	them
12	Most	Mostly	Almost	At most
13	---	long	old	wide
14	see	seen	will see	would see
15	you	your	yours	you're
16	---	than	then	of
17	---	who	what	which
18	This	There's	These	Theirs
19	large	larger	much larger	largest
20	if	unless	when	whereas

Task 2

Betsy lives in Texas. Yesterday she saw two funny signs.

The tortoise beat the hare. Be the tortoise!

Give us a brake!

1. Where did she see them?

- At school
- At the supermarket
- On the road
- In the bookstore

2. Which word contains a spelling mistake that was made on purpose? brake

3. How should it be spelled? break