

ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК

30 май 2016 г.

ВАРИАНТ 1

PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *You will hear a short radio report about technology twice. Before you listen to it, you have 1 minute to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 3 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.*

- 1. “Five in five” is the IBM annual list of five major innovations in the next five years.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
- 2. IBM Vice President predicts computers will be able to simulate the physical sensation of actually touching the material on the screen.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
- 3. With the help of an advanced computer system, parents will know if their baby is ill by the way he or she is crying.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
- 4. According to Mr. Meyerson, in 5 years’ time computers will take over medical doctors in treating us when we get ill.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
- 5. IBM scientists are working on technology that will help us eat in a more healthy way.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
- 6. In the next five years, IBM technology will “smell” places to detect problems with sanitation and pollution.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

Directions: You will hear *an excerpt from a popular science programme* twice. Before you listen to it, you have **1 minute** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **3 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among **A, B or C**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.

7. The programme is about what homes will be like in the near future.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

8. In the house of the future redecorating interior walls will take quite a long time.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

9. A smart house garage will be able to charge your car battery.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

10. Home robots will take care of our health and perform minor surgeries at home.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

Directions: You will hear *a curious story about a famous scientist* twice. Before you listen to it, you have **2 minutes** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **4 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among **A, B, C or D**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.

11. Albert Einstein was travelling round the country

- A) to examine would-be physicists.
B) to raise money for his laboratory work.
C) to deliver a lecture on his scientific explorations.
D) to take a break from his tiring research.

12. What did Einstein's chauffeur suggest on their way to the next lecture hall?

- A) That he should wait for Einstein in the car.
B) That they should drive back to the laboratory.
C) That Einstein should skip the engagement and head for the next city.
D) That he should give Einstein's lecture instead of him.

13. The chauffeur thought he could be successful in his act because

- A) he was a student of physics.
- B) he had a deep knowledge of the topic.
- C) he was Einstein's exact lookalike.
- D) by then he had memorized Einstein's speech.

14. Which phrase best describes the professor who asked the complex question at the end of the lecture?

- A) self-important and pretentious
- B) steely and cold
- C) wise and modest
- D) good-humoured and easy-going

15. How did the chauffeur deal with the embarrassing situation?

- A) He answered the complicated question.
- B) He found a witty way out.
- C) He gave in and admitted who he was.
- D) He ran out of the hall in panic.

PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

Directions: Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among **A**, **B** or **C**, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

An Amazing Coincidence

In 1972 the British actor Anthony Hopkins was delighted to hear that he had been cast in a leading role in a film based on the book *The Girl from Petrovka* by George Feifer. Living in the English countryside, Hopkins made a special day trip into London to buy the book so that he could prepare for the role. He went from one bookshop to another in search of a copy, but there wasn't one to be had anywhere. Frustrated and defeated, Hopkins was waiting at Leicester Square underground for his train home, when he noticed a book apparently discarded on a bench. Incredibly, it was *The Girl from Petrovka*. Naturally he took it and that in itself would have been a pretty funny coincidence but the story doesn't end there. Two years later, while filming in Vienna, Hopkins was visited by George Feifer, the author. Feifer mentioned that he did not have a copy of his own book. He had lent the last one – containing his own annotations – to a friend who had lost it somewhere in London. With mounting astonishment, Hopkins showed Feifer the book he had found. 'Is this the one?' he asked, 'with the notes scribbled in the margins?' It was the same book.

16. **Anthony Hopkins was disappointed that the book he was looking for wasn't easily available in London.**
 A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
17. **Incidentally, the actor spotted a man reading the same book on a bench in the underground.**
 A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
18. **As soon as he saw the book, the actor realised it was its author's personal copy.**
 A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
19. **In Vienna the actor was somewhat sad to return the book to its rightful owner.**
 A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

Directions: Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among A, B, C or D marking your answers on your answer sheet.

What Do You Call That Thing?!

Asterisk, comma, apostrophe, hashtag... Most of the commonly used symbols in the English language have particular names, so we can talk about them without having to say: "You know, that squiggly thing that kind of looks like the letter S." With the emergence of the Internet, and with it, the important role that the @-sign plays in e-mail addresses, this once uncommon symbol now has a lot of people wondering what to call it. Unofficially, most English-speaking people seem to refer to it as the "*at sign*" or just "*at*". Recently, there has also been a movement to call it the "*atmark*". The fact that there is no single word in English for the symbol has prompted some linguists to coin new words such as "*asperand*" or "*ampersat*" but none of these have achieved wide usage.

Globally, the sign has an astonishing variety of nicknames. Several languages use words that associate the shape of the symbol with some type of animal. For the Dutch it is "*apenstaartje*", which means "monkey's tail"; for the Danes it's "*snabel*", or "elephant's trunk", for the Norwegian – "*grisehale*", or "pig's tail". The Germans call it a hanging monkey, the Hungarian – a worm, the Korean – a snail, the Greek – a little duck, the Russians – a little dog.

The @-sign is definitely not a child of the computer age – its history goes far back. Before it became the standard symbol for electronic mail, it was used to represent the cost or weight of something. For instance, if you bought six apples, you might write it as 6 apples @ \$1.10 each.

Still, the origin of the @ remains an enigma. One story holds that it came from the tired hands of monks in medieval monasteries. During the Middle Ages, before the invention of the printing press, every letter of a word had to be painstakingly transcribed by hand for each new copy of a manuscript. The monks that performed these long, tedious copying duties looked for ways to reduce the number of individual strokes per word. Although the word "at" is quite short, it was so common in texts and documents that the medieval monks thought it would be quicker and easier to shorten it even more. As a result, they looped the "t" around the "a" into a circle, thus eliminating two strokes of the pen.

Another story claims @ was used as an abbreviation for the word ‘amphora’. Amphora was the unit of measurement that indicated the amount held by one of those two-handled earthenware jars used by the ancient Greeks and Romans to carry and ship grain, spices, wine or oil. Giorgio Stabile, an Italian historian, has discovered the @-sign in a letter written in 1536 by a Florentine trader named Francesco Lapi. It seems likely, the scholar argues, that some industrious trader saw the symbol in a book written by monks and took it for use as the amphora abbreviation. This would also explain why it became common to use in relation to quantities.

- 20. What is the official English word for the @-sign?**
- A) Atmark
 - B) Asperand
 - C) Ampersat
 - D) There is no official name for it.
- 21. The nickname they use for the @-sign in Holland means**
- A) a monkey’s tail.
 - B) an elephant’s trunk.
 - C) a hanging monkey.
 - D) a little duck.
- 22. Before the electronic age @ signified**
- A) percentage.
 - B) exchange rate for money.
 - C) price or weight per piece.
 - D) price for the whole lot.
- 23. In which of their activities did the medieval monks use the @-sign?**
- A) In their religious ceremonies.
 - B) In keeping their financial accounts.
 - C) In copying religious texts.
 - D) In keeping track of their food supplies.
- 24. How was the @-sign useful for the monks?**
- A) It saved them two movements of the hand.
 - B) It reduced the number of words they wrote.
 - C) It marked the place for the illustrations in the books.
 - D) It worked as a secret code.
- 25. What is Giorgio Stabile’s theory about the history of the @-sign?**
- A) It stood on the earthenware jars ready for shipping.
 - B) It was used as the short for ‘amphora’.
 - C) It was introduced by the Greeks and Romans.
 - D) It was created and first used by Florentine traders.

Directions: Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among **A, B, C** or **D** marking your answers on your answer sheet.

Dindim – The Travelling Magellanic Penguin

You may have heard a fantastic story about how a penguin swims 5,000 miles every year to see the man who saved his life. It's a heartwarming story that's almost too good to be true. While there's some truth behind it, it's also filled with plenty of misinformation. CNN reached out to biologist Krajewski, who documented this story for Globo TV, a media network in Brazil, in February 2016.

Here is the real story behind Dindim, the travelling Magellanic penguin from South America.

71-year-old retired builder Pereira De Souza found the helpless creature in his backyard in Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil. Obviously it had been caught in an oil spill and was in very bad shape. He cared for the penguin by washing the oil off Dindim's wings and fed the bird sardines over the next few days.

Magellanic penguins live off the coast of Patagonian South America. They can live in the ocean as long as five months at a time before returning to the coast. These penguins are known to breed off the coast of Argentina, but have been spotted occasionally as far north as Rio de Janeiro.

When Dindim seemed strong enough, Pereira de Souza took him to a nearby island and released the bird into the sea. Later that day, Pereira de Souza heard squeaking in his backyard. Much to his surprise, he saw the penguin had returned and was calling out for him. (Magellanic penguins are known for their loud, sorrowful calls, similar to those of a donkey.)

Dindim took up temporary residence in Pereira de Souza's backyard until February 2012. Pereira de Souza's grandson, who was about 2 years old, also grew attached to the penguin and was the inspiration behind Dindim's name. The grandson could not properly pronounce the word 'pinguim', Portuguese for penguin. The toddler pronounced it "dindim" instead.

One day in February, Dindim simply disappeared. It is unknown where the black and white creature went, but months later he returned.

"Because penguins are usually very loyal to their partner and to the breeding site, where they spend the summer, they tend to come back to the same place every year," said Krajewski.

Pereira de Souza heard a loud squeak coming from his back yard that June and Dindim was there, waiting for him. The two were reunited again. This has happened every year since: the penguin returns in late June and stays until mid-February.

Krajewski says they don't know where Dindim goes for the rest of the year but it's extremely unlikely that he travels to Patagonia, which is thousands of miles away.

This year, Krajewski said, they were able to tell that Dindim is about 6 years old by the measurements of his bill. Researchers at Brazil's Aquarium also took a blood sample of the bird and tagged him for future research.

"Professionals who work with animal rescues make the most to avoid relationships like this so they are able to reintroduce the animal into the wild," said Krajewski. "But this isolated case in Brazil certainly allowed Dindim to live and was the best this humble and kind man could do for the penguin."

26. The penguin was helpless because

- A) the ocean was polluted with oil.
- B) it had broken wings.
- C) it was starving due to the lack of fish in the ocean.
- D) it was too weak to fly back to Patagonia.

27. The name Dindim

- A) is the Portuguese for "penguin".
- B) is the corrupt pronunciation of "pinguin".
- C) stands for a type of penguin – the Magellanic one.
- D) comes from the squeaking sound which penguins make.

28. Every year between February and June

- A) Dindim goes to Patagonia.
- B) Dindim goes to the South coast of Argentina.
- C) Dindim goes to a nearby island.
- D) Dindim disappears and nobody knows where he goes.

29. Krajewski says Dindim keeps disappearing because penguins are attached

- A) to people who help them when in distress.
- B) to places where they can find food.
- C) to the warm shores of Brazil.
- D) to their partners and the grounds where they breed.

30. Professional animal rescuers are said to

- A) promote the construction of wild animal shelters in isolated parts of Brazil.
- B) encourage the building of close relationships between men and animals in distress.
- C) be concerned that a close man-animal relationship could be harmful to the people involved.
- D) think that a close man-animal relationship could be harmful to the animal in the long term.

PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze

Directions: Read the text below and for each numbered gap choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits the gap, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

PHONE SNUBBING

When out at a restaurant with a group, everyone **31)** _____ their mobile devices in a pile on the table and leaves them untouched for the duration of the dinner. If someone gives **32)** _____ early and grabs their phone, they have to pay for everybody's meal. It's a trend that's been **33)** _____ steam for years, as we find it easier to stay connected but harder to stay present.

Perhaps it's time to **34)** _____ with a similar activity for dates. Having a friend glued to their phone during a group hangout creates distance, but when a romantic partner does it, there

are serious **35)** _____ for the couple. A recent research study examined the **36)** _____ of phone snubbing (or "phubbing") on partners and found that people who are frequently ignored by a partner for a mobile device feel **37)** _____ worse about the **38)** _____ and about themselves in general.

It's hard to know which comes first: the **39)** _____ apart between the partners or the phubbing. Are we fighting more and feeling bad because our partners ignore us or is it the other way **40)** _____ ? Either way, we have to balance the necessity of having technology attached to our bodies with our obligations to each **41)** _____ .

Talking on the phone or texting while hanging out with a partner is a clear **42)** _____ that the people in the device are given priority at the moment: they **43)** _____ immediate attention, implying their time is more valuable. It's a small way of **44)** _____ someone for granted, making them wait **45)** _____ you attend to other matters.

31.	A) places	B) takes	C) brings	D) collects
32.	A) out	B) away	C) down	D) in
33.	A) gaining	B) making	C) winning	D) earning
34.	A) come up	B) make up	C) go out	D) bring out
35.	A) conclusions	B) consequences	C) conditions	D) circumstances
36.	A) reaction	B) affect	C) effect	D) response
37.	A) far	B) much more	C) completely	D) extremely
38.	A) relationship	B) connection	C) link	D) relative
39.	A) flying	B) driving	C) flowing	D) drifting
40.	A) by	B) round	C) back	D) up
41.	A) other	B) others	C) another	D) one
42.	A) exposure	B) indication	C) display	D) show
43.	A) deserve	B) pay	C) are worthy	D) attend
44.	A) taking	B) considering	C) regarding	D) viewing
45.	A) as long	B) during	C) for	D) while

Section Two: Sentence Completion

Directions: For each of the sentences below, choose the letter **A, B, C** or **D** of the word or phrase that best completes its meaning, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

- 46. I didn't understand the accent when I first moved here but I quickly _____ it.**
- A)** used
 - B)** used to
 - C)** was used to
 - D)** got used to

47. "Why isn't Harry at work today?"

"I don't know. He _____ ill."

- A) should be
- B) may be
- C) must have been
- D) could have been

48. The thieves _____ yet.

- A) weren't caught
- B) haven't caught
- C) haven't been caught
- D) have been caught

49. There were six people in the team, _____ representing a different school.

- A) which
- B) each
- C) that
- D) who

50. Taking the underground is _____ the quickest way to get to the airport in the rush hour.

- A) no doubt
- B) no doubts
- C) undoubted
- D) not doubting

Section Three: Sentence Transformations

Directions: On your sheet for open-ended answers complete the second sentence so that it is as close as possible in meaning to the first one.

51. **The identity of the criminals remained undiscovered.**

The police never _____ who _____.

52. **I ate a lot of chocolate and now I feel sick.** (*Use a modal verb.*)

I _____ eaten so _____ chocolate because now I feel sick.

53. **You are too young. You can't leave the country without your parents' permission.**

You are not old _____ the country without your parents' permission.

54. **"Have you seen the new James Bond film?", he asked.**

He asked _____ the new James Bond film.

55. **This is the funniest joke I've ever heard.**

I've _____ funny joke.

56. It is more probable that you will have an accident in the city if you drive fast.

The _____ in the city, the _____ is that you will have an accident.

57. Gina speaks little Spanish and so does Jack.

Gina _____ much Spanish and _____ does Jack.

58. Meeting Violeta in town was really surprising.

I didn't _____ Violeta in town.

59. I don't believe you did it again!

You can't _____ it again!

60. The weather was bad but we still had a great time.

We had a great time _____ the bad weather.

PART FOUR: WRITING

Directions: *On your sheet for open-ended answers write a text in standard English of about 160-170 words on ONE of the following topics. When you write your text, make sure you DO NOT include in it any personal names or give any information about your school, town, etc. Write the topic you have chosen on your answer sheet.*

1. What makes a good friend? Discuss what personal qualities you admire, what behaviour you approve of and what common interests you would like to share.

2. You have decided to enter a short story competition. The competition rules say that the story must begin or end with the following words: ***They left Planet Earth surprised and rather disappointed by what they had found.*** Write your story for the competition.

Mind that if you submit two texts as well as in case of indecent language, plagiarism, identical texts or if your composition is under 80 words or totally unrelated to the chosen topic, it will get 0 points.