

A10

### ПИСЬМЕННАЯ РЕЧЬ

Choose *one question* out of the three given. Write your answer in 250-300 words providing arguments and examples.

1. Which language made the most significant impact on the evolution of the English language? Explain your choice.
2. What role does the development of artificial intelligence play in linguistics?
3. What are the most effective ways to protect endangered languages?

### ЛЕКСИКО-ГРАММАТИЧЕСКИЙ ТЕСТ

You are going to read an excerpt from an open letter written by Émile Zola to the President of France, Félix Faure, on the Dreyfus affair. For questions 1-10, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, or C) best fits each gap.

I accuse Lt. Col. du Paty de Clam of being the diabolical creator of this miscarriage of justice - unwittingly, I would like to believe - and of defending this (1) \_\_\_\_\_ deed, over the last three years, by all (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of ludicrous and evil machinations.

I accuse Gen. de Pellieux and Major Ravary of conducting a villainous enquiry, by which I mean a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ biased one, as (4) \_\_\_\_\_ by the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in a report that is an imperishable monument to naïve impudence.

I accuse the three handwriting experts, Messrs. Belhomme, Varinard and Couard, of submitting reports that were deceitful and fraudulent, (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a medical examination finds them (7) \_\_\_\_\_ from a condition that impairs their eyesight and judgement.

Finally, I accuse the first court martial of violating the law by convicting the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ on the basis of a document that (9) \_\_\_\_\_ secret, and I accuse the second court martial of covering up this illegality, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ orders, thus committing the judicial crime of knowingly acquitting a guilty man.

1	A. apology	B. pity	C. sorry
2	A. mannered	B. manner	C. manner
3	A. monster	B. monstrosity	C. monstrously
4	A. attesting	B. attested	C. to attest
5	A. late	B. later	C. latter
6	A. unlike	B. unless	C. until
7	A. suffering	B. suffered	C. to be suffering
8	A. accusing	B. accused	C. accusation
9	A. was kept	B. was keeping	C. had kept
10	A. on	B. in	C. by

## ФРАЗОВАЯ СВЯЗНОСТЬ

You are going to read an excerpt from an article. Read the text and fill in the blanks (1-10) with the words from the list. Each word can be used only once. One word is extra.

degenerating

going

prolific

disintegrate

host

resist

disseminate

intelligible

waning

falling

obsessing

What is technology doing to language? Many assume the answer is simple: ruining it. Kids can no longer write except in text-speak. Grammar is (1) \_\_\_\_ to the dogs. The ability to compose thoughts longer than a tweet is (2) \_\_\_\_.

Language experts tend to (3) \_\_\_\_ that gloom, noting that there is little proof that speech is really (4) \_\_\_\_: kids may say “lol” out loud sometimes, but this is a marginal phenomenon. Nor is formal writing (5) \_\_\_\_ apart. Sentences like “omg William teh Conqueror pwned Harold at Hastings in 1066!” tend to be written by middle-aged columnists trying to imitate children’s supposed habits. A study by Cambridge Assessment, a British exam-setter, found almost no evidence for text-speak in students’ writing.

Fortunately, serious analysts, like Gretchen McCulloch, a (6) \_\_\_\_ language blogger and journalist, rather than (7) \_\_\_\_ about what the internet is doing to language, largely focus on what can be learned about language from the internet. Biologists grow bacteria in a Petri dish partly because of those organisms’ short lifespans: they are born and reproduce so quickly that studies over many generations can be done in a reasonably short period. Studying language online is a bit like that: trends appear and disappear, platforms rise and fall, and these let linguists observe dynamics that would otherwise take too much time.

For example, why do languages change? A thousand years ago, early versions of English and Icelandic were closely related, possibly even mutually (8) \_\_\_\_\_. English has since evolved hugely, and Icelandic, far less. Linguists have studied the relative effects of strong ties (friends, family) and weaker acquaintanceships in such patterns, hypothesising that small communities would (9) \_\_\_\_ more stable languages. A computer simulation proved that a mix of strong and weak ties—close-knit groups existing in a larger sea—allowed language-change “leaders” to (10) \_\_\_\_ updates to the wider population. Twitter combines strong and weak ties—and sure enough, drives more language change than Facebook, which is more dominated by strong ties. That, in turn, helps explain the conservatism of Icelandic (more like Facebook) and the mutability of English (more like Twitter).

## ТЕКСТОВАЯ СВЯЗНОСТЬ

*You are going to read an excerpt from an essay on self-reliance written by Ralph Waldo Emerson. Ten sentences have been removed from the text. Read the text and complete the gaps with the sentences from the list. One sentence is extra.*

*All men plume themselves on the improvement of society, and no man improves.*

(1) \_\_\_\_ It recedes as fast on one side as it gains on the other. It undergoes continual changes; it is barbarous, it is civilized, it is christianized, it is rich, it is scientific; but this change is not amelioration. (2) \_\_\_\_ Society acquires new arts, and loses old instincts. What a contrast between the well-clad, reading, writing, thinking American, with a watch, a pencil, and a bill of exchange in his pocket, and the naked New Zealander, whose property is a club, a spear, a mat, and an undivided twentieth of a shed to sleep under! (3) \_\_\_\_ If the traveller tell us truly, strike the savage with a broad axe, and in a day or two the flesh shall unite and heal as if you struck the blow into soft pitch, and the same blow shall send the white to his grave.

(4) \_\_\_\_ He is supported on crutches, but lacks so much support of muscle. (5) \_\_\_\_ A Greenwich nautical almanac he has, and so being sure of the information when he wants it, the man in the street does not know a star in the sky. The solstice he does not observe; the equinox he knows as little; and the whole bright calendar of the year is without a dial in his mind. His note-books impair his memory; his libraries overload his wit; the insurance-office increases the number of accidents; and it may be a question whether machinery does not encumber; whether we have not lost by refinement some energy, by a Christianity entrenched in establishments and forms, some vigor of wild virtue. (6) \_\_\_\_

There is no more deviation in the moral standard than in the standard of height or bulk. (7) \_\_\_\_ A singular equality may be observed between the great men of the first and of the last ages; nor can all the science, art, religion, and philosophy of the nineteenth century avail to educate greater men than Plutarch's heroes, three or four and twenty centuries ago. (8) \_\_\_\_ Phocion, Socrates, Anaxagoras, Diogenes, are great men, but they leave no class. He who is really of their class will not be called by their name, but will be his own man, and, in his turn, the founder of a sect. The arts and inventions of each period are only its costume, and do not invigorate men. (9) \_\_\_\_ Hudson and Behring accomplished so much in their fishing-boats, as to astonish Parry and Franklin, whose equipment exhausted the resources of science and art. Galileo, with an opera-glass, discovered a more splendid series of celestial phenomena than any one since. Columbus found the New World in an undecked boat. It is curious to see the periodical disuse and perishing of means and machinery, which were introduced with loud laudation a few years or centuries before. (10) \_\_\_\_ We reckoned the improvements of the art of war among the triumphs of science, and yet Napoleon conquered Europe by the bivouac, which consisted of falling back on naked valor, and disencumbering it of all aids.

A But compare the health of the two men, and you shall see that the white man has lost his aboriginal strength.

B For every Stoic was a Stoic; but in Christendom where is the Christian?

- C For every thing that is given, something is taken.
- D He has a fine Geneva watch, but he fails of the skill to tell the hour by the sun.
- E No greater men are now than ever were.
- F Not in time is the race progressive.
- G Society never advances.
- H The civilized man has built a coach, but has lost the use of his feet.
- I The great genius returns to essential man.
- J The harm of the improved machinery may compensate its good.
- K They have learnt how to build multi-storied houses but they have lost the art of living in comfort.

### ПОНИМАНИЕ ПИСЬМЕННОГО ТЕКСТА

*You are going to read an extract from an essay. For questions 1-10, read the text below and choose the answer (A, B, or C) which you think fits best according to the text.*

In September 1843 James Wilson, a hatmaker from Scotland, founded *the Economist*. His purpose was simple: to champion free trade, free markets and limited government. They were the central principles of a new political philosophy to which Wilson adhered and to which *The Economist* has been committed ever since. That cause was liberalism.

Today liberalism is a broad faith—far broader than it was to Wilson. It has economic, political and moral components on which different proponents put different weights. With this breadth comes confusion. Many Americans associate the term with a left-wing belief in big government; in France it is seen as akin to free-market fundamentalism. But whatever version you choose, liberalism is under attack.

The attack is in response to the ascendancy of people identified by their detractors, not unreasonably, as a liberal elite. The globalisation of world trade; historically high levels of migration; and a liberal world order premised on America's willingness to project hard power: they are all things that the elite has sought to bring about and sustain. They are things the elite has done well out of, congratulating itself all the while on its adaptability and openness to change. Sometimes it has merely benefited more visibly than a broad swathe of lesser souls; sometimes it has done so at their expense.

Populist politicians and movements have won victories by defining themselves in opposition to that elite: Donald Trump over Hillary Clinton; Nigel Farage over David Cameron; the Five Star Movement over the Brussels bureaucracy; Viktor Orban over George Soros, who was not actually running in the Hungarian elections last April but personifies that which Mr Orban despises, and is Jewish to boot. The populists deride the leaders of the past as obsessed with bossy political correctness and out of touch with what matters to ordinary people; they promise their voters the chance to "take back control". Meanwhile rising powers—as well as Russia, which though in decline is still dangerous—seek to challenge, or at least amend, the liberal world order. And in the near future the biggest economy in the world will be China, a one-party dictatorship. In all these ways the once-barely-questioned link between economic progress and liberal democracy is being severely put to the test. *The Economist* marks its 175th anniversary championing a creed on the defensive.

So be it. Liberalism has succeeded by serially reinventing itself while staying true to what Edmund Fawcett, a former journalist at this newspaper, identifies in his excellent history of the subject as four key elements. The first is that society is a place of conflict and that it will and should remain so; in the right political environment, this conflict produces competition and fruitful argument. The second is that society is thus dynamic; it can get better, and liberals should work to bring such improvement about. The third is a distrust of power, particularly concentrated power. The fourth is an insistence, in the face of all power, on equal civic respect for the individual and thus the importance of personal, political and property rights.

Unlike Marxists, liberals do not see progress in terms of some Utopian telos: their respect for individuals, with their inevitable conflicts, forbids it. But unlike conservatives, whose emphasis is on stability and tradition, they strive for progress, both in material terms and in terms of character and ethics. Thus liberals have typically been reformers, agitating for social change. Today liberalism needs to escape its identification with elites and the status quo and rekindle that reforming spirit.

The specific liberal philosophy Wilson sought to promulgate was born amid the tumult of industrialisation and in the wake of the French and American revolutions. It drew from the intellectual inheritance of Enlightenment thinkers such as John Locke and Adam Smith. That tradition was further shaped by a series of Victorian intellectuals, most notable among them John Stuart Mill, which included this newspaper's second editor, Walter Bagehot.

There were at the time liberal movements and thinkers throughout continental Europe as well as the Americas. The first politicians to claim the name, Spain's liberales, did so in a short-lived era of parliamentary rule after 1812. The creed was embraced by many of the 19th century's newly independent Latin American countries. But the movement's centre was Britain, the world's predominant economic and political power.

That liberalism was not today's. Take foreign affairs. Victorian liberals were often pacifists who welcomed the ties of trade but eschewed military alliances. Later, a tradition of "liberal imperialism" justified colonialism on the basis that it brought progress—in the form of laws, property rights and so forth—to peoples that lacked them. Few make either argument today. *The Economist* was sceptical of imperialism, arguing in 1862 that colonies "would be just as valuable to us...if they were independent". But "uncivilised races" were owed "guidance, guardianship and teaching".

Liberalism was not born with the umbilical link to political democracy that it now enjoys. Liberals were white men who considered themselves superior to the run of humanity in both those particulars; though Bagehot, like Mill, supported votes for women, for most of its early years this newspaper did not. And both Mill and Bagehot feared that extending the franchise to all men regardless of property would lead to "the tyranny of the majority".

1. The roots of liberal values on which *the Economist* is based

A are impossible to trace.

B lie in the philosophy of its founder.

C have mistakenly been attributed to its founder due to the dubious nature of liberalism itself.

2. The current understanding of liberalism

A is consistent.

B is more expansive.

C is less comprehensive than it used to be in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

3. Lack of massive popularity of liberalism

A is explained by lack of the awareness of its benefits.

B is brought about by conflicting interests of the US and Europe.

C is down to the opportunistic nature of the success achieved by the elite.

4. The author of the essay considers the current world order to be

A predominantly liberal.

B free of any prevailing ideology.

C devoid of competition worth considering.

5. According to the essay, the way liberalism has survived is along the lines of the saying

A "what doesn't kill us, makes us stronger."

B "it's a beginning of a beautiful friendship."

C "our greatest weakness lies in giving up."

6. The future success of liberalism lies in maintaining the balance

A between progress and regress.

B between utopias and dystopias.

C between making each person happy and not harming those around.

7. The spread of liberalism

A was effected by the ideas of ancient philosophies.

B was caused by the political turmoil in the pre-war Europe.

C was brought about by those who were not satisfied with the existing status quo.

8. The current form of liberalism

A was not feasible in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

B mirrors the one initiated in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

C is more militaristic than it used to be around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

9. The authors of *the Economist*

A encouraged Europe to learn new values from their colonies.

B anticipated the rise of independent states among colonies.

C disapproved of the pacts made for the reasons of uniting military might.

10. Ironically,

A feminism was embraced by the liberals of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

B the liberals of the 19<sup>th</sup> century echoed the ideas of communism.

C white supremacy was at the core of the liberalism in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.