

Всероссийская олимпиада школьников 2024-2025 учебного года
Школьный этап. Английский язык. 7-8 класс
Максимально – 35 баллов

Part 1. Reading

Task 1. You are going to read a text. For questions A-F, choose the answer (1-7) which you think fits the gap best according to the text. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet. There is one extra answer. (6 points)

Yermak

For such an important historical figure, little is known about the personal details of Yermak Timofeyevich. Not even his date of birth has been established, **A** _____. We do know that he was a Cossack who as a youth made a living as a pirate and rogue soldier.

After the Russian conquest of Kazan in the middle of the sixteenth century, expansion into Siberia became possible and a small band of Cossack fighters, led by Yermak, started their perilous journey in the autumn of 1582. The size of their task is demonstrated by the fact **B** _____.

The forces against Yermak, commanded by the Mongol Kuchum Khan and largely consisting of Tatars, were based in Qashliq, and the battle there came to be known as the key moment in the conquest of Siberia. Yermak managed to win, largely through superiority in modern weapons, but **C** _____ it proved difficult to consolidate the victory.

A long period of cat and mouse play took place centred around Qashliq but Kuchum was a crafty opponent and he eventually had Yermak killed in an ambush. Legend has it **D** _____ in heavy armour.

The true legacy of Yermak was arguably economic rather than military. Stories of the amazing land, rich in furs and natural resources, **E** _____, reached Russian merchants and started a steady stream of trade and settlement. Mongol/Tatar control gradually weakened and while Qashliq was not retaken, a new town, Tobolsk, was founded a mere twenty kilometres away.

Certainly, Russian policy towards Siberia changed after Yermak. The government realised that the land was ethnically very diverse, **F** _____. As for Yermak himself, he became known as the archetypal pioneer and adventurer who took a leap into the unknown to change the history and geography of Russia.

- 1 because of the problem of supplying an army so far away
- 2 that they did not have a single horse with them
- 3 which he had opened up
- 4 so it was relatively easy literally to divide and conquer
- 5 what was so full of promise and potential
- 6 which increases his mystique and romantic appeal
- 7 that Yermak drowned trying to swim across a river

A	B	C	D	E	F

Task 2. Read the article and decide whether the statements TRUE, FALSE or this information is not provided in the text – NOT STATED. 10 points

Tea was introduced to Russia in 1640 when the Russian ambassador boyarin Vasily Starkov returned from the Mongol horde and brought a gift of 200 tea packages, 500 grammes each, to tsar Mikhail Fedorovich Romanov. It was praised for its medicinal powers and ability to refresh and to purify the blood. Starkov himself didn't like the taste of the drink but he feared the tsar's anger and brought it to court. There are different legends about the way Romanov felt about the exotic foreign drink. One of them claims the tsar liked it and exclaimed "More!". But many historians hold the opposite opinion because tea trade did not start in Moscow until 36 years later.

The next shipment of tea arrived from China. In 1679 Russia and China signed a special tea treaty. In the beginning tea was very expensive and only rich people could afford it. Also, very few people knew the secrets of its brewing.

Traditionally, common Russian people drank forest herbal teas - Vzvars -made of herbs, dried leaves and fruits. But very soon tea had become very popular, and now Russians couldn't imagine their lives without it. It was also noted that tea would keep one awake during a long church service.

By the 18th century, tea was part and parcel of Russian life and had become very much a national drink. Family affairs were settled around the tea table. Asking one to sit down to tea became a traditional sign of hospitality. Tradition demanded that the water be boiled in a samovar if possible. Russian tea is served with a lump of sugar and lemon, along with various jams and preserves, honey and Russian cookies or pies. People in the West even call tea served with lemon Russian tea.

1. Tea was first brought to Russia from China.
a) True b) False c) Not stated
2. Tea was known as a remedy before it was brought to Russia.
a) True b) False c) Not stated
3. The tsar immediately loved the new drink.
a) True b) False c) Not stated
4. Mikhail Fedorovich held regular assemblies of court in order to make the nobles get used to drinking tea.
a) True b) False c) Not stated
5. Russia started importing tea from China in the 18th century.
a) True b) False c) Not stated
6. At first tea cost a lot of money.
a) True b) False c) Not stated
7. Drinking tea helps one to fall asleep.
a) True b) False c) Not stated

8. Tea was an important part of Russian life in the 18th century.
 a) True b) False c) Not stated
9. Russian tea is served with sugar.
 a) True b) False c) Not stated
10. The modern tradition has replaced the traditional sign of hospitality with coffee.
 a) True b) False c) Not stated

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Part 2. Use of English.

Task 1. For questions 1 - 7, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. 7 points.

HOME, SWEET HOME

There's no place like home, they say. My home town, Tula, is small, but you'd be surprised at how much is going (1) _____ here. Tula is (2) _____ a very nice place to live and it's quite famous. Everyone knows that Leo Tolstoy's family home is just down the road in Yasnaya Polyana. We also have pryaniki - what you call gingerbread in English. Sometimes I (3) _____ that there was more for people to do in Tula in the evening and that it was a bit nearer to Moscow. Of course, you can't really compare a small town like ours with the capital. (4) _____, I like the feeling that it is my home, and I know most people I meet. Tula is a friendly kind of place and it doesn't seem cold and impersonal like big cities do. I am sure I will (5) _____ all this next year because I'm going to university in Moscow. I won't be seeing all those (6) _____ faces every day and it's going to be strange at first. On the other hand, I will definitely (7) _____ the most of all the opportunities that living in the capital provides. Plus, I'm sure you can buy priyaniki in Moscow too.

1.	A for	B at	C in	D on
2.	A actually	B factually	C practically	D completely
3.	A like	B desire	C want	D wish
4.	A Still	B Furthermore	C Moreover	D Besides
5.	A avoid	B escape	C lack	D miss
6.	A known	B familiar	C famous	D similar
7.	A do	B take	C make	D use

1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Task 2. For questions 1-9, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines in the right form that fits the space in the same line. 12 points.

DIVINE DESTINY

<p>Alexander Suvorov was the most successful Russian military leader. Being a sickly child, Suvorov 1_____ fit for the military as his father thought. When the boy was 12, General Gannibal 2_____ his father complaining about Alexander. Gannibal persuaded the father to allow the child to pursue the career of 3_____ choice.</p> <p>Suvorov 4_____ military history as a young boy and joined the Imperial Russian Army at the age of 17. In fact, Suvorov secured Russia's borders and renewed military prestige. Now Suvorov is considered to be one of the 5_____ commanders in Russian and world history. He 6_____ numerous medals by Russia as well as by other countries.</p>	<p>NOT BE</p> <p>HEAR</p> <p>HE</p> <p>STUDY</p> <p>GREAT</p> <p>AWARD</p>
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1		3		5	
2		4		6	

<p>Like most old cities, Moscow, the capital of Russia, stands on a river. It is wide and 7_____ and it is called the Moskva River. Unlike the city's name, the English equivalent of the river's name kept its original pronunciation. In English, it sounds the same as it sounds in 8_____.</p> <p>Of course, the Moskva River is 9_____ important for the city. It supplies Moscow with drinking water as well as water for 10_____ use. The river is an efficient transportation system as it is navigable all year round.</p> <p>Along with that, the riverside makes a very 11_____ place where the citizens enjoy spending their weekends.</p> <p>Many of them say that it's 12_____ to find a better place for a family outing.</p>	<p>PEACE</p> <p>RUSSIA</p> <p>EXTREME</p> <p>INDUSTRY</p> <p>ATTRACT</p> <p>POSSIBLE</p>
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7		9		11	
8		10		12	