

**Федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение
высшего образования**

**Российская академия народного хозяйства и государственной службы
при Президенте Российской Федерации**

Олимпиада школьников РАНХиГС по Иностранному (английскому) языку

2025 – 2026 учебный год

10-11 класс

Заключительный этап

Вариант 1

Task 1. Word Formation Analysis. 5 баллов

Read the word and its definition carefully, as they often contain clues about its origin. Analyze the word's structure: does it consist of parts from other words (a blend), or does it contain recognizable prefixes or suffixes? Select the primary linguistic process that most accurately describes how the word was formed.

- 1.**The word "**logophilia**" (love of words) is constructed from Greek roots ("logos" + "philia") and is an example of:
 - a) Neoclassical compounding/formation
 - b) Blending of English words
 - c) Backformation
 - d) An acronym
- 2.**The verb "**to premier**" (to have a first public performance) was derived from the noun "premiere" through:
 - a) Compounding
 - b) Backformation
 - c) Conversion
 - d) Blending
- 3.**The term "**cisgender**" was formed by adding the Latin prefix "cis-" (on this side) to "gender," making it primarily:
 - a) An example of semantic shift
 - b) A blend
 - c) A derivation through prefixation
 - d) A borrowed calque
- 4.**The informal verb "**to mansplain**" is a portmanteau that critically blends:
 - a) It is an acronym
 - b) "male" and "plain"
 - c) "mandate" and "explain"
 - d) "man" and "explain"

5. The word "emoji" (a digital pictogram) is:

- a) A blend of "emotion" and "ji" (Japanese for character)
- b) A direct borrowing from Japanese
- c) An acronym for "Emotional Icon"
- d) A result of backformation

Ответы:

- 1. a
- 2. c
- 3. c
- 4. d

- 5. b

Task 2. Critical Analysis of an Argument. 5 баллов

First, carefully read the definitions of the five logical fallacies in the **Theoretical Block**. Then, analyze each of the five statements in the **Practical Block**. Your task is to identify which logical fallacy is most prominently committed in each statement. **Write the corresponding letter (A–E) in the answer box next to each statement number.**

Theoretical Block: Definitions of Fallacies

A. Affirming the Consequent

This fallacy occurs in conditional reasoning. It incorrectly assumes that if a given condition (A) leads to a certain result (B), then observing that result (B) automatically proves the initial condition (A) was true. It ignores other potential causes that could lead to the same outcome.

B. False Dilemma (Either/Or Fallacy)

This fallacy unreasonably reduces a complex issue to only two mutually exclusive choices or sides, thereby creating an artificial sense of limited options. It often presents one option as obviously unacceptable to force acceptance of the other, ignoring viable middle ground or alternative solutions.

C. Hasty Generalization

This fallacy involves drawing a broad, general conclusion based on a sample that is too small, unrepresentative, or insufficient. It fails to consider all relevant variables, exceptions, or the full scope of evidence, leading to an unreliable or overstated claim.

D. Appeal to Ignorance (Argumentum ad Ignorantiam)

This fallacy asserts that a proposition is true simply because it has not been proven false, or false because it has not been proven true. It mistakenly treats a lack of definitive evidence as definitive evidence for or against a claim.

E. Subjectivist Fallacy

This fallacy occurs when someone claims that a proposition is true merely because they believe it to be true, or because it aligns with their personal feelings, tastes, or values. It conflates subjective preference or belief with objective truth or valid critique.

Practical Block: Argument Statements

1. Statement on Automation:

"Either we implement a Universal Basic Income to provide for people displaced by robots, or we must accept mass unemployment and social collapse. There is no other possible path forward."

2. Statement on Extraterrestrial Life:

"Scientists have not found any definitive proof of alien civilizations despite decades of searching. This silence from the cosmos is clear evidence that a 'Great Filter'—an evolutionary catastrophe—must destroy all intelligent species before they can colonize the galaxy."

3. Statement on Conservation Strategy:

"Our wildlife charity successfully saved a local fox population, and the entire forest ecosystem improved. Therefore, the most efficient global conservation strategy is for all charities to focus solely on protecting predator species."

4. Statement on International Relations:

"Historical data shows a strong correlation between democratic governance and peaceful relations between nations. We observe peace between democracies; therefore, democracy must be the direct and sole cause of this peace."

5. Statement on Art Criticism:

"The director's new film is objectively shallow and commercially driven. I know this because it lacks the profound emotional grit of their earlier, independent work, which I personally find far more authentic and meaningful."

ОТВЕТЫ:

1. B (False Dilemma)
2. D (Appeal to Ignorance)
3. C (Hasty Generalization)
4. A (Affirming the Consequent)
5. E (Subjectivist Fallacy)

Task 3. Discursive Cohesion. 5 БАЛЛОВ

1. (a) Narrative persuasion is crucial for public health campaigns, where shifting behavior is the ultimate goal. (b) This theory suggests that stories are more effective than facts in changing beliefs because they reduce counter-arguing by engaging transportation and identification. (c) The implications for science communication are equally profound, necessitating a shift from data-dumping to storycraft. (d) Thus, mastering narrative techniques becomes essential for any communicator in the digital age.

Which sentence provides a narrow, applied example that interrupts the flow from presenting the general theory to discussing its broad implications? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

2. (a) The principle of subsidiarity holds that decisions should be taken at the lowest competent level of governance to balance efficiency and local autonomy. (b) The European Union formally incorporates this principle into its legal framework as a check against over-centralization. (c) This aims to foster democratic participation and protect regional interests. (d) However, critics dismiss the entire concept as impractical in an interconnected world, arguing it inherently favors inaction. (e) A more nuanced criticism is that it can be weaponized to obstruct necessary centralized action on transnational issues like climate policy.

Which sentence presents an overly broad and dismissive criticism that disrupts the logical progression from the principle's application to a specific, nuanced critique? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

3. (a) Epistemic injustice occurs when a person is wronged in their capacity as a knower, either testimonial (discounted credibility) or hermeneutical (lack of interpretive resources). (b) The philosopher Miranda Fricker powerfully analyzed this concept, bringing it to mainstream philosophical attention. (c) Its recognition is crucial in fields like medicine and law, where patient or witness credibility is often systematically undermined. (d) For instance, a doctor dismissing a patient's detailed account of their symptoms due to gender bias would be a clear case of testimonial injustice. (e) Addressing these injustices requires structural change, not just individual awareness.

Which sentence introduces a specific, illustrative example that breaks the flow from the conceptual and applied discussion to the concluding statement about solutions? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

4. (a) In complex systems theory, emergence refers to properties that arise from interactions within a system and are not reducible to its individual parts. (b) Consciousness represents a highly debated and complex potential example of emergence from neural networks. (c) Simpler instances, like the intelligent flocking behavior of birds, are less contentious. (d) Understanding this concept fundamentally challenges traditional reductionist scientific approaches and is key to studying interconnected phenomena in economics and ecology.

Which sentence discusses a highly contentious and complex example that creates a jarring shift in argumentative ease between the basic definition and an illustration of simpler cases? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

5. (a) The digital divide has evolved into a "second-level" divide, focusing on the skills and literacies needed to use technology effectively, not just access to it. (b) A core component of this is algorithmic literacy—the critical ability to understand how digital platforms filter and shape the information we see. (c) These algorithms are typically designed by teams of engineers and data scientists with the goal of maximizing user engagement and platform revenue. (d) Without these critical competencies, individuals become disproportionately susceptible to misinformation and targeted manipulation.

Which sentence adds a descriptive detail about the creators and purpose of algorithms that, while factually related, is tangential to the paragraph's focus on defining the problem (the divide) and its consequence for individuals? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

ОТВЕТЫ:

1. a
2. d
3. d
4. b
5. c

Task 4. You are given a story consisting of six paragraphs. Paragraphs 1, 3, and 5 are provided and contain the main storyline. Paragraphs 2, 4, and 6 must be written by you in order to complete the story. 40 БАЛЛОВ

General Requirements

- Each paragraph you write must be **60–70 words**.
- The style should be **neutral and narrative**.
- Your paragraphs must be **logically connected** to the given parts of the story.
- All required grammatical structures and fixed expressions **must be used correctly**.

Paragraph-Specific Requirements

Paragraph 2

- Use the **Third Conditional**
- Use the **Past Perfect Simple**
- Include all of the following expressions:
 - *to be in one's element*
 - *once in a blue moon*
 - *the final straw*

Paragraph 4

- Use the **Present Perfect Continuous**
- Use **inversion**
- Include all of the following expressions:
 - *to make ends meet*
 - *by and large*
 - *pathetic*

Paragraph 6

- Use the modal verb **can** to express **past regret**
- Use the **Present Continuous** to express **annoyance or irritation**
- Include all of the following expressions:
 - *posh*
 - *reluctant*
 - *to take advantage of*

Paragraph 1

Oliver had always believed that success came to those who followed the rules. For years, he worked quietly in the background, avoiding risks and trusting that patience would eventually pay off. His life was predictable, almost painfully so, until the day he received an unexpected email that hinted at an opportunity he had never dared to imagine.

Paragraph 3

The offer sounded tempting, yet unsettling. It required Oliver to leave his stable position and join a project led by people he barely knew. Friends warned him that such chances often came at a price, and doubt crept in as he imagined everything that could go wrong. Still, something about the proposal refused to let him sleep that night.

Paragraph 5

Eventually, Oliver agreed to attend an informal meeting with the team. The office was nothing like he had imagined: stylish, modern, and intimidating in equal measure. As the conversation unfolded, he realised that the decision he was about to make could permanently change how he viewed himself and his future.

Критерий оценки	Общий балл	Оценивание
Grammar complexity	5 баллов	Оценивается общий уровень грамматической сложности (общий уровень текста). 5 баллов - C1 4 балла - B2 3 балла - B1 2 балла - A2 1 балл - A1

Критерий оценки	Общий балл	Оценивание
		0 баллов - системные ошибки, нарушающие понимание
Use of Required Grammatical Structures	6 баллов	<p>Обязательные конструкции (всего 6):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Conditional • Past Perfect Simple • Present Perfect Continuous • Inversion • The modal verb CAN to express past regret • Present Continuous to express annoyance or irritation <p>За каждую корректно использованную конструкцию — 1 балл. Если конструкция отсутствует или использована с ошибкой — 0 баллов за неё.</p>
Vocabulary Complexity	5 баллов	<p>5 баллов - C1 4 балла - B2 3 балла - B1 2 балла - A2 1 балл - A1 0 баллов - частые ошибки, мешающие пониманию.</p>
Use of Required Lexical Expressions	9 баллов	<p>Обязательные выражения (всего 9):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to be in one's element • once in a blue moon • the final straw • to make ends meet • by and large • pathetic • posh • reluctant • to take advantage of <p>За каждое корректно и уместно использованное выражение — 1 балл. Если выражение использовано с ошибкой формы или смысла — балл не начисляется.</p>
Coherence and Logical Integration	5 баллов	<p>5 баллов – абзацы логично и плавно встроены в заданный сюжет; развитие естественное, причинно-следственные связи ясны. 4 балла – логика в целом сохранена, небольшие шероховатости. 3 балла – связь есть, но местами искусственная.</p>

Критерий оценки	Общий балл	Оценивание
		2 балла – слабая логическая интеграция. 1 балл – абзацы выглядят изолированными. 0 баллов – логика нарушена.
Style (Neutral Narrative Register)	4 балла	4 балла – полностью выдержан нейтральный повествовательный стиль. 3 балла – единичные стилистические отклонения. 2 балла – заметные разговорные элементы или стилистическая нестабильность. 1 балл – стиль не соответствует требованию. 0 баллов – жанр нарушен.
Creativity and Narrative Development	6 баллов	6 баллов – оригинальное развитие сюжета, психологическая глубина, убедительная мотивация персонажа. 5 баллов – интересное и продуманное развитие. 4 балла – логично, но предсказуемо. 3 балла – базовое развитие без глубины. 2 балла – слабая проработка. 1 балл – минимальное развитие. 0 баллов – отсутствие связного развития.

Дополнительные правила:

- За каждую грамматическую или лексическую ошибку вне обязательных конструкций снимается 1 балл
- При нарушении количества слов в одном из параграфов (60 - 70 слов) задание не оценивается. Допускается отклонение $\pm 10\%$.
- Если задание не завершено полностью, оно не подлежит проверке и оценивается в 0 баллов.

Task 5. You are given five advanced words or phrases. For each word/phrase, you will read five example sentences. Your task is to guess the meaning of the word or phrase from the given context only and explain it in your own words. Write 10–20 words for each definition. Do not use the same words or phrases in your explanations given in the examples. 15 баллов

1. busybody

1. The **busybody** somehow knew about the meeting before anyone mentioned it.
2. As a **busybody**, she never missed a chance to involve herself in other people's affairs.
3. The office avoided the **busybody**, especially when confidential issues were discussed.
4. He laughed it off, but the **busybody** had already asked too many questions.

5. Being a **busybody** rarely makes you popular.

2. to be poised to do something

1. She was **poised to react**, waiting for the moment to step in.
2. The team appeared **poised to succeed**, though nothing was guaranteed.
3. He stood **poised to leave**, hesitating at the door.
4. Events suggested the situation was **poised to change**.
5. At that point, they were **poised to take** a completely new direction.

3. to agree to disagree

1. They eventually **agreed to disagree** and changed the subject.
2. The debate ended when both sides **agreed to disagree**.
3. Rather than force a conclusion, they **agreed to disagree**.
4. The decision to **agree to disagree** kept the discussion civil.
5. Not every argument ends well, so sometimes people **agree to disagree**.

4. sluggish

1. The response was **sluggish**, arriving much later than expected.
2. After the long journey, his movements became **sluggish**.
3. The project showed **sluggish** progress in its early stages.
4. She noticed her thinking felt unusually **sluggish** that morning.
5. Growth remained **sluggish** despite high expectations.

5. to pan out

1. The arrangement didn't **pan out** the way they had hoped.
2. It was unclear how the situation would **pan out**.
3. Some risks don't **pan out**, no matter the effort.
4. In the end, things **panned out** differently than expected.
5. No one could predict whether the plan would **pan out**.

Критерии оценивания (за каждое слово/фразу - 3 балла)

Выполнено не по заданию - 0 баллов

Accuracy of Meaning – 1 балл

1 балл — значение передано точно и полно, соответствует контексту.

0 баллов — значение частично или полностью неверное (в этом случае другие критерии не оцениваются).

Paraphrasing & Independence from Examples – 1 балл

1 балл — определение сформулировано своими словами, без копирования лексики из примеров.

0 баллов — используются те же ключевые слова или фразы из предложений.

Language Quality (Grammar + Vocabulary) – 1 балл

1 балл — грамматически/лексически корректное, естественное, четкое определение.

0 баллов — есть грамматические/лексические ошибки.

1. **Busybody** (noun, C)

Someone who is too interested in other people's private lives.

2. **to be poised to do something** (phrase)

To be ready to do something; to be in a position to do something.

3. **to agree to disagree** (phrase)

To accept that you do not agree about something and to stop arguing about it.

4. **sluggish** (adjective)

Moving, operating, or reacting slowly and with less energy than usual. It can also describe something such as an economy or business that is slow and not active.

to pan out (phrasal verb)

To develop in a particular way or to happen in a particular way; to have a particular result.

Task 6. Rearrange the words to make a correct sentence. Add ONE missing word. 10 баллов

1. experienced / never / she / pressure / such / before
2. told / I / earlier / you // should
3. that / his / me / honesty / impressed / was
4. she / reacted / the / would / differently / truth / have / known / she
5. the / be / to / plan / unrealistic / believed
6. kept / exhausted / although / he / he / working
7. such / few / was / a / complicated / completed / task / that / it

Критерии оценивания: Оценивание производится по количеству правильно выполненных заданий.

7 правильных ответов - 10 баллов

6 правильных ответов - 9 баллов

5 правильных ответов - 8 баллов

4 правильных ответов - 6 баллов

3 правильных ответов - 4 балла

2 правильных ответов - 2 балла

1 правильный ответ - 1 балл

0 правильных ответов - 0 баллов

Баллы начисляются только за полностью корректные ответы. Частично верные ответы не засчитываются.

1. Answer: **Never before had she experienced such pressure.**

Missing word: **had**

Answer: **She has never experienced such pressure before.**

Missing word: **has**

2. Answer: **I should have told you earlier.**

Missing word: **have**

3. Answer: **It was his honesty that impressed me.**

Missing word: **it**

4. Answer: **Had she known the truth, she would have reacted differently.**

Missing word: **had**

5. Answer: **The plan is/was believed to be unrealistic. / He believed the plan to be unrealistic.**

Missing word: **is/was**

6. Answer: **Although he was exhausted, he kept working.**

Answer: **He kept working although he was exhausted.**

Missing word: **was**

7. Answer: **It was such a complicated task that few completed it.**

Missing word: **it**

Task 7. Each biography below contains ONE clearly incorrect factual statement. Identify the incorrect fact and write the correct version. Use 10–15 words for each answer. 20 БАЛЛОВ.

1. Isaac Newton

Isaac Newton was a British physicist and mathematician. He formulated the laws of motion and the law of universal gravitation, which explain the movement of objects on Earth and in space. Newton also made important discoveries in optics and built a reflecting telescope. He is widely regarded as one of the founders of classical physics. Newton developed the theory of evolution by natural selection.

2. Albert Einstein

Albert Einstein was a theoretical physicist best known for developing the theory of relativity. His work changed scientific understanding of space, time, and energy. Einstein also made important contributions to quantum theory. He discovered the structure of DNA together with James Watson and Francis Crick.

3. Marie Curie

Marie Curie was a physicist and chemist famous for her research on radioactivity. She discovered the elements polonium and radium and contributed to the development of medical uses of radiation. Curie became the first woman to win a Nobel Prize. She is also known for inventing the first practical telephone.

4. Charles Darwin

Charles Darwin was an English naturalist who developed the theory of evolution by natural selection. His ideas explained how species change over time through adaptation. Darwin's work had a profound influence on biology and modern science. He was the first scientist to discover gravity.

5. Nikola Tesla

Nikola Tesla was an inventor and electrical engineer best known for his work with alternating current (AC). His inventions influenced modern electrical power systems and wireless technologies. Tesla designed electric motors and experimented with high-voltage electricity. He was also responsible for developing the first steam engine.

Критерии оценивания: Каждый пункт задания оценивается максимум в 4 балла.

1. Определение неверного факта — 1 балл
1 балл — неверное утверждение найдено правильно.
0 баллов — выбран неправильный факт.
2. Корректность исправления — 2 балла
2 балла — исправление полностью точное и корректное.
1 балл — смысл в целом верный, но формулировка неточная.
0 баллов — исправление неверное.
3. Языковая корректность — 1 балл
1 балл — грамматически/лексически правильный, ясный ответ.
0 баллов — есть грамматические/лексические ошибки.

Дополнительные правила:

- Ответ не засчитывается (0 баллов), если участник только указывает неверный факт из текста, не предлагая его корректную версию.

- Если объем не соответствует требованию (10–15 слов) — 0 баллов за это задание полностью. Допускается отклонение $\pm 10\%$.

1. Isaac Newton did **not** develop the theory of evolution by natural selection. This theory was developed by **Charles Darwin**. Newton's real contribution was the formulation of the **laws of motion** and the **law of universal gravitation**, as well as important work in optics and mathematics.
2. Albert Einstein did **not** discover the structure of DNA. The structure of DNA was discovered by **James Watson and Francis Crick**. Einstein is known for developing the **theory of relativity** and for his contributions to theoretical physics, including work on the photoelectric effect.
3. Marie Curie did **not** invent the telephone. The telephone was invented by **Alexander Graham Bell**. Marie Curie is known for her pioneering research on **radioactivity**, including the discovery of **polonium and radium**, and for her contributions to medical uses of radiation.
4. Charles Darwin did **not** discover gravity. Gravity was described and formulated by **Isaac Newton**. Darwin's actual contribution was the development of the **theory of evolution by natural selection**, which explains how species change over time.

5. Nikola Tesla did **not** develop the first steam engine. Steam engines were invented long before Tesla by earlier engineers such as **James Watt**. Tesla's real achievements were in **electrical engineering**, especially the development of **alternating current (AC) systems** and work on electrical power transmission.

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Заключительный этап

Вариант 2

Task 1. Word Formation Analysis. 5 баллов

Read the word and its definition carefully, as they often contain clues about its origin. Analyze the word's structure: does it consist of parts from other words (a blend), or does it contain recognizable prefixes or suffixes? Select the primary linguistic process that most accurately describes how the word was formed.

1. The term "**agnotology**" (the study of culturally induced ignorance) is a modern formation built from Greek roots ("a-" + "gnosis" + "-logy") and is thus:
 - a) A blend of "ignore" and "ontology"
 - b) An acronym
 - c) A neologism via classical derivation
 - d) A case of semantic broadening
2. The verb "**to escalate**" gained its modern meaning through:
 - a) Prefixation of "e-"
 - b) Conversion from the noun "scale"
 - c) Blending of "elevate" and "scale"
 - d) Backformation from the trademark "Escalator" (like "to Hoover")
3. The word "**bromance**" is a contemporary:
 - a) Blend of "brother" and "romance"
 - b) Acronym for "Brotherly Romantic Alliance"
 - c) Result of compounding
 - d) Example of conversion
4. The adjective "**woke**" (alert to social injustice) underwent:
 - a) Semantic shift (amelioration) within a specific sociolect
 - b) Backformation from "woken"
 - c) Blending
 - d) Clipping from "awoken"

5. The noun "**heteronormativity**" is formed through:

- a) Blending of "heterosexual" and "norm"
- b) Derivation
- c) Compounding
- d) An acronym

ОТВЕТЫ:

- 1. c
- 2. d
- 3. a
- 4. a
- 5. b

Task 2: Critical Analysis of an Argument. 5 баллов

First, carefully read the definitions of the five logical fallacies in the **Theoretical Block**. Then, analyze each of the five statements in the **Practical Block**. Your task is to identify which logical fallacy is most prominently committed in each statement. **Write the corresponding letter (A–E) in the answer box next to each statement number.**

Theoretical Block: Definitions of Fallacies

A. False Cause (Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc)

This fallacy assumes that because one event occurred before another, the first event must have caused the second. It mistakenly confuses correlation or sequence with causation, ignoring other potential factors or the possibility of coincidence.

B. Ad Hominem (Against the Person)

This fallacy attacks the character, motive, or other personal attributes of the person making an argument instead of addressing the substance of the argument itself. It attempts to discredit the argument by discrediting its source.

C. Slippery Slope

This fallacy argues that a relatively small first step will inevitably lead to a chain of related (and usually negative) events, resulting in an extreme, disastrous outcome. This prediction is made without sufficient evidence that the chain of events will actually occur.

D. Straw Man

This fallacy involves misrepresenting, exaggerating, or oversimplifying an opponent's argument to make it easier to attack and refute. By addressing a weakened or distorted version of the real position, the arguer avoids engaging with the actual, more nuanced point.

E. Appeal to Nature

This fallacy argues that something is good, right, or desirable simply because it is perceived as "natural," or conversely, that something is bad because it is "unnatural." This line of reasoning overlooks the fact that natural things are not inherently good, and human-made things are not inherently bad.

Practical Block: Argument Statements

1. Statement on Public Policy:

"Introducing a one-hour later start time for high schools is a terrible idea. If we let teenagers sleep in, the next thing you know, they'll demand to start work at noon, productivity will collapse, and our entire economy will be based on a lazy, nocturnal schedule. We must reject this change to prevent societal breakdown."

2. Statement on Technology:

"Dr. Vance argues for caution in deploying new artificial intelligence in healthcare, citing data privacy risks. But consider this: Dr. Vance's own research grant was recently cut for ethical violations. Why should we trust the judgment of someone with such a questionable professional background on matters of ethics?"

3. Statement on Nutrition:

"You should only use herbal supplements and avoid all prescription medication. Chemicals manufactured in a lab are unnatural and toxic to the human body. Anything that comes directly from a plant, in its pure form, is inherently safer and better for healing."

4. Statement on Urban Planning:

"Opponents of the new bike lane say it's about preserving parking for local businesses. What they're really saying is that they hate the environment, despise healthy citizens, and want our city choked with pollution and traffic forever. We can't listen to such anti-progress views."

5. Statement on Economics:

"Look at the data: the national economic growth rate declined sharply three months after the new government was elected. It's obvious that this administration's policies are responsible for stalling the economy and causing financial hardship for everyone."

ОТВЕТЫ:

1. C (Slippery Slope)
2. B (Ad Hominem)
3. E (Appeal to Nature)
4. D (Straw Man)
5. A (False Cause)

Task 3. Discursive Cohesion. 5 баллов

1. (a) The concept of the "meme" as a unit of cultural replication was first introduced by Richard Dawkins. (b) Memetics applies Darwinian principles to cultural evolution, treating ideas as replicators that spread through imitation. (c) Critics argue it is a simplistic reduction of human culture to a viral model, neglecting agency and meaning. (d) Its explanatory power for complex phenomena like language evolution or religious belief remains hotly debated among anthropologists.

Which sentence serves as a **foundational definition** that logically precedes the introduction of the theory and its criticism, thereby breaking the flow from origin to debate? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

2. (a) Thus, the genre's value lies not in prediction but in its capacity for social and philosophical critique. (b) Cognitive estrangement, a key device in science fiction, uses unfamiliar settings to defamiliarize and critically examine present-day social norms. (c) By presenting a distorted reflection of reality, it prompts readers to question assumptions they take for granted. (d) Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Left Hand of Darkness* is a masterful exploration of gender through this technique.

Which sentence is a **concluding statement** that is placed at the beginning, severely disrupting the logical progression from concept to example? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

3. (a) The "veil of ignorance," a thought experiment by John Rawls, asks us to design a just society without knowing our own future place within it. (b) This mental exercise is intended to ensure principles of justice are chosen fairly, without self-serving bias. (c) Rawls was a 20th-century political philosopher at Harvard. (d) The resulting "difference principle" allows inequality only if it benefits the least advantaged.

Which sentence is a **biographical aside** that breaks the chain from thought experiment description to one of its key outcomes? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

4. (a) Platformization refers to the transformation of traditional sectors by digital platforms that intermediate and control access. (b) This creates new dependencies and shifts power to platform owners who govern through opaque algorithms and terms of service. (c) Consequently, a core political challenge of our time is the democratic accountability of these private governance systems. (d) Ride-hailing apps have fundamentally disrupted urban transportation, creating debates about worker rights and urban congestion.

Which sentence **elaborates on the consequence** mentioned in the previous sentence, instead of allowing the paragraph to conclude with the broader political challenge? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

5. (a) The replication crisis in psychology has underscored the importance of open science practices: pre-registration, data sharing, and larger sample sizes. (b) Statistical significance (p-values) has often been misinterpreted by researchers and the public alike. (c) These

methodological reforms aim to distinguish robust, reproducible effects from statistical flukes or questionable research practices. (d) Widespread adoption of these practices is slowly rebuilding trust in social science research.

Which sentence introduces a **related but distinct methodological issue**, diverting the focus from the introduction of the problem to the description of the intended solutions? Write the correct letter in your answer sheet.

ОТВЕТЫ:

1. b
2. a
3. c
4. d

5. b

Task 4. You are given a story consisting of six paragraphs. Paragraphs 1, 3, and 5 are provided and contain the main storyline. Paragraphs 2, 4, and 6 must be written by you in order to complete the story. 40 БАЛЛОВ

General Requirements

- Each paragraph you write must be **60–70 words**.
- The style should be **neutral and narrative**.
- Your paragraphs must be **logically connected** to the given parts of the story.
- All required grammatical structures and fixed expressions **must be used correctly**.

Paragraph-Specific Requirements

Paragraph 2

- Use **Mixed Conditionals**
- Use the **Present Perfect Simple Passive Voice**
- Include all of the following expressions:
 - *to turn a blind eye*
 - *at the back of one's mind*
 - *sooner or later*

Paragraph 4

- Use the **Past Perfect**
- Use **Emphatic do or did**
- Include all of the following expressions:
 - *on the verge of*
 - *to do something in one go*
 - *hectic*

Paragraph 6

- Use the **modal verb “must”** to express speculation about the past
- Use the **Future Perfect Simple**
- Include all of the following expressions:
 - *To take for granted*
 - *straightforward*
 - *rewarding*

Paragraph 1

On the first day of the final term, Clara discovered that her name had been added to a private online group created for a selective international exchange programme. She had never applied for it and assumed a mistake had been made. However, the welcome message suggested that participants were expected to confirm their interest within forty-eight hours.

Paragraph 3

Later that evening, Clara learned that only one student from her school could accept the offer. The next day, she overheard two classmates discussing how much the programme could improve university prospects. One of them clearly assumed that Clara would step aside, as she was already considered “safe” in terms of future success.

Paragraph 5

By the end of the week, the school was buzzing with rumours. Teachers began treating Clara differently, while her classmates grew distant. The exchange programme no longer felt like an exciting opportunity but a source of tension. Clara started questioning whether proving herself was worth the unexpected cost.

Критерий оценки	Общий балл	Оценивание
Grammar complexity	5 баллов	Оценивается общий уровень грамматической сложности (общий уровень текста). 5 баллов - C1 4 балла - B2 3 балла - B1 2 балла - A2 1 балл - A1 0 баллов - системные ошибки, нарушающие понимание
Use of Required Grammatical Structures	6 баллов	Обязательные конструкции (всего 6): - Mixed Conditionals - Present Perfect Passive - Past Perfect - Emphatic do/did

Критерий оценки	Общий балл	Оценивание
		<p>- Modal must (past speculation) - Future Perfect Simple</p> <p>За каждую корректно использованную конструкцию — 1 балл. Если конструкция отсутствует или использована с ошибкой — 0 баллов за неё.</p>
Vocabulary Complexity	5 баллов	<p>5 баллов - C1 4 балла - B2 3 балла - B1 2 балла - A2 1 балл - A1 0 баллов - частые ошибки, мешающие пониманию.</p>
Use of Required Lexical Expressions	9 баллов	<p>Обязательные выражения (всего 9):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to turn a blind eye • at the back of one's mind • sooner or later • on the verge of • to do something in one go • Hectic • to take for granted • Straightforward • Rewarding <p>За каждое корректно и уместно использованное выражение — 1 балл. Если выражение использовано с ошибкой формы или смысла — балл не начисляется.</p>
Coherence and Logical Integration	5 баллов	<p>5 баллов – абзацы логично и плавно встроены в заданный сюжет; развитие естественное, причинно-следственные связи ясны. 4 балла – логика в целом сохранена, небольшие шероховатости. 3 балла – связь есть, но местами искусственная. 2 балла – слабая логическая интеграция. 1 балл – абзацы выглядят изолированными. 0 баллов – логика нарушена.</p>
Style (Neutral Narrative Register)	4 балла	<p>4 балла – полностью выдержан нейтральный повествовательный стиль. 3 балла – единичные стилистические отклонения. 2 балла – заметные разговорные элементы или стилистическая нестабильность. 1 балл – стиль не соответствует требованию. 0 баллов – жанр нарушен.</p>

Критерий оценки	Общий балл	Оценивание
Creativity and Narrative Development	6 баллов	<p>6 баллов – оригинальное развитие сюжета, психологическая глубина, убедительная мотивация персонажа.</p> <p>5 баллов – интересное и продуманное развитие.</p> <p>4 балла – логично, но предсказуемо.</p> <p>3 балла – базовое развитие без глубины.</p> <p>2 балла – слабая проработка.</p> <p>1 балл – минимальное развитие.</p> <p>0 баллов – отсутствие связного развития.</p>

Дополнительные правила:

- За каждую грамматическую или лексическую ошибку вне обязательных конструкций снимается 1 балл
- При нарушении количества слов в одном из параграфов (60 - 70 слов) задание не оценивается. Допускается отклонение $\pm 10\%$.

Task 5. You are given five advanced words or phrases. For each word/phrase, you will read five example sentences. Your task is to guess the meaning of the word or phrase from the given context only and explain it in your own words. Write 10–20 words for each definition. Do not use the same words or phrases in your explanations given in the examples. 15 баллов

1. level-headed

1. Her **level-headed** reply surprised those expecting panic.
2. He remained **level-headed** when the pressure increased.
3. A **level-headed** approach helped calm the situation.
4. Even critics admitted she was **level-headed** in her judgement.
5. Being **level-headed** mattered more than reacting quickly.

2. vicious circle

1. One mistake led to another, forming a **vicious circle**.
2. Attempts to fix the issue only strengthened the **vicious circle**.
3. The **vicious circle** became harder to break over time.
4. Fear and failure fed into a **vicious circle**.
5. Escaping the **vicious circle** required a change of approach.

3. bugbear

1. That issue has long been his **bugbear**.
2. She returned to the same **bugbear** during the discussion.

3. Every meeting revealed a new example of the same **bugbear**.
4. His **bugbear** was mentioned even when it seemed irrelevant.
5. The **bugbear** refused to disappear.

4. a tall order

1. Meeting the deadline felt like a **tall order**.
2. The request sounded reasonable, yet it was a **tall order**.
3. For such a small team, the task was a **tall order**.
4. Achieving that level of success would be a **tall order**.
5. Everyone understood it was a **tall order**.

5. heyday

1. The building dates back to the company's **heyday**.
2. He compared current results with those of his **heyday**.
3. The industry looked very different in its **heyday**.
4. Stories from her **heyday** still attract attention.
5. That period is often remembered as their **heyday**.

Критерии оценивания (за каждое слово/фразу - 3 балла)

Выполнено не по заданию - 0 баллов

Accuracy of Meaning – 1 балл

1 балл — значение передано точно и полно, соответствует контексту.

0 баллов — значение частично или полностью неверное (в этом случае другие критерии не оцениваются).

Paraphrasing & Independence from Examples – 1 балл

1 балл — определение сформулировано своими словами, без копирования лексики из примеров.

0 баллов — используются те же ключевые слова или фразы из предложений.

Language Quality (Grammar + Vocabulary) – 1 балл

1 балл — грамматически корректное, естественное, четкое определение.

0 баллов — есть грамматические ошибки, нарушающие точность формулировки, или формулировка неясна.

1. **level-headed** (adjective)

Calm and sensible; able to make good decisions even in difficult or emotional situations.

2. **vicious circle** (noun, C)

A difficult situation in which one problem causes another problem, which then makes the first problem worse.

3. **bugbear** (noun, C)

Something that annoys or worries someone for a long time.

4. **a tall order** (noun phrase, usually singular)

Something that is very difficult to achieve or do.

heyday (noun, singular)

The most successful or popular period of a person's or thing's history.

Task 6. Rearrange the words to make a correct sentence. Add ONE missing word. 10 баллов

1. who / the / charge / I / was / in / spoke / person
2. weekends / she / working / hate / to / at
3. argument / his / minds / that / their / they / so / convincing / changed
4. on / expected / to / guests / arrive / time
5. the / began / the / hardly / finished / applause / presentation / when
6. adequately / you / unless / fail / will / prepare
7. me / he / how / calm / surprised / was / remained

Критерии оценивания: Оценивание производится по количеству правильно выполненных заданий.

7 правильных ответов - 10 баллов

6 правильных ответов - 9 баллов

5 правильных ответов - 8 баллов

4 правильных ответов - 6 баллов

3 правильных ответов - 4 балла

2 правильных ответов - 2 балла

1 правильный ответ - 1 балл

0 правильных ответов - 0 баллов

Баллы начисляются только за полностью корректные ответы. Частично верные ответы не засчитываются.

1. Answer: **The person who I spoke to was in charge. / I spoke to the person who was in charge.**

Missing word: **to**

2. Answer: **She used to hate working at weekends. / She seems to hate working weekends.**

Missing word: **used / seems**

3. Answer: **His argument was so convincing that they changed their minds.**

Missing word: **was**

4. Answer: **Guests are / were expected to arrive on time. / We/he... expected guests to arrive on time.**

Missing word: **are/ were**

5. Answer: **Hardly had the presentation finished when the applause began.**

Missing word: **had**

6. Answer: **You will fail unless you prepare adequately. / Unless you prepare adequately, you will fail.**

Missing word: **you** (Second "you" is obligatory after "unless".)

7. Answer: **What surprised me was how calm he remained.**

Missing word: **what**

Task 7. Each biography below contains ONE clearly incorrect factual statement. Identify the incorrect fact and write the correct version. Use 10–15 words for each answer. 20 БАЛЛОВ

1. Galileo Galilei

Galileo Galilei was an Italian astronomer and physicist who improved the telescope and made important observations of the Moon and planets. He supported the heliocentric model, which states that the Earth moves around the Sun. Galileo conducted controlled experiments and helped establish modern scientific methods. He invented the laws of motion used in modern physics textbooks.

2. Stephen Hawking

Stephen Hawking was a theoretical physicist known for his work on black holes and cosmology. He wrote popular science books that explained complex ideas to a wide audience. Hawking made major contributions to theoretical physics despite severe physical limitations. He carried out laboratory experiments on radioactive elements.

3. Louis Pasteur

Louis Pasteur was a French chemist and microbiologist. He developed the process of pasteurisation and made important discoveries about germs and disease. Pasteur helped save millions of lives through advances in medicine and hygiene. He was the first person to discover penicillin.

4. Ada Lovelace

Ada Lovelace is often considered the first computer programmer. She worked on early mechanical computing machines and described how they could follow detailed instructions. Lovelace understood that machines could go beyond simple calculation. She built and successfully tested a fully functioning electronic computer.

5. Alexander Fleming

Alexander Fleming was a Scottish scientist who discovered penicillin. His discovery led to the development of antibiotics and revolutionised modern medicine. Fleming's work has saved millions of lives worldwide. He discovered penicillin while developing a vaccine for tuberculosis.

Критерии оценивания: Каждый пункт задания оценивается максимум в 4 балла.

- 1. Определение неверного факта — 1 балл
- 1 балл — неверное утверждение найдено правильно.
- 0 баллов — выбран неправильный факт.

2. Корректность исправления — 2 балла

2 балла — исправление полностью точное и корректное.

1 балл — смысл в целом верный, но формулировка неточная.

0 баллов — исправление неверное.

3. Языковая корректность — 1 балл

1 балл — грамматически/лексически правильный, ясный ответ.

0 баллов — есть грамматические/лексические ошибки.

Дополнительные правила:

- Ответ не засчитывается (0 баллов), если участник только указывает неверный факт из текста, не предлагая его корректную версию.

- Если объем не соответствует требованию (10–15 слов) — 0 баллов за это задание полностью. Допускается отклонение $\pm 10\%$.

1. Galileo Galilei did **not** invent the laws of motion used in modern physics textbooks. The laws of motion were formulated by **Isaac Newton**. Galileo's contribution was his **astronomical observations**, improvements to the telescope, and his role in establishing **experimental methods** in science.

2. Stephen Hawking did **not** carry out laboratory experiments on radioactive elements. He was a **theoretical physicist**, not an experimental scientist. Hawking is known for his work on **black holes, cosmology**, and for explaining complex scientific ideas to the public.

3. Louis Pasteur did **not** discover penicillin. Penicillin was discovered by **Alexander Fleming**. Pasteur's real contribution was the development of **germ theory, pasteurisation**, and important advances in microbiology and medicine.

4. Ada Lovelace did **not** build or test a fully functioning electronic computer. Early electronic computers were developed much later by other scientists and engineers. Lovelace's contribution was writing **theoretical descriptions of algorithms** and explaining how machines could follow complex instructions, which is why she is considered the first computer programmer.

5. Alexander Fleming did **not** discover penicillin while developing a vaccine for tuberculosis. Penicillin was discovered **accidentally while he was studying bacteria**. Fleming's real contribution was identifying the antibiotic properties of penicillin, which later led to the development of modern antibiotics.