

**ОЛИМПИАДА «Я – БАКАЛАВР»
ДЛЯ ОБУЧАЮЩИХСЯ 5-11 КЛАССОВ
2025/2026 учебный год**

**ЗАКЛЮЧИТЕЛЬНЫЙ ЭТАП
ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ**

КЛАСС 11

Вариант 2

TASK 1. Listening (12 баллов)

You will hear an interview with a sociologist and former counsellor called Adrian Mitchell, who has just published a book on family relationships. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

1. Why did Adrian decide to write a book on family relationships?

- A He was persuaded by others in his field.
- B He was encouraged by the success of his previous publication.
- C He felt it was a natural outcome of his work in sociology.
- D He believed it was probably expected of him.

2. Adrian says that he gave up his role as a counsellor because

- A he was unable to remain objective.
- B he felt overloaded with responsibility.
- C it no longer provided sufficient challenge.
- D he resented its impact on his own physical health.

3. Adrian says that the average 21st-century husband

- A may be suffering a form of identity crisis.
- B is still reluctant to participate in housework.
- C secretly wishes to earn more than his wife.
- D is happy to have been relieved of certain duties.

4. Adrian explains that his children did not feature in his book because

- A academic publications should have an impersonal tone.
- B they were unwilling to be exposed in such a way.
- C he was reluctant to take advantage of their willingness to please.
- D descriptions of family experiences were becoming formulaic.

5. Adrian criticizes certain media reports on social issues for

- A their misleading use of statistics.
- B the sensational style they are written in.
- C the way they overlook areas of progress.
- D their focus on superficial subjects.

6. What does Adrian say about the institution of marriage?

- A It will continue to decline in popularity.
- B It is undervalued in modern society.
- C Its purpose is not the same for everyone.
- D It requires more compromise than many people realize.

ОТВЕТЫ:

1	2	3	4	5	6
A	B	B	C	C	D

TASK 2. Reading (12 баллов)

You are going to read a magazine article about the relationship between mothers and their sons. Six paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A-G the one which fits each gap (1-6). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

Motherhood's best-kept secret

One night, not so long ago just as I was drifting off in bed, the phone rang. It was my 19-year-old son, who is at university in Edinburgh, calling to say that he had broken up with his girlfriend and had been wandering around the city ever since, not knowing what to do. I told him to catch the first train home. He arrived looking a wreck, but after a good sleep and some home cooking, he began to feel his old self again.

1	
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Girls I knew then were reasonably open with their mothers; but that was a mother-daughter thing. No male contemporary would ever have admitted asking his mother for advice. Despite all our talk about how important it was for men to let down their defences and learn how to express their feelings, most of us still secretly subscribed to the idea that any man who depended on his mother too much was a bit of a mummy's boy.

2	
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But things don't work that way anymore. In a world of short-term contracts, downsizing and redundancy, even the most promising of our children experience lows early on in their careers; and whenever they hit those depths, many of them will return to the nest. Indeed, a typical son will continue to be at least partly dependent on his mother well into his twenties.

3	
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They are also better able to see through the mask of apparent self-confidence. When my boy was growing up, he always maintained a fairly invincible front. His early imaginary play involved sieges, ambushes and surprise attacks. His starting point, though, was always a danger against which he needed to defend himself. He used the games he played as a child to convince himself that he could prevail.

4	
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In his teens, he used many of these same tricks to keep me at bay. If I drove him anywhere to meet his friends, he insisted I drop him off out of sight of where they were waiting. There were girlfriends I never met and phone conversations which were all in code. But occasionally, a confidential mood would come over him and he would air whatever happened to be on his mind.

5	
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“And there's another important change,”- she adds. “Most of us took pains to reassure our sons that it was OK for them to show physical affection or cry. If our boys are not so anxious now about showing their emotions, our efforts in this area have not been in vain.” This seems to be backed up by research, which shows that boys call their mothers on their mobile phones more than anyone else.

6	
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What I didn't anticipate was for the same thing to happen with my son. I assumed I would lose him, just like all the experts said. It may be that they were wrong all along – that sons have always confided in their mothers - and just made sure that no one else knew. Have I stumbled on motherhood's best-kept secret? Even if I have, it doesn't diminish my sense of wonder. It's still like getting a present you never expected.

A	These days, however, mothers can expect to be relied on almost indefinitely for the type of advice that calls on our experience of the outside world. A generation ago, it was accepted that sons would eventually leave their mothers to join the world of men and work. Mothers put their 18 years in and then opened the door to allow their sons to move into jobs for life.
B	Other mothers told me that they, too, were getting the same volume of confidences. According to my psychotherapist friend, this is normal behaviour for today's boys. Our sons will tell us more than their fathers told their mothers, because we have brought them up to do so. Our norm has been to empathize with children when they talk about their feelings, whereas the previous generation tended to be shocked.
C	They're not in any doubt about how to respond to the situation. As one friend said of her rather reticent son: 'My job is to give my son courage.' And whilst we might welcome the chance to see more of our children, one does have the feeling that there is something antinatural in all this.
D	Many mothers I know are surprised at this reluctance to break away. One of my friends, however, who happens to be a psychotherapist, assures me that the mother-son intimacy is nothing new. 'Mums have always been easier to talk to,' she points out. 'They're more cuddly than their fathers, and sons realize early on that their mothers are more accepting of human frailty.'
E	But don't assume that girls are any tougher than boys. 'Daughters need their mothers, too,' she says. Certainly, I know how much my own daughters need me. But this continuing mother-daughter bond is something I expected.
F	Some of the details began to emerge on the following day. Then he told me more. And more. And even more. A moment arrived when I couldn't help asking myself, should I be hearing all of this? It wasn't that I was shocked. He reminded me of myself in my own student years, but with one important difference - I would never have confided in my parents this way.
G	As he got older and had to ride to school on a bus with other children, all too often there were situations in which he did not. I had to teach him how

	to put up new defences so that his rougher classmates would not see his weaknesses.
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Ответы:

1	2	3	4	5	6
F	A	D	G	B	E

TASK 3. USE OF ENGLISH.

1). For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). (16 баллов)

Why marriage leads to a long life

An analysis of the benefits of relationships has confirmed a truth that many have long (0) *held*..... to be self-evident: marriage is good for you. Not only does it (1)..... physical health in men and mental well-being in women, but the longer it lasts, the greater the benefits all round, (2) in a longer and more satisfying life. A study (3) millions of people over many years across seven European countries, has (4) that married couples had mortality rates 10-15 per cent below the population as a (5) This figure rises with the longevity of a marriage.

The selection hypothesis argues that well-adjusted individuals are more likely to (6) long-term relationships, suggesting that the determining (7) might not be marriage itself, but more the kind of people who are likely to wed and stay wed. The authors of the study argue that commitment is also (8) to higher living standards, with the associated network of supportive families, shared friends and healthy lifestyles bringing a range of benefits.

0	A insured	B meant	C held	D proved
1	A enhance	B enchant	C enjoy	D endure
2	A leading	B finalizing	C improving	D resulting
3	A consisting	B involving	C implying	D composing
4	A manifested	B exposed	C revealed	D considered
5	A whole	B set	C total	D group
6	A launch	B found	C base	D establish
7	A part	B moment	C factor	D event
8	A combined	B linked	C blended	D joined

Ответы:

0	C held
1	A enhance

2	D resulting
3	B involving
4	C revealed
5	A whole
6	D establish
7	C factor
8	B linked

2).For the following items, match verbs with trios to form meaningful collocations. There is an example at the beginning). (16 баллов)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
go	save	keep	put	take	pain	give	make	pay

A	B	C	D	E
shopping	on weight	an eye on	a break	a face
bad	off a meeting	silent	a taxi	a speech
on holiday	away toys	balance	into account	peace

F	G	H	I
data	killer	permission	respect
space	tolerance	away	interest
environment	sensation	over	in cash

ОТВЕТЫ:

Item	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Answer	A	F	C	B	D	G	H	E	I

3).Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence. (10 баллов)

1.The company's decision to ignore the safety regulations had dire _____.

- A. effects
- B. consequences
- C. results
- D. outcomes

ОТВЕТ: B. consequences

2. After the scandal, the politician's reputation was irreparably _____.

- A. damaged

- B. hurt
- C. spoiled
- D. wounded

ОТВЕТ: A. damaged

3. The committee will _____ his proposal before the next meeting.
- A. look into
 - B. think over
 - C. talk out
 - D. run over

ОТВЕТ: B. think over

4. After a long decline, the business finally _____ last month.
- A. went under
 - B. went down
 - C. went off
 - D. went out

ОТВЕТ: A. went under

5. He's good at _____ creative ideas in team meetings.
- A. coming up with
 - B. coming down with
 - C. coming into
 - D. coming across

ОТВЕТ: A. coming up with

4). Sentence Transformation. (10 баллов)

Use the word in capitals to rewrite the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Do not change the word given. You must use between 3 and 8 words.

1. It's mostly thanks to John that the project succeeded.

CREDIT

It's John who should of the project.

ОТВЕТ: take most credit for the success

2. If you don't acknowledge your sources, there's a danger people will accuse you of plagiarism.

RISK

If you don't acknowledge your sources, you plagiarism.

ОТВЕТ: risk being accused of

3. The crisis has affected business so much that we may have to close down the company.

IMPACT

The crisis business that we may have to close down the company.

ОТВЕТ: has had such an impact on

4. He's not a good guitarist, but there is no better singer than him.

COMES

He's not a good guitarist, but singing, he is the best.

ОТВЕТ: when it comes to

5. The party leader admitted she had pretended not to notice the corruption amongst her own politicians.

EYE

The party leader admitted to the corruption amongst her own politicians.

ОТВЕТ: having turned \ turning a blind eye to

TASK 4.CROSS-CULTURAL TASK). (10 баллов)

Choose the correct answer. Only ONE is correct.

1. You are working with a team from a culture that values high-context communication and group harmony. During a brainstorming session, a senior member proposes an idea that you think is flawed. What is the most culturally sensitive way to respond?

A) Say immediately, "I'm sorry, but I see several problems with that idea. Let me explain."

B) Remain silent to avoid causing embarrassment or conflict.

- C) Ask a clarifying question, such as "Could you help me understand how we might overcome potential challenge X?" to gently point out the flaw.
- D) Send a private email to the team leader after the meeting, outlining your criticisms.

ОТВЕТ: C) Ask a clarifying question, such as "Could you help me understand how we might overcome potential challenge X?" to gently point out the flaw.

2. In many hierarchical cultures, the concept of "saving face" is very important. What does "saving face" primarily mean?

- A) Winning an argument to prove you are correct.
- B) Maintaining your dignity and public reputation, and avoiding causing others embarrassment.
- C) Always being the one to pay the bill at a restaurant.
- D) Keeping your personal life completely separate from your work life.

ОТВЕТ: B) Maintaining your dignity and public reputation, and avoiding causing others embarrassment.

3. You are having a business dinner in Saudi Arabia. Your host uses only their right hand to eat and pass food. What is the most likely reason for this?

- A) The left hand is considered unclean in many Middle Eastern and Indian cultures.
- B) They are left-handed but are trying to be polite.
- C) It is a local superstition for bringing good luck in business.
- D) The food is too hot to touch with both hands.

ОТВЕТ: A) The left hand is considered unclean in many Middle Eastern and Indian cultures.

4. The phrase "Let's think outside the box" is common in individualistic, innovative cultures. How might this concept be received in a traditional, collectivistic culture that values established methods?

- A) It would be universally welcomed as a fresh perspective.
- B) It might be seen as disrespectful to the wisdom of elders and proven traditions.
- C) It would be understood as a request for more teamwork.
- D) It would be interpreted as a criticism of the current "box."

ОТВЕТ: B) It might be seen as disrespectful to the wisdom of elders and proven traditions.

5. *In a country like the UK or Australia, colleagues often use self-deprecating humour (making fun of themselves). What is the primary purpose of this in a professional context?*

- A) To show insecurity and lack of confidence.
- B) To appear humble, relatable, and to build rapport.
- C) To signal that they are not good at their job.
- D) To make fun of their clients behind their backs.

Ответ: B) To appear humble, relatable, and to build rapport.

Подробный разбор:

1. Высоко контекстная культура и групповой консенсус

Ответ С: В культурах, ценящих гармонию, прямая публичная критика (вариант А) заставит старшего коллегу "потерять лицо" и нарушит атмосферу в группе. Молчание (В) не продуктивно и может быть воспринято как согласие. Письмо после встречи (D) хоть и приватно, но может выглядеть как "закулисная игра" и не способствует открытому обсуждению.

2. Концепция "сохранения лица"

Ответ В: "Face" ("лицо") — это метафора социального статуса, репутации и чувства собственного достоинства в присутствии других. "Потеря лица" — это публичное унижение или стыд.

3. Культурные нормы и традиции

Ответ А: Это классический пример культурного табу, уходящего корнями в историю и религиозно-гигиенические практики. В исламе, как и в некоторых других культурах, левая рука традиционно ассоциируется с гигиеной в туалете, поэтому её не используют для приёма пищи, рукопожатий или передачи предметов.

4. Различия в ценностях: инновации vs. традиции

Ответ В: Фраза "think outside the box" пропагандирует индивидуальный, новаторский, часто бунтарский подход. В культурах с высокой дистанцией власти ценятся проверенные пути, мудрость предшественников и стабильность.

5. Социальные коды и юмор (Великобритания, Австралия)

Ответ В: В этих культурах, особенно в Британии, самоирония — мощный социальный инструмент. Смягчает статусные различия: Человек, который может посмеяться над собой, кажется менее надменным. Почему не А или С: Самоирония — это демонстрация уверенности, а не неуверенности. Уверенный в себе человек не боится показать мелкие недостатки. Это не признак профессиональной некомпетентности, а наоборот, способ показать, что вы не относитесь к себе слишком серьезно.

TASK 5. WRITING (14 баллов)

Write an essay. Remember the rules of writing.

Write 230—250 words.

The Digital Paradox

"The very technology that promises to connect us is, in fact, leading to greater social isolation and superficial relationships." To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Вариант эссе:

The Illusion of Connection

I strongly agree with the statement that digital technology, while designed to connect, often fosters isolation and superficiality. This paradox emerges because virtual interaction frequently replaces, rather than augments, the profound human contact essential for our well-being.

On the surface, platforms like social media create vast networks, allowing us to maintain ties across continents and share moments instantly. This can provide a valuable sense of ambient awareness and logistical convenience. However, these connections are predominantly performative and curated. We substitute the deep, nuanced understanding forged through shared physical presence—with its body language, empathy, and spontaneous vulnerability—for the shallow currency of likes, comments, and idealized digital personas. This can lead to the "comparison trap" and feelings of loneliness even amid hundreds of online "friends."

Furthermore, the very architecture of digital communication encourages distraction and fractured attention. A conversation held while simultaneously scrolling through a feed is inherently diminished. The technology that allows a video call with a distant loved one is the same that pulls our gaze away from the person sitting across the dinner table, eroding the quality of our immediate, real-world relationships. Connection becomes a matter of bandwidth and convenience rather than committed presence.

In conclusion, the digital promise of global connection is undermined by its tendency to trivialize human interaction. By prioritizing breadth over depth and performance over authenticity, it can create a societal landscape of crowded loneliness. Technology itself is not to blame, but our passive consumption of it leads to this isolating paradox. True connection requires consciously using these tools to facilitate, not substitute for, the irreplaceable depth of face-to-face relationships.

(248 words)