



## ОЛИМПИАДА РГУ ДЛЯ ШКОЛЬНИКОВ ПО ИНОСТРАННОМУ ЯЗЫКУ

### АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

2025/2026 учебный год

Заключительный этап

9 класс

Вариант № 26-ОШ-2-09 Английский язык-1

### ЗАДАНИЯ

*На выполнение олимпиадных заданий отводится 150 минут. Вам предлагается выполнить четыре категории заданий.*

*При выполнении заданий внимательно читайте инструкцию к каждому заданию.*

*Максимальное количество баллов за ответы:*

- Часть 1. (Reading) - 30 баллов;
- Часть 2. (Writing) - 30 баллов;
- Часть 3. (Grammar) - 20 баллов;
- Часть 4. (Cultural study) - 20 баллов.

#### Part 1. Reading

**Tasks 001-005.** (10 баллов, по 2 балла за каждый правильно расположенный абзац текста)

**You are an editor of a magazine. You have come across an interesting article but some parts of the article have been mixed up. Use the headline and the initial paragraph of the article and put the parts to the title and in the right order so that you should receive the original article.**

#### THE HISTORY OF TEA

The tea plant, *Camellia sinensis*, is **indigenous** to a region spanning present-day China, India, Myanmar and Cambodia. All types of tea are derived from the same plant.

**A)** As demand for black tea grew, the EIC sought China's help to increase production and improve the quality of its wares. With demand for green tea declining and pressure from Europe mounting in the aftermath of the Opium Wars, the Chinese agreed. To produce black tea on an industrial scale, European growers started importing indentured laborers from other provinces of India into Assam, Darjeeling and Sri Lanka (then known as Ceylon), forcing them to work under conditions similar to slavery. As Rappaport says, "Black tea represents ... the way in which the British Empire colonized the land, labor and taste" of the territories it occupied. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the EIC and other companies in British-controlled India and Sri Lanka

embarked on a **concerted** campaign to change drinking habits in the West by boosting black teas and denigrating green and oolong Chinese teas. “European and American advertising was imbued with imperial ideology that produced notions of racial difference and white supremacy,” writes Rappaport in her book. She tells Smithsonian that black tea also appealed to working-class Britons because it “seemed to be stronger, so you could use less tea and make it go further by continually pouring hot water in and make the tea last longer.”

**B)** In the early 17th century, Portuguese and Dutch traders returning from Asia brought green tea back home, where it quickly **gained traction** as a curative beverage. Tea enjoyed similar prominence in the Americas following its introduction by colonial powers and their trading companies, including the British East India Company (EIC) and the Dutch East India Company (VOC). By the 18th century, Europeans and Americans were primarily drinking green or oolong teas known by colonial trading names like hyson, singlo, bohea, congou and souchong. Contemporary and historical observers alike often incorrectly identify bohea, congou and souchong as black teas when they were, in fact, oolong. “The English phrase ‘black tea’ has been in continual usage from the 18th century to the present, but it has not always referred to the same drink,” says Andrew Liu, author of *Tea War: A History of Capitalism in China and India*. As tea expert Bruce Richardson explains, “European and American tea merchants didn’t really know the difference between green, black or oolong, or where it came from. Merchants just took anything that they could possibly get because there was this **unquenchable** thirst for tea in Europe and America.”

**C)** The U.S. took longer **to embrace** black tea than Great Britain, in large part because of the newfound popularity of Japanese green tea in the mid-19th century. Transported from Edo Bay (now Tokyo) to San Francisco via steamer in just 18 days, the beverage readily outperformed Chinese varieties of green tea, says Richardson. In 1905, 40 percent of tea imported into the U.S. came from Japan. Chinese green, oolong and black teas **accounted** for another 45 percent of imports, while black teas from India and Sri Lanka made up the last 15 percent. By the mid-20th century, however, America was predominantly a nation of black tea drinkers. Today, black tea is the most popular variety in the Western world; in Japan and China, green tea continues to dominate. Other types of tea, including oolong, white, yellow, pu’er and herbal, boast dedicated fans but have yet to reach the heights of black and green tea.

**D)** But different methods of processing the plant’s leaves produce different types of teas, with the level of oxidation affecting the color and flavor of the resulting beverage. To make green tea, manufacturers dehydrate, heat and shape the leaves, preventing oxidation and preserving the plant’s original color. At the other end of the spectrum, black tea leaves are fully oxidized, changing hue from green to a darker brown. Initially a medicinal beverage, tea became a daily drink by the third century C.E., with elite members of Chinese society viewing tea drinking as a **leisurely** pastime. By the eighth century, during the Tang dynasty, China’s tea culture was flourishing, giving rise to tea ceremonies and social events, as well as art and literature inspired by the drink. Over the next few centuries, green tea was enjoyed by all sectors of Chinese society, and tea became a cornerstone of China’s trade with other countries. To the east of China, in Japan, elite citizens started drinking tea in the eighth century. But wider domestic cultivation and appreciation of tea only came to the country in the late 12th century. Matcha – a green tea made from powdered leaves – is often served in a small bowl during a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. Today, its **enduring** popularity is reflected in the “teacup without handle” emoji. The “hot beverage” emoji, meanwhile, takes its cue from another tea tradition: black tea, which gained a foothold in the West through trade between Europe and Asia.

**E)** In China, green teas are traditionally made from young tea leaves harvested at the beginning of spring. By the 18th century, green tea was the most valuable and delicate variety exported from China. But the finest Chinese teas never made it to European or American markets. By the time merchant ships arrived in Canton (the port known today as Guangzhou) in the winter, the Chinese had already drunk the best of their **wares**. Britain’s taste for tea led to a trade

imbalance with China, which would only accept silver as payment for its exports. Eager **to gain the upper hand**, British merchants started smuggling opium into China illegally. As more of China's citizens became addicted to opium, its government sought to enforce a ban on the drug, attracting the ire of the British and launching the Opium Wars of the mid-19th century. China lost both of these armed conflicts, allowing Britain to reassert its dominance in the trading arena. Around this same time, the EIC in India and the VOC in Indonesia decided to become not just traders but also producers of tea. But the imperial Chinese government closely guarded the means of production, preventing European attempts to grow and cultivate tea. Lacking the knowledge the Chinese had honed over centuries, the British and Dutch allowed their tea leaves to fully oxidize, producing a drink that "was essentially a new product that had hitherto never been seen or drunk by anyone," writes George van Driem in *The Tale of Tea*. According to Erika Rappaport, author of *A Rhurst for Empire: How Tea Shaped the Modern World*, early black tea tasted terrible, so the British had trouble selling it.

**Tasks 006-015.** (10 баллов, по 1 баллу за каждый правильный ответ)

**Reread the text again. Choose the meaning the words and phrases in bold have in the text.**

**006.** What does the word "**indigenous**" mean?

- A. rare
- B. genetic
- C. native
- D. tropical

**007.** What does the word "**concerted**" mean?

- A. agreed
- B. balanced
- C. harmonized
- D. deceived

**008.** What does the phrase "**gained traction**" mean?

- A. started
- B. lasted
- C. spread
- D. attracted

**009.** What does the word "**unquenchable**" mean?

- A. urgent
- B. enormous
- C. crucial
- D. dangerous

**010.** What does the word "**embrace**" mean?

- A. involve
- B. include
- C. adopt
- D. digest

**011.** What does the word "**accounted**" mean?

- A. consisted
- B. reported
- C. concluded
- D. totaled

**012.** What does the word “leisurely” mean?

- A. relaxing
- B. fruitless
- C. active
- D. energetic

**013.** What does the word “enduring” mean?

- A. widespread
- B. contagious
- C. existing
- D. prolonged

**014.** What does the word “wares” mean?

- A. utensils
- B. teas
- C. drinks
- D. pottery

**015.** What does the phrase “to gain the upper hand” mean?

- A. to promote
- B. to sponsor
- C. to defeat
- D. to defend

**Tasks 016-025.** (10 баллов, по 1 баллу за каждый правильный ответ)

**Here is a summary of the article “The history of Tea”. However, it contains some factual errors. Decide which of the sentences contain an error if any. Some sentences do not have factual errors at all. If there are no errors in the sentence, choose “0”.**

**016.** Having lost both of the Opium Wars in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, China had to let the British import tea on their conditions.

- A. 0
- B. 1

**017.** Other types of tea – oolong, white, yellow, pu’er and herbal – are still considered to be superior to its green and black varieties.

- A. 0
- B. 1

**018.** Green tea as a variety of the beverage was invented due to the British’s and the Dutch’s ignorance of how tea is produced.

- A. 0
- B. 1

**019.** Colonists brought tea to the Americas and the beverage was enjoyed by aboriginal tribes.

- A. 0
- B. 1

**020.** The Opium Wars were aimed at gaining control over the tea market.

- A. 0
- B. 1

- 021.** The process of making green tea involves dehydration and oxidation of tea leaves.  
A. 0  
B. 1
- 022.** The process of oxidation prevents tea leaves from keeping original color  
A. 0  
B. 1
- 023.** In China black teas are traditionally made from young tea leaves harvested at the beginning of spring.  
A. 0  
B. 1
- 024.** It took the Americans a decade to shift their taste from green to black teas in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.  
A. 0  
B. 1
- 025.** In the West tea was initially treated as a kind of healer.  
A. 0  
B. 1

### **Part 2. Writing**

**Tasks 026-030.** (10 баллов, по 2 балла за каждый правильный ответ)

**You have read the article “The History of Tea”. Put these events in the correct chronological order.**

**A)** In the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century black tea was far from being popular in the US. Americans of the time consumed Japanese green tea mostly because it was cheaper to transport it from Japan to San-Francisco. Gradually the situation changed and a century later it was black tea that dominated the American tea market. Today, black tea is the most popular variety in the Western world; in Japan and China, green tea continues to dominate.

**B)** Having lost the Opium Wars and given up to the pressure of Europe the Chinese had to agree to provide help Europeans in bettering the taste of the black tea they had managed to produce. Now Europeans had the technology of the improved black tea production and turned to its promotion in the West. The black tea advertising campaign was aimed at the average consumer who was to get convinced that not only black teas let them economize using a portion of tea leaves for several brews, but also that they were a supreme race and that black teas were for superior races, while green and oolong – for inferior ones.

**C)** The popularity of tea in Europe and the Americas as well as the expensiveness of its import led to the desire of the British to control the market and the Opium Wars let the British reach the purpose. It was not enough for westerners to control the tea market, they decided to start cultivation of tea by themselves. China kept the information about the processes of oxidation in secret. The British’s and the Dutch ‘s effort resulted in creation of the type of tea we all know today – black - that means fully oxidized. It was a new product unknown in China and poor in taste in the beginning.

**D)** Europe and the Americas got to know about tea in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century due to merchants from Portugal and the Netherlands. Tea was regarded as a curative beverage at the time and caught on quickly in the West. Being ignorant enough about the sorts of teas and differences between them the British mistakably has used the phrase “black tea” referring to different types and sorts of tea.

E) All types of tea – green, oolong and black - are derived from the same plant aboriginal to the territory of contemporary China and they differ in the degree of tea leaves oxidation. Eastern cultures have enjoyed tea ceremonies since ancient times, but it was China that was the earliest cultivator, consumer and exporter of the beverage.

**Task 031.** (Максимальное количество баллов - 20 баллов)

**Write a commentary on the given information from the article “The History of Tea”. Your commentary is to be between 150-180 words. You are not allowed to cite from the original text pieces longer than 4 words running. Your text should contain various points of view including your own.**

**To fulfil the task successfully you are:**

- to briefly convey the content of the article
- to mention various/possible views of the issue
- to divide your text into logically connected paragraphs

### **Part 3. Use of English**

**Tasks 032-041.** (20 баллов, по 2 балла за правильный ответ)

**Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. DO NOT CHANGE the word given. DO NOT USE SHORT FORMS. The number of words you should write is specified in each sentence.**

*The example (0) is done for you.*

0) I don't know why he has not come.

**for**

I don't know the \_\_\_\_\_ . (5 words)

I don't know the **reason for his not coming.**

**032.** My sister doesn't skate as well as she did in her youth.

**than**

My sister used to \_\_\_\_\_ she is now. (5 words)

**033.** She repeatedly asked me to open the window.

**on**

She \_\_\_\_\_ the window. (4 words)

**034.** She is 5 years old only, but she learns really quickly.

**of**

She is a really \_\_\_\_\_ being only 5 years old. (5 words)

**035.** I went to the airport with Ann.

**was**

It \_\_\_\_\_ I went to the airport. (4 words)

**036.** Parents are responsible for their children's health, safety and development.

**is**

\_\_\_\_\_ to care for their children's health, safety and development. (4 words)

**037.** As I'm bad at algebra it is difficult for me to stay level with my groupmates.

**up**

It is difficult for me \_\_\_\_\_ my groupmates in algebra as I'm bad at it. (4 words)

**038.** Everybody in my class is better at drawing than me.

**by**

I am \_\_\_\_\_ drawer in my class. (4 words)

**039.** “The idea sounds good!”, said my father.

**of**

My father \_\_\_\_\_ idea. (3 words)

**040.** Though the sights were spectacular to look at we passed them by without stopping.

**not**

We \_\_\_\_\_ at the sights though they were spectacular. (5 words)

**041.** I expect that my father will buy a new car soon.

**to**

I \_\_\_\_\_ a new car soon. (5 words)

#### Part 4. Cultural Study

**Tasks 042-051.** (20 баллов, по 2 балла за каждый правильный ответ)

**Now show how well you know the history of English-speaking countries. Read the article. There are 10 gaps in it. Choose the correct option for each one.**

#### WHY IS THE UNITED KINGDOM FLAG CALLED THE UNION JACK?

As you may or may not know the flag of the United Kingdom has evolved as the different countries that now make up the United Kingdom came under the rule of **(042. \_\_\_\_\_)**. In the **(043. \_\_\_\_\_)** the flag was known as the flag of **(044. \_\_\_\_\_)** and included the **(045. \_\_\_\_\_)** cross of **(046. \_\_\_\_\_)** and the **(047. \_\_\_\_\_)** saltire of **(048. \_\_\_\_\_)**. The name ‘Union’ first appeared in 1625. There are various theories as to how it became known as the ‘Union Jack’. The most plausible one is that when a small flag was mounted on the front of a warship (and a selected number of other ships) it was called ‘the Jack’.

Sometime around 1674 the British flag became formally known as the ‘Union Jack’ when mounted on a warship and the ship was not in harbour. At the same time the British flag was referred to as the ‘Union flag’ on land. This rule was relaxed by the early nineteenth century when the sailing term could be used when referring to the national flag everywhere.

The first version of the flag was created in 1606, featuring only the English and Scottish flags.

The Union Jack was amended in 1801 to incorporate the cross of **(049. \_\_\_\_\_)**. And if you’re wondering why the Welsh flag was never incorporated into the Union Jack, it is because it was already a principality of England by 1801.

In Wales you may see two flags flying including the **(050. \_\_\_\_\_)** St. David’s cross and the red **(051. \_\_\_\_\_)** on a green background.

And finally: make sure you hang the flag up the right way. An upside-down Union Flag is used as a sign of distress. Even worse, it can be seen as an offensive gesture!

**042.**

- A. Britain
- B. England
- C. Scotland
- D. Wales

**043.**

- A. 18<sup>th</sup> century
- B. 17<sup>th</sup> century
- C. 15<sup>th</sup> century
- D. 16<sup>th</sup> century

**044.**

- A. Britain
- B. Great Britain
- C. The United Kingdom
- D. England

**045.**

- A. White
- B. Blue
- C. Red
- D. Yellow

**046.**

- A. St George
- B. St Andrew
- C. St David
- D. St Patrick

**047.**

- A. Red
- B. Blue
- C. White
- D. Yellow

**048.**

- A. St George
- B. St Andrew
- C. St David
- D. St Patrick

**049.**

- A. St George
- B. St Andrew
- C. St David
- D. St Patrick

**050.**

- A. yellow
- B. red
- C. blew
- D. white

**051.**

- A. unicorn
- B. leek
- C. dragon
- D. thistle

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