

Готовимся к экзамену

# Английский язык

Более

100

тем

Экзаменационный сборник  
для подготовки к устному экзамену и

ЕГЭ

для учащихся общеобразовательных школ,  
абитуриентов и студентов

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## A Day at School

### *Школьный день*

Come and spend a day in an English school! It is nearly 9 on a Monday morning, and the boys and girls are coming to school again, after having had Saturday and Sunday free. Some of them walk to school, and some come on their bicycles, and others, who live further away from the school, come by bus. They are wearing their school uniform and carrying their satchels<sup>1</sup> full of books, which they have used to do their homework over the week-end.

It is 11 o'clock: time for the mid-morning break. The boys and girls go out into the playground to collect their milk: every boy and girl at school in England is given a third of a pint of milk every day. When they have drunk their milk, they can play until it is time to go back inside for lessons. The boys play football, and the girls play with a ball, or a skipping-rope<sup>2</sup>. But the older boys and girls just stand, talk and watch the games. Then the bell goes. It is time for lessons: they all hurry inside.

After break, there are more lessons. Then it is one o'clock. Time for lunch! The boys and girls are queuing up to get their lunch from the cooks behind the counter<sup>3</sup>. Nearly all school-children in England have their lunch at school, though<sup>4</sup> some, who live very near to their school, go home. School lunches cost only a shilling, and it is much easier to eat at school. You get meat, potatoes, and a vegetable, and then a pudding of some sort.

The break for lunch lasts about an hour. After lunch, there is still time to go out and play. In the summer everyone wants to go outside in the sun, but in the winter everyone tries to hide in the cloakrooms<sup>5</sup>. The older boys and girls, who act as perfects<sup>6</sup>, make the others go outside, so that they get some fresh air. It is not good for children to be indoors all day. But when it is raining, of course, the perfects let the boys and girls go into the classrooms and read, or play quietly. Lots of children do their homework, so that they will be free in the evening to go out with their friends, or to watch TV.

---

1 a satchel ['sætʃ(ə)] — ранец

2 a skipping-rope — скакалка

3 The boys and girls are queuing ['kju:ɪŋ] up to get their lunch from the cooks behind the counter ['kaʊntə] — Мальчики и девочки стоят в очереди, чтобы получить завтрак от поваров, стоящих за прилавком.

4 though [ðəʊ] — хотя

5 a cloakroom ['kləʊkrʊm] — раздевальная, (гардероб)

6 perfect ['pɜ:fɪkt] — зд. старший

At 2 o'clock, lessons start again. In this school the children do not only do lessons like history, geography and maths: the girls learn to type and sew<sup>1</sup>, and to cook, and the boys do metal-work and wood-work. Some schools also allow girls to do metal-work if they want to — they make jewellery<sup>2</sup> for themselves — and teach cookery to boys. It is very useful to be able to cook for yourself, if your mother is away. Many of the boys who learn cookery at school go on to be chefs<sup>3</sup> in large hotels or restaurants.

At 3 o'clock, it is time for games. In English schools, the girls usually play hockey in the winter and tennis in the summer: the boys play football in the winter and cricket in the summer.

Lessons finish at 4. The children collect the books they need to do their homework, hurry to the cloakroom to fetch their hats and coats, and go home. Very soon after 4 o'clock, the school is empty, except for a few children and teachers; one or two children have to stay behind as a punishment<sup>4</sup>. Others are staying for a club or society which has its meeting after school. Then they will go home too, and the school will be empty until tomorrow.

## A Distinguished Personality

### *Выдающаяся личность*

The name of Mikhail Lomonosov is well known to everyone in Russia and in other countries. Maybe somebody doesn't even know what discoveries he had made but every person knows that Lomonosov was an outstanding Russian scientist. He was born in 1711 in a far away northern village. He began to study only since 11 years old. After 8 years had passed Lomonosov went to Moscow and entered the Academy. Then he was sent to St. Petersburg's Academy and from there to Germany to study chemistry. Soon he became a great scientist. Lomonosov learned chemistry, physics, astronomy, history and literature. He created a telescope and with its help discovered that there is atmosphere around the planet Venus. It's hard to believe that one man had made so many discoveries in different fields of knowledge. He also learned geography. Lomonosov held lots of expeditions to far away parts of Russia. He seriously studied the Russian history. Discovery of a colourful glass also belongs to this genius man. Depiction of Poltava Fight on the portrait of Peter the 1st made by Lomonosov makes a great impression on people. He also wrote several odes and many poems. His dream was to build a University and in 1755 his dream came true. On his project was built Moscow University named after him. The people of Russia will always remember this outstanding scientist.

---

1 to sew [sou] (sewed; sewn; sewed) — шить

2 jewellery ['ʤu:əlɪ] — ювелирные изделия

3 chef [ʃef] — шеф-повар

4 one or two children have to stay behind as a punishment — один или два ребенка вынуждены остаться в школе в качестве наказания

# A Hedgehog

*Ёжик*

A hedgehog is a little animal that eats insects. It has a pointed snout<sup>1</sup> and sharp hard spines<sup>2</sup> on its back and sides. When it is frightened or attacked it rolls up into a ball with only its spines showing. The hedgehogs are useful. They preserve plants because they eat insects. People must protect them. I have seen hedgehogs in the country. They live in the central parts of Russia in the forests. Their food is insects, mice. People should not touch the hedgehogs, they must take care of them.

## A Letter from America

*Письмо из Америки*

The University of Pittsburg<sup>3</sup>  
Pittsburg, Penn<sup>4</sup>. USA  
15 November, 199...

Dearest Mary,

There is an air of great expectation here in the US. We are just through with Halloween<sup>5</sup> fancy dress balls, but the season of holidays is in full swing<sup>6</sup>. Thanksgiving Day is coming. And now that we are on the subject, let me tell you more about American holidays that impress foreigners so much.

Thanksgiving Day has a special significance<sup>7</sup> for Americans because it is traced back to that group of people (pilgrims<sup>8</sup>) who were among the first to come to the New World in search of freedom<sup>9</sup>.

Late in the year 1620, a ship named the Mayflower brought 102 English men, women and children to the rocky coast of what is now Massachusetts<sup>10</sup>, one of the 50 states of the United States of America. The ship's passengers were Puritans<sup>11</sup> who had been prosecuted<sup>12</sup> in Britain.

---

1 snout [snaʊt] — рыло, мордочка

2 spine [spain] — игла, колючка

3 Pittsburg [ˈpɪtsbɜːɡ] — г. Питтсбург

4 Penn. сокр. от Pennsylvania — Пенсильвания (штат США)

5 Halloween [ˈhæloʊ(ə)ˈiːn] — (шотл., амер.) праздник (канун Дня всех святых) 31 октября

6 to be in full swing — в полном разгаре

7 a special significance [sɪɡˈnɪfɪkəns] — особое значение

8 pilgrims [ˈpɪlɡrɪmz] — паломники; зд. английские колонисты, поселившиеся в Америке в 1620 г.

9 in search of freedom [səːtʃ] — в поисках свободы

10 Massachusetts [ˌmæsəˈtʃʊsets] — Массачусетс (штат США)

11 Puritans [ˈpjʊərɪt(ə)nz] — (ист.) пуритане

12 to prosecute [ˈprɒsɪkjʊt] — преследовать

The winter was cold, and about half of the pilgrims died. In the spring, with advice and help from the Indians the pilgrims planted corn (known also as maize<sup>1</sup>) and other crops.

In October 1621, to celebrate the good harvest<sup>2</sup>, the pilgrims held a feast<sup>3</sup> which featured<sup>4</sup>, among many other foods, wild turkey<sup>5</sup>, which is native to North America. They called this their day of thanksgiving.

The story is told and retold every year to young children in schools. The holiday is called Thanksgiving Day, and is now observed on the fourth Thursday of November.

Thanksgiving Day is marked by families gathering together to enjoy a traditional dinner of roast turkey, and to speak to one another of the things for which they are thankful. Young people who are at college or live away from their families usually come home for this dinner. If the parents are elderly<sup>6</sup>, their adult<sup>7</sup> children or some other relatives will prepare the Thanksgiving feast.

Perhaps the most important day to a country is the holiday that commemorates<sup>8</sup> a national event. For many nations the date is the country's independence day.

For the Americans — it is the 4th of July, Independence Day<sup>9</sup>. The holiday recalls<sup>10</sup> the signing of the Declaration of Independence<sup>11</sup> on the 4th of July, 1776.

At one time, picnics<sup>12</sup> with patriotic speeches and parades<sup>13</sup> were held all over the United States on the 4th of July. They are still held in many places. It is also a day, on which fireworks<sup>14</sup> displays fill the skies in the evening, and the flying of flags is common.

In 1976 the bicentennial<sup>15</sup> celebrations were held across the country.

A more recent holiday has been introduced, it is Martin Luther King Day. The Rev. Dr Martin Luther King was a black clergyman who is ranked among the greatest of black Americans because of his

---

1 maize [meɪz] — (бот.) маис, кукуруза

2 the good harvest ['hɑ:vɪst] — богатый урожай

3 to hold (held, held) a feast [fi:t] — устроить праздник (банкет)  
a feast — пир; банкет; праздник

4 to feature ['fi:tʃə] — быть характерной чертой

5 turkey ['tɜ:kɪ] — индюк; индейка

6 elderly ['eldəli] — пожилой

7 adult ['ædʌlt] — взрослый

8 to commemorate [kə'meməreɪt] — праздновать (годовщину)

9 Independence Day [ˌɪndɪ'pendəns] — День Независимости

10 to recall [rɪ'kɔ:l] — вспоминать; напоминать

11 the signing ['saɪnɪŋ] of the Declaration of Independence — подписание  
Декларации Независимости

12 picnic ['pɪknɪk] — пикник

13 parade [pə'reɪd] — парад

14 firework(s) ['faɪəwɜ:k] — фейерверк

15 bicentennial [ˌbaɪsen'tenjəl] — двухсотлетие

crusade<sup>1</sup> during the 1950s and 1960s to win full civil rights for his people. Preaching non-violence<sup>2</sup>, much in the same way as had Mohandas K. (Mahatma) Gandhi of India, Martin Luther King spoke out and campaigned tirelessly to rid the United States of traditions and laws that forced on black Americans the status of second-class citizens. Among these laws were those in some states which required black people to take back seats in buses or which prevented voting by blacks. The world was shocked when Dr King was assassinated<sup>3</sup> in 1968. Ever since, special memorial services have marked his birthday on January 15. By vote of Congress the third Monday of every January, beginning in 1986, is now a federal holiday in Dr King's honour.

Some holidays are observed in the custom by all Americans, for others, however, the customs can vary greatly. Those who feel strongly about the labour unions, for example, see Labour Day as a day on which to demonstrate labour solidarity in a public way. For others, Labour Day means a day off to go for a ride in a car, to go for a final summer swim or to hold a family get-together.

Sorry, but this is a very long letter indeed. Please, give my best wishes, love and season's greetings to all your family and friends.

Love,  
Yours, Julia

## A Wonder-Child

*Чудо-ребенок*

You have certainly heard of the well-known Austrian composer<sup>4</sup> Wolfgang Mozart<sup>5</sup> and heard some of his splendid music. Mozart was a genius<sup>6</sup>. He began to show his wonderful talent for music when he was quite a child.

His elder sister was learning to play the clavier. A clavier is like a piano, only smaller. The soft, gay tune<sup>7</sup> she played could be heard all over the house. In another room her three-year-old brother Wolfgang was playing with his toys. He heard the music, and sat quite still for a moment, listening. Then he jumped up from the floor, and ran into the room where the clavier was. "Let me try", he said to his sister.

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1 crusade [kru:'seɪd] — кампания

2 preaching ['pri:tʃɪŋ] non-violence ['nɒn 'vaɪələns] — проповедуя отказ от применения насильственных методов

3 to assassinate [ə'sæsinet] — убивать

4 a composer [kəm'pouzə] — композитор

5 Wolfgang Mozart ['mou.zat] — Вольфганг Моцарт

6 a genius ['dʒi:njəs] — гений

7 a tune [tju:n] — мелодия

“All right”, laughed Wolfgang’s sister. Wolfgang was only a baby, and she thought he would just make a noise, but he didn’t. He put two fingers carefully on two keys. It made quite a pleasant sound.

“I can make music”, he said happily. After that, he took a great interest in his sister’s music lessons.

“I want to learn music”, he said. He said it so many times that his father, who was a musician himself, began teaching him. Wolfgang learned quickly, and he could soon play a number of pieces perfectly. When he was four years old, he started composing<sup>1</sup> his own tunes and playing them on the clavier.

“Wolfgang is a wonder-child”, everybody said.

When the boy was six years old, his father decided to show him to the world. He took him and his sister to many of the big cities in Europe, where the two children gave concerts<sup>2</sup>. When the boy appeared on the stage and performed, the audience was delighted, and applauded the wonder-child with all their hearts.

The child’s first performances made Mozart a name in Europe. His father took him from one country to another. His whole time was given to music and he gave more and more concerts. But too much travelling, excitement and overwork<sup>3</sup> brought about a serious illness. This made the boy’s father change his plans and let his son rest.

But as soon as he was better, young Wolfgang wanted to perform again, and again he and his father started off to big cities of Europe. He could not imagine his life without music. He composed music when he was a little child, when he was a big boy, when he was a grown-up man.

All this happened a long time ago, but the music of Wolfgang Mozart is known and remembered today. His music is played all over the world. Sad tunes, gay tunes, happy tunes, solemn tunes<sup>4</sup> — they will be played for ever.

## Abraham Lincoln<sup>5</sup> (1809–1865)

*Авраам Линкольн*

Abraham Lincoln was born in Kentucky<sup>6</sup>, on February 12, 1809.

The Lincolns were hardworking pioneers<sup>7</sup>. They moved frequently<sup>8</sup>, always looking for a better farm. Abe and his sister Sarah

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1 to compose [kəmˈpouz] — сочинять

2 a concert [ˈkɒnsət] — концерт

3 overwork [ˈoʊvəˈwɜ:k] — чрезмерная работа, перегрузка

4 solemn [ˈsɒləm] — торжественный

5 Abraham Lincoln [ˈeɪbrəhæm, ˈɑːbrəhæm] [ˈlɪŋkən] — Авраам (Абрахам) Линкольн

6 Kentucky [kənˈtɑki] — Кентукки (штат США)

7 pioneers [ˈpaɪˈniəz] — первопроходцы

8 frequently [ˈfriːkwəntli] — часто

had to work on the farm, so they usually could not go to school. In fact, Lincoln later said he had only a year's schooling. But even without school, Abe learned quickly. He liked to read and would walk miles to borrow<sup>1</sup> books. He amazed neighbours with how much he knew.

Abe's mother died when he was nine. A year later, Abe's father married Sarah Bush Johnston, a widow<sup>2</sup> with three children. She was a loving mother to the Lincoln children. She encouraged<sup>3</sup> Abe in his learning. He grew strong and tall. By the time Abe was 20, he was 6 feet, 4 inches tall.

By self-education Lincoln became a lawyer. He practiced law, and also met Mary Todd. They married in 1842 and had four sons. But only the oldest, Robert Todd Lincoln, lived to adulthood<sup>4</sup>.

Lincoln became a US congressman in 1847. He served one term, then returned to his law practice in Illinois. But the spread of slavery<sup>5</sup> into new states and territories caused him to go back into politics<sup>6</sup>. He and his opponent, Senator Stephen A. Douglas, debated each other seven times. Douglas won the election, but Lincoln gained national fame<sup>7</sup> for his stand against slavery<sup>8</sup>.

Two years later, Lincoln ran for president<sup>9</sup>. Upset about Lincoln's views on slavery, the southern states threatened to withdraw from the United States<sup>10</sup> if he was elected. When Lincoln won the election, the southern states left the Union and formed the Confederate States of America<sup>11</sup>. The Civil War began in April 1861, a month after Lincoln became president.

The war years were very hard for President Lincoln. People blamed him when the North lost battles. He was deeply hurt<sup>12</sup> by the great loss of life on both sides.

But Lincoln trusted<sup>13</sup> that he was doing the right thing. In January 1863, he issued a document called the Emancipation Proclamation<sup>14</sup>. He declared that all slaves, even those in the Confederate

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1 to borrow ['bɒrou] — занимать

2 a widow ['widou] — вдова

3 to encourage [in'kʌdʒ] — ободрять, поощрять, поддерживать

4 adulthood ['ædʌlthud] — зрелость

5 the spread of slavery ['sprɛd əv 'sleivɪp] — распространение рабства

6 politics ['pɒlɪtɪks] — политика

7 gained national fame — завоевал национальную славу

8 his stand against slavery — его позиция (убеждение) против рабства

9 to run for president — выставлять свою кандидатуру на пост президента

10 to withdraw from the United States [wɪð'drɔː] — выйти из состава Соединенных Штатов

11 the Confederate States of America [kən'fed(ə)pt] — (ист.) конфедерация 11-ти южных штатов Америки

12 He was deeply hurt — он глубоко страдал (его задевало за живое)

13 to trust (v.) [trʌst] — верить

14 the Emancipation Proclamation [ɪ.mænsɪ'peɪʃ(ə)n] — (ист.) Манифест (Линкольна) об освобождении рабов