

**Орієнтовні матеріали для
проведення семестрового контролю
всіх видів мовленнєвих умінь з
англійської мови**

Form 8

Listening Comprehension Test

Listen to the text “Don’t Be an April Fool”

Vocabulary:

a victim – жертва

a hoax - обман, розіграш

a prank - витівка, пустощі

a brewery – пивоварний завод

leg-pulling - обман

On April 1st, workers at British zoos receive hundreds of calls from victims of April fool pranks. The ‘victims’ have gone into work to find messages on their desks telling them to ring such – and – such a number (the number of the zoo) and ask for ‘Mr. Jim Pandsey’ (chimpanzee), ‘Mrs. G Raff’ (giraffe) or ‘Miss C Lyon’ (sea lion).

The first day April is known as April fool’s Day. From midnight to midday, the idea is to play tricks on others. No one quite knows how it all started, but the custom seems to date from the eighteenth century.

April fool tricks are still very popular in homes, schools and workplaces all around Britain. And nowadays it is possible to fool people on a really grand scale. One of the earliest TV hoaxes was a television programme about the spaghetti harvest in Italy. The film showed farm workers gathering long strips of spaghetti from the trees. There were many viewers who believed this ‘documentary’ until the full story came out.

National newspapers have had great fun fooling their readers. One says it considers leg-polling to be an annual sport. For example, last year The Scotsman revealed that genetic engineers had given a donkey a human voice. The Daily Mirror reported that a brewery was producing beer in the colours of leading football clubs – blue for Wimbledon fans, for example and black – and – white striped for fans of

New castle United. The Daily Mail had the story of a monkey who had stolen a wildlife photographer's camera in Africa and then taken an award – winning photo of a lion. The story was followed by an item on how to teach your pets to take photos.

Try to get a British newspaper on April 1st and see if you can find a lie. It may not be as easy as you think: the real news is often so weird that it can be hard to say what is the truth and what is a lie.

Choose the correct answer

1. On April 1st many people in Britain ...

- A help workers at zoos;
- B phone workers at zoos;
- C talk to workers at zoos;
- D visit zoos.

2 People play tricks on each other ... on April 1st.

- A in some parts of Britain;
- B only in England;
- C in England and Scotland;
- D all around Britain.

3 Tricks are prohibited after ...

- A 12 a. m.
- B 1 p. m.
- C 2 p. m.
- D 12 p. m.

4 The custom to fool people on April 1st started in ...

- A the seventeenth century
- B the eighteenth century;
- C nineteenth century;
- D twentieth century

5 According to the text nowadays mass media can ... on a really grand scale.

A tell a lie;

B tell the truth;

C influence people;

D educate people.

6 One of the films showed how farm workers in Italy were

A eating favourite Italian dish;

B picking up vermicelli from the trees;

C gathering a harvest of fruit;

D playing tricks on each other.

7 The Scotsman revealed ...

A problems of genetic engineers;

B a new invention of genetic engineers;

C future plans of genetic engineers;

D the way of taking care of donkeys.

8 According to the Daily Mirror a brewery was producing beer ...

A of different colours;

B of special taste ;

C that is free of charge for football fans;

D that is called after leading football clubs.

9 The Daily Mail published recommendation on ...

A how to take photos of a lion;

B how to become a wild life photographer;

C how to prevent people from stealing cameras;

D how to teach animals to use a camera.

10 According to the text it's ... to say what is the truth and what is a lie.

A very easy;

B easy;

C difficult;

D impossible.

Key: 1 B; 2D; 3 A; 4 B; 5A; 6B; 7 B; 8 A; 9D; 10 C

Reading Comprehension Test

Mark Twain

Mark Twain's real name was Samuel Clemens. He was born in 1835 in Florida, Missouri, USA. He was the sixth of seven children born to John Clemens, a lawyer, and his wife Jane, although three of Samuel's siblings died in childhood. When Samuel was four, the family moved to Hannibal, a town on the Mississippi River. Samuel loved to watch the riverboats and dreamed of being a riverboat pilot. Many of his stories were inspired by his adventures in Hannibal.

When Samuel was 11, his father died. To support his family, Samuel became a printer's apprentice at the Missouri Courier. He learnt a lot about writing and used public libraries in the evenings to educate himself. Later, Samuel worked as a typesetter for the Western Union, his brother Orion's newspaper. Samuel created articles and sketches for the paper, and became known for his humour.

At 17, Samuel left Hannibal and found print work in St Louis, New York. Then in 1857, he returned to study to become a riverboat pilot.

In 1861, the Civil War started and Samuel Clemens moved to the west to join the Confederate Army. Later he became a reporter for the Territorial Enterprise in Virginia City, Nevada, and began writing short stories under the name Mark Twain. These funny tales were full of adventures.

Mark's first popular story – 'The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County' – was published in 1865. It became very popular and soon Mark was one of the most famous American celebrities of his day. He was asked to write his first (and best-selling) book 'The Innocents Abroad' (1869) about his travels, and other works

followed including 'Roughing It' (1872), 'The Prince and the Pauper' (1882), and 'Life on the Mississippi' (1883).

In 1870, Mark married 24-year-old Olivia Langdon, the daughter of a rich man. They settled in Buffalo, New York, and had three daughters and a son.

Parenthood led to Mark's famous 'river novels' for children. He read each chapter to his family before publishing it. 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer' (1876) and its sequel 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' (1884) tell the adventures of two boys on the Mississippi River. Huckleberry Finn, in particular, has been called 'The Great American Novel' – a tale of a white boy helping a black man to escape slavery in the southern US. It was also one of the first novels to feature the colloquial (everyday) language of its characters.

Mark Twain earned a lot of money, but he lost most of it by investing in risky ventures. In 1895, he began a world tour giving lectures to pay off his debts, which he did in 1898. When his wife died in 1904, Mark returned to New York, and later moved to Redding, Connecticut. It was here that he died of a heart attack in 1910, aged 74.

I. For statements (1-6) write T if the statement is true according to the text, F if it is false

1. Mark Twain is a pen name of Samuel Clemens.
2. Samuel was a teenager when his family moved to Hannibal, a town on the Mississippi River.
3. Samuel began to work after his father's death.
4. Mark Twain became very famous when his story 'The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County' was published in 1865.
5. 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' was one of the first novels to feature the everyday language of its characters.
6. Mark Twain earned a lot of money and invested it successfully.

II. Choose the correct answer

1. How many children did the writer's parents have?
 - a) Three

- b) Four
 - c) Six
 - d) Seven
2. Why did Samuel become a printer's apprentice at the Missouri Courier?
- a) Because he dreamed of having this job.
 - b) Because he wanted to help his family.
 - c) Because he could earn a lot of money doing this job.
 - d) Because this job was very interesting for him.
3. While creating articles and sketches for the newspaper Samuel became known
- a) for his humour
 - b) for using public libraries for educating himself
 - c) thanks for his brother Orion's newspaper
 - d) for using everyday language
4. What led Mark Twain to writing 'river novels' for children?
- a) Becoming a father
 - b) Childhood memories
 - c) Love for children
 - d) Love to the river
5. Which book was published after 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer'?
- a) 'The Innocents Abroad'
 - b) 'The Prince and the Pauper'
 - c) 'Life on the Mississippi'
 - d) 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn'
6. Why did Mark Twain begin a world tour in 1895?
- a) Because he liked travelling.
 - b) Because he needed money.

- c) Because he wanted to get new impressions.
- d) Because he wanted to meet different people.

Key: I. 1)T; 2)F; 3)T; 4)T; 5)T; 6)F

II. 1) d; 2)b; 3)a; 4)a; 5)d; 6)b

Speaking

1. Tell us about yourself. Include this information:

What you look like;

What things you like and dislike;

What you do in your free time;

What languages or other things you want to learn.

2. Describe the place where you live. Include this information:

Where it is;

What rooms there are in your house / flat;

What your favourite room is;

Why you like it;

How you help around the house.

3. Tell us about a school event which was successful. Include this information:

Preparations before the event;

Describe the event;

Your part in it;

Explain why it was successful.

4. Imagine that you have to give a talk about the school or college where you study to some visitors. How do you think what makes a good school? Include this information:

Friendly atmosphere

Lots of computers;

Hard-working students;

Good sports facilities;

Modern classrooms

5. Ukrainian teenagers often have responsibilities at school and at home.

What are some of your responsibilities at home? At school?

How does age affect your responsibilities?

6. Say which way you would prefer to travel and explain why. Include this information:

Have you ever travelled by plane/by train/by ship?

When? Where? Why?

What are the advantages and disadvantages of this means of transport

7. Describe your perfect day, including location and weather.

What activities would you do? With whom would you spend it?

How would this day be different then every other day?

Do you think it's possible to have a perfect day? Explain

8. Talk about the kind of music you like. Include this information:

Your favourite singer/ band;

Where you usually listen to music;

What kind of music you don't like;

Say if you play any instruments or sing or dance yourself.

9. You always do shopping with your mum at the weekend. Talk about your shopping experience. Include this information:

What you like to buy;

When you go shopping;

What kinds of shops you prefer.

10. Holidays are a time to spend with friends and family.

What is your favourite holiday?

How do your friends and family celebrate this holiday with you?

Do you have any special traditions that you share with your family?

Writing

Variant 1

You've got an email from your English pen-friend. In his/her email he/she describes his/her impressions of visiting the concert of his/her favourite pop-group. Write an email to your pen friend and tell him/her what kind of music you like best and why, when you prefer listening to music and how you feel while listening to it, what your parents think about your musical preferences.

Variant 2

You've got an email from your English pen-friend. In his/her email he/ she complains that his/her parents make him/her read books but he/she prefers playing computer games. Write an email to your pen-friend and explain to him/her why reading is useful. Tell him/her what kind of books you prefer reading and why. Describe the book you have read recently.