

ВСЕРОССИЙСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ 2024-2025 ГГ.
ШКОЛЬНЫЙ ЭТАП
АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК
5-6 КЛАСС
Listening

(Recording Script)

Task 1 (3 min 45 sec) (The recording will be played twice)

Narrator: Listen to Sonia and Dan talking about shopping. What did Sonia buy in each shop?

For questions 1–5 write the letter A–H next to each shop. **You will hear the conversation twice.**

Dan: Hello Sonia. How are you?

Sonia: Tired! I've just been to the shopping centre.

Dan: You have a lot of bags! Let me help you. What did you buy?

Sonia: Lots of things! First of all I went to the chemists and bought some more of the shampoo that I like. Then I went to Fashion World.

Dan: Of course! Your favourite shop. What clothes did you buy today?

Sonia: Actually, I bought these trainers. I want to wear them with the black trousers that I bought last week.

Dan: Very nice!

Sonia: Then I went to the bookshop. I had a drink and I bought some cake. I wanted to buy a diary for my holiday, but I forgot!

Dan: Oh dear. Did you buy anything else for your holiday?

Sonia: Yes. I went to the supermarket to look for a towel for the beach, but I didn't buy one. I bought this bag instead. Do you like it?

Dan: Yes, it's cool! Did you remember to buy something for your dad's birthday?

Sonia: Yes, I did. I bought him a present from the sports shop. He really likes football socks, so I bought him five pairs!

Dan: (laughs) Wow! Did you buy anything from the market for dinner tomorrow?

Sonia: No, I didn't. But I bought some flowers for Mum; she loves the pink ones that they sell there. I'll buy some fish tomorrow morning.

Dan: You've had a busy day!

Sonia: I know. My feet hurt and I've spent lots of money, but I've had a great time!

Narrator: Now listen again.

Task 2 (3 min. 06 sec)

Narrator:

You will hear a radio programme about a house. Listen and complete each question. **You will hear the information twice.**

Presenter: Welcome to **Who lives here?**, the radio show which explores famous people's houses. Today we are visiting the footballer Matt Jackson's house, which was built over one hundred years ago. It's got six bedrooms and three bathrooms. Matt's family must be very fit because this house has got three floors! At the moment, I'm standing in the hall and I can see lots

of photographs. Most of them are of Matt's children but there are some photos of his pets too. OK, let's go into the living room, Matt's favourite room. Wow! It's a beautiful space, with a dark green carpet and long, green curtains at the windows. There's a comfortable brown sofa and a lamp near the window. There's an old, wooden bookshelf too. If I look out of the window, I can see the garden. Matt's family must enjoy spending time there! It's full of colourful flowers and he's got some apple trees and a swimming pool too ... (fading out) ... at the end of the garden ...

Narrator: Now listen again. (*The recording is repeated*)

ВСЕРОССИЙСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ
Ставропольский край
Левокумский муниципальный округ

(ШКОЛЬНЫЙ ЭТАП)

ПИСЬМЕННЫЙ ТУР

возрастная группа (_5 - 6_ классы)

Уважаемый участник олимпиады!

Вам предстоит выполнить письменные задания.

Время выполнения заданий письменного тура __1.5__ академических часа (_60_ минут).

Выполнение заданий целесообразно организовать следующим образом:

- не спеша, внимательно прочитайте формулировку задания;
- напишите правильный вариант ответа в бланке ответов;
- после выполнения всех предложенных заданий еще раз удостоверьтесь

в правильности ваших ответов;

- если потребуется корректировка выбранного Вами варианта ответа, то неправильный вариант ответа зачеркните крестиком и рядом напишите новый.

Предупреждаем Вас, что:

- при оценке тестовых заданий, где необходимо определить один правильный ответ,

0 баллов выставляется за неверный ответ и в случае, если участником отмечены несколько ответов (в том числе правильный), или все ответы;

- при оценке тестовых заданий, где необходимо определить все правильные ответы,

0 баллов выставляется, если участником отмечены неверные ответы, большее количество ответов, чем предусмотрено в задании (в том числе правильные ответы) или все ответы.

Задание письменного тура считается выполненным, если Вы вовремя сдаете его членам жюри.

Максимальная оценка – _100_ баллов.

**Задания школьного этапа
всероссийской олимпиады школьников по английскому языку
5-6 классы
(время на выполнение – 60 минут)
Максимальный балл за работу – 100**

LISTENING

Time : 10 minutes

Task 1. Listen to Sonia and Dan talking about shopping. What did Sonia buy in each shop? For questions 1–5, write the letter A–H next to each shop. You will hear the conversation twice.

Shops	Things
1 clothes shop	A bag
2 bookshop	B cake
3 supermarket	C flowers
4 sports shop	D shampoo
5 market	E socks
	F towel
	G trainers
	H trousers

Task2. You will hear a radio programme about a house. Listen and complete each question. You will hear the information twice.

Matt Jackson's house

Age: 100 years old

Number of floors (6) _____

Hall: Photos of children and (7) _____

Living room: Long, green (8) _____

An old wooden (9) _____

Garden: colourful flowers and (10) _____ trees

Transfer your answers into the answer sheet!

READING

Time: 15 minutes

Task 1. complete the conversation between two friends. What does Sofia say to Zoe? For questions 1–5, choose the correct letter A–H.

Zoe: Hi Sofia. Have you got any plans for the weekend?

Sofia: No, nothing special.

Zoe: Oh. Well, shall we do something together?

Sofia: 1_____

Zoe: Why don't you come to my house to watch a film on Saturday evening?

Sofia: 2_____

Zoe: Thanks. Shall we ask some other people too?

Sofia: 3_____

Zoe: And I think Ada might be able to come too. I'll ask her.

Sofia: 4_____

Zoe: Why don't you come earlier than that?

Sofia: 5_____

Zoe: I'm sure it will be! See you on Saturday then.

A So we can chat before the film? Is an hour enough?

B That's a good idea. See you at 8 o'clock?

C Doesn't she usually work at that time?

D There's a book I need to read for college, but nothing else.

E Yeah, I'd like that. Any ideas?

F I don't think we are.

G Sure. My sister's probably free.

H OK. I'll bring some snacks and drinks.

Task 2. Read the article about three people who are interested in nature.

Answer the questions. For questions 6–12, choose A, B or C.

My love of nature

A Sarah

When I was a child at school, I collected books about nature. My classmates and friends all spent their free time playing computer games, so to them I was a bit strange. I loved learning about animals from other countries, but as I got older I found out that my own country has interesting nature too, and that's what I like studying now. I do lots of drawings of nature, and I put them on my blog.

B Pilar

I love birds and animals because of all the visits to forests and lakes we made when I was at school. It's a shame that things have changed now. Children these days don't learn enough about nature, so lots of them are afraid of insects, for example. I have a great job because of my love of nature. I'm a naturephotographer. It's brilliant, except for the early mornings!

C Lia

A few years ago I read a blog with beautiful photos of animals, birds and plants, which made me start really looking at what lives around us. It was just a hobby at first, but now it's my job as I visit schools and give talks about nature. I love it. The only problem is if I am asked to draw a picture. I enjoy it, but I'm terrible at drawing! I'm going to take some lessons to try to get better.

6. Who became interested in nature from seeing someone else's blog?

A Sarah B Pilar C Lia

7. Who says there is something about her job that she doesn't like?

A Sarah B Pilar C Lia

8. Whose friends thought that her hobby was unusual?

A Sarah B Pilar C Lia

9. Who became interested in nature because of school trips?

A Sarah B Pilar C Lia

10. Who says that the type of nature she is interested in has changed?

A Sarah B Pilar C Lia

Transfer your answers into the answer sheet!

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 20 minutes

Task 1. Read the article about London's Tower Bridge. Choose the best word (A, B or C) for each space. For questions 1–9, mark A, B or C on your answer sheet.

London's Tower Bridge

Many tourists (1) visited Tower Bridge. It is the only Bridge over the river Thames that can open and (2) ships pass under it. Tower Bridge was built in 1894 and (3) uses the same machines to lift up the two halves of the bridge. In earlier times, the river was (4) busier than now and the bridge (5) to open over a thousand times a year. Today it only opens twice a week. In 1952, a big red bus was (6) the middle of the bridge (7) it started to open. The driver only just got to the other side in time! Of course, now (8) are lights at (9) end and the traffic must wait for them to go green.

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. A have | B did | C are |
| 2. A lets | B let | C letting |
| 3. A ever | B yet | C still |
| 4. A much | B too | C very |
| 5. A should | B had | C was |
| 6. A to | B between | C in |
| 7. A because | B when | C if |
| 8. A there | B here | C they |
| 9. A every | B each | C all |

Task 2. Complete the email. Write ONE word for each space (10-20).

Hi Gabriela,

You're(10) _____ the island of Sicily, aren't you (11) _____ help me with my homework! I went to the library yesterday to(12) _____ for a book because I need some information (13) _____ Sicily. I couldn't find(14) _____ good books there, just an old map! Can I ask you(15) _____ few questions?

First,(16) _____ big is the island? When did(17) _____ become part of Italy? I(18) _____ like to know one more thing. Farmers grow lemons there, but (19) _____ they grow other fruit too?

Please email me your answers as(20) _____ as possible!

Thanks,

Heidi

Transfer your answers into the answer sheet!

WRITING
Time: 15 minutes

Write an answer to one of the following questions. Write your answer in 50-60 words.

1. Read the email from your English friends, Jo.

Hello! You said in your last email that you went to the city. Who did you go with? What did you do there? How long did you spend there? Was it fun?

Write a message to Joe and answer the questions.

2. Read the email from your friend, Alex.

From Alex:

Hi! Let's go to the sports centre tomorrow. What time can you get there? Where shall we meet at the sports centre? What would you like to do there?

Write an email to Alex and answer the questions.

Participant's ID number

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ANSWER SHEET

LISTENING

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READING

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USE OF ENGLISH

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WRITING

ВСЕРОССИЙСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ
Ставропольский край
Левокумский муниципальный округ

(ШКОЛЬНЫЙ ЭТАП)

ПИСЬМЕННЫЙ ТУР

возрастная группа (_7 - 8_классы)

Уважаемый участник олимпиады!

Вам предстоит выполнить письменные задания.

Время выполнения заданий письменного тура 2 академических часа (_90_ минут).

Выполнение заданий целесообразно организовать следующим образом:

- не спеша, внимательно прочитайте формулировку задания;
- напишите правильный вариант ответа в бланке ответов;
- после выполнения всех предложенных заданий еще раз удостоверьтесь в правильности ваших ответов;
- если потребуется корректировка выбранного Вами варианта ответа, то неправильный вариант ответа зачеркните крестиком и рядом напишите новый.

Предупреждаем Вас, что:

- при оценке тестовых заданий, где необходимо определить один правильный ответ, 0 баллов выставляется за неверный ответ и в случае, если участником отмечены несколько ответов (в том числе правильный), или все ответы;

- при оценке тестовых заданий, где необходимо определить все правильные ответы, 0 баллов выставляется, если участником отмечены неверные ответы, большее количество ответов, чем предусмотрено в задании (в том числе правильные ответы) или все ответы.

Задание письменного тура считается выполненным, если Вы вовремя сдаете его членам жюри.

Максимальная оценка – 100 баллов.

**Школьный этап
Всероссийской олимпиады школьников
по английскому языку
2024-2025 учебный год
7-8 классы**

Время выполнения – 90 минут Максимальный балл–100 б.

LISTENING (10 points)

Time: 10 minutes

TASK 1. You will hear an interview with Emma. Listen and write if the statements below are true (T) or false (F)?

1. Emma took her exams yesterday.
2. Emma's mother lives in Oxford.
3. Her parents do not live together.
4. Emma has got a brother and a sister.
5. Her brother is twelve years younger than Emma.
6. Emma's brother likes to play football.
7. He doesn't go to school yet.
8. Emma's father lives in Edinburgh.
9. They often spend holidays together with their father.
10. Emma is fond of pop music.

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

READING (16 points)

Time: 25 minutes

TASK 1. Read the article about New York. Give the title to the parts of the text.

There is one title that you do not need to use.

- A) the problem of driving
- B) the second capital
- C) traffic in the city
- D) business centre

E) cultural centre

F) some facts of history

1. Everyone knows something about New York – the Statue of Liberty, the skyscrapers, the beautiful shops on Fifth Avenue and many theatres of Broadway. This is America’s cultural capital and her biggest city with a population of nearly eight million. In summer it’s very cold, in winter it can be very cold but there are hundreds of things to do and see all the year round.

2. There are five parts in New York: Brooklyn, the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens and Richmond. Only one of them, the Bronx, is not on an island. Manhattan, the smallest island in New York, is the real centre of the city. When people say ‘New York City’ they usually mean Manhattan. Most of the interesting places, buildings and museums are here, and Manhattan is the scene of New York’s busy night life.

3. Wall Street in Manhattan is the financial heart of the USA and the most important banking centre in the world. It is a street of skyscrapers. Five million people work here every day.

4. Like every big city, New York has its own traffic system. Traffic jams can be terrible, and it’s usually quicker to by subway. It goes to almost every corner of Manhattan. But be careful at night, it’s better not to go by subway. There are more than 30000 taxis in New York. They are easy to see, because they are bright yellow.

5. If you really have to drive in New York, remember that nearly all the east-west streets and most of the north-south streets are one way only. This can be difficult for the visitor who doesn’t know his way. Try to get a map that shows the directions of the traffic, and good luck!

1	2	3	4	5

TASK 2. Choose the right variant

6. What is the population of New York?

- A) 5 million C) 7 million
B) 6 million D) 8 million

7. Where are many beautiful shops situated in New York?

- A) on Broadway C) near the skyscrapers
B) on Fifth Avenue D) not stated

8. What is the real centre of New York?

- A) Manhattan C) Richmond
B) the Bronx D) Brooklyn

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET

6	7	8

USE OF ENGLISH (54 points)

Time: 30 minutes

Task 1

For questions 1-10 read the text below and choose A, B or C to fill in the gaps.

Little cat, little cat, where have you bin

When Bo the cat decided to explore a furniture van, she had a bigger adventure than she expected. She was discovered (1).....the driver, after he had completed a (2).....of over 500 kilometers. It was (3).....end of a long day. The driver and the cat were both hungry! He gave her some milk and started making enquiries. He telephoned his last (4)....., but they had not lost a cat. It was getting late, so he took Bo home for the night and (5).....morning brought her to an animal hospital.

The cat's owner (6).....done some detective work too. After searching everywhere for the cat, he suddenly remembered the furniture van (7).....had made a delivery to a neighbor. Fortunately he (8).....the name of the company. He called their office and in a short time Bo was (9).....safely.

- 1. A) of B) from C) by
- 2. A) trip B) travel C) tour
- 3. A) an B) some C) the
- 4. A) shoppers B) buyers C) customers
- 5. A) next B) following C) other
- 6. A) has B) was C) had
- 7. A) what B) this C) which
- 8. A) called B) remembered C) saw
- 9. A) returned B) taken C) given

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

TASK 2. Choose A, B or C to complete the text about music.

What kind of music do you (10) ? Some people like going to (11) concerts, and listening to (12) The (13) wear very formal clothes, and the (14) is silent until the end of the (15) Perhaps you're a rock music (16) Rock concerts are often held at football (17) or in parks. (18)Some...people of audience. dance to the music, or sing the songs.

- 10. A. listen B. enjoy C. preferring
- 11. A. classic B. classified C. classical
- 12. A. a group B. an orchestra C. a record
- 13. A. musicians B. actors C. musicals
- 14. A. spectators B. audience C. guests
- 15. A. happening B. action C. performance
- 16. A. fan B. enthusiasm C. reader
- 17. A. matches B. stadiums C. pitches
- 18. A. sad B. disappointed C. happy

10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET

TASK 4 WRITING (20 points)

Time: 25 minutes

Write to your foreign friend the letter how you spent summer holidays (80-100 words).

Participant's ID number

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ВСЕРОССИЙСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ШКОЛЬНИКОВ ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ

Ставропольский край

Левокумский муниципальный округ

(ШКОЛЬНЫЙ ЭТАП)

ПИСЬМЕННЫЙ ТУР

возрастная группа (_9-11_классы)

Уважаемый участник олимпиады!

Вам предстоит выполнить письменные задания.

Время выполнения заданий письменного тура __3__ академических часа (_120_ минут).

Выполнение заданий целесообразно организовать следующим образом:

- не спеша, внимательно прочитайте формулировку задания;
- напишите правильный вариант ответа в бланке ответов;
- после выполнения всех предложенных заданий еще раз удостоверьтесь в правильности ваших ответов;
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Предупреждаем Вас, что:

- при оценке тестовых заданий, где необходимо определить один правильный ответ, 0 баллов выставляется за неверный ответ и в случае, если участником отмечены несколько ответов (в том числе правильный), или все ответы;

- при оценке тестовых заданий, где необходимо определить все правильные ответы, 0 баллов выставляется, если участником отмечены неверные ответы, большее количество ответов, чем предусмотрено в задании (в том числе правильные ответы) или все ответы.

Задание письменного тура считается выполненным, если Вы вовремя сдаете его членам жюри.

Максимальная оценка – _100_ баллов.

**Школьный этап всероссийской олимпиады школьников
по
английскому языку 2024-2025
9-11 классы**

Критерии оценивания и подсчет баллов

Listening - максимальное количество баллов **20**. Задание проверяется по ключам. **Каждый правильный ответ оценивается в 2 балл.** За неверный ответ или отсутствие ответа выставляется 0 баллов.

Reading - максимальное количество баллов **30**. Задание проверяется по ключам. **Каждый правильный ответ оценивается в 2 балл.** За неверный ответ или отсутствие ответа выставляется 0 баллов.

Use of English - максимальное количество баллов **30**. Задание проверяется по ключам. **Каждый правильный ответ оценивается в 3 балл.** За неверный ответ или отсутствие ответа выставляется 0 баллов.

Writing - максимальное количество баллов **20**. Задание оценивается по Критериям оценивания

При подведении итогов баллы суммируются.

Максимальное количество баллов – 100

LISTENING (20 баллов)

Time: 20 minutes

For items 1–10 listen to a man talking about a boy called Michael who crossed the Atlantic in a sailing boat and decide whether the statements 1–10 are TRUE according to the text you hear (A), or FALSE (B), or the information on the statement is NOT STATED in the text (C). You will hear the text twice. Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

1. Michael Perham, a teenage boy from the south of England, became the only person to sail across the Atlantic alone.
2. Michael started his voyage across the Atlantic when he was seven.
3. The Cheeky Monkey is a 9-metre yacht which was designed for the cross-Atlantic voyage.
4. During his voyage, Michael ate food which had been presented to him by a local supermarket.
5. Burgers and crisps were the things Michael missed most during his voyage.
6. One day during the trip, Michael's father contacted him to say that a part of Michael's boat was broken.
7. Michael didn't play his guitar during the trip.
8. Once he managed to catch a flying fish which had jumped into his boat.
9. Michael contributed a lot of money to the fund Children in Need.
10. Michael and his father would like to do their next trip in bigger and faster boats.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

READING (30 баллов)

Time: 35 minutes

Read the text below and for questions 1-6 decide which answer (A,B,C or D) best fits each gap. Remember to transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

The Brochure and the Dream - The Bay Hotel, San Leonardo

In the north-west corner of the island paradise Isla Perlita, nestling in the shadow of Mount Machu, lies the sleepy village of San Lorenzo . Off the beaten (1) _____ , there is

nothing out of the ordinary about this quaint little village -nothing, that is, apart from the magnificent (2) _____ Bay Hotel. The Bay, as it is known locally, is a recent development catering for (3) _____ travellers who enjoy luxury holiday-making. Famous throughout the island for the outstanding quality of its accommodation and the excellence of its cuisine, the Bay (4) _____ 30 guest suites, each with a charm and character of its own. Each suite looks (5) _____ Falmer Beach, commanding breathtaking views of the four miles of white sand, which gently shelves into the (6) _____ clear waters of the Crepuscan Sea. At the heart of the Bay Hotel is personal, efficient and unobtrusive service. (7) _____ staff anticipate your every need in an atmosphere of quiet professionalism and genuine friendliness. (8) _____, the Bay Hotel is a place to get(9) _____ from the stresses of everyday life, and whether it is (10) _____ away the hours (11) _____ up the sun or taking advantage of the wide range of recreational activities that the hotel has (12) _____ offer, you can be sure that a holiday at the Bay truly is the holiday of a lifetime. Air Perlita flies direct to Isla Perlita once a fortnight from Gatwick. It is advisable to book well in (13) _____, especially during(14) _____ season (January through March) as flights fill up quickly. For air (15) _____, hotel tariffs and general terms and conditions, please see pages 67 and 68 of this brochure.

1) A path	B track	C road	D way
2) A starred	B stars	C star	D starring
3) A disconcerting	B discerning	C distinctive	D discriminated
4) A announces	B claims	C asserts	D boasts
5) A back on	B onto	C into	D down
	B sky	C diamond	D pearl
7) A Preoccupied	B Attentive	C Concentrated	D Undivided
8) A All over	B For all	C Above all	D All along
9) A out	B over	C off	D away
10) A whiling	B wearing	C wending	D winding
11) A soaking	B drawing	C taking	D absorbing
12) A in	B for	C on	D at
13) A anticipation	B time	C hand	D advance
14) A high	B on	C full	D open
15) A fees	B rates	C fares	D tenders

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

USE OF ENGLISH (35 БАЛЛОВ)

Time: 15 minutes

For items 1-10, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example
0 teaching

BEING A TEACHER

Without a doubt, (0) ... is one of the oldest professions	TEACH
and one of the most (1) ...	CHALLENGE
To be a good teacher, you need certain qualities such as (2) . , understanding and patience.	MATURE
Teachers must also be good communicators if they are to convey (3) ... to their students.	KNOW
Language teachers in particular have to be aware of all the skills students need to communicate (4) ... with others.	SUCCESS
As well as being (5) ... to students' needs,	SENSE
teachers also need to be (6) ... and approachable while at the same time maintaining high standards of discipline in the classroom.	HELP
Perhaps most (7) ... of all,	IMPORTANT
teachers need to keep themselves well-informed about current (8) ... in their field and the world in general in order to give their best.	DEVELOP
However, although it can be difficult when teachers find themselves (9) ... to help students outside of class,	ABLE
they (10) ... try to help everyone in class.	CONSTANT

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

WRITING (20 баллов)

Time: 30minutes

Write a short description of your favourite place in Chelyabinsk and recommend it to foreign tourists.

Write the name of the place at the beginning on a separate line (*words are not counted in this line*). The place should be real, not imaginary.

Remember to mention in your description:

- where in Chelyabinsk the place is located;
- why you like the place;
- why you recommend it to foreign tourists.

Write 200-250 words.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet!

ANSWER SHEET

Listening

	A	B	C
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Reading

	A	B	C	D
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Use of English

1	
2	
3	
4	
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8	
9	
10	

Audioscript

Listening comprehension

For items 1–10 listen to a man talking about a boy called Michael who crossed the Atlantic in a sailing boat and decide whether the statements 1–10 are TRUE according to the text you hear (A), or FALSE (B), or the information on the statement is NOT STATED in the text (C). You will hear the text twice. You have 20 seconds to look through the statements.

(pause 20 seconds)

Now we begin

In 2007, Michael Perham, a fourteen-year-old boy from the south of England, became the youngest person to sail across the Atlantic alone. Michael set off from Gibraltar on the 5,600 kilometre voyage which took forty-seven days. It was a long and, some may say, dangerous adventure, but Michael was determined to get there.

Michael started sailing when he was seven, and says the idea of an Atlantic crossing had been floating around in his head for a few years. Then one day, his father, Peter, who's a keen sailor, decided that the time was right. Michael helped with the design of a new 9-metre yacht which was built for them and to which Michael gave the name the *Cheeky Monkey*.

They say that for a real sailor, crossing the Atlantic isn't a big deal, but people imagine that sharks and huge waves would be the greatest dangers. In fact, Michael's father sailed alongside his son in his own boat to make sure he was OK. They worked in shifts throughout the night: an hour on, then an hour off, because one of them had to be on watch, in case large ships came too near to them.

Are you wondering what Michael ate during his voyage? Well, he says he and his father filled two supermarket trolleys with things like sausages, spaghetti and stews, which could be easily heated in a pan. Everything had to be in tins, though, because that type of food keeps fresher than stuff in packets or jars.

So what did Michael miss most? He says he sometimes missed human contact and having a face-to-face conversation. He got used to his limited food supply but says what he really longed for was hot toast. Knowing what teenagers are like, I'd been expecting him to say burgers or crisps, but then Michael is no ordinary teenager!

When asked how he communicated with his father, Michael explains that it was all done by radio, though for Michael nothing compared with the pleasure of following his father's progress through his binoculars. Michael also communicated with his family at home by satellite phone. One day his father contacted Michael to tell him a part of his own boat was broken, which really disappointed Michael

because it might mean that they would have to go slower. But, in the end, that wasn't necessary.

I asked Michael how he entertained himself on the boat. He told me he'd taken his guitar with him but it had stayed in its case throughout the trip. He couldn't play because the boat was always rolling about! He loved to read and he also had an iPod that his sister had lent him. This he plugged into portable speakers and it was on pretty much all the time.

Was there anything that frightened Michael? He says the weather was a bit of a worry at times, and once he got caught in a force-nine storm, but managed to handle the boat OK. The one event that really shook him was when a flying fish jumped into the boat and hit him on the shoulder. But mostly things were great, like sailing alongside dolphins and seeing the bluest skies anyone could ever imagine.

Everybody is really proud of Michael's achievements. And a remarkable thing about the trip is that he also raised thousands of pounds for the charity known as 'Children in Need'. His school has been very supportive - the head teacher allowed Michael to miss school, saying that a few weeks on the ocean would be an amazing learning experience.

It's quite likely that Michael's next challenge will be to sail non-stop around the world. His father would do the trip in another boat, but it would be a very different experience because they would be in 20-metre boats which travel much faster, so they would never really be in sight of each other. Michael says next time he'll remember to pack some photos, to remember friends and family if he feels lonely, but he'll leave the guitar at home!

You have 20 seconds to check your answers. (*pause 20 seconds*)

Now listen to the text again. (*text repeated*)

This is the end of the listening comprehension task.