

Олимпиада «Высшая проба» проводится при поддержке Сбера, приветствуем участников соревнования! Мы верим в то, что будущее зависит от стремления к самосовершенствованию каждого из нас. Поздравляем – ты являешься участником заключительного этапа олимпиады «Высшая проба»! Желаем тебе блистательной победы!



Приступая к выполнению заданий, вы подтверждаете, что профиль и класс в заданиях соответствует сведениям, указанным вами при регистрации.

Time limit: 120 minutes

Maximum score: 100

**Внимание! Обязательно перенесите ответы в бланк ответов.
Жюри проверяет только бланк ответов.**

LISTENING (20 points)

Task 1. Listen to the first part of the text. Decide which statements are A. **True** according to the text, B. **False**, or C. **Not mentioned** in the text. You will hear the recording once. **Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**

№	Statement	A	B	C
1.	Sir Walter Scott inspired Fenimore Cooper to write historical fiction.			
2.	Fenimore Cooper's father was a politician.			
3.	Fenimore Cooper successfully graduated from Yale.			
4.	Fenimore Cooper's second novel, <i>The Spy</i> , was not successful.			
5.	According to the speaker, in <i>The Pioneers</i> the conflict between Natty Bumppo and Judge Temple gets resolved.			

Task 2. Listen to the second part of the text. Each statement contains a factual error, which is written in bold. Replace the words in bold with the correct word/words from the text. Write down only the correct word/words according to the number in brackets. You will hear the recording once. **Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**

№	Statement	Your answer

6.	<i>The Last of the Mohicans</i> was written after <i>The Prairie</i> that tells about an older Leatherstocking.	_____ (2 words)
7.	In Cooper's interpretation, the sea turned into the main participant in the drama that praises a person's fear and incompetence .	_____ (3 words)
8.	Apart from depicting the sea in his fiction, Cooper created a well-received and briefly studied <i>History of the Navy of the United States of America</i> .	_____ (2 words)
9.	<i>The Bravo</i> is dedicated to the cooperation between two social classes.	_____ (1 word)
10.	Starting from 1834, Cooper had a strained relationship with his audience that was improved by his involvement in numerous conflicts.	_____ (1 word)

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE STUDIES (40 points)

Task 1. Read the first part of the text. There are ten statements listed after the text. The statements are not related to the text but they contain antonyms (in bold) to the words in the text. Find **antonyms** to the words in bold in the text and write them down in the box. **Do not change the word form given in the text. Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**

Adventure fiction is a genre of literature that was formed in the middle of the 19th century hard on the heels of romanticism and neo-romanticism, with a characteristic desire to escape from everyday life into the world of exoticism and heroism. In a broader sense, we can talk about the existence of a special adventure genre, which is distinguished by a sharp division of characters into heroes and villains, the rapid development of action, changeability and acuteness of plot situations, exaggerated experiences, secrets and riddles.

The predecessors of the 19th-century adventure novel were picaresque, gothic and historical novels by such authors as Walter Scott, James Fenimore Cooper, and Victor Hugo. A notable contribution to the development of the genre was made by such masters of romantic and neo-romantic prose as Alexandre Dumas, père and Robert Louis Stevenson.

At first, a distinction was made between historical adventure novels like *The Three Musketeers* and *Queen Margot* and social adventure novels such as *The Count of Monte Cristo*.

At the end of the 18th and at the very beginning of the 19th centuries, the prerequisites for the emergence of a new kind of fiction appeared. By that moment, not only literature itself had changed, but also the world around it.

With the development of cartography, navigation, and shipbuilding, remote countries became more accessible to Europeans; they were no longer perceived as fabulous spaces, but as real destinations, although exotic and with unique cultures and peoples. The exploration of those countries and their colonisation became one of the most important motives for adventure novels.

The components taken from other genres were not lost but were largely transformed. Thus, the wonderful companions who came from travel novels acquired a new appearance. For example, in L. Jacolliot's novels the helpful companions are Indians and exotic animals. Sometimes elements of adventure literature turned out to be so strong that, when used in other adjacent genres, they

distorted their perception. Thus, in the historical novel by Dumas, père *The Three Musketeers*, one short episode became central for readers – a trip to England to collect the Queen’s pendants. This episode replaced the complex main intrigue of the novel in the readers’ perception.

In the second half of the 19th century it seemed that adventure literature was just opening up new opportunities: the rapid development of cities began and, as a result, the psychology of the city dweller, who became a resident of the metropolis, changed. Now there was no need to sail to distant lands; the uncharted spaces of the city, street, and individual house gave freedom for adventure. The city, even the hero’s hometown, is so large that it seems dangerous and hostile. *The Slums of Saint Petersburg* by Vsevolod Krestovsky and *The Mysteries of Paris* by Eugène Sue, written earlier and serving as a model for the Russian prose writer, are dedicated to the wanderings of the heroes in this “concrete jungle”, an intense struggle with numerous opponents, when the balance of power changes almost every minute.

№	Statement	Your answer
1.	The team celebrated their unity after the big win.	
2.	The actor's understated interpretation of the lead role was well received.	
3.	Descendants of famous dynasties have many advantages over other people.	
4.	The painting was unremarkable , yet it drew attention.	
5.	The sudden disappearance of the cat worried the family.	
6.	The team’s opponents are so strong that the chances of winning are almost nonexistent.	
7.	She clarified her point during the discussion.	
8.	The festival attracted visitors from neighbouring towns.	
9.	The dog was friendly and approached everyone.	
10.	After the vacation, she felt relaxed and rejuvenated.	

Task 2. Read the second part of the text. There are five incomplete sentences below the text. Finish each sentence with the words from the text. Write down only the correct word/words according to the number in brackets. **Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**

Several subgenres were derived from the adventure genre during its “golden age”. These are colonial novels, books about treasure hunts, sea fiction, pirate fiction, Robinsonade (stories about

people struggling to survive on uninhabited islands), swashbucklers (stories about heroic characters skilled at swordsmanship), Ruritanian novels (romantic adventure novels set in fictional countries), novels about Native Americans or Westerns, novels about animals, sensation novels, superhero novels, and spy novels.

In pre-revolutionary Russia, entire sets of novels and special magazines dedicated to the world of adventure were published, and the works of Alexander Grin, Valentin Kataev, and Alexander Belyaev became an integral part of modern mass literature.

However, changes in themes and characters indicated that adventure literature was losing its popularity. At the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries due to technological progress, the pace of life and its conditions changed. The exotic was less and less surprising, and news delivered by telegraph immediately ended up on the pages of newspapers. Authors started to place the events of their books in the unusual and unexplored places of the planet. These are either inaccessible heights, like a plateau on which prehistoric animals and humanoid creatures are preserved (*The Lost World* by Arthur Conan Doyle), or ocean abysses hiding the secrets of lost ships (*The Wrecker* by R.L. Stevenson and Lloyd Osbourne), or the hidden places of the Earth, located literally inside the globe (*Plutonia* by Vladimir Obruchev). Often, authors mixed all the elements together – for example, humanoid creatures can live with primitive tribes and prehistoric animals in the mouth of a huge extinct volcano, which, in turn, is surrounded by an ocean (*Sannikov Land* by Obruchev).

It was during this period – the beginning of the 20th century – that the classic adventure genre began to lose ground, giving its energy and features to the genres derived from it – detective short stories and novels, police novels, horror stories, and science fiction.

№	Sentence	Your answer
11.	_____ emerged from the adventure genre on the peak of its development. (2 words)	
12.	The works of numerous Russian writers of adventure novels are now considered to be _____ of literature. (3 words)	
13.	At the turn of the 20th century, breakthroughs in technology led to the changes in _____ and its general conditions. (4 words)	
14.	Arthur Conan Doyle's <i>The Lost World</i> describes a plateau located at _____ where prehistoric animals and human-like creatures live. (2 words)	
15.	In the first half of the 20 th century, the adventure genre itself started to _____, allowing other genres to appear. (2 words)	

Task 3. There are five British and American authors listed below. Match the author with the brief description of his/her work. There are two extra descriptions. **Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**

№	Author's name	Your answer
16.	Thomas Mayne Reid	
17.	Robert Louis Stevenson	
18.	Herman Melville	
19.	Daniel Defoe	
20.	Jack London	

Descriptions

A. This American writer was a seaman who wrote novels based on his experience. His books are often philosophical and tend to depict the life of sailors realistically. His most famous book, however, tells about a huge mysterious whale who rules the sea.

B. This British novelist was one of the early pioneers of sea fiction. Based on his experience as a sailor, the majority of his books are set during The Napoleonic wars. His works are considered to be a reliable source on navigation of that time. He is also famous as an author of children's books.

C. This is a Scottish poet and novelist, the author of several adventure novels. One of the most famous ones is about a quest to find a treasure hidden on an island. Apart from adventure books, he is well known for his travel writings as well as poems and ballads.

D. This writer and journalist was the first British author to receive the Nobel Prize in literature. Much of his work is inspired by his life in British India. One of his most famous works is a collection of stories about tropical animals and an orphaned boy.

E. This is an American short stories and novels writer. Apart from his other books, his most famous adventure books are dedicated to the Gold Rush in Alaska and Canada, and center around wild animals surviving the harsh conditions and mistreatment from people.

F. This British author is mostly famous for his works describing the life of American Indians and the American West. Many of his works also take place in Africa and Asia. One of his most famous books tells a mysterious story about a horseman without a head.

G. This British writer is one of the early proponents of the popularisation of a novel as a form of literature in Great Britain. His most famous book, which is one of the most translated books in the world, is about a person who had to spend his life on a desert island.

CREATIVE WRITING (40 points)

Внимание! Не указывайте свои ФИО в творческом задании.

Task: Read two quotes about literature.

A quote by James Fenimore Cooper:

It is not a very difficult task to make what is commonly called an amusing book of travels. Any one who will tell, with a reasonable degree of graphic effect, what he has seen, will not fail to carry the reader with him <...>.

A quote by Thomas Mann, a German writer:

A writer is someone for whom writing is more difficult than it is for other people.

Now write **an article** comparing these two points of view on literature and giving your own opinion.

You must write **250 – 300 words**.

