To be filled in by the Jury. Please do not make any notes here!							
	Task	Task	Task	Task	Task	Task	Total points
CODE	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	Max 15	Max 15	Max 20	Max 15	Max 20	Max 15	Max 100

SOCIAL SCIENCES: PERSON. SOCIETY. STATE

10th Grade

to be completed within 120 minutes Maximum score – 100 points

Task 1. (maximum grade - 15 points)

Oleg Gazmanov, a famous Russian pop singer, has a song with the following lyrics: «Я рожден в Советском Союзе, сделан я в СССР» ("I was born in the Soviet Union, but I was made in the USSR").

What message, do you think, this phrase is meant to convey, besides the simple fact of having been born in the Soviet Union? What does it actually mean - "I was made in the USSR"? What sociological concept can be used to describe the nature of this phenomenon?



Task 2. (maximum grade - 15 points)

In 2005, Russia carried out a reform known as «Монетизация льгот» ("Monetization of Non-monetary Benefits"). Under this reform, the goods and services, which had been provided to retired and disabled people, and other groups of population free of charge, were replaced with equivalent cash payments.

Ivan Ivanovich is a disabled person who used to spend certain periods of time at a sanatorium (Russian spa resort with medical services) free of charge every year. However, after the Monetization of Nonmonetary Benefits reform, he didn't receive a sanatorium voucher, but was paid enough money to purchase such voucher on his own. Alternatively, he had the option to spend this money for any other purpose. Hearing this news, Ivan Ivanovich got furious, persistently demanded a free sanatorium voucher and rejected the money offered to him.

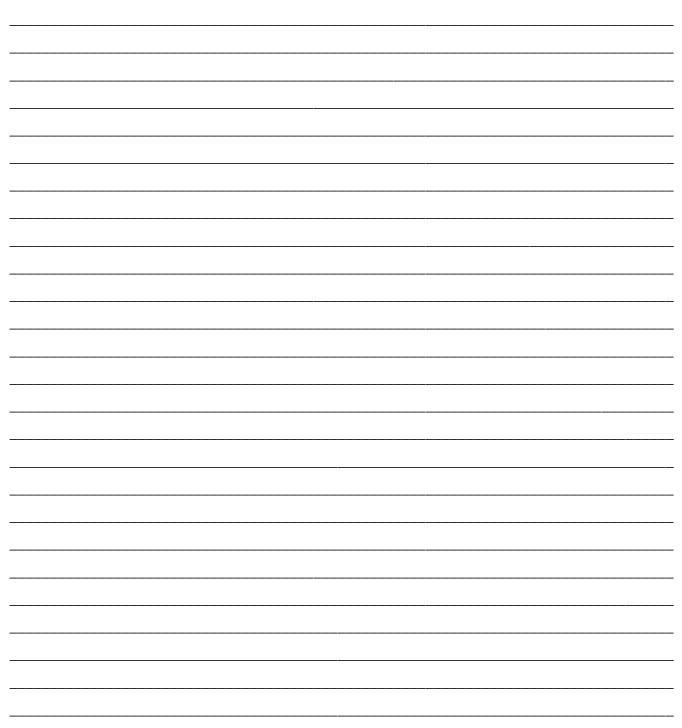
How can you explain this person's behaviour? Why do you think cash can not serve as the exact equivalent of a free voucher? What is the underlying value of free vouchers versus cash payments?



Task 3. (maximum grade - 20 points)

Prisons and colonies are commonly refered to as 'correctional facilities', meaning that one of their declared key goals is to help rehabilitate people who committed a crime. However, it is well-known that many ex-convicts commit more crimes after being released from prison.

What are the real primary functions of prisons and colonies inside a society? Who do you think prison routines are tailored for - real or potential criminals? If we were to improve living conditions in prisons and colonies, what could be the possible implications? What scientific concepts address these phenomena and issues?



Task 4. (maximum grade - 15 points)

As you know, the United States do not have a universal health insurance system. However, in 2010, the 44th US President Barack Obama signed a federal Affordable Care Act, commonly referred to as Obamacare (named after its proponent). Under this reform, which was supposed to start in October 2013, all US citizens were obligated to purchase a health insurance policy, if they hadn't done so before. The government was ready to provide subsidies for low-income groups. However, in the actual fact, all medical services were handed over to private sector, some services turned out to be excessively expensive, and as a result, many people with low income simply cannot afford them.

We offer you an opportunity to make your own contributon to the analysis of this managerial situation. Task. Answer the following questions using your knowledge in economic theory and managerial erudition:

1). What is causing the inequality in access to health services? What is the nature of this inequality? Provide arguments in support of your answer.

2). What key managerial tasks did Obamacare fail to solve?

3). How does the govenment benefit from investments in such policies? What are the government's short-term and long-term goals in this situation?

4). In your opinion, why did Donald Trump make sure to sign a decree reducing the requirements imposed on the government agencies under the Affordable Care Act during the very first hours after his inauguration?



Task 5. (maximum grade - 20 points)

The term "globalization" (meaning "intensive international trade") was first used by Karl Marx, who wrote in his letter to Friedrich Engels in late 1850s: "Global market is a reality today. Now that California and Japan have entered the global market, globalization is completed." Today, the concept of "globalization" is used in a broader context.

Task. Using your knowledge in public administration, answer the following questions and provide arguments in support of your answer:

1). What are the key distinctive features of globalization? Provide examples based on international practices.

2). What are the main positive impacts and negative effects of globalization for global community and individual states?

3). It is well-known that antiglobalists speak against certain aspects of globalization in its contemporary form. Specifically, they criticize the worldwide dominance of global multinational corporations and intergovernment trade organizations such as the World Trade Organization (WTO). What arguments do antiglobalists provide in support of their viewpoint? Do you agree with these arguments and why?



Task 6. (maximum grade - 15 points)

In 2014, the Moscow city government launched an electronic survey platform «Активный гражданин» ("Active Citizens") in order to facilitate comfortable urban environment. One of the key objectives of this project is to give Moscow residents an opportunity to share their opinions on pressing issues related to Moscow city development. Special focus was made on involving citizens in decision-making, but there is still a limited number of topics that people can bring up for discussion. "Active Citizens" project relies on gamification concept: users are awarded points for filling in their profile, linking their account with the city services portal, and taking part in opinion polls and other activities. Moscow residents can use these points to get various prizes, both tangible and intangible.

Questions:

1). In your opinion, what are the key advantages and disadvantages of an electronic survey system used by state authorities? How can this affect the degree of trust the citizens place in them?

2). Explain why it is vital to engage local communities in decision-making processes in big cities, along with expert and professional communities? Can this initiative benefit from gamification?

3). Among the many urban development efforts, less attention is paid to sharing information with the urban population. In your opinion, how can a city's public communication policy affect the solution of urban problems? Provide arguments in support of your answer. Give examples of other indirect impact policies that can help to enhance urban environment in contemporary cities.

