

**Time limit: 120 minutes**

**Maximum score: 100**

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

**LISTENING AND WRITING (40 points)**

**Task 1. Listen to the text. Decide which statements are true according to the text (A), which are false according to the text (B), which are not mentioned at all (C). Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.**

№	Statements	A	B	C
1.	The major function of the Federal Reserve was to moderate long-term interest rates.			
2.	At the end of the 1920's, the trust that many Americans had in the banking system was not based on facts.			
3.	The real date of the start of the Great Depression is October 29th, 1929.			
4.	The general public felt the effects of the stock market crash through job loss.			
5.	The American people approved of President Hoover's initial plan to let the economy fix itself.			
6.	Roosevelt's election campaign was based on the promise of swift economic recovery.			
7.	The purpose of Roosevelt's first banking holiday was to keep money in the banks to stop them from closing.			
8.	One of Roosevelt's economic initiatives was debt deflation.			
9.	According to the second New Deal, people had to pay taxes based on their level of income.			
10.	The start of World War II only boosted the number of new factory jobs, while corporations remained in despair.			

**Task 2. Listen to the text again and write a paragraph summarizing the text you have just listened to. You should follow the structure:**

- a topic sentence;
- supporting arguments;
- a concluding sentence.

**The paragraph must contain 100 – 120 words.**

## LANGUAGE AND CULTURE STUDIES (20 points)

**Task 1. Read the following text. Complete the text with five sentences from the table below. Two sentences don't belong in the text. Write down the correct letter. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.**

In 1929, America was still embracing the "roaring" twenties, which was a decade of affluence for many people. Life changed dramatically in the 1920s. There was more money to spend and more to spend it on. People found new roles to enjoy and focused more on leisure time and having fun. It seemed as though many Americans were enjoying a party that would never end, even though some people, such as farmers and minorities, never really shared in the general prosperity of the times. (1) / \_\_\_\_\_ / The economy did not fully recover from the Great Depression until World War II. It affected an entire generation of people.

An economic depression is an extreme recession that lasts two years or more. (2) / \_\_\_\_\_ / It is characterized by increased unemployment, less available credit, and reduced trading and commerce. If a depression lasts for too long, consumers lose confidence and stop investing.

Later in 1929, Americans suddenly found themselves losing their jobs and having their homes foreclosed on. Many people lost the money in their savings accounts. (3) / \_\_\_\_\_ / Imagine going to the bank to withdraw money and finding it closed forever. This happened to many people.

Today, we talk about 8 percent unemployment being unacceptably high, but the early 1930s saw 25 percent unemployment. One quarter of the American work force was unemployed.

Before 1933, there were no federal government programs in place to help people who lost their jobs. Today, unemployment insurance helps people take care of themselves until they can find another job. Without money to spend, unemployed consumers no longer shopped. Business after business closed, and people whose livelihoods depended on manufacturing or selling goods lost their jobs as well.

It was also a decade of severe natural disasters. The Great Plains states, including Colorado, Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico suffered through one of the worst droughts ever recorded. The dry conditions spawned huge dust storms, blowing loose topsoil in "black blizzards" or dust and dirt.

(4) / \_\_\_\_\_ / Millions of farmers and agricultural workers were forced to leave their farms and homes. Many traveled to places such as California in search of work.

At first, the government did little that helped. (5) / \_\_\_\_\_ / These programs also began to help people who had no way to earn money or feed their families.

Letter	Sentence
A	Between 1930 and 1933, 9,000 banks failed.
B	It wasn't until President Franklin Roosevelt was elected in 1932 that the government began to put policies and programs into place that were designed to help the economy.
C	Many of those who grew up during the 1930s always carried with them the memory of hunger and hardship.
D	The party did end, though, with the Stock Market Crash of 1929 that ushered in a period of hard times.
E	It was impossible to grow crops in these conditions.
F	The 1930s is a decade with many nicknames, such as "The Turbulent Thirties", or "The Starving Thirties".
G	This is a period of time when personal income, prices, and profits all drop.

**Task 2. There are seven notions and five descriptions listed below. Decide which notion corresponds with each description. Two notions do not have a description. Write down the correct letter. Transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.**

Letter	Notion
A.	Penny auction
B.	Debt deflation
C.	Dust Bowl
D.	Hooverville
E.	Share sellout
F.	Tariffs
G.	Bonus Army

**DEFINITIONS**

6. On the day of the stock market crash (October 29, 1929), stock prices began to fall. This caused people to panic and try to sell their stocks while they could still make money from them. This selling made the market fall even faster. As a result, stocks were traded at lower and lower prices. Investors lost millions of dollars. Soon, stocks were worth barely a fraction of what they had been valued at when the stock market peaked.

7. In an attempt to boost the economy, Congress revised America's taxes or duties that are paid on any goods that are imported into the country. These taxes made it more expensive for companies in foreign countries to send their goods to the United States for sale. These foreign countries were not happy about America's increased taxes. They retaliated by imposing or increasing their own taxes on American goods. Now it was even harder for American companies to make money selling their products overseas.

8. During the 1920's and 1930's, many farmers lost their farms to foreclosure when they could no longer afford to pay their mortgages and loans. Most of these farms and their equipment were sold to the public. However, farmers banded together to help each other by bidding ridiculously low amounts for buildings and equipment. With no other bidders, the bank would be forced to

accept the bid. Then the farmer who purchased the item would turn around and give it back to the farmer whose farm was being sold off.

9. People who lost their homes turned to friends or relatives to take them in. Those who did not have anyone to turn to, began creating any kind of shelter that they could. People built shanties out of scraps of wood, old boxes and boards, tar paper, and discarded metal. Anything that might make some sort of protection from the weather was used to create a shelter. These people usually had open campfires outside to warm themselves and cook over.

10. 1930 saw the beginning of a severe drought that affected the entire country. In the eastern United States, crops dried up in the fields and farmers faced foreclosure of their farms and homes. In 1931, the drought shifted to the Great Plains. Not only was there no rain, but temperatures soared to levels that people had never seen before. In some places, the temperature reached as high as 118 degrees F (48 degrees C) and stayed at that level for days.

**CREATIVE WRITING (40 points)**

**Внимание! Не указывайте свои ФИО в творческом задании.**

**Task: Now you have learned about the Great Depression. Imagine that you are a time-traveller and you happen to find yourself in the described time period. Write a story about your experience in this new environment.**

**You must include the following points:**

- the characteristics of the time period;
- how you have adapted to the new environment;
- how this experience has influenced your personality;
- whether you would like to stay (or not) and why.

**You must write 250 – 300 words.**

