Управління освіти і науки Чернігівської обласної державної адміністрації

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**Writing Comprehension Test for the 9th Form Students**

***Write 16 sentences to justify your point of view on the following topic:***

Cycling is the more environmentally friendly than other forms of transport. Why is it not popular in many places? And how to increase its popularity?

**Writing Comprehension Test for the 10th Form Students**

***Write 18 sentences to justify your point of view on the following topic:***

Some believe that it is good for a country’s culture to import films and TV programmes, while others think it is better for a country to have their own films and TV programmes. Discuss advantages and disadvantages and give your opinion.

**Writing Comprehension Test for the 11th Form Students**

***Write 20 sentences to justify your point of view on the following topic:***

Some people think that international collaboration is necessary to put an end to the problem of terrorism. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

**Speaking Comprehension Test for 9th Form Students**

**1.** Imagine that you are the owner of a new museum.What type of museum would you like to own? Who would be interested in visiting your museum? What techniques or things would you use to attract tourists?

**2.** Tastes in reading differ as in everything else**.** Are you fond of books that have a happy ending? Does it matter to you? What makes a book exciting to read - its plot, its author’s style, love theme in it, characters taken from real life or something else?

**3.** Some people believe that competitive sports, both team and individual, have no place in the school curriculum. Why do these beliefs exist? Do you like competitive sports? Why or why not? What sports do you usually play at PT lessons? What skills do you develop at these lessons? If you could ban evaluation at PT lessons, would you do it?

**4.** Nelson Mandela, the South African politician, once said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”.Do you think the Ukrainian system of education is good enough ‘to change the world’? What stages does the Ukrainian system of education consist of? What does each stage imply? In your opinion, what is the most important thing for school leavers now?

**5.** Despite all modern things many people still listen to the radio.What advantages does listening to the radio have? What disadvantages does it have? Do you occasionally listen to the radio or is it your hobby? What is your favourite radio programme? If you could start a new radio programme, what would it be?

**6.** 25 December: Christmas. In the UK, a typical dessert is Christmas pudding made of dried fruits and sugar.What other British traditions and customs at Christmas do you know? What are Christmas celebrations in the UK and Ukraine alike? What are they different in? Which of the British traditions or customs will you borrow for our country?

**7.** Choose a character from your favourite television programme.Why is this character your favourite? How does he/she look like? What is the character similar to you? Different? Is this character popular with young people of your age? Do you try to imitate him/her?

**8**. Imagine you participate in a conference on environmental protection in you city/ town/ village.Are there any environmental threats in your area? What are the main environmental problems? What can we reduce, recycle or reuse to help the environment?

**9.** Talking and being with friends is good. Is online communication a substitution?How often do you spend your free time with your close friends? What do you usually talk about? Do you chat with your friends or strangers on the Net? What do you usually chat about?

10. Abraham Lincoln was sometimes called the Great Emancipator because of his courageous, outspoken fight for the freedom of slaves.Which compassionate fighter for freedom in Ukraine is so dear to Ukrainians as Abraham Lincoln to Americans? What freedom did he/she fight for? Why is freedom valued so much by humanity?

**11.** There are 192 countries in the world. How can people from different countries communicate? What languages are considered to be the languages of international communication? How do languages influence each other in the course of time? What criteria does an international language have?

**12.** World Teachers’ Day is celebrated on October, 5th.Who is your favourite teacher, the one who is very special for you? What is she/he like? Which methods or attitudes make her/him special? How does this teacher influence you and your classmates?

**13.** Imagine you are friends with a time traveller. Your friend has just arrived in 2014 from 50 years ago.What will be the biggest surprises for your friend? How will you help guide your friend through modern life? Explain. Which manner of human behaviour will surprise him most?

**14**. In most parts of the developed world, people are better off financially today than they were fifty years ago.What is the difference between having enough money and being rich? What is the main source of happiness for most people?

**15.** Aristotle, the Greek philosopher, once said, “No great genius has ever existed without some touch of madness.”How do you understand this quote? Do you remember any geniuses whose inventions changed human existence completely but shook the world with their ‘madness’?

**16**. From which play is this famous phrase: “To be or not to be, that is the question.”Why is this quote so famous among people? If you are not sure what to choose what helps you to make a final decision? What do you worry about most of all: your marks, relationships, duties or leisure?

**17.** Many teenagers love listening to rock music.Why do they prefer rock music? What do you think are the most significant elements of rock music? Do you like rock music? Why or why not?

**18.** Clothes make the man.How far do you agree or disagree with the saying? Do you like style of clothes young people are wearing at present? Do their clothes look beautiful? What about clothes is more important for you? Being beautiful or being comfortable?

**19.** Foreign language learning is compulsory.What makes studying a foreign language interesting? Is it easy or difficult for you to learn English? Why? Do you like learning English individually or at school?

**20.** Drugs, cigarettes and alcohol are among the biggest killers in Europe. Does this concern our country?How does drug, cigarette and alcohol addiction affect young generation? What lifestyle do you think makes young people get addicted to drugs, alcohol and cigarettes? What steps are made by our government to improve the situation?

**Speaking Comprehension Test for 10th Form Students**

1. People are often interested in foreign people and cultures. Which foreign culture do you find most intriguing? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
2. Everyday millions of people visit video-hosting sites such as YouTube. Why have these sites become so popular? What makes such sites different than television? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
3. If you could be in any TV show, which would it be? How would you introduce yourself in the show? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
4. Imagine you have become stranded on a desert island. Without a computer, phone, or television, how would you spend your time? What do you know about survival skills? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
5. The world is becoming increasingly urbanized. Why are more people living in cities? Is living in a city a sustainable lifestyle? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
6. Imagine that you are a newspaper reporter. You have the opportunity to interview any person in the world. Who would you choose to interview? What three questions would you ask first? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
7. Imagine you have the power to see the future. What advantages and disadvantages accompany this gift? What responsibilities come with this gift? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
8. Imagine that someday you will have a career as an actor or actress. What kind of character would you play? What type of production would it be? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
9. Athletics are very popular among the nation’s youth. They are a good way to maintain a healthy lifestyle and they help kids to develop some skills. Should athletics focus more on winning or just having fun? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
10. Some people believe that living a healthy lifestyle is the key to one’s happiness. What is your idea of a healthy lifestyle? Can a person who is not healthy still be happy? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
11. The Internet and television have made the world a much smaller place, as virtually everyone is aware of pop culture icons like David Beckham and Lady Gaga. Is it important to keep up with pop culture? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
12. Both men and women spend a lot of time and money on fashion in an attempt to keep up with the latest trends. Does beauty affect one’s success in life? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
13. Each country has different rules of etiquette and behaviour. What are some common rules of etiquette in Ukraine? Why is it important to respect the rules of etiquette in a foreign country? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
14. Imagine that you are in a place that does not speak your native language. Instead, the world will now be required to speak English. What would be the advantages and disadvantages of having only one universal language? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
15. Neighbors are the people who live near us. In your opinion, what are the qualities of a good neighbor? Use specific details and examples in your answer.
16. It has recently been announced that a new restaurant may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.
17. If you could change one important thing about your hometown, what would you change? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.
18. If you had to move to another country because of your job (or your partner's job), what country would you prefer if you had a choice? What would you miss most? What would be the most important for you? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.
19. What is poverty? Why does every country in the world have poor people? Does poverty cause crime? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.
20. What is technology? What do you think about GMO (genetically modified organisms) vegetables? Do you think robots will cause unemployment (loss of jobs) in the future or make more work? Why? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.
21. What do you think is the most serious problem in the world? Why do you think so? What can we do as individuals to solve this problem? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.
22. What makes an advertisement memorable? Do you buy products because of advertising? Do you find advertising persuasive? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.
23. The famous artist and designer William Morris said that “you should not have anything in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful”. Do you agree? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.
24. Does beauty affect one's success in life? How important is beauty in your daily life? What personality trait is the most important for inner beauty? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.
25. Have you ever been in a situation where you felt you had to "do as the Romans do"? Have you ever experienced culture shock? What is the best/most important thing your culture has given to the world? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

**Speaking Comprehension Test for 11th Form Students**

1. Choosing a career path can be a difficult decision. What would be one’s motivation in choosing a career path? How can people balance their professional and personal lives? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
2. “Don’t judge a book by its cover” is a popular English idiom. How do you interpret this phrase? What value do you think our culture places on appearances? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
3. Tattoos and body piercings are becoming more and more popular. Many people with them believe that such body art helps them express their inner personalities. Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
4. It has been said that “not everything that is learned is contained in books”. Compare and contrast knowledge gained from experience with knowledge gained from books. Which source is more important? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
5. Some educators value math and science more than humanities (e.g. literature, music, and history). What would life be without arts? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
6. We all try to avoid illness through healthy daily habits and diets. When we get ill, most of us go to the doctor for advice or prescription medicines. How do different cultures approach health care? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position. Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
7. What causes conflict? What happens to people who are involved in conflicts? Is it possible to avoid conflicts? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
8. What is creativity? Do you consider yourself a creative person? Why? Do you think creativity comes with time and thought or you are born with creative talent? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
9. What are some things that define a culture? For example, music, languages. Would you ever consider marrying or dating someone from another culture? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
10. Should boys and girls be brought up differently? Are there different expectations for sons and daughters? What behaviors are deemed as appropriate for men but inappropriate for women? What behaviors are deemed as appropriate for men but inappropriate for women? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
11. When do you feel the generation gap the most? How does a generation gap affect interaction between two people? What do you think are some of the advantages or disadvantages of another generation? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
12. Are we be born with our bad habits? Or do we acquire them from the environment surrounding us? What bad habits bother you the most? What good habits do you most admire? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
13. What are the three most important things for you to be happy? What do you think of the idea of a government Happiness Minister who is responsible for the happiness of the population? Why are teenagers some of the happiest people in the world? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
14. What do we mean when we say a person is honest? Is it ever all right to give only a partial truth? What kind of problems does dishonesty cause? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
15. What is value of learning languages? Why do some people have more difficulty than others when learning a language? To speak its language well, how important is it to know something about the culture of a country? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
16. Those who forget the past will repeat it. What do you think this means? What things is it important to remember? Why? Are there some things or times that you will never forget? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
17. Are there gender role biased issues in your country? What are they? Why do you think we need to discuss issues about gender? Why does prejudice exist? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
18. What advice would you give a small business that is creating a website? What kind of information is most important to display to make the site user-friendly? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.
19. Some people spend their entire lives in one place. Others move a number of times throughout their lives, looking for a better job, house, community or even climate. Which do you prefer: staying in one place or moving in search of another place? Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion.
20. The expression "Never, never give up" means to keep trying and never stop working for your goals. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
21. Why do you need a friend? What qualities do you appreciate in your friends? What makes someone special or best friend? How can you get to better know a person? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
22. What can you do now to be successful in the future? Do you believe that people must work hard to become successful? Why or why not? Should parents help their children set goals? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
23. In Ukraine, children grow up believing in St. Nicolas and Father Frost. In America, children believe in Santa Claus. Why do you think societies create fictitious parental figures? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
24. Websites, magazines, and television shows are free to say almost anything about celebrities and public figures – even if it’s not true. Is this practice fair? Why is the public so fascinated with their private life’s details? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
25. Businesses should do anything they can to make a profit. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.