

**LISTENING**

**Time: 10 min.**

**Task 1. Listen to the radio interview about maintaining a good work-life balance. For questions 1-5 choose the right answer (A, B or C).**

1. How popular is Chris Svensson's book?  
A) not very popular    B) very popular     C) it's new, people don't know it yet
2. What is the work-life balance like in traditional workplaces?  
 A) Work lives and private lives are clearly divided  
B) People work too much overtime and so they have no private life  
C) People are free to manage the balance themselves
3. How often do people do overtime?  
A) often     B) sometimes    C) they don't
4. In traditional workplaces, do people work at weekends or when on holiday?  
A) Yes, it's normal    B) No, never    C) Usually, they don't
5. How has technology helped people work with more flexibility?  
A) They can send and receive emails from their phones from home  
 B) Their working hours can be easily tracked  
C) Robots can do their work for them

**Task 2. Listen to Carl and Jennie talking about life a hundred years ago. Are the sentences true or false? For statements 6-10 choose the right answer (A or B).**

6. Carl finds a lot of advantages in life 100 years ago.  
A) True     B) False
7. Jennie thinks that people used to eat healthier food.  
A) True     B) False
8. Jennie says that female clothes was funny in last century.  
 A) True    B) False
9. Carl prefers watching TV to playing the piano.  
 A) True    B) False
10. Carl admits that people used to have serious illnesses because of hard work.  
 A) True    B) False

**READING**

**Time: 30 min.**

**Read the passage below and answer questions 11-20.**

Even the tactful Japanese would probably smirk or at the very least express puzzlement if someone told them about a 'traditional Russian tea party'. And yet, it is a well-known fact that Russians are unstoppable in their **incessant** consumption of tea and in fact cannot live without it. It has become an extremely significant part of Russian culture. Tea warms you up, wakes you up, and is nice after a big meal. Tea in Russia is not just a beverage – it's a social activity with a long-reaching tradition behind it. Even coffee that has been slowly but surely making inroads onto Russian tables still has not been able to replace tea. Russians will drink tea on any occasion and with no occasion whatsoever.

For the first time four pounds of tea were brought to Russia in 1638 by the Russian ambassador as a gift from the Mongol Khan for the Russian sovereign of

Moscow Michael Fyodorovich. At first the tsar and the boyars were not particularly impressed with the astringent and bitter drink. When all the tea presented by the Mongol Khan had been drunk and the Moscow court began to forget its taste, it was once again the diplomats who reintroduced tea to Russia. Another Russian ambassador Nicholas Spafary brought some tea from China. This time tea was already a known substance in Moscow and in 1679 a contract was entered into with China under which the Chinese were to supply Russia with dried tea. After that, caravans carrying tea began regular journeys from the Great Wall of China to the walls of the Moscow Kremlin.

However, the new beverage took quite some time to grow on Russians, who at first viewed it with suspicion as they did with everything that originated abroad. In addition, Chinese tea was too expensive while Russian herbal teas, such as cranberry, currant, briar, and sweet lime were always easy to get. And it was only by the early 18th century that tea had been fully accepted in Russian households and become a national drink.

An indispensable component of a Russian tea party is the samovar. Samovars are tea poetry; they come in all sorts of different shapes and sizes. Many of them are true works of art. A samovar is always placed in the middle of the table. It commonly has curved shapes suggesting warmth and kindness. While water is boiling inside the samovar and smoke is coming off the top of it, its sides reflect the people around the table, adding a surreal feel to the gathering. Samovars are usually heated up using charcoal and sometimes even fir cones. The slightly bitter aroma of the smoke relaxes and soothes those present. In addition to good looks and efficiency, samovars were always valued for their sound. When the water starts boiling a samovar would announce it with its own unique "song" that would add to the cosiness and intimacy of the occasion.

When you're invited for tea in Russia, you can almost always expect to eat. Guests are offered several types of jam, honey, cakes, pies, chocolates and other sweets. Often you also get sandwiches, light salads, and fresh fruit and vegetables. Everything is served on ornate plates and dishes.

It is almost an insult not to offer tea to someone who came by your house, as it is an insult to refuse it when offered. In some parts of the former Soviet Union, especially in the North Caucasus region and Central Asia, the amount and quality of the food served when drinking tea indicates a level of respect that a host has for a guest, and it's not uncommon for relationships to go sour just because only jam and sugar were served during tea.

**Task 1.** For statements 11-15 choose: *T (TRUE)* if the statement agrees with the information given in the text; *F (FALSE)* if the statement contradicts the information given in the text or if there is no information given in the text.

11. Tea and coffee are equally favoured by the Russian people.
12. Russians indulge in having tea whenever the opportunity affords itself.
13. The Russians instantly favoured the peculiar flavour of the new beverage.
14. Envoys introduced the new beverage to Russia twice.
15. Tea drinking gradually evolved into a kind of social ceremony.

**Task 2.** Choose option *A, B, C* which best fits according to the text.

16. For the Japanese the idea of having tea parties in Russia seems
  - A. perplexing.
  - B. explicable.
  - C. evasive.
17. The word "incessant" in the first paragraph means
  - A. constant.
  - B. temporary.
  - C. irregular.
18. The Russians did not welcome the new drink as
  - A. they were forced to drink it.
  - B. it took long to make it.
  - C. it was totally alien to them.
19. In the North Caucasus region and Central Asia
  - A. sour fruit and vegetables are commonly served during the tea party.
  - B. lavish snacks are served at the tea party if the guest is highly honoured.

- C. traditionally only jam and sugar are served during the tea party.
20. Samovars placed in the middle of the table usually
- A. warmed the water quicker and more economically.
  - B. helped gather the guests by their special "song".
  - C. added to the calming atmosphere round the table.

### USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 20 min.

**Task 1** For items 21–30, 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 | IMPRESSION |
|---|------------|

### BRITISH FOOD

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Many people are under the (0) ... that British food is awful.  | IMPRESS                           |
| It is said to be (21) ... and cooked badly, so the idea that Britain has some of the best restaurants in the world is  | <sup>un</sup> TASTE <sup>y</sup>  |
| usually met with roars of (22) ... .   | LAUGH <sup>ing</sup>              |
| However, perhaps this is a little (23) ... .   | <sup>un</sup> FAIR <sup>ity</sup> |
| There have been some wonderful (24) ... in recent years.   | IMPROVE <sup>ment</sup>           |
| There are now many (25) ... restaurants serving high quality   | EXCITE                            |
| dishes that have been very (26) ... prepared. Also, many British chefs now have Michelin stars, which are only awarded to the world's very best chefs.                           | SKILL                             |
| A good (27) ... of food is available these days, too. In other words, the food being served isn't just French gourmet.   | VARY <sup>variant</sup>           |
| There has been a huge rise in the popularity of (28) ... British dishes. Fortunately, gone are the days when the only things on the menu were boiled vegetables and stewed meat! | TRADITION <sup>al</sup>           |
| So, the next time you get a chance, be (29) ... and try some real British food. You just might find it no longer deserves  | ADVENTURE <sup>h</sup>            |
| its terrible (30) ... .  | REPUTE <sup>reputation</sup>      |

### Task 2. Choose the right variant

31. I go for a walk every day, .... bad weather stops me.

- a) unless
- b) despite
- c) although
- d) in spite

32. The man who was taken to hospital had been ..... for three hours.

- a) indifferent
- b) insensitive
- c) unconscious
- d) unfeeling

33. The piano is badly out of .....

- a) melody
- b) practice
- c) tune
- d) use

34. It's time I .....some new books. These ones have got holes in them.

- a) will have
- b) have
- c) had
- d) would have

35. No one lives here now, .....

- a) do ones
- b) does one
- c) does he
- d) do they

### WRITING

Time: 30 minutes

Comment the following statement: "You are as many times a man as many languages you know."

Write 120-180 words.

Use the following plan:

- make an introduction, explaining how you understand the meaning of the statement;
- express your personal opinion and give reasons to support it;
- give examples from literature or history to illustrate your reasons;
- make a conclusion restating your position.

Transfer your recommendation to the answer sheet.

### ANSWER SHEET

Participant's ID number

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

#### LISTENING

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

#### READING

|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 11 | F | + |
| 12 | T | + |
| 13 | F | + |
| 14 | T | + |
| 15 | F | + |
| 16 | A | + |
| 17 | B | - |
| 18 | A | - |
| 19 | C | - |
| 20 | B | - |

#### USE OF ENGLISH

|    |             |    |   |   |
|----|-------------|----|---|---|
| 21 | untasty     | 30 | a | - |
| 22 | laughing    | 31 | d | - |
| 23 | unfairly    | 32 | e | + |
| 24 | improvement | 33 | c | + |
| 25 | excited     | 34 | b | - |
| 26 | skilling    | 35 | b | - |
| 27 | variant     |    |   |   |
| 28 | traditional |    |   | + |
| 29 | adventurer  |    |   | - |

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Nadya. Writing

9B Pireba Hags

I am 15 years old, but I don't know  
many languages as my age. I know  
only two languages and something words  
French and Chinese. I learn English and  
Russian languages. I'm going to pass <sup>English</sup> exam,  
but I ~~have been~~ amn't ready yet. I under- 46  
stand more words you know. 60  
and the statement so: ~~there~~ bigger you  
than bigger more words you know. 60  
is my opinion. Because the people remember  
the words, which they listen. Example,  
monoson knew many languages and  
was very informative and well-mannered.  
on. And he could speak with many  
different people, and read many foreign  
I think If the people know foreign  
languages they can travel in the others  
countries. I want to finish my composition 114  
learn foreign languages and travel. 114  
enjoy the life. And If you want to  
study, work a lot!

of