



BRAIN

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WAVE

Hello dear friends!

The Pulitzer Prize



is an award for achievements in newspaper, magazine and online journalism, literature, and musical composition in the United States. It was established in 1917 by provisions in the will of American (Hungarian-born) Joseph Pulitzer who had made his fortune as a newspaper publisher, and is administered by Columbia University in New York City. Prizes are awarded yearly in twenty-one categories. In twenty of the categories, each winner receives a certificate and a US\$15,000 cash award (raised from \$10,000 in 2017). The winner in the public service category of the journalism competition is awarded a gold medal.

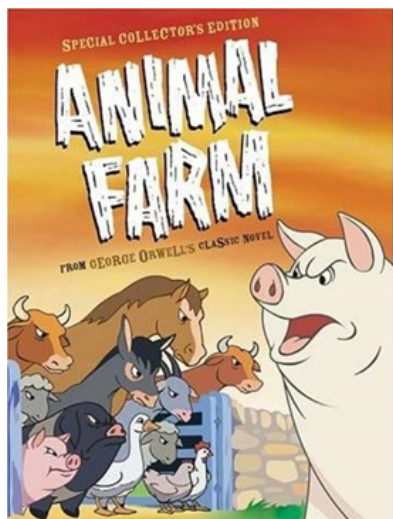


Open dictation in English Spell Well will be held April 22, 2017, said at a press conference, the head of the project "Total dictation" Olga Rebkovets.

"This is the English version of the" Total dictation ", you can check your knowledge of English," Rebkovets noted.

The first open dictation in English Spell Well was held in Russia in 2016 on the site of the Russian Economic University named after G.V. Plekhanov. The organizer is the British Council in cooperation with the Russian Economic University. The text of the dictation was read by Vladimir Pozner. The text was intended for those who speak English at the level of Upper-Intermediate or Advanced.





All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others

«*Animal Farm: A Fairy Story*» was published in 1945. It's a satiric fairy-story (maybe dystopia) written by George Orwell. Depicted in the story evolution of social ideology of Animal Farm contains a fairly transparent hints of the USSR. Many characters of this story are caricatures of famous politicians of those times.

At first, all animals want equality for everyone. They even create their own anthem — the 'Beasts of England'. But soon, after some executions and conspiracies, their ideas has become more radical. The leaders of the revolution - two pigs, seriously divergent in their views on the structure of society. However, they're both pigs, which make the rest of the grunts the elite, the higher caste of Animal Farm.

Because of the originality of ideas and interesting satire, this book is recognized as one of the best works of Orwell.

Alexander Mal'kov, 8 B

Euthanasia: Is it Mercy or Murder



On the 21st of March there was a debate in our school. The theme of it was "Euthanasia". This theme is really acute. I'm sure almost everybody knows a popular expression "Truth is born only in a dispute. That's why I think that the debate is the best type of conversation.

It was the first experience of holding the debates in English in our school. The idea was really good but for me as an experienced debate participant some of the items were really strange. For example, there was no time limit for speakers.

Though firstly I supported our team, my position changed to the end of the dispute. It's hard to say that our team was really worse prepared. Opponents did everything to win, their speech was much better and more prepared. I also have to say that from my point of view judging was really biased.

Despite all these drawbacks, I'm sure that such events should be held often because it can help children to learn to speak, write and think in English.

Roman Safiullin, 10 B

Yesterday I attended school debate on the topic "Euthanasia: mercy or murder". Pupils of the 11th grade of our school were the proposers and the pupils from school "Shamir" were the opposers. I was really impressed by the speaking skills of some students. I also enjoyed the level of their preparation and awareness of the topic. I was so involved into the dispute that didn't notice the time the debate lasted. Personally, I think that euthanasia is "mercy" but the arguments and oratorical abilities of the opposers made me vote for them.

I hope I will be able to take part in such an interesting type of communication next time and make a big impression on the spectators as the opposers team did.

Tatyana Minaeva, 10 B

Some time ago I was happy to take part in the debate called "Euthanasia: mercy or murder" as a spectator. I was really impressed by this event! As for me, the subject of debate is very actual nowadays.

There were two teams supporting different points of view. I couldn't even imagine that there are so many details in this theme. From the very beginning I honestly was standing for permission of euthanasia, but arguments of opposing team made me doubt.

I hope I'll be lucky to become a participant of a debate next year.

Veronika Sidorova, 10 B

There was a curious event in our school – dispute over the correctness of performing euthanasia. It was really valuable experience to attend such event. I've heard a lot of new information about medicine, religious canons and laws of different countries there. Of course, both teams gave us pretty significant arguments and facts, but eventually my classmates and I gave preference to guys from another school. I really appreciate their hard work, because these pupils were able to defend an obviously losing, from my point of view, position perfectly. Unlike students of our school they had a brilliant pronunciation and speech and despite minor stuttering, these teens told us the information without watching at their notes! All in all speakers faced each other desperately, but the judges needed to choose only one team to become the winner. Unfortunately, my expectations about it did not come true. The team of proposers i.e. team of our school won the competition. Maybe from one point of view it was a correct and logical choice, but I did not agree with it. I think we should improve our judging system by introducing of new evaluation criteria in it or making vote counting in a different manner.

Oksana Shurinova, 10 B

Happy Birthday, Saint Petersburg!

Quiz

1. Name a famous navigator whose monument is situated on the Lieutenant Schmidt embankment?
2. What was the name of the first Russian steamship, built in 1815 at the Berda plant?
3. How was Lake Ladoga called in ancient times?
4. On which bastion of Peter and Paul Fortress is a stone tower with a flagpole, built on the draft of Treziniti?
5. Name the palace, where originally in 1746 the Amber Room was mounted.
6. Name the institution where the first fire brigade was formed.
7. Name the square where the monument to Suvarov is located.
8. What sculptural images of sphinxes are the oldest in Saint Petersburg?
9. Name the island on which the central park of culture and rest is located.
10. Name the building where the Museum of Political History of Russia is currently located.
11. Name 2 rivers across which the same number of bridges are built.
12. Where is the Museum of Lomonosov located?



Hello! My name is Maria. I'm 15 years old. I was born in Penza, and when I was three years old, my family moved to Saint Petersburg. I have a mother, father and three younger sisters. Nastya is 12 years old, Katya is 9 years old, and Vika is 7 years old. We love having fun and laughing together. In our family we always help and support each other in difficult situations. Every weekend we go to museums or walk around the city. In the evening we usually play different boards games, such as UNO, Bingo, Monopoly and so on.

My sisters study at school. My dad works as a driver, and mom studies in college, she wants to be a nurse. I want to become a teacher because I like teaching small children. I think that the main quality of a teacher is to help people. I also love children. It is also important to become a teacher. I like to play basketball and volleyball. I go to school trainings. I have a lot of friends here. I also like reading books. I do not have a favourite genre, but most of all I love to read books of M.A. Bulgakov. My favorite book is «Dog's Heart».

I'm studying in the 9th form. This year all ninth-graders have to take exams. I prepare for them every day. I hope I will pass them successfully.

In conclusion, I'd like to wish all the 9-formers to pass exams well.

Kon'shina Maria, 9 B



Slang

at first blush - с первого взгляда, поначалу

at sixes and sevens - куча-мала, кто в лес кто-по дрова, беспорядок

at the tip of the tongue - на кончике языка, почти сказано
bublin brook - болтушка, сплетница

babe at the woods - словно с луны свалившись

back off - заткнуться, прекратить пороть чушь, говорить медленнее

back out - не сдерживать обещания, сделать западло

rotten rat - гнилой человек, потерявший доверие

back up - одобрять, подстраховывать

back to the wall - в западне, в безвыходной ситуации

bad egg - в семье не без урода, белая ворона

ball game - убить двух зайцев, поймать синюю птицу, удача

ballofire - гиперипульсивный, чресчур энергичный человек

bananas - маразматический, идиотский, офонаревший

bananas oil - лапша на уши, наглая лесть



*The world is so full
of a number of things,
I'm sure we should all be
as happy as kings.
R.L. Stevenson*

In April and May people celebrate the Celtic Fire festival in Ireland and Scotland on 1 May. It has been celebrated since the middle Ages in Ireland and Scotland. It is almost not celebrated in Wales and England. In the past this feast was given special religious significance. It was dedicated to the sun God and God of fertility Belenus that the druids (Celtic priests) brought a symbolic sacrifice. The holiday was celebrated with bonfires in the mountains. Participants of the event passed between fires or jumped through them for ritual purification. The Celts hung on the door of the May Bough and planted in the yard May Hive from the branches of a Rowan tree, which was decorated like a modern Christmas tree. In ancient times, these sacred rituals were connected with the rites of the druids for protection from evil spirits, but over time has lost its meaning. The feast is celebrated to this day in countries and regions where part of the population are descendants of the Celts, especially in rural areas. The main symbolic colour of Beltane is green. Green is the colour of nature, abundance, fullness of harvest, fertility and good luck. For example, according to Celtic mythology, the green clothing could wear only fairies and elves, so mere mortals could not wear clothes of green colours, in order not to offend. On Beltane you can make wishes in the hawthorn – tree symbolic of this holiday. Anyone can hang scrap of fabric, choosing the right colour for each wish:

- Blue – for protection and healing;
- Green – prosperity;
- Pink - love;
- Purple - wisdom.

Traditional food for Beltane consists of dairy products, oatmeal cookies and pastries.

Kseniya Lukasheva, 8 A



In English there is a sentence that sounds the same as left to right, and right to left.

WAS IT A CAR OR A CAT I SAW.



The English alphabet once counted one more letter.

This letter was the & (Ampersand)

