

Лексико-грамматическая часть

You are going to read an essay. Choose a word from the list to complete each gap (1-20).

Change its form where necessary to make a word / a group of words that fits in the gap.

Different aspects of form change are possible: active or passive voice; indicative, imperative or subjunctive mood; finite or non-finite forms (infinitive, gerund, participle); tense for finite forms or aspect for non-finite forms; full or bare infinitive, etc.

Each verb can be used only once.

Write out the number of the gap and the form of the verb (example: 0. was delivered).

hand	operate	be	fall
continue	see	marry	get
have	succeed	benefit	follow
return	end	divide	announce
keep	enter	pay	aggravate

The life of Catherine of Aragon (1485-1536), Queen to the English king Henry VIII (1491-1547), can (1) _____ into four periods: that of grandeur, that of humiliation, (2) _____ by yet another period of grandeur and by yet another period of humiliation. A daughter of the two very able European rulers who eventually made a unified country out of Spain, in her childhood years Catherine received a brilliant education that (3) _____ a young lady of her exalted status. She also learnt how monarchs should (4) _____, which made her a very desirable consort for any prince with perspectives one day to become a king.

A coveted prize at the European marriage-market, in 1501 Catherine (5) _____ married to Arthur Tudor (1486-1502), heir apparent to the English throne. Catherine's dowry was considerable, but it was to be paid in several installments, for had it been delivered all at once the financial strain on Catherine's not impecunious parents (6) _____ too great.

Five months later Arthur was dead, (7) _____ victim to an unknown illness. And it was shortly after her young husband's demise that Catherine's first period of grandeur (8) _____ up abruptly and that the period of her first – and quite long – humiliation began. Eventually it was all about money: it was only logical for a young widow (9) _____ to her parents or (10) _____ upon a second marriage, but Catherine's calculating father-in-law (11) _____ none of this unless and until her dowry (12) _____ to him in full. Catherine's parents, conversely, (13) _____ no reason

why any of their money should remain in England now that its supposed recipient was dead. The ensuing death of Catherine's understanding and supportive mother (14) _____ the situation still further, for her father was anything but understanding and supportive. With no money of her own, Catherine was to sell her silver plate (15) _____ their wages to her servants.

The unseemly bargain between the two fathers-in-law (16) _____ till 1509 when the English king Henry VII died and his younger son Henry VIII (17) _____ him. Henry VIII in a truly chivalric spirit soon (18) _____ Catherine, the grandeur was apparently returning, but the wheel of fortune (19) _____ circulating, and 17 years later Henry (20) _____ his intention to annul his first marriage

ЧТЕНИЕ И ПИСЬМО

1. You are going to read a radio feature on house swapping. Summarise the text in your own words. Do not quote the text: a copied sequence of 4 words and more is considered a quotation. Write at least 150 words.

2. Give your own opinion on the issue raised in the text. Write at least 70 words.

Presenter: Our guest today is Marion D'Souza who works for a company that specialises in arranging home exchanges. Marion, when we talk of home exchanges, it's hard to imagine allowing complete strangers to take over your home for a couple of weeks. Isn't it a bit risky?

Marion: That's precisely why agencies like ours have come into being. In order to get a good match, we ask potential clients to fill in a form to obtain a myriad of details: dates available, type of home, location, number of rooms and other personal details. We also require details of the owners' profession, their families and where they would prefer to go for their holiday. That way we try to ensure that people have suitable accommodation for their holidays.

Presenter: Does any money change hands?

Marion: Not between clients, but of course we have to recoup the cost of maintaining our database and the cost of producing the catalogues. These come out every four months and we charge £50 per copy.

Presenter: Isn't that a bit expensive?

Marion: Not really when you consider we also indemnify against any damage to homes and that's included in the cost. People are happy to pay for their peace of mind. You have to remember that we are a growing business, and like any other business we have to make a profit in order to survive and expand.

Presenter: What sort of people are attracted by the idea?

Marion: At present, it seems to be very popular with professional, middle class people, particularly the teaching profession and the world of education generally, but as it catches on, I would expect to see people from all walks of life involved. It is particularly recommended for families with young children. When on holiday, accommodation expenses comprise a relatively large part of the holiday budget - if we can succeed in attracting people to Britain on exchange schemes, I believe that local economies can only benefit in the future.

Presenter: What else do you do to make sure the customers are satisfied?

Marion: On the last page of every catalogue there is a questionnaire. We ask people who have been on our exchanges to fill it in and send it back to us at the end of their holiday. Take this one, for example. Let's call her Ana, from Malaga, in Spain, who has been involved in house swapping for the last four years. The first two summers she went to France, the following two summers were spent in Scotland and Holland respectively. She says that despite her initial misgivings she now recommends it to her friends and associates. She's added that it's made her want to upgrade her own house! So, you see, we take great care to ensure that our customers are satisfied and happy with the arrangements. Her comments are from just one of the many questionnaires returned to us every season. So far they have all been favourable, and many people have suggested ways to make our service even more efficient.

Presenter: Is home swapping getting to be big business then?

Marion: Oh yes, our last catalogue contained more than 15 thousand entries! Since we started the scheme, business has increased by 20 per cent every year. We cover thirty countries in Europe and elsewhere and we are still expanding. The number of Spanish families participating in a scheme, however, is still less than 200, so there is room for us to improve there. By the way, each client can expect to receive between 15 and 20 proposals, but not everybody wants to stay in a tourist area; often they would like to go abroad but would prefer a quiet holiday.

Presenter: Thank you, Marion.

ПИСЬМО

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "For every minute you are angry you lose sixty seconds of happiness."

To what extent do you or disagree with this opinion? Give at least two reasons for your answer and include at least one relevant example from your own knowledge and experience.

Write at least 200 words.

Remember! Your essay should consist of the introduction, the body of paragraphs and the conclusion.