

**МОДУЛ 1 (Време за работа: 60 минути)**

**PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

**Directions:** You will hear **a text about vitamin supplements** twice. Before you listen to it, you have **1 minute** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **3 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing **A, B** or **C**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.

- 1. The reported research on vitamin supplements was based on the results from over 600 studies.**  
A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text.
- 2. The research definitely proved that antioxidant supplements make us healthier.**  
A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text.
- 3. According to the Department of Health, people should be careful with the quantity of the vitamin supplements they take.**  
A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text.
- 4. According to nutritionist Patrick Holford, taking large doses of vitamin supplements can compensate for not living healthily.**  
A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text.
- 5. One of the main points of the article is that people should eat healthily.**  
A) True.                      B) False.                      C) No information in the text.

**Directions:** You will hear **a curious story** twice. Before you listen to it, you have **2 minutes** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **4 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing **A, B, C** or **D**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.

6. The journalist ate a copy of his paper because
  - A) he had promised to do so if his sports forecast was wrong.
  - B) he had lost money betting on the result of a game.
  - C) the ice hockey team was angry with him for making a mistake.
  - D) his boss wanted to punish him for an article he had written.
7. In the story, “Dinamo Minsk” is
  - A) a football team.
  - B) a Russian team.
  - C) not a professional sports team.
  - D) the journalist’s favourite team.
8. The journalist tried to make the newspaper more “delicious” by
  - A) dipping it into some tea.
  - B) eating it together with some soup.
  - C) pouring some cream on it.
  - D) putting it in a bowl of milk.
9. While eating the newspaper, the journalist was
  - A) in a bad mood.
  - B) in a good mood.
  - C) not in the mood for jokes.
  - D) slightly drunk.
10. The coach of the team, Craig Woodcroft,
  - A) had pressured the journalist to keep his promise.
  - B) kept making fun of the journalist.
  - C) admired the journalist for keeping his promise.
  - D) was disappointed with the journalist.

*Directions: You will hear an article about Franz Liszt – the world’s first musical superstar twice. Before you listen to it, you have **1 minute** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **3 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing **A, B or C**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.*

11. Franz Liszt came from a rich family.
  - A) True.
  - B) False.
  - C) No information in the text.
12. Franz Liszt was very young when he became internationally popular.
  - A) True.
  - B) False.
  - C) No information in the text.

13. Franz Liszt had an equal number of recitals each year.  
A) True.            B) False.            C) No information in the text.
14. The behaviour of the legendary pianist's fans was very different from that of today's music stars' fans.  
A) True.            B) False.            C) No information in the text.
15. The fame of contemporary celebrities relies more on good PR than on their talent.  
A) True.            B) False.            C) No information in the text.

## PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

**Directions:** Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among **A**, **B** or **C**, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

### The Snark Mark

The easy-to-write – and type – snark mark is simply a period followed by a tilde (.~). It was created around 2007 by American typographer Choz Cunningham as an end-of-sentence mark that could carry the meaning of irony in writing. Its intended use is to help readers understand when the meaning of a sentence is actually very different to what the sum of its words seem to mean.

For example, if a family woke up on the first day of a long-awaited beach vacation to find themselves in the middle of the worst hurricane of the century, one member might turn to another and say, 'Brilliant weather, don't you think.~ I'm so glad we came all this way.'

In a written text passage, it could seem like the speaker is talking complete nonsense, but with the snark mark, it's immediately clear that they're making a sarcastic joke.

Sarcasm, like hyperbole and understatement, is a form of irony, and while it may be easy to express in face-to-face communication, it is much harder to convey to readers, who don't have the context of body language, vocal intonation, facial expression, and other cues that can help indicate meaning.

From blogs to chat, more people are writing in personal environments and using irony in ways and contexts where they might have once only tried to communicate face-to-face. Just like one takes skis and jackets on a trip to the snow, or doesn't dig a hole without a shovel, the tools of our language should be whatever is appropriate to where we are going.

However, the snark mark wasn't the first attempt to indicate irony or sarcasm though. As far back as the late seventeenth century, when British philosopher and believer in aliens John Wilkins proposed using an upside-down exclamation point to denote irony, there have been motions to create some symbol that can help writers in signposting these types of sentences.

So, even though you may never have heard of it, it's one of the coolest, most useful punctuation marks around, and we think it's worth lobbying for.

16. The snark mark has been used in English for about a decade.  
A) True.            B) False.            C) No information in the text.
17. If a snark mark is used after a sentence, it means that the readers should understand the writer's words literally.  
A) True.            B) False.            C) No information in the text.
18. According to the author of the text, it is more difficult to express irony in speech than in writing.  
A) True.            B) False.            C) No information in the text.
19. The author of the text argues that language needs to adapt to the requirements of written communication.  
A) True.            B) False.            C) No information in the text.
20. John Wilkins used his symbol for irony (the upside-down exclamation point) in all his published written works.  
A) True.            B) False.            C) No information in the text.

## МОДУЛ 2 (Време за работа: 90 минути)

### PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

**Directions:** Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among **A, B, C** or **D**, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

#### The Little Mermaid Syndrome

If you've seen the Disney movie "The Little Mermaid", you may recall the scene depicting Ariel's experience of love at first sight – in fact, we might just call it "the Little Mermaid Syndrome". Already under the spell of unrealistic fantasies about how people live above water, she pops up on the deck of a ship and sees the dashing Prince Eric playing with his dog. Shortly thereafter, Ariel rescues Eric from certain death by sea storm and gazes at him while he sleeps, entranced by his perfectly shaped cheekbones.

In the Disney book version of the story, the script reads, "Oh, he's so beautiful! At that moment, Ariel knew that she loved Eric." Her eyes glaze over, and, on the basis of this single and completely one-sided encounter, she decides to give up her family, her kingdom, her voice, and her body so she can totally reshape herself into a woman that she hopes he will find irresistible.

Sadly, in real life, there are plenty of "Ariels" (both men and women) who commit themselves in radical ways to people they hardly know. Real-life Ariels fly off to a faraway city to meet up with someone in person that they've just met over the internet. Real-life Ariels make cross-country moves to live with someone they've only ever known through email correspondence. Real-life Ariels quit their jobs and eagerly present themselves as participants on reality shows like "The Bachelor".

In all of these cases, guarding your own safety means you should trust someone only as much as you know them, which is an elegantly simple, but profoundly important, concept. When you are willing to make these kinds of commitment without any knowledge of the other person, what message does this send about your own self-worth? What is the message for the other person when you demonstrate that you are willing to make a huge investment of your time, energy, finances, or physical body without any evidence that it is a wise one to make?

Ariel's story ended happily, as we might expect from a Disney movie, but in the original Hans Christian Andersen version of the story, the little mermaid throws herself into the sea in a fit of despair, and her body dissolves into foam. I'm not saying that despair and a conversion into sea foam awaits all who become victims of the Little Mermaid Syndrome, but it is interesting that in the original tale, there is a sense of harsh consequences stemming from the impulsive actions

of the youthful mermaid. So it's probably wise to slow down and avoid becoming an Ariel in the first place.

21. "The Little Mermaid Syndrome" is a term which refers to
- A) young women only who have unrealistic notions of love.
  - B) the decision to move out of your house after starting a romantic relationship.
  - C) the situation when two people enter a relationship with very different expectations.
  - D) the decision to sacrifice something important to you in the name of love.
22. In the Disney version of the story Ariel is fascinated by
- A) the prince's ship.
  - B) the prince's dog.
  - C) the prince's appearance.
  - D) the prince's personality.
23. According to the text, in real life the Little Mermaid Syndrome
- A) is rarely met.
  - B) affects mainly young girls.
  - C) only results from online dating.
  - D) is exploited in some TV reality shows.
24. According to the text, the most negative side of the syndrome is that
- A) it is a sign for the other person of your low self-esteem.
  - B) it leads to depression all that become its victims.
  - C) it signals Ariels are people with very low IQ.
  - D) it is always related with a complete waste of time and money.
25. Which sentence best summarizes the message of the article?
- A) Disney classic movies hold useful lessons for life.
  - B) You shouldn't trust the strangers you meet on the internet.
  - C) Disappointment awaits everyone who falls for a beautiful face only.
  - D) In matters of the heart, be careful of trusting too much, too soon.

**Directions:** Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among **A, B, C** or **D**, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

### **To Err Is Human (an expert's report)**

I was once asked by a large computer company to evaluate a brand-new product. I spent a day learning to use it and trying it out on various problems. In using the keyboard to enter data, it was necessary to differentiate between the "return" key and the "enter" key. If the wrong key was pressed, the last few minutes' work was lost forever.

I pointed this problem out to the designer of the product, explaining that I myself have made the error frequently and that my analyses indicated that this was very likely to be a frequent

error among users. The designer's first response was: "Why did you make that error? Didn't you read the manual? After you enter some data you need to press the "enter" key." He proceeded to explain the different functions of the two keys.

"Yes, yes," I explained, "I understand the two keys, I simply confuse them. They have similar functions, are located in similar locations on the keyboard, and as a skilled typist, I often hit "return" automatically, without thought. Certainly others have had similar problems."

"Nope," said the designer. He claimed that I was the only person who had ever complained. I was skeptical about being the only one to do that, so we went together to some of the secretaries and asked them whether they had ever hit the "return" key when they should have hit "enter".

"Oh, yes," said the secretaries, "we do that a lot."

"Well, how come nobody ever said anything about it?" we asked the secretaries. After all, they were encouraged to report all problems with the system.

The reason was simple: when the system stopped working or did something strange, the secretaries dutifully reported it as a problem. But when they made the "return" versus "enter" error, they blamed themselves. After all, they had been told what to do. They had simply erred.

**26. Trying to evaluate a new product for a computer company, the expert found out that**

- A) testing the system required more time than he expected.
- B) he encountered various problems while collecting data.
- C) a typist could use the "enter" and the "return" keys interchangeably.
- D) wrong use of the "return" key caused data loss.

**27. As the expert happened to confuse the "enter" and the "return" keys too often,**

- A) he assumed that users needed a more detailed manual.
- B) he contacted the product designer to explain the problem.
- C) he concluded that he was off form.
- D) he came up with his own solution to the problem.

**28. The two keys were easy to confuse because**

- A) they looked exactly the same.
- B) they functioned automatically.
- C) they carried out precisely the same operation.
- D) they were located very close to each other.

**29. To find out the truth**

- A) the designer analysed some of the secretaries' work.
- B) the expert talked to some people who had complained.
- C) the expert and the designer addressed the secretaries together.
- D) the expert and the designer decided to repeat the test.

**30. The secretaries had not reported the "return" versus "enter" error because**

- A) they thought it was their fault.
- B) the whole system would stop working.
- C) they had been instructed how to recover the lost data.
- D) the designer would not listen to them.



## PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

### Section One: Cloze

**Directions:** Read the text below and for each numbered gap choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits the gap, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

#### Six Things You Never Knew About Chocolate

There's a brand-new attraction for chocoholics: Choco-Story, a New York City museum (31) ..... to the dark art and craft of chocolate, set up with renowned master chocolatier Jacques Torres. The exhibit, just like the ones in Belgium, Mexico, and elsewhere, is (32) ..... a thoughtful exploration of the roots and history of chocolate-as-dessert than an all-out candy shop (although, of course, there's plenty of chance to satiate your sweet (33) ..... while studying the artifacts). It also (34) ..... some unusual details about the beloved pick-me-up, which has come a long way from its ancient roots to the treats we enjoy today.

*Time* magazine stopped by on opening night for a preview of the museum's multi-sensory experience – and came away with some unexpected revelations. Here is some interesting information (35) ..... chocolate, all (36) ..... the museum's curator.

There's a/an (37) ..... why chocolate and champagne go well together. Well, sort of. It (38) ..... that routine champagne "cheers" actually have a chocolate-associated origin. Mayans, and later Aztecs, would place a cocoa bean in the hollow feet of their ceramic drinking vessels, and (39) ..... the vessels before drinking to frighten away evil spirits, making a chink-chink sound. Today, that tradition (40) ..... in the time-honored ritual of clinking glasses before taking a sip.

Cocoa was also used as a (41) ..... In Mayan culture, people would trade, say, a whole rabbit for 10 of the precious beans. (They were not yet used in their current edible or drinkable forms.)

Saucers were developed for drinking chocolate. Cups (42) ..... with drinking chocolate were prone to tipping over, so at one point a member of Spanish royalty had a ring put in the plate where the cup rested. In France, nobility enjoyed their chocolate on-the-go in a coach, leading to spills; so they developed a hole in the saucer where the cup would (43) .....

You can make your own flavored truffles by substituting one of the ingredients. The key to chocolate truffles is the soft filling, traditionally a combination of chocolate, cream, and butter. You can substitute the cream, though, for any other (44) ..... – champagne, for instance, or a fruit purée – and voila: flavored truffle filling, says Jacques Torres.

"The most difficult thing (45) ..... you make chocolate is to stay clean." That's a quote from "Mr. Chocolate" Torres himself, who tried not to make a mess of his sharp white chef's coat while whipping up a batch of new truffles on opening night.

The Chocolate Museum and Experience is now open to visitors, who will each be guaranteed to come away with plenty of chocolate in hand. Tickets are \$15.



|     |                 |                 |                    |                   |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 31. | A) determined   | B) destined     | C) designed        | D) dedicated      |
| 32. | A) much         | B) many         | C) more            | D) most           |
| 33. | A) tooth        | B) mouth        | C) taste           | D) tongue         |
| 34. | A) highlights   | B) underlies    | C) points          | D) focuses        |
| 35. | A) for          | B) of           | C) about           | D) around         |
| 36. | A) depending on | B) according to | C) with respect to | D) with regard to |
| 37. | A) excuse       | B) cause        | C) point           | D) reason         |
| 38. | A) turns on     | B) turns out    | C) turns over      | D) turns up       |
| 39. | A) shake        | B) quake        | C) clatter         | D) clutter        |
| 40. | A) stays        | B) survives     | C) keeps           | D) rises          |
| 41. | A) money        | B) change       | C) coin            | D) currency       |
| 42. | A) full         | B) filling      | C) filled          | D) fulfilled      |
| 43. | A) fit          | B) fix          | C) match           | D) attach         |
| 44. | A) liquid       | B) liquor       | C) drink           | D) beverage       |
| 45. | A) as long as   | B) during       | C) until           | D) when           |

## Section Two: Sentence Completion

**Directions:** For each of the sentences below, choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best completes its meaning, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

46. You mustn't forget ..... a birthday card to your grandmother next week.

- A) send                      B) to send                      C) sending                      D) having sent

47. Stop shouting or you will never see me again! I ..... being treated like this.

- A) didn't use to    B) wasn't used to    C) am not used to    D) got used to

48. This is the most delicious cake I ..... ! May I have another piece?

- A) taste                      B) am tasting                      C) have tasted                      D) was tasting

49. She is an artist ..... paintings I adore.

- A) which                      B) that                      C) who's                      D) whose

50. He had been working for the company for seven years when the boss finally ..... him a promotion.

- A) has given                      B) was given                      C) was giving                      D) gave