

Reading 3

Part 1

Вы проводите информационный поиск в ходе выполнения проектной работы. Определите, в каком из текстов A–F содержатся ответы на интересующие Вас вопросы 1–7. Один из вопросов останется без ответа. Занесите Ваши ответы в таблицу.

1. Why did a **prehistoric** reptile get a girl's name?
 2. Where is the **Isle** of Wight?
 3. What is the **origin** of the island's name?
 4. What animal is **prohibited** on the Isle of Wight?
 5. What is the emblem of the Isle of Wight?
 6. What do tourists take from the Isle of Wight as a memory?
 7. What is special about the language spoken on the island?
- A. The Isle of Wight **is considered** to be the largest island of England. The island **measures** about 380 square km, of which about half is an area of **outstanding** natural beauty. About 140,000 people live on the island and several million people visit it each year. This **paradise** is located in the English Channel which **separates** the continent and Great Britain.
- B. **The accent** of the Isle of Wight is **similar to** the traditional dialect of southern England. While speaking, **the natives** of the island drop some **consonants** and **put an emphasis** on longer **vowels**. The Isle of Wight has its own local and regional words. Some of their words (e.g. grockle – visitor, tourist and nipper – a younger male person) are used in the **neighbouring areas** of the mainland too.
- C. There are many red **squirrels** which are the only squirrel native to the British Isles. However, there are few of them left on the **mainland** now. Red squirrels are being **replaced** by American grey squirrels. The grey squirrels carry the deadly parapox **virus**, which is **fatal** to the reds. The strait between the island and the mainland **provides a barrier** to grey squirrels. It is illegal to bring a grey squirrel onto the island, with a **penalty** of two-year's **imprisonment**.
- D. The Isle of Wight is not large, but it has lots of sights to see. One of the most **well-known** places is Alum Bay which is famous for the sand on its beach. The sand is of different colours – from red to purple, from brown to white.

Tourists usually buy a glass paperweight with stripes of coloured sand, and take it back home as a souvenir.

- E. The Isle of Wight has **recently** been **declared** the Dinosaur capital of the UK! Bones of more than 25 different **species** were found on the small island, including the largest British dinosaur. In 2009, five-year-old Daisy Morris discovered the **remains** of an **undiscovered** species on the beach, which has been named after her – the Vectidraco (Dragon of the Wight) Daisymorrisae.
- F. The correct spelling of the island's name is Wight not White. *Wight* is an old English word to describe a creature or **living being**. The experts do not have a common opinion on why the island was called that. The only thing that can be said **for sure** is that the name **has nothing to do with** the colour.

Part 2

Прочитайте текст. Определите, какие из приведённых утверждений 10–17 соответствуют содержанию текста (1 – True), какие не соответствуют (2 – False) и о чём в тексте не сказано, то есть на основании текста нельзя дать ни положительного, ни отрицательного ответа (3 – Not stated).

Halloween

Halloween **dates back to** an **ancient** Celtic festival. The Celts, who lived 2,000 years ago in the area of Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France, celebrated their new year on 1st November. This day showed that the summer **was over** and winter had come. Because of the cold and darkness, winter was associated with human death.

Celts believed that on Halloween night the **ghosts** of the dead **returned** to earth. With their help, **the Druids** or Celtic **priests**, could **predict the future**. It was important because people **depended on** the natural world which was dangerous and changeable. They wanted to know what their life would be like in the next year.

For this event the Druids built big bonfires, where the people **gathered** to burn **crops** and animals. It was a gift to the Celtic gods. During the **celebration**, the Celts wore costumes made of animal heads and skins. They sang, danced and listened to the stories the Druids told them. When the celebration was over, they went home and brought burning pieces of wood with them. They lit their fires and hoped it would **ensure good fortune** and protect the family during the winter.

The first celebrations of Halloween in America were **public events**. Neighbours got together to celebrate the **harvest** and tell each other stories of the dead. They also sang and danced. By the middle of the nineteenth century, these autumn festivals were common, but Halloween was not yet celebrated everywhere in the country.

In the second half of the nineteenth century, lots of immigrants started coming to America. They helped to make the celebration of Halloween a popular national event. Americans began to **dress up** in frightening costumes and go from house to house asking for food or

money. The most popular characters were **witches**, ghosts, and vampires. Everyone tried to look as ugly and scary as possible.

Halloween is closely associated with the **Jack-o'-lantern**, a **pumpkin** with a **candle** inside that shines through the holes to make a horrible face. Most people think that the Jack-o'-lantern is an American tradition. However, the original Jack-o'-lantern was not a pumpkin but a man who, **according to** the old Irish legend, **played a trick on** the devil himself. He was **punished** for that and was accepted neither to **heaven** nor to **hell**. The Irish people shared the legend with the Americans and showed them how to make Jack-o'-lantern out of the pumpkin.

By the 1930s, Halloween had been celebrated with parades, town-wide parties and lots of other entertainment. Later a new tendency appeared. By the 1950s, Halloween had changed into a holiday directed mainly at children. On that evening children in costumes travel from house to house in order to **ask for treats** (such as some sweets, a small present or a few coins) with the question "Trick or treat?" The trick is a **threat** (usually not working) to **perform mischief** on the **owner** of the house if no treat is given. "Trick or treat?" has become a traditional practice on Halloween in many countries.

For the Celts Halloween was associated with the change of the seasons.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

The Celts paid the priests for their predictions.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

In ancient times fires were prohibited on Halloween night.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

The church strongly disapproved of Halloween celebration in America.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

Halloween came to the USA only in the 20th century.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

The Irish immigrants taught Americans how to use pumpkins for Halloween ceremonies.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

From the middle of the 20th century, children have taken an active part in Halloween celebrations.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

“Trick or treat” means “we wish you good luck”.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated