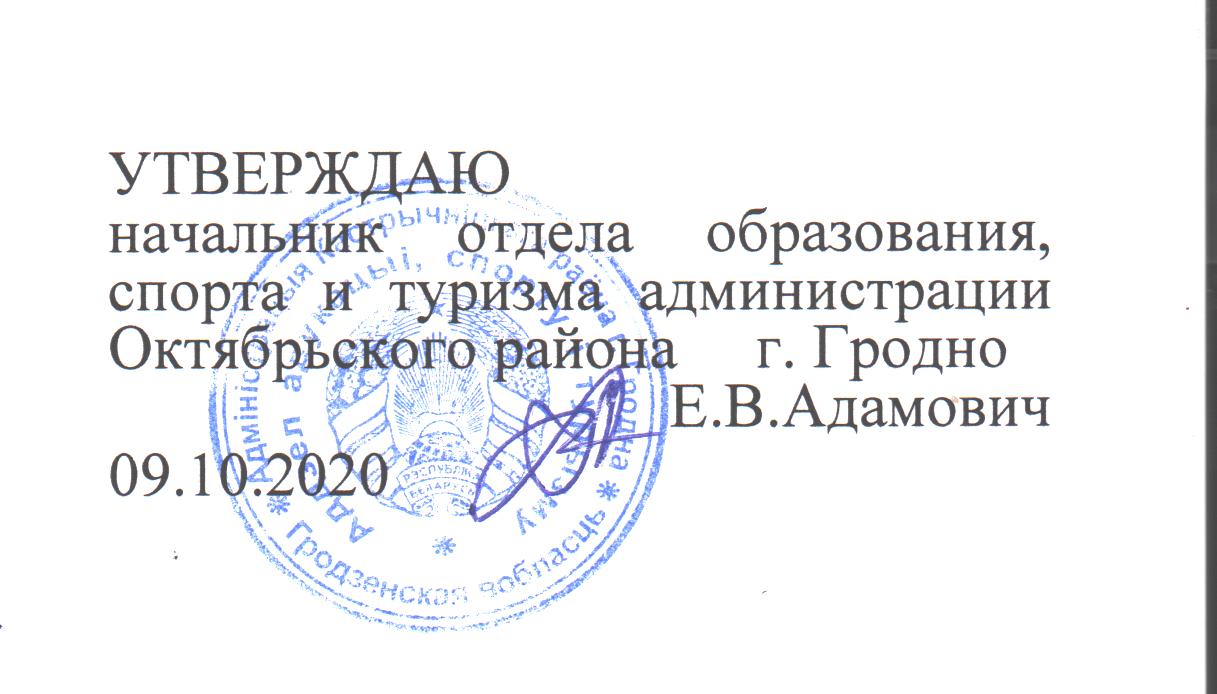
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**РЕСПУБЛИкАНСКАЯ ОЛИМПИАДА ПО английскому языку**

**I этап**

**11 КЛАСС**

**COMMUNICATIVE SKILLS ASSESSMENT**

1. **Some people choose friends who are different from themselves. Others choose friends who are similar to themselves. Compare the advantages of having friends who are different from you with the advantages of having friends who are similar to you. Which kind of friend do you prefer for yourself? Why?**

a) What are the drawbacks of your best friend?

b) Do you believe that people can become real friends if they meet only on the net?

c) What makes people become friends?

d) Is it possible to have friendships across generations?

1. **Speak about your main goals in life.**

a) What should you do to achieve your ambitions?

b) What is more important for success – natural abilities or hard work?

c) How would you describe a successful person?

d) Does a good education guarantee a good job?

1. **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? One should never judge a person by external appearances.**

а) When you first meet people what do you look at first? Do you trust your first impression of a person you meet?

b) What kinds of people do you get along well with?

c) What kind of people do you dislike?

d) What unpleasant qualities of your future spouse (husband or wife) are you ready to put up with?

1. **People do many different things to stay healthy. What’s your recipe to be healthy and fit?**

a) What sport would you never do?

b) What would you like to change in your diet?

c) Is your diet healthier than your friends’?

d) How do you overcome stress?

1. **Two people from another country are visiting the town where you live for a few days. As they are a similar age to you, you have been asked to give your ideas on what evening activities could be organized for them. What would you suggest?**

a) Do you have enough time for work and rest?

b) Do you make plans for your week-ends in advance?

c) Are you afraid to go out alone at night where you live?

d) What places of interest are there in your town?

1. **People behave differently when they wear different clothes. Do you agree that different clothes influence the way people behave?**

a) Do you think that people who choose extravagant clothes are not very intelligent?

b) What do you do with a thing (item of clothing) if it is out of fashion?

c) Do you watch fashion programs on TV?

d) What impression do you think you give of yourself when you meet someone for the first time?

1. **When I think of Belarus, I immediately think of ….**

a) What places do foreigners associate with Belarus?

b) What places connected with famous people would you recommend your foreign friends to visit?

c) What is, from your point of view, the most beautiful place in our country?

d) Are there any traditional cultural or sports events that are held in your native town?

1. **You are going to organize a celebration for your friends. What kind of celebration would you choose: a quiet party at home, a visit to a fashionable club or a fancy-dress party?**

a) How do you usually create festive atmosphere?

b) What family holiday do you like best? Why?

c) What presents do you usually give to the members of your family?

d) Do you know any British or American public holidays?

1. **If you were a tour guide, what places would you show in Belarus?**

a) What places in the world would you like to visit and why?

b) What does travelling give to people?

c) What are the good sides of hitchhiking?

d) Would you like to be a volunteer at a big sporting event?

1. **Life without planning is inefficient**. **Do you agree? Do you usually plan your day?**

a) Do you always do everything in time?

b) What are your household duties?

c) What are the most time-consuming activities for you?

d) What do you usually do when you want to relax?

1. **Now you can easily make friends all over the world using the Internet. Do you believe that people can become real friends if they meet only on the net? Why? Do you have a friend you have never met offline?**

a) Is it possible to have many true friends?

b) Is it possible to be friends with your parents?

c) How do you choose friends?

d) Do you remember any difficult situation that your friend helped you to overcome?

1. **Your school is planning a trip to Great Britain. As the itinerary of the trip has not been made, propose your programme and explain why?**

a) What are the regions of Great Britain that are most visited by tourists?

b) What are the most common stereotypes about the UK and its people that you know?

c) What places of interest connected with famous people of Great Britain would you visit?

d) What souvenirs from the UK would you bring back to Belarus?

1. **People ought to think of the planet as their home.**

a) What ecological problems are urgent now?

b) What is the influence of pollution on people`s health?

c) What ecological problems exist in your home place?

d) Who must take care of nature?

1. **What is the role of mass media in the life of people?**

a) Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Television, newspapers, magazines, and other media pay TOO MUCH attention to the personal lives of famous people such as public figures and celebrities.

b) Why must news always depict trouble, violence and unhappiness of other people?

c) What do you think are the most obvious advantages and disadvan­tages of television?

d) Do you think mass media can make people think alike?

1. **Is it easy to be a young person in the modern world? Say what you can about the problems of teenagers in Belarus.**

a) What is the attitude of adults to teens' problems? Do you think 'generation gap' still exists in our society?

b) If you need some advice, who do you usually go to?

c) What kind of things do you prefer to do on your own?

d) What should be done to keep teenagers away from drugs and alcohol?

1. **Every town or village has views or interesting places to see. What places would you advise a foreigner to see in your native place and why?**

a) What can be a symbol of your town or village? Can it be a park, a river?

b) What would you change in your native town/village to make it a better place to live in?

c) Do you prefer to live in a small town or a big city?

d) What souvenirs would you buy for the guests from other countries?

1. **Tell about hobbies which are typical of the people of your age.**

a) Why do people need hobbies?

b) What hobby would you like to take up?

c) Have you ever come across a very strange hobby?

d) Is it possible for a hobby to become a profession?

1. **The most important aspect of a job is the money a person earns. Do you agree?**

a) Why is thinking about your future occupation so important in the senior forms of school?

b) What would be the most boring and the most exciting job for you?

c) Would you continue to work even if you had a lot of money?

d) Do you think you would enjoy running your own business?

1. **People say that everything begins in the family and every person dreams of having good family relations. How would you describe an ideal family?**

a) What does it mean “to love one’s child”?

b) What event can you most easily recall from your childhood?

c) Do you have secrets from your parents?

d) What do you think of married couples who decide not to have any child?

1. **Computers gradually seem to be replacing books. Practically everything (from encyclopedias to manuals) is now available on the Internet. Is this new way of reading to your benefit?**

a) What modern inventions do you appreciate most of all?

b) What are the greatest scientific discoveries of the 20th century in your opinion?

c) What does new technology enable people to do without leaving their homes?

d) What do you think of computer games?

1. **Describe a person who motivated you most and explain why.**

a) Have you ever talked to a well-known person?

b) What makes a person famous?

c) Did any of the well-known people of Belarus live or work in the place you come from?

d) Would you like to be popular and famous?

1. **Learning English is becoming more popular in Belarus. Why do people learn English in your country? Do you think you can do without English in your future life?**

a) What careers are possible if you speak a foreign language?

b) What languages would you like to learn in future?

c) How can the Internet be a helpful tool when learning a foreign language?

d) Some people think that life would be easier if all countries spoke the same language. What do you think?

1. **Different works of art have been created to please the eye and to excite our emotions. Which form of art is your favourite?**

a) What kind of music do you prefer? Why?

b) Is there a theatre where you live?

c) Are you fond of painting? What great painters do you know?

d) Have you ever been to any cultural event (an art gallery, a concert or something)? Tell us about your impression. If not, tell about the cultural event you’d like to visit.

1. **Speak about your eating habits and preferences.**

a) Some people think that it’s natural for humans to eat meat, others feel guilty after eating meat. What do you think?

b) What is a typical meal from your country?

c) What food can you cook the best yourself?

d) Do you believe in the effect of diets for keeping fit?