

# Тренировочные материалы для развития читательской грамотности на уроках АНГЛИЙСКОГО ЯЗЫКА.

7 класс

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## ТЕХТ 1

**1. Before reading the text look at these words. They are from the text. Try to guess about what it is.**

• fat, over-sized, shocked, eat more, healthy eating habits, good service, low prices.

**2. Before reading the text answer the question: «What do you think about fast food?»  
Explain your answer, using only 2-3 sentences.**

When people all over the world are looking for a quick, easy meal, fast food is the most common choice. With good service, low prices and a relaxed atmosphere, fast food looks like the ideal choice. In fact, over 25 per cent of Europeans eat fast food every day. Fries and hamburgers are sold everywhere: in big cities, small towns, shopping malls, airports, bus stations, schools, and even hospitals!

However, fast food companies make clients eat more. They offer over-sized burgers, extra-large French fries, and big portions of Coke. What's more, these "large versions" are usually cheaper. The products have lots of calories, sugar and fat. A typical hamburger at a fast food restaurant weighs 170 grams. In 1957, it was just 50 grams. According to scientists, your fast food meal is like three ordinary meals.

Fast food doesn't spoil. This is because it has lots of "special" ingredients. There's a video on YouTube that illustrates this. It is based on a true story. In 1991, an engineer from the USA, Tom Scarvell, met with friends for New Year's Eve. They stopped at McDonald's on the way home. He bought some cheeseburgers, ate one and put the other in his coat pocket. Then he forgot about it. A year later, he took the coat out of the wardrobe, put it on and discovered the cheeseburger in his pocket from New Year's Eve. It looked exactly the same. He was absolutely shocked. He told his friends and family but nobody believed him. So he decided to start a "burger museum" to show everyone that these cheeseburgers and hamburgers don't decompose.

He started collecting burgers, one every year. He kept them on bookshelves in his living room in the open air. These burgers looked exactly the same, the bun, the meat, the cheese, the special sauce, the cucumber, even the lettuce. They all kept their shape and colour for over five years!

It is surprising that although most people don't think that fast food is the best choice they can't stop going to fast food restaurants, like McDonald's. The chain has healthy dishes on the menu, such as fruit and vegetables. Why not order them? But you don't go to McDonald's for a green salad or a yoghurt! The unhealthy hamburgers, French fries and milkshakes are more common and attractive and to many people they are tastier than low calorie dishes.

There is no problem with eating fast food from time to time. If you really are dreaming about a hamburger, go and get it. But if you're having a stressful day, remember that lunch in a fast food restaurant is not a good choice. Doctors strongly recommend avoiding all fast food and takeaways these days. You can occasionally allow yourself a fast food meal. However, if you are eating it more than once a week, think of giving up.

Fast food should play a small role in your life. If you don't have a way out, have a fast food meal in one of McDonald's restaurants but choose the healthier dishes. You should be aware of what you eat and try to develop healthy eating habits.

**3. After reading the text make a word cluster. There is a key word in the center of it. Look at the example.**



**4. Try to continue the sentence: «We should be aware of what we eat because.....»**

**5. Do the task from 1-7, which of these sentences true, false, not stated**

1. Fast food is more popular with people in their 30s than with modern teenagers.

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

2. Nowadays fast food portions are getting smaller.

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

3. Tom Scarvell kept his collection of burgers in a large fridge.

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

4. Burgers from Tom Scarvell's collection looked the same for years.

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

5. It's possible to find some healthy food in McDonald's.

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

6. Fast food dishes can help when you feel stressed out.

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

7. McDonald's is cheaper than other fast food restaurants.

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

## TEXT 2

**1. Before reading the text look at the title. Put down 5 nouns and 5 verbs, which reflect the main idea of the text.**

- college,.....
- study,.....

### Cambridge University

Cambridge University is the second-oldest university in the English-speaking world (after the University of Oxford) and the seventh-oldest in the world.

The story of Cambridge University begins in 1209 when several hundred students arrived in the little town of Cambridge after having walked 60 miles from Oxford. These students were all churchmen and had been studying in Oxford at that city's well-known schools. It was a hard life at Oxford for there was constant trouble, even fighting, between the citizens of the town and the students. Then one day a student accidentally killed a man of the town. The Mayor arrested three other students who were innocent and they were put to death. In protest, many students left Oxford, some of them went to Cambridge. And so the new University began.

It was Cambridge University. Of course, there were no Colleges in those early days and student life was very different from what it is now. Students were of all ages and came from anywhere and everywhere. Life in University was strict. Students were forbidden to play games, to sing (except sacred music), to hunt or fish or even to dance. Books were very rare and all the lessons were in the Latin language which students were supposed to speak even among themselves.

In 1440, King Henry VI founded King's College, and other colleges followed.

Nowadays there are more than 30 different colleges, including five for women students and several mixed colleges, in the University. The number of students in colleges is different: from 30 to 400 or 500.

The training course lasts 4 years. The academic year is divided into 3 terms. The students study natural and technical sciences, law, history, languages, geography, medicine, economics, agriculture, music and many other subjects. After 3 years of study a student may proceed to a Bachelor's degree, and later to the degrees of Master and Doctor.

There are many ancient traditions that are still observed at Cambridge. Students are required to wear gowns at lectures, in the University library, in the street in the evening, for dinners in the colleges and for official visits. One more tradition is to use Latin during public ceremonies of awarding degrees.

All the students must pay for their education, examinations, books, laboratories, university hostel, the use of libraries. The cost is high. It depends on college and university speciality. Very few students get grants.

Many great men studied at Cambridge, for example, Bacon (the philosopher), Milton and Byron (the poets), Cromwell (the soldier), Newton (the outstanding physicist), Darwin (who is famous for his theory of evolution) and Kapitsa (the famous Russian physicist).

**2. After reading the text check your first task.**

**3. Make some questions with the following words**

- What?
- When?

- Who?
- Where?
- Why?

E.g. When did the story of Cambridge University begin?

Why was life in University strict?

#### **4. Try to retell the text. These phrases will help you.**

*• the second-oldest university, in 1209, in 1440, more than 30 colleges, lasts 4 years, into 3 terms, ancient traditions, wear gowns, pay for the education*

### **TEXT 3**

#### **1. Read the text and give the title for it.**

I arrived at the cloud forest in Ecuador ten days ago. I was one of a group of twelve volunteers that wanted to save the rainforest. My reasons for going on this trip were twofold: firstly, I wanted to collect and bring back alive some of the fascinating animals, birds and reptiles that inhabit this region; secondly, I had long cherished a dream to see South America: not the inhabited South America with its macadam roads, its cocktail bars, its express trains roaring through a landscape denuded of its flora and fauna by the beneficial influences of civilization. I wanted to see one of those few remaining parts of the continent that had escaped this fate and remained more or less as it was when America was first discovered: I wanted to see its rainforests, its vast lands of untouched, pure, natural wildlife. We were working together with local people and scientists and we were learning and seeing new things every day. Our lodge was comfortable, had breathtaking views and was in the middle of the rainforest. It was a two-hour walk from the nearest road, and it was even further to the nearest village.

The rainforest is truly an astonishing place. There are thousands of species of plants here and more than 700 species of birds. There are millions of insects and scientists think there may be around forty mammal species that haven't even been discovered. But what I was really amazed at how everything depends on everything else for survival.

Every tree in the rainforest is covered in a species of another kind. The black wasp uses the tarantula as a nest for its eggs, plants need monkeys for seed dispersal, and the clouds are necessary for the survival of the whole rainforest. This is because they provide moisture. The problem is, climate change is causing the clouds to rise by 1-2 meters every year. What will happen to the plants that need this moisture? What will happen to the animals that need those plants?

Our job was to watch this changing ecosystem. One of my favourite projects was the bird survey. Every day a group of us set out at around five o'clock with a local scientist. At this time of the morning the air was filled with the sound of bird song. We had to identify the birds we hear and see and write down our findings. Later, we entered all our information into a computer at the lodge.

We also set up cameras to record pumas, spectacled bears and other large mammals. It was always exciting to see pumas because it meant there were other animals around that they would normally hunt. We fixed the cameras to trees around the reserve, and every day a team of volunteers collected the cameras memory cards.

There was a lot to do in the rainforest, but at least I felt like we were making the difference.

However, soon I started collecting some animals and insects. I realized that as soon as the hunting got under way and the collection increased, most of my time would be taken up in

looking after the animals, and I should not be able to wander far from camp. So I was eager to get into the forest while I had the chance.

Nevertheless, I should mention the fact that without the help of the natives you would stand little chance of catching the animals you want, for they know the forest, having been born in it. Once the animal is caught, however, it is your job to keep it alive and well. If you left this part of it to the natives you would get precious little back alive.

## 2. Read the text again, write down what the volunteers are to do to save the rainforests

1. watch the ecosystem
2. ....
3. ....

## 3. Choose the right variant

1. Which reason for the trip to the rainforest was NOT mentioned?  
A) Gathering a collection.  
B) Thirst for adventures.  
C) Saving rainforests.  
D) Dream of visiting South America.
2. Who did NOT take part in the work in rainforests?  
A) People living in the area.  
B) Researchers.  
C) Zoo keepers.  
D) Volunteers.
3. According to the narrator scientists believe that  
A) there is a number of unknown types of animals in the rainforest.  
B) they should study animals without catching them.  
C) plants in the rainforest do not need so much water.  
D) it's impossible to control the animals and birds in the forest.
4. What type of work did the volunteers have to do?  
A) Observe the changes in the wildlife.  
B) List the types of plants in the rainforest.  
C) Study the birds' singing.  
D) Search for pumas and bears.
5. The phrase "**we were making a difference**" in paragraph 6 means  
A) they made life in the forest more diverse.  
B) their job would help in saving the forest.  
C) they were improving fauna of the rainforest.  
D) they were changing the ecosystem of the place.
6. Why did the narrator go to the forest any time he had a chance to?  
A) He wouldn't have enough time for that later.  
B) He had to feed animals that he had caught.  
C) He didn't have chance to do any other work.  
D) He liked hunting with local people.
7. According to the narrator he worked with local people because they  
A) protected the animals.  
B) knew animals better.

- C) saved his life.
- D) were familiar with the place.

## **ОТВЕТЫ**

### **TEXT1**

**Task 5.** 1.3, -2.2,- 3.2,- 4.1,- 5.1,- 6.2,-7.3.

### **TEXT 2**

**Task 1.** College, students, textbooks, teachers, exercises.....

**Task 2.** Study, answer, write, count, discuss..... (ANY WORDS ARE POSSIBLE)

**Task 3.** Who must pay for education?

What do the students study during the training course? (THE QUESTIONS MAY BE DIFFERENT)

### **TEXT 3**

**Task 2.** 2. To identify the birds, write down everything they find, enter all information into a computer, set up cameras to record animals, collect the cameras memory cards, save the forests.

**Task 3.** 1B, 2C, 3A, 4A, 5B, 6A, 7D.