

Kategória 2A – Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – národné kolo 2010/2011

A N S W E R K E Y

GRAMMAR – 15pts

1. b
2. d
3. b
4. a
5. d
6. b
7. d
8. a
9. c
10. b
11. b
12. d
13. d
14. a
15. d

VOCABULARY – 10pts

1. d
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. a
6. b
7. ford
8. nocturnal
9. splash
10. best man

READING COMPREHENSION – 10pts

1. c
2. b
3. a
4. d
5. b
6. d
7. c
8. c
9. d
10. c

LISTENING COMPREHENSION – 5pts

1. F
2. T
3. T
4. F
5. NS

L I S T E N I N G T A P E S C R I P T

THE ARISTOCRACY

D: There is an old saying about the English – “the English love a lord”. Would you say that this is still true? And if so, why?

C: I am not sure that the English love a lord, but I’m fairly sure that they have no objection to lords. They certainly have respect for the institution of the aristocracy.

D: I can’t think why.

C: But well, why not? After all, this is one of the English traditions, isn’t it?

D: In fact, I can tell you why many English people have a respect for the aristocracy. It’s something which has been handed down from the past and the English always tend to respect the institution that has been there long enough whether it’s good or not. Whether it serves a purpose in our modern age is another question.

C: Yes, but these traditions that are handed down from generation to generation don’t remain the same, do they?

The parliamentary system in England, for example, hasn’t remained the same. It has changed with the times. And surely the aristocracy is also changing with the times and adapting to modern society.

D: I would agree that many of the individuals among the aristocracy are changing with the times, but I think that the institution as such is definitely an anachronism in our modern age. That is to say it is wrong that some people should be born with a title which gives them the right to demand from their fellow-men. In a society which is supposed to consist of equals? That they should be addressed as “Lord So-and-so”?

C: In other words, you are against hereditary advantages of all kinds?

D: As long as they are of a material kind, yes. I am against them.

C: Now, I can think of one material advantage which I am sure you would be in favour of. You would rather be left a 100,000 by your uncle than not be left a hundred thousand pounds, for example.

It doesn’t really matter, does it, if it’s a title or a lot of money, because both mean power the one way or the other.

D: If you are left a lot of money by a distant relative, it’s almost like winning in the football polls.

And I think, nobody objects to that kind of thing very strongly. What I object to – in the way of hereditary advantages – is, first of all, the inheritance of titles and secondly the fact that some people can inherit vast acreages of great Britain. I think that there is a very good case to be made out for the nationalization of all land in a modern country.

C: Yes, but this would also effect important institutions such as Church of England and the Oxford Colleges which own a considerable amount of land. And you’d have to change the

L I S T E N I N G T A P E S C R I P T (continued)

system radically. What I think you're suggesting is the abolition of one institution, namely the Peerage, without suggesting a complementary change in all the other institutions. You cannot have it both ways. You cannot abolish the aristocracy, for example, without abolishing the monarchy, because this is the classical example of the hereditary title, isn't it?

D: I think, in fact, that it would be possible for the English – masters of the compromise as they are – to find a compromise even here. It probably would be possible to retain the monarchy and nevertheless to abolish other hereditary titles, because I have a feeling, in any case, that it is precisely the lords who, instead of acting as a connecting link between the monarchy and the people, actually act as an obstacle so that the monarch never comes into contact with the people as a whole.

C: The lords are not supposed to provide a connecting link between the monarch and the people. This is the job of the House of Commons.

D: No – that is one of the things always brought forward in favour of the nobility: that they provide an essential link between the crown and the people. And I think it would be much better to create a new kind of link between the crown and the people – a kind of meritocracy: that is to say, a society in which everybody is rewarded on merit and not because of his birth, or because of other natural advantages.

C: It sounds to me like a republic and not like a monarchical democracy of the sort we are having in England today. I think you would also have to abolish the House of Lords.

D: That's just what I am suggesting, I'd be all in favour of abolishing the House of Lords in its present form.

C: Doesn't the House of Lords perform a very useful function?

D: Certainly. You must have a second house of some kind. A senate or an upper chamber, or whatever you like to call it. The point is, though, that a senate consisting of men who had been promoted there because of their ability could perform the same function as the House of Lords does now – only better!

C: Now, I have nothing against reforms which are for the good of the majority, and everybody knows that the House of Lords is in need of reform. The House of Commons is also in my view in need of a certain amount of reform, and we all hope that the meritocracy will come about completely. The point is that we already have in England something like a meritocracy, much more so than we had say twenty years ago. This shows surely that the institution off the peerage is one which is losing influence. I am quite sure. We are all becoming more democratic – or we like to think so.

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R O L E P L A Y

TEACHER

You are a pharmacist in an English-speaking country.

State law and pharmacy regulations are very clear: you cannot sell prescription drugs (such as penicillin, codeine and Crazypyrin, an addictive medication with several side effects) to anyone without a doctor's prescription.

Your pharmacy also has a policy of offering herbal remedies (such as rhubarb cake and nettle tea) in place of drugs as they have no side effects and can often be just as effective as prescription drugs.

You have a customer.

You start: *Good day! How can I help you?*

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R O L E P L A Y

STUDENT

You are visiting an English-speaking country. You've been ill, but have been taking some medication your doctor back home prescribed for you before you left the country. Unfortunately, you ran out of it this morning and you're not well yet. Since you can't see your doctor, you have decided to go to a pharmacy and persuade the pharmacist to sell you your medicine (CRAZYPYRIN) without a doctor's prescription. You know it will not be easy to convince the pharmacist but do your best to persuade him/her to give you the medication.

P I C T U R E S T O R Y

Make up a story using the picture below (do not describe it).

The action in the picture must take place halfway through your story. Consider:

- who were the people involved in the story
- where it could have happened
- what could have happened before
- how the journey might continue and end



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Vydal: IUVENTA – Slovenský inštitút mládeže, 2011