

film gained a lot of praise internationally, and Walt Disney even used it as a teaching tool for his studios.

Text B

Matt Groening is a sensational American cartoonist, producer, voice actor and a writer who gained his popularity throughout the world thanks to his television series *The Simpsons* (1989 – present), the longest-running U.S. primetime-television series in history and *Futurama* (1999–2003, 2008–2013). In 2018 Matt Groening launched a new TV series – *Disenchantment*. To become a writer and a film producer young Groening walked through the footsteps of his father, a filmmaker, advertiser, writer and cartoonist (his Norwegian American mother was once a teacher). Being a student at the Evergreen State College Matt Groening was identified as a good editor and soon headed the school's journal. Drawing cartoons for this journal he molded as a cartoonist. Shortly after graduating from college, Groening moved to Los Angeles where he was going to work as a writer only. But having part-time jobs he had to lead a rather miserable life. It was Lynda Barry, a famous cartoonist, who had attended the same college with Groening and turned out to be a real inspiration to his career. After selling his comic strip *Life in Hell* to LA Weekly, Matt Groening gained nationwide popularity.

The success of *Life in Hell* was a breakthrough in Matt Groening's career. It raised interests of producers such as James L. Brooks who offered him to create short comics in one of the American shows. Groening was interested in the deal and came up with a comic family with the names of the characters coined from his parent's and sibling's names. *The Simpsons* came to life and earned Groening several Emmy awards making him world famous. This TV series has been on the air for decades, and it never makes its admirers bored. For example, in the 20th-anniversary episode that was released in 2010, it reached over 20 million views.

II. USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 10 minutes

Task 1. For items 1-8, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

Australia Day

Australia Day is celebrated (1) *on* the 26th of January every year. It is the biggest nationwide public (2) *event* that is celebrated across the country. There are no rules (3) *how* to celebrate this day but it is great if you feel (4) *like* participating in any way. It is the day to focus on what (5) *it* means to be Australian. Australians show their love to the country (6) *by* making traditional Australian food, dressing up in Australian colours, attending concerts and parades. Some people prefer visiting museums or (7) *spending* time on the beach. To hoist the Australian flag up in the front yard (8) *is* also a good idea!

Iygo Apurca

I. READING

Time: 20 minutes

Task 1. Read the texts about two cartoonists. For statements 1-10, choose the information from the descriptions of people in Text A or Text B.

1. His parents were not educated people.
2. His voice was one of the tools in his career.
3. At the beginning of his career he did not work as a cartoonist.
4. He worked without using a pseudonym.
5. The manner of his early works was similar to the one of the famous cartoonist.
6. There were two people who played a key role in his career.
7. His manner of creating animated cartoons changed during his career.
8. His works were based on traditional folklore plots.
9. The cartoonist is not associated with feature animated films.
10. In his cartoons the names of his close relatives cannot be found.

Text A

Ivan Petrovich Ivanov-Vano (1900–1987), a Soviet animation director, animator, screenwriter, educator, professor at VGIK and People's Artist of the USSR was born in the Manezhnaya Square, a district populated by students and poor people. His parents had a peasant background but he was raised in the family of his elder sister who was married to an artist and educator at the Moscow School of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture. Ivanov was interested in art early in his life and as a kid he drew decorations for a puppet theater. At the age of 14 he entered the above-mentioned school and graduated from it in 1917. A year later he started to work as a cartoonist. Together with his fellow students he created some of the first Soviet animated films using home-made technology. In the late 1920s he took part in a number of other important projects starting to use Ivanov-Vano as a pseudonym. This was done in order to distinguish himself from another prominent Soviet animator Alexander Ivanov. In 1928 he started working as a director at the newly founded Soyuzmultfilm. His earlier works at the studio were heavily influenced by early Disney – a popular trend in the mid-1930s which the cartoonist later opposed. In 1939 he directed *Moydodyr (Wash-'em-Clean)* based on the fairy tale by Korney Chukovsky, a big step from the Disney manner towards more traditional Russian art. In 1939 he organized animation courses at VGIK becoming one of the leading educators, being granted the title of professor in 1952. Ivanov-Vano directed a small number of feature animated films, often working as a screenwriter as well. The majority of his works involved Russian folklore and fairy tales by classical Russian writers. In 1947 he presented the first Soviet feature-length animated film *The Humpbacked Horse* based on the fairy tale in verse by Yershov. The



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АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК

9-11 КЛАСС

READING

Time: 25 minutes

Task 1. Read the information about Russian and American musical productions. For statements 1-10, choose from the passages A-E. The statement may refer to several passages.

- C 1. The production features meaningful events of the past.
- B 2. The production finds the universal in the deeply particular.
- D 3. The production gained recognition of film experts.
- E 4. The production deals with the history of one of the English speaking countries.
- D 5. The production focuses on one of the manifestations of the person's social status undergoing changes.
- E 6. A wide range of productions is a characteristic feature of the theatre, where this performance was staged.
- B 7. The production shows how family life can depend on circumstances.
- A 8. An overseas expert was involved in its stage production.
- C 9. The manner of presentation in this production won minds and hearts of the general public.
- B 10. The musical was staged the same year when the film based on the play of an outstanding Irish playwright was released.

A. *Circus Princess*, an operetta by E. Kalman, was staged at the Musical Theatre, Russia's first theatre which produces Russian musicals only. The legendary operetta was transformed into a musical of the new generation that merged different genres – circus, operetta and musical – on one stage. Sebastien Soldevila, one of the founders of Canada's 7 Fingers Circus and a show director of the world-famous Cirque du Soleil, contributed to the creation of *The Circus Princess* inventing original circus acts performed by the theatre's actors in collaboration with professional circus.



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Founded in 2012 with Mikhail Shvydkoy as its artistic director, the theatre quickly became popular among theatregoers. The Musical Theatre opened its 2017/2018 season in a renovated venue in the city centre of Moscow, located where the Rossiya Cinema, famous for the housing of the Moscow International Film Festival, used to be.

B. *Fiddler on the Roof* is a musical with music by Jerry Bock, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick, and book by Joseph Stein, set in the Pale of Settlement of Imperial Russia in 1905. It is based on *Tevye and his Daughters* (or *Tevye the Dairyman*) and other tales by Sholem Aleichem. The story centers on Tevye, the father of five daughters, and his attempts to maintain his Jewish religious and cultural traditions as outside influences encroach upon the family's lives.

Joseph Stein once wrote about attending the show's Japanese premiere in 1967. The producer asked, "Do they understand this show in America?" J. Stein replied, "Yes, of course, we wrote it for America. Why do you ask?" The producer said, "Because it's so Japanese."

In 1971 a film was produced, an adaptation of the Broadway musical that had been staged 7 years before.

C. *Hamilton*, an American musical, is a sung-and-rapped production about the life of American Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, with music, lyrics and book by Lin-Manuel Miranda, inspired by the 2004 biography *Alexander Hamilton* by historian Ron Chernow.

The musical made its Off-Broadway debut at The Public Theater in February 2015, where its engagement was sold out. Nominated for 14 Drama Desk Awards in 2015, the production won Outstanding Musical and seven others. In August 2015, the show transferred to Broadway's Richard Rodgers Theatre, where it received enthusiastic critical reception and unprecedented advance box office sales. At the 2016 Tony Awards, *Hamilton* received a record-setting sixteen nominations,



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winning eleven, including Best Musical. It received the 2016 Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album and the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

It is a hip hop musical, brilliantly working for the first time, because Lin-Manuel Miranda – who wrote everything – understands what mainstream audiences like about hip hop and musical theatre, and how to craft a brilliant hybrid. One of the infernally catchy songs – ‘You’ll Be Back’ – is performed by George III complaining about the anti-royal machinations of the rebelling American colonists.

D. My Fair Lady is a 1964 American drama film adapted from the Lerner and Loewe eponymous stage musical based on the 1913 stage play *Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw. The film depicts a poor Cockney flower seller named Eliza Doolittle who overhears an arrogant phonetics professor, Henry Higgins, as he casually wagers that he could teach her to speak “proper” English, thereby making her presentable in the high society of Edwardian London.

The film stars Audrey Hepburn as Eliza Doolittle. A critical and commercial success, it won eight Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Actor, and Best Director. In 1998, the American Film Institute named it the 91st greatest American film of all time. In 2006 it was ranked eighth in the AFI’s Greatest Movie Musicals list.

E. Mazeppa is one of the operas staged at Helikon Opera, a Russian opera company based in Moscow, specializing in unconventional productions. The company was founded by Dmitry Bertman and gave its first performance, Stravinsky’s *Mavra*, on April 10, 1990. Helikon Opera gives 200 performances a year, primarily in Moscow but also abroad, performing in the UK for the first time in 1997. The company’s repertoire includes both mainstream works and rarely performed operas and chamber operas. In October 2010, Helikon gave the first performance of Tchaikovsky’s *Mazeppa* to be seen in Moscow in six years. The opera was composed



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between June 1881 and April 1883 with its libretto based on *Poltava*, a narrative poem by Alexander Pushkin depicting historical events.

USE OF ENGLISH 9-11

Time: 15 minutes

Task 1. For items 1-8, read the text below and think of one word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

Christmas in the USA

In preparation for Christmas, many people (1) ^{decorate} their houses with colored lights and evergreen branches. Most families also put (2) ^{up} Christmas trees. Santa Claus' origin goes (3) ^{away} to Norse and pre-Christian mythological characters who were associated with gift giving. The legend of Father Frost might (4) ^{have} developed in Europe from stories of a real Saint Nicholas, a priest who lived (5) ⁱⁿ the 300s AD. Father Frost was represented (6) ^{as} a kindly man with a long white beard. Immigrants brought the idea of Father Frost to the USA. His name was eventually (7) ^{transformed} to Santa Claus. Special Christmas songs are sung and heard throughout the holiday season. Christmas carols, (8) ^{being} religious and secular, capture the spirit and excitement of the season.

Гонимова Мироемильва



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