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LISTENING
Time: 10 min.

Task 1. Listen to the radio interview about maintaining a good work-life balance. For questions 1-5 choose the right answer (A, B or C).

1. How popular is Chris Svensson's book?
A) not very popular B) very popular C) it's new, people don't know it yet
2. What is the work-life balance like in traditional workplaces?
 A) Work lives and private lives are clearly divided
B) People work too much overtime and so they have no private life
C) People are free to manage the balance themselves
3. How often do people do overtime?
A) often B) sometimes C) they don't
4. In traditional workplaces, do people work at weekends or when on holiday?
A) Yes, it's normal B) No, never C) Usually, they don't
5. How has technology helped people work with more flexibility?
 A) They can send and receive emails from their phones from home
B) Their working hours can be easily tracked
C) Robots can do their work for them

Task 2. Listen to Carl and Jennie talking about life a hundred years ago. Are the sentences true or false? For statements 6-10 choose the right answer (A or B).

6. Carl finds a lot of advantages in life 100 years ago.
A) True B) False
7. Jennie thinks that people used to eat healthier food.
 A) True B) False
8. Jennie says that female clothes was funny in last century.
A) True B) False
9. Carl prefers watching TV to playing the piano.
 A) True B) False
10. Carl admits that people used to have serious illnesses because of hard work.
 A) True B) False

READING
Time: 30 min.

275

Read the passage below and answer questions 11-20.

Even the tactful Japanese would probably smirk or at the very least express puzzlement if someone told them about a 'traditional Russian tea party'. And yet, it is a well-known fact that Russians are unstoppable in their **incessant** consumption of tea and in fact cannot live without it. It has become an extremely significant part of Russian culture. Tea warms you up, wakes you up, and is nice after a big meal. Tea in Russia is not just a beverage – it's a social activity with a long-reaching tradition behind it. Even coffee that has been slowly but surely making inroads onto Russian tables still has not been able to replace tea. Russians will drink tea on any occasion and with no occasion whatsoever.

For the first time four pounds of tea were brought to Russia in 1638 by the Russian ambassador as a gift from the Mongol Khan for the Russian sovereign of

Moscow Michael Fyodorovich. At first the tsar and the boyars were not particularly impressed with the astringent and bitter drink. When all the tea presented by the Mongol Khan had been drunk and the Moscow court began to forget its taste, it was once again the diplomats who reintroduced tea to Russia. Another Russian ambassador Nicholas Spafary brought some tea from China. This time tea was already a known substance in Moscow and in 1679 a contract was entered into with China under which the Chinese were to supply Russia with dried tea. After that, caravans carrying tea began regular journeys from the Great Wall of China to the walls of the Moscow Kremlin.

However, the new beverage took quite some time to grow on Russians, who at first viewed it with suspicion as they did with everything that originated abroad. In addition, Chinese tea was too expensive while Russian herbal teas, such as cranberry, currant, briar, and sweet lime were always easy to get. And it was only by the early 18th century that tea had been fully accepted in Russian households and become a national drink.

An indispensable component of a Russian tea party is the samovar. Samovars are tea poetry; they come in all sorts of different shapes and sizes. Many of them are true works of art. A samovar is always placed in the middle of the table. It commonly has curved shapes suggesting warmth and kindness. While water is boiling inside the samovar and smoke is coming off the top of it, its sides reflect the people around the table, adding a surreal feel to the gathering. Samovars are usually heated up using charcoal and sometimes even fir cones. The slightly bitter aroma of the smoke relaxes and soothes those present. In addition to good looks and efficiency, samovars were always valued for their sound. When the water starts boiling a samovar would announce it with its own unique "song" that would add to the cosiness and intimacy of the occasion.

When you're invited for tea in Russia, you can almost always expect to eat. Guests are offered several types of jam, honey, cakes, pies, chocolates and other sweets. Often you also get sandwiches, light salads, and fresh fruit and vegetables. Everything is served on ornate plates and dishes.

It is almost an insult not to offer tea to someone who came by your house, as it is an insult to refuse it when offered. In some parts of the former Soviet Union, especially in the North Caucasus region and Central Asia, the amount and quality of the food served when drinking tea indicates a level of respect that a host has for a guest, and it's not uncommon for relationships to go sour just because only jam and sugar were served during tea.

Task 1. For statements 11-15 choose: T (TRUE) if the statement agrees with the information given in the text; F (FALSE) if the statement contradicts the information given in the text or if there is no information given in the text.

11. Tea and coffee are equally favoured by the Russian people. **F**
12. Russians indulge in having tea whenever the opportunity affords itself. **T?**
13. The Russians instantly favoured the peculiar flavour of the new beverage. **F**
14. Envoys introduced the new beverage to Russia twice. **T**
15. Tea drinking gradually evolved into a kind of social ceremony. **T**

Task 2. Choose option A, B, C which best fits according to the text.

16. For the Japanese the idea of having tea parties in Russia seems
 A. perplexing.
 B. explicable.
 C. evasive.
17. The word "incessant" in the first paragraph means
 A. constant.
 B. temporary.
 C. irregular.
18. The Russians did not welcome the new drink as
 A. they were forced to drink it.
 B. it took long to make it.
 C. it was totally alien to them.
19. In the North Caucasus region and Central Asia
 A. sour fruit and vegetables are commonly served during the tea party.
 B. lavish snacks are served at the tea party if the guest is highly honoured.

- C. traditionally only jam and sugar are served during the tea party.
20. Samovars placed in the middle of the table usually
- A. warmed the water quicker and more economically.
 - B. helped gather the guests by their special "song".
 - C. added to the calming atmosphere round the table.

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 20 min.

Task 1 For items 21–30, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. *There is an example at the beginning (0).*

Example:

0	IMPRESSION
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BRITISH FOOD

Many people are under the (0) ... that British food is awful.	IMPRESS
It is said to be (21) ... and cooked badly, so the idea that Britain has some of the best restaurants in the world is	TASTE
usually met with roars of (22)	LAUGH
However, perhaps this is a little (23)	FAIR
There have been some wonderful (24) ... in recent years.	IMPROVE
There are now many (25) ... restaurants serving high quality	EXCITE
dishes that have been very (26) ... prepared. Also, many British chefs now have Michelin stars, which are only awarded to the world's very best chefs.	SKILL
A good (27) ... of food is available these days, too. In other words, the food being served isn't just French gourmet.	VARY
There has been a huge rise in the popularity of (28) ... British dishes. Fortunately, gone are the days when the only things on the menu were boiled vegetables and stewed meat!	TRADITION
So, the next time you get a chance, be (29) ... and try some real British food. You just might find it no longer deserves	ADVENTURE
its terrible (30)	REPUTE

Task 2. Choose the right variant

31. I go for a walk every day, bad weather stops me.

- a) unless
- b) despite
- c) although
- d) in spite

32. The man who was taken to hospital had been for three hours.

- a) indifferent
- b) insensitive
- c) unconscious
- d) unfeeling

33. The piano is badly out of

- a) melody
- b) practice
- c) tune
- d) use

34. It's time Isome new books. These ones have got holes in them.

- a) will have
- b) have
- c) had
- d) would have

35. No one lives here now,

- a) do ones
- b) does one
- c) does he
- d) do they

WRITING

Time: 30 minutes

Comment the following statement: "You are as many times a man as many languages you know."
Write 120-180 words.

Use the following plan:

- make an introduction, explaining how you understand the meaning of the statement;
- express your personal opinion and give reasons to support it;
- give examples from literature or history to illustrate your reasons;
- make a conclusion restating your position.

Transfer your recommendation to the answer sheet.

ANSWER SHEET

Participant's ID number

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LISTENING

1	B	+
2	A A	+
3	B	+
4	C	+
5	A	+
6	B	+
7	A	+
8	B	+
9	A	+
10	A	+

READING

11	F	+
12	T	+
13	F	+
14	T	+
15	T	-
16	A	+
17	A	+
18	C	+
19	B	+
20	C	+

USE OF ENGLISH

21	+ TASTELESS	30	REPUTATION	+
22	+ LAUGHTER	31	d	+
23	- FAIRER	32	C	+
24	+ IMPROVEMENT	33	d	-
25	+ EXCITING	34	a	-
26	- SKILLFUL	35	d	+
27	- VARIABLE			
28	+ TRADITIONAL			
29	- ADVENTURER			

285

Writing

My understanding of the statement:

"You are as many times a man as many languages you know" ~~is~~ IS THAT HUMAN WHO IS ABLE TO SPEAK AND THINK IN MORE THAN ONE LANGUAGE IS SUPERIOR, BECAUSE OF THAT, TO THE HUMAN WHO'S NOT ABLE TO SPEAK AND THINK ON MORE THAN ONE LANGUAGE. I might agree to that due to the fact that being able to speak in different languages is a useful tool in life, but only if your hobby or profession needs it, otherwise you won't be able to really use it, it won't make your life worse, but with that time that you spend on learning a new language you could do something more useful to you personally. History gives a perfect example to the point of usefulness in learning other languages. Without translators, presidents won't be able to properly communicate, as well as companies, and other structures. We know of many great translators in history, like Zorab Kosminsky, Fredric Linnan, and others, plus you don't need to be a translator to change the world and know languages. In conclusion I agree, but not really because it makes you a better man, but doesn't make you much better than every one and anyone.

3/1/2/2/1

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