**І. ЧИТАННЯ**

Right now, I am looking at a shelf full of relics, a collection of has-beens, old-timers, antiques, fossils. Right now I am looking at a shelf full of books. Yes, that's right. If you have some spare cash (the going rate is about $89) and are looking to enhance your reading experience, then I highly suggest you consider purchasing an e-reader. E-readers are replacing the books of old, and I welcome them with open arms (as you should).

If you haven't heard of an e-reader and don't know what it is, then please permit the following explanation. An e-reader is a device that allows you to read e-books. An e-book is a book-length publication in digital form, consisting of text, images, or both, and produced on, published through, and readable on computers or other electronic devices. Sometimes the equivalent of a conventional printed book, e-books can also be born digital. The Oxford Dictionary of English defines the e-book as "an electronic version of a printed book," but e-books can and do exist without any printed equivalent.

So now you know what an e-reader is. But you still may be wondering why they put printed books to shame. E-readers are superior to printed books because they save space, are environmentally friendly, and provide helpful reading tips and tools that printed books do not.

E-readers are superior to printed books because they save space. The average e-reader can store thousands of digital books, providing a veritable library at your fingertips. What is more, being the size and weight of a thin hardback, the e-reader itself is relatively petite. It is easy to hold and can fit in a pocketbook or briefcase easily. This makes handling ponderous behemoths such as *War and Peace*, *Anna Karenina*, and *Les Miserables* a breeze. Perhaps the only drawback to the space-saving aspect of an e-reader is that it requires you to find new things to put on your shelves.

In addition, e-readers are superior to books because they are environmentally friendly. The average novel is about 300 pages long. So, if a novel is printed 1000 times, it will use 300,000 pieces of paper. That's a lot of paper! If there are about 80,000 pieces of paper in a tree, this means it takes almost 4 trees to make these 1000 books. Now, we know that the average bestseller sells about 20,000 copies per week. That means that it takes over 300 trees each month to sustain this rate. And for the super bestsellers, these figures increase dramatically. For example, the Harry Potter book series has sold over 450 million copies. That's about 2 million trees! Upon viewing these figures, it is not hard to grasp the severe impact of printed books on the environment. Since e-readers use no trees, they represent a significant amount of preservation in terms of the environment and its resources.

Finally, e-readers are superior to books because they provide helpful reading tips and tools that printed books do not. The typical e-reader allows its user to customize letter size, font, and line spacing. It also allows highlighting and electronic bookmarking. Furthermore, it grants users the ability to get an overview of a book and then jump to a specific location based on that overview. While these are all nice features, perhaps the most helpful of all is the ability to get dictionary definitions at the touch of a finger. On even the most basic e-reader, users can conjure instant definitions without having to hunt through a physical dictionary.

It can be seen that e-readers are superior to printed books. They save space, are environmentally friendly, and provide helpful reading tips and tools that printed books do not. So what good are printed books? Well, they certainly make nice decorations.

**Questions**

**1)** As used in paragraph 1, it can be inferred that "relics,” “has-beens, old-timers, antiques, fossils" are all words that describe something

A. ancient

B. useless

C. outdated

D. pathetic

**2)** The tone of the author can best be described as

A. shrewd

B. conniving

C. persuasive

D. authoritative

**3)** According to the author, e-books

I. were all once printed books

II. may be "born digital"

III. are able to display images

A. I only

B. I and II only

C. II and III only

D. I, II, and III

**4)** As used in paragraph 3, which of the following describes something that has been "put to shame"?

A. A dog is left outside on a frigid, dreary winter night.

B. Team A defeats Team B in a humiliating rout.

C. Martha is caught stealing at the mall and is arrested in front of a crowd of curious bystanders.

D. The machine has countless moving parts and Dustin has trouble assembling it.

**5)** A *thesis statement* is a sentence that clearly describes what the author plans to discuss. Based on this information, which of the following sentences from the passage is the thesis statement?

A. If you have some spare cash (the going rate is about $89) and are looking to enhance your reading experience, then I highly suggest you consider purchasing an e-reader.

B. E-readers are replacing the books of old, and I welcome them with open arms (as you should).

C. An e-reader is a device that allows you to read e-books. An e-book is a book-length publication in digital form, consisting of text, images, or both, and produced on, published through, and readable on computers or other electronic devices.

D. E-readers are superior to printed books because they save space, are environmentally friendly, and provide helpful reading tips and tools that printed books do not.

**6)** Based on its use in paragraph 4, it can be inferred that **petite** belongs to which of the following word families?

A. jubilant, euphoric, playful

B. compact, diminutive, little

C. cute, attractive, charming

D. light, airy, spacious

**7)** Based on information in the passage, it can be inferred that *War and Peace*, *Anna Karenina*, and *Les Miserables* are all

A. authored by Europeans

B. dense and impenetrable

C. timeless classics

D. awkward or unwieldy

**8)** As used in paragraph 5, which is the best synonym for **sustain**?

A. maintain

B. allow

C. enforce

D. yield

**9)** Which of the following, if true, would present the biggest challenge to the author's argument set forth in paragraph 5?

A. Books are not made only from whole trees, but from wood chips and forest waste as well.

B. The natural resources required to read an e-book on an e-reader are greater than the natural resources required to make a printed book.

C. The results of a recent survey show that people who read e-books are more likely to be distracted during their reading and remember less of the book.

D. Although the printing of the extremely popular Harry Potter book series had significant environmental impact, the Harry Potter movie series cost almost no trees to make and was also very well-liked.

**10)** According to the author, which of the following reading tips and tools are offered by the e-reader?

I. line spacing customization

II. the ability to quickly jump to the end of a book

III. access to an online thesaurus at the touch of a finger

A. I only

B. I and II only

C. II and III only

D. I, II, and III

**ІІ. АУДІЮВАННЯ**

***from THE SANDCASTLE* by I. Murdoch**

*Glossary: to have a bash – to try; Propertius – the greatest of the elegiac poets of Rome.*

The chief buildings of St Bride's were grouped unevenly around a large square of asphalt which was called the playground, although the one thing that was strictly forbidden therein was playing. The buildings consisted of four tall red-brick blocks: Main School, which contained the hall, and most of the senior classrooms; Library, which contained the library and more classrooms, and which was built close against Main School; School House, opposite to Library, where the scholars ate and slept, and "physics room" and "Gym" opposite the Main School, which contained the gymnasium, some laboratories, the administrative offices, and two flats for resident masters.

Mor taught history, and occasionally Latin, at St Bride's. He enjoyed teaching, and knew that he did it well. His *authority and prestige in the school stood high;* higher than that of any other master. Mor *was well aware of this too, and it consoled him* more than a little *for failures in other departments of his life.*

"Rigden", said Mor.

A long silence followed. Mor was taking the Fifth Form Latin class, *a chore* which some­times came his way during the absence on sick leave of Mr Baseford, the *classics master.* It was a hot afternoon, the first period after lunch, a time which Mor hated. A fly buzzed on the win­dow. Twenty boys sat with the Elegies of Propertius open before them. Rigden clearly could make nothing of the line in question.

"Come on, Rigden", said Mor rather wearily, *"have a bash".* You can translate the first word anyway". "You", said Rigden. He was a slight crazy-looking boy with a small head. He idolized Mor. His inability to please him was one of the tragedies of his school days. He leaned intently over his book.

"That's right", said Mor, "and the second word". A yell of uncontrolled laughter went up in the next room. That was Mr Prewett's mathematics class. Prewett was unhappily quite unable to keep order. Mor knew that *keeping order was a gift of nature* but he could not but de­spise Prewett a little all the same. Mor himself had but to look at the boys and they fell silent. "Only", - said Rigden. "Yes", said Mor, "now go on". Rigden *stared wretchedly at the page.* "Carde?" said Mor.

Jimmy Carde was one of Mor's enemies. He was also *the bosom-friend* of Mor's son Donald. Mor never felt at ease with Carde. He spoke in a casual and superior way.

"That's right", said Mor. "Now, Rigden, you go on." Rigden was beginning to look *des­perate.* He *gazed into the book,* biting his lip.

"Get a move on", said Mor, "we haven't got all day. Did you prepare this, Rigden?"

"Yes, sir", said Rigden.

"Well, you'd better stay behind afterwards and talk to me about it", - said Mor. "Our time's nearly up. Could somebody finish translating? Carde, what about you, could you do the last six lines for us?" Carde *cleared his throat.*

"Yes", said Mor. He looked at his watch. He saw that the period was nearly ended. Carde was *a good performer.*

"Yes", said Mor. Yes. Very nice, Carde. Thank you. Now you can all go."

An immediate chatter broke out, and amid a banging of books and desk tops there was a rush for the door. *The admonishing* of Rigden took little time, and Mor *strode* into the corridor. A moment later he emerged from the centre door of what was called Main School into the sunshine and looked about him.

**Section 1.** True or False Statements (+/-). Listen to the story and decide which of these statements are true and which of them are false. Mark your answers on the Answer Sheet.

1. Mor’s authority and prestige in the school stood high.
2. Mor was taking the Seventh Form Greek class.
3. Mor liked the first period after lunch..
4. Rigden adored Mor.
5. Mor was sure that keeping order was a natural thing for every teacher.
6. Carde was the enemy of Mor’s son Donald.

**Section 2.** Multiple choice. Listen to the story and decide which of these statements are true and which of them are false. Mark your answers on the An­swer Sheet.

1. A large square of asphalt was called …:

a) avenue; b) playground;

c) court; d) links.

1. A room used for lessons in natural science is …:

a) gymnasium; b) stalls;

c) bedsitting room; d) physics room.

1. Prewett was unable to keep order and Mor…:

a) despised him; b) humiliated him;

c) respected him; d) worshiped him.

1. Mor asked Carde to do:

a) the first word; b) the first six lines;

c) the last six lines; d) the last word.

**ІІI. ПИСЬМО**

1. Many societies believe that the pursuit of happiness is a fundamental human right. But it is also true that attainment of happiness remains elusive. Perhaps Bertrand Russell had it right when he said, “To be without some of the things you want is an indispensable part of happiness.” What gives us more pleasure and satisfaction: the pursuit of our desires or the attainment of them?
2. Some people believe that the best way of learning about life is by listening to the advice of family and friends. Other people believe that the best way of learning about life is through personal experience. Compare the advantages of these two different ways of learning about life. Which do you think is preferable? Use specific examples to support your preference.
3. Read and think about the following statement: Only people who earn a lot of money are successful. Do you agree or disagree with this definition of success? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

**ІV. ГОВОРІННЯ**

1. People are often interested by foreign people and cultures. Which foreign culture do you find the most intriguing?

* Which tradition from that culture would you like to experience?
* How has the classical understanding of that culture evolved over time?
* What are the advantages and disadvantages of accepting foreign traditions into your own culture?

1. Everyday millions of people visit video-hosting sites such as YouTube.

* Why have these sites become so popular? Do you or someone you know watch these clips? What kind of clips do you watch and why?
* What makes such sites different than television?
* How do these clips influence society? Give examples.

1. Throughout most of the 20th century, music and art were considered equally important as math and science. Some people are concerned that schools are placing less and less emphasis on studying art and music.

* Do you think that students should be required to learn music and art in school? Why?
* How do you think our society will change if we stop learning about music and art?
* Who is your favorite composer or artist? Did you learn about them at school or another way?

1. Shakespeare wrote: “All the world’s a stage, and all men and women merely players”.

* Interpret this statement.
* Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not?
* How does this quote apply to your own life?

1. The world is becoming increasingly urbanized.

* Why are more and more people living in cities?
* In the future, do you think people will live in the countryside?
* Is living in a city a sustainable lifestyle? Explain.

1. Mobile phones have become commonplace in the past decade, and are a useful tool used by nearly everyone. However, mobile phones are occasionally used in inappropriate times and situations.

* How has the use of mobile phones negatively affected an experience you’ve had?
* If you could write their guidelines for their use, what would they be?
* How would society benefit from your guidelines? When is it appropriate to use mobile phones?

1. Each country has different rules of etiquette and behaviour.

* What are some common rules of etiquette in Ukraine?
* Why is it important to respect the rules of etiquette in a foreign country?
* Which practices have you heard about or experienced that are different from what you are used to?

1. Imagine that someday you will have a career as an actor or actress.

* What kind of character would you play? What types of production would you be in?
* If you could play any character in theatre performance or movies that you have seen, who would it be and why?
* Do you think you would enjoy this career?

1. Discuss the quote “You never step into the same river twice”.

* How do you interpret this quote?
* Do you think it is true statement? Why or why not?
* How can you relate it to yourself?

1. Imagine you have a magic mirror that allows you to see anything in the world.

* What would you choose to see?
* What would you do with this information?
* What could be dangerous about someone having access to such a powerful tool?

1. If you could learn any language besides Ukrainian, Russian, or English, what would it be?

* What are reasons?
* What opportunities would it create for you?
* What unique hurdles would you have to overcome?

1. How important is it for young people to have good role models?

* Who do you think is a good role model for young people in your country? Why?
* What would you most like to be admired for?
* What characteristics define a good role model for you?

1. Many young people nowadays use social networks like Vkontakte and Facebook to stay in touch with friends and family. However, many critics fear that these sites are costing us too much in terms of privacy and can have a negative impact on users.

* What are the advantages of using social networking websites?
* What are possible disadvantages of using such sites?
* How can people reduce the risk they put themselves in when using sites like Facebook and Vkontakte?

1. People today may think that humankind has seen everything there is to discover in and around the world, yet there are still a lot of unknowns about the ocean and outer space.

* Do you think it is more important to devote resources to exploring the ocean or outer space?
* How would we benefit from exploring this realm?
* What do you hope we discover in the next ten years?

1. As one grows older, schedules become more important.

* What do you think your schedule will be like five years from now?
* Do you prefer following a strict schedule, or do you prefer to be spontaneous?
* How can you maintain independence while people tend to depend on schedule.

1. Leo Tolstoy wrote, “Art is a human activity which has as its purpose the transmission to others the highest and best feelings to which men have risen.”

* How can art reflect our personal ideals?
* Tell about a painting, play, book, or song that reflects your beliefs.
* Do you think we can learn from different forms of art?

1. Imagine you had the chance to change any historical event. However, this action would create a chain reaction which would result in your never being born.

* What event would you change? Why?
* What would be the consequences of you never being born?
* Is it better to sacrifice one person for the benefit of all or not?

1. Mahatma Gandhi said,: “The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.”

* What is your opinion of this statement?
* Is there a time when you have forgiven someone even though is was difficult?
* Do you regret your decision? Why or why not?

1. Mark Twain once wrote: :Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow – mindedness. Broad, wholesome, charitable views cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth.”

* Do you agree with Twain’s statement?
* How does traveling to different cities and countries combat prejudices?
* Other than traveling, how can people become more open-minded?

1. In today’s world, taking care of your body has become very important as more and more people choose not to smoke, exercise regularly, and are very careful about the types of food they put in their body. Becoming a vegetarian is an increasingly popular lifestyle decision all over the world.

* What is the effect of consuming meat on our bodies?
* What is the effect of consuming meat on the environment?
* What are the challenges of being a vegetarian in Ukraine? How do Ukrainians typically view vegetarians?