

Завдання для шкільної олімпіади з англійської мови 9

ЧИТАННЯ Directions: For each of the questions 1—10 decide which of the answers (a, b, c; or d) best complete the statements on the basis of what is stated or implied in the text and mark the corresponding letter (a, b, c or d) with a «+» on your answer sheet.

Elvis Aaron Presley, American singer and actor, One of the most popular entertainers of the 20th century, is renowned as an early pioneer of rock-and-roll music and considered by many to be the genre's greatest performer.

In his youth, Presley attended churches where he was exposed to gospel music. He also listened to blues and country-and-western music and won a talent contest at the age often for a rendition of the country ballad "Old Shep".

Following high school, Presley worked as a truck driver. In 1953, while recording some songs as a birthday gift for his mother at a Memphis studio, Presley impressed the studio manager with his unique vocal style, demonstrating both outstanding range and influences of black American music. At age 21 Presley recorded his first songs for a major record label, the Radio Corporation of America, including the original and popular "Heartbreak Hotel".

From 1956 to 1958, Presley starred in four motion pictures, all of which featured his soundtracks. After serving in the United States Armed Forces from 1958 to 1960, Presley appeared in numerous musical films. His public appeal faded during this period as his rebellious image gave way to the more wholesome persona developed in his film roles.

During the 1970s, facing personal difficulties, including a long-term drug dependency, Presley retreated from public appearances and was rarely seen outside his Memphis mansion. His death, a subject of some controversy, has been officially attributed to heart failure, a likely result of Presley's chronic overuse of prescription barbiturates.

Known as the King of Western Bop and the Hillbilly Cat, Presley fused sounds of country music with black rhythm-and-blues influences and what was then the new rock-and-roll style. His unprecedented, electrically charged performances helped make Presley one of the first mass idols of United States popular culture.

Reading 9 task

1. A lot of people believe:
 - a) there has been no better rock-n-roll singer than Elvis Presley;
 - b) Elvis Presley could outdo anyone in acting;
 - c) was the only one to start the genre of rock-n-roll;
 - d) was the pioneer of the 20th century.
2. Presley's musical education consisted mainly of:
 - a) a church musical school;
 - b) a rhythm-and-blues orchestra;
 - c) a combination of different styles;
 - d) a country musical band.
3. The word "rendition" in line 6 may best stand for:
 - a) interpretation;
 - b) transliteration;
 - c) transcription;
 - d) remix.

4. It can be inferred from the passage that Presley got involved in performing music
- a) at a rather old age;
 - b) as a truck driver;
 - c) quite young;
 - d) by his mother.
5. The feature of Presley's singing was the clear influence of:
- a) a studio manager;
 - b) the African American style of performance
 - c) his age;
 - d) his mother's birthday in Memphis.
6. The passage implies that:
- a) Presley hated acting in movies;
 - b) he became rather popular in a comparatively short period of time;
 - c) movie producers didn't like Presley's songs;
 - d) Presley was a movie star rather than a singer.
7. The word "appeal" in line 15 may be best replaced with:
- a) request;
 - b) claim;
 - c) attraction;
 - d) service.
8. Presley's acting in movies:
- a) brought him more recognition of the audience;
 - b) had nothing to do with music;
 - c) slightly decreased his popularity;
 - d) was never noticed.
9. During the last years of his life Presley:
- a) was not very happy;
 - b) started using drugs;
 - c) performed only in Memphis;
 - d) had a heart disease.
10. When on stage, Presley usually was:
- a) dressed in electrical clothes;
 - b) performing very emotionally;
 - c) repairing electrical equipment;
 - d) emitting electricity.

ТВОРЧА ПИСЬМОВА РОБОТА 9 Choose one of the three suggested topics and comment on it.

1. Television and computer games will soon lead to disappearing of books.
2. People need sport to overcome, the effects of polluted environment.
3. There is no ideal school in the world.

За кожен вид діяльності максимальна кількість балів – 12.