

TEST 6

Historical background – the 19th century in Russia

- 1) When and why Napoleon attacked Russia?
- 2) Who is Mikhail Kutuzov?
- 3) What happened in Russia in December 1825?
- 4) When was the serfdom abolished in Russia?
- 5) Explain the term “superfluous man” in Russian literature.
- 6) Who is Vissarion Grigoryevich Belinsky?
- 7) What is Novgorod veche? (the 11th – 15th century)

A. S. Pushkin – life and work

- 8) When did the writer live?
- 9) Name some works written by Pushkin (poems, novels, dramas, prose, fairy tales...)
- 10) How long did Pushkin write his famous novel in verse Eugene Onegin?
- 11) What is Onegin stanza (Pushkin sonnet)?
- 12) How many chapters does the novel consist of?
- 13) Where did Eugene Onegin go after duel? What places did he visit?
- 14) Why Pushkin didn't describe a state of the murderer after murder?
- 15) Why was Lensky killed by Onegin?
- 16) Compare Onegin at the beginning and at the end of novel.
- 17) Compare Tatyana at the beginning and at the end of novel.
- 18) Is Tatyana an ideal of the Russian woman?
- 19) Do you see Onegin as a superfluous man?
- 20) Belinsky has written about the novel Eugene Onegin that it is “an encyclopedia of Russian society”. Why?

TEST 7

Historical background – the 19th century in Russia

- 1) What did 1812 year mean for Russian society and literature?
- 2) Explain what is Patriotic War and Great Patriotic War (in Russia)
- 3) What is Decembrist uprising (Восстание декабристов)?
- 4) What was the most important reform during the reign of Tsar Alexander II of Russia?
- 5) What is “Russian roulette”?

M. Y. Lermontov – life and work

- 6) When did M. Y. Lermontov live?
- 7) Name 7 works written by M. Y. Lermontov.
- 8) Write short characteristic of Lermontov's work.
- 9) What's his most famous realistic novel? When was it written?
- 10) What parts does the novel consist of? Name them.
- 11) Who or what connects all parts of the novel?
- 12) Name the narrators in the novel Hero of Our Time.
- 13) What does “...*the story of a human soul*” mean for an author?
- 14) Specific composition of the novel: fabula and syuzhet. Explain.
- 15) What side of Pechorin character is depicted in the story Bela?
- 16) What is Pechorin's attitude to old friends? (Maksim Maksimich)
- 17) What did you find out about Pechorin in the novel Taman?

- 18) Explain the relation between the pair of heroes Pechorin – Grushnitski (Princess Mary)
- 19) Is Pechorin a cruel egoistic hero or is he able to love? Explain.
- 20) Explain: *“There are two men in me – one lives in the full sense of the word, the other reasons and passes judgment on the first”* (Hero of Our Time).