

Variant 2**READING****TEXT 1**

1. Read the article and decide if the statements (1–10) are True (T) or False (F).

- 1) The Beatles are more popular today than ever.
- 2) The “Oasis” have recently copied a Beatles’ song.
- 3) The Beatles once filled Japan’s Budokan stadium.
- 4) There is a Beatles Festival every year in the USA.
- 5) Paul McCartney lived in Penny Lane when he was a teenager.
- 6) Penny Lane is in Liverpool.
- 7) The Beatles always wrote their own songs.
- 8) In Britain, the Beatles are forgotten.
- 9) Not many people go to Liverpool every year, to see where it all began.
- 10) They became popular because they caught the spirit of a generation.

THE BEATLES – STILL GOING STRONG

Although they broke up almost 50 years ago, the Beatles are still one of the most popular rock groups in the world! During the six years of their existence, they led a revolution in music. Half a century later, their records still sell in millions every year.

- In 2014, Hollywood is making a big new documentary film about the Beatles.... almost 50 years after they broke up!

- In 2013, a “new” Beatles album, “On air live at the BBC – part 2” was the group’s 31st top album in the USA!

- In 1996, six million Beatles albums were sold during the year. That would be a good score for a functioning band or group; but for a group that last played together in 1970, it was incredible!

- In Britain, a study recently showed that the Beatles are still one of the most popular groups with people over 15 years old; and they are still popular with teenagers too.

All over the world, teenagers know the tunes, and often some of the words too, of the Beatles’ most famous songs; Yesterday, Penny Lane, Hey Jude and When I am Sixty Four are among the best known.

Among more recent pop groups, many big names – such as Oasis, Blur or Foo Fighters – owe a lot to the Beatles, and they say so! In their album the Masterplan, Oasis did a new version of the Beatles' song “I am the Walrus”.



However, there are also dozens of bands all over the world which do nothing but copy the Beatles. There is a band in England called the Bootleg Beatles, a band in America called the 'Fab Four', a Norwegian band called 'Det Betales', and even a band called Museum in Kazakhstan; and there are many more too!

The Bootleg Beatles now do over 100 shows a year and they always bring in big audiences! Once, they filled the 10,000 seat Budokan stadium in Japan!

There are also dozens of Beatles conventions and Beatles weekends every year, in different parts of the world. The annual Beatle Fest in America (founded in 1974) attracts 20,000 fans each year!

In Britain, the Beatles are still a big tourist attraction. Thousands of people go to Liverpool every year, to see where it all began. In Liverpool, they can visit the Beatles' museum, take a "Beatles' Tour" of the city (seeing places like Penny Lane), or visit the house where Paul McCartney lived as a teenager.

So why did the Beatles become so popular in the sixties, and why are they still so popular today?

They became popular because they caught the spirit of a generation. Sixties teenagers were very different from fifties teenagers; they wanted to change things, and escape from the rather dull fifties. The Beatles came along, offering a new type of music, with new instruments (electric guitars). They were not the only group, of course; but they were the best, the most original. At first they copied rock 'n' roll songs from America. These were not well-known in England at the time, but it was easy to get rock 'n' roll records in Liverpool, a busy port city at the time. Sailors brought the most popular records from America, and these became popular with young musicians in Liverpool. Then the Beatles began writing their own songs – and people liked them.

When they became popular, they did not stop doing new things; instead, they pushed back the frontiers of pop/rock music in all directions. And where they went, others followed.

Today people are still following them; and probably they will continue following for a long time to come.



TEXT 2

2. The people below all want to go on a short trip. Decide which place (letters A–H) would be the most suitable for each person or the group of people (numbers 1–5).

- 1) Ray and three of his friends would like to spend a whole weekend driving around in nice scenery and enjoying some of the local food.
- 2) Phil and Adam want to go on a comfortable trip which takes them quickly to an interesting city. Then they want to enjoy at least two days of sightseeing.
- 3) Mike, Kathy and their three children don't have much money, but they want a special day out this Saturday. They must be back home by 9 p.m.
- 4) Kirsten is a Dutch student who is studying in Scotland. She doesn't drive, but wants a day trip to see some beautiful scenery and spend a little time by the sea.
- 5) Clare and Robert want to enjoy some good food, but would also like to give their two young children a day to remember. They don't mind if they spend a lot of money.

A Marine Life, France

The chance to experience the oceans of the world. Children will love the observatory, with water all around them and enormous fish swimming above their heads! Afterwards you eat at a world-famous local restaurant before boarding the ferry at 9 p.m. Not cheap, but a great day out!

B Amsterdamer

Sail out in the evening and enjoy over 12 hours in the Netherlands, returning the following night. After a good Dutch breakfast you travel by train direct to the heart of the wonderful city of Amsterdam. The sightseeing and places to shop will make this a day to remember. Weekends only.

C Ireland by Car

Once you arrive in Ireland you're quickly on beautiful country roads, with friendly villages where you can stop for a delicious bite to eat. The special price allows you to take your car and up to five people away for 48 hours, and two nights' hotel accommodation can be arranged for a little extra.

D French Hypermarket Day Trip

Whether you want to buy or just look, you'll love this tour. The enormous Darney shopping centre is a shopper's dream! You will find a great number of local goods on sale, and clothes and kitchen goods are excellent value. Free children's entertainment all day. Leaves 10:00, back at 19:00.

E Shop Till You Drop

For good value shopping, take our newest cruise-ferry and you needn't even get off! Leaving at 11 a.m., our duty-free shopping centre, more a floating department store than an on-board shop, opens at midday. We're back by 4 p.m. Sorry, only four people per ticket.

F Belgium by Hydrofoil

A four-day trip. From England you cross to Belgium in just 100 minutes by hydrofoil! You are served food and drinks during the crossing, then continue your journey to Brussels, or another beautiful city, on the fast Belgian railway network.

G A Taste of the Good Life in France

After a relaxing voyage, you visit a beautiful area which is famous for its good things to eat. There you can enjoy some sightseeing and choose from a number of wonderful restaurants. Sail back on the night crossing. Sorry, adults only!

H Sea and Mountains in Northern Ireland

Explore the Northern Ireland countryside, including the amazing Mountains of Mourne and the small seaside holiday town of Newcastle. The ferry leaves the port in Scotland at 7:30 and arrives back at 22:20. Transport in Northern Ireland is by air-conditioned coach.

VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR**3. Choose the correct item (A, B, C or D).**

- 1) Your car isn't here. It _____ the garage.
 - A. has taken
 - B. has been taken
 - C. was taken to
 - D. takes

- 2) Do you think that jacket was designed _____ a famous fashion designer?
 - A. at
 - B. of
 - C. with
 - D. by



- 3) That ring _____ to my mother by my father.
A. was given
B. is given
C. will have been given
D. will give
- 4) My application for a loan was turned _____.
A. by the bank down
B. away by the bank
C. off by the bank
D. down by the bank
- 5) It became a _____ and stayed at number one in the charts for ten weeks.
A. masterpiece
B. bestseller
C. song
D. hit
- 6) Harry Potter is the biggest children's _____ this century.
A. blockbuster
B. bestseller
C. hit
D. artwork
- 7) The trouble with all these _____ movies is that they have lots of special effects and little real acting.
A. blockbuster
B. drama
C. cartoon
D. comedy
- 8) It's such a/an _____ piece of music. I cry every time I hear it.
A. surprising
B. outstanding
C. moving
D. impressive
- 9) It's _____! It must be the funniest show on TV.
A. hilarious
B. breathtaking
C. exciting
D. nice





- 10) The actor gave_____performance. It was perhaps the only time we will ever see that play performed so well.
- A. a classic
 - B. an outstanding
 - C. an old-fashioned
 - D. a spectacular

TRANSLATION

4. Translate the sentences from English into Russian.

- 1) There are sleeping cars and dining cars which make even the longest journey enjoyable.
- 2) Speed, comfort and safety are the main advantages of trains and planes.
- 3) Large ships and small river boats can visit foreign countries and different places of interest within their own country.
- 4) I prefer fantastic films, though I enjoy documentaries almost as much, to say nothing of animated cartoons films, news-reels or popular science films.
- 5) It is a good idea that those who are late are not allowed to enter the hall until the news-reel is over. I hate being disturbed when a film is on.
- 6) There are a lot of types of entertainments: reading books, magazines, newspapers, surfing the Internet, watching movies and television, listening to the radio and recordings.
- 7) What food would you recommend to somebody visiting your country for the first time?
- 8) Let's make lasagna for the dinner party tomorrow. – Great idea! How much minced meat do we need?
- 9) Fish and chip is a hot dish of English origin, consisting of battered fish, commonly Atlantic cod, and chips.
- 10) Commercial sale of genetically modified food began in 1994, when Calgene first marketed its delayed-ripening tomato.

WRITING

5. Write a letter to your friend (100–120 words) about your holiday in Britain.

