

ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК

31 август 2016 г.

ВАРИАНТ 2

ДА СЕ ИЗПОЛЗВА ЕДИНСТВЕНО ОТ УЧИТЕЛЯ-КОНСУЛТАНТ ПРИ НЕОБХОДИМОСТ!

Учителят-консултант изчита на глас и инструкцията, и съответния текст, според указанията в инструкцията!

Directions: *You will hear a text about the flood of Noah twice. Before you listen to it, you have 2 minutes to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 4 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, C or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.*

The flood of Noah may be a familiar myth to many of you, but in case you have forgotten it, allow us to summarise.

Several thousand years ago, people behaved really badly, so God decided to flood the entire planet and kill them all.

Noah and his family were the only good people left on Earth. Although Noah was 600 years old, he built a really big boat – an ark. Two of every type of animal hopped on, and then the rain fell for 40 days and nights. At the end of the downpour, Noah sent a bird to find land. The bird came back with an olive branch, telling Noah that there was land once again. If we accept the story as true, there is one question that needs to be answered: Where *exactly* did that branch come from?

Well, the world's oldest olive trees are a good candidate. There are 16 trees in Lebanon known as "The Sisters", or "The Olive Trees of Noah", and they've been growing there for the last six thousand years. They're 1,300 metres above sea level, which would have made them almost certainly the highest olive trees alive at that time and for a long while after. Most impressive of all, the trees are still bearing fruit.

More endangered than Bengal tigers or wild pandas, the Sisters olive trees should be regarded as a precious national asset. The Ministry of Tourism and Culture have recognised them as a site of national importance and the olive trees have earned a spot on Lebanese stamps and banknotes. Anyway, governmental support to protect the trees has been rather modest.

"The Sisters Olive Trees of Noah" is a non-profit organisation which has been set up in order to safeguard this rare ecological and historic gift. It has started selling top-of-the-line olive oil produced from "The Sisters" in order to raise funds for their upkeep. The organisation also hopes to get a World Heritage Site designation for the olive grove.

While we're not nutritionists, it might be worth giving the olive oil a try. After all, Noah lived for another 350 years after the flood.

Directions: You will hear a text about **the bikini** twice. Before you listen to it, you have **2 minutes** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **4 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among **A, B, C or D**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.

The Bikini Atoll is situated in the North Pacific Ocean. Between 1946 and 1958 the United States used the island for nuclear tests and detonated there 23 nuclear weapon devices, including the first hydrogen bomb. The atoll gained much attention as a result of the nuclear testing but it got even greater fame when another kind of *atomic* weapon appeared on the beaches all around the world: the bikini.

In 1946, Jacques Heim, a French designer, advertised a revealing two-piece swimsuit which he called the *atome*. He advertised it with the following message: “Atome – the world’s smallest bathing suit.”

But three weeks later, Louis Réard – an automobile manufacturer and Heim’s rival designer – came up to market with a still smaller swimsuit. He named it the *bikini* because of the Bikini Atoll nuclear tests. He thought that everyone would be shocked by the display of curves and belly buttons. He was right. During many years, the bikini caused more surprise than any of the nuclear tests conducted by the United States or the Soviet Union. This gave rise to the joke that the “bikini split the atom”. During one advertisement campaign, Réard even declared that a two-piece wasn’t a *real* bikini “unless it could be pulled through a wedding ring.”

However, the car engineer and the fashion designer were only rediscovering it. In fact, the two piece bathing suit was already in use back in the third century AD. A mosaic discovered in a Roman villa in Sicily displays thousands of coloured tiles on which women in bikini play and exercise by the beach. In Pompeii, archaeologists discovered several statues of the goddess Venus wearing a bikini.

On the other hand, only six hundred years before this, the Greek philosopher Democritus formulated his atomic theory of the cosmos, which explained that our world was made of tiny, invisible particles that were in constant motion.

Yet another confirmation that there’s nothing new under the sun.

Directions: *You will hear a text about the **London Tea Trade Centre** twice. Before you listen to it, you have **1 minute** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **3 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among **A, B** or **C**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.*

The London Tea Trade

The London Tea Trade Centre is on the north bank of the River Thames. It is the centre of an industry of great importance in the everyday lives of the British. Tea is without dispute the British national drink: every man, woman and child over ten years of age has an average of over 4 cups a day or some 1,500 cups annually. Some 30% of the world's exports of tea makes its way to London. Britain is by far the largest importer of tea in the world.

Samples of the vast amounts of tea brought into the country to satisfy the national thirst go to the London Tea Trade Centre, where they are tasted by skilled professional tea tasters before being sold at each week's tea sale. It's fascinating to see them at work. Over a hundred samples are laid out in a line on long tables. Teas are generally tasted with milk since that is how the majority in Britain drink their tea. The tasters move down the line with surprising speed, tasting each sample from a spoon and deciding what is a fair price for each tea.

The types of tea that are popular in Britain are comparatively inexpensive but they are of a very high quality. The best are delicate mixtures of numerous teas from different sources and countries of origin.