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Мета методичних рекомендацій полягає в ознайомленні студентів III курсу англійського відділення факультету романо-германської філології з основами курсу “Реферування англійського публіцистичного тексту”, що передбачає надання знань про композиційно-лексичні особливості англійського газетного тексту, розвиток вмінь та навичок критично читати та аналізувати пресу.

У методичних рекомендаціях надається загальна характеристика британської преси, огляд лексико-граматичних особливостей газетного тексту і заголовку, а також вправи по засвоєнню матеріалу. Далі представлені автентичні англійські статті, що супроводжуються питаннями та вправами. Рекомендації розраховані на 14 навчальних годин.

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Newspapers in the United Kingdom

Twelve daily newspapers and eleven Sunday weekly newspapers are distributed nationally in the United Kingdom. Others circulate in Scotland only and still others serve smaller areas. National daily newspapers are issued every day except Sundays and 25 December. Sunday newspapers may be independent; e.g. *The Observer* was an independent Sunday newspaper from its founding in 1791 until it was acquired by *The Guardian* in 1993. Many daily newspapers now have Sunday editions, usually with a related name (e.g. *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*), but are editorially distinct.

UK newspapers can generally be split into two distinct categories: the more serious and intellectual newspapers, usually referred to as the broadsheets due to their large size, and sometimes known collectively as 'the quality press', and others, generally known as tabloids, and collectively as 'the popular press', which tend to focus more on celebrity coverage and human interest stories rather than political reporting or overseas news. The tabloids in turn are divided into the more sensationalist mass market titles, or 'red tops', such as *The Sun* and the *Daily Mirror*, and the middle-market papers, the *Daily Express* and the *Daily Mail*.

The Independent and *The Times* have changed in recent years to a compact format, the same size as the tabloids. *The Guardian* moved in September 2005 to what is described as a 'Berliner' format, slightly larger than a compact. Its Sunday stablemate *The Observer* followed suit. Both *The Guardian* and *The Observer* now use the tabloid format, having done so since January 2018. Despite these format changes, these newspapers are all still considered 'broadsheets'.

Other Sunday broadsheets, including *The Sunday Times*, which tend to have a large amount of supplementary sections, have kept their larger-size format. The national Sunday titles usually have a different layout and style from their weekly sister papers, and are produced by separate journalistic and editorial staff.

All the major UK newspapers currently have websites, some of which provide free access. *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* have a paywall requiring payment on a per-day or per-month basis by non-subscribers. The *Financial Times* business daily also has limited access for non-subscribers. *The Independent* became available online only upon its last printed edition on 26 March 2016. However, unlike the previously mentioned newspapers it does not require any payment to access its news content. Instead the newspaper offers extras for those wishing to sign up to a payment subscription, such as crosswords, Sudoku puzzles, weekend supplements and the ability to automatically download each daily edition to read offline.

The following is a witty but at least partly accurate description of the people who read the different papers:

The Times is read by the people who run the country.

The *Mirror* is read by the people who think they run the country.

The Guardian is read by the people who think about running the country.

The *Financial Times* is read by the people who think they ought to run the country.

The *Morning Star* is read by the people who think they ought to run the country.

The *Mail* is read by the wives of the people who run the country.

The Telegraph is read by the people who think the country ought to be run as it used to be.

The *Express* is read by the people who think it still is run as it used to be.

The Sun is read by the people who don't care who runs the country as long as the girl on page 3 is attractive.

It's certainly for laughs, but there's something in it, you know.

Most towns and cities in the UK have at least one local newspaper, such as the *Evening Post* in Bristol and *The Echo* in Cardiff. They are not known nationally for their journalism in the way that some city-based newspapers in the USA are (e.g. *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*). An exception to this was the *Manchester Guardian*, which dropped the 'Manchester' from its name in 1959 and relocated its main operations to London in 1964.

British newspapers

Title and foundation date:

National dailies

'Qualities'

Financial Times (1886)

The Daily Telegraph (1885)

The Guardian (1821)

The Independent (1986)

The Times (1785)

'Populars'

Daily Express (1900)

Daily Mail (1896)

Daily Mirror (1903)

Daily Star (1966)

The Sun (1964)

Today (1986)

National Sundays

'Qualities'

Sunday Telegraph (1961)

The Observer (1791)

The Sunday Times (1822)

The Sunday Correspondent (1989)

'Populars'

News of the World (1843)

Sunday Express (1918)

Sunday Mirror (1963)

Sunday Sport (1986)

The Mail on Sunday (1982)

The People (1881)

Questions

1. What is the difference between daily newspapers and 'Sundays'?
2. What two categories can UK newspapers be split into? How are they different?
3. In what way have *The Independent* and *The Times* changed the format recently?
4. Do all the major UK newspapers have websites with free access?
5. How accurate is the description of the people who read different UK papers?
6. Which of the UK newspapers meets your interests most of all?
7. Are local British newspapers as known nationally as city-based newspapers in the USA?

Vocabulary exercises

1. Match the words naming types of newspapers with their definitions:

tabloids, gutter press, broadsheets, heavy newspaper.

- 1) newspapers printed on large sheets which are considered more serious
- 2) gossip newspapers
- 3) newspapers which focus on sensational journalism, often about the lives of famous people
- 4) a newspaper with serious content.

2. Match the words describing newspaper content with their definitions:

horoscope, caption, weather report, international /world news section, business section, TV guide, obituary, headlines, special feature, comic strip, columns, advice column, editorial, letter to the editor.

- 1) heading or title appearing at the top of a page or article
- 2) news that is printed in vertical columns rather than taking a whole page
- 3) a section in the newspaper about people who have recently died
- 4) a section in the newspaper about star signs and zodiac signs which foretell the future
- 5) a section in the newspaper for weather forecasts
- 6) a section in the newspaper with business news
- 7) a section in the newspaper which focuses on news from abroad
- 8) an explanation or title matching a picture or cartoon
- 9) a section in the newspaper for people to express their views to the editor of the newspaper
- 10) a special story
- 11) a news article containing the editor's opinions
- 12) a cartoon series in the newspaper
- 13) a column in the newspaper where advice is given to people who write in for it
- 14) a section in the newspaper with a guide for TV programs for the coming day or week.

3. Match the words and definitions:

sensational news, attention-grabbing, eye-catching, in-depth, readership, front page, paparazzi, black and white, direct quotation, circulation, edition, supplementary magazine, subject matter, proof reader, fact checkers, hot off the press, issue, back issue, layout.

- 1) the number of copies a newspaper distributes on an average day
- 2) a particular version of a text
- 3) the way articles are designed on a page (this can include the position of pictures, the number of columns and the size of headlines)
- 4) a news story which draws public attention
- 5) a picture or layout which catches a person's eye
- 6) with many details
- 7) news which causes public excitement or interest
- 8) without colour
- 9) words taken directly from what a person has said
- 10) a freelance photographer who follows celebrities
- 11) the first page of a newspaper
- 12) a magazine which sometimes is given free with a newspaper
- 13) an old newspaper edition
- 14) the topic dealt with in an article
- 15) a person who checks a text for errors
- 16) a person (people) who checks if the newspaper facts and information in an article are correct
- 17) news that has just been printed and is very recent
- 18) the collective readers of a newspaper
- 19) an important topic for a debate or a copy of a newspaper.

4. Fill in the gaps using the vocabulary from the previous exercises:

1. I can't understand why people buy..... because they don't contain real news, just gossip.
2. Famous people deserve the right to privacy and the government should do more to control and limit
3. There are so many mistakes in that article with information that they've got wrong. They really should employ a
4. I'm not keen on the..... of some newspapers. It seems to me as though they are trying to fill the pages with pictures and big words to get people's attention but I just think it's messy.
5. Did you read about that amazing hero in WWII that recently died? There was a wonderful article about her life in the today.

6. The reason that many people only glance through the papers to read the is that they are so busy and don't have time to read the details in the articles themselves.
7. Although we live in a global world, where international news is important to follow, it is still vital that people read their newspapers in order to learn about the community in which they live.
8. I quite like reading because it's interesting to read the views of the editor on particular issues.

HEADLINES

I. Newspaper headlines often include key words that are not commonly used. They are chosen because they are shorter and require less space and also because of the effect that they may produce on the readers. Headlines are also written in a special style where grammar is simplified. Therefore, in headlines, we usually find:

- 1) Short words instead of long ones, abbreviations, e. g. **PM** to **quit** office. (The Prime Minister is going to resign soon).
- 2) Dramatic adjectives and adverbs which attract the readers' attention, e.g. **Rough** hurricanes hit Florida. (Florida has been hit by dangerous hurricanes).
- 3) Cultural references, e.g. **Picasso** painting goes for \$5 million. (A painting by Spanish artist Pablo Picasso was sold for \$5 million at auction).
- 4) Condensed structure:
 - a) articles and the verb "to be" are frequently omitted;
 - b) verbs are simplified:
 - Present Simple refers to the present or the past;
 - the infinitive refers to the future;
 - the verb "to be" is omitted in the passive and in continuous forms;
 - the progressive -ing form is used to show something that is developing;
 - nouns and adjectives are grouped together without any verbs or conjunctions.

II. Newspapers also resort to playing with words or punning in headlines, e.g. Red tape holds up new bridge (red tape = bureaucracy; bureaucratic procedures lead to delay and complications in building the bridge).

5. Match the “headline words” in bold with their meaning. Explain the headlines in ordinary English:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Opposition lashes at government reforms. | a) incentive, encourage |
| 2. Father and daughter in snow ordeal . | b) exclude, forbid |
| 3. Small schools face axe . | c) promise |
| 4. PM pledges on jobs. | d) criticise |
| 5. Hotel bars football fans. | e) painful experience |
| 6. Yen’s fall boosts shares. | f) cut, remove |

6. Explain what the following headlines mean in ordinary English:

1. Automobile plant to halt production.
2. Price of pork set to soar as swine fever sweeps Asia.
3. Green bins seized from recycling offenders.
4. Tories to become real victim of populist surge.
5. PM eases lockdown for friends and family.
6. Business purring at vet clinic.
7. Terror alert in the capital.
8. Ten million antibody tests and U-turn on NHS fees.
9. Unions aid bank strikers.
10. MP cleared on drug charges.

7. Give headlines for the following information.

- a) The Archbishop of Canterbury says the pill is dangerous;
- b) the Prime Minister visited the provinces yesterday;
- c) a woman driver was killed in an accident yesterday;
- d) there has been a proposal to hold some talks with a view to establishing peace in the Middle East;
- e) India is heading for an inevitable war;
- f) there has been a 9% increase in unemployment;
- g) the French and the English will build a tunnel under the Channel.

Newspaper articles for analysis

Gender equality in modern society

More fathers are taking paternity leave, but mothers are still doing all the work

A survey found 62% of fathers in the US took full time off for their newborn, but women saw a greater damage to future job prospects

Attitudes towards paternity leave have drastically changed in America in the last five years as more fathers feel comfortable taking extended time off, but gender stereotypes persist when it comes to career prospects and the home, according to a new study of working parents.

Research by the Boston College Center for Work & Family, which surveyed new parents at four large US companies who were eligible for at least six weeks paid parental leave, found that 81% of the 1,240 employees surveyed said the notion of fathers taking leave has become more acceptable.

Of those surveyed, 62% of fathers took the maximum amount of time off and 93% of mothers, and around three-quarters of workers said their employer was equally supportive of mothers and fathers taking parental leave and over half said leave policies had made workplace culture better.

The US is one of only three countries in the world not to offer statutory paid leave, but increasingly states and companies are starting to take up the issue. So far, eight states and the District of Columbia have their own paid family leave laws.

Brad Harrington, executive director of the center and lead author of the study, estimates only 20% to 30% of companies in the US offers paid parental leave. He said it reflects a pronounced change in corporate attitudes to new fathers taking time off.

“Having done the study on paternity leave five years ago, these numbers were shocking to me. I did not expect 80% of people to say the organisation finds dads taking this leave acceptable and three-quarters to say it’s equally supportive of women and men,” he said.

The 2014 study found that nearly three-quarters of fathers saw two to four weeks as an appropriate duration for paternity leave and 76% said they would prefer not to take all their time off at once.

Since then, there have been a number of legal cases against companies involving paternity leave – including against JPMorgan Chase and Estée Lauder – which have helped put pressure on companies to make their parental leave policies gender neutral.

However, the study also shows how traditional gender roles endure both at work, where more women than men reported changes in their perceived career potential, and at home – even among workers who claim to aspire to equality.

The vast majority of men, 97%, said one of the top reasons to take leave was to share caregiving with their partner. But when they were asked about how caregiving and household tasks were divided, their answers painted a different picture.

While about 75% of employees said both genders should give the same amount of care, the majority of men and nearly half of women admitted that in reality the female actually did most of it. A tiny fraction, 2%, of men said they do more of the childcare.

Men and women's experiences of the return to work following parental leave was also considerably different. Of the women surveyed, 32% reported a downturn in their job satisfaction, while 14% said it increased. In comparison, 17% of men said their job satisfaction went down and 20% said it went up.

Meanwhile, more women reported an increase in their responsibilities and manager expectations after birth. Half of the women said they used flexible work arrangements after becoming a parent, while just 27% of men did.

Similar percentages of men and women said they enjoyed their careers and that it gave them a sense of achievement, while around half of women and 44% of men said it was a key part of their identity.

On the subject of career advancement, 59% of women and 49% of men said leave could be limiting and both genders said they feared it would have an impact on their progression long-term.

But on opportunity for promotion, more than double the number of women, 30% compared to 15% of men, believed their chances to be lower after becoming a parent.

Despite progress, the struggle for women to reach the highest rungs of power is demonstrated in this year's Fortune 500 list, which featured a record 33 female CEOs, but still represents a tiny fraction of the total.

Harrington said culture change depends on companies putting more focus on men and their responsibilities. "By that I mean give men paternity leave, encourage men to take time off to be with their kids early on in the kid's life. Recognise that men have to make significant adjustments when they become parents. And so don't do all these things to enhance women's advancement and then turn around and say, 'Oh, but we don't expect the men to take up the slack'."

In May, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and Outten & Golden LLP announced a historic class-action \$5m settlement with JPMorgan Chase on

behalf of male employees who claim they were illegally denied access to paid parental leave.

Derek Rotondo, 35, filed the discrimination charge after he was allegedly told by his HR department that mothers were considered primary caregivers, eligible for 16 weeks paid parental leave, while fathers were eligible for just two weeks.

The father of two from Columbus, Ohio, who still works at the company as an associate and investigator, said he has witnessed a “domino effect” across companies since the settlement, but there is still substantial progress to be made towards changing attitudes towards paternity leave. “I do think there’s still some way to go ... there’s still going to be sort of the expectation, even if it’s tacit, for new dads to essentially come right back to work, but I think the research is showing that’s starting to change.”

He said equal parental leave is an essential component to creating gender equality in the workplace. “The old standard of women staying home, having babies and cooking doesn’t apply and hasn’t for a long time.”

From *The Guardian*

Exercises

I. Explain and translate the following words and word combinations:

1) Parental leave; 2) paternity leave; 3) to take time off ; 4) to be eligible for smth; 5) statutory; 6) legal case; 7) to aspire to equality; 8) caregiving; 9) career advancement; 10) promotion; 11) CEO; 12) a tiny fraction; 13) to make adjustments ; 14) to take up the slack; 15) class action; 16) \$5m settlement; 17) on behalf of smb; 18) to file charge.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. Does the US offer statutory paid leave to new parents?
2. How many companies in the US offer paid parental leave?
3. In what way have attitudes towards extended paternity leave changed in America in the last five years?
4. How do the majority of new parents share their caregiving and household tasks?
5. In what way are men’s and women's experiences of the return to work after their parental leave different? What do men and women say about their job satisfaction, responsibilities, career advancement and opportunities for promotion after becoming a parent?
6. What gave rise to a historic class-action in 2019? What effect did the settlement have?
7. What is your attitude to gender equality in the workplace?
8. What do you think about the old notion of women staying at home, having babies and cooking?

III. Make notes of your ideas concerning the problem of gender equality.

IV. Render the article adding your ideas concerning the problem.

Digital self-harm

The bully in the black mirror

Why more young Americans are abusing themselves online

On a Friday night in 2016, Natalie Natividad, a 15-year-old in Hebronville, Texas, took a fatal overdose of pills after enduring months of cyber-bullying. Most of the alleged taunts — that she was ugly, that she should kill herself — came on After School, an app that allows classmates to discuss one another anonymously. Her suicide prompted an investigation. The app’s operators tracked which accounts had sent the abuse, while officials interviewed teachers and students. “We just want some justice,” said Natalie’s sister shortly after the death. “Whoever is bullying, I hope that they stop.”

There were no bullies to find. The inquiry revealed that Natalie had secretly sent the abusive messages to herself. Such anonymous “digital self-harm”, as researchers call it, is increasingly common. A study in 2019 found that nearly 9% of American adolescents have done it, up from around 6% in a previous study from 2016, according to an author of both studies, Sameer Hinduja, director of the Cyberbullying Research Centre and professor of criminology at Florida Atlantic University. Despite these numbers — and the fact that teenagers in 2020 spend much of their lives online — “People are uniformly shocked to learn that this problem exists,” says Justin Patchin, another director of the centre and professor of criminal justice at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Why do it? Ana, a 20-year-old from Alabama, says she wanted to see if someone would stick up for her. At 14, she anonymously posted insults about her appearance to Ask.fm, a public question-and-answer site. Then she waited for other people to defend her. Her motivations, to express self-loathing and to get a reaction, are some of the most common among children who abuse themselves online.

About a third say digital self-harm achieved what they had hoped for. Riel, a university student in Georgia, says it was a useful way to counter other online abuse. As a 15-year-old, he created funny tweets that got him more followers but also more hate mail. Strangers started sending him homophobic taunts. At first, Riel deleted the messages, but that made him feel anxious. So he decided to imitate his tormentors, anonymously posting hateful comments about himself online. Others sent him kind responses, which he says “helped overshadow the actual negative, and sometimes vulgar” insults he had received.

Several aspects of Riel's background made him more likely to hurt himself in cyberspace. He had previously been a victim of cyber-bullying by others, which makes people nearly 12 times more likely to cyberbully themselves. He is not heterosexual and he is male, traits which respectively make people 2.75 times and 1.3 times more likely to digitally self-harm. Unlike girls, boys disproportionately told researchers they self-cyber-bully to be funny.

Even so, Elizabeth Englander, director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Centre, presumes there could be a deeper reason. Boys may have "fewer legitimate ways to get attention and sympathy", she says. Whatever the profile of children who insult themselves online, doing so "betrays mental-health and well-being issues", warns Mr Hinduja. Depression and drug use are also predictors. And like physical self-harm, the online version is linked to suicidal thoughts, though it is not yet clear which comes first.

Much about digital self-harm is still poorly understood. Even the reason for its recent increase has mystified researchers. Mr Hinduja speculates that the rise correlates with increasing emotional instability and deteriorating emotional fulfillment among adolescents. That is reflected in a host of other online trends. Some young people turn to a less direct version—seeking out existing self-destructive content, such as blogs that glorify eating disorders or physical self-harm — rather than producing abusive content. Others hint that they want a response by "sadfishing", or posting emotional confessions on social media in the hope that friends will comfort them.

As a technological matter, identifying digital self-harm is relatively easy. Usually this involves finding the computer or account that created the harmful material. The harder part is what to do after that, says Mr Patchin. Social-media platforms might consider directing known self-cyber-bullies to counselling services. Tumblr, a blogging website, already posts helpline numbers next to anorexia-related search results. Teachers and parents could treat digital self-harm as an indication of other underlying problems. The worst response, according to Ms Englander, would be to dismiss evidence of bullying because it might be faked. "Any time a kid claims they're being bullied, they're struggling with something," she says. For many, the source of that something is not an external tormentor, but one within.

From *The Economist*

Exercises

I. Explain and translate the following words and word combinations:

1) bully; 2) abuse; 3) taunt; 4) to prompt an investigation; 5) to track; 6) the inquiry revealed; 7) adolescent; 8) to stick up for smb; 9) follower; 10) background; 11) profile; 12) to betray mental-health issues; 13) emotional fulfilment; 14) self-

destructive; 15) to glorify eating disorders; 16) confession; 17) counselling service; 18) underlying problem; 19) to dismiss a problem; 20) tormentor.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. What kind of messages were found in Natalie's message box after her suicide?
2. What did the inquiry reveal? Who bullied Natalie?
3. How common is “digital self-harm” in America?
4. Why do adolescents abuse themselves online? In what way do they explain it?
5. What deeper reasons for teenagers’ insulting themselves online do researchers mention?
6. In what way should teachers and parents treat “digital self-harm”?
7. Why can’t it be ignored?
8. What is the meaning of the word “sadfishing”? What do you think about it?

III. Make notes of your ideas concerning the problem of “digital self-harm”.

IV. Render the article adding your ideas concerning the problem.

Fighting teen vaping

Schools Seek Ways to Curb Vaping

Students caught vaping more than once at Northgate High School in Walnut Creek, California, are required to attend Saturday “vape school”— along with a parent.

The four-hour Saturday requirement includes lessons on the dangers of vaping, a method of inhaling nicotine and other substances that has been associated with a nationwide outbreak of lung injuries and deaths. An official at the high school, where 15% of students admit to having vaped, said the lessons are helping. But it’s a continuing problem, he said, as freshmen are arriving already exposed to vaping.

“I don’t know that we have the tools to win this battle,” said Northgate Principal Michael McAlister, who believes more students in his school are doing it than admitted. “There’s an entire new generation of addicts.”

School districts have rolled out various measures to address vaping; some have worked and some haven’t. District officials cite local and national statistics as a reason to keep trying. Some districts are using vape detectors in restrooms and randomly testing students for nicotine; others have tried banning the use of bathroom breaks during class periods or removing stall doors. Others offer giveaways to encourage students to surrender their vapes.

An estimated 5.4 million middle- and high-school students in the U.S. recently used e-cigarettes, a vaping device, according to a federal survey released in December. That is 20% of all students, far more than the 4.3% that used cigarettes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 2,561 cases of hospitalizations for lung injury involving e-cigarettes, and 55 deaths. The majority

of cases are linked to products containing THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.

School administrators say vaping is more challenging to tackle on campus than regular cigarettes. Vape devices are typically battery-powered and made to look like everyday items, such as pens, lipstickcases and USB drives.

They come in child-friendly flavors, from bubble gum to strawberry cheesecake, and have pleasant smells. Students can take quick whiffs undetected while sitting in class or walking down a hallway, with exhaled vapor dissolving quickly into the air or held in to be absorbed, unlike lingering smoke from lit cigarettes.

School resource officers in Chico, California, use 18-year-olds, under the nicotine purchasing age of 21, as decoys to bust businesses selling tobacco products used for vaping; officials said eight clerks have been cited. The officers also allow students to trade vape devices for coupons for pizza and smoothies, with no questions asked. In four weeks, about 50 vapes were turned in, said Sgt. Greg Rogers. “We’re just trying something different,” Sgt. Rogers said. “We wanted it to not be punitive.”

Jupiter Community High School in Palm Beach County, Florida, in October banned students from using the restroom during class periods unless for emergencies and with an administrative escort. The rule has since been lifted.

“Parents were frustrated with the fact that their children weren’t just allowed to go to the restroom,” said June Eassa, a Palm Beach school assistant superintendent.

Plainwell Community Schools in Michigan is starting random nicotine testing of high-school students in extracurricular activities in January. Students testing positive are restricted in participating in their activity. “We are trying to send a very clear message that we’re not going to tolerate the behavior,” said Superintendent Matthew Montange.

Plainwell parent Micheal Hueschen is against the random drug testing, saying it targets only athletes and other students in extracurricular activities, which he believes are likely a small percentage of those vaping. Mr. Hueschen said his wife smokes and his son, who will be subject to the testing, is concerned with the test picking up secondhand smoke. “He has a lot of anxiety about it,” he said.

Schools aren’t alone in the fight against teen vaping. The Food and Drug Administration said that it would ban the use of fruit and mint flavors in cartridge e-cigarettes, which are popular with young people.

In December, President Trump signed into law a bill that includes a measure raising the minimum age to purchase tobacco products to 21 nationwide. Some states had already made the change.

Top reasons for e-cigarette use among middle and high-school students (Source: 2019 National Youth Tobacco Survey):

56.1% I was curious about them

23.9 Friend or family member used them

22.3 They are available in flavors such as mint, candy, fruit or chocolate

22.0 I can use them to do tricks

17.2 They are less harmful than other forms of tobacco such as cigarettes

14.5 I can use them unnoticed at home

From *The Wall Street Journal*

Exercises

I. Explain and translate the following words and word combinations:

1) To inhale, to exhale; 2) outbreak; 3) lung injuries; 4) freshman; 5) principal; 6) addict; 7) to cite; 8) randomly; 9) class periods; 10) restroom; 11) stall; 12) to surrender vapes; 13) to release a survey; 14) to tackle vaping; 15) on campus; 16) to take whiffs; 17) to dissolve into the air; 18) smoke (noun); 19) decoy; 20) to trade smth for smth; 21) punitive; 22) to lift the rule; 23) superintendent; 24) extracurricular activities; 25) to pick up secondhand smoke.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. How many students of high schools admit to having vaped?
2. Why is it an entire new generation of addicts?
3. Why are mid and high-school students attracted by vaping?
4. Why are school district officials so concerned about students' vaping?
5. Is vaping associated with lung injuries?
6. Why is it challenging to tackle vaping on campus?
7. What measures have been taken by school districts to address vaping?
8. Why didn't some parents like the idea of random nicotine testing of their children?
9. Are only schools fighting against teen vaping?

III. Make notes of your ideas concerning the problem of teen vaping.

IV. Render the article adding your ideas concerning the problem.

Fighting tuberculosis

TB or not TB? That is the question

Tuberculosis kills more people than any other pathogenic illness. New drugs, vaccines and tests offer hope, though- if there is money enough to deploy them

In 1882, when Robert Koch discovered *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the microbe that causes tuberculosis, the disease caused one in seven deaths in America and Europe. Transmitted through droplets from coughs, sneezes or just talking, tuberculosis felled rich and poor alike. In the century that followed, TB (as the illness is called for short) beat a retreat thanks to antibiotics and a vaccine that protected infants. By the 1990s wiping it out completely seemed within reach.

Since then, however, progress has been glacial. New cases are falling by just 1-2% a year. Today, *M. tuberculosis* kills more people than any other single pathogen. The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that 10m people fall ill with it each year and 1.5m die. This is more than three times the number of those who succumb to malaria. A recent wave of scientific breakthroughs is, though, starting to bear fruit, and there is now widespread optimism that things will change dramatically over the next decade. “It is the first year in which we have some hope,” says Lucica Ditiu, head of the Stop TB Partnership, a global alliance of antituberculosis organisations.

Realising that hope will need money, however. And on December 10th, at a meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, the partnership published an estimate of how much. The goal, set by the UN in 2018, is to end tuberculosis by 2030. To have any hope of that, the partnership says, will require \$15.6bn a year to be spent over the next five years. This is a doubling of the annual treatment and prevention budget to \$13bn, and a tripling of the R&D budget to \$2.6bn a year.

One reason TB has been hard to crack is that *M.tuberculosis* has an unusual life cycle. When someone inhales the bug it is either killed by the immune system right away or takes up residence in the lungs. Instead of causing immediate symptoms, though, it usually remains dormant — a state called latent infection that is not contagious. About a quarter of the world’s population has such latent TB. But only about 10% of those so infected ever go on to develop symptoms. Often, those who do have weakened immune systems. People infected with HIV are at particular risk (about 40% of deaths among HIV-positive individuals are caused by TB). Others with higher than average risk of becoming symptomatic are the malnourished, smokers and alcoholics.

Latent problems

Two developments have complicated the fight against TB since the 1990s. One is the spread of HIV. The other is the emergence of antibiotic-resistant strains of *M.tuberculosis*. Nearly 500,000 of 2018’s new cases were untreatable with standard first-line drugs. And 6% of those cases are classed as extensively drug-resistant—meaning that few or no drugs work for them. Drug-resistant TB has taken a particularly strong hold in Russia and other former communist countries, where it accounts for roughly one in five new cases.

At the moment, the standard treatment for drug-resistant TB involves taking highly toxic medicaments for as long as two years. A patient may have to swallow as many as 20 pills a day, and receive injections with nasty side-effects, such as permanent deafness. Even this regime, however, has a cure rate of only 25-50%.

But shorter and safer drug combinations tested in recent years are now being introduced.

They may get shorter still. In August America's drug regulator approved pretomanid, a medicine developed by the TB Alliance, a non-profit organisation based in South Africa's capital, Pretoria, after which the drug is named. Used in combination with other drugs, pretomanid shortens treatment of the most drug-resistant forms of TB to just six months, with an 89% success rate and no injections. Trials are now under way to check whether simpler regimens that include pretomanid can work for strains of TB that are resistant to fewer of the standard drugs.

Treating those who fall ill promptly is crucial to preventing the spread of *M. tuberculosis*. Someone with active TB may, according to the WHO, infect as many as 15 others in the course of a year. But, the WHO reckons, roughly a third of new cases in 2018 went undiagnosed.

Diagnosing TB is made trickier by the fact that symptoms, such as a long-lasting cough, often do not present themselves during the early stage of illness. Someone who is seemingly healthy can thus be infecting others.

Chest X-rays can nab such early-stage TB. Scanning people en masse in places where TB is common is therefore a sensible way to slow down transmission. A promising innovation on that front are mobile X-ray machines in which reading of the scans is delegated to artificial-intelligence technology. Vans containing such machines now roam around Africa and Asia.

But the hardest problem to crack is predicting who among those with latent TB are likely to become ill—in order to treat them pre-emptively. Research in this area is concentrating on identifying patterns of gene expression in blood cells that might appear six months to a year before active TB develops. Those at risk can then be treated, for a single drug taken once a week for three months will clear their latent infection.

Killing a killer

In the end, the biggest hope for beating TB is a new vaccine. The only one now available is BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guerin), which goes back to 1921. It is effective in preventing the most severe forms of TB in children, such as brain inflammation. But it is unreliable against TB of the lungs—the most common form of the illness in adults. Now, a century after the development of BCG, there seems to be light at the end of the vaccine-search tunnel. At least seven candidates are in advanced clinical trials. A particularly promising one, code-named m72/as01e, has been developed by Glaxo-SmithKline, a big drug company. In trials in Africa, the latest results of which were published in October, it was about 50% effective in

preventing TB of the lungs in people with latent infection (a group in which no other candidate vaccine has worked). This seemingly low efficacy is in fact good news for a disease that kills so many people a year.

GlaxoSmithKline has not yet said whether it will proceed with the further trials needed to put m72/as01e on the market. Who would pay for these is an important question, for the \$500m price tag involved is commercially unattractive. The firm says it is in discussions with outside organisations about the matter, and that saying anything more at this stage would “compromise” progress.

From *The Economist*

Exercises

I. Explain and translate the following words and word combinations:

1) To be transmitted through droplets from coughs; 2) to fell rich and poor alike; 3) infant; 4) breakthrough; 5) to take up residence in the lungs; 6) dormant (latent) infection; 7) contagious; 8) malnourished; 9) antibiotic-resistant strains; 10) untreatable cases; 11) side-effects; 12) deafness; 13) clinical trials; 14) regimen; 15) chest X-ray; 16) blood cells; 17) brain inflammation; 18) to develop a vaccine.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. How many people fall ill with TB and die each year according to the WHO?
2. Why is TB so hard to crack?
3. What developments have complicated the fight against TB since the 1990s?
4. What does the standard treatment for drug-resistant TB involve at the moment?
What are the main problems connected with it?
5. What new medicine was developed by a non-profit organisation TB Alliance in 2019? What advantages does it have?
6. Why is it crucial to treat those who fall ill with TB promptly?
7. What are some of the problems connected with diagnosing TB?
8. What is being done to diagnose early-stage TB?
9. How effective is the vaccine BCG?
10. Is there any promising new vaccine?
11. What is necessary for the new vaccine to be put on the market?

III. Make notes of your ideas concerning the problem of TB.

IV. Render the article adding your ideas concerning the problem.

Climate crisis

Ocean temperatures hit record high as rate of heating accelerates

Oceans are clearest measure of climate crisis as they absorb 90% of heat trapped by greenhouse gases

The heat in the world's oceans reached a new record level in 2019, showing "irrefutable and accelerating" heating of the planet.

The world's oceans are the clearest measure of the climate emergency because they absorb more than 90% of the heat trapped by the greenhouse gases emitted by fossil fuel burning, forest destruction and other human activities.

The new analysis shows the past five years are the top five warmest years recorded in the ocean and the past 10 years are also the top 10 years on record. The amount of heat being added to the oceans is equivalent to every person on the planet running 100 microwave ovens all day and all night.

Why do record ocean temperatures matter?

Hotter oceans lead to more severe storms and disrupt the water cycle, meaning more floods, droughts and wildfires, as well as an inexorable rise in sea level. Higher temperatures are also harming life in the seas, with the number of marine heatwaves increasing sharply.

The most common measure of global heating is the average surface air temperature, as this is where people live. But natural climate phenomena such as El Niño events mean this can be quite variable from year to year.

"The oceans are really what tells you how fast the Earth is warming," said Prof John Abraham at the University of St Thomas, in Minnesota, US, and one of the team behind the new analysis. "Using the oceans, we see a continued, uninterrupted and accelerating warming rate of planet Earth. This is dire news."

"We found that 2019 was not only the warmest year on record, it displayed the largest single-year increase of the entire decade, a sobering reminder that human-caused heating of our planet continues unabated," said Prof Michael Mann, at Penn State University, US, and another team member.

The analysis, published in the journal *Advances In Atmospheric Sciences*, uses ocean data from every available source. Most data is from the 3,800 free-drifting Argo floats dispersed across the oceans, but also from torpedo-like bathythermographs dropped from ships in the past.

The results show heat increasing at an accelerating rate as greenhouse gases accumulate in the atmosphere. The rate from 1987 to 2019 is four and a half times faster than that from 1955 to 1986. The vast majority of oceans regions are showing an increase in thermal energy.

This energy drives bigger storms and more extreme weather, said Abraham: “When the world and the oceans heat up, it changes the way rain falls and evaporates. There’s a general rule of thumb that drier areas are going to become drier and wetter areas are going to become wetter, and rainfall will happen in bigger downbursts.”

Hotter oceans also expand and melt ice, causing sea levels to rise. The past 10 years also show the highest sea level measured in records dating back to 1900. Scientists expect about one metre of sea level rise by the end of the century, enough to displace 150 million people worldwide.

Dan Smale, at the Marine Biological Association in the UK, and not part of the analysis team, said the methods used are state of the art and the data is the best available. “For me, the take-home message is that the heat content of the upper layers of the global ocean, particularly to 300 metre depth, is rapidly increasing, and will continue to increase as the oceans suck up more heat from the atmosphere,” he said.

“The upper layers of the ocean are vital for marine biodiversity, as they support some of the most productive and rich ecosystems on Earth, and warming of this magnitude will dramatically impact on marine life,” Smale said.

The new analysis assesses the heat in the top 2,000m of the ocean, as that is where most of the data is collected. It is also where the vast majority of the heat accumulates and where most marine life lives.

The analysis method was developed by researchers at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing and uses statistical methods to interpolate heat levels in the few places where there was no data, such as under the Arctic ice cap. An independent analysis of the same data by the US National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration shows that same increasing heat trend.

Reliable ocean heat measurements stretch back to the middle of the 20th century. But Abraham said: “Even before that, we know the oceans were not hotter.”

“The data we have is irrefutable, but we still have hope because humans can still take action,” he said. “We just haven’t taken meaningful action yet.”

From *The Guardian*

Exercises

I. Explain and translate the following words and word combinations:

- 1) To hit record high; 2) climate emergency; 3) greenhouse gases; 4) fossil fuel;
- 5) to disrupt the water cycle; 6) flood; 7) drought ; 8) wildfire; 9) heatwave;
- 10) to accumulate in the atmosphere; 11) to evaporate; 12) rule of thumb;
- 13) downburst; 14) to melt ice; 15) state-of-the-art methods; 16) the upper layers of

the ocean; 17) to suck up (absorb) heat from the atmosphere; 18) biodiversity; 19) the magnitude of warming.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. Why does higher ocean temperature matter?
2. What is the most common measure of global heating?
3. What can the ocean tell us about the Earth's warming?
4. How do scientists characterise the year 2019 in terms of temperature?
5. What do the data received from free-drifting floats and bathythermographs show?
6. What does an increase in thermal energy lead to?
7. What do scientists say about the temperature of the upper layers of the global ocean? Why is it so important?

III. Be ready to explain the meaning of the term El Nino events.

IV. Make notes of your ideas concerning the problem of hotter oceans and global warming.

V. Render the article adding your ideas concerning the problem.

Digital currency

China starts major trial of state-run digital currency

The e-RMB has reportedly been adopted into the monetary systems of several cities

China will begin trialing payments in its new digital currency in four major cities from next week, according to domestic media.

In recent months, China's central bank has stepped up its development of the e-RMB, which is set to be the first digital currency operated by a major economy. It has reportedly begun trials in several cities, including Shenzhen, Suzhou, Chengdu, as well as a new area south of Beijing, Xiong'an, and areas that will host some of the events for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics.

State-media outlet China Daily said it had been formally adopted into the cities' monetary systems, with some government employees and public servants to receive their salaries in the digital currency from May. Sina News said the currency would be used to subsidise transport in Suzhou, but in Xiong'an the trial primarily focused on food and retail.

A screenshot purported to be of the app required to store and use the digital currency has been circulating since mid-April. Some reports also claim businesses including McDonald's and Starbucks have agreed to be part of the trial, however in a statement Starbucks told the Guardian it was not a participant. McDonald's been contacted for comment.

Digital payment platforms are already widespread in China, namely Alipay, owned by Alibaba's Ant Financial, and WeChat Pay, owned by Tencent, but they do not replace existing currency.

Xu Yuan, associate professor at Peking University's national development research institute, told broadcaster CCTV that because cash transactions were offline and transaction data from existing payment platforms was scattered, the central bank was unable to monitor cash flow in real time. "Although there is little change from the perspective of user's use, from the perspective of central bank supervision, future forms of finance, payment, business and social governance etc., this is the biggest thing ever."

On 17 April, the digital currency research institute at the People's Bank of China, which is developing the system, said the research and development of a digital renminbi was "advancing steadily" and top-level design, functional research and development, and debugging had largely been completed, according to a CCTV report.

Progress on the digital currency was reportedly spurred on by Facebook's announcement in June it intended to launch one itself. The sovereign digital currency, which will be pegged to the national currency, has been under development for some years but in August the bank said it was "almost ready". However, the following month, the bank's governor, Yi Gang, said there was no timetable for release.

"A sovereign digital currency provides a functional alternative to the dollar settlement system and blunts the impact of any sanctions or threats of exclusion both at a country and company level," last week's China Daily report said. "It may also facilitate integration into globally traded currency markets with a reduced risk of politically inspired disruption."

A decline in cash usage is expected to continue amid the growing popularity of digital payment platforms and as people avoid physical contact during the coronavirus pandemic.

From *The Guardian*

Exercises

I. Explain and translate the following words and word combinations:

State-run, to host events, monetary system, public servant, retail, to purport, broadcaster, transaction, user's use, to debug, to spur on, pegged to, to blunt the impact.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. What is e-RMB?
2. How is the Chinese digital currency going to be used?
3. Have any international businesses agreed to be part of the trial?
4. Do any digital platforms, which are widespread in China, replace the existing currency?
5. How is China's Central bank going to benefit from the introduction of the digital currency?
6. Which currency will the Chinese e-currency be pegged to?
7. What are the advantages of the digital currency according to the article?
8. What are the advantages and disadvantages of digital currency in your opinion?

III. Render the article adding your ideas concerning the problem.

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Навчальне видання

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РЕФЕРУВАННЯ АНГЛОМОВНОГО ПУБЛІЦИСТИЧНОГО ТЕКСТУ

МЕТОДИЧНІ ВКАЗІВКИ

до курсу “Основна іноземна мова (англійська)”

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