

2018 M. ANGLŲ KALBOS KONKURSAS (9–10 KL.)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CONTEST 2018 (FORMS 9-10)

- Konkurso užduočių struktūra (1 lapas)
- Pasirengimas (1 lapas)
- Rekomenduojamų video prezentacijų sąrašas (1 lapas)
- Vertinimo kriterijai (anglų kalba) (3 lapai)
 - Rašinio / straipsnio
 - Monologo / pasisakymo
 - Dialogo / diskusijos
- Užduotis raštu (5 lapai)
- Užduotys žodžiu
 - Monologas / Pasisakymas (10 lapų)
 - Dialogas / Diskusija (12 lapų)

KONKURSO UŽDUOČIŲ STRUKTŪRA

UŽDUOTIES TIPAS	UŽDUOTYS	TAŠKAI	LAIKAS
RAŠTU	<p>Rašinys / Straipsnis.</p> <p>Minimalus žodžių skaičius – 250.</p> <p>Maksimalus žodžių skaičius – 300.</p> <p>Rašymo užduotis atliekama pažiūrėjus trumpą (apie 10 min.) video prezentaciją.</p> <p>Prezentacija žiūrima du kartus.</p>	15	<p>Video prezentacijos peržiūrai (2 kartus) skiriama apie 20 min.</p> <p>Rašymui skiriama iki 60 min.</p> <p>Iš viso apie 80 min.</p>
ŽODŽIU	<p>Monologas:</p> <p>Pasisakymas aptariant garsaus asmens citatą (lietuvių kalba).</p>	15	<p>Pasirengimui skiriama 2-3 min.</p> <p>Pasisakymui skiriama 1-2 min.</p> <p>Iš viso mokiniui iki 5 min.</p>
	<p>Dialogas:</p> <p>Diskusija aptariant perskaitytą naujienų (anglų k.) tekstą.</p>	15	<p>Pasirengimui skiriama 2 min.</p> <p>Diskusijai skiriama 3 min.</p> <p>Iš viso 5 min. mokinių porai.</p>
IŠ VISO		45	

KOMANDINĘ UŽDUOTĮ rajono (miesto) komisija organizuoja savo nuožiūra.

Ši užduotis vertinama neformaliai. Rekomenduojamos užduotys:

LOBIŲ PAIEŠKA IR PRISTATYMAS

Temos: Mano miestas / Mano regionas / Mano šalis.

Potemės: Vietovės / Žmonės / Istorija / Renginiai.

Formatai: skelbimas, skrajutė, plakatas, eilėraštis, daina, vaidybinis etiudas, skaidrių šou, filmukas.

Užduoties pavyzdžiai::

- Sukurkite skaidrių šou „Aplankykite mano miestą“.
- Sukurkite vaidybinį etiudą „Susipažinkite su mano miesto žmonėmis“.
- Sukurkite skelbimą „Kviečiame į miesto tradicinius renginius“.
- Sukurkite eilėraštį / dainą „Mano miestas – pats šaunias“.

PROTŲ MŪŠIS

Temos: Lietuvos istorija, garsūs žmonės, lankytinos vietos ir pan.

Formatai: Protų mūšis su vaizdine megžiaga / be vaizdinės medžiagos.

PASIRENGIMAS			
UŽDUOTYS	LAPAI	PASIRENGIMAS	
RAŠTU	Viršeliai kodavimui.	2 lapai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parengti kopijas kiekvienam mokiniui. - Surašyti kodus prieš išdalijant užduotis dalyviams. - Surinkti pirmuosius viršelius su dalyvių pavardėmis.
	<p>Rašinys / Straipsnis.</p> <p>Rašymo užduotis atliekama pažiūrėjus trumpą video prezentaciją.</p> <p>Prezentacija žiūrima du kartus.</p>	<p>1 lapas – užduotis ir vieta užrašams.</p> <p>1 lapas – juodraštis.</p> <p>1 lapas – švarraštis.</p> <p>1 lapas – vertinimo lentelė.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pasirinkti video prezentaciją iš rekomenduojamų. - Siekiant išvengti interneto trikdžių olimpiados dieną, patartina video prezentaciją išsaugoti laikmenoje. - Parengti užduoties lapų kopijas dalyviams. - Parengti vertinimo lentelės kopijas vertintojams. - Jei vertinimo rezultatus norime pateikti mokiniams, reikia parengti tiek kopijų, kiek yra mokinių. Vertintojai apveda balų skaičių pagal kiekvieną kriterijų, o bendrą balą įrašo apačioje. Pasibaigus konkursui, vertinimo lentelės atiduodamos mokiniams.
ŽODŽIU	Monologas :	<p>10 užduočių lapų su skirtingomis patarlėmis.</p> <p>1 lapas – vertinimo lentelė.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pasirinkti norimas citatas. - Parengti užduočių kopijas dalyviams ir vertintojams. - Parengti vertinimo lentelės kopijas komisijai. - Jei vertinimo rezultatus norime pateikti mokiniams, reikia parengti tiek kopijų, kiek yra mokinių. Vertintojai apveda balų skaičių pagal kiekvieną kriterijų, o bendrą balą įrašo apačioje. Pasibaigus konkursui, vertinimo lentelės atiduodamos mokiniams.
	Dialogas: Diskusija pagal perskaitytą naujienų tekstą.	<p>6 užduočių komplektai (Mokiniui A ir Mokiniui B).</p> <p>1 lapas – vertinimo lentelė.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parengti užduočių komplektų kopijas dalyviams ir vertintojams. - Parengti vertinimo lentelės kopijas komisijai. - Jei vertinimo rezultatus norime pateikti mokiniams, reikia parengti tiek kopijų, kiek yra mokinių. Vertintojai apveda balų skaičių pagal kiekvieną kriterijų, o bendrą balą įrašo apačioje. Pasibaigus konkursui, vertinimo lenteles galima atiduoti mokiniams.

REKOMENDUOJAMOS VIDEO PREZENTACIJOS

https://www.ted.com/talks/christopher_ategeka_how_adoption_worked_for_me

https://www.ted.com/talks/kevin_allocca_why_videos_go_viral#t-17335

https://www.ted.com/talks/adam_alter_why_our_screens_make_us_less_happy

ARTICLE ASSESSMENT SCALE		
CRITERIA	SCORE	DESCRIPTORS
Content	3	All content points covered. Thorough and extensive coverage.
	2	Major content points covered. Adequate and sufficient coverage.
	1	Too few content points covered. Insufficient coverage. Some irrelevant material.
Organisation (coherence and cohesion; layout)	3	Effective organisation; excellent coherence and cohesion; proper layout.
	2	Adequate organization; good coherence and cohesion; problems with layout.
	1	Lack of organization; some coherence and cohesion; problems with layout.
Language resources (range of vocabulary and structure)	3	Wide range of vocabulary and structure.
	2	Adequate range of vocabulary and structure.
	1	Limited range of vocabulary and structure.
Accuracy (vocabulary, grammar, spelling, punctuation)	3	No errors / minimal errors.
	2	A number of errors, but they do not obscure communication.
	1	Frequent errors, some of which may obscure communication.
Appropriacy of register	3	Consistent use of neutral / semi-formal register.
	2	Inconsistent use of neutral / semi-formal register.
	1	Little awareness of register.
Total (out of 15)		COMMENT
Student's code / name		

NOTES

- **Length** – between 250 – 300 words. If the text is shorter or longer, the final score is adjusted as agreed by the evaluation committee.
- **Spelling** – British and American varieties are acceptable.
- **Contractions** are acceptable.

INDIVIDUAL TALK based on a quote**ASSESSMENT SCALE**

SCORE	DESCRIPTORS
Explanation / Interpretation of the quote	
2	Effective explanation / interpretation of the meaning of the quote.
1	Adequate explanation / interpretation of the meaning of the quote.
Opinion, comment (relevance, coherence)	
3	All ideas relevant and coherent; easy to follow.
2	Most ideas relevant and coherent; quite easy to follow.
1	Some irrelevance or incoherence may be noticed.
Language resources (lexico-grammatical structures)	
3	Wide range of language resources; always used clearly and precisely to convey the content.
2	Good range of language resources; most often used clearly and precisely to convey the content.
1	Adequate range of language resources; lack of clarity and precision may be noticed.
Fluency	
2	Maintains a smooth flow of language with natural hesitation.
1	Maintains a flow of language; hesitation occurs when searching for language resources.
Accuracy	
3	Excellent control of simple and complex lexico-grammatical structures; no errors / a few minor errors in complex structures; meaning is never obscured.
2	Good control of simple and complex lexico-grammatical structures; occasional errors in complex structures; meaning is never obscured.
1	Adequate handling of simple lexico-grammatical structures; problems may occur with both simple and complex structures; meaning may be obscured.
Pronunciation	
2	Clear articulation. Effective intonation.
1	Most text is articulated clearly. Adequate intonation.
SCORE (out of 15) AND COMMENT	
Student's code / name	

PAIR DISCUSSION ASSESSMENT SCALE		
CRITERIA	SCORE	DESCRIPTORS
CONTENT		
Opinion, comment (Relevance, coherence, fluency)		
3		All ideas relevant; coherent; easy to follow.
2		Most ideas relevant; quite coherent; rather easy to follow.
1		Too few ideas; lack of coherence; may be difficult to follow.
Language resources (Range , clarity, precision)		
4		Wide range of lexico-grammatical structures; the meaning is always clear and precise.
3		Good range of lexico-grammatical structures; the meaning is always clear and precise.
2		Adequate range of lexico-grammatical structures; the meaning is generally clear and precise.
1		Limited range of lexico-grammatical structures; the meaning is often not clear or precise.
DELIVERY		
Interaction, cooperation		
2		Effective use of strategies to initiate discussion and respond to questions; good cooperation with the interlocutor.
1		Adequate use of strategies to initiate discussion and respond to questions; adequate cooperation with the interlocutor.
Accuracy		
4		Excellent control of simple and complex language structures; no accuracy errors.
3		Good control of simple and complex language structures; occasional errors.
2		Adequate handling of simple language structures; problems may occur with complex structures.
1		Poor handling of language structures; problems occur with both complex and simple structures.
Pronunciation		
2		Clear articulation. Effective intonation.
1		Most text is articulated clearly. Adequate intonation.
SCORE (out of 15) AND COMMENT		
Student's code / name		

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Šis viršelis skirtas kodavimui.

Dalyvio kodą įrašo komisija prieš išdalindama užduotis dalyviams.

Dalyvis užpildo savo duomenis ir grąžina šį viršelį komisijai prieš atlikdamas užduotis.

Dalyvio kodas (pildo komisija)	
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Dalyvio vardas, pavardė (pildo dalyvis)	
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Dalyvio mokykla (pildo dalyvis)	
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Šis viršelis skirtas rašymo užduoties vertinimo fiksavimui.

Dalyvio kodą įrašo komisija prieš išdalindama užduotis dalyviams.

Dalyvis grąžina šį viršelį komisijai kartu su atliktomis užduotimis.

Dalyvio kodas (pildo komisija)	
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UŽDUOTIS RAŠTU	MAKSIMALUS TAŠKŲ SKAIČIUS	SURINKTA TAŠKŲ (1 vertintojas)	SURINKTA TAŠKŲ (2 vertintojas)
Straipsnis (article)	15		

1 VERTINTOJAS _____ (parašas)

2 VERTINTOJAS _____ (parašas)

KOMISIJOS PIRMININKAS _____ (parašas)

AN ARTICLE

You are going to write an article for an English website.

Before writing, you are going to watch a short video presentation. The video will be shown twice.

You can take notes if you wish. Use this sheet for your notes.

After viewing the video presentation, you will have 60 minutes to write your article.

You must follow this plan:

- *give a short summary of the content of the talk;*
- *formulate the main message;*
- *respond to the message of the talk (your opinion / emotions / knowledge / experience in relation to the topic discussed);*
- *comment on the speaker's presentation skills (manner of speaking, visuals etc.).*

Use the sheets provided for your draft and your final version.

Write at least 250 words, but no more than 300 words.

Give a title to your article.

USE THIS SPACE FOR YOUR NOTES WHILE WATCHING THE PRESENTATION

USE THIS SHEET TO WRITE YOUR DRAFT

You can use both sides of the sheet if necessary.

USE THIS SHEET TO WRITE YOUR FINAL VERSION

You must write at least 250 words but no more than 300 words.

You can use both sides of the sheet if necessary.

TITLE:

INDIVIDUAL TALK

You have just read a quote of a famous sperson. Your task is:

- *to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;*
- *to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);*
- *to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.*

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Antanas Smetona

Kūno kultūra Lietuvos mokykloms turi rūpėti ne mažiau kaip dvasios kultūra.

INDIVIDUAL TALK

You have just read a quote of a famous sperson. Your task is:

- *to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;*
- *to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);*
- *to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.*

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Juozas Tumas Vaižgantas

Jei nori surasti gyvenimo kelią, ieškok jo taurių knygų puslapiuose.

INDIVIDUAL TALK

You have just read a quote of a famous sperson. Your task is:

- *to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;*
- *to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);*
- *to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.*

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Justinas Marcinkevičius

Žmogus bent sykį privalo parodyti liežuvį savo baimei.

INDIVIDUAL TALK

You have just read a quote of a famous sperson. Your task is:

- *to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;*
- *to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);*
- *to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.*

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Marcelijus Martinaitis

Po žodžio namai sakomas kitas žodis – tėvynė.

INDIVIDUAL TALK

You have just read a quote of a famous sperson. Your task is:

- to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;
- to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);
- to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Šatrijos Ragana

Žmogaus vertė pareina ne nuo jo kilmės, bet nuo jo doros.

INDIVIDUAL TALK

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- to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;
- to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);
- to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis

Ne tik tai tie, kurie turi milijonus, ir ne tik tai tie, kurie milžinai vadinami, daro gera kitiems.

INDIVIDUAL TALK

You have just read a quote of a famous sperson. Your task is:

- to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;
- to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);
- to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Salomėja Nėris

Džiaukis ir dainuok su visu pasauliu, kentėk ir liūdėk vienas.

INDIVIDUAL TALK

You have just read a quote of a famous sperson. Your task is:

- *to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;*
- *to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);*
- *to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.*

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Vincas Kudirka

Geriau už teisybę laimėti priešą negu su melu draugą.

INDIVIDUAL TALK

You have just read a quote of a famous sperson. Your task is:

- *to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;*
- *to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);*
- *to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.*

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Vydūnas

Reikia išmokti nuolat gyventi dvasios, o ne materijos šalyje.

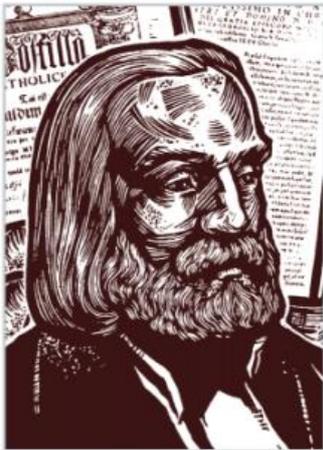
INDIVIDUAL TALK

You have just read a quote of a famous sperson. Your task is:

- to explain / interpret the meaning of the quote;
- to give your opinion on the idea(s) expressed in the quote (agree / disagree);
- to share your own thoughts / emotions / knowledge / experience related to the topic.

Preparation time 2-3 minutes. You can make notes if you wish in the space below.

You will have 1-2 minutes to give your talk.



Mikalojus Dauša
(gimė 1527–1538 m., mirė 1613 m.)

Mikalojus Dauša

Visais amžiais žmonės kalbėjo savo gimtąja kalba ir visada rūpinosi ją išlaikyti, turtinti, tobulinti ir gražinti.

Student A

PAIR DISCUSSION

You are going to read a news item. You have to respond to the news and discuss it with a partner. Your partner has also read the same news item.

You have **2 minutes** to read the text and prepare for the discussion.

The discussion should take up to **3 minutes**.

You are expected to:

- give a short summary of the text (**Student A**);
- exchange opinions with the partner about the news;
- comment on the events / people describe in the text;
- relate the news item to your own experience or knowledge;
- summarise and conclude your discussion (**Student B**).

Note: if you start the discussion, your partner will have to complete the discussion and vice versa.

Student A and Student B read the same news item.

Student A starts the conversation by summarising the news item.

Student B completes the conversation by summarising the discussion.

NO 1.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/he-removed-a-ton-of-trash-from-downtown->



He removed tons of trash from downtown Fresno last year - seven tons

Edward Blackwell picks up trash - tons of it. In 2017, Blackwell removed more than 14,000 pounds of trash as part of his daily routine; an end-of-the-year Fresno statistic posted on Facebook. The number was less than 10,000 in 2016.

The bulk of what Blackwell saw on a daily basis was quick pick-up litter and plant waste (leaves and weeds), but he's been known to clean whole alleyways when needed.

Blackwell heads the Clean Team who is in charge of litter removal. His role, the team's only full-time position, was created in 2015 to help with litter and graffiti removal in an area that struggles with negative perceptions. Blackwell also reported and removed close to 3,000 pieces of graffiti in 2017, according to the partnership.

He serves the role of senior advisor as well – giving directions and suggestions to downtown diners and customers. As for the litterbugs, he stops them when he can. "If I catch someone littering I ask them to pick up their trash," he says.

Of course, trash and litter isn't just a downtown Fresno problem. If 7 tons seems like a large number, keep in mind that across the entire city, more than 1,000 tons of litter and illegally dumped trash had to be cleaned up over the past two years.

Student B

PAIR DISCUSSION

You are going to read a news item. You have to respond to the news and discuss it with a partner. Your partner has also read the same news item.

You have **2 minutes** to read the text and prepare for the discussion.

The discussion should take up to **3 minutes**.

You are expected to:

- give a short summary of the text (**Student A**);
- exchange opinions with the partner about the news;
- comment on the events / people describe in the text;
- relate the news item to your own experience or knowledge;
- summarise and conclude your discussion (**Student B**).

Note: if you start the discussion, your partner will have to complete the discussion and vice versa.

Student A and Student B read the same news item.

Student A starts the conversation by summarising the news item.

Student B completes the conversation by summarising the discussion.

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Of course, trash and litter isn't just a downtown Fresno problem. If 7 tons seems like a large number, keep in mind that across the entire city, more than 1,000 tons of litter and illegally dumped trash had to be cleaned up over the past two years.

Student A

PAIR DISCUSSION

You are going to read a news item. You have to respond to the news and discuss it with a partner. Your partner has also read the same news item.

You have **2 minutes** to read the text and prepare for the discussion.

The discussion should take up to **3 minutes**.

You are expected to:

- give a short summary of the text (**Student A**);
- exchange opinions with the partner about the news;
- comment on the events / people describe in the text;
- relate the news item to your own experience or knowledge;
- summarise and conclude your discussion (**Student B**).

Note: if you start the discussion, your partner will have to complete the discussion and vice versa.

Student A and Student B read the same news item.

Student A starts the conversation by summarising the news item.

Student B completes the conversation by summarising the discussion.

NO 2.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/a-photo-of-a-syrian-refugee-boy->



A photo of a Syrian refugee boy gazing into a gym went viral. Then the owner gave him a lifetime membership

A 12-year-old Syrian refugee peered inside a fitness center in Turkey, wearing open sandals in January. With his shoeshine box slung over his shoulder, the boy surveyed the sports equipment inside. He was dreaming about attending the gym as he watched the gym members exercise.

One of the members of the gym, Olympiat Sports Center, snapped a photo of the boy and posted it on Instagram. Social media took note, as did gym owner Mustafa Kucukkaya. Kucukkaya reposted it, with a message: "We are very touched as a sports family." He asked people to help find the boy. Days later, someone spotted him nearby shining shoes. Kucukkaya offered him a lifetime membership.

The boy, Mohammed Hussein, lives with his family, which makes a living selling scrap paper and metal collected from trash bins. Kucukkaya, who also grew up poor, said many people have reached out to him with offers to help. "A businesswoman from Ankara called and said she will send a package to his house. Even a person from Qatar called."

Kucukkaya said when he offered Mohammed the membership, Mohammed had no idea the photo of him had gone viral. Kucukkaya said Mohammed seems to be having fun at the gym, and called him "a lovable kid."

Student B

PAIR DISCUSSION

You are going to read a news item. You have to respond to the news and discuss it with a partner. Your partner has also read the same news item.

You have **2 minutes** to read the text and prepare for the discussion.

The discussion should take up to **3 minutes**.

You are expected to:

- give a short summary of the text (**Student A**);
- exchange opinions with the partner about the news;
- comment on the events / people describe in the text;
- relate the news item to your own experience or knowledge;
- summarise and conclude your discussion (**Student B**).

Note: if you start the discussion, your partner will have to complete the discussion and vice versa.

Student A and Student B read the same news item.

Student A starts the conversation by summarising the news item.

Student B completes the conversation by summarising the discussion.

NO 2.

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The boy, Mohammed Hussein, lives with his family, which makes a living selling scrap paper and metal collected from trash bins. Kucukkaya, who also grew up poor, said many people have reached out to him with offers to help. "A businesswoman from Ankara called and said she will send a package to his house. Even a person from Qatar called."

Kucukkaya said when he offered Mohammed the membership, Mohammed had no idea the photo of him had gone viral. Kucukkaya said Mohammed seems to be having fun at the gym, and called him "a lovable kid."

Student A

PAIR DISCUSSION

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Student A and Student B read the same news item.

Student A starts the conversation by summarising the news item.

Student B completes the conversation by summarising the discussion.

NO 3.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/high-school-football-players-help-rescue-puppies->



High school football players help rescue puppies left in cold weather

A group of New Jersey teenagers went above and beyond to save a mother dog and her two puppies from the frigid cold ahead of the dreaded “bomb cyclone” that struck the East Coast last Thursday.

Members of the North Bergen High School football team volunteered on New Year’s Eve to help police and the New Jersey Humane Society rescue the three dogs, which were found in an industrial area and were exposed to severe cold and danger.

Police forces were called after someone spotted the Rottweiler mix and her puppies huddled together on a dirty blanket, left outside in cold weather, CBS New York reported.

It took the police officers, a number of teens and a few animal shelter workers a few hours to capture all the three dogs, officials said.

"It's very impressive that all these high schoolers came together and took the time to do this," Kaley Nugent, marketing and communications coordinator for St. Hubert's Animal Center, told the news station.

The three dogs were brought to St. Hubert’s animal shelter, where they are being cared for and readied for adoption.

Student B

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NO 4.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/after-fire-locals-donate-thousands-of-books>



After fire, locals donate thousands of books to charity

BALTIMORE -- When the doors open to this warehouse, people flood in with baskets and boxes. Russell Wattenberg is the man in charge. Over the past 17 years, he has catered to thousands of hungry minds.

Russell calls this "The Book Thing," because it's not a library, and it's definitely not a store. "All free," Russell said. Supplied by donations and run by volunteers, here you can take and keep whatever books you want, as many as you want.

Kim Shibley is a regular. "Everything is going to my classroom," Shibley said. "I'm a teacher in a Baltimore city school and I stock all the classrooms with these books."

The place is a gift to this city. Like any gift, there was no way for the people to fully appreciate it until it was gone. "The number of people come up to me with tears streaming down their face - I didn't realize people cared as much as they do," Russell said.

In March 2016, a fire destroyed "The Book Thing." For many small nonprofits, there would be no climbing back from such a devastating loss. But in the days that followed, people responded with cash donations and new books. There are 7,000 boxes of books here now, waiting to be put onto the shelves.

Student B

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NO 5.

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/georgia-man-holds-cookout-for-florida-evacuees>



Georgia man holds cookout for Florida evacuees near highway

Chad Harrison, who lives in Georgia, said he was watching a lot of negative news about Florida residents being stuck on the main highway, while trying to leave the state ahead of Hurricane Irma, and he wanted to do something to help.

He decided to ask a couple of co-workers at the auto body shop to help. "It's a huge storm. It's something that we felt we needed to do. We just had to take care of our neighbors," Harrison told the press. Harrison and other volunteers gathered by the highway and began grilling for anyone that wanted to stop by and eat.

With signs that read "Free Food For Evacuees", the community were able to feed around 2,000 people. They also filled up several evacuees' gas tanks. "It was beautiful," Harrison said. "I cooked meals. I filled up gas. Everyone did."

He said the response to the community's gesture has been great and people were really thankful. "People had tears of joy," Harrison said. "It's just hard to describe when you see a family with a child when they have to get on the road and run from a category 5 hurricane. You can imagine the stress level of the parents."

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NO 6.

www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/postal-worker-marks-100th-gallon-of-donated-blood



Postal Worker Marks 100th Gallon of Donated Blood: 'He's Saved Over 1,500 Lives'

Marco Perez, 57, visits South Texas Blood & Tissue Center (STBTC) every two weeks to donate blood. "He's always answered the call to donate," Roger Ruiz, communications specialist, told the press.

Perez, an US airforc veteran, started donating blood when he was a teenager. Perez's father told him his friend Tony donated blood to Perez, who needed a blood transfusion to survive when he was a baby. Ever since he heard the tale of the man who saved his life, Perez's goal has been to donate blood 24 times a year, the maximum amount allowed.

Ruiz says Perez averages about 2.5 gallons per year. "It's safe to say he's saved over 1,500 lives." As much as science and technology has advanced, there is still no alternative for blood transfusions. "Without blood donors, cancer patients or people with blood disorders wouldn't have a fighting chance," Ruiz said.

Perez encourages people to donate blood by explaining how simple it is to do so: if you have time to go to the movies, you have time to donate. The donor has no plans on stopping his visits to STBTC. "I'll just keep donating until the blood bank says I can't donate anymore," he said. "It's just giving, showing love for a fellow human being."

Student B

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