

絲綢之路

4-5 June 2021

THE SILK ROAD

*Collection of Papers from the Sixth International
Conference on Chinese Studies "The Silk Road",
Organized by Confucius Institute in Sofia*

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Confucius Institute in Sofia, 2021

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Chinese Olympiads for Schoolchildren as an Important Element of the Linguocultural Space

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Abstract

In recent years, interest in Chinese language is growing. In addition to schools in which the Chinese language has been taught for many years, specialized Chinese language classes have also been established in many schools. Senior students of such schools would like to use their knowledge to get the opportunity to study in various institutions and universities. It is for this purpose that Olympiads for schoolchildren have been created in various prestigious universities in the country, including St. Petersburg State University. Such Olympiads are not just a test for knowledge of grammar or realities. The luggage of knowledge necessary for a student to successfully complete the tasks of any Olympiad should be greater than that provided by the school curriculum.

Keywords: Chinese language, Olympiad, Chinese Olympiad, language competition, Saint-Petersburg State University, SPbSU

In recent years, friendly contacts between Russia and China in a wide variety of fields – economic, trade, cultural, etc. – are getting stronger, hence interest in Chinese language is also growing and its popularity is increasing. Since last year, Unified State Exam in Chinese has been held. Apart from schools already teaching Chinese for many years and even decades, an increasing number of schools are opening specialized forms of Chinese studies. Naturally, students of senior levels of such schools wish, first and foremost, to show themselves and to use their knowledge for gaining the opportunity to study in various educational institutions.

Precisely with this view, special Olympiads for schoolchildren were created at various prestigious higher educational institutions of the country, including the SPbSU (Saint Petersburg State University). Such Olympiads are not just grammar or realia tests, nor examinations. The store of knowledge required for a student to successfully pass assignments of any Olympiad must be greater than provided by the school curriculum.

The All-Russian Olympiad for Schoolchildren organized by the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation, which was held for the first time in 2015–2016, is considered to be the main Olympiad in the country. It consists of six units and represents the most