**Задание I. Прочитайте и письменно переведите текст на русский язык.**

**WORRY ABOUT COMPUTERS? ME?**

(PART I)

When your computer is turned off, it is a dead collection of sheet  
metal, plastic, metallic tracings, and tiny flakes of silicon. When  
you hit On switch, one little burst of electricity — only about 5  
volts — starts a string of events that magically brings to life what  
otherwise would remain an oversize paperweight.

At first the PC is still rather stupid. Beyond taking inventory of  
itself, the newly awakened PC still can't do anything really useful,  
intelligent. At best it can search for intelligence in the form of  
operating system that gives structure to the PC's primitive exist­ence. Then comes a true education in the form of application soft­  
ware — programs that tell it how to do tasks faster and more accu­rately than we could, a student who has outstripped its teacher.

What makes your PC such a miraculous device is that each time  
you turn it on, it is a tabula rasa, capable of doing anything your creativity — or, more usually, the creativity of professional pro­grammers — can imagine for it to do. It is a calculating machine, a magical typewriter, an unerring accountant, and a host of other tools. To transform it from one persona to another requires setting some of the microscopic switches buried in the hearts of the mi­crochips, atask accomplished by typing acommand in DOS prompt or by clicking with your mouse on some tiny icon on the screen.

Such intelligence is fragile and short-lived. All those millions of microscopic switches are constantly flipping on and off in time to dashing surges of electricity. All it takes is an errant instruction or a stray misreading of a single chip to send this wonderfully intel­ligent golem into a state of catatonia or hit the Off switch and what was a pulsing artificial life dies without a whimper. Then the next time you turn it on, birth begins all over again.

PCs are powerful creations that often seem to have a life of their own. Usually they respond to a seemingly magic incantation typed as a C:>prompt or to wave of a mouse by performing tasks we couldn't imagine doing ourselves without some sort of preternatu­ral help. There are the times when our PCs rebel and open the gates of chaos onto our neatly ordered columns of numbers, our carefully made sentences d our beautifully crafted graphics. Are we playing with power not entirely under our control?

A middle-aged woman sat down at a personal computer for the first time in her life. She placed her hands above the keyboard, ready to type — but hesitated. Turning to the instructor, she asked warily: "It won't know what I'm thinking, will it?" Such concerns abound among people whose knowledge of computers comes from movies like 2001: A Space Odyssey (in which Hal, the computer with the sticky-sweet voice, tries to take control of the spaceship). Terms such as computer anxiety and computer phobia have en­tered our language to describe such wariness. Many people try to avoid situations in which they might be forced into contact with computers. Even businesspeople who deal with computers daily may experience a form of cyberphobia — fear of computers. As a result of their fear, some office workers who are cyberphobic suf­fer nausea, sweaty palms, and high blood pressure. Young people who have grown up with computers may not understand these reactions.

**Задание II. Ответьте по-английски, верно утверждение или нет (true/ false). Если нет, то объясните почему.**

1. Computers can result in an invasion of people's privacy.
2. Today the challenge is to manage the information explosion through the use of well-designed information.
3. Data = information.
4. Computerization leads to elimination of workers' jobs (robots) and  
   white-collar jobs (computers).
5. The bank computer thefts are carried out by computer whizzes who know the correct codes to use to access accounts in order to steal or manipulate money.
6. In a few seconds computer can make a mistake so great that it would take many months to equal it.
7. Computer monitoring of people leads to job stress and more fre­quent illnesses.
8. One person's error is another person's data.
9. To err is human; to really foul things up requires a computer

**Задание III Найдите в тексте английские эквиваленты для следующих русских слов и словосочетаний.**

1. деловые люди;
2. страх перед компьютерами;
3. испытывать тошно­ту;
4. высокое кровяное давление;
5. термин
6. включать, выключать
7. кликать
8. события
9. устройство
10. гиперхобия

**Задание IV. Напишите по-английски, о чем идет речь в тексте. Используйте для этого следующие фразы-клише.**

The text looks at…

The text deals with the issue of…

It is clear from the text that…

Among other things the text raises the issue of…

The problem of… is of great importance.

One of the main points to be singled out is …

Great importance is also attached to…

In this connection, I’d like to say…

It further says that …

I find a question of … very important because…

We shouldn’t forget that…

I think that … should be mentioned here as a very important mechanism of…