**I. Прочитайте и переведите текст**

1. The introduction of wild animals to the performance dates from about 1831, when the French trainer Henri Martin performed with his lions, elephant, and other animals at the Cirque Olympique in Paris. He was soon followed by the American trainer Isaac A. Van Amburgh, reput­edly the first man to stick his head into a lion’s mouth, who in 1838 took his act to England and so fascinated the young Queen Victoria that she commissioned the artist Edwin Landseer to paint a portrait of the brave American with his "big cats.”

2. It is one of the world’s most prestigious dance competitions, open to both male and female dancers of all countries, and much like the Olympic Games in purpose. It was first held in Bulgaria in July 1964. The compe­titions were organized by the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture to sponsor a dance event of international interest, creating opportunities for dancers choreographers, directors, and teachers to demonstrate and exchange skills. Following the original competitions the next were held in 1965, 1966, 1968, and every two years thereafter.

3.Britain’s worldwide influence in music in the second half of the 20th century, especially in the area of popular music, is enormous. Such groups and singers as the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, The Who, Elton John, and Sting are famous all over the world. The British people are of opinion that pop and rock music remain the most popular kinds of music in Britain, although jazz also has a large following.

4. Throughout the world the name Shakespeare is associated with the greatest achievements of England in the performing arts. Unfortunately, we have vague facts about Shakespeare’s life. He apparently arrived in London about 1588 and by 1592 had attained success as an actor and a playwright.

5.The genre had taken a new turn with the production in 1927 of Show Boat; it was the first musical to provide a cohesive plot and initiate the use of music that was integral to the narrative, a practice that took hold until the 1940s. Based on a novel by Edna Ferber, the performance presented a serious drama based on American themes incorporating music that was derived from American folk melodies and spirituals.

6. “Chinese shadows”, the European version of the Chinese shadow - puppet show, was introduced in Europe in the mid-18th century by returning travelers. Soon adopted by French and English showmen, the form gained prominence in the shows of the French puppeteer Dominique Syraphin, who presented the first popular performance in Paris in 1776. In 1781 he moved his show to Versailles, where he entertained the French court, and three years later he established a highly successful puppet theatre in Paris.

7. Although stage plays have been set to music since the era of the ancient Greeks, when the dramas of Sophocles and Aeschylus were ac­companied by lyres and flutes, the usually accepted date for the beginning of opera as we know it is 1600. As part of the celebration of the marriage of King Henry IV of France to the Italian aristocrat Maria de Medici, the Florentine composer Jacopo Peri produced his famous Euridice, generally considered to be the first opera.

**II. Установите соответствие между темами А—Н и текстами 1— 7. Занесите свои ответы в таблицу. Используйте каждую букву только один раз. В задании одна тема лишняя.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A. | Opera | E. | Conservatoire |
| B. | Play | F. | Puppet show |
| C. | Circus | G. | Musical |
| D. | Ballet | H. | Rock music |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |