

Approved by the Technology Contests'  
Commission for the Purposes of the National  
Technology Initiative

Protocol No. 1, December 11, 2019.

**Terms and Conditions  
of the Technology Contest  
for the Purposes of the National Technology Initiative  
“Mutual Learning in Russian”<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> These Terms and Conditions govern the technology contest READ//ABLE (also known in the official documents as “Mutual Learning in Russian”) and is the translation of the original document written in Russian language. This document contains some references to regulatory documents that may be available only in Russian. The Organizing Committee may revise these Terms and Conditions to provide additional information or improve the quality of the contest events. All registered teams will be notified of any revisions in a timely manner. Please send any questions or communications about the contest to [ai@upgreat.one](mailto:ai@upgreat.one).

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## 1. General.

- 1.1. These Terms and Conditions of the technology contest for the purposes of the National Technology Initiative “Mutual Learning in Russian” (hereinafter referred to as the Conditions) define the aims, objects, and procedures for the technology contest READ//ABLE for the texts in Russian (hereinafter referred to as the Contest).
- 1.2. The Contest is organized as part of implementation of the technology contest system of the National Technology Initiative (hereinafter referred to as NTI), which is an additional tool to develop innovations as a whole and to create innovative products in promising industries, in particular.
- 1.3. The Contest is held in accordance with the Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation dated April 03, 2018, No. 403 (hereinafter referred to as the Decree).
- 1.4. The Contest aim is to overcome the technological barrier in the field of artificial intelligence (hereinafter referred to as the AI).
- 1.5. The Contest objects are:
  - 1.5.1. Development of software products and systems for automatic (computer) meaningful analysis of texts in Russian;
  - 1.5.2. Creation and support of teams capable to overcome technological barriers in the field of AI;
  - 1.5.3. Focusing of scientific and technological developments; search and solution of breakthrough scientific and technological problems in the field of AI;
  - 1.5.4. Increase of investment attractiveness of scientific and technological research as well as innovative technologies in AI.
- 1.6. The Contest object is to select the best solution for automatic detection of semantic errors in text documents. The task of the testing is to detect errors in texts written in Russian, which have format of an academic essay.
- 1.7. The Contest is organized by Joint Stock Company “Russian Venture Company” that, in accordance with the Decree, is an operator of the technology contests (hereinafter referred to as the Operator).
- 1.8. Information about the Contest, a general list of available documents and materials (or links to them), up-to-date information on the dates, venue of the events are published on the Contest Website <http://en.ai.upgreat.one/>.
- 1.9. The official Contest language is Russian. For foreign participants, the Organizing Committee provides translation to English of all documents and materials necessary to participate in the Contest as well as translation during the Contest events.
- 1.10. Key terms and definitions:
  - 1.10.1. **Jury** is a collegial body created to provide scientific, methodological and expert support for the Contest, to conduct an examination, to approve the results of intermediate and final tests of the Participant Products, and to determine the winners and awardees of the Contest. The procedural rules and the composition of the Jury are approved by the Technology Contests’ Commission for the purposes of the NTI.

- 1.10.2. **Tests** are on-site and online events within the Contest framework that are aimed at the examination and evaluation of Participants' Products, their selection and determination of winners and awardees of the Contest.
- 1.10.3. **Team** is a group of developers and professionals headed by its leader. The Team acts on behalf of the Participant. All requirements of the Conditions apply to the Team as well as to the Participant. The Team cannot include persons who are executors of any work in the Contest scope, including the documentation preparation and judging.
- 1.10.4. **Contest** is the technology contest READ//ABLE (also known as "Mutual Learning in Russian") that is an open contest for solutions to the scientific and technological problems in the field of artificial intelligence (AI); the essays are provided in Russian.
- 1.10.5. **Terms and Conditions, Conditions** are this document. This is the main document that defines the aims, objects and procedures for the Contest. The document is approved by the Technology Contests' Commission for the purposes of the National Technology Initiative.
- 1.10.6. **Operator** of the Contest is Joint Stock Company "Russian Venture Company", which in accordance with the Decree, has the functions of an operator of the technology contests for the purposes of the National Technology Initiative and provides organizational, technical and informational support for the technology contests.
- 1.10.7. **Organizing Committee, Committee** is a collegial deliberative body that coordinates the Contest preparation and procedure. The Organizing Committee activity and composition are determined by the Rules of Work of the Organizing Committee approved by the Operator. The chairman of the Committee is a member of the Jury appointed by the Technology Contests' Commission for the Purposes of the National Technology Initiative.
- 1.10.8. **Official Request** is any request sent by the Organizing Committee to the Team at the email address specified by the Team during its registration.
- 1.10.9. **Partner** is a legal entity or individual that, in agreement with the Operator, provides financial and/or non-financial support aimed to achieve the Contest aims and objects, to create the Contest prize fund and/or to establish its own nominations within the Contest scope.
- 1.10.10. **Test Site** is an area provided by the Operator or Partners for Testing.
- 1.10.11. **Prize** is a prize stipulated by the Terms and Conditions and paid to the winner and awardees at the expense of the federal budget of the Russian Federation.
- 1.10.12. **Product, or Software Package** is a software and, if applicable, hardware package developed by the Team that automatically processes the input data and provides a solution to the contest object in the time and format specified in the Technical Guidelines.
- 1.10.13. **Procedural Rules** are a document that is issued if necessary and by decision of the Operator and determine the policies and procedures for conducting on-site stages in order to effectively participate in testing events. This

document should not change the key components, clauses and provisions of the Terms and Conditions and the Technical Guidelines. The Procedural Rules are approved by the Operator, published on the Contest Website being marked as “approved” and communicated to the teams no later than one month before the Tests. The Procedural Rules may be updated before each next Cycle in a timely manner.

- 1.10.14. **Contest Website** is the official website that contains full and up-to-date information about the Contest and located at <http://en.ai.upgreat.one/>.
- 1.10.15. **Results Verification System (RVS)** is an automatic verification system that receives from a Participant a file with solution of the tasks of the qualification and final stages, processes the solution, comparing it with the reference, and produces the comparison result. The RVS operating procedure is described in the Technical Guidelines.
- 1.10.16. **Judging Panel** is a panel of judges who monitor the progress of the Tests. The Operator approves the procedural rules and composition of the Judging Panel.
- 1.10.17. **Technical Commission** is a collegial body that consists of experts in the field of artificial intelligence and machine learning and verifies the technical correctness of the Tests and their compliance with the Technical Guidelines. The Operator approves the procedural rules and composition of the Technical Commission.
- 1.10.18. **Technical Guidelines** are a document that defines the technical requirements for the Tests, Software Packages and other technical parameters of the Contest. The Technical Guidelines should not contradict the Conditions. The Technical Guidelines are approved by the Operator. The Technical Guidelines may be updated before each next Cycle in a timely manner.
- 1.10.19. **Participant** is a Russian or foreign legal entity or individual, or an association of such entities, which application for participation in the Contest has been approved by the Organizing Committee. All requirements of the Conditions apply to the Participant as well as to the Team.
- 1.10.20. **Cycle, or Contest Cycle**, is a single logical block of the Contest that consists of stages. The Cycles are repeated during the course of the Contest until the fact of overcoming the technological barrier fixed at the final stage or until the end of the Contest timeframe.

## 2. Contest Subject Justification.

The premise for the Contest is presence of significant and global technological barriers in a promising field of AI. The developments obtained during the Contest will help high-tech companies to reach leading positions in AI.

Today, one of the most important unresolved problems in AI is advanced technologies of natural language processing that are operated with causal relationships, context, and facts. These technologies are required for the further development of machine learning algorithms, not only to identify semantic errors in texts, but also for business analytics, voice assistants, search engines

and other applications of automation systems operating with the meaning of texts in natural languages.

The Contest is designed to improve the quality and speed of detecting factual and semantic errors in the academic essays of students, pupils and others. The technologies developed during the course of the Contest can become the core of a wide range of products.

Natural Language Processing (NLP) is a dynamically developing field of AI that is in the focus of a large number of specialists. At the same time, NLP has a rather low “input threshold”: to develop NLP solutions, a specialist does not need to invest significantly in equipment and fundamental scientific knowledge. The combination of these factors allows us to expect a large number of potential Participants.

### 3. Terms and Conditions.

#### 3.1. General Terms for Participation in the Contest.

- 3.1.1. The Contest is held between Teams in overcoming the technological barrier.
- 3.1.2. The Contest is announced by publishing the corresponding information and these Terms and Conditions on the Contest Website.
- 3.1.3. The technological barrier is the development of a Software Package (Product) to detect factual and semantic errors in academic essays that operates stably in a near real-time (NRT) mode. The Software Package operation result should match the result of a professional who works under conditions of limited time corresponding to the typical time spent by teachers to verify work of similar amount in the same subject area (hereinafter referred to as the Technological Barrier).
- 3.1.4. General requirements for the Software Package:

Analyzed texts	A set of essays of no more than 12,000 characters each
Subjects of texts	A wide list that is not limited by a small number of subject areas from the subjects represented in general, additional and higher education
Language of the analyzed text	Russian
Format of the analyzed text	Electronic file in a computer readable format
Types of detected errors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Inconsistency of the declared subject and the text content.</li><li>2. Gaps in logic (conclusions do not follow from arguments, theses are not substantiated).</li><li>3. Improper comparisons and metaphors.</li><li>4. Errors in facts.</li></ol>

Required amount of detected errors	No less than the average number detected by teachers from the reference group for the same essay array (taking into account incorrectly recognized errors, inaccurate descriptions, incorrect localization of errors)
Used software tools and computing power	Unlimited
Time limit for solution provision	No more than 30 seconds per essay

- 3.1.5. The Software Package developed during the course of the Contest has to comply with the requirements of the Conditions and the Technical Guidelines.
- 3.1.6. The results shown by the Teams during the Contest stages are recorded in accordance with the Technical Guidelines and, if necessary, the Procedural Rules.
- 3.1.7. The Participant should develop the Product and submit the results of its operation for the Tests.
- 3.1.8. At any stage of the Contest, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to request from the Participant supporting documentation and/or details, including those required to ensure participation of the Team in the Contest events, an objective assessment of the Team and its Product, confirmation of participation in the Contest from individuals and legal entities included in the Team.

### 3.2. Cyclicity of the Contest.

- 3.2.1. The Contest is held as repeated Cycles.
- 3.2.2. The Cycle is repeated within the Contest timeframe.
- 3.2.3. The Cycle includes the following stages:
  - 3.2.3.1. Preliminary stage (online);
  - 3.2.3.2. Qualification stage (online);
  - 3.2.3.3. Final stage (on-site or online).
- 3.2.4. The next Contest Cycle is held if, at the final stage of the current Cycle, no overcoming of the Technology Barrier has been recorded in accordance with the procedures.
- 3.2.5. The Teams whose applications have been approved by the Organizing Committee are allowed to take part in the preliminary stage of the current Cycle.

### 3.3. Applications.

- 3.3.1. Applications are received by sending a completed electronic form on the Contest Website.
- 3.3.2. Acceptance of applications for the current Cycle ends no later than 10 (ten) business days before the date of the qualification stage of the current Cycle.
- 3.3.3. Applications submitted later than the deadline set for the current Cycle are accepted and considered for participation in the next Cycle.

- 3.3.4. At the end of every Contest Cycle, the registration lists for the next Cycle are created anew from the submitted applications.
    - 3.3.4.1. A Team that participated in one of the previous Cycles and intends to participate in the next Cycle should at the request of the Organizing Committee confirm its participation in the next Cycle within the framework of the previously submitted application (verification of the application) without completing a new application.
    - 3.3.4.2. Should there be a change of Participant forming the Team, the application should be submitted anew according to the procedure.
  - 3.3.5. If two or more Teams have the same names, the Teams that submitted their applications later in time should change their names upon request of the Organizing Committee.
  - 3.3.6. The application should contain the following information:
    - 3.3.6.1. Name of the Contest the application is submitted for;
    - 3.3.6.2. Team name;
    - 3.3.6.3. Name of the legal entity (if applicable) that the Participant represents, or the list of legal entities formed the association if the application is submitted on behalf of such an association;
    - 3.3.6.4. Brief description of the Team (no more than five sentences) with the available background and the main objectives of participation in the Contest;
    - 3.3.6.5. Contact information: location (if applicable), actual address, phone, website, email;
    - 3.3.6.6. Contact person to communicate with the Organizing Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Contact person): full name, contact phone, email.
  - 3.3.7. Legal entities and individuals may participate in composition of several Participants.
  - 3.3.8. A legal entity or individual is excluded from the Participant composition based on the application from this legal entity, individual or from the Contact person of the Participant.
  - 3.3.9. If the composition change is initiated by the Contact person within 10 days after the publication of the updated list of Participants on the Contest Website, the legal entity or individual excluded from this list may communicate with the Organizing Committee to refute this information.
  - 3.3.10. A legal entity or individual is included in the Participant composition based on the application from the Contact person.
  - 3.3.11. The Participant composition may not be changed later than 15 days before the start of the final stage of the current Cycle.
  - 3.3.12. The application form is provided in Appendix No. 1 to the Conditions.
- 3.4. Disqualification of the Participant and/or Team.
- 3.4.1. The Organizing Committee has the right to cancel an application, suspend a Team and/or Participant from the Contest if circumstances of unfair

behavior, forgery or violation of the provisions of the Conditions or Technical Guidelines are discovered.

3.4.2. Suspension from further participation in the Contest may be made, without limitation, in the following cases:

3.4.2.1. The submitted documents are not valid.

3.4.2.2. The submitted documents violate the laws of the Russian Federation.

3.4.2.3. The documentation requested from the Team was not provided after 2 (two) official requests sent to the Team with an interval of at least 3 (three) days.

3.4.2.4. The Team publically distributes information about the Contest, its Operator, Partners or other Participants that is not true, is offensive, discredits the above listed persons or the Contest, and violates public moral standards.

3.4.2.5. The Team representatives' actions were identified that had been aimed at committing forgery or attempts to gain access to closed data sets used to determine the fact of overcoming the Technological Barrier.

3.4.2.6. Team actions were identified that had been aimed at receiving, distributing, or using information about errors or technical features of the RVS, the Contest Website, the Technical Guidelines, the Procedural Rules, the Conditions and other Contest regulatory documents as well as the technologies of the Contest, that can be used to gain an unfair advantage for the Contest. This also refers to distortion of test results or decisions of the Jury, or access to information about the other Participants' Products, as well as the failure to report such information to the Organizing Committee, if it had become known to the Team.

3.5. Additional Terms for Participation.

3.5.1. At least 2 (two) times during each current Cycle, in which the Team participates, the Team should publish information on its participation in the Contest using any of its resources or the resources of its members or partners (social media, website, etc.).

3.5.2. By request of the Organizing Committee, the Team should provide comments and information on its participation in the Contest and competitive developments, including to mass media representatives. The Team has the right to independently determine the content of comments, including not provide to the mass media representatives information that may be classified as trade secrets or as confidential information.

## 4. Participants and Teams.

4.1. Russian and foreign legal entities and individuals are invited to participate in the Contest.

- 4.2. Associations (temporary multidisciplinary teams and consortia) formed from Russian and foreign individuals and legal entities are allowed to participate in the Contest.
- 4.3. The Participant forms a Team for its presentation at the Contest events.
  - 4.3.1. Each of the Teams should contain at least 2 (two) and no more than 10 (ten) members, including the Team Leader.
  - 4.3.2. The same individual cannot be a member of two or more Teams during one Cycle.
  - 4.3.3. The Team may include only citizens whose age falls under the concept of legal adulthood or equivalent to it through the procedure for emancipation of minors in accordance with the laws of the Russian Federation.
  - 4.3.4. A Team Leader is a member of the Team who administers the Team, represents its interests before the Organizing Committee, the Operator, the Jury and other organizations involved in organizing, holding and monitoring the Contest. The Team Leader also controls and is responsible for the proper behavior of all the Team members.
  - 4.3.5. The Team Leader status may be assigned to another member of the Team in the following cases:
    - 4.3.5.1. if the confirmation from the current Team leader is provided within the dates of the current Cycle.
    - 4.3.5.2. if the confirmation from all Team members is provided and the Organizing Committee cannot reach the current Team leader using the previously specified phone number and email within 3 (three) weeks from the date of the first request.
  - 4.3.6. The Participant is not allowed to use the Contest official name or its separate parts in the Team name.
  - 4.3.7. The Organizing Committee may assign to the Team an alphanumeric designation (identification number) at any stage of the Contest.
  - 4.3.8. The Participant shall use the identification number of the Team during the Contest as directed by the Organizing Committee.
  - 4.3.9. Interaction of the Team members and Participants outside the Contest events is not regulated and not limited by the Organizing Committee.
  - 4.3.10. The Team members' name list is fixed 15 days before the start of the final stage of the current Cycle.
  - 4.3.11. During the final stage, the Team Leader:
    - 4.3.11.1. May reduce the number of the Team members by removing them from the list.
    - 4.3.11.2. May not replace a team member in the Team members name list.
    - 4.3.11.3. May not increase the number of the Team members.
  - 4.3.12. The Team may change its composition during verification of the application for the next Cycle.
- 4.4. The Participant develops its Product at its own expense; the Operator does not cover the Participant's expenses for participation in the Contest.
- 4.5. By submitting an application and taking part in the Contest, the Participant thereby agrees with the terms of the Contest that are determined by the Conditions, the

Technical Guidelines and other documents on organizing and holding the Contest published on the Contest Website and undertakes to follow these documents.

- 4.6. Within the Contest framework, the Participant has the right to engage sponsors and partners to develop and create solutions.
- 4.7. Participation in the Contest is free for the Participants.

## 5. Participation Procedure.

### 5.1. Timeline and stages of the Contest.

- 5.1.1. The total timeframe of the Contest is from December 15, 2019 to December 30, 2022.
- 5.1.2. Each Contest Cycle consists of the following stages:
  - 5.1.2.1. Preliminary stage with a duration of no fewer than 3 months;
  - 5.1.2.2. Qualification stage with duration not less than 1 month;
  - 5.1.2.3. Final stage with duration not less than 2 weeks.
- 5.1.3. The Contest Cycles are held at least 1 time per year, starting from 2020. The dates of each Cycle and its stages are determined by the Operator no later than 1 month before the start of each cycle.
- 5.1.4. The Cycles are held until one or more Teams overcome the Technological Barrier during the Tests. After overcoming the Technological Barrier, the Contest is considered completed and the Tests are stopped.
- 5.1.5. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to change the timeline of the Cycles and stages within each of the Cycles by publishing the appropriate announcement on the Contest Website without changing the overall dates of the Contest.
- 5.1.6. The Participants are informed about the change of the timelines of the Cycles and stages no later than 1 (one) month before the start of the Cycle.
- 5.1.7. The Participants are informed of the setting and change of the dates of the Tests and on-site events no later than 1 (one) month before the start date of the corresponding event.

### 5.2. Preliminary stage

- 5.2.1. The purpose of the preliminary stage is to select the Teams and carry out a preliminary assessment of their potential to overcome the Technological Barrier.
- 5.2.2. The preliminary stage is held online.
- 5.2.3. After receipt of applications, the Organizing Committee checks the applications for compliance with formal requirements within 5 business days, including the following criteria:
  - 5.2.3.1. The information contained in the application is complete and correct.
  - 5.2.3.2. Presentation of information is clear.
- 5.2.4. Team members are assigned Participant status via email after verification of the application.
- 5.2.5. The list of Participants' Teams passed the preliminary stage is published on the Contest Website and updated using the Team status in relation to the current Contest Cycle.

- 5.2.6. The complete list of Teams passed the preliminary stage is published on the Contest Website no later than 5 (five) business days after the preliminary stage ends.
- 5.3. Qualification stage.
  - 5.3.1. The purpose of the qualification stage is to select the Teams for the final stage through a competition among Teams solving qualification tasks.
  - 5.3.2. The Teams that successfully passed the preliminary stage get access to the qualification stage.
  - 5.3.3. The qualification stage consists of:
    - 5.3.3.1. Confirmation of the Team participation;
    - 5.3.3.2. Receipt of the task by the Team;
    - 5.3.3.3. Processing the task by the Software Package developed by the Team;
    - 5.3.3.4. Uploading the solution of the qualification stage task for its assessment by the RVS (results verification system) and the Judging Panel.
    - 5.3.3.5. Approval of the results by the Organizing Committee.
  - 5.3.4. The qualification stage is held online.
  - 5.3.5. The task of the qualification tests: Products developed by the Teams should process a set of texts (essays) in accordance with the requirements specified in clause 3.1.4 of these Terms and Conditions.
  - 5.3.6. All Teams get access to the materials necessary for completing the qualification stage task simultaneously.
  - 5.3.7. The task solution is loaded to the RVS provided by the Operator as specified in the Technical Guidelines.
  - 5.3.8. The RVS operating algorithm is described in the Technical Guidelines and is available to be tested by the Teams.
  - 5.3.9. The Organizing Committee has the right to provide the Teams with the opportunity to test ways of loading their decisions to the RVS. The dates and times of testing are communicated to the Teams no later than 10 business days before its start.
  - 5.3.10. Determination of the qualification stage Winners.
    - 5.3.10.1. During the qualification tests, the Judging Panel checks the Teams' solutions. Then the Technical Commission verifies the test results, which are submitted to the Organizing Committee for approval.
    - 5.3.10.2. The Teams are considered to pass the qualification stage if the number of correctly recognized errors in their solutions exceeds the number of incorrectly recognized errors. Such Teams are invited to participate in the final stage.
    - 5.3.10.3. The Teams passed the qualification stage are required to confirm their participation in the final stage at the request of the Organizing Committee within two days.
    - 5.3.10.4. Disputable situations in scoring are interpreted in favor of the Participant.

5.3.10.5. The list of the Teams that successfully passed the qualification stage is published on the Contest Website within 5 business days after its approval by the Organizing Committee.

5.3.10.6. In the event that no Participant has successfully passed the qualification stage, the final stage is not held in this Cycle.

#### 5.4. Final stage.

5.4.1. The purpose of the final stage is to determine the Contest's winner and awardees.

5.4.2. The final stage may be held as on-site or online.

5.4.3. The Teams that successfully passed the qualification stage are invited to the final stage.

5.4.4. The qualification stage consists of:

5.4.4.1. Confirmation of Team participation;

5.4.4.2. Receipt of the task by the Team;

5.4.4.3. Processing the task by the Software Package developed by the Team;

5.4.4.4. Loading the solution of the final stage task for its assessment and correctness check by the RVS (results verification system) and the Judging Panel.

5.4.4.5. Check of the assessment results by the Technical Commission;

5.4.4.6. In the case of overcoming the Technological Barrier, approval of the results by the Jury.

5.4.5. The task of the final tests: Products developed by the Teams should process a set of texts (essays) in accordance with the requirements specified in clause 3.1.4 of these Terms and Conditions.

5.4.6. No later than 10 business days before the start of the final tests, the Participant is required to submit to the Organizing Committee supporting documentation, including:

5.4.6.1. Team's Letter of Responsibility;

5.4.6.2. Data processing agreement from each Team member.

5.4.7. At the request of the Organizing Committee, the Participant is required to transfer the original documents included in the supporting documentation in a mutually agreed way.

5.4.8. If the supporting documentation is provided later than the deadlines, the Organizing Committee has the right to prevent the Participant from taking part in the next stages of the current Cycle. But the Participant retains its right to participate in the next Cycle.

5.4.9. The supporting documentation package is submitted in the form of scanned copies of the signed documents by uploading to the appropriate section of the personal account on the Contest Website or by agreement with the Organizing Committee via email [AI@upgreat.one](mailto:AI@upgreat.one).

5.4.10. The Participant is fully responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in the supporting documentation.

5.4.11. The supporting documentation recognized as inconsistent with the formal requirements set by the Conditions, is rejected and the Organizing

Committee notifies the Participant about this fact. The Participant has the right to resubmit the supporting documentation within the time agreed upon with the Organizing Committee.

- 5.4.12. The information provided by the Participant should not violate the rights of third parties, including intellectual property rights and rights to protect reputation. If the Participant is required to use the results of intellectual activity and equivalent tools of individualization of legal entities, goods, works, services belonging to third parties, the Participant must have the appropriate rights as well as be independently responsible for violations of these intellectual rights during the Tests to copyright holders or other third parties.
- 5.4.13. The Organizing Committee has the right to provide the Teams with the opportunity to test ways of loading their decisions to the RVS. The dates and times of testing are determined by the Organizing Committee and communicated to Teams no later than 10 business days before its start in accordance with the Technical Guidelines.
- 5.4.14. Final test procedures:
  - 5.4.14.1. During the final tests, the results of the operation of the Software Packages developed by the Teams are checked for compliance with the requirements described in clause 3.1. of these Terms and Conditions.
  - 5.4.14.2. All the Teams get access simultaneously to the materials necessary to complete the final stage task.
  - 5.4.14.3. The task solution is loaded to the RVS provided by the Operator as specified in the Technical Guidelines.
  - 5.4.14.4. The RVS operating algorithm is described in the Technical Guidelines and is available to be tested by the Teams.
  - 5.4.14.5. The results of the Products' operation (essays with errors identified in them in the format described in the Technical Guidelines) are sent to the Judging Panel in anonymized form.
  - 5.4.14.6. The Judging Panel, in terms and in the manner set by the Technical Guidelines, collegially examines identified errors, verifies or rejects them, creates and approves a benchmark mistake markup for each essay.
  - 5.4.14.7. The benchmark mistake markup and the teachers' reference group solutions are loaded into the RVS.
  - 5.4.14.8. The Teams' solutions and the teachers' reference group solutions are compared with the benchmark mistake markup approved by the Judging Panel. The percentage of conformance with the benchmark mistake markup, including penalty and bonus points, is calculated according to the methodology described in the Technical Guidelines and is a metric showing the result of the Team and the reference group teachers with respect to the benchmark markup.

If the results of one or several Teams are no worse than the average result of the reference group teachers, the Technological Barrier is considered to be overcome.

## 6. Summation of the Contest.

### 6.1. Winner and Awardees.

- 6.1.1. Upon completion of the final tests, the Organizing Committee summarizes their results based on the RVS operation results, the Judging Panel protocols, and the Technical Commission protocol, then fixes the results shown by the Participants and, for every Participant, the fact that the Technological Barrier is overcome/not overcome.
- 6.1.2. The Team whose Product overcomes the Technological Barrier and shows the highest result among other Teams, becomes the Contest winner.
- 6.1.3. The Contest awardees are Participants, whose Products ensure overcoming the Technological Barrier and have demonstrated the second and third results after the winner.
- 6.1.4. If, according to the test results, the Judging Panel fixes overcoming the Technological Barrier, then the results of the final tests are sent to the Judging Panel for consideration.
- 6.1.5. In the case of overcoming the Technological Barrier and approving the results of the Contest by the Jury, the Contest Cycles following the current Cycle will not be held.
- 6.1.6. If no Team has overcome the Technological Barrier in the current Cycle, then the next Contest Cycle will be started within the established timeline.
- 6.1.7. If no Team has overcome the Technological Barrier in the last Cycle within the Contest timeline, the Technological Barrier is considered not to be overcome.

### 6.2. Protests.

- 6.2.1. In order to comply with the rights of Participants and common requirements when evaluating their Products as well as to resolve disputable issues, a Protest Commission is created that is headed by the chairman in accordance with the Regulation on the Protest Commission. The Regulation on the Protest Commission and its composition are approved by the Operator.
- 6.2.2. Based on the results of each Contest stage, the Participant has the right to submit a written protest on violation of the established Contest procedure and (or) disagreement with the results.
- 6.2.3. The protest is submitted in writing by the Team Leader no later than 24 hours after the publication of the results of the stage or Tests, which results are disputed by the protest.
- 6.2.4. The Protest Commission receives and considers the protests of the Participants, takes a final decision on the results of the protest consideration, and informs the Participant who submitted the protest about the decision. The Protest Commission decisions are made by a simple majority of votes. In case of equality of votes, the chairman of the Protest Commission has a casting vote.

- 6.2.5. The timeline to consider the Participant protest is 10 business days. If it needs more time for consideration the Organizing Committee, upon the Protest Commission's request, informs the Participant about an extension of the protest consideration deadline.
- 6.2.6. The Protest Commission decision is final and not subject to review.
- 6.2.7. The Protest Commission decision is documented by a protocol that is signed by all members of the commission considered the protest.
- 6.2.8. The Protest Commission decision documented by the protocol is brought to the notice of the Participant, and if necessary, is transferred to the Organizing Committee and the Jury for approval and making the necessary changes in the Jury protocols.

## 7. Prizes.

- 7.1. Prizes to the Winner and Awardees are paid only if they have overcome the Technological Barrier. Overcoming the Technological Barrier is confirmed by the solution of the Contest task during the final stage. This is fixed based on the Test results generated by the RVS, protocols of the Judging Panel and the Technical Commission. If no Participant overcomes the Technological Barrier, the prize is not paid to any Participant.
- 7.2. The prizes are paid to the Winner and Awardees based on the Jury protocol by the Project Support Fund of the NTI.
- 7.3. The prize paid at the expense of the federal budget may be paid only to tax residents of the Russian Federation. If the Winner or one of the Awardees is a foreign legal entity or individual that is not a tax resident of the Russian Federation, the prize at the expense of the federal budget is not paid to such Participant, and the right to receive the prize does not transferred to other Participants.
- 7.4. If the prize recipient is a group of legal entities or individuals, the money reward is divided between them in equal shares unless otherwise is specified by an agreement concluded between these persons or entities. If such an agreement exists, the Participant must notify the Organizing Committee about this within 3 business days after the Participant is determined as the Winner or Awardee and hand the agreement over the Organizing Committee by an agreed way.  
If the specified notification is absent as well as in the case of failure to provide the specified agreement, the Operator reserves the right to pay the prize to its recipients in equal shares. When dividing the prize fund between the legal entities and individuals, the foreign legal entities that are part of the Participant and individuals who are not tax residents of the Russian Federation are not taken into account.
- 7.5. If the prize is received by a number of legal entities or individuals and the money reward cannot be divided equally among them, and if the agreement concluded among them does not specify another procedure, then the result of dividing the prize by the total number of members of this group is rounded in the benefit of the individual or legal entity that was first in the list submitted in the application for the Contest. The results are rounded to units of Russian rubles.
- 7.6. If three or more Participants overcome the Technological Barrier, the Participant who has shown the best result in the final tests receives a prize of 70,000,000

(seventy million) rubles, and the Participants who have shown the second and third results receives prizes of 17,000,000 (seventeen million) rubles and 13,000,000 (thirteen million) rubles, respectively. The Participants that have shown a result below that of the third cannot claim a prize.

- 7.7. In case two Participants overcome the Technological Barrier, the Participant that has shown the best result in the final tests shall receive a prize of 80,000,000 (eighty million) rubles. The Participant that has shown the second result gets a prize of 20,000,000 (twenty million) rubles.
- 7.8. If only one Participant has been able to overcome the Technological Barrier then a prize of 100,000,000 (one hundred million) rubles is awarded to this Participant.
- 7.9. If no Participant has been able to overcome the Technological Barrier, the main prize of 100,000,000 (one hundred million) rubles is not awarded to any Participant.
- 7.10. The Operator, together with the Contest Partners (sponsors) may award other prizes not supposed by the Conditions.

## 8. Additional Conditions.

### 8.1. Safety and Environmental Requirements.

- 8.1.1. The Participants' activities during the course of the Contest should comply with the environmental standards in force in the Russian Federation and with the safety requirements.
- 8.1.2. Any acoustic, electromagnetic, laser, optical or other radiations shall comply with the rules applicable within the territory of the Russian Federation.
- 8.1.3. In case of on-site events, the Organizing Committee of the Contest provides the Participants with safety and environmental rules that all members of the Team shall be familiarized with, sign and follow.
- 8.1.4. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to disqualify any Participant in case of violation of the requirements set in this section.

### 8.2. Intellectual property.

- 8.2.1. The Participants keep all rights to their intellectual property and copyright objects associated with the Product, with the exception of open information related to the Product and submitted to the Organizing Committee.
- 8.2.2. No actions of the Organizing Committee and the Jury can be aimed at disclosing and distributing information about technologies that may be patented by the Participants in accordance with the current legislation, unless otherwise is agreed with the Participants.
- 8.2.3. Information about the Product, partners and sponsors of the Participant submitted by the Participant to the Operator as well as information received during examination of the Product can be distributed only in part regarding organization and safety measures of the Contest, or with the consent of the Participant. All persons having access to such information will sign a non-disclosure agreement with the Operator.

### 8.3. Changes of the conditions.

- 8.3.1. The Contest can be canceled or its terms can be changed if the following circumstances are revealed:

- 8.3.1.1. Fewer than two Participants' applications were selected for the Contest or, at any stage, fewer than two Participants remained;
- 8.3.1.2. The Technological Barrier defined by the Conditions has been overcome by a person or team not participating in the Contest, and their solution has been made public (publicly demonstrated) before the Contest summation;
- 8.3.1.3. It was determined during the course of the Contest that it is impossible to obtain a solution to the technological task or additional time is required to get such solution that significantly exceeds the Contest timeframe;
- 8.3.1.4. Force majeure circumstances prevent conducting of the Contest;
- 8.3.1.5. Any changes of the Conditions are published on the Contest Website.

## 9. Organizational and Financial Provision of the Contest.

- 9.1. The Contest is organized by the Operator at the expense of the Russian federal budget as well as own funds of the Operator and Partners (if any).
- 9.2. Operational budget is limited to 66 mil. rubles.
- 9.3. Prize fund is 100 mil. rubles

## 10. Events of the Contest.

- 10.1. During the course of the Contest, the Operator holds the following events in 2019:
  - 10.1.1. The official announcement of the Contest.
- 10.2. During the course of the Contest, the Operator holds the following events in 2020:
  - 10.2.1. The first Contest Cycle.
- 10.3. During the course of the Contest, the Operator holds the following events in 2021–2022:
  - 10.3.1. The second and the following Cycles of the Contest according to the schedule approved by the Operator.
- 10.4. In order to optimize spending the subsidy, the measures specified in clauses 10.1.–10.3. can be combined with the events of other technology contests organized by the Operator.

Appendix 1  
to the Terms and Conditions  
of the Technology Contest  
for the Purposes of the National Technology Initiative  
“Mutual Learning in Russian”

**Application Form to Participate in the Contest\***

Name of the Contest the application is submitted for	Mutual Learning in Russian/ READ//ABLE
Participant name	
Name of the organization presented by the Participant**	
List of individuals included in the Team (if the application is submitted from an association of individuals)	
Brief description of the Participant (no more than 5 sentences) with the available background and the main objectives of participation in the Contest	
Contact information: legal and/or actual address, phone, website, email of an official representative**	
Contact person to communicate with the Organizing Committee: full name, contact phone, email.	

\*The application is filled using the web form on the Contest Website, the format may differ from the one presented.

\*\* In case the application is submitted by a group of legal entities, information about all persons included in the association, should be provided.