

Olimpiada de Limba Engleză LICEU – Etapa locală

An școlar 2023-2024

Clasa a X-a, SECȚIUNEA B

SECTION A - USE OF ENGLISH

(40p)

I. Read the following text and do the tasks that follow. Write the answers on your answer sheet. (10p)

'Barbie' Review: Out of the Box and On the Road

She's in the driver's seat, headed for uncharted territory (flat feet!). But there are limits to how much dimension even Greta Gerwig can give this branded material. Can a doll with an **ingratiating** smile and impossible curves be a feminist icon? That's a question that swirls through Greta Gerwig's "Barbie," a live-action, you-go-girl fantasia about the world's most famous doll. For more than half a century, Barbie has been, by turns, celebrated as a **font** of girlhood pleasure and play, and **rebuked** as an instrument of toxic gender norms and consumerist ideals of femininity. If Barbie has been a culture-war hot spot for about as long as it's been on the shelves, it's because the doll perfectly encapsulates changing ideas about girls and women: our Barbies, ourselves.

A. Choose the right synonym.

(3x1p=3p)

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. ingratiating | a. lustrous | b. flattering | c. genuine | d. deterring |
| 2. font | a. style | b. climax | c. product | d. source |
| 3. rebuked | a. admonished | b. acclaimed | c. lionized | d. commended |

B. Rephrase the following sentences so as to preserve the meaning.

(3x1p=3p)

- Barbie has been both celebrated and rebuked as an instrument of toxic gender norms and consumerist ideals.
People _____ as an instrument of toxic gender norms and consumerist ideals. **BOTH**
- Can a doll with an ingratiating smile and impossible curves be a feminist icon? **FOR**
Is _____ a doll with an ingratiating smile and impossible curves to be a feminist icon?
- Barbie has stayed on the shelves for so long because the doll perfectly encapsulates changing ideas about girls.
Barbie _____, if the doll hadn't encapsulated perfectly changing ideas about girls. **HAVE**

C. Choose from the 8 words given below the 4 words that fit in the following summary of the text.

(4x1p=4p)

CONSUMERIST - RELATIONSHIP - CONSUMER - INVOLVEMENT - REGULATES - DUPLICATES - DELVES - MIRRORS

Greta Gerwig's "Barbie" _____ 1. into the question of whether a doll known for her smile and unrealistic body can become a symbol of feminism. Barbie has long been both praised and criticized for her impact on gender norms and _____ 2. notions of femininity. This cultural debate _____ 3. our evolving understanding of girls and women. However, the film's ability to transcend the limitations of branded material is limited, even with Gerwig's _____ 4.

II. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the gap. Write the answers on your answer sheet. (10x1p=10p)

- After a (1) _____ between two ships in the Atlantic, Alan COLLIDE
Connaught from Dundee ended up (2) _____ living on a desert EXPECT
island. 'I fell (3) _____ and no-one noticed. A few hours BOARD
later I found myself lying (4) _____ on a beach after EXHAUST
swimming for miles.
- It was (5) _____ too, not warm and sunny, like Crusoe's FREEZE
island. The only (6) _____ I could find was to dig a hole in SOLVE
the sand as a shelter.' After a/an (7) _____ in the weather, IMPROVE
Alan waited to be rescued. 'There was little food and no fresh
water. It was an (8) _____ life, and I felt ill most of the time. I HEALTH
suffered from (9) _____ too, but then I found a village on LONELY
the other side of the island!' he said. The people had moved there
after the (10) _____ of their homes by a volcano. DESTROY

III. Some of the lines in the text below are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. On your answer sheet write the number of the line and the extra-word, or a tick for each correct line.

(10x1p=10p)

When I was very young, I used to think golf was a boring game played by the middle-aged businessmen. When I saw golf being played on television I could not understand that why the spectators did not pay themselves to watch a more exciting game such as the football. My uncle was quite a good golfer and one day when my uncle asked me to caddy for him, which means to carry his golf clubs around the golf course. Although I was not keen I am agreed to do this for him, especially as he

0. ____v____
00. __the____
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

promised to pay me for doing with it. We set off at two o'clock	7 _____
and a few hours later my uncle and his friends were finished	8 _____
their round of golf. I had not enjoyed it and I told my uncle	9 _____
that it looked like easy. He gave me a golf club and a ball and asked	10 _____
me to try hitting it. Ever since that moment I have been in love with the game of golf.	

IV. Translate into English. Write the answers on your answer sheet.

(10p)

Cu o jumătate de ceas mai devreme, Francis Macomber fusese purtat în triumf de la marginea taberei și până la cortul său, pe brațele și pe umerii bucătarului, servitorilor, jupuiitorului și hamalilor. Purtătorii de puști nu luaseră parte la această demonstrație. Când servitorii indigeni îl lăsară la ușa cortului, Macomber dăduse mâna cu toți, primise felicitările lor, apoi intrase în cort și se așezase pe pat, și rămase acolo până veni nevastă-sa. Intrând în cort, femeia nu-i spuse nimic, și Macomber plecă imediat și se duse să se spele pe față și pe mâini la chiuveta de campanie instalată afară, și apoi se îndreptă spre cortul-sufragerie, unde se așeză într-un confortabil scaun de pânză, la umbră și în adierea vântului.

(Ernest Hemingway- Short Stories)

SECTION B – INTEGRATED SKILLS

(60p)

Read the following text and do the tasks:

I. You are going to read a newspaper article. Five sentences have been removed from the article. Choose the most suitable sentence from the list A-F on the right for each part (1-5) of the article. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Write your answers on your answer sheet.

(10 p)

Why I cycle in the city? I cycle because it is cheaper, quicker, more reliable, it is better for the environment and it is better for me; both mentally and physically. Public transport is so expensive and so unreliable these days I try to use it as little as possible. On the underground and trains there are always delays, planned and unplanned closures and you can wait half an hour for a bus to then sit in a traffic jam. _____ **1** Public transport can be so uncomfortable too; it gets so crowded in the rush hour with hundreds of people all crammed into a tiny space. This makes it a stressful and unpleasant beginning or end to everyone's day. No one looks at anyone else, even though you are only centimetres away from each other and all social graces go out the window. I much prefer to be on my bike. I know how long it will take me to get where I am going and I am outside in the fresh air. _____ **2** The one thing I used to like about travelling by train was reading the free paper or a good book but sometimes it is so busy you don't have enough space to do that. It is true that at less busy times of the day public transport isn't such a bad way to get around, except that at times of the day when fewer people want to use trains and buses there are, logically, fewer of them. In my experience an off-peak journey might be cheaper and pleasanter in the sense that you can sit down, read a book and generally not have your personal space invaded, but your journey will take longer as you'll have to wait longer for connections. The other alternative would be to travel by car but again there are all sorts of reasons why the bike is a hundred times better. _____ **3** Firstly, travelling by car is extremely expensive, something which in the future will only get worse as fuel prices continue to rise and parking restrictions increase. And while you don't have to deal with impatient and stressed passengers pushing you off trains or buses you have to suffer impatient and stressed drivers next to you and behind you in heavy traffic. _____ **4** If there are hold ups because of traffic problems or an accident, we cyclists can just keep on going while cars have to sit and wait; how often do you hear someone apologising for being late because they were 'stuck in traffic'? Often. A further disadvantage is the difficulty of parking; there is never a free parking space at the end of the day in the street so unless you want to drive around for hours looking for a space the only option is to have a garage; an additional cost. In the city centre the few public car parks which exist are unbelievably expensive. I can leave my bike more or less anywhere and don't have to pay a penny. _____ **5** Finally, and by no means the least important problem with travelling by car is that it is extremely harmful to the environment. If more people left their cars at home or carshared we could reduce our carbon emissions significantly. For me there is no contest, cycling is simply the best way to get around. Walking is the only other way I would contemplate getting around in the city, but of course that is really only possible for short distances.

A Cycling at quiet times of the day means you can get where you want to be in even less time.

B Even on a good day my journey by underground, train or bus would take me longer than cycling and my bike takes me all the way to where I want to go.

C Of course in a car you have your own space and don't have the same pressures as on public transport but there are other problems to deal with.

D When I get home, I can literally just pick it up and bring it inside with me.

E Also cyclists are, on the whole, nice to each other unlike fellow commuters on the train or bus.

F A journey by car to work in the morning can be a very exhausting experience.

II. Your English teacher has asked you to write a *report* on transport facilities in your area. In your report, you should describe the existing transport facilities, explain what's good and bad about them, suggest how they could be improved in the future. Write your report in 220 - 250 words.

(50p)