

## Olimpiada de Limba Engleză LICEU – Etapa locală

An școlar 2023-2024

Clasa a X-a, SECȚIUNEA A

## SECTION A - USE OF ENGLISH

(40p)

I. For each space, think of ONE word which best completes the sentence and write it on your answer sheet

(10 x 1p = 10p)

Ages, eras and wars will always be defined once they are over or at (1) \_\_\_\_\_ well after they have started. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the year 1914, for example, no one said: 'Tomorrow I'm going (3) \_\_\_\_\_ go and fight in the First World War.' Why not? Because it wasn't generally called the First World War until the Second World War had started. Similarly, no one ever said: 'Next year will be the start of the Industrial Revolution.' The era known as the Industrial Revolution only started being called that once it was well under way.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_ the time we are old, we will all (5) \_\_\_\_\_ experienced enormous technological advances. We might even (6) \_\_\_\_\_ walking round with computer chips implanted in our bodies, or perhaps computer chip technology will have (7) \_\_\_\_\_ replaced by even more advanced technology. There's talk (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the moment that human skin itself might make an excellent electronic circuit board. We can all make predictions, but nobody knows for sure. And nobody knows what the era we will live in the near future will be called by future historians. If we already live in the Computer Age or the Information Age as some people suggest, the present-day era (9) \_\_\_\_\_ be referred to by future historians, then who knows (10) \_\_\_\_\_ era we're just at the beginning of right now?

II. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. You must use between two and five words. Write the answers on your answer sheet.

(5x2p = 10p)

1. I promised my mum that I would work harder this year. **MADE**

I \_\_\_\_\_ that I would work hard this year.

2. Margaret and I have had an argument, so we're not talking to each other. **OUT**

Margaret and I \_\_\_\_\_, so we're not talking to each other.

3. Everybody approved of the new law when it was introduced. **APPROVAL**

The new law \_\_\_\_\_ when it was introduced.

4. As soon as we got on the plane, the pilot told us to get off again. **JUST**

We \_\_\_\_\_ the plane when the pilot told us to get off again.

5. I find it hard to go at the same speed as my husband on walking holidays. **UP**

I find it hard to \_\_\_\_\_ my husband on walking holidays.

III. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the gap. Write the answers on your answer sheet.

(10x1p=10p)

There is still no adequate (1) \_\_\_\_\_ why, several thousand years ago, cultures in both Egypt and South America saw the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of pyramids. Was it coincidence? Many (3) \_\_\_\_\_ believe that it was, and state that there is no (4) \_\_\_\_\_ at all that people from two distant continents traded information on (5) \_\_\_\_\_ techniques. However, some (6) \_\_\_\_\_ theories in recent years, based on the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ that the two cultures also share key myths, legends and beliefs, suggest that the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of pyramids on opposite sides of the world was no coincidence at all. One (9) \_\_\_\_\_ working on this, Crystal Davis, said: 'The (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of finding out the truth here cannot be exaggerated.'

EXPLAIN  
INTRODUCE  
SCIENCE  
POSSIBLE  
BUILD  
REVOLUTION  
DISCOVER  
APPEAR  
RESEARCH  
IMPORTANT

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

(10p)

În clipa aceea a început să plouă cu găleata. Toți părinții și mamele, toată lumea s-a adăpostit sub acoperișul caruselului, ca să nu-i ude până la piele, dar eu am rămas pe bancă o vreme. M-a udat destul de bine, mai ales pe ceafă și pe pantaloni. Șapca de vânătoare m-a ferit destul de bine, de fapt, dar tot m-am murat. Numai că nu-mi păsa. Mă simțeam deodată atât de fericit, uitându-mă la Phoebe cum se tot învârte. Eram atât de fericit, dacă vreți să știți. Nu știu de ce. Pur și simplu pentru că era grozav de drăguță cum se tot învârtea, îmbrăcată în paltonașul ei albastru. Doamne, aș vrea să o fi văzut și voi! (J. D. Salinger – *De veghe în lanul de secară*)

**SECTION B INTEGRATED SKILLS****(60p)**

**I. Read the text below. Five sentences have been removed from the text. Complete the gaps (1-5) in the text with the sentences (A-E). Write the answers on your answer sheet. (5x2p=10p)**

***All This Jazz***

I'm sitting backstage with Marjorie Anderson in a small theatre in the French town of Villeneuve. In a few minutes she will walk on stage with the jazz band she plays with, Les Jazzistes. They have been together for two years now, slowly but steadily building up a loyal following, and there is little doubt that tonight's gig will be a success. It is an enviable position to be in, especially for someone who, like Marjorie, has managed to make a living in a notoriously precarious profession. What is more, she has done it in a country a long way from her place of origin. Yet she is clutching her saxophone like a petrified child. 'I'm scared of the audience,' she says. 'You've got to be kidding', I tell her. 'No,' she says with a snort. 'I freeze up when I look at them.'

**1)** \_\_\_\_\_

Marjorie lives in France and plays the sax professionally. She has a distinctive technique, honed to perfection by hours of practice and, some would claim, plays with added passion by virtue of the fact that she has made huge sacrifices in order to devote herself to jazz. In addition to being a fine musician, she's a vet by training: two careers not normally associated with each other. **2)** \_\_\_\_\_

It was probably something in her childhood. She grew up in Sidney, Australia, and was something of a child prodigy – as a flautist. She played with a youth orchestra, but then abruptly decided that music was not for her. 'I auditioned for a prestigious orchestra, but nothing came of it.' Her sense of rejection at the time was overwhelming. 'I was very thin-skinned in those days,' Marjorie admits. 'I felt threatened every time someone commented on my playing or my technique.' **3)** \_\_\_\_\_

However, it emerged a decade later that contentment of this sort was not what Marjorie really yearned for. Her brother treated her to a week in Paris for her 35<sup>th</sup> birthday, and they went to a club whose lively jazz scene has been attracting a demanding clientele for over 700 years. The effect on Marjorie was immediate: it was as if she was hearing music for the first time. **4)** \_\_\_\_\_

'I moved here because it hit me that for 35 years, I'd never been in touch with my inner self, with my needs and desires,' she told me. 'Oddly enough, I didn't consider taking up the flute again. It was the saxophone that grabbed my attention. It was so much more expressive in terms of my own essential being.'

**5)** \_\_\_\_\_

I ask her if she has any regrets about dropping out to follow her dreams. She says no, but that she feels a bit guilty. 'I realise playing the sax in a band isn't saving the world. Sometimes I feel I ought to be doing something more useful.' Being a musician leaves Marjorie little time for much else. Nevertheless, she has decided to reinvent herself yet again – as a writer this time. In fact, she has just finished the autobiography, entitled *Why Not Try It?* It's a question many readers, envious of her courage, will find uncomfortable.

**A.** To help her with this, she reaches for her sunglasses. Wearing them throughout her appearance in front of this small crowd – maybe 250 people – is one of the methods she uses to control her nerves.

**B.** 'I thought I'd gone to heaven,' she says. 'It was a turning point. The experience told me I had to hear and play more music, and really live before it was too late.' This was the moment when she decided to make a radical change in her life.

**C.** AS it this combination wasn't unusual enough, five years ago, she suddenly decided to sell her thriving vet practice in Australia and moved to France – without knowing a word of French. What would make someone abandon her entire life and take up plying music at the age of 35?

**D.** Her new-found stage fright was the other curious factor about this return to public performance. Marjorie believed her terror is related to the sense that she is baring her soul when she performs. 'The other thing I do to make myself less scared is stand completely still on stage,' she explains.

**E.** So she went to college instead, and trained as a vet. She threw herself into her profession, channelling her energy into building up a practice. 'I became stronger psychologically because I was successful in my career,' she says. 'I see it as a positive thing. I was satisfied with my life.'

**II.** Have you been to a concert recently? Write a review to tell the others why you chose to go to that concert in particular. You should include information about:

- the time and place of the performance;
- the band and type of music;
- the response of the public.

Write your **review**. (200-220 words)

**(50p)**