

Olimpiada de Limba Engleză LICEU – Etapa locală

An școlar 2023-2024

Clasa a IX-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)

The power of the wind has been used for centuries to directly drive various machines to perform such tasks as grinding wheat or pumping water. Recently, however, the wind has joined other natural forces such as water and steam as a **viable** method of generating electricity. Conventional means of electricity generation using coal or oil-fuelled plants have two major **drawbacks**: they pollute the environment and the fuels they use are inefficient and non-renewable. In response to growing environmental **awareness** there have been calls for a greener alternative. Nuclear power, while more efficient and less polluting, is seen by many people as unacceptable, because of the danger of accidents such as those that happened at Chernobyl or Three Mile Island. Wind power, however, is clean, renewable and, with modern advances, surprisingly efficient.

A. Choose the right synonym.

(3x1p=3p)

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. viable | a. feasible | b. sensible | c. retainable | d. cogent |
| 2. drawbacks | a. aids | b. snags | c. boons | d. blunders |
| 3. awareness | a. erudition | b. ignorance | c. daftness | d. mindfulness |

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

(3x1p=3p)

- If I were you, I would not use nuclear power. **WORTH**
In my opinion, _____ nuclear power.
- I had not expected to find learning about the environment so interesting. **IN**
I am more _____ I had expected.
- If we don't look after our planet, everything could end in a catastrophe. **OF**
If we don't _____ our planet, everything could end in a catastrophe.

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

(4x1p=4p)

DESIGN - HARNESSSED – TRADITIONAL – METHOD- DURABLE - TAMED - PREVALENT- RENEWABLE

Wind power, _____ (1) for centuries to grind wheat and pump water, has evolved into a feasible electricity generation _____ (2), joining forces like water and steam. _____ (3) methods using coal or oil are polluting and inefficient. Nuclear power, while efficient, raises safety concerns. Wind power emerges as a clean, _____ (4), and efficient alternative, addressing environmental awareness.

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)

Every weekend in Britain thousands of hikers head off into the countryside with the necessary (1) _____ to enjoy their hill-walking. One thing they will not leave behind because it is considered an absolute (2) _____ is their Ordnance Survey Map. These maps are (3) _____ to the hiker as they are very (4) _____, with up-to-date details about every part of the country. The Ordnance Survey (5) _____ in the eighteenth century and was (6) _____ intended to provide the army of the time with maps. Before this, most maps were inaccurate and (7) _____. Better maps were thought to be important because the country felt (8) _____ by invasion from abroad or (9) _____ at home. The organization is still wholly owned by the Government, but it was recently (10) _____ trading fund status.

EQUIP
NECESSARY
VALUE
INFORM
BEGIN
ORIGIN
RELY
THREAT
REBEL
GIVE

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 young, I had argued with my brothers and sisters all the time. I used to share with most of my toys with my brother, but he specialized in to keeping them for himself. When I asked about him for anything he simply used to refuse to give it to me, and then I became and very angry with him. Our sisters blamed for everything on us when our parents accused us of quarrelling all the time. My brother and I got up annoyed about this,

_____ had _____
_____ ✓ _____
1 _____
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____
6 _____
7 _____
8 _____

but only succeeded them in making matters worse. Our parents didn't approve of our quarrelling so much.

9 _____
10 _____

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

(10p)

După trei luni în care trăisem pe unde apucasem, alături de străini sau de rude, eram în sfârșit în drum spre casă. De îndată ce-am trecut de trecătoarea din munți și am văzut râul Swat, tata a început să plângă. Și când am văzut cum arăta biata Mingora, eram toți în lacrimi. Oriunde întorceam capul, vedeam clădiri în ruină, grămezi de vehicule distruse, mașini arse, geamuri sparte. Obloanele de metal ale magazinelor fuseseră deschise cu forța, ferestrele sparte, iar rafturile lor golite. Fiecare clădire părea ciuruită de gloanțe. Deși guvernul declarase că oamenii se pot întoarce în siguranță, multora le era încă frică să revină. Stația de autobuz, de obicei plină cu mașini colorate și sute de călători, era acum părăsită și printre pietrele din pavaj creștea vegetația.

(I am Malala – Malala Youaafzai)

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)

Good preparation leads to success in ballet dancing. A former classical ballet dancer explains what ballet training involves

What we ballet dancers do is instinctive, but instinct learnt through a decade of training. A dancer's life is hard to understand, and easy to misinterpret. Many a poet and novelist has tried to do so, but even they have chosen to interpret all the hard work and physical discipline as obsessive. And so, the idea persists that dancers spend every waking hour in pain, bodies at breaking point, their smiles a pretence. As a former dancer in the Royal Ballet Company here in Britain, I would beg to question this.

1) _____ With expert teaching and daily practice, its various demands are easily within the capacity of the healthy human body. Contrary to popular belief, there is no need to break bones or tear muscles to achieve ballet positions. It is simply a question of sufficient conditioning of the muscular system. Over the course of my dancing life, I worked my way through at least 10,000 ballet classes. I took my first at a school of dance at the age of seven and my last 36 years later at the Royal Opera House in London. In the years between, ballet class was the first thing I did every day. It starts at an early age, this daily ritual, because it has to.

2) _____ But for a ballet dancer in particular, this lengthy period has to come before the effects of adolescence set in, while maximum flexibility can still be achieved. Those first classes I took were remarkably similar to the last. In fact, taking into account the occasional new idea, ballet classes have changed little since 1820, when the details of ballet technique were first written down, and are easily recognised in any country. Starting with the left hand on the barre, the routine unrolls over some 75 minutes.

3) _____ Even the leading dancers have to do it. These classes serve two distinct purposes: they are the way we warm our bodies and the mechanism by which we improve basic technique. In class after class, we prove the old saying that 'practice makes perfect'.

4) _____ And it is also this daily repetition which enables us to strengthen the muscles required in jumping, spinning or lifting our legs to angles impossible to the average person. The human body is designed to adapt to the demands we make of it, provided we make them carefully and over time.

5) _____ In the same way, all those years of classes add up to a fit-for-purpose dancing machine. This level of physical fluency doesn't hurt; it feels good. As technology takes away activity from the lives of many, perhaps the ballet dancer's physicality is ever more difficult for most people to imagine. But they should not be misled: there is a difference between hard work and hardship. Dancers have an everyday familiarity with the first. Hardship it isn't.

A. Through endless tries at the usual exercises and frequent failures, ballet dancers develop the natural pathways in the brain necessary to control accurate, fast and smooth movement.

B. The ballet shoe offers some support, but the real strength is in the muscles, built up through training.

C. It takes at least a decade of high-quality, regular practice to become an expert in any physical discipline

D. Ballet technique is certainly extreme but it is not, in itself, dangerous.

E. The principle is identical in the gym - pushing yourself to the limit, but not beyond, will eventually bring the desired result.

F. No one avoids this: it is ballet's great democratiser, the well-established members of the company working alongside the newest recruits.

II. Your English teacher asked you to write a **review** about an extracurricular coursebook you have read recently. It could be any type of coursebook (arts, photography, chess, language, etc.). In your review you should: give details about the coursebook; write about the most interesting things you learned; recommend the coursebook to other people. Write between **200-220** words.

(50p)