

## OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ - ETAPA LOCALĂ

8 februarie – 2025

CLASA a IX-a - SECȚIUNEA B

Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu. Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 3 ore.

## SUBIECTUL A – USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

## I. Read the text below and do the tasks that follow:

As the plane came circling over London in the late afternoon sunshine, the Japanese and Korean tourists peered out of the windows for their first view through the London clouds of the suburbs round Heathrow Airport with the same enthusiasm I'd had for my first view of Kyoto or Ulan Bator. After such a long time away, even I found the **regimented** streets a strange sight. By the time I'd collected my luggage from the carousel, I was beginning to realise I was home. I was no longer some strange exotic creature attracting the stares and attention of the local people and I realised I resented this. At least with my long hair and **shaggy** beard it was a certainty that I would be stopped at customs. 'What is the purpose of your visit?' I was asked. I was really beginning to enjoy the reaction to my answers, but the customs officer had already had enough of me and let me go. The doors to the arrivals hall sprung open and I was greeted by a sea of smiling, welcoming faces which quickly turned blank again when they realised I wasn't their relative.

Later on that day, it was with a sense of sadness that I unpacked my dirty clothes and put my trusty rucksack in the cupboard. Somehow it just didn't seem right to see a piece of luggage that had spent its whole life travelling through the wilds of the Arctic, Europe and the wide open spaces of Asia, now folded up and **confined** to a shelf above the towels and bed linen until I set off again.

I loved every minute of the trip especially seeing the northern lights in Abisko, the Trans-Siberian Railway, camping in Mongolia and feasting New Year in China.

## A. Choose the right synonym for the words given below, according to their meaning in the text. (3 X 1p = 3 points)

- |                      |                |              |            |             |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------|------------|-------------|
| 1. <b>regimented</b> | a) manipulated | b) organised | c) precise | d) military |
| 2. <b>shaggy</b>     | a) unkempt     | b) neat      | c) short   | d) clean    |
| 3. <b>confined</b>   | a) devoted     | b) directed  | c) minimal | d) limited  |

## B. Rephrase the following sentences using the word given so as to preserve the meaning of the initial sentence. DO NOT CHANGE the form of the word given. (3X1p = 3 points)

1. 'What is the purpose of your visit?' I was asked.
- EXPLAIN**

I had to \_\_\_\_\_ visit.

2. It's impossible to completely lose touch with home.
- COMPLETE**

You \_\_\_\_\_ with home.

3. The welcoming faces quickly turned blank again when they realised I wasn't their relative.
- AS**

The welcoming faces quickly turned blank again \_\_\_\_\_ realised I wasn't their relative.

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

EXCITEMENT, FRIENDLY, INDIFFERENT, NAVIGATES, RESENTMENT, SADNESS, STIR, SURFS (4x1p=4p)

The narrator describes his return to London, comparing the excitement of Japanese and Korean tourists seeing the city for the first time to his own experiences in places like Kyoto and Ulan Bator. As he collects his luggage and (1) \_\_\_\_\_ customs, he feels a mix of familiarity and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ at no longer being viewed as an exotic visitor. Upon arrival in the arrivals hall, he is greeted by initially welcoming faces that soon turn (3) \_\_\_\_\_ when they realize the narrator is not their relative. Later, the narrator feels (4) \_\_\_\_\_ while unpacking and storing his well-travelled rucksack, reminiscing about the adventures he had, including seeing the northern lights, travelling on the Trans-Siberian Railway, camping in Mongolia, and celebrating New Year in China.

## II. For questions 1-10, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the gap: (10x1p=10p)

Life exists in the most surprising places. From freezing mountain tops to deserts where it (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (**HARD**) ever rains, living creatures have made their homes. Perhaps the most (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (**LIKE**) place on Earth to find life is at the bottom of the ocean. Most (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (**BIOLOGY**) used to believe the lack of light and the extremely high water (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (**PRESS**) made life impossible down there. However, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (**DISCOVER**) have recently been made of plants and fish near hot water springs at a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (**DEEP**) of over 2,500 metres. Minerals from the springs (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (**ABLE**) tiny life forms to exist there, and these provide food for larger creatures such as crabs and shrimps, as well as for giant worms that grow to over a metre in (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (**LONG**). Other ocean-floor creatures with a different (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (**APPEAR**) include fish which have no eyes – for the simple reason that in total (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (**DARK**) they don't need them.

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)

0	<u>✓</u>	My best friend Jenny appeared on a television quiz show a few
00	<u>of</u>	of nights ago. It was very exciting. We all knew that she would be
1		on, so all our friends met at her parents' house so to watch it.
2		Her parents videoed it too, of course. The programme was
3		started at half past seven. We screamed and clapped when
4		we saw Jenny. She looked great. She had had her hair has
5		done, and was wearing the new top she had bought the day
6		before. She sat in the chair in the middle of the studio while the
7		presenter asked of her some questions. The questions got
8		harder and harder as they had increased in value. If she didn't
9		make any mistake and got up the most difficult question right,
10		she would win a million pounds. In the end she won a thousand
		pounds.

IV. Translate the following text into English: (10p)

Iti place să faci cumpărături, dar nu găsești niciodată haine care să ți se potrivească sau care să arate bine? Sau poate urăști cumpărăturile și vrei doar să termini rapid? Ei bine, de ce să nu vii la Magazinul Adlers și să încerci unul dintre cumpărătorii noștri personali? Toți cumpărătorii noștri personali sunt instruiți în magazinele noastre de către personal experimentat pentru a ști ce stiluri și culori ți se vor potrivi cel mai bine. De asemenea, dacă stabilești o limită a sumei pe care vrei să o cheltui, cumpărătorul personal poate găsi haine în intervalul de prețuri pentru limita ta. Pentru a te asigura că cumpărătorul personal este disponibil pentru tine, cel mai bine este să rezervi în avans.

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS – 60 points

I. Five sentences have been removed from the following interview. Choose from the sentences A-F the one which fits each gap 1-5. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

**'I often spend the day shopping'**

*Rachel Fanconi is a fashion stylist who has worked with many stars. She was interviewed by Alex McRae.*

Fashion styling is basically about making people look nice. I work on editorial photo shoots, styling models for fashion spreads in magazines and newspapers, and I also style celebrities for big awards ceremonies. 1) \_\_\_\_\_ There's actually a strong commercial element to styling.

A typical day usually starts with me packing up and returning clothes worn at an awards ceremony the night before, then heading out to find new things for my next assignment. Some stylists go through public relations agencies to find clothes. 2) \_\_\_\_\_

As a stylist, your contacts are extremely important, so I'm very protective of mine. If I'm finding clothes for someone new, I'll call the person first to discuss their likes and dislikes, which helps me to put together a profile. Then I'll spend the day shopping and bring back lots of different outfits for them to choose from.

The best thing about my job is shopping. I hope that doesn't sound too shallow. Apart from that, it's the social aspect of the job which is important to me. I work with a big list of people – models, make-up artists, photographers – on various assignments, and it's lovely checking in with them if I haven't seen them for a few months. You're collaborating to make something look gorgeous, and when things come together, it's hugely satisfying. It's easy, however, to get caught up in the glamour of the job. I feel that with any demanding career, it's important to have a balance. 3) \_\_\_\_\_ My husband and I are both stylists and we try to avoid this. We're great football fans – we go to lots of games and try to keep one part of our lives separate from our jobs.

There are a range of skills you need to be a top fashion stylist. It's not enough to have an artistic eye. 4) \_\_\_\_\_ For example, if you go to gigs, exhibitions and plays, it will inform your work. During a fashion shoot, you have to be hawk-eyed, ready to swoop on any uneven hemlines. It is important to be really thorough and careful. I take digital photos and print out suggestions of shoe, bag and outfit combinations, to make sure everything goes together.

So the reality is that it's a lot of hard work. If you want to be a fashion stylist, get a qualification under your belt – not necessarily a degree in fashion styling, but maybe in design. 5) \_\_\_\_\_ Then do work experience with a stylist in the most stressful environment possible – probably fashion shoots for a newspaper – so you learn to work under pressure to a deadline. Try to learn your craft from a stylist you admire, be as professional as you can, and be prepared to do a lot of work for free.

**A** Otherwise, you could let styling take over your life and become a caricature 'fashion' person, in a bubble.

**B** You should try to find inspiration in unexpected places.

**C** I work differently in that I prefer to deal with people directly, and I try to support London designers.

**D** More important is planning and organisation.

**E** Their clothes are usually loaned, because when an outfit appears in a magazine or on a celebrity, it's advertising.

**F** That will give you a useful range of skills.

II. Your English teacher has asked you to write a **REVIEW** about a bookshop you are familiar with and which you have recently visited. Include information on the variety of products it sells, special offers and events organised there, what is special about this place, etc and recommend it to your friends. Write your review in about 200-220 words. (50 points)