

Etapa județeană/sectoarelor municipiului București a olimpiadelor naționale școlare –2024
Probă scrisă
Limba engleză
CLASA a XI-a - SECȚIUNEA A

- 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 following text and fill in the blanks with ONE word only.

10 points

Think teenagers, think couch potatoes eating pizzas (1)___of the box or munching 99p burgers? Think again because there is a new teenager in town and he is (2) ___ a chocolate-coated mission! Louis Barnett runs a rapidly-growing chocolate empire which counts (3)___ its customers the British supermarket chains Waitrose and Sainsbury's, as well as upmarket department stores in London, New York and as (4)___ away as Moscow. All (5)___ and Louis is still only eighteen. But things weren't always that easy. (6) ___ an IQ of 132, Louis dropped out of school when he was only eleven, frustrated and disheartened. 'It was terribly difficult for him,' his mother Mary explains. His handwriting was really bad and he struggled (7) ___ spelling.' The problem was that Louis was, in his own words, 'dyslexic, dyspraxic and dyscalculic'. Nothing the school system had to offer (8) ___ any sense to him. So, with the help of his parents and a specialized tutor, Louis (9) ___ about a vocational-based, home-study programme concentrating on the thing he loved (10) ___: chocolate.

II. Choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

10 points

1. She came....already dressed....dinner and....a little red spot in....cheek.

- back/at/with/each
- in/for/of/either
- in/for/with/each
- in/at/with/either

2. N-ar fi mai bine să faci ceva decât să trândăvești în pat?

- Shouldn't it be better to do something instead of lying in bed?
- Wouldn't it be better to do something instead of laying in bed?
- Wouldn't there be better to do something instead of lying in bed?
- Would it be better to do something instead of lying in bed?

3. She rejoiced.....she.....beautiful.

- having been told/was
- to have been told/was
- to be told/is
- being told/is

4. They are known....for more than half an hour and....yet.

- to be quarrelling/not to make up
- to have been quarrelling/not to have made up
- to have quarrelled/ to not making up
- to be quarrelling/to not have made up

5. So heavy....that no porter could carry....

- a. were the luggage/them
- b. was the luggage /it
- c. the luggage was/it
- d. the luggages were/ them

6. Why....me that the meeting....? Ito the office.

- a. didn't you tell/was postponed/didn't need to go
- b. hadn't you told/was postponed/shouldn't have gone
- c. didn't you tell/was postponed/needn't have gone
- d. didn't you tell/will be postponed/ didn't need to go

7. She is happy now because she won her new car. If she....her new car she.... happy now.

- a. didn't win/wouldn't be
- b. hadn't won/wouldn't be
- c. hadn't won/wouldn't have been
- d. wouldn't have won/ wouldn't be

8.the clothes off the line before it....to rain.

- a. You'd better take/start
- b. I'd rather you take/starts
- c. I prefer you to take/ will start
- d. I'd rather you took/ starts

9. Although Jack was...and....of the two boys, he was clearly...than his.... brother.

- a. the youngest/more good-looking/more mature/older
- b. the younger/most good-looking/the most mature/elder
- c. the younger/the better-looking/more mature/elder
- d. the younger/the best-looking/the most mature/older

10. Ea ar fi dorit să știe ce a mai făcut el, unde este și cum își petrece zilele.

- a. She wishes she knew what he has been doing, where he is and how he spends his days.
- b. She wished she knew what he had been doing, where he is and how he spent his days.
- c. She wished she knew what he had been doing, where he was and how he spent his days.
- d. She wished she knew what he was doing, where he was and how he has spent his days.

III. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given. 10 points

- 1. Bob is in danger of getting sacked since his bad behaviour continued all last week. **RISK**
But for Bob's bad behaviour which continued all last week, _____ sacked.
- 2. I'm sure Ben wasn't pleased when Myra arrived, because he's never liked her. **HAVE**
Ben has never liked Myra, so he _____ to see her arrive.
- 3. When people treated Jane like a child, she didn't like it. **RESENTED**
Jane _____ she was a child.
- 4. They' d hired someone to redecorate their garden a short time before I visited them. **DONE**
They had just _____ when I visited them.
- 5. George and Mary have refused to talk to each other since the argument. **TERMS**
George and Mary haven't _____ since the argument.

IV. Translate the following text into English.

10 points

Veneam în ziua aceea cu brațul plin de flori...Nu mă așteptase...Nu dorisem decât să re trăiesc o clipă...ceva din trecut și mă supuneam acestui demers cum primești un singur pahar de vin, știind că mai mult nu ai putea suporta...dar servitorul mi-a dat un bilet când am sunat. Un plic odios, de un albastru pal, aproape alb. Parcă un gând otrăvit mi s-a împrăștiat în sânge și mi s-a uscat pielea.

Nu știam ce să răspund, nici n-am citit biletul, pentru că acum conținutul lui mi-era indiferent. Mi-era acum doar o imensă milă de bucuria mea și de florile pe care le aveam în brațe. Am regretat pe urmă brusc că am dat drumul trăsorii, din superstiție, căci eram atât de obosită că nu puteam merge pe jos. Nu știu de ce mi-era rușine să mă vadă servitoarea că aduc flori neprimite acasă și asta fără temei pentru că de obicei cumpăr singură flori pe care le aduc și le risipesc în vase.

(Camil Petrescu - *Patul lui Procust*)

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)

I. Five paragraphs have been removed from the following newspaper article. Choose from the paragraphs A-F the one which fits each gap 1-5. There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.
(5x2=10 points)

No Longer Blowing in The Wind

Plastic bags disfigured South Africa's landscape until a small town decided to act.

They have been called the national flower of South Africa. Outside every city, town and village, hundreds of them flutter and rustle in the thorn bushes with the evening breeze. They come in red, green, blue and black, and even in multi-coloured stripes. Plastic bags. Lots of them. For South Africa consumes eight billion per year, or nearly two hundred for every man, woman and child in the country. But the country is not uniquely cursed. From the deserts of Yemen to the mangrove swamps of Thailand, the discarded plastic supermarket bag disfigures the landscape of much of the developing world.

1. [.....]

'Our town was filthy', says Sheila Joseph whose family has run the local general store for ninety years. 'Our park looked as though there had been a snowstorm every weekend. It was littered with plastic bags and rubbish. We had lots of clean-up campaigns, but they didn't work. After two or three weeks, the town was filthy again'.

2. [.....]

There are so many plastic bags blowing around the Northern Cape that a job-creation project in the provincial capital employs 38 peoples to wash discarded bags, cut them into strips and knit them together into brightly-coloured hats, carpets, doormats, bags and even picture frames for sale.

3. [.....]

'The biggest businesses have been with us from the start, and haven't given a plastic bag out since', says the polite but steely Joseph, whose advice is now eagerly sought by other litter-strewn towns across South Africa. 'Within two weeks, our park was clean. It's definitely brought the community of Douglas together'.

4. [.....]

As a representative explained: 'We all want Douglas clean, but I will give a plastic bag instead of talking about it for ten minutes if a customer moans'. But if the government has its way, the store and others like it across the country may soon be banned from handing out the bags.

5. [.....]

Plastic manufacturers and retailers have reacted to the plans with predictable outrage. They warn that thousands of people would lose their jobs and that the new rules are likely to be unenforceable as importers would almost certainly ignore them. They pointed out that old-fashioned heavy-duty bags use more plastic, not less. Consumers, they insisted, would be greatly inconvenienced. "It won't work", said a spokesperson. "The problem is not the plastic bags, the problem is litter, it's a question of attitude!"

- A. She blamed the mess on the thin bags handed out free to shoppers. Douglas's 15,000 residents did not like the litter. Nor did the tourists who came to see the confluence of the Vaal and Orange, two of southern Africa's greatest rivers. Farmers were unhappy too, Livestock sometimes ate the bags and died.
- B. Someone, of course, had to spoil the party. At the small Orange Vall store down the road from Joseph's, they're still giving out free plastic bags to customers who want them, although demand has halved since the campaign began.
- C. First inspired by the people of Douglas, they are equally passionate in their hatred of the bags. They nonetheless remain somewhat skeptical about the practicalities of such a solution.
- D. South Africans, however, have decided to do something. And it was the hitherto unremarkable town of Douglas in the arid Northern Cape region that took the lead.
- E. The argument put forward by the authorities is that thicker bags would not only be used again and again, but would also be easier to collect and recycle. Supply of bags with a thickness of less than 80 microns (a micron is a millionth of a meter) is therefore likely to be outlawed.
- F. So it was that the people of Douglas, rejoicing in the slogan 'Fantastic-no plastic' came to ceremonially execute an effigy made up from old plastic bags by the project staff. Since then, shoppers bring their own, reusable baskets and bags, including those made from locally recycled plastic.

II. As representative of the students' council in your school, the principal has asked you to write a report to assess young people's awareness of the importance of recycling and to make suggestions of environmental activities schools can organise to involve students.

Write your report in 220-250 words, starting from the text above.

50 points