

**Examenul de bacalaureat național 2016**

**Proba C**

**de evaluare a competențelor lingvistice într-o limbă de circulație internațională  
studiată pe parcursul învățământului liceal**

**Proba scrisă la Limba engleză**

Toate filierele, profilurile și specializările/ calificările

**Model**

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 120 de minute.

**ÎNȚELEGEREA TEXTULUI CITIT**

**SUBIECTUL I**

**(40 de puncte)**

**Read the text below. Are the sentences 1-5 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B)? If there is not enough information to answer 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B), choose 'Doesn't say' (C). Mark A, B or C on your exam sheet.**

**THE ETON WALL GAME**

Eton College is one of Britain's oldest and most prestigious public schools. The school has some very old traditions. One example is the Wall Game: a sport the school plays to celebrate St. Andrew's Day, on 30<sup>th</sup> November. Eton is located about 30 kilometres west of London. The school is in the village of Eton on the River Thames, opposite Windsor.

The Wall Game is only played at Eton. It is one of the oldest versions of football. Two teams play the game on a field beside a wall, erected in 1717. The field is 100 metres long and 5 metres wide. The players score points by pushing their team and the ball to one end of the field. Players cannot touch the ball with their hands. The players push and push and push. The ball is invisible under their bodies. It isn't a very spectacular sport. In fact, games regularly finish 0-0. But it is character-forming. The Duke of Wellington, a famous Old Etonian, apparently said that the Battle of Waterloo was „won on the playing fields of Eton”.

The Wall Game teams are called the **Collegers** and the **Oppidans**. Why? We need a short history lesson. King Henry VI founded the school as a charity in 1440. The first students were 70 poor children. They were the King's Scholars. They were also called *Collegers* because they lived in Eton College. Eton still awards 70 scholarships. However, Eton College is now one of 25 Eton houses. The *Oppidans* are students from the other 24 houses. They pay school fees. Today Eton is an expensive private school with more than a thousand students.

Eton remains a powerful force in British culture. It has provided many prime ministers, including David Cameron. Both Prince William and Prince Harry attended the school. In fact, Prince Harry played the Wall Game in 2001. Other famous Old Etonians included George Orwell, the fictional James Bond and his creator Ian Fleming, and Hugh Laurie (Dr. House).

(adapted from **Speak up**)

1. Eton College was founded on November 30<sup>th</sup>, St. Andrew' s Day.  
A. Right                      B. Wrong                      C. Doesn't say
2. Students in many schools in England play the Wall Game regularly.  
A. Right                      B. Wrong                      C. Doesn't say
3. The Wall Game is not extremely captivating, but it builds moral strength.  
A. Right                      B. Wrong                      C. Doesn't say
4. Most students at Eton have to pay large fees to study there.  
A. Right                      B. Wrong                      C. Doesn't say
5. James Bond attended Eton at the same time as Jan Fleming.  
A. Right                      B. Wrong                      C. Doesn't say

**SUBIECTUL al II-lea**

**(60 de puncte)**

**Read the text below. For questions 1-10, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.**

The word mural means "related to a wall", and calls up the vision of a single oversized painting. This is misleading in the case of *America Today* by Thomas Hart Benton, which is a whole painted room, four walls, ten panels, floor to ceiling. Like all great art, the mural does not reproduce well; illustrated it is dim and simplified, its colours untrue, much detail lost. All masterpieces must be seen at firsthand. This was the reason for the Grand Tour. It is the reason that people still visit the great museums of the world and they discover, as I did with *America Today*, that being in that room, enclosed by those glorious walls, is the way Benton conceived his project: not as a set of pictures but as an enlivened space.

I move counterclockwise around the room, beginning with "Deep South", which is largely devoted to cotton, but with contrasting figures, the standing black cotton picker looming over the seated white man on his harrow, the steamboat *Tennessee Belle* in the center, loading cotton, and the obscure detail, a chain gang being watched by a mean-faced guard cradling a rifle. As in all of the panels the workers are heroic and powerful.

Next to it "Midwest" shows an altered Eden, lumberjacks clear-cutting a forest for timber and for land to grow corn, the grain elevator in the background mirroring the skyscraper depicted across the room in "City Building". An illustration might not catch the swollen menace of the rattlesnake in the lower left, nor would it show well the boxy Model-T Ford that Benton used in his travels. "Changing West", the next panel, is an unromantic study of the oil boom in Texas, dominated by thick smoke and a derrick; yet portions of it show the vanishing professions of herdsmen and cowboys, the confrontation (lower center) of a Native American facing a painted floozy.

No humans appear in the central and largest panel, "Instruments of Power", which is more proof that Benton did not abandon abstraction and that his deftness in rendering movement by controlling color must have impressed his student Jackson Pollock, whose early paintings show Benton's influence. I don't think any illustration would do justice to the blur of the whirring propeller, nor is it possible in leafing through a book of pictures to see how the red of the plane is repeated in a man's red shirt on one panel, a red blouse in another, the red dress of a dancer, or the crimson of the leotard in the trapeze artist flinging herself across the top of the

opposite panel. The whole mural, among many other things, is a study in attention-seeking roseate colors.

The red shirt of the work-weary miner in "Coal" seizes the eye, as do the smoke stacks, the fires and the power plant. But you need to stand on tiptoe to see on the upper right the rough shacks of the mining town, a reminder of the humble home where that muscular miner lives. The furnace flames and fire-lit bodies in "Steel" seem to heat the whole painting and illuminate the strong bodies and gripping hands, but the tiniest grace notes are those of sparks flying.

"City Building" directly across from "Deep South" shows a similar dynamic pattern of workers, black men and white men working together – in both panels the black workers loom larger. An almost imperceptible detail is the sight of two dark-suited figures – gangsters – one handing over money, at the center of the picture.

Sitting at the center of the room, before the two New York panels, "City Activities with Dance Hall", and "City Activities with Subway", I watch people entering *America Today*. None of them stride to the facing wall to see "Instruments of Power", planes, trains and power plants. All the viewers turn to the city panels, where spirit and flesh vied for dominance. They lean to the right to see the burlesque show ("50 Girls") and the preachers ("God is Love"), or left to see the frenzy of the dance hall, the drinkers, the circus performers. These city panels are the most satisfying of all, the most crowded, the most vital and paradoxical.

(adapted from **The Smithsonian**)

1. What is different about "America Today" when compared to a regular mural?
  - A. It is about an entire continent.
  - B. It occupies more space than one single wall.
  - C. It can be easily reproduced in a magazine.
  - D. It doesn't succeed in rendering every little detail accurately.
2. When painting "America Today", Benton tried to
  - A. put together pictures of America from when he was a child.
  - B. create a work of art which was completely original.
  - C. address the public of every museum in the world.
  - D. create an entirely alternative, vivid space.
3. "Deep South" has as its main theme
  - A. agriculture.
  - B. gangsters.
  - C. steamboats.
  - D. city workers.
4. While looking at "Deep South" you are most likely to miss
  - A. the steamboat.
  - B. the guardsman.
  - C. the white worker.
  - D. the black cotton picker.
5. An element of "Midwest" is reflected in another element from
  - A. "Deep South".
  - B. every other panel.
  - C. "Changing West".
  - D. "City Building".

6. The element missing from “Instruments of Power” is
- A. industrial images.
  - B. human figures.
  - C. vehicles in motion.
  - D. electrical measurement devices.
7. The author of the article believes that an element of cohesion for the entire mural is
- A. the colour red.
  - B. the fact that human figures appear larger than life.
  - C. the illusion of movement given by certain figures.
  - D. the influence it had on one of Benton’s disciples.
8. “Coal” and “Steel” mostly depict industrialization through
- A. fire and heat.
  - B. smoke and clouds.
  - C. poor housing conditions.
  - D. human bodies set on fire.
9. In both “City Building” and “Deep South” the human figures that stand taller are those of
- A. the white workers.
  - B. the Native Americans.
  - C. the black workers.
  - D. the gangsters.
10. In the author’s opinion, the two New York panels
- A. are the best, full of characters and vitality.
  - B. are not to be seen in haste.
  - C. are admired only by part of the visitors.
  - D. are too religious in theme.

## **PRODUCEREA DE MESAJE SCRISE**

### **SUBIECTUL I**

**(40 de puncte)**

You have recently got back from a holiday. Write an email to an English friend who wrote to you some time ago. Apologise for the delay in replying and tell him about your holiday.

**Write your answer in 80 - 100 words.**

### **SUBIECTUL al II-lea**

**(60 de puncte)**

You have had a class discussion on the importance of learning foreign languages. Your teacher has given you this quotation: *One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.* (Frank Smith) and has asked you to write an opinion essay expanding on the quote.

**Write your essay in 180 - 200 words.**