

Etapa județeană / a sectoarelor municipiului București a olimpiadelor naționale școlare - 2025

Probă scrisă

Limba engleză

CLASA a X-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

Perhaps one of the commonest man-made substances is glass. In fact, it is **1)** ___ common that few people appreciate its unique qualities. Glass is **2)** ___ hard and transparent. It does not expand when heated, it is a very poor conductor and it is resistant to all acids **3)** ___ hydrofluoric acid, which dissolves it. **4)** ___ knows exactly where or when the manufacture of glass began. **5)** ___ is known, though, is that, there were skilled glass makers in ancient Egypt who practised it as **6)** ___ as 2000 BC, if not earlier. The Romans are also known to have been particularly good **7)** ___ making glass. Glass is made from sand, an alkali and other ingredients which can **8)** ___ colour it or change its properties. These changes are usually achieved by adding certain chemicals during the process or placing thin layers of other substances **9)** ___ two sheets of glass. Nowadays, one of the main uses of glass is in windows, which to us would seem to be quite logical. However, the art of making glass was known long **10)** ___ it was considered suitable for windows.

II. Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in each sentence.

10 points

1. Stop worrying about the stain on your shirt-it's barely _____.
2. Many police officers often complain that they are _____ for their dangerous work.
3. You must spend your money _____.
4. Jamie can play any sport because he is _____.
5. Food starts to _____when you leave it out of the fridge.
6. They have installed a security camera as a _____ to thieves.
7. He put great _____ on how to help stray animals.
8. The lake attracts an _____ of wildlife
9. Jake always tries to _____everybody else in the class.
10. To get to the beach, you have to walk down a narrow _____.

NOTICE
PAY
SENSIBLE
ATHLETE
COMPOSE
DETER
EMPHASISE
ABUNDANT
DO
PASS

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. When people treated Emily like a child, she didn't like it.
Emily _____ she were a child.
2. Jenny was the person who really didn't want to tidy up after the party.
It was _____ up after the party.
3. Michelle's brother talks a lot more than she does.
Michelle is _____ her brother.
4. People think that Richard III was killed in battle.
Richard III _____ killed in battle.
5. I'm sorry now that we didn't save a bit more money for the holidays.
I wish _____ a bit more money for the holidays.

RESENTED
OBJECTED
NOWHERE
TO
SET

IV. Translate the following text into English.

10 points

– Nu, dacă mi-o povestești, nu mi-e de niciun folos. Subiecte mi se oferă toată ziua. Nu e scriitor căruia să nu i se ofere aproape cotidian subiecte. „Extraordinar. Am să-ți povestesc cazul meu!... Să vezi!... Ai putea să scoți un roman!...” Dacă vrei să-mi fii cu adevărat de folos, povestește-mi totul în scris. Mai mult decât întâmplarea însăși, care nu poate fi mai extraordinară, orice ai spune, decât un război, m-ar interesa amănuntele, mai ales cadrul, atmosfera și materialul întâmplării... Firește că nu-ți cer decât o redactare, însă e nevoie să fie cât mai amănunțită... Pe urmă eu voi preface totul într-un roman. (Și spunând asta mințeam, căci nu mă gândeam chiar să scriu un roman.)
(Camil Petrescu, *Patul lui Procust*)

SUBIECTUL B- INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)

I. You are going to read an article about camping. Five sentences have been removed from the article. 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.

10 points

There is a long tradition of crime fighting heroes in the popular culture. Ever since the days of Sherlock Holmes, we have, as a society, been fascinated by the behaviour of criminals and how they can be captured. In the 20th century, fictional crime fighters obtained special powers, and audiences loved it.

Superman, the first comic book superhero, was introduced in 1938. Using his superhuman powers, he was determined not to let villains get away with their crimes. **1)** ____ His abilities also include being able to jump over tall buildings and travelling through time.

Obviously, having skills like these made it easier to capture offenders and bring them to justice. The public loved Superman, and with him came an explosion of similar heroes in comics, including characters like the Flash, the Atom, Starman, and many more.

Comics continued to exist and evolve, but truly global recognition came with the cinema productions based on these characters. **2)** ____ At the time, it was the most expensive film ever made, and the biggest box-office smash. It marked the beginning of a long list of records being broken, and in the years since, dozens of superhero films have been released, and countless fictional criminals have been punished for their wrongdoing.

Following Superman, Batman was another major comic book hero to make it onto the big screen. Unlike Superman, Batman does not possess superpowers, relying instead on his superior brain power. He fights crime using his detective skills, science and technology. Another difference is that Batman has a darker side to his character, whereas Superman is someone we look up to, a brave hero with a strong sense of justice.

Batman is also more likely to engage in illegal activity in order to catch the bad guys. **3)** ____ One thing that early superheroes had in common was that they acted alone, but today it's more common for fictional crime fighters to be working in teams. This tradition started when Superman and Batman joined a team called the Justice League of America. Since then, many similar partnerships that combine the different strengths of individual superheroes have been added.

One such group, The Avengers, are known for their teamwork. **4)** ____ In the early comic book days, street crimes were the most feared, so superheroes mainly dealt with them. This changed over time, however, and the crimes became more evil. **5)** ____ By the time these two became a cinema sensation, they were both saving the planet from threats originating elsewhere in the universe.

- A. Together, the team faces some of the most dangerous villains the Marvel Universe has imagined.
- B. Unlike humans, he had incredible strength, was faster than a train, and had super senses of sight and hearing.
- C. Superman, on the other hand, does not bend the law in his crime fighting.
- D. However, very little attention is paid, either in comics or in films, to the victims of these crimes.
- E. For example, while Superman originally fought common criminals, Batman faced many scientists and supernatural creatures.
- F. *Superman: The Movie*, which was released in 1978, was the first blockbuster superhero film.

II. You are a member of an English-language reading group which recently read a children's comic book. You have agreed to write a review of the comic book for the group's website. In your review you should include your opinion on how important visuals and the word-image relationship are in such books and say how they might influence a child reader. Write your review in 200-220 words.

50 points