



**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ – ETAPA JUDEȚEANĂ/PE MUNICIPIUL BUCUREȘTI,
2018
CLASA A XI-A - SECȚIUNEA B**

Varianta 1

- 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 paragraph below and do the tasks that follow. (20 points)

We are all aware of the dramatic increase in popularity of energy drinks in the past few years. From being a **stimulant** used in sport, they're now widely available and popular across a much greater age range. The success of the energy drinks is so great that sales have doubled in the last 8 years. What concerns me is the increase in consumption of energy drinks among schoolchildren. One child in twenty would pick an energy drink instead of breakfast, if one gave them the choice. The effect these drinks have is dramatic; teachers report hyperactivity and **jittery** behaviour, followed quite rapidly by a sudden drop to lethargy and **tiredness**. And it is children as young as ten who are often the targets of energy drinks advertising. What makes them so dangerous is that these drinks contain thirteen spoons of sugar and up to 10 mg of caffeine per litre. Therefore, a leading supermarket chain has recently decided to ban the sale of such drinks to children under sixteen. I totally agree with the idea. Under no circumstances should young children be drinking this kind of thing.

A. Answer the following questions.

8 points

1. What does the consumption of energy drinks trigger in the case of children?
2. Which is one proof of the increasing popularity of such drinks?
3. What are the perilous elements contained by energy drinks?
4. What is the outlook regarding these beverages?

B. Choose the right synonym.

6 points

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. stimulant: | a. craze | b. impetus | c. incentive | d. fortitude |
| 2. jittery: | a. flutter | b. uplifted | c. staggered | d. nutty |
| 3. tiredness: | a. fatigue | b. torpidity | c. laxness | d. expenditure |

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

6 points

1. We are all aware of the dramatic increase in popularity of energy drinks in the past few years.
We are all aware that the in the past few years.
2. The success of the energy drinks is so great that sales have doubled in the last 8 years.
Such sales have doubled in the last 8 years.
3. One child in twenty would pick an energy drink instead of breakfast, if one gave them the choice.
Were in twenty would pick an energy drink instead of breakfast.

**II. Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in each gap.****10 points**

Are you concerned about your income once you reach (1) _____ (RETIRE)? Are you (2) _____ (MYSTERY) by banks talking about ISA and TESSA (3) _____ (SAVE) schemes? Longlife Insurance can offer you clear and easy-to-understand advice that will (4) _____ (SIMPLE) the whole process and will ensure you a comfortable standard of (5) _____ (LIFE) as a pensioner. All you have to do is call our number, or fill in the coupon below, (6) _____ (SPECIFIC) your current income and the level of income you would like to have, and we will send you details of the pension scheme or life insurance policy that best suits your needs. You'll find our guides a(n) (7) _____ (VALUE) source of information on the (8) _____ (OPT) that are open to you, and we are confident that our deals offer the best chances of financial (9) _____ (SECURE) in the years to come. In today's uncertain (10) _____ (ECONOMY) climate, the sooner you start planning, the better!

III. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits in each gap. Use only one word in each gap.**10 points**

But he decided that he would (1) _____ not do that, as it would be easier to change in his apartment. He called Special Operations on the rent-a-cop's telephone. Jason Washington was not there, so he (2) _____ word for him that he had confirmation that Penelope Detweiler knew Anthony J. DeZego and that he would be, for the next couple of hours, at the Bellevue – Stratford.

Then he walked back to the Bellevue – Stratford Hotel.

The Nesbitts had rented two large adjoining suites on the seventh floor Chad's out – of – town guests. The Brownes had done the (3) _____ same thing for Daffy's friends, putting the girls (4) _____ in a series of rooms on the fifth floor. It was inevitable that they (5) _____ find each other, and there was a party just getting started when he got there. The official pre-wedding party, in a ballroom on the mezzanine floor, would not start for an hour.

(adapted from W.E.B.Griffin, *The Victim*)

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)**Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.**

Time is running out. Or so people feel. According to the latest research, forty-four per cent of British workers come home exhausted. More than half suffer from stress. By almost every measure, people are more pressured, more bothered about time – or lack of it – than they have been for many years. Time, they feel, has been squeezed.

All over the world, the old ways of managing time are disappearing. Fixed jobs, shared rhythms of shopping, travel and leisure, and common patterns of learning, marriage, work and retirement are on the way out. Instead, the world has to come to terms with just-in-time production and multi-tasking computers, 24-hour shopping, time-share holidays and on-line banking. All these are symptoms of a revolution, a transition from an industrial time culture based around fixed timetables and a clear division of labour between men who went to work and women who looked after the home, towards a new culture based around flexibility, customisation and rapid flows of information.

This new post-industrial culture offers, perhaps for the first time in history, the promise of people using time for their own needs. But far from ushering in a leisured utopia, its most immediate effect has been a growing divide between those with too much work and those without any. In top jobs, long hours have become a mark of status and success. One in eight British managers works more than sixty hours a week and more than half take home work during the week.

Some of the costs of the transition to a post-industrial order are all around us. Not only unemployment and overwork, high stress and high anxiety, but also less obvious ones like fatigue. But little has been done to address them head on, or to adapt institutions to a post-industrial way of life. Most institutions remain stuck in the industrial era. Within the family, even though most women now have jobs, they still do the bulk of domestic work – and consequently have fifteen hours less free time each week than men. Taken as a whole, time remains off the political agenda, treated as far less important than money or production. No political party seems to have acknowledged how much the landscape of time has changed. No one is responding to the mood that we need to find a better balance between work and life.

For those seeking a better life-work balance, there is already a marvelous institution waiting to be used. Sabbaticals offer time off to recharge the batteries, to learn a new skill or just to travel the world. At the moment, these are a rare treat for academics. With the right funding arrangements, it is not inconceivable that we could, in the future, see every seventh year taken off as a matter of course.

A previous generation of writers thought the goal was to escape from work. But this misses the point. Many people enjoy work. They find it fulfilling not only because it is a way to meet people but also because it sets goals and stretches capacities. The challenge of post-industrial age is not to escape from work but rather to achieve more autonomy and more ways for people to control the terms on which they work, its pace and texture.

I. For each question decide which answer (A, B, C or D) fits best according to the text. 10 points

1. What is the writer's verdict on post-industrial culture?

- A. People have more choices in their life.
- B. The amount of leisure time has increased.
- C. It leads to bigger social divisions.
- D. Everyone is obliged to work harder.

2. According to the writer, very long working hours

- A. affect everyone who has a job.
- B. are a problem in top jobs.
- C. are found at all levels of society.
- D. are mainly a result of technological change.

3. What does the writer say about political attitudes to changes in work?

- A. There is a failure to address the problems.
- B. The balance of work and leisure is a matter of personal choice.
- C. The old industrial model should continue to apply.
- D. Changes are too expensive to implement.

4. The writer regards sabbaticals as

- A. self-indulgent.
- B. essential in academic fields.
- C. one way of improving efficiency.
- D. something that all workers should have.



5. Which statement best sums up the writer's attitude to work in the last paragraph?

- A. Today's workforce demands a balance of work and leisure.
- B. Financial benefits make it worthwhile.
- C. Work allows people to develop their potential.
- D. Work leads to an improved social life.

II. Starting from the text above, write a for-and-against essay on "This new post-industrial culture offers the promise of people using time for their own needs". (220-250 words)

50 points