



**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ – ETAPA JUDEȚEANĂ/PE MUNICIPIUL BUCUREȘTI,
2018
CLASA A IX-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)

At the start of the 20th century, a new city was beginning to grow on some flat land near the sea in southern California. Its name was *Los Angeles* - the name of the old Spanish **mission** that had been there for many years. At the same time, a new industry was just being born, the cinema. In America, they talked of "motion pictures", but this soon became **shortened** to "movies". America's movie industry started in New York, but by 1910 movie-makers were moving to Los Angeles. In New York, everything was too expensive: workers, land, taxes. Worse than that, it was difficult to make movies in winter, because it was too cold. By contrast, the Los Angeles region was full of **advantages**. In California, they could make films all through the year and everything was cheaper. In particular, there was a lot of land for sale.

A. Answer the following questions.

8 points

1. Where were movies first created?
2. Why did the movie-makers leave New York?
3. What were the positive aspects of moving to Los Angeles ?
4. Why was the city called Los Angeles?

B. Choose the right synonym.

6 points

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|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. mission: | a. duty | b. religious organization | c. commission | d. vocation |
| 2. shorten: | a. reduce | b. abridge | c. cut | d. lessen |
| 3. advantages: | a. assistance | b. help | c. benefits | d. blessings |

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

6 points

1. America's movie industry moved to Los Angeles because life in New York was too expensive.
If life in New York to Los Angeles.
2. It was difficult to make movies in winter, because it was too cold.
Movies.....in winter, because it was too cold.
3. Life in Los Angeles was less expensive than life in New York.
Life in New York was not life in Los Angeles.

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

10 points

In the centre of the room, clamped to an upright easel, stood the full-length portrait of a young man of (1)_____ (**ORDINARY**) personal beauty, and in front of it, some little (2)_____ (**DISTANT**) away, was sitting the artist himself, Basil Hallward, whose sudden (3)_____ (**APPEAR**) some years ago caused, at the time, such public (4)_____ (**EXCITE**), and gave rise to so many strange conjectures.



As the (5)_____ (PAINT) looked at the gracious form he had so (6)_____ (SKILL) mirrored in his art, a smile of (7)_____ (PLEASE) passed across his face, and seemed about to linger there. But he (8)_____ (SUDDEN) started up, and, closing his eyes, placed his fingers upon the lids, as though he sought to (9)_____ (PRISON) within his brain some curious dream from which he feared he might (10)_____ (WAKE).

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**

You're going to have to learn to know (1) _____ you're talking about before you open your mouth," Pekach had replied. I think you wouldn't have told the inspector that Highway was different if you knew he was the youngest sergeant ever in Highway, (2) _____ you?

"Jesus, was he?"

"Yes, he was. He was also the youngest captain the Department has ever had, is the youngest staff inspector the Department has ever had, and if he (3) _____ shoot himself in the foot with Special Operations, stands, I think, a pretty good chance to be the youngest full inspector."

"Should I go back in there and apologize?"

"No. Let (4) _____ go. Peter Wohl doesn't carry a grudge. But if you're looking (5) _____ advice, don't start this evaluation business with Martinez and McFadden thinking it's a dumb idea it was your bad luck to get stuck with. Give it your best shot."

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

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

This was an important journey for Mrs Foster. She was going all alone to Paris to visit her daughter, her only child, who was married to a Frenchman. Mrs Foster didn't care much for the Frenchman, but she was fond of her daughter, and, more than that, she had developed a great yearning to set eyes on her three grandchildren. She knew them only from the many photographs that she had received and that she kept putting up all over the house. They were beautiful, these children. She doted on them, and each time a new picture arrived she would carry it away and sit with it for a long time, staring at it lovingly and searching the small faces for signs of that old satisfying blood likeness that meant so much.

And now, lately, she had come more and more to feel that she did not really wish to live out her days in a place where she could not be near these children, and have them visit her, and take them out for walks, and buy them presents, and watch them grow. She knew, of course, that it was wrong and in a way disloyal to have thoughts like these while her husband was still alive. She knew also that although he was no longer active in his many enterprises, he would never consent to leave New York and live in Paris. It was a miracle that he had ever agreed to let her fly over there alone for six weeks to visit them.

But, oh, how she wished she could live there always, and be close to them. ... On this particular morning in January, the house came alive....She began walking up and down the hall and whenever the butler came by, she asked him the time. This, she kept telling herself, was the *one* plane she must not miss. It had taken months to persuade her husband to allow her to go. If she missed it, he might easily decide that she should cancel the whole thing. And the trouble was that he insisted on coming to the airport to see her off (...)

Mrs Foster was thinking of nothing at all except that she was going to miss her plane if her husband didn't come out...



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

1. The theme of the text above is
 - A. Mrs Foster's intention of buying a house in Paris
 - B. Mr and Mrs Foster's holiday abroad
 - C. Mrs Foster having a stressful morning
 - D. Mrs Foster having a peaceful morning tea
2. Mrs Foster feels
 - A. sorry her daughter has three children.
 - B. frustrated because her daughter and the children live far from her.
 - C. sad that her husband will not travel with her.
 - D. happy that she will travel by plane.
3. The journey was important
 - A. as she had never met her grandchildren before.
 - B. as she planned to never return as long as her husband was still alive.
 - C. because her husband agreed to join her to visit their daughter for six weeks.
 - D. because her dream of visiting Paris with her husband would come true.
4. Mrs Foster is worried about
 - A. leaving her husband alone at home.
 - B. being late and missing the plane.
 - C. forgetting the presents for her grandchildren at home.
 - D. who will take care of her house while she is away.
5. We understand from the text that
 - A. Mrs Foster has an active social life.
 - B. Mr Foster could be persuaded to agree to leave New York and move to Paris.
 - C. Mrs Foster has no difficulty in persuading Mr Foster to travel.
 - D. Mr Foster is the decision-maker in the family.

II. Read the text again and write a *narrative essay* (180-200 words) continuing the story of how Mrs Foster arrived in Paris and met her three grandchildren. 50 points