
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA LOCALA-02 MARTIE 2024
CLASA a X-a - SECȚIUNEA A

I. USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

1. Read the following text and put the verbs in brackets in the correct tense. (10 x 1p = 10p)

Laura looked up her boyfriend's phone number in the telephone directory because she 1).... (forget) it. She was quite surprised when his phone 2) (answer) by a woman. "Er, hello Is John there?" "Yes, but he 3) (have) a shower at the moment ". So Laura asked the woman to tell him that his girlfriend 4) (phone). Half an hour passed and she 5) (begin) to get impatient. She said to herself, "If he 6) (not / ring) in two minutes, I 7) (phone) him back." Two minutes later she phoned him back. This time a man 8) (answer). "John Jacobs speaking." "You aren't my boyfriend!" exclaimed Laura. "I know," he replied. "That's what I 9) (try) to tell my wife for the past half hour! Your phone call 10) (ruin) our day!"

2. Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in each sentence: (10 x 1p = 10p)

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

Do you ever wish there was a magic way to change 1) ... (UNHAPPY) to 2).... (ENJOY)? Well, don't worry, there is! Next time feelings of 3) (SAD) or 4) (ANGRY) are taking over your life, why not try some medicine? I don't mean that you should go to the doctor for some tablets. Instead, researchers now advise us to laugh, tell some jokes or watch a funny TV programme.

Of course, it always helps to have 5) (SUPPORT) friends when you are feeling down. Instead of feeling 6) (SHAME) to say you are not in a good mood, share your feelings with your friends. You don't need to feel sorry for yourself, you can 7) (CHOICE) to go out and have fun and enjoy the feeling of 8) (CONTENT) it brings.

Does that sound like madness? Well, research has proved that laughing increases a happiness hormone in your body. Even just smiling at yourself in the mirror can create an 9) (IMPROVE) in your mood, so go ahead – smile! Laughter is good for your health and reduces stress, so it certainly makes a 10) (DIFFERENT)!

3. Read the following text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only ONE word in each space: (10x1p=10p)

Why do people travel first class? For the majority (1) is because they want more space, complimentary food and drink and above all to be treated (2) royalty. If we pay more (3)..... ... twice as much as standard class passengers we expect to receive impeccable service. It makes sense. We are (4).....going to reach our destination any quicker so the difference can only (5).....in the comfort and service we receive, (6)..... will make our journey more pleasant.

Unfortunately though it seems we are not always getting our money's worth. Most trains and planes can guarantee more space in first class (7).....airlines and train services are sometimes unable to meet (8).....expectations of their first class passengers in terms of complimentary refreshments and high quality service. Complimentary food and drink is often very disappointing and not quite (9).....'unlimited' as advertised. At least the economy traveller has a choice of what they buy from the trolley or buffet service. In addition staff (10)..... be far from courteous. Mr Jones summed up his last first class trip to Europe as 'unpleasant'.

4. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one, using the word given. Do not change the word given. (5 x 2p = 10 p)

- 1) Could you take care of your parents? (**LOOK**)

Could you..... ?

- 2) I was in a hurry because I didn't hear the alarm clock. (**BEEN**)

If I

- 3) The family always spent their holidays climbing in the mountains. (**USED**)

The family's holidays climbing in the mountains.

- 4) He regrets having told him everything. (**TOLD**)

He wishes

- 5) "What will happen if I lose my papers?" (**HIS**)

He wanted to know

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)

5. Read the text below and do the tasks that follow: (20 points)

Laura and her friends had never been abroad without their parents, but they now found themselves with a free day to explore the sights of Paris. They were on a two-week school trip to the French capital and, as a break from organised excursions and other activities overseen by teachers and other adults accompanying the group of fifteen- to sixteen-year-olds, they had been told to team up in groups of four to explore on their own. They were set free after breakfast on the day before they were to return home and were told, in no uncertain terms, to make sure they were back at the hostel by six o'clock in the evening at the latest. They would be leaving early on the day of their departure and would have to spend the evening packing.

Laura, Jo, Becky and Alexis were excited and a little nervous. They all came from a small town in the north of England and were not used to the noise and bustle of city life. They'd spent the odd day in London or Manchester before, but always with their parents. Now they were on their own. They'd been given a street plan which clearly marked all the important sights, but they also wanted to spend some of their time shopping - mainly for souvenirs to take home for their families. They had also been told that the Metro, the Paris underground system, was the cheapest and simplest way of getting around the city. They'd been on it twice before during their stay, so they knew enough about the ticket system and the different lines and their directions. They'd even spent some time the evening before planning this day out.

It was a bright spring morning, and the girls started off walking at a brisk pace. After fifteen minutes or so, Becky suggested they should stop at one of the many cafés and order drinks. They felt very grown up and sophisticated as they ordered their coffee or hot chocolate in their best French. They were slightly surprised when the waiter replied in fluent English, but they weren't upset. They paid and set off on foot again, making their way to the nearest Metro station. They already had their travel passes so they didn't need to buy tickets. Jo wanted to see Notre Dame, the famous Paris cathedral, so they looked at the map once more to check the line and the direction they needed. Ten minutes later, they were there, outside the magnificent cathedral.

They didn't want to spend too much time there, so they just admired the building from the outside and took a few photos. 'Let's do our shopping now,' said Alexis. 'We could try one of the big department stores like Galleries Lafayette. It's not too far.' They agreed, and soon they were in the shop, choosing the presents to buy for their mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters. The girls all bought 'I love Paris' T-shirts for themselves. After that, they had lunch at a cute little restaurant, again ordering in their best French. They had practised ordering in a restaurant before their visit, so they felt quite confident. This time, the waiter replied in French. 'Success!' Laura whispered.

For the next two hours, they walked around the city streets, looking in shop windows and buying a few odd things. Whenever they stopped for more than a few minutes, they texted their friends or sent them messages on social media. They expected their friends to be impressed to receive communications from Paris. They walked as far as the Eiffel Tower, but decided not to go up it. It was quite expensive and they didn't want to spend any more money. Jo didn't have a head for heights, so she wasn't disappointed by this decision.

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

(5x4p=20p)

1. What does the writer mean by the use of the phrase they were set free in the first paragraph?
 - A. The girls were told to choose what they wanted to do
 - B. The girls were allowed to do what they wanted
 - C. The girls were being sent away for the day
 - D. The girls were not allowed to stay at their hostel
 2. Why were the four girls nervous?
 - A. They had no idea where to go or what to do in Paris
 - B. They didn't understand how the underground train system worked
 - C. They found Paris too noisy
 - D. They had never spent time unsupervised in a big city before
 3. What did the girls think when the waiter spoke to them in English?
 - A. They thought he didn't understand them
 - B. They were offended
 - C. They didn't take it too seriously
 - D. They were astonished
 4. What was the main reason the girls went to the department store?
 - A. They wanted to buy gifts
 - B. They wanted to buy fashionable clothes
 - C. They wanted to buy souvenirs of their visit
 - D. They wanted to look but not to buy anything
 5. Why didn't the girls go up the Eiffel Tower?
 - A. They couldn't afford it
 - B. They didn't have enough time
 - C. They had already spent enough
 - D. They were afraid of going to high places
5. Starting from the text above, write a review of two cities you have had personal experience of as a tourist. Your review should describe accommodation, sights, shopping facilities, financial considerations and what makes each city stand out. Let us know which you think is more attractive to potential tourists and why. Write about 180-200 words. (40 points)

NOTĂ: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru: 3 ore