

INSPECTORATUL ȘCOLAR JUDEȚEAN GALAȚI
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA LOCALĂ - CLASA a XI-a, SECȚIUNEA B
02.03.2024

Nota: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.

Timp de lucru: 3 ore

SUBIECTUL I - USE OF ENGLISH..... (40 points)

1. Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space. For each question, mark the correct letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet. (10 points)

The Yorkshire shares its ancient ... (1) with all dog breeds, ... (2) back to a creature that looked like a cross between a weasel and a fox, called Hesperocyonines. This primitive animal evolved in North America about 40 million years ago. Hesperocyonines gave ... (3) to many canine species before it became ... (4) 15 million years ago. ... (5) the several million years that followed, prehistoric canids eventually developed into the first wild dogs and later, some differentiated ... (6) terrier types.

At the time of the Roman invasion of England in 54 BCE, Julius Caesar's legions observed small terriers ... (7) used by hunters to chase ... (8) into underground dens and ... (9) and remain underground to fight and kill their quarry. This instinctive terrier behaviour is called "going to earth" or "going to ground". the word terrier comes from the Latin word terra, meaning "earth". Terrier-type dogs developed into different strains and were highly prized by their owners -and for good ... (10).

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. ancestry | B. inheritance | C. legacy | D. heritage |
| 2. A. running | B. going | C. coming | D. tracking |
| 3. A. rise | B. raise | C. in | D. away |
| 4. A. departed | B. extinguished | C. extinct | D. exterminated |
| 5. A. Past | B. Over | C. Across | D. Beyond |
| 6. A. like | B. into | C. by | D. between |
| 7. A. making | B. coming | C. having | D. being |
| 8. A. culprit | B. casualty | C. prey | D. victim |
| 9. A. layers | B. lairds | C. lairs | D. liars |
| 10. A. aims | B. reasons | C. targets | D. purposes |

2. Fill in the blanks with only ONE word. (10 points)

Watching paint dry

'Watching paint dry' is a term used to describe the witnessing of an incredibly boring event or situation. Typically, paint (1) _____ hours to dry, (2) _____ which time absolutely nothing appears to be happening. When painting the walls of a room, the paint should have dried enough for a second coat to be applied by the (3) _____ all the walls have received one coat of paint. Actually, depending on the type of paint used, the length of the drying process varies considerably. Oil-based paint, (4) _____ consists of pigment particles suspended in a drying agent, (5) _____ as linseed oil, is slow-drying and can be manipulated (6) _____ brush many hours after it first touches the canvas or wall. Water-based paint, (7) _____ the other hand, dries quickly, as (8) _____ synthetic paints, which are most commonly used for painting interior walls. Paint is stored as a liquid and dries as a solid, and the conversion process (9) _____ these two physical states involves the chemical combination of a resinous binding agent and a diluent, like water. It is clear (10) _____ the expression is used to describe observing a very boring and uneventful process.

3. Read the text below and use the words given in capitals to form words that fit in the gaps.

The words in capitals are given in the order you need to use them. (10 points)

Blogging in the modern day

Back in the days when social networks were not particularly widely used and the social media (1) had yet to happen, the average man or woman in the street didn't know what a tweet was.

To those people it would seem (2) that there might one day be too many platforms to choose from. Although the (3) of Facebook still trumps that of other sites, platforms like Instagram and Twittter provide the user with a (4) of ways of engaging with other people online.

Instagram is (5)..... about the images, whereas Twitter enables users to create polls and write short text messages. However, does this mean that pictures are now as (6) as words online ?

It would seem so because in the last few years, the number of Instagram users has (7) the number of Twitter users. Young people are (8) choosing to share photos and updates on Instagram rather than Twitter. This seems to be due to the way in which Instagram has become (9) in the life of the younger (10)

1. EXPLODE
2. CONCEIVE
3. POPULAR
4. VARY
5. PRIMARY
6. VALUE
7. TAKE
8. OVERWHELM
9. ROOT
10. GENERATE

4. Rephrase 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 three and six words, including the word given. (5x 2p = 10 points)

1. We were never aware at any moment that something was wrong.

TIME

Atthat something was wrong.

2. If Gary hadn't had that accident, he would have become a professional football player.

FOR

If it, Gary would have become a professional football player.

3. This wardrobe is so big that I don't believe only one person assembled it.

HAVE

This wardrobe is so big that it together by only one person.

4. Someone snatched Sue's bag at the concert.

HAD

Sue at the concert.

5.This novel stands a very good chance of winning the book prize.

HIGHLY

It is win the book prize.

SUBIECTUL II – INTEGRATED SILLS (60 points)

1.Read the text below and choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text. (5 x 2p =10 p)

A new visitor centre for a major British tourist attraction

The mysterious ring of huge and ancient stones has stood at Stonehenge in the countryside of the west of England for between four and five thousand years. One of the most famous prehistoric monuments in the world, Stonehenge had long been the object of some criticism for the prefabricated units that served to greet the thousands of sightseers that visit the site. When the long awaited new visitor centre opened its doors in December 2013, people came face to face with a tall man who has been at Stonehenge for a very long time. He arrived long before a century of debate over what and where the visitor centre should be, before the endless red tape over the closing or rerouting of roads, before designs created were scrapped, funding plans announced and abandoned. He arrived before a succession of project supervisors all vowing that the issue of satisfactory visitor facilities would finally be solved.

He came to Stonehenge before the stones themselves. He was buried in the earth nearby around 5,500 years ago, proving that the area was already a special place at least 500 years before the first circular chalk ditch was dug out with deer antler picks, creating the circular enclosure in which the iconic stones would later be erected. His skeleton, with a reconstruction of his face based on the skull, now stands in the new visitor centre, along with jewellery and pottery beakers for drinking, animal bones from midwinter feasts, a flint knife and a bronze axe - the first time the evidence for the lives of the people who built the monument and knife and a bronze axe - the first time the evidence for the lives of the people who built the monument and lived nearby has ever been displayed at the site.

Simon Thurley, chief executive of the organisation in charge, admits the problem of what to do about Stonehenge has occupied many of his waking hours. 'I think this building is elegant, beautiful, and above all fit for purpose,' he said. 'I think it is a great work of art. But amazingly, it is also reversible: if somebody thinks we got it all wrong in 30 years, it could be dug up, taken away and rebuilt somewhere else, or crunched up and sold off as scrap - and the field would be again as it was.'

The visitor centre is a grey glass, steel and timber structure 2.4 km west of, and invisible from, the stones; and declining to draw attention to itself, is barely visible from a few hundred yards away. It offers a café, ticket office, shop, car park, exhibition on the history of the site and museum displaying priceless artefacts, including the earliest manuscripts depicting the stones. It cost £27m: the many elaborate schemes drawn up, lavishly launched and then abandoned, along with innumerable planning and roads enquiries, have cost many times that.

Visitors are collected by an efficient system of four-wheel drives drawing passenger carriages to take them to the stones, and in high season one of these should be heading down the road every four minutes. The shuttles will stop halfway at a little wood - one of the countless abandoned alternative sites for the centre - offering visitors the option of walking across fields to the monument, or continuing on to be dropped a short stroll from the stones. The hideous high security fence has gone, the former road which previously brought traffic within metres of the stones has been turfed, and is already becoming greener. However, after much discussion and to the inevitable disappointment of visitors charmed by artists' images of families wandering happily among the stones, the centre of the circle will still be closed off, except to specially booked groups outside normal opening hours.

The permanent exhibition in the visitor centre includes many objects found at the site and never exhibited before. The most spectacular single object is the skeleton, excavated in 1863 from a burial mound, displayed beside its recreated face. He was a pitiable-looking specimen when she first saw him in the stores of the Duckworth laboratory at Cambridge University, says archaeologist Sara Lunt, who prepared the exhibition. 'Isn't he gorgeous?' Lunt exclaims. 'The skull is very fine, and I was determined that the reconstruction should show that grace. Obviously when the hair and colouring were added he could have easily been made to look like some horrible shaggy caveman dragging his knuckles along the ground, but instead there is a delicacy to him - when he was still bald, before the hair was added, he looked like any commuter you'd meet on a train in London.'

1. In the first paragraph, the writer gives the impression that the new visitor centre
 - A. may obstruct visitors from entering the facilities easily.
 - B. may require patient queuing on the part of its visitors.
 - C. has had inadequate commitment from its designers.
 - D. has been the object of significant disagreement.
2. The writer's references to the 'tall man' in the first two paragraphs are intended to reflect
 - A. how pointless many discussions of the site have been.
 - B. how his remains suggest something very different from the modern buildings.
 - C. how frequently the site has been excavated.
 - D. how detailed the understanding of prehistoric man has become.
3. According to the third paragraph, Simon Thurley claims that the building
 - A. has a suitably rural appearance.
 - B. will eventually have to be demolished.
 - C. can be removed without leaving any trace.
 - D. mirrors its current environment.
4. In the fourth paragraph, the writer says that the visitor centre
 - A. is constructed of elaborate materials.
 - B. contains extremely precious objects.
 - C. offers an impressive variety of activities.
 - D. has cost more than previous schemes.
5. In describing the journey from the visitor centre to the stones, the writer
 - A. indicates his dismay about the route chosen for the path.
 - B. expresses surprise at the site transport for visitors.
 - C. reveals disapproval of the dropping off point for walkers.
 - D. shows his appreciation for the removal of less appealing structures.

2. Writing (50p)

A magazine with an international readership has asked for contributions to a special edition about places which are of significance to its readers. Write an **article** in which you describe such a place. Mention the first time you went there and how it always makes you feel. (220-250 words)