

Operator de date cu caracter personal nr. 18028

INSPECTORATUL ȘCOLAR JUDEȚEAN GALAȚI
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ- ETAPA LOCALĂ

CLASA a IX-a, SECȚIUNEA A

2 martie 2024

NOTĂ: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.

Timp de lucru - 3 ore

SUBIECTUL I – USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

I. 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)**

A new life

It took a few days after the cheque had arrived for me to realize that our life would never be the same again – it was a dream (1) _____ true. Like everyone else, I had often (2) _____ what it would be like not having to worry about paying the bills and just (3) _____ ends meet. My husband, Colin, always (4) _____ to say there would come a day when we could (5) _____ the lights on without worrying how much it was going to (6) _____ us. Colin had been out of work for the last (7) _____ of years and we had begun to wonder whether things would (8) _____ get better. He had become depressed and irritable. Suddenly, we were (9) _____ plans to move in to a big, new house in one of the more fashionable suburbs of town. We knew that we would lose communication with the neighbours with whom we had shared so much (10) _____ the years, but both of us felt we needed more space and a proper garden.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 1 A made | B come | C being | D become |
| 2 A planned | B predicted | C imagined | D enjoyed |
| 3 A having | B doing | C putting | D making |
| 4 A would | B had | C used | D repeated |
| 5 A let | B leave | C remember | D see |
| 6 A cost | B pay | C spend | D ask |
| 7 A dozen | B few | C several | D couple |
| 8 A hardly | B sometimes | C ever | D rather |
| 9 A making | B drawing | C looking | D having |
| 10 A in | B over | C at | D for |

II. Fill in each gap in the following text with only ONE word which fits the meaning of the text. **(10 points)**

A new kind of school

Vera is the head teacher at a new kind of school that opened a few years ago. She applied (1) the job when someone told her that only a man (2) be able to (3) a success of it. The school is called a city technology college. It concentrates on subjects that students will need in business later in life and has been very successful since it opened. Vera told me she had never had (4) an interesting job before.

For the first time in her life, she has had the opportunity to (5) her ideas into practice. Her main aim was that (6) of leaving school (7)early, (8).....their parents, the students would find the course so interesting that they would want to stay on (9).....they were 18. The secret of the school's success was that everyone enjoyed (10) together as a team.

III. Read the sentences and use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in the gap. (10 points)

- 1) The musician.....(**CARE**) tuned his guitar, adjusting each string for perfect harmony..
- 2) I wouldn't describe the film as a comedy, but one or two scenes are mildly(**HUMOUR**)
- 3) I find it difficult to be.....(**OBJECT**) about matters that concern me.
- 4) I was hoping this book would help me with my history project but in fact it wasn't very.....(**INFORM**)
- 5) Practising vocabulary regularly is essential to (**STRONG**) your language skills and expand your knowledge.
- 6) His.....(**ACCEPT**) of criticism helped him improve his writing skills significantly.
- 7) As we got closer to the village, the(**INHABIT**) came out to meet us.
- 8) The giant panda is..... (**DANGER**) because its habitat is being destroyed.
- 9) This job involves taking(**RESPONSIBLE**) for the development of new clothing ranges.
- 10) The map he drew was.....(**ACCURATE**), leading us to take the wrong route during our hike.

IV. Complete the second sentence with TWO to FIVE words using the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Do not change the word given. (5x2=10 points)

1. If only I weren't so poor. **WISH**
I money.
2. I fell behind the other students in the class. **KEEP**
I couldn't the other students in the class.
3. I changed my attitude towards immigration after I had seen the TV documentary.
MADE
The TV documentary my attitude towards immigration.
4. I hope he doesn't arrive too late for the show tomorrow. **TIME**
I hope he will be the show tomorrow.
5. You really should be doing some form of exercise. **ABOUT**
It's some form of exercise.

SUBIECTUL II – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)

I. Read the text below. For each question, choose the correct answer: A, B, C or D ((5 x 2p = 10 points)

Some years ago, a British TV company came up with an idea for a reality TV show. People with, no experience would be trained in a profession in a very short period of *time*, then would try and pass themselves off as the real thing with the general public. The show was called FAKING IT and the format has

since been imitated the world over. One of the first contestants was Gavin Freeborn, a twenty-three-year-old farmer's son, who trained with celebrity- hairdresser Trevor Sorbie in London. Gavin remembers the experience.

'I was at university studying, for a degree in agriculture, when some friends mentioned that a TV company had advertised for people to take part in FAKING IT. They were looking for someone who'd never picked up a pair of scissors or thought of hairdressing as a career which I certainly hadn't. I reckoned it would be a laugh. Having spent my school holidays shearing sheep on my parents' farm, I was used to the idea of haircutting, but obviously it's harder doing it on people - because they have an opinion about it'

I'd never been to London before and it was so busy that I felt a bit overwhelmed at first.

Meeting Trevor for the first time, he seemed really strict but once he realised I was taking the challenge seriously we got on like a house *on* fire and they often had to stop filming because we couldn't stop giggling. Fortunately, I didn't have to do any of the washing or sweeping floors other people new to the business have to do. I went straight into blow-drying and cutting instead."

At first, I practised on a dummy's head which was a welcome safety net but I did make a really bad mistake halfway through filming when I was cutting one real man's hair. I'd been shown how to use clippers to get a cropped effect, but hadn't been warned to angle the comb. I ended up shaving off a huge patch of hair! He couldn't see what I'd done, but the camera crew couldn't stop laughing, so it was obvious I'd made a mistake. Luckily, I managed to rectify the situation and told the client, who was alright about it, so I forgave them.

'By the day of my final test, I knew I was capable, but I felt sick with nerves. I didn't want let Trevor down. But even though I failed to convince the client that I was a real hairdresser, she approved of the haircut and the judges were impressed by it, too. It didn't worry me at the time but, looking back now, I think it was a bit unfair that I was penalized for taking too long — an hour-and-a-half - when I'd been taught the most important thing was to ensure your client walks out of the salon feeling like a million dollars.

'After the programme, I went home for a week but I decided to come back to London because I'd fallen in love with the buzz of the city. People in town kept stopping and staring at me as if I was famous. I found this unnerving at first, but with time I got used to it. There were a few comments about me being too full of myself, but I took no notice.'

'When I agreed to FAKING IT, I had no idea how much I was signing my life away, but I couldn't say I have any regrets. The thing is that I've discovered, growing up on a farm doesn't mean I can't work in a creative field. What's more, I've now got choices I didn't realise I had, which is brilliant. Although I still keep in contact with everyone from Trevor's salon, and we all go out when I'm in London, I'm hardly a celebrity anymore'

- 1 Why did Gavin first apply to be on the programme?
 - A He thought it would be fun.
 - B He liked the idea of going to London.
 - C His friends managed to talk him into it.
 - D He had some experience of hairdressing.

- 2 How did Gavin feel about the hairdressing mistake he made one day?
 - A sorry that the client was dissatisfied.
 - B relieved that the client didn't notice it.
 - C pleased that he was able to find a solution.
 - D annoyed by the reaction of the camera crew.

- 3 How did Gavin feel on the day of his final test?
- A unsure if he was good enough.
 - B worried that he might not succeed.
 - C unconvinced that the client was really happy.
 - D disappointed by the feedback from the judges.
- 4 Thinking about the final test now, Gavin feels that he
- A was too slow in completing the haircut.
 - B didn't take enough notice of his client's wishes.
 - C was unjustly criticised for one aspect of his performance.
 - D should have paid more attention to things he'd been taught.
- 5 Looking back on the whole experience, Gavin now
- A wishes he'd thought more carefully before applying.
 - B realises that his life is different as a result.
 - C appreciates his farm upbringing more.
 - D accepts that it's helped him socially.

II. Based on the reading text about Gavin Freeborn's experience on the reality TV show, imagine you are a young individual interested in participating in a similar reality TV show where participants are trained in a profession, they have no prior experience in.

Write a letter of application to the producers of the show, expressing your enthusiasm, explaining why you would be a suitable candidate, and outlining how you believe this experience could positively impact your life.

You should write between (180-200 words) - 50points