



**OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ - ETAPA LOCALĂ,
15 FEBRUARIE 2025**

**CLASA A VIII-A
VARIANTA 1**

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii
- Timpul de elaborare a răspunsurilor este de 120 de minute.
- Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.

SUBIECTUL I –USE OF ENGLISH (10 items x 2p =20 points)

I.1 Read the following text and fill in the blanks with correct verb forms.

Kevin Adams 1).....(love) trains. He first 2).....(see) one when he was four years old. By the time he was fifteen he 3).....(collect) over 10.000 different engine numbers in various counties. Once, while he 4).....(stand) in a station in Cheshire he saw something very unusual. He 5).....(wait) for over an hour for a train to go by when suddenly he 6).....(see) a very old steam train coming down the track. It 7).....(not/stop) at the station and, as it was passing, Kevin noticed that all the passengers 8).....(wear) old-fashioned clothes. When he told the station guard about this, the poor man turned pale. He said that no steam train 9).....(pass) through that station for years, and that the last one 10).....(crash), killing everyone on board.

I.2 (10 items x 2p =20 points)

Read the text and look carefully at each line. There are 8 unnecessary words. If a line is correct, put a tick (v). If it has a word that should not be there, write the word.

1	Although my father is not conventionally successful, he is a man that to be admired.	1. _____
2	He must have been ten when he started learning to play the piano. As being a rather	2. _____
3	small child, and one who he was too interested in his studies, he was bullied by his	3. _____
4	classmates. But he found pleasure in music and proved to be considerably talented.	4. _____
5	Despite of having little encouragement from his parents, he practised hard, and	5. _____
6	was playing Chopin well at the age of 14. By the time he was 18 he did nothing but	6. _____
7	to play. His school work, which had shown promise, suffered and he did not achieve the grades required for university entrance.	7. _____
8	Instead he went to a teacher training college. He loved teaching , and did so well that his tutors suggested that he studied music at the university.	8. _____
9	With their support he got a place, impressing on them with his ability in	9. _____

	composition as well as performance.	
10	But by then he just wanted to teach. He has been teaching for 30 years now, earning little but much earning the love and respect of his colleagues.	10. _____

I.3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in capital letters (5 items x2p = 10 points)

In today's society, (1) ____ skills are essential for success. People who can express their ideas (2) ____ often build strong relationships and perform well in the workplace. However, some individuals struggle with (3) _____ messages, which can lead to (4)_____. It is important to listen attentively and respond appropriately. Additionally, those who (5) ____ their thoughts effectively through writing or speech are more likely to be understood and respected.	1. COMMUNICATE 2. CLEAR 3. CONFUSE 4. UNDERSTAND 5. SYMBOL
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SUBIECTUL al II-lea - READING COMPREHENSION (25 p)

Read the following text. It has five paragraphs.

1. _____

Studies show that around 20 percent of nursing home residents suffer from major depression, while an additional 30 percent experience significant depressive symptoms. One of the main causes of depression in elderly people is isolation and the fact that they don't interact socially. Spending time with others has been proven to help reduce these feelings. In fact, more than half of the residents who socialized regularly experienced a complete improvement in their mental health. The simple act of looking forward to social interactions also plays an important role in preventing depression.

2. _____

Most people have heard of adopting children or pets, but the idea of adopting a grandparent is something new. Mike and Brenda Loeschmann had never thought about it either until they unintentionally became part of such a relationship. When the family moved from Canada to England, they lived in the same building as an elderly couple. Although they were friendly with them, they did not spend much time together at first. However, this changed unexpectedly, leading to a lasting bond between them.

3. _____

One day, Brenda needed hand-knit sweaters for her daughters but didn't have the time to make them. When the elderly woman in their building heard about this, she immediately offered to help. At first, Brenda was unsure about accepting the offer, but out of necessity, she agreed. What started as a small favour soon developed into a meaningful relationship. Weekly visits to check on the knitting turned into spending time together in the park, going shopping, and even celebrating special occasions as a family.

4. _____

When Mike's job required the family to move to the United States, they were sad to leave their new grandparents behind. However, once they arrived in their new home, they soon formed another close connection with an elderly couple who had lost contact with their own grandchildren due to

divorce. The couple happily took part in the children's lives, attending school events, spending holidays together, and providing support in emergencies. Although the Loeschmanns still visited their biological grandparents, having a substitute family nearby was a great comfort.

5. _____

Now back in Canada, the Loeschmanns continue to stay in touch with their adopted grandparents from the United States and visit them whenever possible. Brenda believes that the relationship was not just beneficial for the children but for the entire family. Their adopted grandparents provided support, friendship, and love in ways they had never expected. This experience showed them that family is not only about blood relations but also about the connections we build with those around us.

II.1 Choose the most suitable heading from the list (A-F) for each part (1-5). There is one extra heading which you do not need to use. (5 items x 2p = 10 points)

- A. A Unique Way to Help the Elderly**
- B. A Simple Favor That Started It All**
- C. The Power Of Human Connection**
- D. A Friendship That Lasts**
- E. The Issue of Loneliness in Nursing Homes**
- F. Building Stronger Relationships**

II.2 For questions 1-5, choose the answer A, B, C or D which you think fits best according to the text. (5 items x 3p = 15 points)

1. What may cause depression among nursing home residents?

- a) Health problems
- b) Lack of social interaction
- c) Poor food quality
- d) Age-related issues

2. How did Mike and Brenda Loeschmann first meet the elderly couple?

- a) They met at a community event.
- b) They lived in the same building.
- c) They were introduced by mutual friends.
- d) They worked together.

3. What was Brenda's initial reaction to the elderly woman's offer to knit the sweaters?

- a) She was hesitant at first.
- b) She immediately accepted the offer.
- c) She refused the offer politely.
- d) She offered to pay the woman.

4. How did the relationship between the Loeschmann family and the elderly couple in the U.S. grow?

- a) They visited the couple only on holidays.
- b) They kept in touch via email and phone calls.

- c) The elderly couple became a substitute for the children's real grandparents.
- d) They never saw the couple again after moving to the U.S.

5. What does Brenda believe about the relationship with their adopted grandparents?

- a) It was only beneficial for the children.
- b) It created problems in their family.
- c) It didn't affect their lives much.
- d) It was helpful for the entire family

SUBIECTUL al III-lea - WRITING (25 points)

Write a story ending like this:

„In that moment, she realised that all the hard work had been worth it, and she had proven to herself that she could overcome her fears.”

Write your story in 120-150 words and give it an appropriate title. Pay attention to the following:

- ❖ You don't need to write long descriptions;
- ❖ Use dialogues only if they are relevant to your characters or events;
- ❖ You should use this plan:
 1. **Introduction** (paragraph 1 – set the scene)
 2. **Main body** (paragraphs 2 and 3 – develop the story)
 3. **Conclusion** (paragraph 4 – end the story)