

OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ - ETAPA LOCALĂ

25 FEBRUARIE 2023

CLASA a XI-a SECȚIUNEA A -Standard

Varianta 1

SUBIECTUL A - USE OF ENGLISH

(40 points)

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

Writing first (1) (appear) in about 3,200 B.C. and was invented by the Sumerians of Mesopotamia. It (2) (consist) of marks made with a reed on a clay tablet - we call this early form of writing 'cuneiform'. Most of these inscriptions (3) (record) details of commercial transactions. Other systems (4)..... (develop) independently in both China and central America. A writing system (5) (know) as Linear A was used in Ancient Greece but its meaning (6) (remain) a mystery as experts (7) (not decipher) it yet.

The materials used for writing (8) (change) over the centuries. For a long time, the Ancient Egyptians (9) (write) on papyrus, which was made from a kind of plant fibre. On the other hand, at that moment, the scribes of Ancient Greece and Rome (10) (write) on long scrolls made from processed leather known as parchment.

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

A new start?

While (1) (URBAN) was characteristic of an (2) (EARLY) era, many young people are choosing to do exactly the opposite of their forebears. As a result of financial (3) (STABLE) in the city and worries about (4) (ADEQUATE) public services, numerous educated, young individuals, either alone or with their families, are willingly moving back to smaller towns and villages in search of a better and more (5) (AFFORD) way of life.

When families are (6) (ROOT) from their homes, there are a lot of negative repercussions; educated graduates may face (7) (COMPETE) from skilled workers, who, while having no formal (8) (QUALIFY), having been working the land for years, and city children may find themselves (9) (MARGIN) at school. However, life in the country tends to be far less (10) (STRESS) and there are more opportunities for families to spend quality time together.

III. Choose the correct answer A, B, C or D. (10 x 1p = 10p)

1. All those in favour of the motion, please your hands.

- a. rise b. raise c. rose d. arouse

2. What time dinner this evening, Sir?

- a. you are having b. will you have had c. will you be having d. you are to have

3. Please answer all the questions

- a. truthfully b. truthful c. true d. truly

4. 'Can I speak to Alice, please?'

'She isn't here, I'm afraid. She to the post office.'

- a. has been b. has gone c. will go d. has been going

5. we get to the station, the train will have left!

- a. As soon as b. By the time c. So far d. For the time being

6. Although she is work, she doesn't hold out much hope that she will find a job.

- a. searching b. seeking c. cultivating d. investigating

7. The woman with shoplifting pleaded 'not guilty'.

- a. they charged her b. who charged c. who she charged d. charged

8. Meryl Streep is the actress I owe my passion for cinema.

- a. to which b. who c. that d. to whom

9. If he a better painter, he might have sold some of his work by now.

- a. is b. be c. were d. would be

10. My colleague asked finished the project.

- a. had I b. whether I had c. have I d. what I had

IV. Read the text below and think of the word that best fits each space. Use only ONE word in each space. (10p)

The Brain

It wasn't so long ago that scientists thought that adult brain was unable to change and we all could (1) forward to was a slow decline. This is not completely true, however. Although the brain does indeed slow (2) with age, it remains remarkably adaptable. The brain loses volume from about the age (3) forty, but it will improve (4) long as you exercise and challenge it. Research has shown that not (5) can we change the way we think and feel, but (6) those thoughts and feelings can change the physical workings of the brain.

What you need to do is take (7) a new and challenging activity, such as learning a new language, playing chess, learning to draw or learning to play a musical instrument. The more mentally active you stay, the (8)

Of course, exercise and diet (9) their part too, as does a good night's sleep. In (10), sleep improves memory if you sleep within a few hours of learning something new.

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS

(60 points)

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

A few weeks ago, my friend Isabel met her husband for a romantic lunch in a favourite London restaurant. They were there to celebrate their fourth wedding anniversary and her husband, a publishing director, had even booked the afternoon off work so they could share the day together, just the two of them. Except it wasn't just the two of them at all.

'As soon as I saw his iPhone on the table, I felt resentful', she says. 'He's on Twitter, for work he says.' They'd barely got beyond their aperitif when a row started. 'I refuse to have a three-way conversation. If you talk to me, I expect eye contact. Meanwhile, you are typing some meaningless observation into the ether.'

Isabel is increasingly resentful of her partner's reliance on mobile technology, promising, as it does, a gateway to a new virtual world of communication and socialising, music downloads, video clips, football scores, and the rest of the ephemera of the cyber dimension. We've long known about the compulsive allure of the 'Crackberry', as well as its younger upstart the iPhone, but with the advent of Facebook, and particularly Twitter, a new level of distractedness is developing.

According to research carried out last year by Professor Nada Kakabadse at Northampton University, a growing number of people are becoming overdependent on their Black Berries, mobile phones and other digital devices. 'Overdependence certainly created friction in some of the relationships of the people I spoke to. In some cases it led to divorce when one partner felt the other wasn't paying enough attention to normal human interaction.

'Relationship counsellors have also noticed this phenomenon. 'I see more and more of it', says Denise Knowles, a Relate therapist. 'People feel they're not being shown enough consideration, that they're being excluded if their partner is spending a lot of time using phones for socializing, playing games or working. It is the ubiquity of these super-phones that makes them so pernicious.

D-Day for many people's relationships came in 2008 when the iPhone relaunched, sleeker and faster than ever before. Such technology, it seems, is designed to hook the user in, leaving a partner feeling even more irritated and excluded. I'm painfully aware of this as a BlackBerry user myself and, shamefully, have to admit to ignoring small children's pleas and my husband's protestations, to reflexively reach for the device whenever the green turns to red - meaning mail's in.

'There is something quite compelling about contemporary gadgetry', says Martin Lloyd-Elliot, a relationships psychologist. 'These new designs seem to activate part of the brain that wants to be absolutely absorbed and, like computer games, they can create a strange altered state in the user, in which he or she is with you but not available to you. ' Lloyd-Elliot's patients frequently report a strange dislocated feeling when a partner is immersed in another virtual hemisphere.

'Sometimes it's an almost tragic scene. The couple are on holiday with their children and dad's eyes are glued to a bit of electronic gadgetry. He's present but he's absent at the same time. The very technology that is meant to bring together is increasingly separating us from those we need to attend to most.'

Phillip, 34, a software designer, used to be in thrall to his latest iPhone until he struck a compromise with his long-suffering spouse: 'I've agreed that it's fine to use at work but as soon as I'm in the home putting the kids to bed and being with my family, I switch it off. At weekends, I've agreed reluctantly that I can 'check in' for an hour a day but not in the evenings or when we're out. My wife was getting so annoyed, I knew I had to curb my habit. I still miss it, though.'

Ring-fencing, as Lloyd-Elliot refers to it- when a 'gadgetholic' limits his or her usage to certain times places in negotiation with his or her partner- is a method that he encourages with his patients.

However, the only way a new etiquette can really work is through increased self-awareness on the part of the user. For starters, users have to realise how their behaviour can affect others. As Lloyd-Elliot says: 'There is something arrogant about the mindset that goes with this trend -the sense of always thinking that what you've got to say is so important it can't wait. There's also an absence of thoughtful empathy; how you are making those around you feel.'

Dr Emma Short, a senior lecturer in psychology, agrees. It's about being mindful about the choices you make. Whenever you take a call or reply to a message in front of someone, you are prioritizing what is an absent presence.' In terms of your relationship and how your partner feels, she says, think about who you are promoting above whom when you hear that beep or see that flashing light. Take heed- turnoff that green flashing light now.

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

1. What was the issue that Isabel faced during her romantic lunch with her husband?

- a. The restaurant was overbooked
- b. Isabel's husband had to leave early for work
- c. Their table was located near a loud group of people
- d. Her husband was distracted by technology during their time together.

2. What is the main issue in relationships that is being observed by Professor Nada Kakabadse and Denise Knowles, due to the growing use of digital devices?

- a. Increased frustration due to lack of attention from partners
- b. Difficulty in adjusting to the use of technology in relationships
- c. Difficulty in balancing work and personal life
- d. Decreased social skills due to overreliance on technology.

3. Who is *you* in the seventh paragraph?

- a. the person Martin Lloyd-Elliot is talking to
- b. Martin Lloyd-Elliot's patients
- c. Martin Lloyd-Elliot's patients' partners
- d. the partner of a person addicted to gadgets

4. What is the effect of contemporary gadgetry on a person's ability to connect with others, according to Martin Lloyd-Elliot?

- a. Improves connection
- b. Has no effect on connection
- c. Decreases connection
- d. Creates a strange altered state and hinders connection

5. Which word in the eighth paragraph is used to indicate addiction to electronic gadgets?

- a. tragic
- b. glued
- c. absent
- d. separating

**II. Starting from the text above, write a for & against essay about the excessive use of gadgets .
(200-220 words) (50 p)**

Notă: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru 180 de minute. Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.

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BAREM DE EVALUARE

- Se punctează oricare alte modalități de rezolvare corectă a cerințelor.

SUBIECTUL A - USE OF ENGLISH

I. 10p = 10 x 1p

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 – appeared | 6 – remains |
| 2 – consisted | 7 – have not deciphered |
| 3 – record / recorded | 8 – have changed |
| 4 – developed | 9 – had been writing |
| 5 – known | 10 – were writing |

II. 10p = 10 x 1p

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1 – urbanisation | 6 – uprooted |
| 2 – earlier | 7 – competition |
| 3 – instability | 8 – qualification(s) |
| 4 – inadequate | 9 – marginalised |
| 5 – affordable | 10 – stressful |

III. 10p = 10 x 1p

- | | |
|-------|--------|
| 1 – b | 6 – b |
| 2 – c | 7 – d |
| 3 – a | 8 – d |
| 4 – b | 9 – c |
| 5 – b | 10 – b |

IV. 10p = 10 x 1p

- 1 – LOOK
- 2 – DOWN
- 3 – OF
- 4 – AS
- 5 – ONLY
- 6 – THAT
- 7 – UP
- 8 – BETTER
- 9 – PLAY
- 10 – FACT



SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS

I. 5 x 2p = 10p

- 1 – D
- 2 – A
- 3 – D
- 4 – D
- 5 – B

II. FOR-AND-AGAINST ESSAY MARKING SCHEME - (200-220 words)
50p

See the marking scheme

MARKING SCHEME FOR THE FOR AND AGAINST ESSAY

Analytical criteria	Exemplary 10p	Proficient 8p	Partially Proficient 6p	Weak 4p	Incomplete 2p	Po in ts
CONTENT	The essay is completely relevant to topic, all arguments are well-rounded, well-grounded, and balanced, developing the thesis of the introduction and leading to a balanced consideration and/or personal opinion.	The essay is fairly completed, the thesis in the introduction being further developed with balanced arguments and relevant ideas.	The essay is partially relevant to topic, there is no thesis formulated in the first paragraph, which leads to inconsistencies in the logical development of arguments.	The essay is faulty, including serious logical impediments in the sequencing of ideas / arguments.	The essay is wholly inadequate, there is no thesis in the first paragraph, while the arguments lack logical development.	
ORGANIZATION AND COHESION	There is complete logical connection of paragraphs due to a judicious use of linking devices, mechanics, and length requirements.	There is a fairly completion of paragraph organization due to scarce misuse of linking devices, mechanics, and length requirements.	There is partial completion of the task. Paragraphs are partially complete due to unfinished ideas and scarce use of linking devices, mechanics, and length requirements.	There is serious inconsistency in the organization of the paragraphs due to the misuse of the linking devices, mechanics, and length requirements.	Paragraphs are incomplete, both linking devices, mechanics, and length requirements having been disrespected.	
VOCABULARY	A wide range of vocabulary is used appropriately and accurately throughout the essay; precise meaning is conveyed; minor errors are rare; spelling is very well controlled. The register of the for and against essay is totally relevant to the task, being organically integrated all along the discourse.	A range of vocabulary is used appropriately and accurately in the essay; occasional errors in word choice/formation are possible; spelling is well controlled with occasional slips. The register of the for and against essay is relevant to the task with slightly incongruent lapses within the discourse	The range of vocabulary is adequately used in the essay; errors in word choice / formation are present when more sophisticated items of vocabulary are attempted; spelling can be faulty at times. The register of the for and against essay is partially relevant to the task with a narrow inconsistency of style, leading to halts in the logical development of ideas	A limited range of vocabulary is present within the essay; less common items of vocabulary are rare and may be often faulty; spelling errors can make text understanding difficult. The register of the essay is inconsistent due to the mixture of styles.	A very narrow range of vocabulary is present; errors in word choice/formation predominate; spelling errors can make the essay obscure at times. The register used in the for and against essay is inappropriate for the type of functional writing.	
STRUCTURES	A wide range of grammatical structures is used accurately and flexibly throughout the essay; minor errors are rare; punctuation is very well controlled.	A range of grammatical structures is used accurately and with some flexibility along the essay; occasional errors are possible; punctuation is well controlled with occasional slips.	A mix of complex and simple grammatical structures is present throughout the essay; errors are present when complex language is attempted; punctuation can be faulty at times.	A limited range of grammatical structures is present along the essay; complex language is rare and may be often faulty; punctuation errors can make text understanding difficult.	A very narrow range of grammatical structures is present within the essay; errors predominate; punctuation errors make the text obscure at times.	
EFFECT ON TARGET READER	The interest of the reader is aroused and sustained throughout.	The text has a good effect on the reader.	The effect on the reader is satisfactory.	The effect on the reader non-relevant.	The text has a negative effect on the reader.	

