

Etapa județeană/sectoarelor municipiului București a olimpiadelor naționale școlare - 2023

Probă scrisă

Limba engleză

CLASA a IX-a - SECȚIUNEA A

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.
- Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 3 ore.

SUBJECT A – USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

I. Read the following text and put the verbs in brackets in the correct form. 10 points

Four years ago, I 1. ___(work) for a low-key company. My career 2. ___(evolve) since then. I now manage a team of six people. This job is highly stressful and I never 3. ___(take) any stress management courses so comfort food seems to be the easiest solution for me. Ice cream 4. ___(become) my helper and comforter. Before leaving my office today, I told myself that I 5. ___(stop) by this supermarket on my way home. So here I am. The shop 6. ___(look) eerily empty. There are only three people in the queue - we all 7. ___(wait) for the cashier for almost twenty minutes. She is nowhere 8. ___(see) but I do not leave. It is just a matter of patience. Who knows? Perhaps this is the last time I 9. ___(be) able to buy something today. How I wish I 10. ___(not eat) all the ice cream in the freezer last night...

II. Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in each sentence. 10 points

1. If you have to share your personal information with someone, make sure she/he is a close friend and not just an ___(ACQUAINT).
2. I just happen to be one of those people others usually describe as “welcoming” and ___(APPROACH).
3. That kind of ___(CLOSE) with your colleagues is fine if you truly consider them your friends.
4. Setting ___(BOUND) is an important aspect in any healthy relationship.
5. The Queen owned a few ___(RESIDE), such as Sandringham and Balmoral Castle.
6. Three passengers and a flight ___(ATTEND) were slightly wounded.
7. Our priority now is to bring an end to this ___(SENSE) violence.
8. Your next ___(APPOINT) for the interview will be on Monday.
9. She finally revealed her feelings of anxiety and ___(SECURE).
10. Today, we see the impact of Covid 19 on people’s lives, something that would have been ___(THINK) ten years ago.

III. Read the following text and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits in each gap
10 points

Prince William has given 1_____ on trying to fix his relationship with his brother Prince Harry, as the former believes that he has lost his 2_____ with the Duke of Sussex completely.

“According to a very good 3_____, William is feeling pragmatic about the 4_____ issue with his brother. He feels that he 5_____ done everything in his power, his absolute 6_____, to advise and guide Harry,” the royal expert said.

“Harry decided to 7_____ his own advice and now Prince William has told a very good friend, that he is 8_____ to the fact that he has lost his younger brother. “This could change in the future, but it goes to show where the brothers are right now. He feels Harry is a lost 9_____. This comes after Prince Harry released his bombshell memoir “*Spare*” which included 10_____ revelations about his older brother.

1.	A – in	B – up	C - out	D - over
2.	A - relation	B – link	C - bond	D - affection
3.	A – source	B – origin	C - fount	D – spring
4.	A – major	B – full	C - total	D – entire
5.	A – has	B – had	C – would have	D – has had
6.	A – the best	B – best	C – good	D – better
7.	A - grasp	B - take	C - grab	D - grip
8.	A – left	B - surrendered	C -resigned	D – conceded
9.	A - seed	B - source	C -root	D - cause
10.	A – shocking	B - joyful	C - hopeful	D - ongoing

IV. Translate the following text into English.

10 points

La șapte dimineața, când deșteptătorul făcu să vibreze pereții camerei, tânărul era deja treaz. Stătea în pat, cu fața luminată de un zâmbet larg. Îl trezise soarele pe care nu sperase să-l mai vadă cu atâta limpezime după o săptămână de ploii neîntrerupte. Deschisese ochii în explozia portocalie a frunzișului unui copac ale cărui crengi i se legănau în dreptul ferestrei. Se anunța o zi minunată, prima de școală în marele oraș. Inspiră adânc, mulțumit de cele văzute. Dacă nu ar fi fost această schimbare, ziua ar fi rămas aceeași ca întotdeauna.

(Radu Paraschivescu - *Bazar bizar*, adaptat)

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

In the 15th century, Europeans began to sail west across the Atlantic Ocean in search of new routes to China and the East Indies, but, in the process, they discovered an entirely New World: North and South America, plus many other lands.

The story of North American exploration spans an entire millennium. It began with the Vikings' brief stint in Newfoundland circa 1000 A.D. and continued through England's colonization of the Atlantic coast in the 17th century, which laid the foundation for the United States of America. The centuries following the European arrivals would see the culmination of this effort, as Americans pushed westward across the continent, enticed by the lure of riches, open land and a desire to fulfill the nation's *manifest destiny*.

The first attempt by Europeans to colonize the New World occurred around 1000 A.D. when the Vikings sailed from the British Isles to Greenland, established a colony and then moved on to Labrador, the Baffin Islands and finally Newfoundland. There they established a colony named Vineland (meaning fertile region) and from that base sailed along the coast of North America, observing the flora, fauna and native peoples. Inexplicably, Vineland was abandoned after only a few years.

Although the Vikings never returned to America, other Europeans came to know of their accomplishments. Europe, however, was made up of many small principalities whose concerns were mainly local. Europeans may have been intrigued by the stories of the feared Vikings' discovery of a "new world," but they lacked the resources or the will to follow their path of exploration. Trade continued to revolve around the Mediterranean Sea, as it had for hundreds of years.

Between 1000 and 1650, a series of interconnected developments occurred in Europe that provided the impetus for the exploration and subsequent colonization of America. Thus, the rise of Protestantism and the gradual erosion of the power of the Catholic Church, along with the Renaissance, helped foster individualism and create a climate favorable to exploration. In the Renaissance, artists and writers such as Galileo, Machiavelli and Michelangelo adopted a view of life that stressed humans' ability to change and control the world.

At the same time, political centralization ended much of the squabbling and fighting among rival noble families and regions that had characterized the Middle Ages. With the decline of the political power and wealth of the Catholic Church, a few rulers gradually solidified their power. Portugal, Spain, France and England were transformed from small territories into nation-states with centralized authority in the hands of monarchs who were able to direct and finance overseas exploration.

As these cultural, religious and political changes were occurring, technological innovations in navigation set the stage for exploration. Bigger, faster ships and the invention of navigational devices such as the astrolabe and sextant made extended voyages possible.

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

1. In the first paragraph it is stated that

- A. Europeans began to sail west to discover new land in China and the East Indies.
- B. the New World was discovered by accident.
- C. China and the East Indies were on the route to America.
- D. Europeans discovered new lands west of China.

2. According to the article, the Vikings

- A. established a colony in Greenland, where they observed the flora, fauna and native peoples.
- B. established Vineland to farm the fertile land.
- C. colonized a part of Newfoundland for a while and from there they explored the continent.
- D. succeeded in colonizing the New World from their first attempt.

3. At the same time, the other European principalities

- A. had neither the resources nor the desire to explore the New World.
- B. were too concerned with local matters to do trade around the Mediterranean Sea.
- C. had been trading goods with North America for hundreds of years.
- D. feared the Vikings' discovery of a "new world".

4. The phrase "provided the impetus for the exploration ... of America" in the fifth paragraph means

- A. created an appetite for the natural riches of America.
- B. impeded the further exploration and colonization of America.
- C. prompted further exploration and colonization of America.
- D. sparked an interest in the exploration and colonization of America.

5. Which of the following facts is true according to the text?

- A. The exploration of America lasted for a thousand years.
- B. A number of complex factors, including fighting among rival European principalities, opened the way to the discovery and colonization of the New World.
- C. Galileo, Machiavelli and Michelangelo had a view of life similar to that of the Catholic church.
- D. The invention of the sextant and the astrolabe made the ships bigger and faster.

II. Write a narrative essay about an unforgettable adventure you had on one of your journeys. (180-200 words)

50 points