

**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA LOCALĂ, 11 februarie 2024
CLASA A XII-A, SECȚIUNEA B - Bilingv/Intensiv Varianta 1**

Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.

- Pentru rezolvarea corectă a tuturor subiectelor din Partea A și Partea B se acordă 100 de puncte.
- Timpul de lucru: 3 ore.
- Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.

SUBIECTUL A – USE OF ENGLISH

(40 points)

I. Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

(20 points)

The city of Teotihuacán, which lay about 50 kilometers northeast of modern-day Mexico City, began its growth by 200–100 B.C. At its height, between about A.D. 150 and 700, it probably had a population of more than 125,000 people and covered at least 20 square kilometers. It had over 2,000 apartment complexes, a great market, a large number of industrial workshops, an administrative center, a number of massive religious edifices, and a regular grid pattern of streets and buildings. Clearly, much planning and central control were involved in the expansion and ordering of this great metropolis. Moreover, the city had economic and perhaps religious contacts with most parts of Mesoamerica (modern Central America and Mexico).

How did this tremendous development take place, and why did it happen in the Teotihuacán Valley? Among the main factors are Teotihuacán's geographic location on a natural trade route to the south and east of the Valley of Mexico, the obsidian resources in the Teotihuacán Valley itself, and the valley's potential for extensive irrigation. The exact role of other factors is much more difficult to pinpoint – for instance, Teotihuacán's religious significance as a shrine, the historical situation in and around the Valley of Mexico toward the end of the first millennium B.C., the ingenuity and foresightedness of Teotihuacán's elite, and, finally, the impact of natural disasters, such as the volcanic eruptions of the late first millennium B.C.

This last factor is at least circumstantially implicated in Teotihuacán's rise. Prior to 200 B.C., a number of relatively small centers coexisted in and near the Valley of Mexico. Around this time, the largest of these centers, Cuicuilco, was seriously affected by a volcanic eruption, with much of its agricultural land covered by lava. With Cuicuilco eliminated as a potential rival, any one of a number of relatively modest towns might have emerged as a leading economic and political power in Central Mexico. The archaeological evidence clearly indicates, though, that Teotihuacán was the center that did arise as the predominant force in the area by the first century A.D.

A. Answer the following questions, according to the text.

(8 points)

1. What were the main features of the city of Teotihuacán between A.D. 150 and 700 E?
2. Why is obsidian mentioned?
3. What can be inferred from paragraph 3 about Cuicuilco prior to 200 B.C.?
4. What is another circumstantial factor implicated in Teotihuacán's rise?

B. Choose the synonym for the words given below, according to their meaning in the text. (6 points)

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. grid: | a) table | b) matrix | c) network |
| 2. pinpoint: | a) aim | b) identify | c) fix |
| 3. ingenuity: | a) cleverness | b) faith | c) sincerity |

C. Rephrase the following sentences so as to preserve the meaning. (6 points)

1. With Cuicuilco eliminated as a potential rival, (...) Teotihuacán was the center that did arise as the predominant force in the area by the first century A.D.

If _____

2. Teotihuacán *probably* had a population of more than 125,000 people and covered at least 20 square kilometers. Teotihuacán _____

3. It had over 2,000 apartment complexes and a great market as well as a large number of industrial workshops. Not only _____

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

Jobs for the Boys and Girls American ambassadors are political 1. _____ (APPOINT) a way of thanking those who have given time and money to the 2. _____ (PRESIDE) campaign. Take the example of Della Newman, a Seattle real-estate broker and friend of George Bush, 3. _____ (EMINENT) qualified to be Ambassador to New Zealand. Her certificate of competence from the State Department points out: "Mrs Newman's background in the real-estate business, combined with her many civic 4. _____ (COMMIT) gives her the 5. _____ (MANAGE) qualities to make her an 6. _____ (EXCEL) candidate for Ambassador to New Zealand." 7. _____ (PROFESS) diplomats have been appalled, and someone started to leak the competence certificates, which are supposed to show that the ambassador will have a 8. _____ (KNOW) of "the country's principal language, and understanding of its history, culture and political structure." A State Department official commented: "By keeping them 9. _____ (CONFIDE) they obviously hope to shepherd more turkeys through the Senate." One certificate, provided to an operator of fast-food restaurants in Kansas, read in full: "Mr Wilkins's 10. _____ (EXTEND) background in business will serve him well as the next US ambassador to the Netherlands."

III. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only one word in each space. (10 points)

HEALTH AND CIGARETTES

In many Western countries, girls are more liable to smoke than boys. It's the girls who want to look "tough and grown-up." The result is that while lung cancer in American men has fallen 1) _____ the first time in 50 years, the disease is increasing in women. The decrease in the disease among men is attributed to a decrease in smoking among men 2) _____ the government's first warning of a connection between cigarettes and disease in 1964. On the other hand, lung cancer is now expected to overtake breast cancer 3) _____ the

principal fatal cancer among women. 4) _____ your son or daughter is a non-smoker, there is another good 5) _____ for rejecting a smoker as a lifelong mate. Smokers don't just ruin their own health by lighting up. They are a menace to 6) _____. Second-hand smoke is lethal. 7) _____ the 18th report on smoking by the United States Surgeon General concluded: "Involuntary smoking is a 8) _____ of disease, including lung cancer, in healthy non-smokers." 9) _____ to the report, at home, the children of parents who smoke 10) _____ the effects in their respiratory systems. Smokers make their own kids sick.

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS

(60 points)

I. Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

SAFETY AT SEA

Catastrophes at sea and in the air make grim headlines: they represent a great deal of sorrow for the families of the dead and injured. Why do they occur? Terrorists plant bombs, as in the case of the destruction of the American airliner over Lockerbie in Scotland. Pyromaniacs light fires, as in the case of the ferry, Scandinavian Star, sailing from Norway to Denmark. In the week following that tragedy, there were two other cases of fires on board ferries: on one plying between Wales and Ireland, and on another between Portsmouth and Cherbourg. In both of them, a man died.

Clearly, fire is a commonplace hazard, and a very dangerous one, at sea. Talking after the Scandinavian Star had been towed into the small port of Lysekil, a Swedish police spokesman made it clear how awful it had been. He said: "The toll from the blaze that engulfed the ferry south of Oslo fjord is still officially 75 dead and 60 missing but about 100 bodies have already been taken off the ship and as many as 50 to 100 could still be on board. People tried to save themselves in the cabins and they are lying in big piles and it's difficult to figure out how many there are. There are a lot of children."

In the immediate aftermath of such catastrophes reports of inadequate safety measures circulate. On board the Scandinavian Star, a fireman said the ferry had only one system to pump and spray water on to the flames and that pumping and spraying had to be done alternatively. On a wider scale, newspapers reported once again on the world-wide system of "flagging-out" which means that ships are not registered in the countries where they operate, and where the regulations are strict and expensive, but in places like Panama and Cyprus and the Bahamas, where they are lax and cheap. The Scandinavian Star, although Danish-owned, was registered in the Bahamas.

One of the most outrageous cases came to light in October 1989. A general cargo ship named the Bosun set sail from Hamburg under the flag of the small central American state of Belize. West German police arrested and charged two men, the ship's British master and its German owner. They were charged with flying a false flag, and forgery of Belize government documents. A police officer said: "Belize was not the latest entrant in the cheap flag stakes; they in fact operate no shipping whatsoever. When we contacted the Belize High Commission in London, they were astonished to learn that a ship was pretending to be registered in their country."

Rules are laid down for ship safety by United Nations organizations. The rules are strict, and specify that a ship

must be built with heat and fire resistant bulkheads, fire doors to passenger and crew areas, sealed cable and air conditioning trunking to block smoke, non-combustible materials and/or sprinkler systems, smoke detectors and alarms, and signposted emergency exits. But all these rules of ship design are meaningless according to an expert from the Nautical Institute. He explains: "The big loophole is the lack of power to test whether these rules are being enforced. The port state is entitled to carry out spot checks on ships to make sure their safety certificates are in order; the lifeboats are all there and don't have holes in them; and that there are the necessary charts, life-jackets in the racks, and fire hoses in their reels. But they don't have the power to test whether they all work, or the crews know how to use them. I think the public has a right to be worried." He goes on to point out that the Scandinavian Star would have been built to a very high design standard. However, it is likely that neither her crew nor her safety equipment could have been checked in the Bahamas before she began carrying passengers.

Why do the ship-owners do it? According to the Secretary of the National Union of Seamen, the answer is cost. He says: "The Danish owners of the ill-fated Scandinavian Star could have registered her in Denmark and employed ratings belonging to the appropriate union. These would have been properly trained in firefighting and lifeboat drills and been able to communicate with their officers and the passengers in the event of an emergency. The ship would have come under the rigorous scrutiny of the Danish port inspectorate.

"But the inspectors might have insisted on potentially costly modifications and the ratings would have asked for Danish wages and accompanying social benefits. Much simpler (not to mention cheaper) to register her in the Bahamas and at a stroke free the owners from such irksome restrictions. Among the survivors of this horrific tragedy there may be some ideologues who share this free-market philosophy, but I doubt it."

1. Fires sometimes occur on board ships

- A. because someone deliberately lights them
- B. when there are inadequate safety measures
- C. when the crew has not been trained
- D. because the safety measures are inadequate

2. Flagging-out

- A. is common all over the world
- B. means that ships must register
- C. is a matter of flying the national flag
- D. helps poor nations export

3. The Belize High commission was surprised to have a ship registered in the country because

- A. they had only just started registering shipping
- B. it is a land-locked country, like Switzerland
- C. no ships operate under the Belize flag
- D. it was the first time forged Belize documents had been used

4. When are the strict rules of shipbuilding ineffective?

- A. When the crew is untrained.
- B. When the safety equipment does not work.
- C. If regulations are not enforced.
- D. If there are not enough lifeboats.

5. Being involved in a serious accident at sea is likely to make people sceptical of
- A. free-market economics
 - B. ship builders
 - C. ship owners
 - D. government restrictions

II. Starting from the text above, write an essay giving your opinion on the following statement: *Should money be placed before people's safety?* (250-280 words) (50 p)

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ETAPA LOCALĂ, 11 februarie 2024
CLASA A XII-A, SECȚIUNEA B - Bilingv/Intensiv**

Varianta 1

BAREM DE CORECTARE

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

SUBIECTUL A – USE OF ENGLISH

(40 points)

I. Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

(20 points)

A. Answer the following questions, according to the text.

(4 x 2 p=8 points)

1. it probably had a population of more than 125,000 people and covered at least 20 square kilometers. It had over 2,000 apartment complexes, a great market, a large number of industrial workshops, an administrative center, a number of massive religious edifices, and a regular grid pattern of streets and buildings/ had economic and perhaps religious contacts with most parts of Mesoamerica (modern Central America and Mexico).

2. as a main factor for the tremendous development of the Teotihuacán Valley

3. Its economy relied heavily on agriculture.

4. Cuicuilco, was seriously affected by a volcanic eruption, with much of its agricultural land covered by lava

B. Choose the synonym for the words given below, according to their meaning in the text. (3 x 2 p=6 points)

1. c network, 2. b identify, 3. a cleverness

C. Rephrase the following sentences so as to preserve the meaning.

(3 x 2 p=6 points)

1. ... Cuicuilco hadn't been eliminated as a potential rival, Teotihuacán wouldn't have arisen as the

2. ... *may/could/might have* had a population of more than 125,000 people and covered at least 20 square kilometers

3. ... did it have over 2,000 apartment complexes and a great market but also a large number of industrial workshops.

II. Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in each gap.

(10 x 1 p=10 points)

1. APPOINTEES
2. PRESIDENTIAL
3. EMINENTLY
4. COMMITMENTS
5. MANAGERIAL



6. EXCELLENT
7. PROFESSIONAL
8. KNOWLEDGE
9. CONFIDENTIAL
10. EXTENSIVE

III. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only one word in each space. (10 x 1 p=10 points)

1. for, 2. since/after, 3. as, 4. If, 5. reason, 6. others, 7. As, 8 cause, 9. According, 10. show.

Subiectul B

I. For each question decide which answer (A, B, C or D) fits best according to the text. (5 x 2 p=10 points)

1) A, 2. A, 3. C, 4. C, 5.A

MARKING SCHEME FOR THE OPINION ESSAY

Analytical criteria	Exemplary 10p	Proficient 8p	Partially Proficient 6p	Weak 4p	Incomplete 2p	Points
CONTENT	The essay is completely relevant to topic, the introduction clearly stating opinion, whilst the contents offer arguments to support it, followed by a counterargument, leading to a conclusion in which the opinion is restated.	The essay is fairly completed, the opinion in the introduction being further developed with arguments and relevant ideas, the counterargument is present but could be better substantiated, the conclusion is present but the restated opinion might be missing	The essay is partially relevant to topic, there is no opinion 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 arguments / ideas.	The essay is wholly inadequate, there is no opinion in the first paragraph, while the arguments offered 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 opinion 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/format ion are possible; spelling is well controlled with occasional slips. The register of the opinion 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 opinion essay is partially relevant to the task with a narrow inconsistency of style.	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/form ation predominate ; spelling errors can make the essay obscure at times. The register used in the opinion essay is inappropriate for this type of 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.	
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