

Etapa județeană/sectoarelor municipiului București a olimpiadelor naționale școlare - 2024

Probă scrisă

Limba engleză

CLASA a VII-a

- **Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.**
- **Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.**
- **Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 2 ore.**

SUBIECTUL I – USE OF ENGLISH (25 points)

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

10 points

Sarah, Tom and Emily were on a journey along the scenic trails of the Scottish West Highland Way. As they **(1)** _____ **(hike)** into the sunset, a sudden gust of wind **(2)** _____ **(sweep)** across the path. Sarah shivered: "It **(3)** _____ **(get)** cold. Maybe we should stop for the night."

Emily, gazing at the towering peaks ahead, sighed: "I hoped we **(4)** _____ **(reach)** the summit before sunset." Tom reassured her: "If we **(5)** _____ **(keep up)** this pace, we will definitely make it." So they continued their ascent.

When Sarah stumbled on a loose rock, Tom quickly grabbed her hand to steady her, saying: "**(6)** _____ **(I/not/tell)** you repeatedly to pay more attention to the trail? Be careful, or you **(7)** _____ **(hurt)** yourself!"

After a while, they reached a fork in the path. Emily suggested **(8)** _____ **(take)** the left trail but admitted to having no clue, only a hunch. Tom insisted they should follow the trail markers, which pointed to the right. Sarah, who was watching them calmly, intervened: "You **(9)** _____ **(argue)** about the trail map for the past half hour but still **(10)** _____ **(reach)** a conclusion."

I.2. Read the text below and look carefully at each line. If the line is correct, write a tick (✓). If it has a word that should not be there, write the word.

10 points

00. Last Saturday it was my sister's birthday. She went to the market early to do the shopping✓.....
0. for the party. "Would you be so kind as that to help me carry these heavy bags?" she askedthat....
1. when she returned. I gladly helped her, knowing how much she has had on her plate on that
2. day. The cosy restaurant where we ate at last month had closed down so we decided to have
3. the party at home. As we were unpacking the groceries, she made me promise that I would
4. make her birthday cake. "I don't mind to being asked to lend a hand," I joked, knowing how
5. much she would loved my baking. Later, when the guests started arriving, I noticed there were
6. hardly any people in the room. "She may have given them the wrong address," I worried,
7. hoping everyone would find their own way. Soon the party was in full swing. However, one
8. guest seemed to dominate the conversation. She went on to talking about her holiday plans
9. until everyone around her was bored out of their mind. I chuckled inwardly, grateful for her
10. enthusiasm but hoping for a change of topic. Overall, my sister's birthday party turned it out
to be a memorable and joyous occasion.

I.3. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in capital letters.

5 points

1. She danced _____ around the stage, captivating her audience with her movements. **GRACE**
2. Taking _____ for you actions is the first sign of maturity. **RESPONSIBLE**
3. Never _____ the impact your smile can have on people's lives. **ESTIMATE**
4. Unfortunately, he was _____ because he tried to cheat in the exam. **QUALIFY**
5. Many people still have their doubts about the _____ of extraterrestrial life. **EXIST**

SUBIECTUL al II-lea – READING COMPREHENSION (25 points)

Read the text below and complete the tasks that follow.

1. _____

Classic fairy tales have entertained generations of children while showcasing the universal theme of the victory of good over evil. "Cinderella," where a kind-hearted girl triumphs over adversity with the help of a fairy godmother, offers insights into the cultural values of perseverance and kindness. Similarly, "Little Red Riding Hood" has variants across different cultures, warning against the dangers of trusting strangers.

2. _____

Through magical settings, fantastic characters and enchanting plots, these stories transport children to imaginative worlds where anything is possible. "Alice in Wonderland" depicts a surreal realm where logic is suspended. In Neverland, Peter Pan leads the Darling children on adventures filled with pirates, mermaids and fairies, while Tinker Bell, a playful fairy who communicates through tinkling bells, inspires children to create their own magical companions and invent unique forms of communication. As Dorothy of "The Wizard of Oz" encounters talking animals, magical objects and fantastic landscapes, readers are inspired to picture their own extraordinary journeys and invent new worlds.

3. _____

Many classic fairy tales teach valuable moral lessons and important life skills. For example, "The Ugly Duckling" promotes acceptance and self-confidence. In "The Three Little Pigs," children learn the importance of hard work as the diligent pigs outsmart the cunning wolf. Likewise, "The Little Mermaid" teaches the importance of selflessness through the sacrifices made by the mermaid protagonist. Additionally, "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" warns against dishonesty and the consequences of false alarms, offering children practical wisdom in order for them to make their own ethical choices.

4. _____

On the other hand, the black-and-white portrayal of good versus evil may lead to the oversimplification of moral issues. As a result, fairy tales usually fail to teach children about the complexities of human nature. In "Cinderella," for example, the stepmother and stepsisters are described as purely wicked characters without any character development or ability to improve. Similarly, in "Jack and the Beanstalk," Jack's theft of the giant's treasure is portrayed as heroic rather than morally questionable, thus sending mixed messages to young readers.

5. _____

What is more, some classic fairy tales perpetuate stereotypes while others contain elements of violence, cruelty, punishment and dangerous situations. Thus, princesses are often described as in need of rescue by a prince, which contradicts the modern values of gender equality. In "Hansel and Gretel," the siblings' encounter with the witch in her gingerbread house and their plan to outsmart her involve dark scenarios, featuring themes of abandonment and violence. Similarly, in "Little Red Riding Hood," the protagonist encounters a deceitful wolf who threatens her and her grandmother, while "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" falls prey to the same creature. While these themes may serve as cautionary tales, they may be upsetting or inappropriate for young children.

II.1 Choose the most suitable heading from the list (A-G) for each part (1-5). There are two extra headings which you do not need to use. 10 points

- A. *Reaching beyond the boundaries of reality*
- B. *Learning life lessons the hard way – from experience*
- C. *The reverse of the medal*
- D. *A window into cultural traditions*
- E. *Real life is shades of grey*
- F. *Learning life lessons the easy way – from tales*
- G. *All's well that ends well*

II.2 For questions 1-5, choose the answer A, B, C, or D which you think fits best according to the text. 15 points

1. What role does the fairy godmother play in "Cinderella"?

- A. a wise mentor
- B. a guardian angel
- C. a magical benefactor
- D. a playful fairy

2. What lesson can be learnt from "The Boy Who Cried Wolf"?

- A. the value of patience
- B. the consequences of lying
- C. the importance of bravery
- D. the power of friendship

3. In which fairy tale are characters depicted without significant character development or ability to improve?

- A. Cinderella
- B. The Ugly Duckling
- C. The Wizard of Oz
- D. The Little Mermaid

4. What do "The Three Little Pigs", "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" and "Little Red Riding Hood" have in common?

- A. They are all-animal stories.
- B. The protagonists are little children.
- C. They are morally questionable.
- D. They have the same antagonist.

5. Which of the following is an example of a cautionary tale?

- A. The wolf eats Little Red Riding Hood and her grandma because Red stops to talk to strangers on her way.
- B. The Ugly Duckling becomes a beautiful swan and is accepted by the swan community.
- C. Dorothy of "The Wizard of Oz" encounters talking animals, magical objects and fantastic landscapes.
- D. Jack steals the giant's treasure and returns safely home.

SUBIECTUL al III-lea – WRITING (50 points)

Write a narrative essay beginning like this:

In the cosy town of Green Grove, where the sun always shone and the birds always sang, Alex stumbled upon a mysterious note tucked under a forgotten bench in the park: "Adventure awaits."

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** (paragraph(s) 2/3 – develop the story)
3. **Conclusion** (paragraph 4 – end the story).

Do not count the words given.