

**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ – ETAPA NAȚIONALĂ
DEVA
Aprilie 2024**

**CLASA a VII-a
Probă scrisă**

- 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

Last Saturday, a group of children visited a local bee farm.

"(1) _____ (you/see) bees at work before?" asked Mr. Smith, the beekeeper. "They visit flowers to collect nectar and store it in their honey stomachs. Then, they regurgitate it into the honeycomb, where it (2) _____ (become) thick and sweet after a while."

Mr Smith opened one of the hives, revealing the bees hard at work.

"Look at all this honey! Our little friends (3) _____ (be) really busy!" he exclaimed. "They (4) _____ (work) tirelessly since the first blooms of spring. We (5) _____ (already, collect) honey several times this season."

On hearing this, Lena became very red in the face. "(6) _____ (you/not see) bee farming is in fact bee exploitation?" she burst out. "What will happen if humans (7) _____ (continue) to interfere with bee hives and honey-making for profit?"

"Congratulations on (8) _____ (be) such an advocate for animal rights, but you should know that beekeepers provide bees with a safe environment and protection from diseases and predators. The honeybee populations will decline unless beekeepers (9) _____ (look after) them," explained Mr Smith patiently.

Satisfied that the bees were happy and looked after, Lena joined her classmates at the picnic table where they had gathered for a honey tasting session. When she took her seat, they (10) _____ (sample) different types of honey, each one bursting with its own unique flavor. The children enjoyed the sweet treats with a newfound appreciation for these remarkable creatures and the important role they play in our ecosystem.

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

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 0. It's disheartening to see that the world today is going into the wrong direction when it |✓..... |
| 00. comes to pollution. There are so many issues at play that no <i>one person</i> can make a | <i>one/person</i> |
| 1. change on their own. Collective action is our best chance at fighting this global crisis. | ..... |
| 2. It's a common sentiment among many of us who waiting long for a cleaner planet. But | ..... |
| 3. change won't happen until all of us will understand the urgency of the situation and | ..... |
| 4. take an action. Even big polluters offer to help, but their help is insincere. The only way | ..... |
| 5. in which they can help is to stop polluting the earth altogether. The solution lies in the | ..... |
| 6. big polluters going green, but this won't happen overnight. It would mean investing | ..... |
| 7. huge sums of money in order that to change existing technologies. Sadly, many industries | ..... |
| 8. and corporations would rather to keep their profits than invest in green technologies. | ..... |
| 9. However, we must to remain hopeful for a green future and keep pushing for change. | ..... |
| 10. Together, we can make a really difference and pave the way for a cleaner, healthier | ..... |
| planet for generations to come. | |

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

5 points

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Greed and _____ are among the worst flaws of human nature. | HONEST |
| 2. You should drink plenty of water to prevent _____. | HYDRATE |
| 3. She completed the task _____, wasting valuable time. | EFFICIENT |
| 4. It's been quite an _____ evening so far and I really don't think much else will happen to change that. | EVENT |
| 5. Without an audience, the performance is _____. | POINT |

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

Read the text below and complete the tasks that follow.

1. _____

The Amazon rainforest, often referred to as the "Lungs of the Earth," is a vast and captivating ecosystem that spans across nine countries in South America, including Brazil, Peru and Colombia. Covering approximately 6.7 million square kilometers, it represents over half of the planet's remaining rainforests. Within its verdant embrace lie staggering levels of biodiversity, with scientists estimating that it harbors about 10% of the world's known species.

2. _____

The Amazon rainforest is home to iconic species such as the jaguar, the largest big cat in the Americas, known for its elusive nature and powerful predatory abilities. Sloths, with their slow and deliberate movements, hang effortlessly from the towering trees, while vibrant macaws and toucans fill the air with their colorful plumage and melodious calls. Beneath the dense foliage, the forest floor comes alive with creatures of all sizes, from the majestic top predators to the smallest of insects, each playing a vital role in the rainforest ecosystem.

3. _____

One of the most fascinating inhabitants of the Amazon rainforest is the poison dart frog. Poison dart frogs use their long, sticky tongues to catch fast-moving prey in the blink of an eye. At the same time, while their appearance may seem inviting, their skin secretes toxins that can be lethal to predators. When a frog is threatened, the poison oozes through its skin, kind of like sweat, but it is only deadly if it gets into a victim's body. Indigenous tribes of the Amazon have long utilized their poison for hunting purposes, coating the tips of blow darts with the venom, hence the name of the species. Just a tiny drop can kill the birds and small mammals that these populations hunt for food.

4. _____

In addition to its terrestrial wonders, the Amazon is also a realm of aquatic marvels, boasting a network of rivers and tributaries that snake through its heart. The Amazon River, with its extensive basin, serves as a lifeline for countless species, including the iconic pink river dolphins and the fearsome piranhas. These waterways not only sustain the diversity of wildlife but also provide essential resources for the indigenous communities living along their banks.

5. _____

Despite its ecological importance, the Amazon rainforest faces severe threats from deforestation, driven by agricultural expansion, logging and illegal mining. Efforts to protect and preserve this vital rainforest involve international collaborations, environmental initiatives and the empowerment of indigenous communities. Conservation organizations work tirelessly to establish protected areas, implement sustainable land management practices and combat illegal activities such as poaching and logging. Raising awareness about the importance of the Amazon rainforest and advocating for its conservation are crucial steps in preserving this invaluable natural treasure for future generations.

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. *Deadly darters*
- B. *Guardians of traditional knowledge*
- C. *A sanctuary for wildlife*
- D. *Like oxygen to lungs*
- E. *The battle for the survival of the Amazon rainforest*
- F. *The arteries of life*
- G. *Balancing conservation and exploration*

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. Which statement accurately describes the Amazon rainforest based on the first paragraph?
 - A. It stretches over three countries in South America.
 - B. It covers approximately 6.7% of the Earth's surface.
 - C. It lacks biodiversity, compensating through the countless species of green plants.
 - D. It represents over 50% of the planet's remaining rainforests.
2. Which of the following statements is true according to paragraph 2?
 - A. Jaguars can be found easily in the Amazon rainforest;
 - B. Sloths move effortlessly from one tree to another;
 - C. Macaws and toucans have got colourful feathers and strong voices;
 - D. Animals of all sizes live on the sunlit forest floor.
3. The poison dart frog is named so because:
 - A. It darts its poisonous tongue to catch its prey;
 - B. Toxins dart through its skin when it feels threatened;
 - C. The local hunters dip the tips of their arrows in its poison;
 - D. Its poison kills the prey instantly.
4. According to paragraph 4:
 - A. There are snakes in the Amazon and its tributaries;
 - B. Countless meandering rivers cross the Amazon rainforest;
 - C. The indigenous tribes use traditional lifelines to catch the pink river dolphins;
 - D. A species of river snakes sustains both the Amazon wildlife and the local tribes.
5. According to paragraph 5:
 - A. Indigenous communities are the biggest threat to the variety of wildlife in the Amazon rainforest;
 - B. Deforestation is the direct result of farming, wood-cutting and natural resource extraction;
 - C. Poaching and logging are sustainable land management practices;
 - D. Conservation organizations hire lawyers to plea for the importance of the Amazon rainforest.

SUBIECTUL al III-lea – WRITING (50 points)

Write a narrative essay beginning like this:

She slowly opened the bedroom window and stretched her arms while breathing in the fresh morning air. Suddenly, the sky lit up with a strange, white light and

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 in the beginning.