

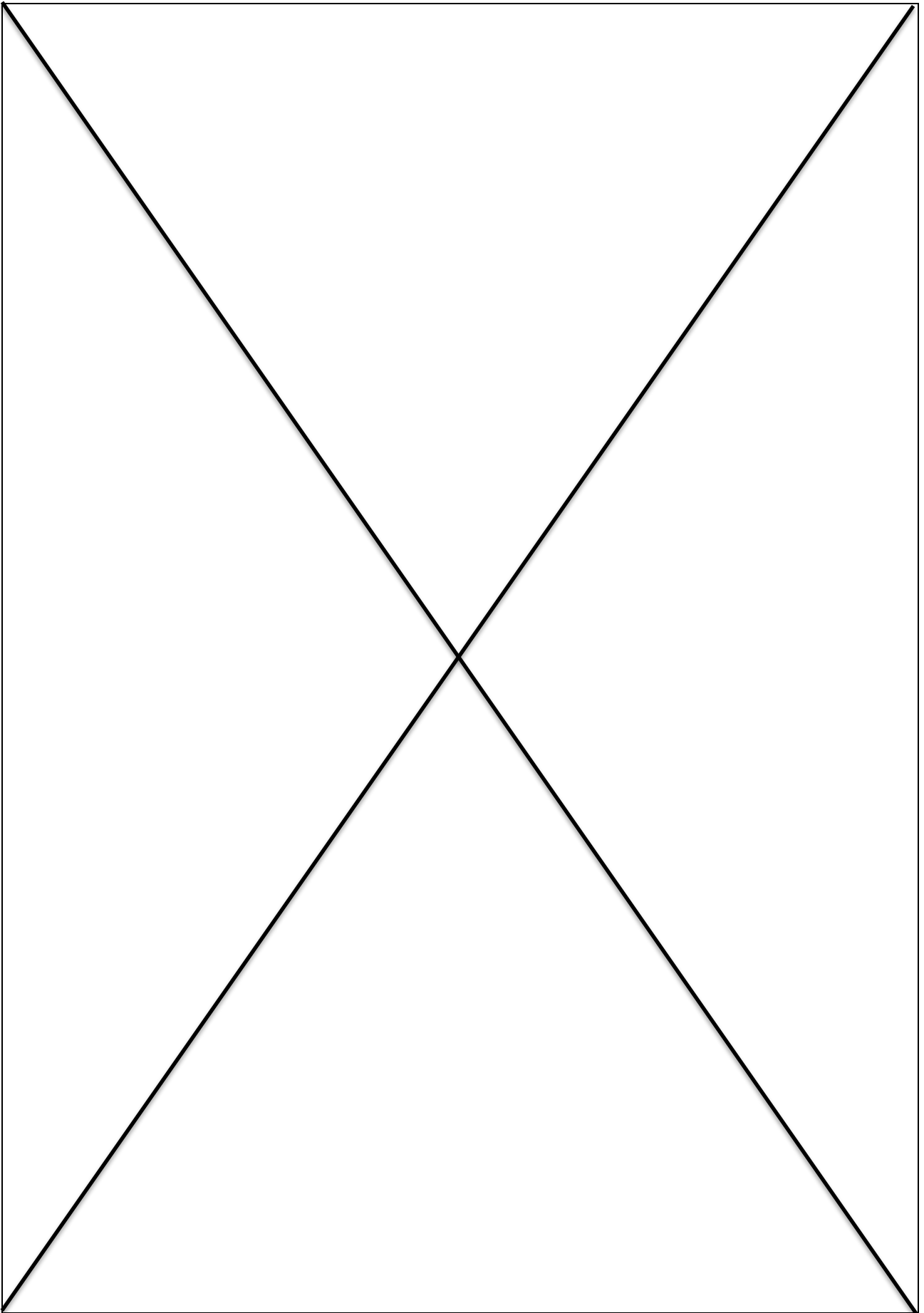
OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA LOCALĂ
10 februarie 2025

CLASA A VIII-A

Numele și prenumele elevului: _____

Unitatea de învățământ: _____

Codul elevului: _____



VĂ RUGĂM SĂ NOTAȚI CODUL DUMNEAVOASTRĂ ÎN CASETA DE MAI JOS:

COD ELEV:

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

READING COMPREHENSION

(25 de puncte)

Look at the sentences below about holidays in the Baltic Sea on board a ship. Read the text below and decide if they are TRUE or FALSE. (10x2.5p=25p)

1. Sara Wheeler went to Antarctica to do some scientific research.	1.
2. Sara Wheeler was surprised by how few artists have travelled to Antarctica.	2.
3. Philip Hughes was one of many artists to have paintings on display at the 'Antarctica' exhibition.	3.
4. By 1975, Hughes realised that he needed to find other locations for his work.	4.
5. Sara Wheeler particularly liked the fact that Antarctica is so different from other places on earth.	5.
6. One of Hughes's paintings brought back happy memories of Antarctica for Sara Wheeler.	6.
7. Hughes had to wear gloves whenever he drew a picture outdoors in Antarctica.	7.
8. Hughes completed the painting 'Christmas Day at Rothera' outdoors.	8.
9. Hughes found it challenging to paint mainly in white.	9.
10. Hughes missed having his mobile phone in Antarctica.	10.

Journalist Sara Wheeler writes about her meeting with the artist Philip Hughes and the discussion they had about their experiences in Antarctica.

Antarctica has had a powerful effect on both explorers and scientists. In 1994 I discovered why, when I spent seven months there collecting material for a travel book. I have often thought the amazing emptiness of this region would attract the interest of many landscape painters and yet, throughout history, only a small number have actually been there.

In 2003, one of them, the 67-year-old painter Philip Hughes, opened a one-man show in London called simply 'Antarctica'. Until 1975, Hughes's paintings were mostly of the South Downs in England, but at this point, Hughes decided he wanted to paint more distant lands. First, he travelled to South America. Then in 2001, he spent five weeks in Antarctica, dividing his time between Rothera, a British research centre on Adelaide Island, and a science camp up on the West Antarctic ice sheet.

Antarctica simply isn't like anywhere else on this planet and for me this was the best thing about my visit. It is one-and-a-half times bigger than the United States but it is very peaceful. It also never gets dark. When I went to Hughes's show, we looked at his paintings together. He explained, 'I was just amazed by the beauty of Antarctica. It didn't matter that our nearest neighbours were 800 kilometres away.'

The temperatures can be extreme. At my camp they reached -115°C and at times I felt terrible. But back in England, looking at Hughes's painting 'Leonie Island at Midnight', I remembered what Antarctica was like when a storm ended. It was as if the world was new. Then I wondered why I came back. Hughes was there in summer, and the temperatures were around zero. He could draw in these conditions but if it got colder, he needed to wear gloves. The picture 'Christmas Day at Rothera' was drawn on paper while Hughes sat on the ice. He didn't put paint on it until later when he went inside, a common technique with Hughes. Although there are colours in Antarctica, most of the continent is white. 'The technical difficulty involved in painting there,' explained Hughes, 'was working in white. When I used even a little blue and green, I had to work very carefully.'

I asked Hughes why he went to Antarctica. 'Today, people are controlled by things like mobile phones and email. I had to get away from this. You only become aware of the absence, say, of planes overhead, when there aren't any. When it's only you and the natural world, you completely understand its power.'

USE OF ENGLISH

(50 de puncte)

I. Read the text below and write the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Emma (1) _____ (**WORK**) as a researcher in a laboratory where innovative energy solutions (2) _____ (**DEVELOP**) by her team. Right now, she (3) _____ (**CONDUCT**) an important experiment to improve solar panel efficiency. So far, she (4) _____ (**MAKE**) significant progress in reducing energy waste. If she finds a major breakthrough, her discovery (5) _____ (**CHANGE**) the way people generate renewable energy.

Last year, she (6) _____ (**TRAVEL**) to an international conference to present her findings, which were also published in science journals. Before she published her latest research, she (7) _____ (**CARRY OUT**) numerous tests to confirm her results.

Next year, she (8) _____ (**MEET**) with state leaders to discuss the importance of green energy. "If more governments (9) _____ (**SUPPORT**) eco-friendly technology, the world would depend less on fossil fuels," Emma says. She is confident that all her hard work (10) _____ (**PAY OFF**).

II. Use the words in capital letters at the end of each sentence to form another word that fits in each gap. (5x2p=10p)

1. Taking regular exercise can be both relaxing and _____ . **PLEASURE**
2. The names of the winners appear in _____ order. **ALPHABET**
3. Working full time can be a very _____ experience for most people. **STRESS**
4. The teacher praised him for his _____ during the school trip. **BRAVE**

5. The student received an award for his _____ in science.

ACHIEVE

III. Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space. For each question, choose the correct letter, A, B, C or D. (10x2p=20p)

Honey

Honey is a sweet liquid made by bees. It (1) ___ of water and sugars. Bees may travel as (2) ___ as seventy-five thousand kilometres and visit over two million flowers to produce just half a kilo of honey. The colour and flavour of honey depend (3) ___ the type of flower visited. In (4) ___, there are more than three hundred (5) ___ of honey.

The lighter-coloured ones are generally milder in flavour than darker honey.

In ancient (6) ___, honey was the main sweet food, as sugar was very (7) ___. Honey was of great (8) ___ to the ancient Egyptians, who used it as payment.

Today, honey is produced and eaten in (9) ___ part of the world. Research suggest that it prevents tiredness and improves athletic performance. However, honey is not just food - it (10) ___ be taken for sore throats and is used in many skin and hair-care products.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| (1) A involves | B contains | C includes | D consists |
| (2) A well | B long | C soon | D far |
| (3) A to | B on | C for | D with |
| (4) A case | B order | C fact | D place |
| (5) A varieties | B collections | C sets | D differences |
| (6) A seasons | B times | C years | D dates |
| (7) A distant | B rare | C small | D slim |
| (8) A cost | B price | C value | D charge |
| (9) A all | B some | C most | D every |
| (10) A shall | B need | C can | D ought |

WRITING

(25 de puncte)

Write a narrative essay ending like this:

Looking back, I realize that this experience has changed me forever. I am no longer the person I used to be.

Write your story in 150-180 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.

