



MINISTERUL
EDUCAȚIEI ȘI
CERCETĂRII
ȘTIINȚIFICE



Inspectoratul Școlar Județean Suceava

CALEA UNIRII, NR.15 720018, SUCEAVA, ROMÂNIA
TEL. +40 230 520638, +4073338434, +40 230 520637
<http://isj.sv.edu.ro> E-mail: isjstv@isj.sv.edu.ro, isjstv@yahoo.com

Varianta 1

**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA JUDEȚEANĂ
Clasa a XI-a Secțiunea A
22 Februarie 2015**

Question I (50 points)

In about 350 words, write an argumentative essay starting from the following statement:

“Any tool that enhances communication has profound effects in terms of how people can learn from each other, and how they can achieve the kind of freedom that they're interested in.” Bill Gates.

Question II (25 points)

You see the following announcement in a travel magazine.

THE TRANSPORT OF TOMORROW

How do you think we will be travelling around in, say, fifty years' time? Will we still be using cars? If so, what will they look like? And what about public transport? Will it still be the same?

Interesting prizes for the best articles!

Write your article in 200-220 words.

Question III (25 points)

1. Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage, using only one word:

(10 points)

Scientists in Bonn have developed a method of listening to sounds from plants normally inaudible to the human ear. The basic technique (1) ... developed in the Netherlands, but the German equipment is more sensitive. When a leaf is sliced, the plant signals pain or dismay (2) ... releasing the gas ethylene over its entire surface. The gas molecules are collected in a bell jar and bombarded with laser beams, (3) ... makes them vibrate. The resultant sound waves are amplified in a resonance tube, (4) ... detected with a sensitive microphone. The (5) ... a plant is subjected to stress, the louder the signal.

One surprising result came from an apparently healthy cucumber that was virtually shouting (6) ... agony. A closer study showed it (7) ... developed mildew, a harmful fungus, though the symptoms were (8) ...

apparent. Listening to plants in this way could be of great benefit to farmers as an early-warning system to detect pests and disease, and as an aid to efficient storing and transporting. Apples, for instance, give (9) ... high levels of ethylene, increasing with ripeness and causing neighbouring fruit to rot. Invisible differences of ripeness (10) ... be detected acoustically, enabling fruit to be separated into batches in order to prolong its freshness.

2. Read the text below. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the space: (10 points)

LISTENING TO VEGETABLES

<p>Muscle cars were never intended to be valuable. In fact, the whole idea behind muscle cars was to make them (1) ... and fast. Muscle cars were stripped-down versions of the most (2) ... homely, and basic mass-produced cars to ever roll out of Detroit. These rattle trap, bare bones, crude devices were built to conform to a price point with little regard given to sophistication or (3) ..., and aimed squarely at the (4) ... market. And this market couldn't get enough of them. These were the cars every red-blooded (5) ... kid wanted. The image, the speed, the lifestyle were all highly (6) Looking back, the muscle car years were a (7) ... brief moment in time that we will never see the likes of again. It was a perfect storm, just what the market wanted, and was presented at the right place in the right time. So how did these seemingly (8) ... cars, built in large numbers and owned by kids who (9) ... tried to kill them from the first twist of the key, become so valuable? More importantly, why did they become so valuable? Most people are astounded when they hear the recent sales results of the most (10) ... muscle cars.</p>	<p>1. EXPENSIVE 2. UTILITY 3. LONG 4. YOUNG 5. AMERICA 6. ADDICTION 7. RELATIVE 8. DISPOSE 9. LITERAL 10. DESIRE</p>
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3. Rewrite each sentence so that it contains the word in capital, without changing its meaning. You must use between 3 and 6 words, including the word given. (5 points)

1. I'll lend you the money if you pay it back next week. **LONG**
I'll lend you the moneyback next week.
2. I think a change would do you good. **FROM**
I think a change.
3. It was wrong of you not to tell me the information. **KEPT**
You should me.
4. Senator Jackson announced his intention to resign a short time ago. **KNOWN**
Senator Jackson has just to resign.
5. We managed to escape just before the whole building caught on fire. **HAD**
No the whole building caught on fire.

NOTĂ! Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru: 3 ore. Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.



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Barem de Corectare:

Question 3:

1.10 x 1 point - 10 points

1. was
2. by
3. which
4. then/and
5. more/longer
6. in/with
7. had
8. barely/not/hardly
9. off
10. can/may

2. 10x 1point- 10 points

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. INEXPENSIVE | 6. ADDICTIVE |
| 2. UTILITARIAN | 7. RELATIVELY |
| 3. LONGEVITY | 8. DISPOSABLE |
| 4. YOUTH | 9. LITERALLY |
| 5. AMERICAN | 10. DESIRABLE |

3. 5 x 1 point - 5 points

1. as long as you pay it
2. you would benefit from
3. not have kept that information from
4. made known his intention // made it known that he intends
5. sooner had we escaped than

N.B. Any other correct variant will be accepted !