

OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA LOCALĂ - 10 FEBRUARIE 2024
CLASA a X-a SECȚIUNEA B

SUBJECT A- USE OF ENGLISH (40 POINTS)

1. Read the paragraph below and do the tasks that follow. (20 points)

Schools in Europe devote 1-3 hours per week to Physical Education. Doctors warned that this is much too little. Statistics clearly demonstrate that societies in which Physical Education gets less time and attention in the school curriculum suffer from more spinal defects and flat foot, and are generally less healthy and more disease prone. Still, lots of pupils, especially girls, treat the obligation to **engage** in games and other kinds of physical activity as a sophisticated torture. At the same time, professional sports shows gather millions of fans in stadiums and in front of TV sets all over the world. Sport has inevitably become business. Being one of the most profitable forms of mass entertainment, it offers its stars enormous fees for merely participating in a sportsmeeting. Moreover, football, hockey and basketball matches **raise** violent emotions and often result in fights, or even battles between the fans of the two opposite teams. How many of those fans never engage in any other physical activity but these fights? How many sports fans **confine** themselves to enjoying sports events on TV, sitting comfortably in their armchair?

A. Answer the following questions. (8 points)

1. Why is Physical Education an important school subject?
2. What team games raise most violent emotions?
3. In what ways do sports fans enjoy sport?
4. Why does the author say " Sport has become business"?

B. Choose the right synonym. (6 points)

1. **engage** a. hire b. get c. take d. involve
2. **raise** a. collect b. enjoy c. activate d. make
3. **confine** a. localise b. keep c. restrict d. stay

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

1. Many people mistake patriotism for religion and so they exaggerate.

If many people they wouldn't exaggerate.

2. Americans concern not only about themselves, but also about patriotism.

Not only, but also about patriotism.

3. It is believed that our obligation should be to ourselves.

Our obligationto ourselves.

2. Use the word given to form a word that best fits in each sentence. (10 points)

The position of sport in today's society has changed out of (1)..... (**RECOGNIZE**). People no longer think of sport as 'just a game' – to be watched or played for the sake of (2) (**ENJOY**). Instead, it has become big business worldwide. It has become accepted practice for (3) (**LEAD**) companies to provide sponsorship. TV companies pay large sums of money to screen important matches or (4) (**COMPETE**). The result has been huge (5) (**FINANCE**) rewards for athletes, some of whom are now very (6) (**WEALTH**). In addition, it is not (7) (**USUAL**) for some athletes to receive large fees on top of their salary, for advertising products.

A trend towards shorter working hours means that people (8) (**GENERAL**) tend to have more free time, both to watch and to take part in sporting activity; sport has become a (9) (**SIGNIFY**) part of the recreation industry that we now rely on to fill our leisure hours. (10) (**PROFESSION**) sport is a vital part of that industry.

3. Translate the following text into English: (10 points)

Se întâmplă tot felul de lucruri. Îmi amintesc de un motociclist. Stam în fața cabanei și-l urmăream cu privirea. Voiam să văd când se va plictisi. Urca pentru a patra oară coasta abruptă și, îndată ce ajungea în vârful dealului, întorcea motocicleta și cobora lin, fără zgomot, în vale. A cincea oară, era inevitabil, s-a întâmplat; accidentul, vreau să spun. L-am adus pe brațe în cabană, plin de sânge, inconștient. Lam stropit cu apă. S-a deșteptat și, spre mirarea mea, mă recunoaște. „Credeam că nai să mai vii,” îmi spune. „Te-am așteptat și anul trecut, tot cam pe timpul ăsta”. Nu înțelegeam. „Cred că mă confunzi cu altcineva,” îi spun. „Cabana asta nu e a mea. Mi-a cedat-o, pentru o săptămână, un prieten”. Zâmbea. „Știu că așa e regula jocului: să te prefaci că nu mă cunoști. Dar sunt eu, Emanuel.” (Mircea Eliade -*În curte la Dionis*)

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)

4. You are going to read an article about an environmental campaigner. Five sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A-F the one which fits each gap (1-5). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. (20 points)

Would you turn off your engine, please?

I was walking around my neighbourhood in New York one spring evening two years ago when I came across a stretch limousine parked outside a restaurant. The driver's clients were inside having dinner, and he had his engine running while he waited. It really bothered me. He was polluting the air we breathe as well as wasting huge amounts of fuel, so I knocked on the driver's window.

I explained to him that he didn't need to waste his boss's money or pollute our air. I addressed the issues politely and, after a ten-minute chat, he agreed to shut off the engine. I felt empowered – I

could make a difference to our environment. (1)..... So whenever I see a driver sitting with the car engine running, I go over and talk to him or her.

Six months later, I talked to a guy who turned out to be an undercover police officer. He told me he wouldn't turn off his engine because he was on a job, but asked me if I knew there was actually a law against engine idling, as it's called. (2)..... Sure enough, under New York City's traffic laws, you could be fined up to \$2,000 for engine idling for more than three minutes.

I had small business cards printed up that referred to the relevant law on one side and the penalties on the other, and started to hand them out to idlers. (3)..... It's surprising how many people are unaware that they could get a fine. That's why I start my encounters the same way every time.

I say: 'Excuse me for bothering you, but are you aware that it is against the law in New York City to idle your car for more than three minutes?' (4)..... They want to know who I am, am I a cop? I tell them that I'm just a concerned citizen and want to make sure we improve our environment and address our oil addiction.

We usually have a discussion and I always try to conclude the encounter on a positive and polite note, saying how great it would be if they shut off their engine so we can all have a better environment. (5)..... Most are convinced by these arguments. Indeed, I'm successful seventy-eight percent of the time. Although, of course, there are people who are aggressive or who won't do it. My success rate with cops is only five percent.

I keep an Excel spreadsheet so that I have a precise record of each of my encounters. If I get an aggressive reaction, I list their comments and highlight them in red. I try not to get affected emotionally if drivers respond in this way. I don't give up, however, and try to approach them professionally. But my feelings do get hurt on occasion. Then I remind myself that because I make the first approach, I'm actually the aggressor in this situation. My victims are just sitting there thinking: 'Who is this guy?'

To date, I have had 2,500 encounters and, overall, I have made a difference. I'm in touch with the Department of Energy in Washington and my work is endorsed by the American Lung Association. And recently a New York traffic cop wrote the city's very first ticket for idling.

- A I also tell them that it saves money and avoids breaking the law.
- B I decided to have these conversations on a regular basis after that.
- C I find this fact always takes my victims by surprise.
- D I went home and checked this out.
- E It's not the sort of mistake that you make twice.
- F I've been distributing them in this way ever since.



5. Write a report on things your college could do to become more environmentally friendly. You should suggest what changes could be made and say how they would help the environment. (40 points)

NOTĂ: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp efectiv de lucru: 3 ore.