

MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI ȘI CERCETĂRII ȘTIINȚIFICE
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA NAȚIONALĂ, BRAȘOV, aprilie 2015
SECȚIUNEA A /PROBA SCRISĂ
CLASA a X-a

Varianta 3

Question I (50 points)

Write a **300-word** essay describing a day in the life of a beggar.

Question II (25 points)

You live in an English-speaking country and you want to do some voluntary work in a developing country. Write a letter to an organization that develops such programmes, including the following:

- why you want to do volunteering;
- state what your skills and experience are;
- indicate where you would like to volunteer and for how long.

Use between **150-180 words**. Sign your letter as Sam Brown.

Question III (25 points)

A. Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage. Use only one word in each space. (10 points)

Not the only extinct creature

They were all wiped out before science had a chance to discover them, but only the dodo's name has lived on. However, experts have now been able to reconstruct the appearance of dozens of long-extinct birds and animals from the same remote tropical isles (1)..... the dodo lived.

The islands of Mauritius, Reunion and Rodrigues in the Indian Ocean were home to hundreds of unique and rare creatures before humans first set foot (2)..... in 1598. In about 150 years, (3)..... least 45 species had been lost forever (4)..... a result of hunting and the introduction of other species. '(5)..... happened on these islands is a sad tale,' says Dr. Julian Hume, a paleontologist who worked on the project.

Now researchers have recreated what the extinct animals and birds would have looked (6)..... from fragments of bone, fossils and descriptions made by travellers at the time.

Following 30 years of research, they have managed to produce detailed pictures of (7)..... the extinct creatures looked and behaved for a new book called 'The Lost Land of the Dodo'. Among the species that vanished from the islands were 31 birds found (8)..... else. Many of them were flightless, like the dodo. A combination of hunting by people (9)..... the arrival of rats, cats and monkeys, (10)..... attacked and robbed the birds' nest, caused many birds that lived on the ground to become extinct.

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B. Read the text below and use the word given in capital on the right to form words that fit in the gaps. (10 points)

Precognition is the term applied when somebody is able to (1)... future events. (1) SEE
Many people are sceptical about ESP. Alongside the existence of documented evidence there are plenty of claims that have turned out to be (2)For most people it is difficult to accept such claims without having had first hand experience. (2) FRAUD
On the other hand, most of us have, at some time, experienced a (3) ... (3) SEEM
inexplicable (4) (4) OCCUR
Over the years there have been (5)... ESP experiments conducted by serious scientists in serious institutions. Joseph Banks Rhine, a botanist at Duke University, published a famous book in 1934 called “Extra-Sensory(6) ...” (6)PERCEIVE
in which he claimed to have (7) ... evidence of ESP. However, other scientists have been (8) ... to duplicate his results ever since. The Ganzfield experiments (8) ABILITY
are considered to have been the most (9) ... scrutinised ESP experiments. (9) CARE

One of the strongest (10) ... against ESP is that in order for it to exist, the fundamental laws of physics would necessarily have to be broken. (10) CRITIC

C. For each of the sentences below, write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence. You must use between two and five words, including the word given. The word must not be altered in any way. (5 points)

1. We've got a dishwasher, so it wasn't necessary for you to wash the dishes. **WASHED**
You needn't..... because we've got a dishwasher.
2. I didn't take any notice of George's behaviour. **ATTENTION**
I didn't pay George was behaving.
3. Whatever happens, I will never trust him again. **EVER**
Under trust him again
4. Only the timely arrival of the police prevented the fight from escalating. **BEEN**
Had it not..... of the police, the fight would have escalated.
5. I didn't turn the TV on because I didn't want to wake the baby. **FEAR**
I didn't turn the TV on..... the baby.

Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru 3 ore.

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BAREM DE CORECTARE ȘI NOTARE

Question III

A. (10 x 1 p = 10 points)

Suggested answers:

1. where; 2. there; 3.at; 4. as; 5. what; 6. like; 7. how;8. nowhere; 9. and; 10.which

B. (10 x 1 p = 10 points)

1. foresee
2. fraudulent
3. seemingly
4. occurrence
5. numerous
6. perception
7. overwhelming
8. unable
9. carefully
10. criticism

C. (5 x 1 p = 5 points)

Suggested answers:

1. - have **WASHED** up (the dishes) **OR** have **WASHED** the dishes
2. - (any) **ATTENTION** to how/the way
3. – no circumstances will I ever
4. – been for the timely arrival
5. – for fear I should wake.

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