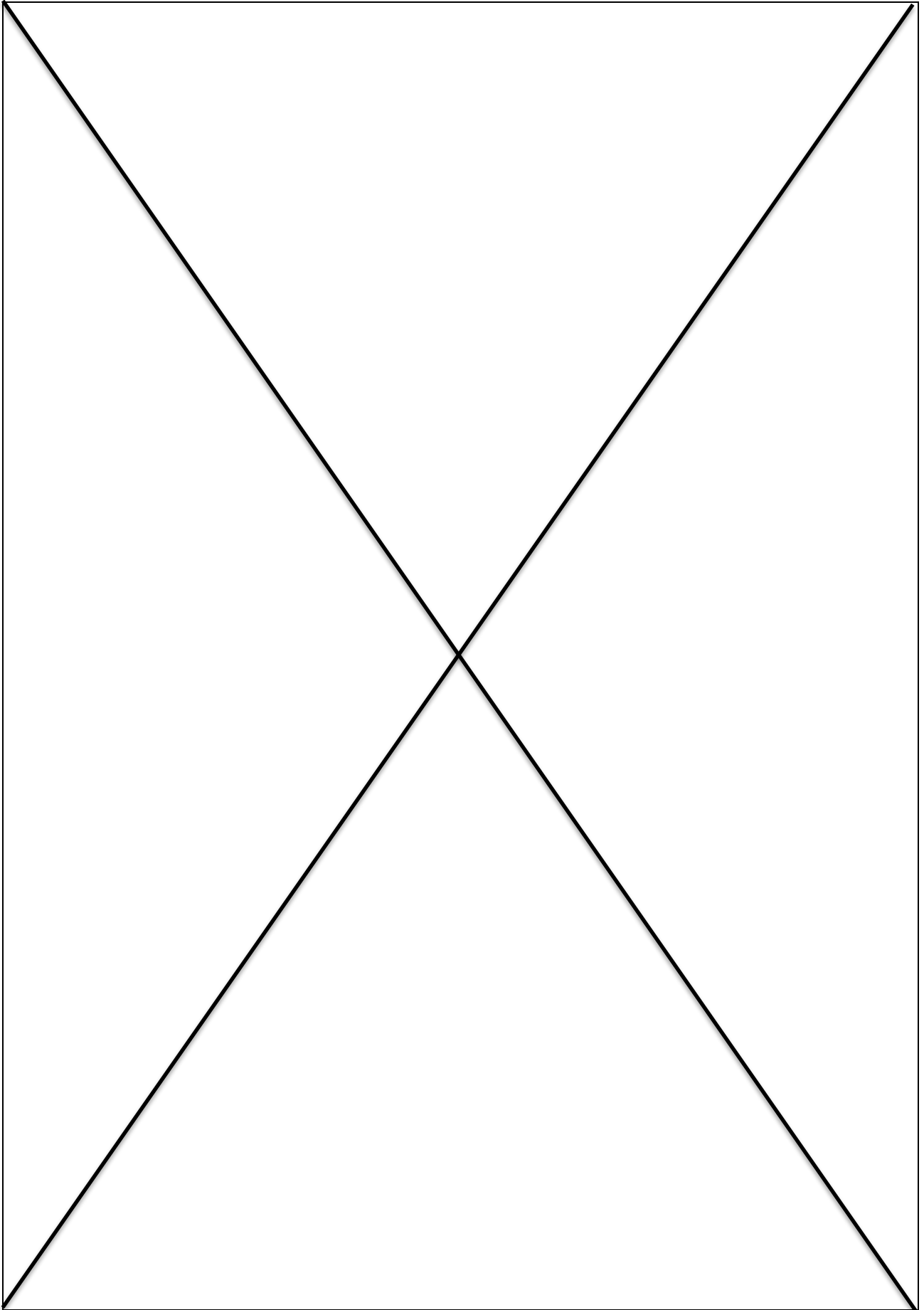


**OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ  
ETAPA LOCALĂ  
21 februarie 2024**

**CLASA A XII-A  
SECȚIUNEA B**

Numele și prenumele elevului: \_\_\_\_\_  
Unitatea de învățământ: \_\_\_\_\_  
Codul elevului: \_\_\_\_\_



**VĂ RUGĂM SĂ NOTĂȚI CODUL DUMNEAVOASTRĂ ÎN CASETA DE MAI JOS:****COD ELEV:**

**OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ  
ETAPA LOCALĂ  
21 februarie 2024**

**CLASA A XII-A  
Secțiunea B**

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.
- Timpul de lucru efectiv este de 3 ore.

**USE OF ENGLISH****(40 de puncte)**

- I. Read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.  
(10x1p=10p)**

You could be forgiven for associating the Royal Opera House (ROH) more with the over-50s than with the under-15s. But if you did, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ you might be surprised to learn that the ROH's education department reaches out every year to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the young generation with opera. It is, however, safe to assume that opera can be an unfamiliar (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to most schoolchildren, and the first reaction (4) \_\_\_\_\_ by the ROH in the classroom is often bemusement. "Children (5) \_\_\_\_\_ positively as long as you introduce them to opera in the right way", explains Paul Reeve, the ROH's director of education. "The older students can initially have an extreme negative reaction, but that (6) \_\_\_\_\_ is a great challenge. We give those (7) \_\_\_\_\_ kids the opportunity to experience what it's like to be, say, a composer or a choreographer, and that shows them the skill that is (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in the artforms." One popular programme the ROH (9) \_\_\_\_\_ annually is *Write an Opera* and this year children from 28 UK schools will perform their work on stage in July. Teachers have found that such a programme gives their pupils a greater (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of the arts.

- (1) A then            B so            C even            D while
- (2) A reveal            B keep            C engage            D maintain
- (3) A way            B medium            C channel            D means
- (4) A developed            B projected            C provided            D encountered
- (5) A respond            B manage            C answer            D learn
- (6) A refusal            B resistance            C indifference            D disillusionment
- (7) A ironic            B doubtful            C sceptical            D improbable
- (8) A requested            B contained            C involved            D included
- (9) A sets up            B runs out            C comes up            D takes up
- (10) A fascination            B impression            C information            D awareness

**II. Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in each gap. (10x1p=10p)**

Avid readers of Mark Mitchell's historical novels will not be disappointed by his (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (LATE) offering, *Walls Have Ears*, a simple but (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (BEAUTY) written tale. Mitchell, a former history teacher, shot to fame three years ago thanks to the television (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (ADAPT) of his fourth novel, *Baroque of Ages*, which followed the fortunes of two teenage siblings in the 17th-century Britain. Despite the author's (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (SATISFY) with the TV production, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (STAR) Marian Blackshaw and Edek Sobera, it was a huge success and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (SELL) of his books rocketed overnight as a result. *Walls Have Ears* is a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (VARY) on the central theme of *Baroque of Ages*. The chance (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (DISCOVER) by two young friends of a plot to assassinate the Roman Emperor turns their world upside down. They are sworn to secrecy, but their conscience (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (THREAT) to get the better of them. (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (HISTORY) have criticized Mitchell for being too liberal with the facts.

**III. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between 3 and 6 words, including the word given. (5x1p=5p)**

1. They are demolishing the old bus station and replacing it with a new one.

**PULLED**

The old bus station is \_\_\_\_\_ with a new one.

2. The number of students now at university has reached an all-time high, apparently.

**THE**

The number of students now at university is \_\_\_\_\_ been, apparently.

3. I am disappointed with the Fishers' new album when I compare it to their previous one.

**COMPARISON**

I think the Fishers' new album is \_\_\_\_\_ their previous one.

4. Anna got the job even though she didn't have much experience in public relations.

**SPITE**

Anna got the job \_\_\_\_\_ of experience in public relations.

5. "I must warn you how dangerous it is to cycle at night without any lights", said the police officer to Max.

**DANGERS**

Max received a \_\_\_\_\_ at night without any lights, from the police officer.

**IV. Read the text and fill the gaps with appropriate words. Use one word in each gap. (15x1p=15p)**

The rarest and most expensive types of mushrooms in the world are called truffles. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the mushrooms we eat most of the time, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ grow above the ground, truffles grow underground. They vary (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the size of a walnut to the size of a man's fist. (4) \_\_\_\_\_ date, no one has been able to cultivate truffles. They grow wild and have to be hunted for. However, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to the commercial value of truffles, in most countries it is not possible to hunt for them (6) \_\_\_\_\_ you have a licence to do so. Ripe truffles produce a characteristic odour. If harvested before this odour develops, the truffle will not be mature (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to eat. It is therefore (8) \_\_\_\_\_ surprise that it is the smell of the truffle that leads the hunter to the right place. Dogs, with their keen noses, have been entrusted (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the responsibility of truffle hunting. After (10) \_\_\_\_\_, a dog's sense of smell is 10000 times better than (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of a human. Almost (12) \_\_\_\_\_ dog can be trained to seek out the

valuable fungus by first learning to retrieve balls, then cheese, before (13) \_\_\_\_\_ introduced to the truffle. Pigs are also used to hunt truffles, but they are (14) \_\_\_\_\_ from ideal. (15) \_\_\_\_\_ they can successfully locate the truffle, they often eat it too.

**INTEGRATED SKILLS****(60 de puncte)**

- I. Some parts from the text below have been removed. Read the text and put the paragraphs A-F in the appropriate place. There is one extra paragraph which does not fit anywhere. (10x1p=10p)**

**The state of the world**

If your view of the world comes from watching the news and reading newspapers, you could be forgiven for lying awake at night worrying about the future. Apparently, rising violence and population rates mean humans are both killing each other in ever larger numbers and being born at rates the world's resources can't sustain.

1.

Depressing, isn't it? But do the statistics support our negative world view or is the world actually improving?

Let's take global population first. It's around 7 billion now, in line with figures predicted by the UN in 1958. By the year 2100, the same experts predict it will be around 11 billion.

2.

These large families produced even more children who survived into adulthood and had their own children. But with the wider availability of contraception in the 1960s, the global average number of babies per woman has declined from six babies per woman to as low as two.

The biggest factor in child mortality is poverty. And while it's still true that only 20 percent of the world takes about 74 per cent of the world's income, 60 percent of the world now falls into a middle-income group, with 11.6 per cent – the smallest amount of people in history – still living in conditions of extreme poverty.

3.

As for news stories that make us think the world is an increasingly violent place, there is cause for some optimism too. Between the end of World War II and 1990, there were 30 wars that killed more than 100,000 people. Today there are still civil wars, but countries are mostly co-existing more peacefully than in the past.

4.

Of course, none of this means the world is perfect, and whether you personally are affected by war and poverty is often down to the lottery of where you're born. Also, we still face huge problems of our own making,

particularly environmental ones like global warming, and wealth and natural resources need to be distributed more fairly.

5.

Similarly, advancements in healthcare, including the distribution of vaccines and the establishment of healthcare infrastructure, have contributed to reductions in mortality rates and improved overall well-being in many parts of the world.

- A. If the majority of the world's people have money, international aid could realistically achieve the UN target of eradicating poverty by 2030. As poverty goes down, life expectancy goes up, birth rates go down because parents can expect their existing children to survive, and the global population stabilises.
  - B. To make matters worse, all the wealth is concentrated on a handful of people in the world's richest countries. People in low-income countries live in poverty while the West gets richer.
  - C. But amidst these challenges, there are glimmers of hope. Initiatives aimed at promoting education and healthcare in impoverished regions have shown promising results. Increased access to education has empowered individuals to break the cycle of poverty, leading to better economic prospects and improved living conditions for communities.
  - D. But did you know that 11 billion is probably as high as that number will get? The rate of increase will slow down in the second half of this century thanks to falling birth rates today. In the last two centuries, improvements in technology and health meant fewer children died young, fuelling rapid population growth.
  - E. However, terrorism has shot up in the last few years and, since World War II, wars have killed many more civilians than soldiers. Even for civilians, though, the statistics are not all bad. Although deaths are nine times more likely to be a result of violent crime than political conflict, the global murder rate fell slightly, from 8 per 100,000 people in 2000 to about 5.3 in 2015.
  - F. Moreover, the interconnectedness of our global community has facilitated the exchange of ideas and resources, paving the way for collaborative efforts to address pressing issues such as climate change and inequality.
- II. Starting from the text above, choose one global challenge (such as population growth, poverty alleviation, violence reduction, or environmental sustainability) and write a 220-260 word proposal entitled “Addressing Global Challenges through Community Action”. (50p)**



