

I. (10 points) Read the text below and decide which variant A, B, C or D best fits each space.

If you have ever finished reading the (1) ___ blockbuster and thought that you could have done better, consider (2) ___ the following techniques. Before you settle upon your subject (3) ___, be canny and examine the current market. If period dramas are (4) ___ a comeback, for example, consider that genre but with a unique (5) ___. Start by looking around you – in newspapers, on TV – for stories and characters. Choose a genre and a topic you feel comfortable with. (6) ___ research will add to the strength and depth of your writing and help you (7) ___ more confidence. Read (8) ___ history books, biographies and travelogues to immerse yourself in your chosen period and (9) ___. Once you have formulated your characters, possible storylines and locations, start to sketch out (10) ___ dialogues and scenes. Only then should you set about writing the novel.

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|-----|-------------|-------------|------------|------------------|
| 1. | A latest | B modern | C late | D new |
| 2. | A accepting | B making | C adopting | D doing |
| 3. | A theme | B matter | C topic | D issue |
| 4. | A taking | B doing | C having | D making |
| 5. | A turn | B spin | C spiral | D twist |
| 6. | A Full | B Thorough | C Complete | D Entire |
| 7. | A gain | B win | C become | D grow |
| 8. | A linked | B connected | C relevant | D similar |
| 9. | A area | B place | C location | D setting |
| 10. | A raw | B uneven | C rough | D underdeveloped |

II. (10 points) Fill the gaps in the text below with ONE suitable word:

Did you know that lightning travels up and down many times (1) ___ the earth and the sky? It just looks (2) ___ if it is going down because it happens so fast. Travelling (3) ___ the speed of light and carrying as (4) ___ as one million volts, a stroke of lightning can do tremendous damage (5) ___ buildings and often causes fires (6) ___ lead to the destruction of thousands of trees. Lightning always seeks out the longest objects, especially if they are (7) ___ of metal, so if you are in the open (8) ___ a thunderstorm, get (9) ___ of golf clubs, ice-axes and similar objects. The next time you are caught in a thunderstorm, if there is no shelter, you (10) ___ kneel on the ground with your feet close together and your hands on your knees.

III. (10 points) Read the text below and use the words given in capitals below to form words that fit in the gaps. The words in capitals are given in the order in which you need to use them:

1. REMARKABLE; 2. CIVILISE; 3. OBSESS; 4. PASS; 5. INTELLECT; 6. ENTIRE; 7. AWARE;
8. SIGNIFY; 9. RECUR; 10. CLOSE

What most _____ (1) distinguished the _____ (2) of Maya from all others was an _____ (3) with the _____ (4) of time. Maya _____ (5) life was almost _____ (6) devoted to the problem of measuring its flow.

The Maya studied the cycles of the sun and the moon, and of the planet Venus, although they were _____ (7) of the true _____ (8) of what they observed. To them the earth was flat, and the

sun and the stars moved around it. But they noted the _____ (9) cycles so _____ (10) that they were able to make remarkably accurate records of them.

IV. (20 points) Rephrase the following sentences so that the meaning stays the same:

1. The boy was so confused and worried that he left home.

So _____ home.

2. Is it really necessary for me to arrive so early?

Do I _____ early?

3. The suitcase is too small for all my things.

The suitcase is not _____ things.

4. It would be wise for us to take raincoats.

We _____ raincoats.

5. It is said that he escaped to a neutral country.

He _____ neutral country.

6. No one has identified the man yet.

The man _____ yet.

7. As one grows older one becomes more intolerant.

The older _____ becomes.

8. But for Ivor's help we would have been in serious trouble.

If _____ trouble..

9. Nancy is proud of being a good cook.

Nancy prides _____ a good cook.

10. 'I have not broken my promise!', he said.

He denied _____ his promise.

V. (50 points) Letter writing –formal-

You have read the following announcement in quite a strange newspaper, called "**Wonderland News**", that has mysteriously been slipped under your entrance door:

Detective Sherlock Holmes and his worthy partner, Dr. Watson, are looking for a skilful apprentice. Qualities needed:

- attraction for mysteries and the overwhelming desire of elucidating enigmatic cases;
- bright, honest, and not interested in any kind of financial rewards;
- our employee should make the commitment of becoming a literary character and record for posterity.

Write a **150/180-word letter of application** for the above-mentioned job. Address your letter to "**Wonderland News**", Attn. Detective Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson. Sign your letter as **The Brave Eagle**.

Think about:

- the layout and the organisation of the letter;
- the appropriate style for the letter.

SCRIETI RASPUNSURILE PE FOAIA DE RASPUNS (ANSWER SHEET). BARATI TOATE SPATIILE NECOMPLETATE. TIMP DE LUCRU: 3 ORE. NU SE ACORDA PUNCTE DIN OFICIU.