

MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI, CERCETĂRII, TINERETULUI ȘI SPORTULUI
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
FAZA JUDEȚEANĂ/MUNICIPIUL BUCUREȘTI, 25 FEBRUARIE 2012
CLASA a XI-a

Question I **(50 points)**

Write a 350–word argumentative essay with the title ”Greater freedom does not necessarily lead to greater happiness.”

Question II **(25 points)**

You have seen the following announcement in an international magazine:

READERS - YOUR VIEWS WANTED!

Changing World magazine invites its readers to contribute to our debate on whether family life has changed for the better or worse in their country over the past 50 years. We are looking for contributions in the form of a short article which discusses this topic. The three best articles will be printed in the next issue of our magazine.

In approximately 200-220 words, write your article.

Question III **(50 points)**

A. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Use the word given without changing it. **(5 points)**

1. James would only speak to the head of department alone.

ON

James to the head of department alone.

2. There were a lot of things that we had to think about before we could accept their offer.

OBLIGED

There were several things that we consideration before we could accept their offer.

3. Do you think you could help me to fill in this application form?

WONDERING

I me a hand filling in this application form.

4. I know that it was wrong of me to shout in front of the customers.

RAISED

I know that I should in front of the customers.

5. If you need any help, you can always call me.

HESITATE

If you need any help, me.

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

I have had (1) _____ many bad experiences with cheap rucksacks that I decided to buy an expensive one with a guarantee. So in March, I spent £25 (2) _____ a rucksack, which (3) _____ with a three-year guarantee. However, the zip of the rucksack has regularly jammed; in fact, (4) _____ time you do it up you have to take great (5) _____ not to get the surrounding material stuck in the zip. Recently it became so completely stuck that I (6) _____ patience with it and tore the zip open. The rucksack is now unusable, but my point is that there is a basic design fault to it.

I pointed all (7) _____ out to the sales assistant, and produced the receipt and guarantee. The assistant said that it was dirty and that a replacement (8) _____ not be issued. I explained that it was dirty because I use it every day to cycle in to work, and that on rainy days it gets splashed. But (9) _____ it is dirty or not has nothing to (10) _____ with my complaint, which was about the defective zip.

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

If you are travelling in Thailand and have a taste for adventure, you can now (1) _____ in an unusual kind of activity. For an (2) _____ modest sum, you can spend a few days at an elephant conversation centre training to be a majout or elephant driver. Be prepared to get wet, however, because you spend most of the day atop an elephant, during which time this (3) _____ beast can take up to three baths! Primarily set up in an endeavour to preserve the Thai elephant, the centre offers such activities to tourists as a means of funding itself. Nevertheless, its training programme remains strictly in (4) _____ with the traditions of Kachasart, the ancient method of studying elephants, and the mahouts that work with the elephants build up a close, (5) _____ relationship with them, founded on mutual respect and love.

The type of training depends on the (6) _____ that different animals display, and care is taken not to overtire them. Training is believed to be (7) _____ to the elephants, providing them with physical and mental (8) _____. Their well-being is of utmost importance, and the success of the centre's breeding programme bears witness to this.

While it may not be ideal to keep such magnificent beasts in (9) _____ - and the centre has come in for plenty of criticism - (10) _____ deforestation has left wild elephants struggling to survive in habitats that are shrinking almost on a daily basis. The centre offers them a sanctuary - for the time being at least.

1. PART
2. CREDIBLE
3. MAJESTY
4. KEEP
5. LIFE
6. ABLE
7. BENEFIT
8. STIMULATE
9. CAPTURE
10. EXTEND

TOTAL

100 PUNCTE

TOATE SUBIECTELE SUNT OBLIGATORII.TIMP DE LUCRU 3 ORE. NU SE ACORDĂ PUNCTE DIN OFICIU.