



**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZA
ETAPA LOCALA
CLASA a X-a - SECTIUNEA A
22 februarie 2020
Varianta 2**

SUBIECTUL A – USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

1. Read the following text and put the verbs in brackets in the correct tense. (10x1p = 10p)

I come from a very large family, and one day my parents (1) (decide) that they (2) (spend) long enough living in an overcrowded house London. “We (3) (move) to the country”, my father announced one evening. “I (4) (sell) this house, and we (5) (live) on a farm.” So last week we (6) (load) all our possessions into two hired vans, and for the last few days we (7) (try) to organize ourselves in our new home. But worse things (8) (happen) since then. This morning, for example, when I (9) (wake up), water (10) (drip) through the ceiling next to my bed.

2. Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in each sentence. (10x1p = 10p)

Our Changing Way of Life

Change happens (1)..... (**CONSTANT**) as the last 50 years have proved. Some changes, such as air travel, the Internet and mobile phones, provide ease and (2)..... (**CONVENIENT**). Others, like access to education, have had a deeper impact. Nothing has had a bigger influence on our lives than recent changes in education. Fifty years ago, education was considered by some an (3)..... (**NECESSARY**) luxury. Nowadays, however, education isn't just a privilege for the (4)..... (**CHOOSE**) few.

Young men and women from all areas of life are becoming (5).....(**PROFESSION**) and improving their quality of life. This will be (6) (**BENEFIT**) to future generations because a better-educated society is a fairer and more skilled one.

(7)..... (**IRONY**), however, the change from rural to urban living that drove people to cities in search of better opportunities has led to several modern-day problems. City dwellers have become less (8) (**HEALTH**). They no longer eat fresh farm food, and instead, prefer ready meals and fast food.

Even though we are so (9)..... (**TECHNOLOGY**) advanced, we are also (10)..... (**FOOL**) as we destroy our forests, build more cars and roads, and eat rubbish.

3. Read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.**(10x1 = 10p)****Recharge your batteries**

Working all year without a holiday is like 1) ... a car for twelve months without changing the oil. Holidays are an easy 2) ... to recharge our batteries and prepare for the 3) ... challenge. Unfortunately, a 4) ... study came up with an interesting finding - there are people who cannot take a 5) ..., because they work for firms that are not holiday-friendly. So, we should consider holiday time when applying for a job, even if it may not be at the 6) ... of our list. Many job-seekers do not 7) ... holidays at interviews, however, younger workers do not 8) ...to ask for extra free time. Some of them even accept a slightly 9) ... salary if the firm offers them more free days each month. They need more 10) ... off to spend with their family and friends and, therefore, they will certainly ask for it.

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|--------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| 1. A) riding | B) travelling | C) driving | D) going |
| 2. A) method | B) way | C) possibility | D) choice |
| 3. A) second | B) next | C) close | D) near |
| 4. A) recent | B) last | C) early | D) first |
| 5. A) pause | B) stop | C) rest | D) break |
| 6. A) top | B) first | C) peak | D) height |
| 7. A) remark | B) comment | C) mention | D) talk |
| 8. A) mind | B) hesitate | C) wait | D) worry |
| 9. A) minor | B) fewer | C) less | D) lower |
| 10. A) time | B) relaxation | C) break | D) leisure |

4. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits in each gap. Use only one word in each gap.**(10x1 = 10p)****The happiest day of the year**

A British psychologist says that the last Friday in June is (0) ... *the*... happiest day of the year. This psychologist, specialised 1) seasonal disorders, 2) created a so-called happiness formula. The research takes 3) account several elements, from rising energy levels to outdoor activities. His formula depends 4) ... six factors: outdoor activity, nature, social interaction, memories of childhood summers, temperature and time off. He says that at the end of June, the days are at their longest, 5)..... means that 6) are more hours of sunshine. Thus, people 7) to have lots of gatherings with friends and family. The psychologist also points out that happiness is associated with many things in life. Whether it's a 8) day in summer 9) ... a childhood memory, the formula shows that the path 10) happiness is much simpler than people usually imagine.

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

JIM BENSON, pianist and songwriter

People often ask me who I have to thank for my success as a pianist and songwriter. They expect to hear that I was born into a musical family and had an excellent piano teacher. However, the truth is different. When I was little, nobody played an instrument at home. I learnt to play the piano and sing because there was a piano in my house and I just wanted to make music.

My parents allowed me to sit at the piano and sing for as long as I wanted. If they were afraid that I would break the old piano, they never mentioned it. They didn't suggest that I should take lessons, either. The songs just came to me when I had my hands on the piano. I suppose I had musical talent and that is all you need.

I started writing proper songs when I was a teenager. The music was mine, but the words were from other song writers. It seemed so easy. When you start to compose, you do that, you copy other people's best songs. Then you start changing the melodies and the words and you develop your own style. That only happened later, when I had grown beyond my teenage years.

For a time, I thought music would be just a hobby. My parents had developed a strong belief that I would be able to make a living as a musician, but I had my doubts, so after school I took a job in radio advertising. Then one day one of my songs won a prize and that changed everything. I realised my happiness was in music. I have been a musician ever since that day.

I. For each question decide which answer (A, B, C or D) fits best according to the text.**5X2=10 points**

1. What is Jim Benson's main purpose in writing the text?
 - A. to suggest how children can be taught music.
 - B. to describe his life as a successful musician
 - C. to explain how he became a musician
 - D. to complain about his lack of musical training.
2. When Jim Benson started making music on the piano, his parents
 - A. seemed happy to let him play it
 - B. said the piano might be damaged
 - C. saw the need for a piano teacher
 - D. wanted him to play his own songs.
3. What does Jim Benson say about the songs he wrote as a teenager?
 - A. They were not well-written

- B. They took a long time to write.
C. They were not very original
D. They showed his personal style.
4. Jim Benson took a job in advertising because
A. His parents suggested it was a good career for him
B. He thought he might not earn enough as a musician
C. He had learnt about advertising jobs at school
D. It offered him the opportunity to change his life.
5. Which advice would Jim Benson give talented young people?
A. You need somebody in your family to guide you when you start
B. It's ok to copy other people's songs when you are learning.
C. It is not a very good idea to write songs when you are young
D. If you want to be successful, you must have good music teachers.

II. Write a narrative-descriptive essay about a time when you learnt something on your own.
(200-220 words) 50 points

TOATE SUBIECTELE SUNT OBLIGATORII!
PUNCTAJ TOTAL 100 P
TIMP DE LUCRU 3 ORE
NU SE ACORDĂ PUNCTE DIN OFICIU