

**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZA
ETAPA LOCALA
CLASA a XI-a - SECTIUNEA A
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Varianta 2**

SUBIECTUL A: USE OF ENGLISH**1. Read the following text and fill in with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.****(10x1p = 10p)**

Jane Thomson works as an architect in an international company. She 1) (design) modern buildings ever since she 2) (graduate) the Faculty of Architecture from London. By the end of this month, she 3) (be) part of an extremely creative team for 5 years. Jane decided to become an architect when she was 16 years old. She 4) (not think) of it before, but, one day, while she 5)..... (attend) a computer science class about 3D images, she 6).....(decide) her future career would be related to this activity field. Now, she knows she 7)..... (make) the right decision; she 8)..... (do) what she enjoys the most and earns a lot. She hopes that one day she 9) (work) as an architect in Dubai. She 10)..... (apply) for several jobs there so far.

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

According to a recent study the best musicians are born, not made. (1)**(RESEARCH)** at St. Thomas's Hospital in London claim that genes are responsible for up to 80 per cent of our ability to recognize pitch, the key to musical (2).....**(GREAT)**. In a 'distorted tunes test' over 500 twins were played a (3) **(VARY)** of popular songs, each containing a number of errors. A (4)..... **(COMPARE)** of the (5).....**(RESPOND)** of identical twins with those of non-identical twins revealed that the former were (6)..... **(NOTICE)** better at spotting the mistakes. The results of the study suggest that for some children, music lessons may only go so far in improving musical abilities such as pitch (7).....**(RECOGNIZE)**. However, parents hoping to save money on lessons cannot use the test as an early (8)..... **(INDICATE)** of musical potential: it is (9)..... **(RELY)** for children under 12, who do not have sufficient (10)..... **(KNOW)** of the tunes played.

3. Choose the correct answer A, B, C or D (10x 1p= 10 points).

1. It ... for a long time before the slope was good for skiing.
 - a) had been snowing
 - b) snowed
 - c) has been snowing
 - d) would snow
2. You may choose ... cake. Take the one you like the better.
 - a) all
 - b) either
 - c) both
 - d) any
3. She wasn't in a very good....and she didn't fancyout.
 - a) mood / to go
 - b) mood / going
 - c) mind / to be going
 - d) spirit / to go
4. Before she knew it, her car crashed into a tree. If she ... more careful, she ... in hospital now.
 - a) had been/ will not be
 - b) would have been/ hadn't been
 - c) had been / weren't
 - d) had been/ wouldn't be
5. She is not used to so much in the evening.
 - a) eat
 - b) eating
 - c) be eating
 - d) have been eating
6. I was by the news that their house
 - a) taken aback/ had been broken into;
 - b) taken up/ had been broken;
 - c) put off/ have been broken into;
 - d) taken off/ was broken.
7. Rarely ... out since they got married.
 - a) are they going
 - b) had they gone
 - c) have they gone
 - d) have they gone
8. She made the wise decision of taking ... sports.
 - a) in
 - b) on
 - c) up
 - d) to

9. She ... as there was plenty of time, but she did.
- didn't need to hurry
 - mustn't have hurried
 - won't have hurried
 - needn't have hurried
10. she gets, ... shoes she buys.
- Poorer/ less
 - The poorer/ the less
 - The poorest/ the fewest
 - The poorer/the fewer

**4. For questions 1-10, read the text below and think of a word which best fits each gap.
Use only ONE word in each gap. (10x1p= 10 points)**

A hedgehog is a small mammal characterised (1) ... the sharp spines which cover its body. (2)... hedgehogs are found in many different parts of the world, none is native to either America or Australia. All species of hedgehog share the ability (3)..... roll into a tight ball when attacked, (4)... that their spines point outwards. The effectiveness of this as a defence mechanism, depends, of course, (5)... the number of spines the hedgehog has. Some desert hedgehogs have evolved to carry (6)... weight, and consequently, they have fewer spines and are thus more likely to attempt to run into their attacker, using their ball rolling ability (7) ... a last resort. Hedgehogs are primarily nocturnal and sleep for much (8)the day, either under cover of bushes (9) in a hole in the ground. Despite the (10) ... that all hedgehogs can hibernate, not all choose to do so; in suitable conditions, some will stay awake all year round.

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

Homing pigeons are placed in a training program from about the time they are twenty-eight days of age. They are taught to enter the loft through a trap and to exercise above and around the loft, and gradually they are taken away for short distances in wicker baskets and released. They are then expected to find their way home in the shortest possible time. In their training flights or in actual races, the birds are taken to prearranged distant points and released to find their way back to their own lofts. Once the birds are liberated, their owners, who are standing by at the home lofts, anxiously watch the sky for the return of their entries. Since time is of the essence, the speed with which the birds can be induced to enter the loft trap may make the difference between gaining a win or a second place.

The head of a homing pigeon is comparatively small, but its brain is one quarter larger than that of the ordinary pigeon. The homing pigeon is very intelligent and will persevere to the point of stubbornness, some have been known to fly a hundred miles off course to avoid a storm. Some homing pigeon experts claim that this bird is gifted with a form of built-in radar that helps it find its own loft

after hours of flight, for hidden under the head feathers are two very sensitive ears, while the sharp, prominent eyes can see great distances in daytime.

Why do homing pigeons fly home? They are not unique in this inherent skill: it is found in most migratory birds, in bees, ants, toads and even turtles, which have been known to travel hundreds of miles to return to their homes. But in the animal world, the homing pigeon alone can be trusted with its freedom and trained to carry out missions that people demand.

I. For each question choose the correct letter A, B, C or D (5 x 2p= 10p)

1. According to the passage, what happens to homing pigeons when they are about one month old?
 - A. They are kept in a trap.
 - B. They enter their first race.
 - C. They begin a training program.
 - D. They get their wings clipped and marked.
2. According to the passage, what is the difference between a homing pigeon and an ordinary one?
 - A. The span of the wings.
 - B. The shape of their eyes.
 - C. The texture of the feathers.
 - D. The size of the brain.
3. The author mentions all of the following attributes that enable a homing pigeon to return home except
 - A. instinct.
 - B. air sacs.
 - C. sensitive ears.
 - D. good eyes.
4. Why does the author mention bees, ants, toads and turtles in the last paragraph?
 - A. To describe some unusual kinds of pets.
 - B. To measure distances travelled by various animals.
 - C. To compare their home-finding abilities with those of homing pigeons.
 - D. To interest the reader in learning about other animals.
5. What is the purpose of the passage?
 - A. To convince the reader to buy a homing pigeon.
 - B. To inform the reader about homing pigeons and their training.
 - C. To protect homing pigeons against the threat of extinction.
 - D. To encourage the owners of homing pigeons to set the birds free.

II. Read the text again and write a *for - and - against* essay about keeping animals in captivity. (220-250 words) (50 p)**N. B. Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii!****Punctaj total 100p****Timp de lucru 3 ore!**