

**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ**  
**ETAPA LOCALĂ**  
**13 FEBRUARIE 2025**  
**CLASA a XII-a**  
**SECȚIUNEA A**

**SUBIECTUL A – USE OF ENGLISH**

**40 points**

**I. Read the following text and fill in the blanks with ONE word only. 10 points**

*The Wondrous World of Coffee*

A cup of coffee, like any (1) .... experience, can be enriched by selection and consciousness. "No beans about it," the best coffee decisions (2) ..... the ones most pleasant to one's own palate - the selection of one's coffee is a matter of personal preference. Choosing coffee beans can also be a perplexing experience, (3) ..... there is a huge range of coffee types and beans blends from all (4) ..... the world. The final flavour and quality involves many complex factors, beginning with the coffee seed, the beans' botanics, a wide variety of soil and climate conditions, cultivation altitudes, and the care (5) ..... in harvesting the beans. Raw green coffee beans are then subjected (6).... many influencing factors, including various processing, production, roasting, blending, and brewing methods. (7) ..... a global note, (8) ..... many species and varieties of coffee trees from different areas of the world also offer their own distinctive flavours. There are more than forty-five coffee-exporting countries - all of (9) ..... use different classification systems - that supply the world with coffee beans, in sizes ranging over sixty known species of coffee plants. No wonder coffee can involve a puzzling java jargon! Fortunately, the world's coffee nomenclature, from mountain to market, can be classified (10) ..... simple categories. This briefly outlines the basics of bean botanics, coffee cultivation and processing, and global classifications used by the coffee trade and coffee-producing countries.

**II. Choose the correct answer A, B, C or D 10 points**

**1. Chiar în acest moment este operat de către un chirurg celebru și nimeni nu se așteaptă ca operația să nu reușească.**

- a. Right now he is operated by a notorious surgeon and no one expects the operation to not succeed.
- b. Right now a notorious surgeon is being operating on him and nobody expects that the operation should not succeed.
- c. Right now a famous surgeon is being operating him and nobody expects the operation not to be successful.
- d. Right now he is being operated on by a famous surgeon and nobody expects the operation to fail.

**2. "It has been rumoured that he fled the country right after the scandal." means:**

- a. He has been rumoured to have fled the country right after the scandal.
- b. He is rumoured to have fled the country right after the scandal.
- c. He has rumoured to have been fled the country right after the scandal.
- d. He has been rumoured to flee the country right after the scandal.



3. She told him that if he .....a good boy and .....everything she.....him to, she .....him there.

- a. was/did/would ask/would take      b. was/does/will ask/ will take  
c. were/does/would ask/would take      d. would be/ did/ would ask/ would take

4. Now she .....us as she got married.....a manager.

- a. looks above/to      b. look over/with  
c. looks down on/to      d. looks up to/to

5. Sally would prefer to pursue her studies.....to look for a job.

- a. rather than start      b. to starting  
c. rather than starting      d. than to start

6. Can we ..... this summer?

- a. get installed air-conditioning      b. get air-conditioning to install  
c. have installed air-conditioning      d. have air-conditioning installed

7. No sooner.....home .....the storm broke.....

- a. I had reached / then / off      b. had I reached / than / up  
c. I reached /when / out      d. had I reached /than / out

8. It took her a long time to find a job \_\_\_\_ with her skills. Not to mention the fact that she is prone \_\_\_\_ infection and it's not a good idea to be continually \_\_\_\_ of what might happen.

- a. commensurate/ to/apprehensive      b. connected/ at/ afraid  
c. indicative/with/scared      d. compatible/for/appealed

9. Deși poliția i-a amendat pe șoferii care depășesc limita de viteză în ultima vreme, cred că ar fi mai bine dacă s-ar fi luat măsuri mult mai drastice.

- a. Even though the police has fined the drivers who have exceeded speed limit lately, I would rather much drastic measures should have been taken.  
b. Even though the police has fined the drivers who have exceeded speed limit of late, I had better much more drastic measures had been taken.  
c. Even though the police have fined the drivers who have exceed speed limit lately, I would sooner much more drastic measures had been taken.  
d. Even though the police fined the drivers who exceeded speed limit lately, I would rather much drastic measures should have been taken.

10. Aș putea să mă descurc cu puținii bani pe care îi câștig dacă nu aș ajunge la facturi telefonice atât de mari.

- a. I could make do with the little money I earn if I didn't run up such huge phone bills.  
b. I could do up with the scarce money I make if I wouldn't sum up so huge phone bills.  
c. I could do with the little money I earn if I didn't reach at such big phone bills.  
d. I could manage on the little money I gain if I didn't run up to such huge phone bills.

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 three and six words, including the word given. 10 points

1. Ten minutes before the end of the game, Silvia realised that she didn't have any energy left at all.  
**RUN**  
Silvia realised that ..... ten minutes before the end of the game.
2. I always found the way George spoke on the phone annoying, but I don't mind it now.  
**TO**  
The way George spoke on the phone .....nerves, but I don't mind it now.
3. She often appears to lack confidence, but she is just shy.  
**ACROSS**  
She often ..... confidence, but she is just shy.
4. I regret not discussing things with Fiona before she went away on holiday.  
**WISH**  
I ..... things over with Fiona before she went away on holiday.
5. Jack couldn't solve the problem because he didn't have enough time.  
**ABLE**  
Jack would ..... out the problem if he'd had enough time.

**IV. Translate the following text into English.**

**10 points**

„ Venisem chiar în ziua aceea. De câțiva ani îmi propusesem să le fac astfel de surprize. Nu agream ideea unei pregătiri speciale pentru sosirea mea. În felul ăsta, absențele mele de două, trei luni, gândeam eu, se estompau, ca și cum ultima revedere s-ar fi produs cu doar două săptămâni în urmă.

Vara trecută îmi fuseseră necesare cinci zile, plus weekend-ul. Urcam pe acoperiș dimineața devreme și pe înserat, singurele intervale care nu-mi puneau probleme. În rest, căldura se transforma într-o otravă ucigătoare, muriseră doi oameni, aproape alți zece leșinaseră. Am vopsit când de unul singur, prima zi, când ajutat de Șarpe, un tip cu nouă ani mai mic, dar mai bine dezvoltat și hârșit în multe aventuri savuroase.”

( Cosmin Manolache – *Mentă și diluant*)

**SUBIECTUL B- INTEGRATED SKILLS**

**60 points**

**Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.**

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

***The man who wants to teach the world***

Helena de Bertodano meets Salman Khan.

What Salman Khan, the founder of the non-profit online school Khan Academy has to say to the parent of an eleven-year-old in the USA is frankly terrifying: ‘If your child is not placed in the fast track for math in sixth grade, his chances of becoming a doctor or an engineer are probably zero. And it's decided when he's eleven years old.’

This is exactly what happened to his cousin Nadia. Usually a straight-A student, she had done poorly in a maths streaming test in sixth grade because she had failed to understand one concept. This one test result, Khan tutored her remotely over the phone and Nadia passed her retake with flying colours. Soon, many more relations and friends wanted Khan's help. Unable to handle the volume of requests, at the suggestion of a friend, he started to record his lessons on video and post them on YouTube. ‘At first I was dismissive,’ Khan says. ‘I thought YouTube was for dogs on skateboards.’

Now Khan has more than 3,000 videos to his name, which are watched by nearly three million unique users a month, via YouTube and his own website. His friendly, avuncular style, coupled with his knack for making difficult concepts seem simple, has helped children – and adults – all over the world move into the fast track. He says his aim is to create ‘the world’s first free, world-class, virtual school where anyone can learn anything’. Some teachers are wary of him, thinking that he is trying to supplant them, but many more embrace his approach and have started ‘flipping’ the classroom, encouraging students to watch Khan’s videos at home and then tackling maths problems together in class.

You might expect a man with such influence to have state-of-the-art headquarters but Khan’s premises are unprepossessing. Arriving at an unmarked red door, sandwiched between a clothes shop and a Chinese restaurant, I decide I have the wrong address – especially after ringing the bell for ten minutes with no response. Eventually, I rouse someone on the telephone and the door is opened. When his assistant shows me in, Khan appears at first to be slightly annoyed at this interruption. Sitting on a leather swivel chair behind a heavy oak desk surrounded by pictures of his wife – a doctor – and their two young children, he continues to work for a few minutes. But once he warms up, it becomes clear that the initial awkwardness is down to shyness, not rudeness. ‘I’m not very good when people want to meet me,’ he says. ‘I want to hide a little bit.’

Khan believes that the rigidity of the school system is outdated and deadens a child’s natural curiosity. ‘Aged one to four, kids are excited by anything new, they want to figure it out, then all of a sudden, when they turn five, you start seeing fewer curious kids, by nine or ten you see very few with any curiosity, and by eighteen it’s very much the exception. Curiosity is just stamped out of them. I’m convinced it’s indoctrination, not a genetic thing. Kids are herded together, the bell rings, you’re rewarded for passivity, you’re rewarded for compliance, that’s what keeps you moving through the system.’

Private school education makes little difference, he says. Nor does he believe that student-teacher ratio is an issue. ‘The idea that smaller classes will magically solve the problem of students being left behind is a fallacy.’ As he points out, if a teacher’s main job is lecturing to the students, it doesn’t really matter how many students are in the classroom. What matters is the ‘student-to-valuable-human-time-with-teacher’ ratio. What his videos do, Khan says, is free teachers up for more personal interaction.

He thinks bigger classes with more teachers would provide a more creative learning ground. In his ideal classroom there would be 75-100 students of widely varying ages, with three or four teachers. Some students would be working at computers; others would be learning economics through board games; others would be building robots or designing mobile apps; others would be working on art or creative writing. His dream is nothing short of revolutionary.

1 .Why did Khan initially start to record videos?

- A. It was easier to explain concepts in a video than on the phone.
- B. It enabled him to advertise his services worldwide.
- C. It was impossible for him to respond personally to each request for assistance.
- D. It was a more popular medium for young people to use.

2. One value of the videos is that they can

- A. be used as an additional tool for teachers in class.
- B. be shown to students as a reward for hard work.
- C. act as a substitute for formal learning.
- D. help students prepare for a topic they will study.

3. When visiting Khan the writer is

- A. annoyed by Khan's lateness.
  - B. surprised by Khan's choice of location.
  - C. embarrassed by the way Khan addresses him.
  - D. impressed by the style of furnishings in Khan's home.
4. The writer mentions different children's ages to illustrate his idea that
- A. it is quite natural for children to grow disillusioned with formal education.
  - B. the older a child is, the less able they are to assimilate new information.
  - C. a child's growing lack of interest in learning is a result of experience at school.
  - D. younger children need more motivation to remain interested in education.
5. In Khan's opinion, the suggestion that a lower student-teacher ratio solves the problem of ineffective learning is
- A. illogical
  - B. unproven.
  - C. unworkable
  - D. counterproductive.

**II. Starting from the text above, do the following task. You see this announcement in an international student magazine.**

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We are a popular international student magazine and we are preparing a special edition on the rise of E-learning platforms. Which are the most important aspects of this issue as it affects people in your country? Is the impact positive or negative? Email us your articles!

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**Write your article in 250-280 words.**

**50 points**

**TOTAL**

**100 points**

**NOTĂ: TOATE SUBIECTELE SUNT OBLIGATORII.**

**TIMPUL DE LUCRU ESTE DE 3h.**

**NU SE ACORDĂ PUNCTE DIN OFICIU.**