

Etapa locală a olimpiadei de limba engleză
Probă scrisă 8 februarie 2026

CLASA a XI-a - SECȚIUNEA A/STANDARD, Varianta 1

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Se acordă 10 puncte din oficiu.
- Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 3 ore.

SUBIECTULA – USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

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

The Great Barrier Reef, situated off the coast of Australia, is the world's largest coral reef system. It is (1) _____ up of thousands of individual reefs and hundreds of islands. Even (2) _____ it is a breathtaking natural wonder, the reef is currently (3) _____ threat from climate change. Rising ocean temperatures have caused coral bleaching, a process (4) _____ turns the vibrant corals white and leaves them vulnerable (5) _____ disease.

In (6) _____ to global warming, pollution from coastal development also affects the reef's health. Many environmentalists believe that (7) _____ drastic action is taken soon, the damage could become irreversible. (8) _____ of the main challenges is to reduce the amount of plastic waste entering the ocean. However, it is not (9) _____ late to save this ecosystem. Scientists are working hard to find ways to help the coral recover, (10) _____ that future generations can still enjoy its beauty.

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

1. The company's decision to downsize came as a total shock; it was completely out of the _____.
a) blue
b) red
c) dark
d) light
2. It is high time the government _____ more responsibility for the current economic crisis.
a) takes
b) has taken
c) took
d) should take
3. The witness's testimony was _____; the jury had no choice but to believe every word.
a) compelling
b) compulsory
c) compulsive
d) repelling
4. Not until the sun had set _____ that they were being followed by a mysterious figure.
a) did they realize
b) they realized
c) had they realized
d) were they realizing

5. I'd rather you _____ my secret to everyone at the party last night.
 - a) didn't tell
 - b) wouldn't tell
 - c) hadn't told
 - d) haven't told
6. The new software is highly sophisticated, yet it is _____ easy to navigate for the average user.
 - a) remarkably
 - b) utterly
 - c) heavily
 - d) deeply
7. Nu mică mi-a fost mirarea când am aflat că a câștigat marele premiu.
 - a) No small was my wonder when I found out he won the grand prize.
 - b) Not little was my surprise when I found out he had won the grand prize.
 - c) Imagine my surprise when I found out he had won the grand prize.
 - d) It wasn't small my wonder when I found out he had won the grand prize.
8. If you _____ so much time procrastinating, you would have finished the project by now.
 - a) wouldn't waste
 - b) hadn't wasted
 - c) didn't waste
 - d) shouldn't have wasted
9. The lecture was so _____ that half the students were asleep within the first twenty minutes.
 - a) tedious
 - b) strenuous
 - c) meticulous
 - d) arduous
10. He is believed _____ the scene of the crime just minutes before the police arrived.
 - a) to leave
 - b) to be leaving
 - c) to have left
 - d) that he left

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 two and five words, including the word given. 10 points

1. It was only when I checked my wallet that I realized I had lost my credit card.
DID
Only when I checked my wallet that I had lost my credit card.
2. I'm sure that the heavy traffic caused them to miss their flight.
MUST
The heavy traffic to their missing the flight.
3. "I'm sorry I didn't warn you about the change in the schedule," said the manager.
APOLOGIZED
The manager me about the change in the schedule.
4. If you don't start studying now, you will fail the exam.
OTHERWISE
You should start studying now; fail the exam.

5. I would prefer you not to smoke in the house, if you don't mind.

RATHER

I smoke in the house, if you don't mind.

IV. Translate the following text into English. 10 points

“Oamenii comunică între ei prin semne convenționale și astfel și-au făcut iluzia deșartă că se și înțeleg. În realitate fiecare atribuie celorlalți ceea ce simte dânsul și atâta tot. Legături directe omul numai cu Dumnezeu poate să aibă, de la care a și dobândit cunoștința existenței. Tragediile ca și bucuriile cele mai mari omul le trăiește întotdeauna în deplină singurătate și, de aceea, când își simte sufletul mai sfâșiat, își simte și singurătatea mai mare.”

(Liviu Rebreanu, *Ciuleandra*)

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (50 points)

I. Five paragraphs have been removed from the following newspaper article. Choose from the paragraphs A-F the one which fits each gap 1-5. There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use. (5x2=10 points)

The era of silent film is often dismissed as a mere stepping stone to modern cinema, a primitive precursor to the "real" art of talkies. Yet, in recent years, a burgeoning movement of cinephiles and historians is working to reframe this narrative. They argue that the silent era was not a lack of sound, but a unique language of visual storytelling that reached a peak of sophistication just as it was being replaced.

1. _____

The transition to sound in the late 1920s was not merely a technical upgrade; it was a seismic shift that bankrupted studios and ended the careers of stars whose voices didn't match their onscreen personas. The nuances of pantomime and the elaborate use of intertitles—cards containing dialogue or narration—were suddenly rendered obsolete.

2. _____

However, the "silent" experience was rarely truly quiet. In its heyday, screenings were communal events accompanied by live music, ranging from a single pianist to a full orchestra. This live element meant that no two screenings were ever exactly the same, providing a visceral, ephemeral quality that modern digital cinema often lacks.

3. _____

Modern technology is now playing a crucial role in this revival. Digital restoration allows for the removal of decades of scratches and decay, revealing the startling clarity of the original nitrate film. Colors, often applied by hand or through tinting processes, are being brought back to their former vividness, challenging the misconception that the era was strictly black and white.

4. _____

Educational institutions are also taking note. Film schools are increasingly reintroducing silent masterpieces into their curricula, not just as history lessons, but as masterclasses in composition and visual metaphor. By stripping away the dialogue, students are forced to focus on the power of the frame.

5. _____

Ultimately, the goal is to ensure that these works are seen not as museum pieces, but as living art. As we move further into a visual-centric digital age, the lessons of the silent masters—how to tell a story through a single, perfectly composed image—remain more relevant than ever.

Paragraphs

- A.** For many contemporary viewers, the prospect of sitting through a two-hour film without dialogue seems daunting. Yet, when stripped of the crutch of speech, the audience's engagement with the actors' expressions and the director's use of light becomes far more intense.
- B.** This resurgence is evidenced by the growing popularity of silent film festivals worldwide. These events do not just screen old movies; they commission new scores from contemporary composers, bridging the gap between the aesthetic of the 1920s and the sensibilities of the 21st century.
- C.** Beyond the technical aspects, there is the issue of preservation. It is estimated that over 70% of all silent films have been lost forever due to the highly flammable nature of nitrate film and simple neglect. Each restoration project is, therefore, a race against time.
- D.** Despite this historical significance, many early films were melted down to recover their silver content. This lack of foresight resulted in a cultural void, leaving us with only fragments of what was once a global industry.
- E.** This visual prowess was best exemplified by directors like F.W. Murnau and Fritz Lang, who used light and shadow to convey complex psychological states. Their work pushed the boundaries of what could be communicated through the camera lens alone, creating a "universal language" that bypassed linguistic barriers.
- F.** Ironically, the very thing that led to the demise of silent film—technological progress—is now the primary tool for its salvation. High-definition scans are uncovering details in the backgrounds of scenes that were invisible to audiences a century ago.

II. The school's Film and History Department is concerned that students view the era of silent cinema as a "primitive precursor" to modern film rather than a sophisticated art form. Following a recent seminar on the digital restoration of nitrate films, the Head of Department has asked you, as a student representative, to investigate how the school can better engage students with this heritage. Write your report in 200- 220 words, starting from the text above. 40 points

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BAREM DE EVALUARE ȘI DE NOTARE

- Se punctează oricare alte modalități de rezolvare corectă a cerințelor.
- Se acordă 10 puncte din oficiu.

SUBIECTULA – USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

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

10 1p = 10 points

1. made 2. though/if 3. under 4. which /that 5. to 6. addition 7. unless 8. One 9. too 10. so

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

10 x 1p = 10 points

1. A. blue
2. C. took
3. A. compelling
4. A. did they realize
5. C. hadn't told
6. A. remarkably
7. C. Imagine my surprise...
8. B. hadn't wasted
9. A. tedious
10. C. to have left

**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 two and five words, including the word given
10 points**

5 x 2p = 10 points

1. **did I realize**
2. **must have led**
3. **apologized for not warning**
4. **otherwise you will**
5. **would rather you didn't**

IV. Translate into English. 10 points

grammar structures 4 points

vocabulary 4 points

fluency 2 points

"People communicate with each other through conventional signs and thus have created the vain illusion that they understand each other. In reality, each person attributes to others what he feels and that's all. Man can only have direct connections with God, from whom he has acquired the knowledge of existence. Man always experiences tragedies, as well as the greatest joys, in complete solitude, and therefore, when he feels his soul more torn, he also feels his loneliness greater."

Any correct variant should be taken into consideration.

SUBIECTUL B - INTEGRATED SKILLS - 50 POINTS

I. Reading task - 5x2p = 10 points

1. E
2. A
3. B
4. F
5. C

II. Writing task = 40 points



Ministerul Educației și Cercetării
Centrul Național de Politici și Evaluare în Educație

MARKING SCHEME - REPORT/PROPOSAL

Analytical criteria	Excellent 10p	Good 8p	Adequate 6p	Weak 4p	Inadequate 2p	Task not attempted 0p
Task achievement	The report/proposal is completely relevant to the task, fully developing all content points; the format of the report/proposal is fully observed; the purpose of the report/proposal is clearly and fully explained; the information is appropriately categorized; a relevant conclusion is drawn	The report/proposal covers the requirements of the task but the content points could be more fully extended. The format of the report/proposal is observed; the purpose of the report/proposal is presented; the information is appropriately categorized in spite of minor inaccuracies; the conclusion drawn could be better substantiated	The report/proposal addresses the requirements of the task but not all content points are included; the format may be faulty at times; the purpose of the report/proposal is presented but it is not very clear; there are lapses in the categorization of the information; the conclusion is not logically linked to the content	The report/proposal does not cover the requirements of the task; the content points are attempted but many irrelevant details are included; the format is faulty; the purpose of writing/ the conclusion is missing or the information is inappropriately categorized	The report/proposal does not relate to the task	
Organization and cohesion	There is a logical progression throughout; the paragraphs are well built, well extended; the topic sentence is clear; a wide range of cohesive devices is used effectively.	There is a logical progression although minor inconsistencies are possible; the paragraphs are well built but could be more extended or balanced; a range of cohesive devices is used effectively.	The text is generally coherent but the internal organization of some paragraphs may be faulty; the topic sentence is not always clear or may be missing; cohesive devices are present but sometimes they are not accurate.	There is serious inconsistency in the organization of the text; the sequencing of ideas can be followed with difficulty; paragraphing may be missing; cohesive devices are limited or most of them are faulty.	The text is not logically organized and does not convey a message; no control of cohesive devices.	
VOCABULARY	A wide range of vocabulary is used appropriately and accurately; precise meaning is conveyed; minor errors are rare; spelling is very well controlled; the register is appropriate throughout.	A range of vocabulary is used appropriately and accurately; occasional errors in word choice/formation are possible; spelling is well controlled with occasional slips; the register is appropriate; although minor inconsistencies are possible.	The range of vocabulary is adequate; errors in word choice/formation are present when more sophisticated items of vocabulary are attempted; spelling can be faulty at times; there are inconsistencies in register.	A limited range of vocabulary is present; less common items of vocabulary are rare and may be often faulty; spelling errors can make text understanding difficult; there are major inconsistencies in register.	A very narrow range of vocabulary is present; errors in word choice/formation predominate; spelling errors make the text obscure at times.	
STRUCTURES	A wide range of grammatical structures is used accurately and flexibly; minor errors are rare; punctuation is very well controlled.	A range of grammatical structures is used accurately and with some flexibility; occasional errors are possible; punctuation is well controlled with occasional slips.	A mix of complex and simple grammatical structures is present; errors are present when complex language is attempted; punctuation can be faulty at times.	A limited range of grammatical structures is present; complex language is rare and may be often faulty; punctuation errors can make text understanding difficult.	A very narrow range of grammatical structures is present; errors predominate; punctuation errors make the text obscure at times.	
EFFECT ON TARGET READER	The interest of the reader is aroused and sustained throughout.	The text has a good effect on the reader.	The effect on the reader is satisfactory.	The text has not a relevant effect on the reader.	The text has a negative effect on the reader.	