

**Etapa județeană/sectoarelor municipiului București a olimpiadelor naționale școlare -  
2024**

**Probă scrisă**

**Limba engleză**

**CLASA a XII-a - SECȚIUNEA A**

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

**SUBIECTUL A – USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)**

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

Studying is a multifaceted journey, requiring focus and strategy. We all know that in theory but putting it 1) \_\_\_\_\_ practice can be daunting. Let me tell you from experience some things that will help you study more efficiently. Only 2) \_\_\_\_\_ you grasp the significance of dedication 3) \_\_\_\_\_ you truly excel. 4) \_\_\_\_\_ you embrace active learning, you cannot unlock your full potential. Distractions needn't have a place in your study sessions; rather, hone in 5) \_\_\_\_\_ your goals with precision. Take moments to mull 6) \_\_\_\_\_ complex concepts, digesting them fully before moving forward. Don't put 7) \_\_\_\_\_ your efforts prematurely; perseverance is key. Avoid 8) \_\_\_\_\_ around the bush when tackling difficult subjects; instead, confront them head-on. Remember, setbacks are part and 9) \_\_\_\_\_ of the learning process; learn from them and adapt. Stay proactive; anticipate challenges by being 10) \_\_\_\_\_ notice of upcoming tasks and deadlines. With these approaches, your study sessions will be more effective and rewarding.

**II. Choose the best option A, B, C or D. 10 points**

1. .... the next train, we ..... on the rain - swept ..... at the station.

- A. Despite / would still stand / terminal
- B. But for / would still be standing / platform
- C. But for / had still stood / platform
- D. Although / would still be standing / terminal

2. You could do really ..... in your ..... if you put your mind .....

- A. fine / work / to it
- B. perfect / career / on it
- C. well / job / up it
- D. well / career / to it

3. I ..... the play for about one hour when I ..... that the person next to me was sleeping like a  
.....

- A. have been watching / noticed / log
- B. had been watching / realized / dog
- C. have been watching / noticed / crop
- D. had been watching / realized / log

4. The manager ..... us that it was ..... we had the office ..... up.

- A. said / the high time / done
- B. announced / about time / got
- C. told / high time/ done
- D. said / about time / made

5. My cousin is a(n) ..... employee who .... himself into the work and always gets the job done ....

- A. valuable / throws / before
- B. excellent / puts / in time
- C. valued / puts / in time
- D. excellent / throws / on time

6. My friend persuaded me to try snowboarding.

- A. It was my friend who talked me into trying snowboarding.
- B. It is my friend who has talked me into trying snowboarding.
- C. It was my friend who talked to me to try snowboarding.
- D. It is my friend who has talked to me to try snowboarding.

7. Apart from composition, I thought the test was really easy.

- A. I find the test plain sailing except for the composition.
- B. I have found the plain test sailing except from the composition.
- C. I found the test plain sailing except for the composition.
- D. I thought the test plain sailing excepting for the composition.

8. 'Will you lend me your car?' 'I asked my brother.

'No, I can't. The brakes are out of order and a mechanic is repairing it right now', he answered.

- A. I asked my brother if he lent me his car and he explained that he can't as the brakes were out of order and they were repaired by a mechanic right now.
- B. I asked my brother if I can borrow his car but he told me that the brakes were out of order and a mechanic was repairing them right then.
- C. I asked my brother if I could take his car and he explained that the brakes were out of order and they are being repaired by a mechanic right now.
- D. I asked my brother if I could borrow his car but he told me that the brakes were out of order and they were being repaired by a mechanic right then.

9. Inefficient treatment of customers creates a bad impression of the company.

- A. Treating customers with inefficiency reflects bad on the company.
- B. If customers are treated without efficiency, it reflects bad on the company.
- C. Treating customers with a lack of efficiency reflects badly on the company.
- D. If customers were treated without efficiency, it reflects badly on the on the company.

10. Diana thinks that creating things stops her from thinking about her work.

- A. Diana considers that to be creative takes her mind away from her work.
- B. Diana thinks that being creative takes her mind off her work.
- C. Diana considered that her creativity takes her mind off her work.
- D. Diana thought that to be creative takes her mind up from her work.

**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. She has finally accepted the fact that her novel will never be a best-seller. **RESIGNED**  
At last, she \_\_\_\_\_ the low sales of her novel.
2. The band is not going to play anymore, so why don't we leave? **WELL**  
We \_\_\_\_\_ that the band have given their final encore.
3. It's a long time since anyone checked my car properly. **SERVICED**  
I haven't \_\_\_\_\_ for a long time.
4. Mary is sad as she got a low grade in Maths yesterday. **UNLESS**  
Mary \_\_\_\_\_ she had got a low grade in Maths yesterday.
5. I regret having come to this horrible city. **SET**  
I wish \_\_\_\_\_ in this horrible city.

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

**10 points**

Gyakran gondolkodtam azon, hogy mit lehet kifejezni a fényképezéssel, amit más művészeti nyelven nem lehet kifejezni. Mi a fényképezés sajátossága. Szeretném, ha a válasz nagyon egyszerű lenne. A valóság egy töredéke nyomot hagy a fényképezőgép filmjén, és ez a lenyomat lesz az állókép, amelyet szemlélünk. A fénykép mindig a Valóságra mutat. Magától értetődően egy fénykép annál jobb, ha úgy tűnik, hogy a valóság egy jelentős, fontos szeletét fagyasztotta meg. És amikor emberek jelennek meg a fényképen, az annál is jobb, ha a belső világukból valami eljut hozzánk. A lefényképezettek arcára vagy testére rengeteg érzés és érzelem rajzolódik: megnyugvás, frusztráció, félelem, zavar, öröm, megvetés vagy boldogság. Mindezeket a képeket látva nem lehet nem arra gondolni, amit egy fotós kolléga egyszer mondott, hogy a mélység a dolgok felszínén rejtőzik.

Radu Jude - interjú 2020 (adaptált szöveg)

## SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)

I. Five sentences have been removed from the article below. Choose from the sentences A-F the one which fits each gap (1-5). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. **10 points**

### *The culture cure: how art can be a powerful healing experience*

Humans often find catharsis through creating art, while looking at paintings and sculptures can light up the pleasure centre in the brain and release dopamine. **(1)** \_\_\_\_\_

According to a recent study, looking at art can light up the pleasure centre in the brain and release dopamine, the feel-good chemical – which is why visiting a gallery can be a valuable act of self-care, especially in the cold, dark winter months. East London-based art therapist Alex Monk says viewing art in-person in a gallery, rather than virtually, elevates the experience. **(2)** \_\_\_\_\_

It helps that many galleries and museums are works of art in their own right; from the Tate Modern's colossal Turbine Hall – a space so spectacular that it inspires its own creations, such as El Anatsui's Behind the Red Moon, a monumental sculptural installation made of thousands of metal bottle tops and fragments, which is currently on show there – to the Grade II grandeur of Tate Britain, with its opulent circular balcony and domed atrium. These are public spaces with pizzazz – a break from the everyday. **(3)** \_\_\_\_\_

We live in a fast-paced culture, often consuming great works of art as quickly as we do content on our phones. But the act of engaging with art often defies our own deadlines and boundaries of time, inviting us to look a little longer. Next time you go to a gallery, try practising "slow looking", spending several minutes or even hours contemplating just one piece. **(4)** \_\_\_\_\_

According to a recent study, although 95% of UK adults agree that visiting museums and galleries is beneficial, 40% of us visit them less than once a year – which is especially regretful as so many of these incredible spaces and artworks, including the main collections in the Tate galleries, are completely free to view and open to all. **(5)** \_\_\_\_\_

**A.** That's not to say you should force yourself to settle in for half an hour to look at something that leaves you cold. Life's too short. But when you find a piece that arrests you, intrigues you, or sparks joy, why not commit to intently considering it for minutes, rather than seconds?

**B.** Galleries are full of amazing works, but observing just one on a deeper level can be incredibly meaningful. "We find it more difficult to stay with images or paintings for longer periods of time, but it's a really good antidote to the culture we have now where everything has to be really fast," says Monk, who likens slow looking to Pauline Oliveros's theory of deep listening.

**C.** "These gloomy winter months are the perfect time to get lost in our free displays, especially if you've never visited before," says Hindsbo. "From fluid contemporary sculpture to calming landscapes, vibrant abstract paintings to awe-inspiring installations, you'll find something in our collections for everyone." Now that sounds like our kind of self-care, no costs involved.

**D.** “From delighting in the creativity of others, seeing something from a different perspective, sharing that experience or forging connections, I know I always leave our galleries feeling energised, inspired and uplifted,” says Karin Hindsbo, the director of Tate Modern – and she’s certainly not alone.

**E.** Nottingham-based art psychotherapist Sofie Dobbelaere agrees that going to a gallery to view art can be a powerful healing experience. “When we look at art, we connect with our humanity, and therefore are pulled into dialogue with something outside of ourselves,” she says. “This can help us feel connected and like we are part of something important.”

**F.** “It might be the smell, or even seeing the shine of the paint. You might even be able to interact with the art on another level,” he says. “There is also a community aspect to walking around the gallery and looking at paintings or sculptures, which is very important.”

**II. Starting from the text above, do the following task.**

You see this announcement in an international student magazine.

**We are a popular international student magazine and we are preparing a special edition on the effects of AI on art. 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!**

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

**50 points**