

OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZA – ETAPA MUNICIPALĂ
12 MARTIE – 2016
CLASA A VIII-A

I. READING COMPREHENSION

Read the text below and answer the following questions, choosing A, B, C or D (5X2p=10p)

New York – The Empire State

In 1609 Henry Hudson travelled in the area that is now the state of New York. He was English, but he was working for Holland. So the area became a Dutch colony. Holland bought Manhattan Island from the American Indians for \$24 and founded the city of New Amsterdam in 1624. When the British took the city in 1664 they called it New York. New York was the biggest state when the Americans founded the United States of America in 1776. It was so big that people thought it was like an empire. They called it the "Empire State".

New York, New York! The city of New York is in the state of New York. It is the biggest city in the state and in the USA. For a short time, it was the capital of New York State and of the USA. Now Albany is the state capital. And Washington D.C. is the national capital.

Over 7 million people live in New York City. Almost 11 million people live in the area around it. New York City is famous for its skyscrapers, museums and parks. It is also the cultural centre of the United States.

Most tourists in New York City only see Manhattan. And they don't usually see all of that. Most people don't go to Harlem, for example, because they are afraid of crime. The city also has four other boroughs: Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens and Staten Island. The Bronx has one of the most beautiful zoos in the USA, but it also has a lot of problems. Many of the people there are poor.

1. The Dutch founded the city of Amsterdam in:
 - A. the 17th century
 - B. the 16th century
 - C. the 19th century
 - D. the 20th century
2. Who called the city "New York"?
 - A. The Americans
 - B. The British
 - C. The French
 - D. The Dutch
3. How many people live in or around New York?
 - A. Over 7 million people
 - B. Almost 11 million people
 - C. Nearly 20 million people
 - D. 8 million people
4. How many boroughs are there in New York?
 - A. Four boroughs
 - B. Six boroughs
 - C. Three boroughs
 - D. Five boroughs

5. There is a beautiful zoo in...
- A. Brooklyn
 - B. Queens
 - C. Staten Island
 - D. New York

II. USE OF ENGLISH

1. For questions 1-10, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. (10p)

Murals to Help Troubled Youth

Philadelphia is a city known (1) ____ many things. It is (2) ____ the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776, and it (3) ____ also the first capital of the United States. But one fact about Philadelphia is not so well-known: it is the home to nearly 3.000 murals painted (4) ____ the sides of homes and buildings around the city. In fact, it (5) ____ that Philadelphia has more murals than (6) ____ city in the world, with the exception of Rome. How did this (7) ____ to be? More than 20 years (8) ____, an artist named Jane Golden started a programme pairing troubled youth with artists to paint murals on (9) ____ buildings around the city. From this small project, something magical happened. The young people helped to create magnificent pieces of art, but there were other, perhaps more important benefits. They learned how to collaborate and (10) ____ with many different kinds of people during the various steps required to paint and design a mural.

(adapted from Murals to help troubled youth, on www.englishforeveryone.org)

| | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | A. for | B. as | C. because | D. with |
| 2. | A. which | B. where | C. whose | D. whom |
| 3. | A. is | B. was | C. has been | D. had been |
| 4. | A. by | B. in | C. of | D. on |
| 5. | A. is said | B. said | C. was saying | D. did say |
| 6. | A. any other | B. no other | C. not other | D. others |
| 7. | A. came | B. have come | C. come | D. coming |
| 8. | A. before | B. after | C. later | D. ago |
| 9. | A. a few | B. few | C. a little | D. little |
| 10. | A. get down | B. get over | C. get away | D. get along |

2. For questions from 1 – 10, read the text below and fill in the blanks with the word which best fits each gap. Use only ONE word. (10p)

The Worst Day of My Life

There's this little guy sitting inside a bar, just looking (1) _____ his drink. He stays like that (2) _____ half an hour. Then, this big trouble-making truck driver steps next to him, takes the drink (3) _____ the guy, and just drinks it all down. The poor man starts crying.

The truck driver says: "Come on man, I was just joking. Here, I'll buy you another drink. I just can't see a man crying."

"No, it's not that. Today is the worst day (4) _____ my life. First, I overslept and was late to (5) _____ important meeting. My boss, outraged, fired me. When I left the building to (6) _____ car, I found out it was stolen. The police said they could do nothing. I got a taxi to return home, and after I paid the taxi driver and the taxi had gone, I found out (7) _____ I left my whole wallet in the (8) _____. I got home only to find my wife had left me. I left home (9) _____ came to this bar. And when I was thinking (10) _____ putting an end to my life, you show up and drink my poison..."

3. Complete each sentence with the correct word derived from the word in capitals following the sentence. (10X2p=20p)

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|---|------------|
| 1. You should consider your options _____ before making a decision. | CARE |
| 2. These are _____ accounts of the adventures in which the men were captured. | NARRATE |
| 3. Inner beauty is a greater _____ than any letter of reference. | RECOMMEND |
| 4. My cousin Nick is a _____. He plays the guitar beautifully. | MUSIC |
| 5. This rude _____ is not appreciated by my friends. | BEHAVE |
| 6. The Old Church is a wonderful example of Gothic _____. | ARCHITECT |
| 7. In _____ I would say we must increase our profit this term. | CONCLUDE |
| 8. There is a _____ to finish our job in time: we could hire extra help. | POSSIBLE |
| 9. He is such an _____ person! I truly admire him. | OPTIMISM |
| 10. What I should have done _____ is having called you. | DIFFERENCE |

4. Read the sentences and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. (5X2p=10p)

1. Mark thinks he is _____ than his brother, but he is so short and thin!
A. strongest B. as strong as C. stronger D. the strongest
2. Ned's father works hard at his job, _____?
A. isn't he B. don't he C. doesn't he D. isn't it
3. If I _____ richer, I would travel all over the world.
A. had been B. am C. were D. will be
4. The teacher made them _____ until 5 o'clock.
A. to work B. working C. be working D. work
5. They asked me where I _____.
A. live B. lived C. have I lived D. whether I lived

5. 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 and use between TWO and FIVE words, including the word given. (5X4p=20p)

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Jack began learning to play the piano three years ago. Jack _____ to play the piano for three years. | HAS |
| 2. They are building a new hospital in my neighbourhood. A new hospital _____ in my neighbourhood. | BUILT |
| 3. I am sure she is lying to you. She _____ to you. | BE |
| 4. I don't live in London so I can't give you any directions. If I _____ give you some directions. | COULD |
| 5. Our palace is beautiful in winter! We have _____ in winter. | A |

III. WRITING (10p).

You want to complain about a product you have bought. Write a complaint letter.
Your name is Steven Spark / Sally Carter.
Write **100 – 120 words** on your answer sheet.

**NOTA:
TOATE SUBIECTELE SUNT OBLIGATORII.
TIMPUL DE LUCRU ESTE DE 2 ORE.
SE ACORDA 10 PUNCTE DIN OFICIU.**