

MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI NAȚIONALE
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA NAȚIONALĂ, BRĂILA, aprilie 2014
SECȚIUNEA A /PROBA SCRISĂ
CLASA a XI-a

Varianta 2

Question I (50 points)

“One person with a belief is equal to ninety-nine who have only interests.” (John Stuart Mill)
Express your opinion on this quote in 350 words.

Question II (25 points)

A letter from a reader has recently been published in a newspaper you read, complaining that the newspaper is always full of bad news and never highlights the positive aspects of life. Write an article in reply to this complaint, showing whether or not you believe in the good things in life, both for you personally and for people in general, giving reasons for your choice. Use between 200 – 220 words.

Question III (25 points)

A. Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage. Use only one word in each space. (10 points)

Oberon

The name Oberon got its literary start in the 13th century from the fairy dwarf Oberon(1).....helps the hero in the chanson de geste, titled “Les Prouesses et faitz de noble Huon de Bordeaux”. When Huon, son of Seguin count of Bordeaux, passed (2)the forest where Oberon lives, he (3)warned against Oberon by a hermit, but his sense of courtesy (4)him answer Oberon’s greetings, and so gain Oberon’s aid in his quest: (5)killed Charlot, the Emperor’s son, in self-defense, Huon must visit the court of the amir of Babylon and perform various feats to win a pardon, and only with Oberon’s aid (6)he succeed.

The real Seguin was Count of Bordeaux under Louis the Pious in 839, and died fighting against the Normans in 845. Charles l’Enfant, a son of Charles the Bald, died in 866 (7)wounds inflicted (8)a certain Aubouin in the circumstances of an ambush (9)to that carried out by Charlot in the story. The Oberon appears in a 13th century French courtly fantasy that is based (10)a shred of 9th century fact.

B. For each of the sentences below, write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence. You must use between three and six words, including the word given. The word must not be altered in any way. (5 points)

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. I’d help you, but I have very little free time on my hands.
I’d help you, but I free time on my hands. | hardly |
| 2. He’s still planning on attending as far as I know.
To....., he’s still planning on attending. | my |
| 3. I didn’t make us late for the plane.
Through miss the plane. | fault |

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4. He is unlikely to get the job that he applied for. **prospect**
There.....the job that he applied for.
5. Peter was disappointed not to win the competition. **came**
Not winning the competition.....to Peter.

C. Read the text below and use the word given in capital on the right to form words that fit in the gaps. (10 points)

Man's greatest invention

The wheel might seem to be the most simple invention, but it did not occur to every civilization to invent one and it surely has to be the greatest invention. Look around – the wheel is everywhere in our modern world. It's (1)..... simple, aesthetically perfect and (2) the most useful thing in the world. What great moment of (3)happened to bring us this gift? It should really be invented much earlier than it was.

If you consider the (4)opportunities man had to witness fallen trees rolling downhill, man was (5)slow at catching on to the potential of roundness and gravity. The Mayas, the Aztecs and the Incas all achieved great things without the wheel. They must have just run a lot and were (6)all the healthier for it. Sledges, usually pulled by humans, (7)to the Stone Age, were quite enough for them. The wheel came later in human (8) than most of us think. Once it did arrive there were many (9) made to it as man realized that the possibilities of the wheel were vast and this (10)spurred him on to greater things.

SATISFY

ARGUE

REVEAL

END

REMARK

DOUBT

TRACE

DEVELOP

REFINE

AWARE

Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru 3 ore.

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BAREM DE CORECTARE ȘI DE NOTARE

Question III

A. 10 points

1. that/who
2. through
3. was/got
4. made/had
5. having
6. does/can
7. of/ from
8. by
9. similar
10. on

B. 5 points

1. I'd help you, but I **have hardly any** free time on my hands.
2. To **the best of my knowledge**, he's still planning on attending.
3. Through **no fault of mine did we** miss the plane.
4. There **is little/no prospect of John getting** the job that he applied for.
5. Not winning the competition **came as a disappointment/shock** to Peter.

C. 10 points

1. satisfyingly
2. arguably
3. revelation
4. endless
5. remarkably
6. doubtlessly/undoubtedly
7. traceable
8. development
9. refinements
10. awareness