

MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI, CERCETĂRII ȘI INOVĂRII
OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
FEBRUARIE 2009
CLASA A X-A

Varianta I

Subiectul I:

50 puncte

Read the following text and write a description of what the narrator saw in about 300 words.

Yes. Something pleasant. Yes, now hadn't there been something - something he had noticed as they were driving along. Not very long ago. Something that he had seen through the window which had pleased and excited him. But before he had time to think about it, the car's misbehaviour had become more pronounced and a rapid visit to the nearest service station had been inevitable.

What was it that he had seen? On the left – no, on the right. Yes, on the right as they drove slowly through the village street. Next door to a post office. Yes, he was quite sure of that. Next door to a post office because the sight of the post office had given him the idea of telephoning to the Addisons to break the news that he might be slightly late in his arrival. And next to it - yes, definitely next to it, next door or if not next door the door after. Something that had stirred old memories, and he had wanted - just what was it that he had wanted? (Agatha Christie)

50p

Subject II

You have seen this passage in a newspaper article:

“Young people today do not know how to spend their time to their advantage. When I was an adolescent, we played games, developing friendships. We read, improving our knowledge of languages. We had active hobbies, like stamp collecting or bird watching. Today, youngsters sit passively and watch TV or are glued to the computer screen playing games full of violence and monsters or listen to worthless music. They are completely cut off from real life. No wonder they feel lost and the educational standards are falling!”

Write a letter to the editor expressing your opinion about what the writer of the article says. Do not write any addresses. (150 – 180 words)

25p

Subject III (25 points)

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

Two brothers, Prometheus and Epimetheus, lived in Ancient Greece. They had upset the gods (1) giving the gift of fire to humans and now the gods wanted to punish them. The gods created a beautiful woman called Pandora. Prometheus refused to marry her (2) he knew that the gods wanted to take their revenge on him. But Epimetheus thought that she was (3) beautiful to cause any trouble, so he (4) to marry her. They lived happily together (5) one day Mercury arrived carrying a magnificent box. He wouldn't tell them what was in the box but he said that they must (6) open it. Pandora (7) longing to know what was in the box. Finally she

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could resist no (8) and she opened the box. The gods had filled it (9) all the bad things they could think of - illness, unhappiness and death. Pandora screamed as they all flew out. She tried to close the box but it was too (10)

B. Read the text below and use the word given in capital on the right to form words that fit in the gaps. The words in capitals are given in the order you need to use them. (5 points)

The ...1...of the road maps that exist today started over 200 years ago. The Army was concerned about the ...2... of enemy invasion, but its plans for ...3...were hindered by the lack of maps at the time. Those that did exist were...4...and lacked detail. Work to produce...5...maps was carried out by an organization called Ordnance Survey.

DEVELOP
POSSIBLE
DEFEND
ACCURATE
RELY

C. Rewrite each sentence, beginning as shown, so that the meaning stays the same. (10 points)

1. If she'd had my address with her, she'd have sent me a postcard.
She didn't send.....
2. I didn't agree with the idea.
I wasn't
3. He pretended to be enjoying himself, but he wasn't.
He acted.....
4. "It's not worth worrying about the past," I told him.
I told him there was.....
5. I offered to help her but she said "No, thanks."
She turned.....

TOTAL

100 PUNCTE

TOATE SUBIECTELE SUNT OBLIGATORII. TIMP DE LUCRU 3 ORE. NU SE ACORDĂ PUNCTE DIN OFICIU.