Etapa județeană / a sectoarelor municipiului București a olimpiadelor naționale școlare - 2025

Probă scrisă

Limba engleză

CLASA a VIII-a

- **Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.**
- **Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.**
- **Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 2 ore.**

SUBIECTUL I – USE OF ENGLISH (25 points)

I.1. Read the following text and fill in the blanks with the correct verb forms. 10 points

POLICE SEEK MISSING SHED

A 32-year-old man **1)** _____ **(get)** home from work on Friday to find that someone **2)** _____ **(steal)** the shed from his back garden. Martin Graham, who **3)** _____ **(live)** in Francis Road, Darnely, told us he couldn't believe his eyes. 'There was simply nothing there. I thought I **4)** _____ **(go)** into the wrong garden.' A neighbour who **5)** ____ **(notice)** the men while they **6)** ____ **(disassemble)** the shed, **7)** _____ **(assume)** that Mr Graham **8)** _____ **(ask)** them to do it. The two men just put the shed in a white van and drove off. Police **9)** _____ **(investigate)** the case and **10)** _____ **(already, issue)** a description of the two men.

I.2. Read the text below and look carefully at each line. If the line is correct, write a tick (√). If it has a word that should not be there, write the word. 10 points

00.	The light in the room was too *much* dim, but Mary strived to read the precious	much
0.	letter. When I *have* managed to turn the light up, I could see that her eyes	have
1.	were swollen because she had hardly rubbed them to clear her vision. At	.....
2.	first, I thought she was crying, but the letter brought a wonderful news: her	.....
3.	son was returning home safely after his long journey through Asia. She had	.....
4.	had few little information over the past two weeks, but all was forgotten now.	.....
5.	Later, her son explained that he had been making his way through Nepal,	.....
6.	climbing the Mount Everest to Base Camp, then through the thick	.....
7.	overgrowth of the Indian jungle, and finally across the dryly Gobi Desert. He	.....
8.	hadn't had internet access, then he had lost his phone and couldn't call	.....
9.	home. All he could managed to do was write a quick letter before boarding	.....
10.	on the plane to Tokyo, the last leg of his journey.	.....

I.3. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in capital letters. 5 points

1. I think these kinds of exercises _____ my body. **STRONG**
2. She made many _____ statements. **PROVOKE**
3. The claim is _____ true. **QUESTION**
4. The judge ordered the _____ of the documents and everything went public. **CLOSE**
5. As a child, Jack suffered from a very strict _____ . **BRING**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

SUBIECTUL al II-lea – READING COMPREHENSION (25 points)

Read the text below and complete the tasks that follow.

1. _____

On July 4, 1884, France gave the United States an incredible birthday gift – the Statue of Liberty! July 4 is celebrated as Independence Day in the U.S. because it marks the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, when the thirteen American colonies declared their freedom from British rule. The gift was a powerful symbol of the strong friendship between France and the United States, as France had supported the American colonies during their fight for independence. The Statue of Liberty soon became one of the most important symbols of freedom and democracy in the world. When immigrants arrived by boat to the United States, the statue was often the first thing they saw, a sign that they had reached a land of freedom and opportunity.

2. _____

The idea for the statue started in 1865, during a dinner near Paris. A group of Frenchmen were discussing their dictator-like emperor and comparing him to the democratic government of the U.S. They wanted to create a monument to freedom, which could also inspire people in France to demand democracy. Among them was the sculptor Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi, who imagined a giant statue of a woman holding a torch, shining with the light of liberty. He took inspiration from Libertas, the ancient Roman goddess of freedom, in the popular tradition among 19th-century sculptors, who often used female figures to personify abstract concepts like justice, liberty, and victory. He even used his own mother's face as the model for Lady Liberty!

3. _____

Turning Bartholdi's idea into reality took 21 years. The French raised money to build the statue, while Americans collected funds for the pedestal. The famous engineer Gustave Eiffel, who later designed the Eiffel Tower, created the statue's internal structure – four huge iron columns that hold the thin copper skin in place. The statue was completed in 1884, then taken apart into 350 pieces and packed into 214 wooden crates. It was shipped across the Atlantic Ocean and rebuilt in New York Harbor. Finally, on October 28, 1886, the Statue of Liberty was officially dedicated in front of a huge crowd, marking a historic moment in U.S. history.

4. _____

The Statue of Liberty has a flexible structure that allows it to sway up to 7.62 cm in the wind, while the torch moves even more – up to 12.7 cm. There is an elevator inside, which takes visitors up to the observation deck at the top of the pedestal. From there, they must climb 354 steps to reach the crown, but the 25 windows, which offer a spectacular view of New York City, make the effort worthwhile. At the time of its completion, the Statue of Liberty was the tallest structure in the United States, standing at 46 meters – the arm with the torch alone is 14 meters long, while a single finger measures 2.4 meters! The statue is covered with 300 sheets of copper, hammered into shape and joined with rivets. The seven rays in the crown represent the seven seas.

5. _____

Originally, the Statue of Liberty was not green – it was a shiny reddish-brown color because it was made of copper, just like a new penny. However, over time, the copper reacted with air, water, and weather, causing a natural chemical process called oxidation. This created a thin layer called 'patina', which protected the statue from further damage and gave it its famous greenish-blue color. The transformation took about 20 years, and by the early 1900s, the statue had completely changed to the color we see today. This patina actually helps preserve the statue, preventing the copper underneath from corroding. Today, millions of tourists visit the statue every year, climbing to the top and learning about its history, as well as its unique greenish color and the science behind it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

II.1 Choose the most suitable heading from the list (A-G) for each part (1-5). There are two extra headings which you do not need to use. 10 points

A. *A formidable endeavour*
B. *Green is the new brown*
C. *Sealing a historical bond*
D. *Aging like fine wine*
E. *The spark that ignited the torch of liberty*
F. *An engineering marvel*
G. *Colonial America*

II.2 For questions 1-5, choose the answer A, B, C, or D which you think fits best according to the text. 15 points

1. France gave the United States the Statue of Liberty on July 4, 1884

A. to show support for the American colonies fighting for independence.
B. as a token of solidarity between the two states.
C. as a beacon to guide the immigrants and give them hope.
D. to encourage boat trade across the ocean.

2. According to paragraph 2, 19th-century sculptors

A. discussed the idea for the statue over dinner.
B. designed giant statues of women holding a torch.
C. illustrated abstract concepts through their works.
D. used their mothers or female members of the family as models.

3. Which statement is true according to paragraph 3?

A. Both the French and the Americans raised funds.
B. The famous engineer Gustave Eiffel designed both the Statue of Liberty and the Eiffel Tower.
C. The statue's internal structure was packed into 214 wooden crates.
D. Bartholdi's idea turned into reality when the statue was completed in 1884, after 21 years.

4. Which of these phrases creates a static image?

A. The statue sways 7.62 cm in the wind.
B. The torch moves 12.7 cm.
C. The elevator takes the people to the top of the pedestal.
D. The 300 sheets of copper are joined together with rivets.

5. According to paragraph 5, 'patina'

A. is a shiny reddish-brown color resulting from the oxidation of copper.
B. reacts with air, water, and weather.
C. prevents against corrosion.
D. transformed the statue beyond recognition.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

SUBIECTUL al III-lea – WRITING (50 points)

Write a narrative essay ending like this:

The manuscript's secrets were no longer just ink on parchment. They were alive, and they were waiting for the real adventure to begin.

Write your story in 150-180 words and give it an appropriate title. Pay attention to the following:

- you don't need to write long descriptions;
- use dialogues only if they are relevant to your characters or events;
- you should use this plan:

1. **Introduction** (paragraph 1 – set the scene)
2. **Main Body** (paragraph(s) 2/3 – develop the story)
3. **Conclusion** (paragraph 4 – end the story).

Do not count the words in the given ending.

LIVEWORKSHEETS