IATEFL *SLOVENIA*
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE
SLOVENSKO DRUŠTVO UČITELJEV ANGLEŠKEGA JEZIKA

ŠOLSKO TEKMOVANJE

iz znanja angleščine za učence

8. razreda osnovnih šol

"Slovenian tales, myths and legends – When we lose our myths we lose our place in the universe." (Madeleine L'Engle)

PART A *– READING COMPREHENSION*

PART B *– LANGUAGE IN USE*

ŠIFRA TEKMOVALCA: _____

PART A **TASK ONE** **TASK TWO**	 ____/7 points ____/10 points	*PART B* **TASK THREE** **TASK FOUR**	 ____/15 points ____/19 points	**TASK FIVE**	___/15 points
POINTS TOTAL	_____/66 POINTS				

1. OCENJEVALEC *(ime in podpis)*

_____

2. OCENJEVALEC *(ime in podpis)*

_____

DRAGI TEKMOVALEC, preden začneš reševati naloge, pozorno preberi vsa navodila in prosi nadzorne učitelje za pojasnilo, če česa ne razumeš. Pozneje, med reševanjem nalog, ne sprašuj. Ker poteka tekmovanje preko računalnika, boš v nekaterih nalogah moral z miško besede premakniti na pravo mesto, ali izbrati pravo besedo iz spustnega seznama. Pri nalogah, kjer je potrebno pisati, bodi zelo pozoren na zapis; predvsem bodi pozoren na zapis opuščaja ('). Tega napišeš na večini tipkovnic tako, da pritisneš tipko z vprašajem, med črkami pa ne delaš presledka.

Za reševanje nalog imaš 50 minut časa. Čas se odšteva v zgornjem desnem kotu in se 5 minut pred koncem obarva najprej oranžno in nato še rdeče, ko ostane le 30 sekund do konca.

Želimo ti uspešno reševanje!

IATEFL Slovenia in Državna izpitna komisija

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read the text about the legend of King Matjaž, one of the most well-known heroes in Slovene mythology. Then do tasks ONE and TWO.

KING MATJAŽ

The mountainous north of Slovenia, Slovenian Carinthia (Koroška), is a magical place that is also the legendary home of a sleeping king, whose awakening will one day bring prosperity to the land. This legendary and mythical king of Slovene people is known as Kralj Matjaž or King Matjaž. The figure of King Matjaž has been linked to a 15th century Hungarian king named Matthias Corvinus of Hungary, who was beloved by his people and holds a legendary status in Hungarian mythology, as well as that of Croatians and Serbs. However, the real life of Matthias Corvinus and the stories depicting King Matjaž hold very little resemblance. As a result, there are many different representations of King Matjaž and connections between him and other prominent figures in Slovene history, associating him with the Counts of Celje and even going as far as connecting him with a pagan Slavic god called Kersnik. The connection with Kersnik promotes the idea of the origin of the myth in the pre-Christian, pagan, time and mythology.

Due to the many theories explaining the origin of King Matjaž and the era in which the stories were formed, there is a multitude of tales about him that shine a light on various moments of his life. Regardless of the variation of the story, King Matjaž is always depicted as a king who is just and acts as a defender of his people, representing an age of prosperity. Most of these stories end with him and his warriors sleeping in a cave like dwelling, where they will stay until the need for protecting their people awakens them.

One of the most popular and well-known tales about King Matjaž in today's Slovene culture is that of King Matjaž and his wife Alenka (Kralj Matjaž and Alenčica).

It describes Matjaž as the ruler of Carinthia, a land where life was incredibly good. He was compassionate and generous, handing out gold coins to his subjects and helping them whenever they needed it. However, this prosperity did not last long, because the Turks began to invade the land from the east. One night, as King Matjaž was fighting the Turks, the sultan and his men attacked the king's castle where Matjaž's wife Alenka was sleeping, and abducted her. When Matjaž returned to the castle and found out what had happened, he and his men, the black army, rode until they found the Turkish camp and rescued Alenka

LIVEWORKSHEETS

from the tent of the sultan. However, while Matjaž was away from his kingdom, envious rulers forged a plan to defeat Matjaž and conquer his land. Luckily, Matjaž got wind of his enemies' plans and with his best soldiers, he attacked his enemies. They fought valiantly but the enemy was too strong, so Matjaž and his remaining soldiers had to flee toward the mountains. It was there that a miracle happened. As the king and his soldiers were stuck and the enemy closed in, mountain Peca opened up giving entry to Matjaž and his soldiers, allowing them to escape the enemy. Once they were safely inside, the mountain closed again. As it did, King Matjaž and his soldiers fell into a deep sleep. According to the legend, one day, when people of Slovenia will need him, the king and his soldiers will awaken from their slumber, bringing peace and prosperity back to their people.[3]

(adapted from: [1] https://zdjp.si/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Smitek.pdf; [2]https://www.rtvslo.si/news-in-english/slovenia-revealed/the-legend-of-slovenia-s-sleeping-king/383620; [3]https://issuu.com/thesloveniatimes/docs/tst_summer_guide_2013_lowres/36, [4]https://slovenskepravljice.jimdofree.com/ljudske-pravljice/kralj-matjaz/, 16th July, 2020)

TASK ONE

Read the following statements and mark them as True (T), False (F) or Not given (NG) by clicking in the correct column. Look at the example (0) provided at the beginning. (Tekmovalci morajo klikniti v celico s pravilnim odgovorom: resnično, napačno ali ni podano.)

	T	F	NG
1) The lives of Matthias Corvinus and King Matjaž were very similar.			
2) The roots of the legend of King Matjaž can be traced to Slavic religion.			
3) Regardless of the story, King Matjaž is always represented as a righteous ruler.			
4) In the legend of King Matjaž and Alenka, it is said that Carinthia was not well off.			
5) King Matjaž's wife Alenka struggled with the sultan who took her.			
6) Matjaž saw from the beginning that the battle would be lost and fled to the mountains.			
7) Matjaž and his army will awaken when his beard grows three times around the table.			

____ / 7

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK TWO

Match the words from the text about King Matjaž to their synonyms. To do this, drag the words on the right to the correct word on the left. TWO (2) synonyms are not used. (Učenci dvojno kliknejo na sinonim in nato na prostor ob besedi. Lahko tudi kliknejo in povlečejo besede na pravo mesto – računalnik. Da besedo odstranijo dvojno kliknejo.)

Here is an example: mountainous - highland

WORDS			SYNONYMS		
	Ex.	**mountainous**			**highland**
	1	magical		A	source
	2	origin		B	get away
	3	just		C	occupy
	4	prosperity		D	jealous
	5	generous		E	enchanted
	6	invade		F	heroically
	7	envious		G	require
	8	valiantly		H	mean
	9	flee		I	fair
	10	need		J	well-being
				K	made up
				L	unselfish

ANSWERS:
0- **G** 1-___ 2-___ 3-___ 4-___ 5-___ 6-___ 7-___ 8-___ 9-___ 10-___

____ / 10

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK THREE

Read the text about the *Ajdi* and the tales connected with them. Fill the gaps using one word from the box. There are three (3) extra words. An example (0) is given at the beginning of the text. (Prazni prostori so nadomeščeni s spustnim menijom. S klikom na kvadratek, se spusti seznam besed, tekmovalec nato izbere najprimernejšo in klikne nanjo.)

CREATION OF THE WORLD AND THE *AJDI*

people	eternity	toes	new	distances	brow		
beings	boulders	face	descendant	rocks	life	rich	
lives	barren	hunter	tools	prophecy	animals		

Long ago, when the world was still very young, the (0) people who populated it were called *Ajdi.* They were giants who believed that the god who created them would sleep for all **(1)** _____. However, when it was eventually time for the god to wake up, he began to look around. His every glance created something **(2)** _____. His glances created the earth, the sun, the moon and the stars. When he finally stopped gazing and returned to earth, a drop of sweat fell from his **(3)** _____ onto the ground and out of it, the first man was created.

The giants were the first **(4)** _____ to live in the world that the pagan god created. They were very large and strong. Back then, their world was still quite empty and **(5)** _____. As time passed, the giants began to live on all the mountains and all the hills of their world. Some tales say they spoke to each other over great **(6)** _____, built large castles, and even created some of the mountains in Slovenia by pushing **(7)** _____and rocks one on top of the other. It was also believed that many giants in the Alps turned to stone and their bodies became the mountains of today. Despite their size and power, the giants were not very clever and it took them generations to learn how to make fire and **(8)** _____. However, as time went by, the giants grew smaller and smaller, until they became the size of man.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

One of the most well-known Slovene tales of these giants tells of a pagan girl known as *Ajdovska deklica*.

Ajdovska deklica is a legend about a girl **(9)** _____ of the first giants. She was believed to live under overhanging **(10)** _____and ledges of the Prisank mountain. The girl helped travellers cross snowy mountain roads, and led them through snowstorms. However, the girl was not only born of the first giants, she was also a Fate, so at night she visited young mothers and foretold their children's future **(11)** _____.

According to the legend, the girl once visited a new mother and her sleeping son in the Trenta Valley. She leaned over the boy and said, "You will grow into a young man and become a brave **(12)** _____ unlike any before. You will hunt the white mountain goat with golden horns called Zlatorog, and shoot him. His golden horns will make you incredibly **(13)** _____, however, he will be your downfall."

When the girl's pagan sisters heard of this **(14)** _____, they cursed the girl for foretelling the death of Zlatorog. Their curse turned the girl to stone.

To this day, you can see the **(15)** _____ of this giant girl gazing sadly toward Trenta Valley .

(Adapted from: http://www.thezaurus.org/webzine/index6d6a.html?/webzine/when_the_world_was_created; https://kraji.eu/slovenija/vrsic_ajdovska_deklica/eng, 17th July, 2020)

____ / 15



The Pagan girl (photo retrieved from: https://www.kranjska-gora.si/sl/znamenitosti/naravne/razgledne-tocke/ajdovska-deklica. 23rd September, 2020)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK FOUR

Read the text about the tales from Slovene mythology. Put the words in brackets in the correct form. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

(Naloga je brez posebnosti. V prazno polje vpišejo pravilno obliko besede v oklepaju.)

TALES FROM SLOVENE MYTHOLOGY

Through the ages cultural crossings have given **(0)** **our** (we) people a diverse and rich cultural background. Just as the landscape in Slovenia is diverse, Slovenian tradition follows this diversity, creating a world of magic with every step.

ZLATOROG (THE GOLD HORNED MOUNTAIN GOAT)

Zlatorog, the gold horned mountain goat, lived and reigned in the mountains surrounding Triglav and his golden horns symbolised **(1)** _____ (great) treasure known to men.

In the Trenta Valley, below the mountains, a young hunter **(2)** _____ (fall) in love with a beautiful maiden. He **(3)** _____ (win) her heart by bringing her **(4)** _____ (beautiful) mountain flowers he could find. However, her affection was won over by a rich merchant, who gave her jewels. The merchant taunted the young hunter, saying that if he truly loved the girl, he would bring her the treasure of Zlatorog.

The young hunter **(5)** _____ (go) in search of the mythical animal and after a long time finally **(6)** _____ (find) his prey and shot him. Mortally wounded, Zlatorog neared a rocky ledge, leaving a trail of blood behind him. However, **(7)** _____ (he) blood was magical and from it beautiful red flowers grew, the Triglav Rose. As the hunter approached, Zlatorog ate some of the flowers and was **(8)** _____ (instant) healed. He charged at the hunter, who stumbled and fell to his death. In his fury, Zlatorog tore at the ground, leaving large holes that when filled with water, formed the Triglav Lakes valley. Then he left the mountain, never to return.

THE LEGEND OF THE LJUBLJANA DRAGON

Slovene mythology also **(9)** _____ (include) a very popular mystical creature, a dragon. One of the most famous dragons in Slovenia is the Ljubljana dragon.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

The story of Ljubljana dragon is connected to the legend of Jason and the Argonauts. Jason was a **(10)** _____ (Greece) hero whose quest to steal the Golden Fleece led him from the Black Sea all the way to the Ljubljanica River. On their ship, the Argo, they **(11)** _____ (reach) a large lake near the Ljubljanica, on the Ljubljana Marshes. As it was winter, they decided to make a temporary village until spring, waiting for a much **(12)** _____ (warm) weather before carrying the disassembled Argo to the Adriatic Sea. They called this village Emona. However, the lake near this village was the dwelling of a great dragon, who rose up from the water and attacked **(13)** _____ (they). Jason, with the help of sorceress Medea, fought the dragon and **(14)** _____ (final) killed it.

THE KURENT

The Kurent is a figure who is **(15)** _____ (good) known in Slovene mythology and closely connected to a pre-Lenten festival named Kurentovanje. The Kurent, a mythological god known for his joyful nature, represents fertility and has the power to chase away winter and bring spring.

There are several variations of the tale about the Kurent and the great flood. In this tale, pagan gods decided to punish the first **(16)** _____ (person), because they became corrupt and evil, therefore, they created a great flood. Only four **(17)** _____ (man) survived this terrible flood. Nothing is known about three of them, but it is well known how **(18)** _____ (four) one got away. According to the story, he grabbed a vine on a hill and climbed it. The Kurent saw the man who **(19)** _____ **(hold)** onto his sacred plant and showed him mercy. The rescued man promised the Kurent to always love and enjoy the fruits of the two plants dedicated to him – the grapevine and buckwheat. He roamed the world and settled on the banks of the Adriatic, where he indeed planted and enjoyed the two plants.

(Adapted from:https://www.slovenia-walking.com/zlatorog.html;https://www.ianmiddletontravelwriter.com/the-ljubljana-dragon/; https://blog.nationalgeographic.org/2017/03/17/chasing-away-winter-with-slovenias-mythical-kurenti/; http://sms.zrc-sazu.si/pdf/Kropej_2012_Supp_06.pdf, 27th July, 2020)

____ /19

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK FIVE

Read the text about a mythical creature residing in Slovenia. Then fill in the spaces to complete the text. Each space can contain only ONE word.:

(Naloga je brez posebnosti. V vsako prazno polje vpišejo le ENO besedo, ki najbolje dopolni poved.)

PERKMANDELJC

Have you ever (0) **heard** of Bergmandeljc or Perkmandeljc?

(1) _____ names are connected to the same mythical creature living deep underground all over Slovenia. This mythical creature is a goblin who lived in the mineshafts throughout Slovenia and liked (2) _____ play pranks on miners who worked there. His mischievous behaviour mostly targeted the miners who cursed loudly during their hard work or acted in ways the goblin found disrespectful. He blew (3) _____ their lamps, hid their tools or tied their shoes together in order to play tricks on them.

However, the goblin was not (4) _____ mischievous, but also rewarded the hard-working miners who behaved according to his wishes. By knocking on walls and rocks within the mine, he led (5) _____ to where they could find rich ore. Loud blows of the hammer warned the miners of imminent (6) _____, so they had time to flee. The miners sensed that someone was helping them and to (7) _____ their gratitude, they left him morsels of their lunches, or had their wives sew him warm clothes for winter.

One of the goblin's favourite pastimes was playing with children who came to the hills and mountains where he lived. It sometimes happened that during the children's play, one of them got lost and the goblin would help them find their (8) _____ home or guide others to them.

A local legend from Trbovlje speaks of (9) _____ an occurrence. According to this legend, several children whose father worked at the local mine were playing hide and seek near the tunnels of the mine. As they were playing, they came across an angry snake and ran all the way down the hill to (10) _____ it. When they stopped, they noticed one of them, a girl named Marica, was (11) _____. They went home to tell mother of her disappearance. She assured them the goblin would protect her.

As this was happening, the children's father was working deep in the mines. The goblin constantly played (12) _____ on him so the man got angry and cursed. The goblin got upset, picked up the man's oil lantern and ran away with it. The man chased after the goblin through tunnels evoking smiles and (13) _____ from his fellow miners. On and on they ran until the goblin (14) _____ let go of the lantern near the exit to an abandoned tunnel. The man, covered in cuts and bruises, picked it up and stepped into the tunnel. He heard soft

LIVEWORKSHEETS