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

19. 10. 2015

The World of Slovene Literature

PART A *– READING COMPREHENSION*

PART B *– LANGUAGE IN USE*

PART C *– CREATIVE WRITING*

ŠIFRA TEKMOVALCA: _____

PART A		*PART B*		*PART C*	
TASK ONE	____/ 8 points	**TASK THREE**	____/ 11 points	**TASK FIVE**	___/ 15 points
TASK TWO	____/ 9 points	**TASK FOUR**	____/ 12 points		
POINTS TOTAL	_____/ 55 POINTS				

1. OCENJEVALEC *(ime, priimek in podpis)*

_____

2. OCENJEVALEC *(ime, priimek in podpis)*

_____

DRAGA UČENKA, DRAGI UČENEC, preden začneš reševati naloge, pozorno preberi vsa navodila in prosi nadzorne učitelje za pojasnilo, če česa ne razumeš. Pozneje, med reševanjem nalog, ne sprašuj. Piši čitljivo, s kemičnim svinčnikom ali nalivnim peresom. Če se zmotiš, napačno rešitev enkrat prečrtaj in zraven dopiši pravilno rešitev. Popravki naj bodo jasni. Korekturnih in drugih pripomočkov ne uporabljaj. Za reševanje nalog imaš **60** minut časa.

ŽELIMO TI VELIKO USPEHA. *Državna tekmovalna komisija.*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

To stran lahko iztrgaš.

PART A *– READING COMPREHENSION*

Read the text below and complete the tasks.

ZVITOREPEC PHENOMENON

It all began in 1952 – the year when Elizabeth II was crowned in Great Britain, General Eisenhower won the elections in the USA and Slovenia witnessed the "birth" of Zvitorepec.

Those times weren't the best of times – as far as the reputation of comics was concerned. Comics were seen as an unnecessary and unwanted product in Yugoslavia, something quite new that came here thanks to the USA and its influence. It was nothing but coincidence that Zvitorepec appeared as it did in a magazine that wanted to have a Disney comic.

The newly founded weekly magazine called *Slovenski poročevalec* was meant to offer some fun to its readers and not merely focus on politics and reports about the state of the country. They ordered a Disney comic to be featured on its children's page, but it got stuck somewhere in customs, which wasn't unusual for those times. So, they thought of the illustrator that was employed by their magazine – Miki Muster – and asked him to draw a comic in the style of a fable. It needed to have authentic Slovenian animal characters that young readers could relate to. That's how the urban legend of the cunning he-fox Zvitorepec was born. Two other characters joined him in the next episodes, namely the always hungry wolf called Lakotnik and the wise tortoise Trdonja. Miki Muster also wrote all the text, so after a few stories that took place in the woods and the local village near it – as it is expected of fables – he relocated the characters to more exotic places such as the Sahara desert in Africa, the Middle Ages, the ancient Rome, the Stone Age, the Wild West, imaginary islands, the space and many more. He gave them a special clock that enabled them to travel through time.

Even though the comic was originally written for children, their parents were equally enthusiastic about reading it. However, stories were not always well received and were also banned at times. No school library was allowed to lend the comics. It was believed that they had a negative influence on the youth and that they discouraged them from reading. However, there were always people who could hardly wait to read more about the adventures of these three interesting characters. Their adventures, historical or fantasy, were always filled with humour. So, after a few setbacks, the comics were issued nonstop till the end of the year 1973, when the last episode appeared in the magazine. There were more than 40 different adventures of the famous trio. The stories are merited with a good structure, a number of plots, unexpected twists and humorous touches that hold the reader in suspense till the very end. There is always a happy ending, usually accompanied with a witty thought.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

To stran lahko iztrgaš.

Miki Muster did not incorporate politics in these stories, except when he sent Zvitorepec to the moon. He depicted the Russians as bears, which lead their embassy in Belgrade to officially protest this kind of portrayal. However, he thought of a brilliant way to solve the conflict by depicting the Americans as monkeys in the next episode of this story. The Russians were pleased with that and due to the fact that the Americans did not read this comic, an international incident in the time of the cold war (1959) was avoided.

A solid story with a complication and a solution for it, witty dialogues in a nowadays somewhat archaic language and an interesting choice of an imaginative topic are still factors that convince the young as well as the old – despite the option of playing computer games and surfing the net instead – to read the 50+ year old comics over and over again. It wasn't a surprise when in February 2015 Miki Muster was given the Prešeren Award for his lifetime work. Three generations have read his work and after some time a fourth generation might join them in reading about the adventures of Zvitorepec, Lakotnik and Trdonja.

(adapted from: http://www.pogledi.si/knjiga/fenomen-zvitorepec)



LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK ONE - TRUE (T) or FALSE (F)

Decide whether the statements are true or false.

		T	F
1	The character of Zvitorepec first appeared in 1952.		
2	Comics were a literary genre well appreciated in Yugoslavia.		
3	Disney wanted to have a comic by Miki Muster in their magazine.		
4	The ordered comic didn't reach Slovenski poročevalec.		
5	Miki Muster wasn't the magazine's first choice.		
6	The adventures were always well received by everybody.		
7	The Russians were happy to be portrayed as bears from the start.		
8	Miki Muster was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2015.		

_____ / 8

TASK TWO

Match the words from the text with their definitions. One definition is not used.

WORDS			DEFINITIONS		
	1	customs		A	feeling of excitement or anxiety when you do not know what will happen next
	2	cunning		B	old and no longer used [= outdated; ≠ modern]
	3	relocate		C	place where your bags are checked for illegal goods when you go abroad
	4	imaginary		D	good at tricking people in order to get what you want
	5	banned		E	officials who represent a foreign country
	6	suspense		F	move to a different place
	7	embassy		G	habits or traditions of a country
	8	archaic		H	not officially allowed
				I	not real

a) ANSWERS: 1-___ 2-___ 3-___ 4-___ 5-___ 6-___ 7-___ 8-___

b) Find the word in the text for the definition 'clever and amusing': _____

_____ / 9

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PART TWO *– LANGUAGE IN USE*

TASK THREE

Complete the gaps with one suitable word.

The Story of Martin Krpan



Martin Krpan is a fictional character [0] *in* a short story *Martin Krpan from Vrh*, which was written [1] _____ Fran Levstik in 1858. The story is set in the time [2] _____ the Habsburg Monarchy (1780-1918). The territory of today's Slovenia was then a part of that empire.

Martin Krpan was known [3] _____ the strongest man in the whole empire. He was a smuggler by profession and made [4] _____ living by transporting the English salt illegally. With the help of his loyal mare, he carried the salt from the Adriatic Sea coast [5] _____ the Slovene Lands and elsewhere. On one of his travels, Krpan met the imperial carriage and made way for [6] _____ by picking up his horse and moving it aside. His extraordinary strength was noted by the Emperor John.

Several years later, the Emperor called Krpan to Vienna in order to fight [7] _____ Brdavs, a brutal warrior who had already slained most of the city's knights, including the Crown Prince. Krpan accepted the challenge and he defeated Brdavs in a duel by using [8] _____ his strength and his ingenuity. In gratitude, the Emperor gave him a special permit to legally traffic the English salt, as [9] _____ as a pouch of gold pieces.

Martin Krpan is a man of the people, [10] _____ becomes a real and authentic Slovene superhero on account of his physical strength and lightness of heart. However, it was not until the end of [11] _____ nineteenth century that the reaction to the story became more visible. Publishers have issued the story in a variety of forms – from picture books for children and adults to various collections and editions.

_____ / 11

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK FOUR

Put the adjectives in brackets in the correct form (positive, comparative or superlative).

France Prešeren is [1]_____ (great) Slovene poet. He is generally regarded as the national poet.

He was bright and smart already as a child, so his parents decided to provide him with good education. He was [2]_____(interested) in law than in religion and therefore went against his mother's wishes and got a law degree in Vienna. He wasn't as [3]_____ (successful) a lawyer as he wished. He was an assistant, but never an independent lawyer and therefore had enough free time to focus on poetry.

He fell in love with Julija Primic, who was [4]_____ (great) love of his life and became a poetic figure of his poems in *Wreath of Sonnets (Sonetni venec)*. The verses became even [5]_____ (sad) when he realised that she didn't love him back. Among other works he wrote *Baptism on the Savica (Krst pri Savici)*, dedicating it to his [6]_____ (good) friend Matija Čop, who drowned while swimming in the Sava river. He also wrote the first Slovene ballad titled *The Water Man (Povodni mož)* about [7]_____ (beautiful) girl in Ljubljana, who behaved [8]_____ (bad) than other girls – she was rude and vain.

In 1844, he wrote the patriotic poem Zdravljica *(A Toast)*, [9]_____ (important) achievement of his late period. In 1989, it was declared the national anthem of Slovenia.

Prešeren wasn't [10]_____ (happy) of all men, but he certainly plays a very important role for Slovenes. His image has been on the Slovene two-euro coin since 2007 and [11]_____ (high) Slovene prize for artistic achievements, the Prešeren Award, is named after him.

It is unusual, though, that we are [12]_____ (focused) on the anniversary of his death, declared as the Slovene cultural holiday, than the one of his birth.

_____ / 12

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PART C *– CREATIVE WRITING*

TASK FIVE

THE SLOVENIAN READING BADGE

Write about the Slovenian Reading Badge and include the following information:

Past/ Beginnings:
- WHEN/ WHO: 1960s, Stanko Kotnik and Leopold Suhodolčan
- WHERE: Prevalje Primary School

Today:
- 140,000 preschool and primary school children every year
- the Slovene reading badge at your school
- you and the Slovene reading badge

Future:
- your opinion about its future and changes

Write **130—150** words.

A place to write your ideas/draft, ...

LIVEWORKSHEETS

THE SLOVENE READING BADGE

_____ / 15

LIVEWORKSHEETS