

Proba C
de evaluare a competențelor lingvistice într-o limbă de circulație internațională
studiată pe parcursul învățământului liceal

Proba scrisă la Limba engleză

Toate filierele, profilurile și specializările/ calificările

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 120 de minute.

Varianta 7

ÎNȚELEGEREA TEXTULUI CITIT

SUBIECTUL I (40 de puncte)

Read the text below. Are the sentences 1-5 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B)? If there is not enough information to answer 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B), choose 'Doesn't say' (C). Mark A, B or C on your exam sheet.

Witnesses of the first-ever unveiling of what just might be the world's largest dinosaur have struggled to find an adjective to aptly capture the sheer enormity of the prehistoric creature. "From a distance, everything looks roughly proportional so it's difficult to appreciate just how big everything is," John Timmer at Arc Technica wrote on Thursday of the towering animal, which is now on display at New York's American Museum of Natural History. "It's only when you drop your gaze low enough to see how the legs compare to full grown people that the size of it is really driven home."

Dubbed the "biggest dinosaur ever" discovered, the daunting dino was excavated in 2014 in Argentina. Scientists have identified it as a new species of titanosaur -- a group of particularly massive, but herbivorous, dinosaurs known for their lizard-like appearance. The species is still so new, however, that scientists have yet to formally name it. "This is the first time this skeleton has been mounted for public display," AMNH curator Mark Norell told CNN about the museum's new exhibit, which will go on public view on Friday.

So, how big is this new titanosaur? The AMNH specimen is 122 feet long, 30 feet longer than both an NBA basketball court and the museum's iconic blue whale model. It's so huge that it can't quite fit inside the room that it's currently housed in; the creature's neck and head jut out of the doorway and into the hall beyond.

(www.huffingtonpost.com)

1. The size of the world's largest dinosaur has been easily described.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't say
2. A miniature dinosaur has never been on display at the Museum of Natural History.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't say
3. One can never understand how big the world's largest dinosaur is.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't say
4. The titanosaur hasn't been named by scientists.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't say
5. The titanosaur is so large that it cannot fit in one room of the museum.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't say

SUBIECTUL al II-lea

(60 de puncte)

Read the text below. For questions 1-10, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Philosophers looking for fresh insights into metaphysics, epistemology and ethics can add another author to their reading list, as a study reveals the philosophical issues explored in the work of Terry Pratchett.

With more than 75m copies sold around the world, Pratchett is one of the UK's best-loved writers. He published his first Discworld novel, *The Colour of Magic*, in 1983. The 40th, *Raising Steam*, was released last year, with new work still coming thick and fast despite a diagnosis of early onset Alzheimer's in 2007. *But Philosophy and Terry Pratchett*, published on 3 December, is the first study to explore the philosophical implications of Pratchett's imaginary world, which is perched on the back of a turtle.

Edited by philosophy professors and Pratchett fans James South and Jacob Held, the collection of essays examines questions including "Plato, the Witch, and the Cave: Granny Weatherwax and the Moral Problem of Paternalism", "Equality and Difference: Just because the Disc Is Flat, Doesn't Make It a Level Playing Field for All", "Hogfather and the Existentialism of Søren Kierkegaard", and "the Importance of Being in the Right Trouser Leg of Time".

South, associate professor of philosophy at Marquette University, is adamant Pratchett's novels "hold up to sustained philosophical reflection". "Pratchett is a very smart man, a gifted writer, and understands as well as any philosopher the power of storytelling and the problems humans face in making sense of their lives and the world they live in," South said. "Or, as Death puts it so well: 'DO NOT PUT ALL YOUR TRUST IN ROOT VEGETABLES. WHAT THINGS SEEM TO BE MAY NOT BE WHAT THEY ARE.' This is a truth that Pratchett relatedly acknowledges and tries to get his readers to acknowledge as well."

For Held, associate professor of philosophy at the University of Central Arkansas, the best satire "understands the world it interrogates and offers a new or novel take or window onto that world". Pratchett's character Death "is profoundly Kantian," Held continued. "He speaks to the need for a rational faith or belief in values like dignity, or even an afterlife ... Then you have Carrot and Vimes, or the relativist versus the moral absolutist. So much of Pratchett's writings deal with value in the world, its origin, its origin in our beliefs, in our desire and need to value the world, and how it needs to be rigorously maintained through our practices."

The academics have not approached Pratchett about the book, South saying they "figured he'd think it was all a bit of nonsense taking his work seriously in this way", although adding that "secretly, I think he'd be pleased". "But, then I think about some of his expressed views about philosophers, especially in *Small Gods* and wonder what he really makes of us," said South, citing Pratchett's dictum that "whenever you see a bunch of **muppets** puttering around talking about truth and beauty and the best way of attacking Ethics, you can bet your sandals it's all because dozens of other muppets are doing all the real work around the place. Of course, some of these observations hit close to home," South added.

The book is aimed at both fans of Pratchett and philosophers, and South hopes it will "enrich people's appreciation of the impressive accomplishment of Pratchett's imagination and skill". "If Pratchett is sometimes accused of literature, I hope this book makes the case that he can be accused of philosophy as well," said the academic.

(adapted from www.theguardian.com/books)

1. The work of Terry Pratchett presents metaphysics, epistemology and ethics
 - A. from a psychological point of view.
 - B. as irrelevant.
 - C. from a new point of view.
 - D. in a traditional manner.
2. After being diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2007, Pratchett
 - A. stopped writing.
 - B. continued writing.
 - C. changed his writing style.
 - D. took a break from writing.
3. Pratchett's imaginary world
 - A. is populated exclusively with animals.
 - B. is populated with turtles.
 - C. is a turtle.
 - D. is placed on a turtle.
4. How does South feel about Pratchett's novels?
 - A. He is certain the novels contain philosophical issues.
 - B. He can easily be convinced that there is no room for philosophy in the novels.
 - C. He doubts that the novels reflect philosophical problems.
 - D. He believes some of the novels reflect philosophical questions.
5. Why does Death – the character in Pratchett's novels – warn us not to trust root vegetables?
 - A. Because they are difficult to dig up.
 - B. Because they taste bad.
 - C. Because of the problems one might encounter when trying to guess what they are.
 - D. Because of the contrast between appearance and reality.
6. What does Held think about the best type of satire?
 - A. It targets the world which misunderstands it.
 - B. It aims to offer a new perspective upon the world.
 - C. It questions new perspectives upon the world.
 - D. It describes a new world.
7. What does *it* in paragraph 5 refer to?
 - A. Value.
 - B. Origin.
 - C. Belief.
 - D. World.
8. How does South believe Pratchett would have reacted to his work being taken seriously?
 - A. He would have been overwhelmed with joy.
 - B. He would have considered it nonsense and dismissed it.
 - C. He would have been content, even though not openly.
 - D. He would have disagreed in secret.
9. Who does the word **muppets** in paragraph 6 refer to?
 - A. Pratchett's fans.
 - B. Farmers.
 - C. Philosophers.
 - D. Gods.

10. What is the main purpose of the text?

- A. To persuade readers that Pratchett's novels have a philosophical dimension.
- B. To outline the plot of the novel *Small Gods*.
- C. To give an overview of Pratchett's imaginary world.
- D. To accuse Pratchett of making too many references to philosophy in his novels.

PRODUCEREA DE MESAJE SCRISE

SUBIECTUL I

(40 de puncte)

Write an e-mail to one of your friends, telling him/her about an unusual recent event. Include information about where you were, what happened and your reaction to it. **Write your e-mail in 80-100 words.**

SUBIECTUL al II-lea

(60 de puncte)

What is more important in order to be happy: money, health or the people around you? Write an essay giving your opinion on this issue. **Write your essay in 180-200 words.**