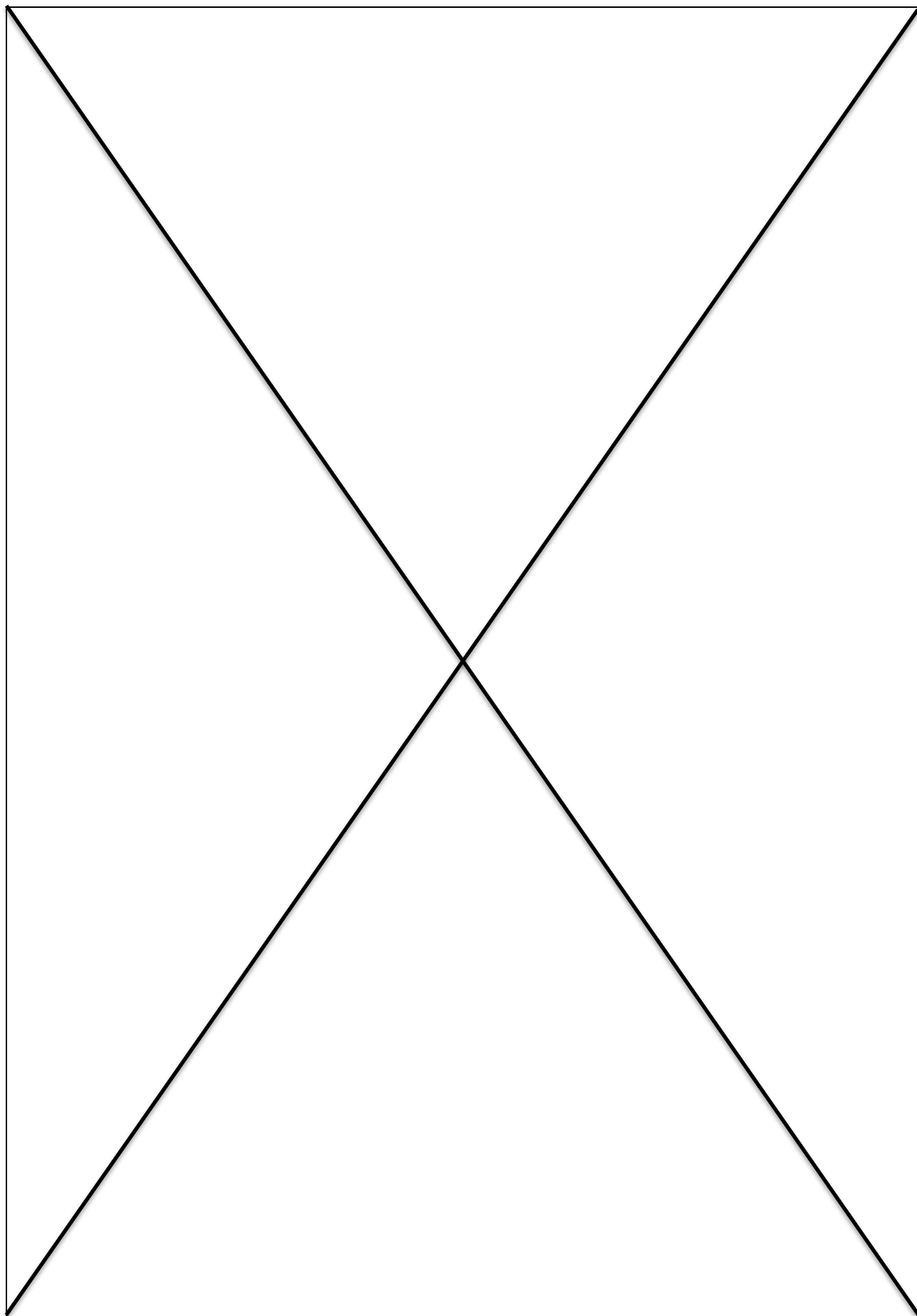


OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA LOCALĂ
10 februarie 2025

CLASA A IX-A
SECȚIUNEA A – REGIM DE STUDIU NORMAL

Numele și prenumele elevului: _____
Unitatea de învățământ: _____
Codul elevului: _____



VĂ RUGĂM SĂ NOTĂȚI CODUL DUMNEAVOASTRĂ ÎN CASETA DE MAI JOS:

COD ELEV:

**OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA LOCALĂ
10 februarie 2025**

**CLASA A IX-A
Secțiunea A – REGIM DE STUDIU NORMAL**

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.
- Timpul de lucru efectiv este de 3 ore.

USE OF ENGLISH

(40 de puncte)

I. Read the text bellow and choose the correct answer A, B, C or D. (10x1p=10p)

Does the climate of a country really affect the behaviour of the people who live in it and help to (1) ___ its culture? Have you ever heard of people from hot countries being described (2) ___ ‘warm and friendly’ while those from places with low temperatures and grey climates are sometimes called ‘cold and distant’?

The people who live in colder climates tend (3) ___ spend much more time at home (4) ___ television or wondering what colour to paint the living room. As a result of their being ‘shut in’ at home for (5) ___ of their lives, perhaps they also develop personalities to match. Maybe they tend to be (6) ___ expressive in their everyday lives.

In (7) ___, we see that people who live in warm and sunny countries spend much more time outdoors. In squares all (8) ___ southern Europe, for example, we can see hundreds of people (9) ___ the day drinking coffee in cafés and chatting. It certainly seems as if climate affects behaviour, (10) ___ you have to be careful not to generalise too much.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| (1) A do | B create | C be | D invent |
| (2) A as | B while | C like | D during |
| (3) A to | B of | C at | D in |
| (4) A viewing | B looking | C watching | D seeing |
| (5) A most | B lots | C many | D rest |
| (6) A least | B less | C little | D few |
| (7) A opposite | B addition | C contrast | D similarity |
| (8) A in | B into | C under | D over |
| (9) A while | B during | C when | D as |
| (10) A although | B however | C despite | D otherwise |

II. Complete the text with ONE word that fits into each gap. (10x1p=10p)

I have always wanted to know how a person becomes a world-class athlete. Eddie, my good friend, (1) _____ father was an Olympic runner many years ago, decided to find out with me. We went to our local gym (2) _____ they have classes and offer private training. I decided not to (3) _____ it off any longer and I signed up right on the spot! I was more or less (4) _____

shape, but I needed to work (5) _____ with a trainer regularly. Because (6) _____ my school schedule, my trainer, Andy, said he could come (7) _____ to my house after school most days, provided (8) _____ I came to the gym at weekends. That sounded great! Eddie didn't need so much help. He takes (9) _____ his dad and is a natural athlete.

After a while, I began to feel it doing me good. I know that I (10) _____ have done it a long time before, but at least now I was finally getting really fit. If I had started sooner, then perhaps I would have become an international athlete. In order to do that, though, you really need to start very young, and I'm afraid I left it a little too late.

III. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the word given in capitals. (10x1p=10p)

Studying for an exam can be a very (1) _____ (STRESS) experience, but it doesn't have to be! One of the most (2) _____ (HELP) things you can do is create a clear study schedule. This will make it easier to stay (3) _____ (ORGANISE) and ensure you don't forget any important topics.

It's also important to take regular breaks. Studying too much without a break can lead to (4) _____ (BORE) and reduce your ability to focus. During your breaks, try doing something (5) _____ (RELAX), like going for a walk or listening to music.

Good nutrition is also essential; eating (6) _____ (HEALTH) snacks can keep your energy levels up. (7) _____ (MOTIVATE) is also important — you need a strong reason to keep studying. Additionally, having a good (8) _____ (FRIEND) with classmates can make studying more enjoyable and productive.

Finally, don't forget to get enough sleep the night before your exam. A good night's rest will make you feel (9) _____ (CONFIDE) and ready to do your best. Remember, preparation is the key to (10) _____ (SUCCEED)!

IV. For sentences 1-5, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given. (5x2p=10p)

1. She didn't want to go by herself.
She wasn't _____ by herself. **ON**
2. "Please don't take my photograph" Hans said.
Hans asked me _____ photograph. **TAKE**
3. You use your phone a lot, so you have large phone bills.
If you didn't use your phone so much, you _____ large phone bills. **NOT**
4. The exercises were easier than I expected.
The exercises weren't _____ I expected. **AS**
5. It was the first swimming class they had attended.
They _____ a swimming class before. **HAD**

INTEGRATED SKILLS**(60 de puncte)**

I. You are going to read some information about people who entertain others for a living. For questions 1-10, choose from the people A-D. The people may be chosen more than once. (10x1p=10p)

Let me entertain you

They make us stare in wonder, laugh until our sides split or, sometimes, gasp in horror. But what is it like to be them? John McGregor talks to four performers who have made a career out of entertaining others.

A. The Illusionist

Who would expect to find England's answer to Harry Houdini in the sleepy Lancashire village of Mawdsley? Well, thirty-one-year-old Matthew Tate seems to be exactly that. Undoubtedly, Matthew has built up an impressive range of daring illusions and spectacular magic tricks to shock and thrill his audience, but many attribute his mounting success to the way he manages to involve and excite his audience. They watch wide-eyed, for example, as he frees himself after being submerged handcuffed in a water-filled tank. He reminds his audience that failure would mean certain death and even asks them to hold their breath with him, just as Houdini did! Each member of the audience, from the youngest child to the grandparent accompanying them, seems equally transfixed.

At the end of my interview with Matthew, I ask him if he can tell me just one of his secrets. My question is met with a cheeky grin and, of course, complete silence!

B. The Living Statue

When people ask Maria Marks what she does for a living, she often tells them "nothing" because, in a sense, that's the truth! Every day, she makes her living by dressing in an antique wedding dress, covering her skin in white clown paint and standing absolutely motionless on a pedestal in London's Covent Garden until a coin is thrown into her hat.

So, what exactly draws the crowd when Maria 'performs'? "Well, people want me to prove that I'm human. They watch intently to see if I will blink, wobble on my pedestal or even breathe!" I ask Maria if she gets bored just standing there day after day. "No," she says. "I enter an almost trance-like state and an hour passes like a minute. But standing still for hours requires a great deal of physical stamina. It's my aching feet that bother me the most!"

C. The Actor

Michael Webster has been an actor in London for almost fifteen years. Whilst his true love is the theatre, he has also played minor parts in TV films and series.

Michael tells me all about the ups and downs of a typical actor's life. "Acting as a career brings more than its fair share of stress and uncertainty," he explains. "You constantly strive to deliver a perfect performance, often under imperfect or unpleasant conditions. And then there is the constant worry about where the next job will come from.

I ask Michael how he feels when he's performing. "One of the most amazing feelings I have," he tells me, "is standing in front of an audience knowing that they expressly came to see me perform. It fills me with two overwhelming sensations: joy and extreme gratitude!"

D. The Circus Performer

Twenty-year-old Chinese-born Zhao Jian explains to me how she came to be touring the world as a hand balancer with a circus troupe. "As a young girl I was always jumping around," she tells me, "so one day my mum suggested that I enrol in one of the many acrobatic schools in Wuqiao county." The school of every child's dreams, perhaps, but what Zhao tells me about her three years there leaves me in no doubt that sweat was often mixed with tears! "We followed an exceptionally harsh programme, waking at five thirty in the morning each day to begin eight hours of tough physical exercises." And now that she has a job in the circus? "I practise an acrobatic move over and over again before I'm ready to perform it. Then when I'm on stage I balance on one hand for six minutes, which needs incredible strength and endurance," Zhao says. I ask her if she has any regrets. She answers me without the least hesitation: "No, I was made for this life."

Which performer...	
1. travels widely to perform?	
2. prefers one type of work they do to another?	
3. mentions experiencing pain when performing?	
4. performs in a particular spot each day?	
5. ended up in their profession because of a family member?	
6. captures the attention of people of all ages?	
7. believes that people in their profession share similar pressures?	
8. lives in a quiet place?	
9. refuses to answer one of the interviewer's questions?	
10. feels grateful to their audience?	

II. You are one of the people in the text above. Write a letter of application to have your act accepted in a festival that will take place in your town in the summer (180-200 words). (50p)

