



OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA LOCALĂ
13 FEBRUARIE 2025
CLASA a IX-a

SECȚIUNEA B

SUBIECTUL A – USE OF ENGLISH

(40 points)

I. Read the text below and complete the following tasks.

Hip hop started in the ghettos of the South Bronx, New York in the 1970's. People there were poor, and many artists got into trouble with the police because they stole money or took drugs. The music, slang and fashion of the African Americans and Hispanics who invented the culture of hip hop have become popular all over the world. Hip-hop has been one of the main contributory factors that has helped reduce gang violence, giving people a chance to channel their anger through this art form.

Hip-hop, like any other culture, has its own language, writing, dance, music and style. One of the elements, break dancing, is an acrobatic style of dance. Its roots can be traced to an African martial art form known as capoeira, a form of fighting created by slaves brought to Brazil. In break dancing, there are fewer limits to creativity. In the late 1970s, a Jamaican DJ known as Kool Herc moved to the Bronx. There, he tried to make the Jamaican style of music popular and performed his reggae records at parties. Unfortunately, the New Yorkers didn't like reggae at that time. So Kool Herc changed his style and played the drum parts of American pop songs, the moments in a record when the vocals and other instruments would drop out completely for a measure or two of pure rhythm. These parts were very short, so he learned to make them longer by using two identical records and playing them over and over again. Today, hip hop music still is based on the DJ's drum beats.

The rapper speaks in the rhythm of the DJ's beat and uses rhymes to tell us what life in the ghetto is like, how to get away from it and how to live on when friends die from drugs or in a shooting. Rap soon became popular because it offered young New Yorkers a chance to express themselves. More important is the fact that rap was an art form open to everyone. There were no real rules, everything was possible.

By the summer of 1973, DJ Kool Herc had been using and refining his break-beat style for the better part of a year. His sister's party on August 11, however, put him before his biggest crowd ever and with the most powerful sound system he'd ever worked. It was the success of that party that would begin a grassroots musical revolution, fully six years before the term "hip hop" even entered the popular vocabulary.

Last, but certainly not the least element, is an underrated art form known as graffiti. Although the majority of the society labels considers it as garbage, graffiti artists unquestionably do not believe so. When people just scribble their name on a window of a bus or on walls that's vandalism. But graffiti art is involved with your emotions and should be seen as an expression of its creator. However, today, many people like the great paintings of graffiti better than the gray walls they hide and hire experts to paint a graffiti on their walls. The roots of early hip hop can be seen in modern ways of painting, too.

A. Answer the following questions

8 points

1. Has *hip-hop* had any positive influence on ethnic minorities in the USA?
2. What are the origins of *break dancing*?



3. How did Kool Herc introduce Hip Hop?
 4. Is graffiti vandalism or an art form? Explain.

B. Give the synonyms of the underlined words in the text.

6 points

C. 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.

6 points

1. Many artists got into trouble with the police because they stole money. **IF**
 Many artists money.
 2. African Americans and Hispanics invented the culture of hip hop and have become popular all over the world. **WHO**
 African Americans world.
 3. Graffiti art is involved with your emotions and should be seen as an expression of its creator. **BOTH**
 Graffiti creator.

II. Read the text below and use the words given in capitals below to form words that fit in the gaps.
10 points

Most of the historians agree that surfing began centuries ago in Hawaii Islands in the Pacific Ocean, where the (1) (**INHABIT**) regarded it as an important part of their culture, not as a recreational (2) (**ACTIVE**). It was not until the 20th century that it achieved (3) (**RECOGNISE**) as a sport, and for many years it remained (4) (**USUAL**) to see surfers anywhere other than in three main (5) (**LOCATE**): Hawaii, California and Australia.

All that began to change in the 1960s, partly as a result of (6) (**IMPROVE**) in the design of surfboards, but also because of the success of films and pop bands, (7) (**PARTICULAR**) The Beach Boys, that were associated with surfing culture. Since then there has been rapid (8) (**GROW**) in the popularity of surfing throughout the world, and for many surfers it has become a highly (9) (**COMPETE**) sport that requires skill and courage to deal with the (10) (**CHALLENGE**) conditions in some of the roughest seas on Earth.

III. Translate into English:

10 points

Puteai să-i faci semn șoarecelui să plece atunci când l-ai zărit, cu mâinile împreunate a rugăciune, îngenunchat în fața vagabondului care-și trosnea degetele, și-i tot făcea semn cu mâna să se dea într-o parte, dar te-ai plimbat mai departe netulburat, cu mâinile la spate, în vreme ce polițistul, care avea de gând să-i aresteze pe amândoi pentru purtare necuviincioasă, strânse pumnul, apoi pocni din degete ca să atragă atenția tuturor, iar în cele din urmă își duse mâinile pâlnie la gură, chemând și alți polițiști să vină să vadă scena.

SUBIECTUL B - INTEGRATED SKILLS

(60 points)

I. Read the following text and for questions 1– 5 choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

10 points



I started blogging to keep in touch with friends and family when I went away to college. I had a lot of friends who knew about technology, and they were all blogging. A friend who knew about web design helped me and away I went from there. My first entries weren't about anything in particular but I've changed my blog a lot. About a two hundred people read my blog regularly now.

I didn't know the word 'blog' before college, but then I realised that I actually had one with a friend when I was at school. We posted pictures and lots of other stuff on the Myspace website. My blogging has changed a lot since then. Now I focus on certain topics such as the latest technology, internet links that I like and my journalism course. My blog is also where I discuss books I am reading. When I go travelling on holiday, I post pictures of my trip.

My second blog is for my news writing class. All of us have got news blogs. It's a great way for the class to learn and share things with each another. The blogs give us a way to communicate outside the classroom. I actually have blogs for four of my five classes. Three of them are group blogs. I love using new forms of communication; it makes the learning experience much more interesting and valuable.

1 In this text Amber Lane is talking about ...

- A ... what blogs are
- B ... the development of blogging
- C ... how she uses blogs
- D ... the advantages of internet technology

2 How has Amber changed her personal blog?

- A She posts more entries.
- B She focuses on particular themes.
- C She has just got a new blog design.
- D She now shares a blog with a friend.

3 What does Amber say about blogging before college?

- A She didn't know how to post things on the internet before college.
- B She had a blog but didn't call it that.
- C She had a photo website but not a blog.
- D She wasn't interested in blogging then.

4 What does Amber think of class blogs?

- A They're a good way to learn about technology.
- B They improve the learning experience.
- C They make the learning experience more individual.
- D They're good fun.

5 Which of the following is the best description of Amber?

- A A future web designer who likes blogging.
- B A future writer who wants to share ideas about books.
- C A future journalist who uses blogs for professional and personal reasons.
- D A future computer specialist who is interested in the technology of blogs.

II. A website that compares various blogs is looking for reviews with the following title:

The best blog I have ever read!

You decided to write a review for the website, giving your opinion of it. Write what the blog is about, its design and why you find it useful. Would you recommend it to other people?

Write the review in 120-180 words in an appropriate style.

50 points



TOTAL

100 POINTS

NOTĂ: TOATE SUBIECTELE SUNT OBLIGATORII.

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