

OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ – ETAPA NAȚIONALĂ**BRAȘOV****Aprilie 2026****Probă scrisă****CLASA a XII-a - SECȚIUNEA A**

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.
- Timpul de lucru efectiv este de 90 de minute.

I. Read the following text and fill in the blanks with ONE word only.**10 points**

Life is rarely a smooth journey, and it is often the small, everyday fluctuations that shape people's attitudes (1) _____ profoundly. Moments of success and disappointment tend to occur side by side, reminding individuals that stability is not a permanent state but a temporary balance. Only when these contrasts are fully appreciated, (2) _____ people begin to develop emotional resilience. Minor setbacks, such as missed opportunities or brief failures, are frequently dismissed (3) _____ insignificant. Yet, it is often after such experiences that individuals reflect most deeply on their expectations. (4) _____ everything always gone according to plan, many important lessons would never have been learned. At the same time, small victories can have a powerful impact. A kind word, a modest achievement, or unexpected support may restore motivation at precisely the right moment. Rarely do people recognise how these seemingly trivial events influence their confidence and sense of direction. What is particularly challenging is maintaining perspective when circumstances change suddenly. When faced with uncertainty, many realise to (5) _____ extent they have become dependent on routine. If people (6) _____ better prepared for change, temporary difficulties might feel less overwhelming. It should also be acknowledged that emotional responses to life's ups and downs vary widely. What (7) _____ considered manageable by one person may feel deeply unsettling to another. This diversity of experience highlights the importance of empathy and self-awareness. Ultimately, the ability to cope depends on the meaning that individuals attach to events. Not only does acceptance reduce frustration, but it also encourages growth. Were (8) _____ greater emphasis placed on reflection rather than control, life's fluctuations might be seen as opportunities rather than obstacles. In this sense, it is through navigating small changes, rather than dramatic turning points, (9) _____ character is gradually formed. Life's ups and downs, though often subtle, play a crucial role in shaping who people become (10) _____ time.

II. Choose the best option A, B, C or D.**10 points****1. The committee _____ been debating _____ implementation of _____ policy for several months now.**

- A. have / an / a two-years-old
- B. has / the / a two-years-old
- C. have / the / a two-year-old
- D. has / - / a two-years-old

2. _____, the evidence is _____ thin: if we act now, we _____ the truth before the trial ends.

- A. Furthermore / somewhat / will be uncovered
- B. Nevertheless / rather / would uncover
- C. Furthermore / anyway / have uncovered
- D. Nevertheless / extremely / will have uncovered

3. The witness stepped ____ the stand and proceeded ____ the events ____ a trembling voice.

- A. onto / to recount / in
- B. off / recounting / with
- C. up / to have recounted / out
- D. onto / to recounting / by

4. Why did you buy those ____ ornaments you stumbled ____ at the market ____?

- A. hideous, glass, antique / across / the other day
- B. antique, glass, hideous / up / yesterday
- C. hideous, antique, glass / across / the other day
- D. glass, hideous, antique / through / yesterday

5. Not until ____ such brilliance ____ he had deserved the scholarship all ____.

- A. he showed / did we realize / those years
- B. had he shown / we realized / these years
- C. he had shown / we realized / those years
- D. he shown / did we realize / the years

6. The researchers ____ analysing ____ data from ____ experiment for weeks without conclusive results.

- A. have been / the / that
- B. has been / a / one
- C. were / that / the
- D. have been / that / an

7. The conference delegates argued passionately but failed to reach a consensus.

- A. The conference delegates have a heated debate without making an agreement.
- B. Despite their passionate arguments, the conference delegates reached no consensus.
- C. The conference delegates argued about some consensus.
- D. The passionate conference delegates argued but achieved consensus.

8. He lost his passport in London. He is still stuck at the embassy.

- A. But for losing his passport, he wouldn't have been stuck at the embassy.
- B. If he didn't lose his passport, he wouldn't have been stuck at the embassy.
- C. He wouldn't be stuck at the embassy if he hadn't lost his passport.
- D. If he hadn't lost his passport, he wouldn't have stayed at the embassy.

9. Dozens of candidates were vying for the managerial position.

- A. There are dozens of candidates in contention for the managerial position.
- B. Dozens of candidates were in the running for the managerial position.
- C. There are dozens of candidates in competition for the managerial position.
- D. Dozens of candidates tried to get the managerial position.

10. It is almost certain that he will lose his temper when he hears the news.

- A. He is bound to blow a fuse when he hears the news.
- B. There is all likelihood that he will blow a fuse when he will hear the news.
- C. He will be liable to a fuse when he hears the news.
- D. There is every likelihood of him to blow a fuse when he will hear the news.

III. 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. **10 points**

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| 1. 'Let's not make any plans and just see what happens,' said Daniel.
Daniel suggested _____ and just seeing what happened. | EAR |
| 2. It's quite likely that Sandra was lying about what Derek said.
Sandra _____ about what Derek said. | WELL |
| 3. I wish I had been quicker to realise he was lying to me.
If _____ his lies earlier. | SEEN |
| 4. She finally accepted that she had been wrong all along.
She eventually _____ being wrong all along. | TERMS |
| 5. She was determined not to miss the opportunity.
She _____ missing the opportunity. | BENT |

IV. Translate the following text into English.

10 points

Mărturisesc de la început că eu sunt unul dintre aceia care vorbesc singuri pe stradă. Asta ar însemna de fapt că mai port cu mine cel puțin pe cineva. Iar problema nu se pune dacă este bine sau rău, ci dacă este frumos sau urât să vorbești singur. Lucrul acesta se află așezat la loc de cinste în șiragul indecențelor stabilite alături de strănut sau căscat, gesturi cât se poate de normale deci. Este într-adevăr indecent să o faci când mai este cineva cu tine, cineva adevărat, dar gândeți-vă ce s-ar fi făcut Robinson Crusoe dacă ar fi respectat conveniențele! Or, trebuie să recunoașteți că, în mijlocul unui oraș mare ca al nostru, nu poți fi decât singur. Și atunci cum se poate oare trăi fără să iei cu tine un gând sau o persoană să-ți țină de urât?

Când m-am mutat pe strada aceasta, am crezut un timp că este chiar așa cum pare a fi: pustie și tăcută. Asta până într-o zi când, ridicând ochii spre balconul de deasupra, am văzut privirea vecinei mele care nu mai are nicio treabă de vreo treizeci de ani, stă acolo chiar când n-o zărești. Când am văzut-o, m-am fâstăcit, n-am știut ce să fac cu mâinile și până la urmă m-am trezit că îi spun "bună dimineața!". Și așa ne-am împrietenit.

(Mircea Diaconu, *Taina noastră*)

