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BRAȘOV
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Probă scrisă

CLASA a VIII-a

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Se acordă zece puncte din oficiu.
- Timpul de lucru efectiv este de 2 ore.

SUBIECTUL I – USE OF ENGLISH (25 points)

I.1. Read the following text and fill in the blanks with the correct verb forms.

10 points

I arrived two hours early at the airport because I didn't want to take any risks. While I 1. _____ (wait) at the gate, I noticed a man walking back and forth nervously. He kept looking at his phone, then at the clock. I thought he 2. _____ (must / forget) something important. A woman sitting next to me whispered that his flight might have been delayed, but nobody was sure. Suddenly, an announcement 3. _____ (make): "Flight 03692 4. _____ (cancel) due to bad weather." Everyone looked shocked. A few minutes earlier, I 5. _____ (imagine) myself landing in Paris by lunchtime. Now, that plan was gone. The staff said that new flights 6. _____ (arrange) later in the day. Looking back, I 7. _____ (still think) about what else I could have done. In the end, another loudspeaker announced that we 8. _____ (board) a direct flight in a matter of hours. So, a new flight 9. _____ (find), and we finally 10. _____ (set off) in the evening.

I.2. Read the text below and look carefully at each line. If the line is correct, write a tick (✓). If it has a word that should not be there, write the word.

10 points

00.	I remember all my middle school mates fondly but Mara somehow managed to stand	✓.....
0.	out. She lived in a flat opposite of my house so we walked together almost every	of.....
1.	other day. I was grateful for her company and went out of my way to be the first at	
2.	the meeting place, which, more often than usual, made her a little embarrassed,	
3.	fearing she was to blame. When I explained her what was happening, she started	
4.	laughing. At school, we worked together on projects and usually reached to the finish	
5.	line before the others. The teachers considered her as a good example, because she	
6.	has always tried to help others. Outside school, Mara spent a lot of time volunteering	
7.	She sometimes returned back home late in the evenings. I offered to accompany her but	
8.	she objected to do that because she didn't want me to waste my time so I sometimes	
9.	followed her from a safe distance to make sure she was alright. Had she found out, she	
10.	would have been upset, because trust once broken was not hard to mend, she always	
	said. Luckily, she never did.	

I.3. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in capital letters.

5 points

1. The school was forced to close for a week due to an _____ level of snowfall. **PRECEDE**
2. People often _____ the importance of rest until they experience burnout. **LOOK**
3. The _____ was inconclusive, so the police could not say what had really happened. **INVESTIGATE**
4. The programme empowers young people by helping them develop _____ and skills. **CONFIDENT**
5. Few students have a full comprehension of the _____ their teachers face during exam season. **PRESS**

SUBIECTUL al II-lea – READING COMPREHENSION (25 points)

Read the text below and complete the tasks that follow.

HYPNOTISM

1. _____

We have all seen those cartoons where the crazy scientist hypnotises someone with a swinging watch and their eyes become strange and they do anything the scientist tells them to do. But that's not how hypnotism really works. Doctors now use hypnotism to help people with problems, like giving up smoking.

2. _____

Franz Mesmer, an Austrian scientist, first introduced the idea of hypnotism. He believed that a hypnotist had special powers that could be used to control other people. This effect was called mesmerism. Early ideas about magicians, swinging watches, and hypnotism probably came from him, because he had a very active imagination, and he saw himself as a magician.

3. _____

Today, scientists see hypnotism in a different way. They think it's a natural state of deep focus and relaxation. During hypnosis, someone shuts out other things, focusing intently only on one thing. When we read a book, watch a movie, or drive a car, we're in a sort of hypnosis, because we concentrate strongly on that activity.

4. _____

During hypnosis, people are usually more relaxed and more creative. It is also very easy to convince them to do something. That means, they are more open to ideas and requests, but only if they are happy with the requests. The mind avoids all other things and the person can focus completely on what the scientist is asking them to do. Doctors use hypnosis to help people deal with pain, or if they have had an accident. Women have used it while having their babies, to help them to control the pain. People have found that it helps to stop bad habits, such as smoking, or to get a better night's sleep.

5. _____

There are a lot of ideas about hypnotism which are not correct. Some people think you can get a person to do anything when they are hypnotized, but that is not true. During hypnosis, people are more willing to listen and respond to ideas, but they still have control over their actions. They won't do something that they really don't want to do, because their brain will not let them be controlled.

II.1 Choose the most suitable heading from the list (A-G) for each part (1-5). There are two extra headings which you do not need to use. 10 points

- A. *Modern Scientific View of Hypnosis*
- B. *What Is Hypnotism Really Like?*
- C. *Common Myths About Hypnosis*
- D. *A science forgotten for ages*
- E. *The Origins of Hypnotism*
- F. *How Hypnosis Helps People*
- G. *Hypnotism can save lives*

II.2 For questions 1-5, choose the answer A, B, C, or D which you think fits best according to the text.
15 points

1. Some people

- A. use hypnotism with their friends and family.
- B. like to hypnotise themselves.
- C. have the wrong idea of hypnotism.
- D. are scared of hypnotism.

2. Hypnotism first appeared

- A. in Egypt.
- B. with someone from Austria.
- C. with the Chinese.
- D. in India.

3. Nowadays hypnotism

- A. is considered dangerous by scientists.
- B. is avoided by doctors.
- C. is sometimes used by religious leaders.
- D. is actually quite natural.

4. People who don't like the orders

- A. are easier to convince with hypnotism.
- B. cannot be hypnotised.
- C. become aggressive when hypnotised.
- D. should avoid hypnotism.

5. What would be a good introduction to this article?

- A. Hypnosis can be used in many different ways but beware, it will make you do things that you don't really want to do.
- B. Hypnosis helps you listen and respond to ideas. It can be used in many ways to help break bad habits, to relax or to ease pain.
- C. Franz Mesmer was the first person to use hypnosis as a way of controlling people and making them do everything he said.
- D. In this text, Franz Mesmer, an Austrian scientist, explains his method for hypnotising people and the outcomes that can be achieved.

SUBIECTUL al III-lea – WRITING (40 points)

Write a narrative essay ending like this:

"And as the door closed softly behind me, I knew that whatever lay ahead, I could no longer dismiss the strange coincidences that had led me here."

Write your story in 150-180 words and give it an appropriate title. You should use this plan:

- 1. **Introduction** (paragraph 1 – set the scene)
- 2. **Main Body** (paragraph(s) 2/3 – develop the story)
- 3. **Conclusion** (paragraph 4 – end the story).

Do not count the words in the given ending.

