

**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ**  
**ETAPA LOCALĂ – 25 februarie 2023**  
**CLASA a VIII-a (STANDARD) Varianta 1**

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Pentru rezolvarea corectă a tuturor subiectelor se acordă 100 de puncte.
- Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.
- Timpul efectiv de lucru este de două ore.

**SUBIECTUL I – USE OF ENGLISH (50 points)**

**I.1. Read the following text and fill in the blanks with the correct verb forms. (20 points)**

Dear Susan,

I can't go out tonight because I (1)..... (be) exhausted! Since Monday, this week, I (2)..... (be) very busy with my final exams and I haven't done anything else but studying! Tomorrow I (3)..... (finish) at last! I (4) .....(call) my cousin Martha last night and we (5) .....(decide) to spend the weekend together. I (6).....(look) forward to it!

She told me about the race she (7) .....(win) two weeks before. While she (8) .....(run), she almost (9) .....(give) up. But she didn't. I was really happy for her!

I have to go now! Mum (10) .....(call) me for dinner.

Bye,

Miriam

**I.2 Read the following text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits in each gap. (20 points)**

**Rice**

For a large part of the world's (1)....., rice is what is called the *staple* food. This means that rice is the main food in those people's diets and, as a result, it is (2) .....to these people's lives. Due to it being the staple food, rice is (3) .....to many cultures around the world.

Many countries have traditional rice (4) ....., such as *paella* in Spain. Many cultures have their own folk stories connected with rice. For example, Phosop is the (5) ..... rice goddess of Thailand. It is believed that Phosop makes sure lots of rice is (6) ....., and that everybody will have (7) .....to eat.

Many cultures also hold festivals to celebrate rice. The Rocket Festivals of Laos and Thailand celebrate the arrival of the rainy season, which is the time (8) .....rice is planted. The festivals involve music and dancing, and sending rockets (9).....the sky in (10) .....to encourage rain.

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|-----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. A. audience  | B. population  | C. public    | D. man       |
| 2. A. essential | B. unimportant | C. serious   | D. lacking   |
| 3. A. vital     | B. uncommon    | C. expensive | D. poisonous |
| 4. A. flavour   | B. table       | C. drinks    | D. dishes    |
| 5. A. age       | B. out-of-date | C. ancient   | D. renew     |
| 6. A. gain      | B. plant       | C. grown     | D. destroyed |
| 7. A. little    | B. enough      | C. many      | D. few       |

- |             |         |          |         |
|-------------|---------|----------|---------|
| 8. A. when  | B. what | C. how   | D. why  |
| 9. A. down  | B. off  | C. under | D. into |
| 10. A. such | B. -    | C. order | D. for  |

**I.3. Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in each sentence. (10 points)**

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1. Susan is a _____ person. She writes funny short stories.             | CREATE |
| 2. We watched a _____ the other night. It was quite dramatic and scary. | THRILL |
| 3. When someone has done something very well, you are _____ of them.    | PRIDE  |
| 4. _____ keeps you fit.   | JOG    |
| 5. Something is _____ when it is not neat or tidy.                      | MESS   |

**SUBIECTUL II – READING COMPREHENSION (25p)**

**Read the text below and choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D)**

Since the earliest days of astronomy, since the time of Galileo, astronomers have shared a single goal – to see more, see farther, see deeper. The Hubble Space Telescope's launch in 1990 rushed humanity to one of its greatest advantages in that journey. Hubble is a telescope that orbits Earth. Its position above the atmosphere gives astronomers a view of the universe that surpasses that of other telescopes.

Hubble is one of NASA's most successful and long-lasting science missions. It has helped scientists determine the age of the universe and the existence of dark energy.

Hubble's discoveries have transformed the way scientists look at the universe. Among its many discoveries, Hubble has revealed the age of the universe to be 13 to 20 billion years, much more than it was thought (anywhere from 10 to 20 billion years). Hubble played a key role in the discovery of dark energy, a mysterious force that causes the expansion of the universe to accelerate. Hubble has shown scientists galaxies in all stages of evolution, helping them understand how galaxies form.  
(adapted from [http://hubblesite.org/the\\_telescope/hubble\\_essentials](http://hubblesite.org/the_telescope/hubble_essentials))

1. What has been the goal of all astronomers since the earliest days?  
A. To build Hubble.  
B. To fly into space.  
C. To learn more about the universe.  
D. To buy a telescope.
2. Which piece of information does not appear in the first paragraph?  
A. Hubble is one of NASA's telescopes.  
B. Hubble was launched in 1990.  
C. Astronomers have always tried to find out more about the universe.  
D. Hubble circles our planet.

3. ....is listed among Hubble's discoveries.

- A. White energy.
- B. The age of the universe.
- C. A force that slows down the expansion of the universe.
- D. The extinction of galaxies.

4. Hubble's discoveries have been.....

- A. uncertain.
- B. accidental.
- C. wrong.
- D. revolutionary.

5. What could be a suitable title for the article above?

- A. `HUBBLE HAS CHANGED THE WAY WE LOOK AT THE UNIVERSE`.
- B. ` GALILEO – THE FAMOUS ASTRONOMER`.
- C. ` THE AGE OF THE UNIVERSE `.
- D. `HUBBLE – THE SPACESHIP THAT TAKES US BEYOND THE LIMITS OF THE UNIVERSE`.

### **SUBIECTUL III - WRITING (25p).**

**Write a narrative essay ending like this: *I took a deep breath and closed the door behind me. I was happy with my decision.*** Write your story in 150-180 words and give it an appropriate title.

Pay attention to the following:

- You don't need to write long descriptions.
- Use dialogues only if they are relevant to your characters or events.
- Don't count the words given to end the essay.
- You should use this plan:
  - **Introduction** (paragraph 1 – set the scene)
  - **Main body** (paragraph(s) 2/3 – develop the story)
  - **Conclusion** (paragraph 4 – end the story)