

**SUBIECTUL I (50points)**

**You were for a year an exchange student in an English speaking country. Write a letter of 120 -150 words to a friend telling him/her about the changes in your lifestyle, how you felt about everything, your new school, friends and pastime activities. Sign your letter as Paul/Paula**

**SUBIECTUL II  
USE OF ENGLISH**

**(50 points)**

**A. Read the text and choose the correct word for each space: (8 points)**

**The Netherlands**

Welcome to the Netherlands, a tiny country that only extends, at its broadest, 312 km north to south, and 264 km east to west - (1) ... the land area increases slightly each year as a (2) ... of continuous land reclamation and drainage. With a lot of heart and much to offer, 'Holland,' as it is (3) ... known to most of us abroad - a name stemming (4) ... its once most prominent provinces - has more going on per kilometre than most countries, and more English-speaking natives. You'll be impressed by its (5) ... cities and charmed by its countryside and villages, full of contrasts. From the exciting variety (6) ... offer, you could choose a romantic canal boat tour in Amsterdam, a Royal Tour by coach in The Hague, or a hydrofoil tour around the biggest harbour in the world - Rotterdam. In season you could visit the dazzling bulb fields, enjoy a full day on a boat, or take a bike tour through the pancake-flat countryside spiced with windmills. The possibilities are countless and the nationwide tourist office, which is on hand to give you information and (7) ... reservations. You'll have (8) ... language problems here, as the Dutch are true linguists and English is spoken here almost universally.

1. A) so B) despite C) in spite of D) although
2. A) whole B) consequently C) rule D) result
3. A) regularly B) occasionally C) commonly D) unusually
4. A) in B) from C) on D) of
5. A) historic B) historical C) historically D) historian
6. A) at B) in C) on D) for
7. A) sit B) catch C) do D) make
8. A) few B) a few C) little D) a little

**B. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Do not change the word given. You must use two to five words, including the word given. (12 points)**

1) It wasn't Mark that you met in the shop.

**HAVE**

It ..... Mark that you met in the shop.

2) She was just going to have her breakfast when the phone rang.

**ABOUT**

She was just..... breakfast when the phone rang.

3) Steve didn't manage to complete his work.

**FAILED**

Steve..... his work.

4) How long has she been studying English?

**BEGIN**

When.....studying English?

5) George wrote his last novel five years ago.

**WAS**

It.....George wrote his last novel.

6) Nobody took any notice of his bad behaviour.

**ATTENTION**

Nobody.....his bad behaviour.

**C. Read the text below. Use the words given in capitals to form a word that best fits in the gaps. (15 points)**

**About Fish and Aquariums**

There are more than 200,000 species of fish inhabiting many (1) ... waters. New species of fish are discovered every year. From the deepest part of the seas thousands of feet down in total (2) ..., to the (3).... aqua-blue waters of the coral reefs, to the streams, lakes, and ponds of freshwater found throughout the world, fish have adapted an incredible variety of life-forms, styles, and (4) ... . The group of aquatic animals we call fishes has evolved for over 400 million years to be the most (5) ... and diverse of the major vertebrate groups. Forty-one percent of the world's fish species inhabit only fresh water. This is pretty (6) ... considering that fresh water covers only 1 percent of the world's surface. As you probably already know salt water covers 70 percent of the earth's surface. So the number and (7) ... of fresh water species to marine or saltwater species is all the more mind-boggling. While they inhabit the smallest amount of water, they have, in fact, adapted to a much (8) ... range of habitats and to a greater variety of water conditions. Let's take a closer look at the unique (9)....of fish that have allowed them to live so (10) ... in the medium we call water.

**1)DIFFER 2)DARK 3)BEAUTY 4)BEHAVE 5)NUMBER 6)AMAZE 7)VARY  
8)WIDE 9)ADAPT 10)SUCCESS**

**D. D. Put the verbs in brackets into a correct tense : (15 points)**

Jim 1(walk)..... along the High Street when he 2(notice)..... someone behind him.

Actually, he 3(follow)..... him since he 4(get off)..... the bus. Jim 5(stop)..... at a shop window. The man 6(come)..... closer to Jim. Jim 7(have)..... the feeling he 8(see)..... him before, so he 9(go)..... up to him and 10(ask).....:

11”(not/I/know)..... you? Why 12(you/follow)..... me?”

The man 13(smile)..... and 14(say).....: ”Smile! You 15(be)..... on Candid Camera!

**Nota: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru 3 ore.**

**NU SE ACORDĂ PUNCTE DIN OFICIU**

**I. A. Choose the correct option:15 puncte**

**Sound Advice for Language Learners**

A recent 1..... of a language learning magazine has consulted a number of experts in the 2..... of second language acquisition. Their advice may prove invaluable for those 3..... a language course. One suggestion is that you 4..... whether you are likely to be successful at learning a language. Did you enjoy studying languages at school, for example? Do you have enough time to learn a language? The major 5..... will be your own time and effort. Therefore you must make sure that the course on offer leads to a 6..... qualification. Also, be realistic in your 7..... . If you don't set achievable aims you are more likely to give up. Do not be deceived 8..... thinking that the most expensive courses are the best. 9..... around to get the best possible value for money. You should also bear in mind that the quicker you learn a language the more quickly you forget it. Sandra Miller, a French teacher, tried to teach herself German by enrolling on a 10..... course. Already 11..... in four languages and with a sound knowledge of teaching methodology her chances of 12..... progress were high. Three years 13..... she remembers very little. She feels her biggest mistake was not to follow 14..... her first experience. "Moreover, I think the teacher's role is important. It's so nice to have somebody give you a/an 15.....".

- |    |                 |              |           |               |
|----|-----------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| 1  | A issue         | B printing   | C version | D volume      |
| 2  | A domain        | B branch     | C field   | D area        |
| 3  | A wondering     | B thinking   | C looking | D considering |
| 4  | A assess        | B review     | C balance | D survey      |
| 5  | A charge        | B cost       | C price   | D valuation   |
| 6  | A recognised    | B understood | C valued  | D regarded    |
| 7  | A sights        | B ends       | C objects | D goals       |
| 8  | A by            | B about      | C into    | D in          |
| 9  | A Nose          | B Push       | C Run     | D Shop        |
| 10 | A rapid         | B crash      | C quick   | D fast        |
| 11 | A great         | B expert     | C skilful | D fluent      |
| 12 | A achieving     | B doing      | C gaining | D making      |
| 13 | A on            | B forward    | C from    | D onward      |
| 14 | A up            | B on         | C through | D out         |
| 15 | A encouragement | B help       | C hand    | D aid         |

**B.Rephrase the following sentences using the words given, without changing them, so that they have the same meaning as the sentences before them: 20 puncte**

- I never thought that we'd have legal problems. **crossed**  
It.....that we'd have legal problems.
- I'm sure Nancy is still presuming that the party starts at nine. **impression**  
I'm sure Nancy.....that the party starts at nine.
- Why should I offer you advice if you won't listen? **use**  
What's.....you advice if you won't listen?
- Would you like to do what the Prime Minister does? **places**  
Would you like to.....the Prime Minister?
- The plan is that I will give a presentation on Friday morning. **due**  
I.....a presentation on Friday morning.
- Keep this a secret. **to**  
You are.....anyone about this.
- I do like this job, but I sometimes wonder if I've chosen the right career path. **again**  
I do like this job, but.....I wonder if I've chosen the right career path.
- The headmaster was determined to stop all bullying at the school. **end**

The headmaster was determined to.....to all bullying at the school.

9. We were just about to leave for the airport when we heard all planes had been grounded.

**point**

We were.....for the airport when we heard all planes had been grounded.

10. They made me wait for over 20 minutes on the phone! **kept**

I..... for over 20 minutes on the phone!

**C. Change the word in capitals into an appropriate form in the context: 5 puncte**

- |                                                             |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. A person with an...complex is generally quite shy.       | INFERIOR |
| 2. Do you happen to know the...of Ben Nevis?                | HIGH     |
| 3. He proved so stubborn that it seemed...to me to insist.  | POINT    |
| 4. The teacher's explanation was out of my...               | DEEP     |
| 5. The results of the test were quite different from our... | EXPECT   |

**D. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only *one* word in each space. 10 puncte**

**HOW TO SURVIVE**

Several countries have been on offer at keep-fit centres in recent years in what are (1).....as survival techniques. (2).....closer examination this may not be (3)..... a bad idea. You have to imagine that you (4).....yourself in (5).....is called a survival situation. This means that you, for (6).....are still afloat after your ship has sunk or are somehow alive after your plane has crashed (7).....the Alps or a desert, or you are a survivor in a remote car crash. In short, you have survived some initial disaster (8)..... takes place far away from anywhere, and now have to stay alive (9)..... help arrives or you are fit (10)..... to go and look for help.

**II. You have been offered a travel grant by an agency called *Student Tours*. The travel is in some way related to your studies. Write a formal letter (of 150-180 words) to the grant-giving agency, outlining the following: 50 puncte**

- **where you would like to go**
- **what connection the visit has to your education**
- **what you could do for other students in your school/college when you come back.**

Nota: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru 3 ore.  
NU SE ACORDĂ PUNCTE DIN OFICIU

**SUBIECTUL I**

**USE OF ENGLISH (50 points)**

**1. Read the text below and use ONE WORD only in each gap: (10 points)**

As an activity, learning to play an instrument is something that can give a lot of pleasure. It's also an achievement and a skill (1)... stays with you for life. Music has a part to play in everyone's life, and has been described (2) ... a 'primary language'. Learning to play an instrument isn't easy at the beginning (3) ... takes effort and determination. And while there's nothing wrong with aiming (4) ... the top, music is definitely (5) .... something to take up because you think you ought (6) ... do it.

A lot of adults regret not (7) ... learnt to play an instrument when they were younger. But it is never (8) ... late to learn! And the advantages of learning an instrument are far greater than just the pleasure of producing a marvelous sound. When you've progressed far (9) ... ,there are lots of amateur groups which you can join (10) ... you want to be part of a larger group. Once you've reached a good enough standard to join a band or orchestra, you add the team skills like those you get from playing sport. There's also a great social side to playing with others, as well as the chance to travel through touring.

**2. Complete the second sentence, using between two and five words, including the word given. Do not change that word in any way. (20 points)**

- 1) May we borrow your ladder for half an hour? **mind**  
Would you ..... your ladder for half an hour?
- 2) "I'm not frightened," he said; in fact, he was terrified. **be**  
He pretended ..... frightened.
- 3) The Majestic is better than this hotel. **good**  
This hotel ..... the Majestic.
- 4) To enjoy travel, you must go on your own. **only**  
You ..... enjoy travelling if you go on your own.
- 5) You were very generous, giving us all that money. **of**  
It was very generous ..... us all that money.
- 6) He was sorry he had asked the bank to lend him the money. **wished**  
He ..... asked the bank to lend him the money.
- 7) I haven't owned a car for five years now. **since**  
It is five years ..... a car.
- 8) Why didn't you warn me it was going to rain? **have**  
You ..... me it was going to rain.
- 9) Heavy smokers are more likely to suffer serious illness than non-smokers. **runs**  
A heavy smoker ..... serious illness than a non-smoker.
- 10) Even though she knew she had to get up early, Mary still went to the disco. **despite**  
Mary still went to the disco ..... that she had to get up early

**3. To fill the spaces, use a word formed from the words in the list below. (10 points)**

The (1)..... was made that the British Academy of Film and Television had awarded the prize for the Best TV Drama Series to something called Prime Suspect. Immediately, four out of the seven members of the jury (2)..... They said they had in fact voted for a rival series, (3)..... GBH. By and large, the British are not terribly good at advanced mathematics, but this is (4)..... A film critic told a similar story about a country where a film (5)..... was held. He was on the jury to make the selections for prizes. He was approached by a man who had a film in the (6)..... This producer offered him £3,000 to

make sure that his film won the main prize. Rather than take the money, the critic mentioned the matter to the (7)..... of the festival. He was shocked. He said, "This is most (8)..... It is (9)..... simply (10)..... I shall speak to this man. The going rate for the main prize is at least £5.000."

1. announce 2. agree 3. title 4. ridicule 5. festive 6. compete 7. preside 8. reason 9. outrage  
10. scandal

**4. Circle the option, A, B, C or D that best fits each gap: (10 points)**

Official figures show that the number of people (1) ... international flights is decreasing, and that this is (2) ... in significant changes to holidaying habits. As the cost of air tickets increases, it appears that more and more families are choosing to (3) ... their summer holidays at home. People are also becoming more (4) ... of the harm that flying does to the environment, and see it as a way of helping to (5) ... the planet, too. For many parents, a summer with no overcrowded resorts may seem attractive, but the idea might well be less (6) ... with their teenage children, who are probably (7) ... to flying off to Miami as soon as school breaks up. So, the question is, how can young people (8) ... lots of fun when so much will be closed for the holidays, and so many of their friends are (9) ... to be away? Nowadays, many sports centres organize summer activities aimed at young people (10) ... either on indoor or outdoor sports.

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|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. making   | B. taking      | C. travelling | D. flying       |
| 2. A. leading  | B. resulting   | C. causing    | D. creating     |
| 3. A. pass     | B. employ      | C. use        | D. spend        |
| 4. A. aware    | B. thoughtful  | C. wise       | D. familiar     |
| 5. A. save     | B. secure      | C. guard      | D. defend       |
| 6. A. liked    | B. popular     | C. approved   | D. accepted     |
| 7. A. used     | B. experienced | C. preferred  | D. prepared     |
| 8. A. do       | B. live        | C. cause      | D. have         |
| 9. A. positive | B. inevitable  | C. bound      | D. definite     |
| 10. A. eager   | B. keen        | C. fond       | D. enthusiastic |

**SUBIECTUL II**

**You recently saw this advertisement on an English-language website. (50 points)**

**TRAVEL WRITERS WANTED**

We are looking for articles on places of interest. Have you visited anywhere interesting recently, either in your country or abroad? If so, why not write an article about that place and send it to us? Include information on what there is to see and do there, and whether you would recommend the place to other people.

Write your **article** in **180-200 words**.

Nota: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru 3 ore.  
NU SE ACORDĂ PUNCTE DIN OFICIU

**SUBIECTUL I      50 points**

An international research group is investigating attitudes to education in different parts of the world. You have been asked to write a report on education in your country. Your report should address the following questions:

- What are the strengths and weaknesses of education in your country?
- What educational developments would you like to see in your country in the future?

Write approximately 220 - 260 words.

**SUBIECTUL II      50 points**

**A. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). (15 points)**

There are a few runners who have completed every London Marathon (0) *since* the first race in 1981. They are the toughest runners of (1)..... . These athletes, (2)..... honour of both their mental and physical strength, have been given a permanent entry (3)..... the event for the rest of their lives, provided that they do not miss a year. Other people have run the race faster or under greater handicaps, (4)..... these are athletes with a mission. For (5)....., the annual event is a way of life, not just a fund-raising exercise (6)..... a single challenge. Bill O' Connor is one of (7)..... runners. In (8)..... case, running is a daily ritual (9)..... began in New Zealand (10)....., as a youngster, he pounded along the wet sand on the edge of the Tasman Sea. Now aged fifty, (11)..... working as a maths teacher at a school in London, he retains his fascination (12)..... the London Marathon and the activity of running. He says, 'When the first London Marathon was held, I thought (13)..... myself that here was a challenge. I thought that (14)..... there was only going to be one race, I wanted to have run in (15)..... .'

**B. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the corresponding gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). (10 points)**

0. CHEER   1. NEIGHBOUR   2. HOME   3. ENVIRONMENT   4. GENERATE   5. POWER   6. EQUIP  
7. DESIGN   8. AMBITION   9. SUCCESS   10. ENTHUSIASM

About five years ago my grandparents retired to a (0) *cheerful* little house near Cardiff. The house is a cottage in a really friendly (1)..... . It is decorated beautifully. It feels really (2)..... and I love visiting them. What is special about the house is that my grandparents have tried to make it as (3)..... friendly as possible. My grandfather has put in solar panels and got a special (4)..... to provide electricity for the house. He did want the house to be (5)..... by the wind, but it was too difficult to find the (6)..... . When he realized that there was no real likelihood of installing wind power, he put in solar panels. Some people were worried that the solar panels might look strange on the roof, but my grandfather worked with a (7)..... to try to make all the technology work with the old building. I was worried at first because it seemed quite an (8).....project. I thought everything would go wrong and the project would be (9)..... . But I was wrong, I think it's because my grandparents are so (10)..... about it. Of course they were lucky because they had the money to make changes.

**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. You must use between three and six words, including the word given. (10 points)**

INSPECTORATUL SCOLAR JUDETEAN VALCEA  
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZA – FAZA LOCALA – 30.01.2017 – CLASA A XII-A

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1. We will soon run short of water if it doesn't rain.  
BE  
There will \_\_\_\_\_ if it doesn't rain.
2. The aim of the meeting was to promote trade between the two countries.  
HAD  
The meeting \_\_\_\_\_ trade between the two countries.
3. I don't think Yasmin is likely to call round tonight.  
THAT  
I think \_\_\_\_\_ will call round tonight.
4. By booking in advance, students can get a 10 per cent discount.  
ENTITLED  
Students who \_\_\_\_\_ a 10 per cent discount.
5. There's not much chance of our winning the match.  
LITTLE  
We \_\_\_\_\_ winning the match.

**D. For questions 1 – 10, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). (15 points)**

'Every (0)..A..begins with a single step.' We might (1)..... this proverb for the annual 16,000 km Beijing to Paris car rally, and say that every rally begins with a turn of the wheel. From China, several hundred courageous men and women will (2)..... out for Paris in pursuit of what, for many, is likely to prove an impossible (3)..... . Everybody is prepared for the worst and organiser Philip Young expects a high drop-out (4)....., especially on the rally's difficult first (5)..... across central China and over the high mountain (6)..... of the Himalayas. 'If twenty-five cars (7)..... it to Paris, we'll be doing well,' he says. The first Beijing-Paris car rally took place in 1907. It was won by Prince Borghese, an Italian adventurer, who crossed the (8)..... line just a few metres (9)..... of the only other car to complete the race. At the time his achievement was (10)..... as comparable to that of the great explorer, Marco Polo.

- |                     |            |              |             |
|---------------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>0. A journey</b> | B travel   | C route      | D way       |
| 1. A adapt          | B moderate | C improve    | D form      |
| 2. A head           | B move     | C set        | D try       |
| 3. A vision         | B fantasy  | C hope       | D dream     |
| 4. A rate           | B number   | C speed      | D frequency |
| 5. A period         | B stage    | C time       | D round     |
| 6. A crossings      | B passes   | C directions | D passages  |
| 7. A get            | B take     | C have       | D make      |
| 8. A closing        | B final    | C ending     | D finishing |
| 9. A forward        | B ahead    | C front      | D advance   |
| 10. A thought       | B referred | C regarded   | D noted     |

Nota: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru 3 ore.  
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