



OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ – ETAPA LOCALĂ

11 februarie 2026

Clasa a IX-a, SECȚIUNEA A

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Se acordă 10 puncte din oficiu.
- Timp de lucru: 180 minute

SUBIECTUL A – USE OF ENGLISH

40 points

I. Read the following text and put the verbs in brackets in the correct form. (10 points)

I am currently a university student and I (1) _____ (**work**) as an intern at a law firm since the beginning of the month. Lately, I (2) _____ (**feel**) quite exhausted because the workload (3) _____ (**increase**) every day. My supervisor tells me that if I (4) _____ (**manage**) to finish this project by Friday, he (5) _____ (**recommend**) me for a full-time position next year. I (6) _____ (**not/meet**) the CEO yet, but she (7) _____ (**visit**) our department later this afternoon for a brief inspection. I am quite nervous because I (8) _____ (**realise**) how important this first impression is. I (9) _____ (**study**) all the company reports tonight to be prepared, even though I (10) _____ (**prefer**) staying home and relaxing.

II. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the word given in capitals: (10 points)

1. His behaviour was completely _____ and surprised everyone. **EXPECT**
2. The team's _____ to finish the project on time impressed the manager. **EAGER**
3. Many scientists are concerned about the _____ of several rare species. **APPEAR**
4. The instructions were so _____ that I had to ask for help twice. **CONFUSE**
5. Working in a hospital requires a high level of _____ and patience. **PROFESSION**
6. The news of the accident was deeply _____ to everyone in the village. **DISTURB**
7. We need to _____ the security system before the new stock arrives. **STRONG**
8. Some people find it difficult to distinguish between _____ and reality. **IMAGINE**
9. The hotel was surprisingly _____, considering how cheap it was. **SPACE**
10. It was very _____ of him to forget his best friend's birthday. **CARE**

III. Read the text below and decide which answer best fits in each gap. (10 points)

The Unforgettable Weekend

Last summer, Sarah (1) _____ to spend her weekend camping in the mountains. She had been (2) _____ forward to the trip for weeks. When she finally arrived, she was surprised to see that (3) _____ were so many people at the campsite. She quickly (4) _____ up her tent before the sun

went down. (5) _____, while she was cooking dinner, it started to rain heavily. Sarah didn't have (6) _____ umbrella, so she had to run inside her tent. She spent the rest of the evening listening to the rain and reading a book (7) _____ she had bought at the airport. By the next morning, the weather (8) _____ improved, and the view of the valley was (9) _____ beautiful than she had imagined. It was definitely (10) _____ of the best experiences of her life.

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|-------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1. a) decided | b) has decided | c) was deciding | d) decides |
| 2. a) seeing | b) looking | c) waiting | d) watching |
| 3. a) they | b) there | c) it | d) these |
| 4. a) did | b) took | c) made | d) put |
| 5. a) Fortunately | b) Instead | c) Unfortunately | d) Therefore |
| 6. a) a | b) an | c) the | d) any |
| 7. a) who | b) where | c) which | d) what |
| 8. a) has | b) was | c) had | d) is |
| 9. a) more | b) most | c) very | d) such |
| 10. a) one | b) each | c) every | d) single |

IV. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence using the word given in bold. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given. (10 points)

- 'Don't touch that paint. It's still wet,' said my sister. **WARNED**
My sister _____ the paint because it was still wet.
- I'm sure Jake was tired after the match. **HAVE**
Jake _____ after the match.
- No one is close to being as kind as my aunt is. **BY**
My aunt _____ person I know.
- The film probably won't last more than two hours. **UNLIKELY**
The film _____ on for more than two hours.
- 'Do you think your brother could take us to school in his car?' **LIFT**
'Do you think your brother would mind _____ to school?'

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS

50 points

Read the text and do the tasks that follow:

Digital Deception

Kay got another message as she was leaving for school. It was a comment on her Facebook profile picture: *princesspusheen: Stop taking photos of yourself. No one wants to look at you. Loser!*

Her heart was pounding now. She turned her phone off. She'd tried to delete the posts and block the user but they kept coming back with a different name. Becky, her childhood friend, thought it must be a hacker. Kay had sent messages to the sites telling them what was happening but they'd done nothing yet.

Becky was waiting for her at the bus stop. 'Hi, Kay, are you all right? You look terrible!' 'No, I've been getting those stupid messages all morning. I've got to do something, Becky. I'm starting to go mad. Do you think I should go to the police?' 'Well, you could try,' said Becky. 'But I heard they won't do anything. And besides, he's probably using *anon.com*. Hackers use that site to hide their

identity so the police will never be able to find them. Anyway, I wanted to tell you, I think I might know who it is ...' Just then the bus came and they got on.

There were lots of kids from school on the bus. Kay felt they were all looking at her. Kay and Becky sat down. 'Who is it?' asked Kay. 'Shh! He's sitting at the back. Don't look!' Kay looked around. Ollie Jones was sitting on the back seat. He was looking at his phone. 'But why?' asked Kay. 'Well, you did just finish with him, didn't you?' said Becky. 'What? We weren't even going out,' said Kay.

That day at school was terrible. She couldn't stop herself from looking at the messages. By lunchtime Kay couldn't take any more. She hid in the art room. She couldn't stop crying. Mrs Gibson, her music teacher, found her there at the end of lunch break and Kay told her everything. She offered to go to the police with Kay. She said they were getting better at finding cyberbullies now and the laws were changing too.

The bell rang. Kay just ran from the room and didn't stop running until she got home. She didn't go back to school that week. Becky called a few times but Kay didn't want to see anyone. On Monday Mum told her that Mrs Gibson had contacted the police and they thought they'd found the bully. Kay decided to go and tell Becky.

Becky was in her bedroom doing homework on her computer. She looked surprised to see Kay. They talked for a while, but Kay got the feeling Becky didn't want her there. Then there was a knock at the door. It was Becky's mum. She looked very worried. 'Becky, can you come downstairs now?' Kay started to get up too. 'Could you wait here, please, Kay?' Becky's mum smiled nervously at Kay. What was going on?

Kay waited, but ten minutes later Becky hadn't come back. Then her computer started beeping. She was getting messages. Kay couldn't help herself. She tapped a key and the screen came to life. She couldn't believe what she was seeing. There were lots of photos of Ollie Jones. Some of them had kisses all around them. There was one of Becky and Ollie. It looked like a selfie. There was a message blinking at the bottom of the screen. Kay clicked on it and a webpage opened up. It was *anon.com*. It was Becky's home page. Just then the door opened. It was Becky's mum. She'd been crying. There was someone standing behind her. 'Kay, this policewoman would like to talk to you.' (*Brendan Dunne*)

I. For questions 1-5, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text: (10 points)

1. What was the main problem Kay had when trying to deal with the cyberbully initially?

- A. She didn't know how to delete posts or block users.
- B. The websites she contacted were unhelpful.
- C. Her phone was broken, so she couldn't delete the messages.
- D. Becky refused to help her find the bully.

2. Why did Becky discourage Kay from going to the police?

- A. She thought it would be too expensive for Kay's family.
- B. She believed Ollie Jones had already been arrested.
- C. She wanted to convince Kay that the bully was impossible to track.
- D. She felt the school should handle the matter instead.

3. When Becky suggested that Kay had 'just finish[ed]' with Ollie, Kay's response shows that...

- A. she was worried that Ollie was spreading rumors about her.
- B. she was trying to hide their relationship from the other students.
- C. she was still deeply upset about the end of the relationship.
- D. she disagreed with Becky's interpretation of their relationship.

4. Kay's attitude toward seeking help changed because Mrs. Gibson...

- A. threatened to call Kay's mother if she didn't speak up.
- B. revealed that she knew who the hacker was.
- C. explained that new laws made it easier to catch cyberbullies.
- D. showed Kay how to use anon.com safely.

5. The discovery on Becky's computer at the end of the story shows that...

- A. Ollie Jones had hacked into Becky's computer as well.
- B. Becky had been pretending to be Kay's friend while bullying her.
- C. Kay and Becky were both being targeted by the same person.
- D. Becky was trying to help the police find the bully.

II. WRITING

(40 points)

You see the following notice in your school's main hall:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: ANTI-BULLYING CAMPAIGN

We are looking for students to join a new project focused on preventing online bullying and supporting those affected by it.

Write a letter of application to the project coordinator, Mr. Harrison. In your letter, you should explain: why you are interested in this specific project; what personal qualities and experiences make you a good candidate.

Write your letter. (160 - 180 words)