

**Etapa județeană/sectoarelor municipiului București a olimpiadelor naționale școlare - 2023**

**Probă scrisă  
Limba engleză**

**CLASA a VIII-a**

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

**Twin sisters create charity that donates dance clothes to dancers around the world. Here's their story, in their own words.**

One day about two years ago, we simultaneously asked our mom for new dance shoes. “(1) ... (I/not buy) you shoes a month ago?” she said as she walked into our room and emptied out our closets in search of footwear. And guess what she found? Piles of leotards, bags of old dance shoes, tutus and over 100 costumes from years of performances. Later that day, while we (2) ... (sit) in our room, staring at the gigantic pile of gently worn dance items, we both decided that we (3) ... (need) to find homes for each and every shoe, leotard and costume. It was on that day that “Donate2Dance” was born.

To date, we (4) ... (help) over 4,500 dancers from New York to Florida to Cuba to Malawi! We (5) ... (ship) donations to over 65 dance programs and schools in need. And we will continue until our donations (6) ... (reach) dancers and dance schools in all four corners of the world.

We truly can't believe the impact “Donate2Dance” (7) ... (make) on so many dancers. Pictures and thank you letters (8) ... (pour in) from dancers who finally have dance shoes or a glittery, sequined costume. It (9) ... (be) a real shame if all those treasures (10) ... (go) to waste; instead, their new owners can proudly show them off on the dance floor.

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

**10 points**

Last year on my birthday, I was given an activity gift (1)..... some of my friends. They know I find circus acts fascinating and they decided to give me the opportunity to go to a circus school and be an acrobat for a day. I didn't need any special (2)....., just leggings and trainers. When I arrived, I was (3)..... around a circus and they introduced me to my (4)....., who explained what we would do. (5)..... I was a bit scared, I decided to try it. However, it was more difficult than I thought. After an hour of training, I was out of (6)..... and had to stop to rest. My heart was (7)..... very fast. When training was over, we climbed the ropes to try a stunt. I was (8)..... terrified up there that I couldn't continue, so I had to leave. (9) ....., I didn't tell my friends (10)..... not to disappoint them.

1. a. from b. for c. by	2. a. accessories b. equipment c. costume
3. a. showing b. show c. shown	4. a. professor b. assistant c. instructor
5. a. Despite b. Although c. In spite of	6. a. danger b. breath c. sight
7. a. shaking b. beating c. speeding	8. a. such b. so c. such a lot of

9. a. However b. Less c. Regardless	10. a. so that b. so c. so as
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**I.3. Use the word given in bold to form a word that fits in each sentence.**

**5 points**

1. It is \_\_\_\_\_ to assume that everyone thinks the same way as you do.
2. My two sons don't look alike, they both have green eyes, but that is the only \_\_\_\_\_ between them.
3. I didn't enjoy the film as I knew what would happen and the ending was very \_\_\_\_\_.
4. All religions ask you to be \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The story the clients told about the product is \_\_\_\_\_.

**LOGICAL**

**SIMILAR  
PREDICT**

**TRUE  
BELIEVE**

**SUBIECTUL al II-lea – READING COMPREHENSION**

**25 points**

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

On account of car exhaust, fumes, factory smoke and the pollution created every day by millions of people living together in one place, modern cities can be dirty places to live in. The pollution in these areas affects many of us. After all, over half the population of the world live in cities. So people are constantly coming up with ideas cleaner, greener and healthier for us all.

The most important aim for a green city is to reduce or stop all together the use of fossil fuels, which relieve carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and create pollution. This can be done by offering a citywide public transport system, so that fewer people use their cars. It can also be achieved by setting aside more land for parks where the new trees can help reduce the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> the city produces. Emissions from transport are also being reduced by turning each community into a 'walkable' city. In other words, a neighborhood that is designed so that its inhabitants can live, work, shop and socialize all in the same area, without needing to use cars at all. Energy can also be taken from clean sources such as the sun, the wind or water, instead of burning fossil fuels. Scientists are even starting to look away from Earth. One day soon, we might be using energy created from helium - a substance found on the moon.

Many cities around the world have already begun to put these ideas into practice. So, you can see rooftop gardens, solar panels, recycling initiatives, and energy-efficient buildings in many places already. Soon fossil-fuel burning cars could be a thing of the past and personal electric cars, running on rails around the city, will take us to work. This may sound unbelievable, in some cities; plans are already in place to make it a reality in the next few years.

Ideas that once seemed unrealistic could be closer than we think. An American design team has come up with plans for an eco-friendly floating city which will be safe from flooding and rising sea levels. The Seascraper would generate electricity from turbines beneath the water and a 'skin' of solar panels and would also treat sea water to make it drinkable. Under the surface of the water, this city would form an artificial reef and produce nutrients to support the marine environment.

Even the smallest thing can make a difference. As we all know, when it rains in the city, the water gathers on the concrete pavement and eventually into the city's water supply taking with it all the dirt from the street and polluting the drinkable water. 'Green' pavement acts more like a hard sponge. It absorbs the rainwater, directing it naturally into the soil beneath. And, what's more, it's made from recycled material. Does it sound futuristic? Well, you can actually already find this kind of pavement in some cities.

1. What is the main message the writer wants to express? A. that green cities are futuristic and unrealistic B. that we are already trying to make cities greener C. that our cities are already as green as they can be D. that there is nothing we can do to make a difference	2. Which of the following are people not already doing? A. creating 'walkable' cities B. using energy from the sun C. burning fossil energy D. using energy from the moon
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<p>3. According to the text what might be possible in the future?</p> <p>A. electric cars running on rails B. solar panels C. rooftop gardens D. energy-efficient buildings</p>	<p>4. How would the Seascraper help the natural environment?</p> <p>A. It would make drinkable water for everyone in the world. B. It would produce enough power for several cities. C. It would stop sea levels from rising. D. It would provide food for sea life.</p>
<p>5. Which sentence best describes how 'green' pavement works?</p> <p>A. It stops rainwater from running into people's houses. B. It washes the dirt out of the city. C. It allows rainwater to go through it and into the ground. D. It cleans the rainwater so people can drink it.</p>	

**SUBIECTUL al III-lea – WRITING**

**50 points**

Write a narrative essay ending like this:

*“Nothing could have made her happier than seeing that all the effort had paid off.”*

**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;
- 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).

Don't count the words in the given ending.