

**CONCURSUL DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ PENTRU LICEE
CU PROFIL TEHNOLOGIC ȘI VOCAȚIONAL
ETAPA JUDEȚEANĂ, 8 Iunie 2024
CLASA a X-a**

- Toate subiecte sunt obligatorii
- Timp de lucru: 2 ore
- Total puncte: 100. Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu

SUBJECT I

20 points

Read the following text. For questions 1-8, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to the text.

The Life of a Professional Mermaid

Lucy Johnson has always loved the ocean. As a child, she would spend hours swimming and imagining she was a mermaid. Little did she know, this childhood dream would eventually become her career. Lucy is a professional mermaid, performing in aquatic shows around the world and promoting ocean conservation.

Lucy's journey to becoming a professional mermaid began when she joined a local swimming team. Her exceptional swimming skills caught the attention of a talent scout, who suggested she try out for a mermaid performance group. After rigorous training, which included mastering breath control and learning to swim gracefully with a mermaid tail, Lucy was ready for her first show.

Her performances are a blend of athleticism and artistry. She swims elegantly with a colourful mermaid tail, performing underwater acrobatics that leave audiences mesmerized. But there's more to her job than just performing. Lucy is also an advocate for marine life conservation. She often visits schools to educate children about the importance of protecting our oceans and participates in beach clean-up events.

Being a professional mermaid comes with its challenges. Lucy spends hours in the water, which can be physically demanding. She also has to ensure her mermaid tail, made from durable but heavy material, is always in good condition. Despite these challenges, Lucy finds her job incredibly rewarding. The joy on children's faces when they see a "real" mermaid and the positive impact she has on raising awareness for ocean conservation makes it all worthwhile.

Lucy's unique profession has also opened doors to various media appearances. She has been featured in magazines, TV shows, and even a documentary highlighting unusual careers. Through her work, Lucy hopes to inspire others to follow their dreams, no matter how unconventional they may be.

1. What inspired Lucy Johnson to pursue her career as a professional mermaid?

- A) A desire to travel the world
- B) Her childhood fascination with mermaids
- C) Advice from a professional swimmer
- D) A documentary about unusual careers

2. How did Lucy first get noticed for her potential in mermaid performance?

- A) By winning a swimming competition
- B) Through her participation in a beach clean-up event
- C) By being scouted at a local swimming team
- D) Through her educational visits to schools

3. What was a significant part of Lucy's training to become a professional mermaid?

- A) Perfecting breath-holding techniques.
- B) Learning about marine biology
- C) Enhancing her diving skills
- D) Practicing with different types of mermaid tails

4. What is a major aspect of Lucy's performances?

- A) Engaging in competitive swimming races
- B) Teaching audiences about marine conservation
- C) Performing underwater acrobatics
- D) Singing and dancing underwater

5. Besides performing, what else does Lucy do as part of her job?

- A) Designs and sells mermaid tails
- B) Trains new mermaid performers
- C) Advocates for marine life conservation
- D) Organizes aquatic-themed parties

6. What is one challenge Lucy faces in her profession?

- A) Traveling extensively
- B) Maintaining her mermaid tail
- C) Finding new performance venues
- D) Competing with other performers

7. How does Lucy feel about the challenges of her job?

- A) She finds them frustrating and tiring
- B) She considers them a minor inconvenience
- C) She believes they outweigh the benefits
- D) She finds them rewarding despite the challenges

8. What impact does Lucy hope to have through her work?

- A) To encourage others to follow unique aspirations
- B) To make a significant income
- C) To become famous
- D) To develop new mermaid performance techniques

SUBJECT II**30 points**

You have seen this advertisement in a newspaper:

Cultural Exchange Program Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to assist with a cultural exchange program. We need enthusiastic, open-minded individuals with strong communication skills, cultural awareness, and the ability to work well with others. Volunteers will help organize events, guide international visitors, and promote cross-cultural understanding. If you are passionate about cultural exchange and have the right skills, apply now.

Write a **letter of application** to become a volunteer where you mention your communication skills, personal qualities, examples of times when you have demonstrated teamwork, and any relevant experience. Write your letter in 120-150 words.

SUBJECT III**20 points**

Use the word given in capital to form a word which fits the space.

Marie Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland, in 1867. She was a **(0)** famous (FAME) scientist known for her groundbreaking work in radioactivity. Curie moved to Paris to study at the Sorbonne, where she earned degrees in physics and mathematics. Her **(1)** _____ (DEDICATE) to her research led her to discover two new elements, polonium and radium.

Curie's work was **(2)** _____ (REMARK) for its contribution to science and medicine. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and remains the only person to have won Nobel Prizes in two different scientific fields. Despite facing significant **(3)** _____ (CHALLENGE) due to her gender, Curie persisted and continued her research.

In addition to her **(4)** _____ (SCIENCE) achievements, Curie was known for her humility and modest lifestyle. She used her own discoveries to develop mobile radiography units to help treat soldiers during World War I. Curie's **(5)** _____ (BRAVE) and commitment to using science for the greater good have made her an inspirational figure worldwide.

Curie faced personal and professional **(6)** _____ (DIFFICULT) throughout her life, including the tragic death of her husband, Pierre Curie, in an accident. However, she continued her work with unwavering **(7)** _____ (DETERMINE), setting an example for future generations of scientists.

Marie Curie passed away in 1934 from aplastic anemia, likely caused by her prolonged exposure to **(8)** _____ (RADIATE). Her legacy endures, and she is remembered as a pioneering innovator whose contributions have had a lasting impact on science and humanity.

SUBJECT IV**20 points**

Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) to complete each of the numbered gaps in the text below. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Social media has become an integral part of modern life, influencing how people communicate, share information, and **(0)** ... **C**... with the world. Platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram have millions of users who engage daily in various activities. Social media allows users to **(1)** updates, photos, and videos with friends and family, and it has also become a powerful tool for businesses and organizations.

One of the significant advantages of social media is its ability to **(2)** people across the globe. It provides a platform for individuals to connect with others who share similar interests and hobbies.

Additionally, social media plays a vital role in raising **(3)** about important issues. Campaigns and movements that start online can quickly gain momentum and **(4)** widespread attention.

However, social media also has its downsides. The **(5)** of false information is a major concern, as it can lead to misinformation and confusion. Another issue is the impact on mental health. Studies have shown that excessive use of social media can lead to feelings of **(6)** and inadequacy, especially among young people who compare themselves to others online.

Despite these challenges, social media continues to **(7)** and evolve. New features and platforms are constantly being developed, providing users with even more ways to interact and share content. Social media's influence on society is undeniable, and it will likely remain a **(8)** part of our lives for the foreseeable future.

For businesses, social media offers valuable opportunities for marketing and customer engagement. Companies can reach a **(9)** audience and build brand loyalty through targeted campaigns and personalized interactions. As technology advances, the role of social media in marketing and communication is expected to **(10)** even further.

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|-------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 0. A integrate | B divide | C interact | D contrast |
| 1. A destroy | B share | C hide | D limit |
| 2. A connect | B separate | C isolate | D disconnect |
| 3. A doubt | B money | C awareness | D fear |
| 4. A avoid | B achieve | C lose | D ignore |
| 5. A distribution | B scarcity | C accuracy | D invention |
| 6. A happiness | B satisfaction | C loneliness | D fulfillment |
| 7. A disappear | B stagnate | C progress | D regress |
| 8. A minor | B negligible | C critical | D optional |
| 9. A narrow | B broad | C limited | D restricted |
| 10. A decline | B lessen | C reduce | D expand |

SUBJECT V

10 points

For questions 1 to 5, choose the correct answer, A-H. There are three extra answers which you do not need to use.

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| 1. Did you manage to get through to him? | A. It was really tough, but I finally reached him yesterday. |
| 2. Are you still on good terms with Sarah? | B. Not yet, but I'm working on it. |
| 3. What are you up to this weekend? | C. We had a bit of a disagreement, so not really. |
| 4. How did the project turn out? | D. It turned out better than I expected, actually. |
| 5. Why did you turn down the job offer? | E. Because it wasn't the right fit for me. |
| | F. Unfortunately, yes. We decided to go our separate ways. |
| | G. Nothing much, just relaxing at home. |
| | H. Sure, I'd be happy to help. |