

CONCURSUL DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ „QUEST”
ETAPA JUDEȚEANĂ, martie 2026
Clasa a X-a

I. READING COMPREHENSION

(5 x 4p = 20 p)

Read the text below. For questions 1-5, choose the answer (A, B, C, or D) which you think fits best according to the text. (5 x 4p = 20p)

A recent survey of crime statistics shows that we are all more likely to be burgled now than 20 years ago and the police advise everyone to take a few simple precautions to protect their homes. The first fact is that burglars and other intruders prefer easy opportunities, like a house which is very obviously empty. This is much less of a challenge than an occupied house, and one which is well-protected. A burglar will wonder if it is worth the bother.

There are some general tips on how to avoid your home becoming another crime statistic. Avoid leaving signs that your house is empty. When you have to go out, leave at least one light on as well as a radio or television, and do not leave any curtains wide open. The sight of your latest music centre or computer is enough to tempt any burglar.

Never leave a spare key in a convenient hiding place. The first place a burglar will look is under the doormat or in a flower pot and even somewhere more 'imaginative' could soon be uncovered by the intruder. It is much safer to leave a key with a neighbour you can trust. But if your house is in a quiet, desolate area be aware that this will be a burglar's dream, so deter any potential criminal from approaching your house by fitting security lights to the outside of your house.

But what could happen if, in spite of these precautions, a burglar or intruder has decided to target your home? Windows are usually the first point of entry for many intruders. Downstairs windows provide easy access while upstairs windows can be reached with a ladder or by climbing up the drainpipe. Before going to bed, you should double-check that all windows and shutters are locked. No matter how small your windows may be, it is surprising what a narrow gap a determined burglar can manage to get through. For extra security, fit window locks to the inside of the window.

What about entry via doors? Your back door and patio doors, which are easily forced open, should have top quality security locks fitted. Even though this is expensive it will be money well spent. Install a burglar alarm if you can afford it as another line of defence against intruders. A sobering fact is that not all intruders have to break and enter into a property. Why go to the trouble of breaking in if you can just knock and be invited in? Beware of bogus officials or workmen and, particularly if you are elderly, fit a chain and an eye hole so you can scrutinise callers at your leisure. When you do have callers never let anybody into your home unless you are absolutely sure they are genuine. Ask to see an identity card, for example.

If you are in the frightening position of waking in the middle of the night and think you can hear an intruder, then on no account should you approach the intruder. Far better to telephone the police and wait for help.

1. According to the writer, we should:

- A avoid leaving our house empty.
- B only go out when we have to.
- C always keep the curtains closed.
- D give the impression that our house is occupied when we go out.

2. The writer thinks that hiding a key under a doormat or flower pot:

- A is a predictable place to hide it.
- B is a useful place to hide it.
- C is imaginative.
- D is where you always find a spare key.

3. Gaining entry to a house through a small window:

- A is surprisingly difficult.
- B is not as difficult as people think.
- C is less likely to happen than gaining entry through a door.
- D is tried only by very determined burglars.

4. According to the writer, window locks, security locks and burglar alarms:

- A cost a lot of money but are worth it.
- B are good value for money.
- C are luxury items.
- D are absolutely essential items.

5. The writer argues that fitting a chain and an eye hole:

- A will prevent your home being burgled.
- B avoids you having to invite people into your home.
- C is only necessary for elderly people.
- D gives you time to check if the visitor is genuine.

II. ENGLISH IN USE _____ **40p**

II.A. OPEN CLOZE. Read the text below and fill in with ONE word that best fits each gap. (1p x 10 = 10p)

I work (1) ... a motorbike stunt rider - that is, I do tricks on my motorbike at shows. The Le Mans racetrack in France was (2) I first saw some guys doing motorbike stunts. I'd never seen anyone riding a motorbike using just the back wheel before and I was (3) impressed I went straight home and taught (4) to do the same. It wasn't very long before I began to earn my living at shows performing my (5) motorbike stunts.

I have a degree (6) mechanical engineering; this helps me to look at the physics (7) lies behind each stunt. In addition to being responsible for design changes to the motorbike, I have to work (8) every stunt I do. People often think that my work is very dangerous, but, apart (9) some minor mechanical problem happening occasionally during a stunt, nothing ever goes wrong. I never feel in (10) kind of danger because I'm very experienced.

II.B. MULTIPLE CHOICE. Read the following text and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits in each gap (10 x 1p = 10p)

For nearly 17 years David Cope has worked (1)one of the Tower of London's Yeoman Warders, (2)known to tourists as Beefeaters. Davd, 64, lives in a three-bedroom flat right at the (3) of the Byward Tower, one of the gatehouses. ' (4) our bedroom we have a marvellous view of Tower Bridge and the Thames', says David.

The Tower of London is famous for its ravens, the large black birds which (5) lived here for over three centuries. David was immediately fascinated by the birds and when he was (6) the post of Raven Master eight years ago, he had no (7) in accepting it. The birds have now become my life and I'm always (8)of the fact that I am (9) a tradition. The legend says that if the ravens leave the Tower, England will fall to enemies and it's my job to make sure this (10) happen!

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|-----|------------|------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. | a. like | b. for | c. as | d. at |
| 2. | a. more | b. better | c. otherwise | d. rather |
| 3 | a. height | b. summit | c. peak | d. top |
| 4. | a. of | b. out | c. from | d. through |
| 5. | a. have | b. had | c. has | d. would |
| 6. | a. awarded | b. applied | c. presented | d. offered |
| 7 | a. regret | b. delay | c. hesitation | d. doubt |
| 8. | a. aware | b. glad | c. pleased | d. delighted |
| 9. | a. holding | b. keeping | c. maintaining | d. lasting |
| 10. | a. won't | b. cannot | c. doesn't | d. shouldn't |

II.C. WORD FORMATION. For questions 1-10, use the word given in capitals at the end of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. (1p x 10 = 10p)

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Jim Robbins gave his family the fright of their lives when he fell nearly 100 metres down one of the (1) cliffs in England. Rescue services were (2), however, when they found Jim lying unconscious, but alive, on the beach below. His condition was (3) good, said the doctor at the hospital where he was taken. His (4) were limited to a few minor cuts and bruises and two (5)teeth. His (6)was described as a miracle by his parents, who have watched in horror, feeling (7), as their son was blown off the cliff by a sudden gust of wind. “We felt sure he had fallen to his (8), said Jim’s father. The news that he was safe and (9)well came as an enormous (10)”</p> | <p>1. HIGH 2. AMAZE 3. SURPRISE 4. INJURE 5. BREAK 6. SURVIVE 7. HOPE 8. DIE 9. REASONABLE 10. RELIEVE</p> |
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II.D. KEY WORD TRANSFORMATIONS. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. You may use between two and five words. (5x2p=10p)

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. I am not going to smoke ever again after today. | UP |
| I have decidedfrom tomorrow. | |
| 2. There are more foreign tourists than residents in this beach resort. | AS |
| There are as foreign tourists in this resort. | |
| 3. I am sure the driver wasn’t Kevin, as he doesn’t have a licence. | HAVE |
| The driverKevin, as he doesn’t have a licence. | |
| 4. I forgot her birthday last year and she hasn’t forgiven me. | ME |
| She still hasn’t forgivenlast year. | |
| 5. We found it difficult to choose. | WAS |
| It us to make. | |

III. WRITING 30p

You have just seen the following advertisement on a website for teenage volunteers.

Summer Camp Volunteers

We are looking for young, enthusiastic volunteers to look after children from poor families in the summer holidays. You do not need any special skills, but you must be hard working and speak good English. You should enjoy sports, outdoor activities like hiking, or swimming, or indoor activities such as board games, music and reading stories. If you are interested, please apply to office@uksummercamps.org.

You decide to apply for the job.
Write an email of about 150 – 180 words

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CLASA a X-a
BAREM

Se acordă 10p din oficiu.

I. READING COMPREHENSION (4p x 5 = 20p)

1. D
2. A
3. B
4. A
5. D

II.A. OPEN CLOZE (1p x 10 = 10p)

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1. AS | 6. IN |
| 2. WHERE | 7. WHICH |
| 3. SO | 8. OUT |
| 4. MYSELF | 9. FROM |
| 5. OWN | 10. ANY |

II.B. MULTIPLE CHOICE. (1p x 10 = 10p)

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|------|------|-------|
| 1. C | 5. A | 9. B |
| 2. B | 6. D | 10. C |
| 3. D | 7. C | . |
| 4. C | 8. A | |

II.C. WORD FORMATION (1p x 10 = 10p)

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|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. HIGHEST | 6. SURVIVAL |
| 2. AMAZED | 7. HOPELESS |
| 3. SURPRISINGLY | 8. DEATH |
| 4. INJURIES | 9. REASONABLY |
| 5. BROKEN | 10. RELIEF |

II.D. KEY WORD TRANSFORMATIONS (2p x 5=10p)

1.TO GIVE UP // SMOKING
2.NOT AS // MANY RESIDENTS
3.CAN'T / COULDN'T HAVE BEEN
4.FOR FORGETTING // HER BIRTHDAY.....
5.WAS A DIFFICULT CHOICE // FOR.....

III. WRITING (30p)

- organization and cohesion5p
- language accuracy5p
- content5p
- range of vocabulary5p
- register5p
- impact on the reader5p.

