

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

I. READING COMPREHENSION

10 x 2p = 20p

You are going to read some interviews with women who have unusual jobs. For questions 1-10 choose from the people (A-D). The people may be chosen more than once.

Women in Unusual Jobs

A - Dina Dorset

is a disc jockey in a nightclub in London. A few years ago she thought her future was in tennis. ‘For a while I trained promising young players on a full-time basis, but one day a neighbour who was a radio producer took me down to his radio station and I became involved in the music scene,’ she says. There are lots of late nights for Dina but surprisingly the job doesn’t offer her much in the way of a social life. ‘I don’t have any real contact with the large numbers of people I meet,’ she says. She particularly likes the fact that she now only works four hours a day. ‘The one thing I resent is having to appear cheerful all the time even when I feel down,’ she says. She hopes to be able to produce her own records one day but she has given up her ambition of going to college. ‘You can’t do everything in life,’ she says.

B - Angela Bell

is a clown, she paints her face white and wears funny clothes to entertain people. She decided clowning was the job she wanted after seeing a clown show. ‘I said that was it. It involved no talking, and that suited me down to the ground,’ she says. She soon realised that women only introduced the act and were on stage for a few minutes because it was considered a job for men. ‘That is changing now,’ she says. ‘But from the beginning I decided to call myself Chris on the programmes instead of Angela so that the audience don’t know if I’m a man or a woman.’ Angela had to choose between family and work. ‘I liked my work too much to think of children,’ she says, ‘and I have no regrets.’ She says the secret of her success is that she is a very happy person, which is what you need to be a good clown.

C - Claire Dorn

works on a cruise liner, a floating luxury hotel which is her home for eight months of the year. She is the ship’s secretary and has responsibility for all information customers may need while on board, as well as acting as secretary to the captain. ‘He is very demanding but I have no complaints from him,’ she says. Losing touch with the real world for so long is no problem because the ship’s officers can take advantage of the activities provided for the entertainment of passengers. ‘I’ve made many lasting friendships here,’ she says, ‘we get customers of all ages and backgrounds.’ Her previous work experience as a Personal Assistant to a manager prepared her for the demands of this job. It was better paid than her present job but she gave it up because she had always liked the idea of working on a ship. ‘The only disadvantage is that there are constant time changes when you go round the world and it makes you feel physically unwell,’ she says.

D - Dolly Masons

has worked in a chocolate factory for the past twenty years. ‘I was nearly sixteen when I joined,’ she says. ‘My parents both worked here at the time, so it had become a kind of family tradition. My first job was as an assistant and I’ve since climbed the ladder to become customer relations manager.’ Her present job involves a number of responsibilities, from performing taste tests for all chocolates to ensure their flavour is the same, to organising events for retired employees, including parties and excursions to the seaside. ‘I like to have variety in my job,’ she says, ‘any comments from customers will be forwarded to me to deal with. Of course, I’ll never meet them personally but they will all get a written response from me.’ She admits that at the moment she is finding it difficult to concentrate on the degree course in marketing she started last year, but is confident she will finish it by June.

Write the correct letter (A – D). Which interview is with someone who

1. had a better salary in an earlier job? _____
2. cannot make friends at work? _____
3. will get a university qualification? _____
4. meets her customers socially? _____
5. was promoted at work? _____
6. does not like to use her voice? _____
7. thinks attitudes towards her work have changed? _____
8. has the job she had always wanted? _____
9. considers work more important than family? _____
10. has responsibility for quality control? _____

II. USE OF ENGLISH

40p

II.A Multiple choice cloze. Read the texts below and decide which variant A, B, C or D best fits each space. (10 x 1p = 10p)

Imagine driving along a bridge that is so long that you can't even see the other end. The Øresund Bridge, one of the (1) bridges in the world, (2) so far ahead into the (3) that you can't even tell where the blue of the water (4) the blue sky.

The Øresund Bridge is an amazing example of modern engineering design that (5) the Scandinavian countries of Denmark and Sweden. It is 8 kilometers long and was (6) in July 2000. It crosses the Flinte Channel, the chilly waterway (7) the two countries.

At one stage the bridge turns (8) a tunnel under the sea. This tunnel is also a (9) breaker in its own right as it is the longest road and rail tunnel in the world. The engineers built an artificial island near the Danish coast that (10) to support part of the bridge structure, as well as being the point at which the road disappears underground, before coming out in Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark.

1	a) longest	b) furthest	c) deepest	d) hardest
2	a) travels	b) leans	c) stretches	d) pulls
3	a) space	b) distance	c) horizon	d) range
4	a) comes	b) meets	c) lines	d) starts
5	a) links	b) contacts	c) holds	d) relates
6	a) done	b) ended	c) brought	d) completed
7	a) splitting	b) cutting	c) breaking	d) separating
8	a) down	b) into	c) out	d) back
9	a) performance	b) world	c) record	d) account
10	a) helps	b) aids	c) attempts	d) tries

II B. OPEN CLOZE. Fill the gaps in the text below with ONE suitable word. (10 x 1p = 10p)

Success is often described as the result of talent and opportunity. However, many psychologists argue that perseverance plays an equally important role. People who achieve long-term goals rarely succeed overnight. Instead, they progress gradually, learning (1) _____ their mistakes and adapting their strategies.

At times, motivation may fade, particularly when results are slow to appear. In such situations, it is essential to focus (2) _____ small improvements rather than dramatic change. Even minor progress can contribute (3) _____ a sense of achievement. Another factor is resilience. Those who respond positively to setbacks tend to recover more quickly. Rather (4) _____ viewing failure as proof of inability, they interpret it as feedback. It is also important to surround oneself (5) _____ supportive individuals. Encouragement can make the difference (6) _____ persistence and resignation.

Ultimately, success depends not only (7) _____ ability, but also on consistency. People who commit to continuous effort are more likely to reach their objectives. While luck may influence outcomes, determination is something (8) _____ lies within personal control. In the long run, steady effort pays (9) _____, even if recognition does not come immediately. After all, achievement is rarely the result of a single action, (10) _____ of sustained commitment over time.

II C. WORD BUILDING. Use the word given in capitals to form a new word that fits in each gap. (10x1p=10p)

<p>In recent years, there has been growing (1) _____ of the importance of independent learning. Educational experts argue that students who develop intellectual (2) _____ are better prepared for the demands of modern society. One of the main advantages of self-directed study is the (3) _____ it offers. Learners can adjust their pace according to their level of (4) _____ and confidence. However, this freedom also requires a high degree of discipline and personal (5) _____.</p> <p>Without proper organisation, students may struggle with (6) _____ and time management. In some cases, the absence of external supervision can lead to (7) _____ or even academic failure. Nevertheless, when approached with seriousness and (8) _____, independent learning can foster creativity and critical thinking. It encourages (9) _____ and a deeper engagement with knowledge rather than simple memorization. Ultimately, the long-term (10) _____ of this approach extend far beyond academic performance.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AWARE 2. AUTONOMOUS 3. FLEXIBLE 4. COMPETENT 5. RESPONSIBLE 6. PRODUCTIVE 7. MOTIVATE 8. DETERMINE 9. CURIOUS 10. BENEFIT
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II D. KEY WORD TRANSFORMATION. Rephrase the following sentences so that the meaning stays the same and using the word in capitals. You must not change the word in capitals. Use between 3 and 6 words. (5 x 2p = 10p)

1. Jane regretted speaking so rudely to the old lady.

MORE

Jane politely to the old lady.

2. Harry thought of throwing a surprise party for Katie's birthday.

CAME

Harry of throwing a surprise party for Katie's birthday.

3. I really hate it when people speak to me like that!

BEING

I really object like that!

4. I was just about to call him when he rang me instead.

POINT

I was when he rang me instead.

5. The manager gave her secretary strict instructions that no one should be allowed to disturb her.

CIRCUMSTANCES

'Under to be disturbed!' the manager told her secretary.

III. WRITING

30p

You recently saw this announcement on a teenage website.

"Remote work and online collaboration are becoming the norm. Is this development beneficial for young people?"

The best articles will be published on the website next month.

Write your article using 180-220 words.

Nota: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru 2 ore. Se acordă 10p din oficiu.

CLASA a XI-a
BAREM

I. READING COMPREHENSION

10 x 2p = 20p

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

II USE OF ENGLISH

40p

II.A Multiple choice cloze (10 x 1=10p)

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 - A – longest; | 6 - D – completed; |
| 2 - C – stretches; | 7 - D – separating; |
| 3 - B – distance; | 8 - B – into; |
| 4 - B – meets; | 9 - C – record; |
| 5 - A – links; | 10 - A – helps |

II B Open cloze (10 x 1p = 10p)

- | | |
|---------|------------|
| 1. from | 6. between |
| 2. on | 7. on |
| 3. to | 8. that |
| 4. than | 9. off |
| 5. with | 10. but |

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

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. awareness | 6. productivity |
| 2. autonomy | 7. demotivation |
| 3. flexibility | 8. determination |
| 4. competence | 9. curiosity |
| 5. responsibility | 10. benefits |

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

1. wished // she had spoken more
2. came up with // the idea
3. to being // spoken to
4. on the point of // calling him
5. no circumstances // am I

III. WRITING (30p)

- *task achievement* 6p
- *organization and cohesion* 6p
- *language accuracy* 6p
- *range of vocabulary* 6p
- *effect on target reader* 6p

Se acordă 10 puncte din oficiu

