

OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ  
ETAPA LOCALĂ- 8 FEBRUARIE 2025  
CLASA A VIII A

VARIANTA 1

Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru: 2 ore. Nu se acorda puncte din oficiu.

**SUBIECTUL I** *Read the text and choose the correct answer: (25 points)*

Gareth Ellis, 13, is the youngest son of Alan, an engineer, and Kath, a nursery teacher. His older brothers work in banking and computers, but Gareth's dream was always to become a clown. Three years ago, Alan, Kath and Gareth joined the circus. 'People laugh when we tell them,' says Kath. 'But it's true. Gareth has wanted to be a clown since we took him to the circus when he was three.'

When Alan lost his job, he and Kath decided to see if they could find full-time circus jobs. They both got jobs with a famous circus and Gareth began training to become a clown. He calls himself Bippo. They travel with the circus during the summer and return home for the winter. Gareth's brothers are old enough to look after the house while they are away.

'I can't say it was easy,' says Kath. 'There was a lot to think about and organize. We only had a car and a very small caravan to sleep in, and we were leaving behind our lovely house. The only thing Gareth missed was his long, hot baths.'

'People ask about my education,' says Gareth, but from the beginning, wherever we go, someone has always come to teach me. I follow the same books as everyone back at school and I've got a computer. I've never fallen behind my classmates.'

And the future? 'It was a difficult decision,' says Kath, 'but there was no other way to teach Gareth about being a clown. I'm happy to say it's working, and we're enjoying it.' And Gareth? 'I'm going to be the main clown in a circus one day', he says, 'perhaps Bippo's circus.'

1. What is the writer trying to do in the text?

- A. describe how one family changed their lives
- B. give details about how to join the circus
- C. talk about the best way to educate a child
- D. advise what to do when you lose your job

2. What would a reader learn about Gareth from the text?

- A. He does not enjoy school work.
- B. He has a definite aim in life.
- C. He would like to be at home with his brothers.
- D. He wants to be the same as other boys.

3. Alan and Kath joined the circus because

- A. they wanted to spend time travelling in the summer.
- B. they needed money in order to buy a bigger car.
- C. their older sons needed their house for themselves.
- D. their youngest son wanted to train as a performer.

4. When they first joined the circus, Kath

- A. wanted to go back home.
- B. did not have enough to do.
- C. found things difficult.
- D. was not able to sleep properly.

5. Which postcard did Gareth write just after he joined the circus?

- A. We've just arrived and I love it already. There's lots of space for our things and I've even got my own computer.
- B. I don't miss much from home. I'm managing to do all my school work. See you in the winter.
- C. I really enjoyed meeting Bippo the Clown today, but I'm missing my school friends, and I'd love a nice hot bath.
- D. I'm learning all about the circus and how to entertain people. I also have a new school to go to.

**SUBIECTUL II** Fill in the correct words from the list below the text. (20 points)

Tourism in Wales

It is estimated that in north Wales 30 per cent of all jobs can be directly attributed to tourism, but the fact visitors spend their money in a (1) ..... of ways has a beneficial effect on other things too. Many village shops would have to close if they were not supported by (2) ..... from tourists, and the money spent on local souvenirs can (3) ..... local industries from going out of business.

(4) ....., tourism also has disadvantages. For example, many of the roads in the Snowdonia area are extremely (5) ..... and tourist cars cause traffic jams. Some farmers and local merchants (6) ..... that they make it difficult for them to do their work as car parks full up during (7) ..... periods and many visitors cause obstructions by parking across gateways. In addition, in the summer, thousands of people use the (8) ..... of footpaths across Snowdon and its foothills. Often the grassy (9) ..... is worn away, leaving rough stone or mud. This makes the path hard to see, and it can be dangerous to walk on. Repairing the paths can be very expensive, particularly higher up where (10) ..... is difficult.

1. a selection b choice c variety d difference
2. a fortune b income c wages d wealth
3. a prevent b damage c avoid d hurt
4. a luckily b finally c generally d unfortunately
5. a thin b narrow c slim d slender
6. a decide b explain c complain d choose
7. a busy b important c economic d tiring
8. a connection b organization c union d network
9. a level b surface c height d exterior
10. a admission b entry c permission d access

**SUBIECTUL III** Put the verbs in brackets in the right tense. (10 points)

- 1 I never use my mobile phone if I (drive).
- 2 I applied but they (not send) me a reply yet.
- 3 I glanced quickly at the letter while I (wait) for my boss's return.
- 4 I (see never) such a good film before.
- 5 He will give you a helping hand if you (ask) him nicely.
- 6 By August, I (live) in this house for 20 years.
- 7 This time next week I (lie) on the beach enjoying the sun.
- 8 Lately your work (improve).
- 9 This is the second time in my life I (visit) Hungary.
- 10 What's the matter? (you hurt) your ankle? How did you do it?

**SUBIECTUL IV** Find and correct the mistakes in the following sentences. Rewrite the sentences correctly. (20 points)

1. If I would have known you would be upset, I wouldn't have told you.
2. Supposing your father will find out – what on earth will you do?
3. Even I'm too busy now, perhaps we could meet soon.
4. Are you hearing the same hollow sound now?
5. I am holy on your side.
6. He raised from his armchair with difficulty.
7. I think I need to wear glasses; I must test my eyes.
8. We were flying highly above the clouds.
9. Unfortunately, the money he had in his wallet were not enough to pay for the bus fare.
10. We won't worry as far as we know where you are.

**SUBIECTUL V.** In about 180 words, write a story ending like this: "Had I known, I wouldn't have believed him." (25 points)