

**OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ – ETAPA NAȚIONALĂ  
CLUJ-NAPOCA  
Aprilie 2023**

**CLASA A IX-A - SECȚIUNEA A**

**Probă scrisă**

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.
- Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 90 de minute.

**I. Read the following text and put the verbs in brackets in the correct form. 10 points**

Human cultivation of salt is ancient, and the earliest known salt harvesting is believed **(1) \_\_\_\_ (occur)** in China around 6000 BC. Although salt surely must **(2) \_\_\_\_ (use)** in a variety of ways, one of the most popular was salting fish to preserve it. By the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC in China, salt **(3) \_\_\_\_ (become)** such a hot commodity that China's leaders were also controlling its trade. A council debate **(4) \_\_\_\_ (discuss)** its monopoly (along with the one on iron) is recorded in the famous *Discourse on Salt and Iron*.

Ancient Egyptians also prized salt. Salted fish and birds **(5) \_\_\_\_ (find)** in tombs of the wealthy that **(6) \_\_\_\_ (seal)** over four thousand years ago. Ancient Rome, like other Italian cities, was purposely built near a saltworks that was situated at the mouth of the Tiber River. Actually, if the Romans **(7) \_\_\_\_ (not move)** their saltworks further away later on, their first great road, the *Via Salaria* (or Salt Road) might not have been built.

It **(8) \_\_\_\_ (believe)** the Celtic miners traded salt across the Roman Empire and beyond, including into Britain, France, Spain, North Africa and Turkey. Throughout the years, salt **(9) \_\_\_\_ (play)** an important role in the political economy of the world, from starting wars to freeing people from colonial rule. Ironically, however, in the last quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, salt was under fire, seen as a culprit that **(10) \_\_\_\_ (contribute)** to high blood pressure. Now, the tide is turning again with recent scholarship indicating that too low of a salt intake could have adverse effects.

**II. Use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in each sentence. 10 points**

I'm a great lover of bread. Whenever I smell freshly baked bread, it reminds me of my early **(1) \_\_\_\_ (CHILD)** when I used to visit the little bakery that my grandfather owned. And, of course, there are **(2) \_\_\_\_ (VARY)** good medical reasons why we should not forget the **(3) \_\_\_\_ (IMPORTANT)** of eating plenty of bread. Bread contains nearly all the protein needed for children's **(4) \_\_\_\_ (GROW)** and for adults to stay fit and well. We can get a **(5) \_\_\_\_ (THREE)** of our daily protein **(6) \_\_\_\_ (REQUIRE)** from just six slices of bread. Bread, **(7) \_\_\_\_ (LIKE)** some popular foods which are not particularly good for you, gives **(8) \_\_\_\_ (STRONG)** to bones and teeth when they are developing and keeps them healthy as we get older. **(9) \_\_\_\_ (ADDITION)**, bread helps us to feel **(10) \_\_\_\_ (ENERGY)** as it contains iron as well as several essential vitamins.

**III. Read the following text and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits in each gap. 10 points**

Airport worker catches swine flu

An airport worker whose job saw him come into contact with passengers has been **1**\_\_\_\_\_ with swine flu. The male **2**\_\_\_\_\_ of London City Airport was confirmed as having H1N1 **3**\_\_\_\_\_ virus on Friday. He is **4**\_\_\_\_\_ at home where he is recuperating, but his illness has caused headaches for managers at the Royal Docks airport.

Staff who worked with him have been **5**\_\_\_\_\_ to seek medical advice from their GP, but **6**\_\_\_\_\_ have so far **7**\_\_\_\_\_ the virus.

As a **8**\_\_\_\_\_ measure, all surfaces have **9**\_\_\_\_\_ been treated with antiseptic products as the airport tries to stop any further spread of the virus.

A **10**\_\_\_\_\_ for the Health Protection Agency told The Docklands this was nothing to be alarmed about.

*(The Docklands, Wednesday, June24, 2009 – page 1)*

1.	A – distinguished	B – diagnosed	C – identified	D – recognised
2.	A – employer	B – employee	C – attendant	D – subordinate
3.	A – illness	B – disease	C – influenza	D – disorder
4.	A – nowadays	B – instantly	C - actually	D – currently
5.	A – asked	B – said	C – informed	D – spoken
6.	A – any	B – none	C – some	D – little
7.	A – seized	B – developed	C – contracted	D – captured
8.	A – precautionary	B – cautionary	C – blocking	D – dissuasive
9.	A – yet	B – since	C – so	D – then
10.	A – spokeswoman	B – speakswoman	C – spokeswoman	D – spokewoman

**IV. Translate the following text into English.**

**10 points**

În liceu întotdeauna admirasem băieții care cântau într-o trupă. Reușita de a face parte dintr-o trupă care cânta de două sau de trei ori pe lună, sâmbetele, părea imposibilă. Fetele se aflau mereu în jurul lor, iar ei se plimbau cu mândrie de a lungul coridoarelor școlii timp de două săptămâni după fiecare concert. Luasem lecții de pian de la mama și deja aveam câteva compoziții/cântece ale mele. Dacă nu ar fi fost timiditatea mea, aș fi putut să devin un membru al trupei de multă vreme.

*(Tudor Chirilă - Exerciții de echilibru, text adaptat)*