INSPECTORATUL ŞCOLAR JUDEŢEAN COVASNA
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
ETAPA LOCALĂ
CLASA a XI-a, secțiunea B
31 ianuarie 2026

Timp de lucru: 3 ore
Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Nu se iau în considerare decât subiectele rezolvate pe foaia de concurs.
Total: 100 de puncte
Se acordă 10 puncte din oficiu.

SUBIECTUL A - USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

I. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and six words, including the word given. (5 x 2 p=10 p)

a. It was heavy snow on the line that delayed the train. **HELD**

The train would have arrived on time if it……. heavy snow on the liner.

b. She realised she'd lost her keys the moment she arrived home. **SOONER**

No..... ……. she realised she'd lost her keys.

c. It is not my fault that the glass broke. **BLAME**

You cannot……...……. the glass.

d. Driving that fast was a stupid thing to do. **ONLY**

If ……..…. driving so fast.

e. Looking back, I think I was right to study mathematics at university. **REGRET**

Looking back, I ……. mathematics at university.

II. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only ONE word in each space. (10 x 1p = 10p)

Surely one of the most amazing sights on Earth is the display of natural light in the night sky known (1) ……the Northern Lights. It is something everyone should see (2) ……least once in their life.
These lights, (3) ……are mainly visible in the Arctic region, are caused when material from the sun reaches the Earth's magnetic field. On the (4) ……, the most common colours are green and red, although sometimes blue or purple lights can be seen. They often look (5) ..... brightly coloured clouds dancing across the sky, in displays that can last several hours.
(6) ..... you want to observe the Northern Lights, it's best to get as close to the North Pole as possible during the winter, in (7) ..... of the extreme cold. Seeing the lights in the short Arctic summer is not really possible in view of the (8) ..... that they are only visible in darkness, and during the months (9)……..the sun never sets there is daylight 24 hours a day.
Weather conditions also make a big difference. The lights cannot be seen (10) ……the sky is clear, so there must be no fog or heavy clouds.

III. Use the words in brackets to form a new word that fits into the gap. (10x1p=10p)

a. We had four good applicants so it was hard to decide who would make the best…… **(APPOINT)**
b. It was very…… of you not to give Susan a call on her birthday. **(THINK)**
c. The presidential car will, of course, be completely …… **(BULLET)**
d. Teachers sometimes complain of being ……. and overworked. **(PAY)**
e. The TV station provided its audience with live …… of the event. **(COVER)**
f. There has been a significant ……. in police popularity in the last few years. **(REDUCE)**
g. It is carbohydrates, rather than proteins and fat, that provides athletes with the they need to compete. **(ENDURE)**
h. She has demonstrated good……. in her exam results. **(CONSISTENT)**
i. Bad weather led to the……. of many ferry services this week. **(CANCEL)**
j. Scientists have seriously……how people are affected and how quickly they are running out of resources. **(ESTIMATE)**

IV. Read the text below and decide which answer best fits each gap: (10 x 1p = 10p)

Don't forget your hat

An important point to remember if you like spending time out in the open air is that the human head doesn't work very well outdoors if it becomes too hot, cold or wet. That's why a hat is a good investment, wherever you're planning to go out and **1. .....**. Surprisingly, a single waterproof hat with a brim will do the **2. .....** adequately in most conditions.

In cold climates, the problem is that the head is **3. ……..** heat all the time. As **4. ……..** as fifty to sixty percent of your body's heat is lost through the head and neck, **5. …….** on which scientist you believe. Clearly this heat loss needs to be prevented, but it's important to remember that hats don't actually **6. ..……** you warm, they simply stop heat escaping.

Just as important is the need to protect your neck from the effects of **7. ……** sunlight, and the brim of your hat will do this. If you prefer a baseball cap, **8. ……** buying one that has a drop down 'tail' at the back to stop your neck **9. ……** sunburnt.

And in wet weather conditions, hats are often more practical than pulling up the hood of your waterproof coat because when you **10. ……..** your head, the hat goes with you, whereas the hood usually does not.

1. A. around	B. about	C. along	D. above
2. A. job	B. task	C. role	D. duty
3. A. giving away	B. sending out	C. dropping off	D. running down
4. A. soon	B. long	C. well	D. much
5. A. according	B. regarding	C. depending	D. relating
6. A. maintain	B. stay	C. hold	D. keep
7. A. sharp	B. keen	C. bright	D. deep
8. A. consider	B. recommend	C. advise	D. suggest
9. A. suffering	B. going	C. having	D. getting
10. A. alter	B. switch	C. turn	D. spin

SUBIECTUL B - INTEGRATED SKILLS
READING COMPREHENSION AND FUNCTIONAL WRITING (50 points)

I. Read the text below and for each question, choose the correct option A, B, C or D, which fits best according to the text. (5x2p = 10p)

The rise of deepfake technology

You're watching the six o'clock news and your favourite news reader is telling you about the main stories of the day. But have you ever asked yourself whether that is really your favourite newsreader on the screen in front of you? Right now, it almost certainly is, but fast-moving AI technology means that you might like to check a bit more carefully in the future, as you could be watching something called a 'deepfake'.

Indeed, this happened recently in South Korea, when a top newsreader could be seen reading the news while the real person was actually elsewhere. Viewers had been told this was going to happen, but many were still amazed at the way a computer-generated copy of the newsreader was able to accurately reflect her voice, hand movements and typical facial expressions. Members of the public surprised staff at the station by calling to check whether the real newsreader might lose her job to the 'new arrival'. The news station even indicated it would be willing to use the deepfake on future breaking news reports if the real person was not available for some reason.

So how are these deepfakes created? Well, they obviously depend heavily on very advanced computer technology. Hundreds of thousands of images of a person's face are fed into a computer with special graphics. The computer is programmed to look for repeated patterns in these images so it can eventually come up with its own version of the face, complete with familiar expressions. The same needs to be done with the person's voice, so hours of their speech are analysed and, once the computer has learned the speech patterns, an operator simply has to type in what they want the person to say.

But what issues do these deepfakes raise? As you might imagine, quite a few. One obvious use is to make it seem like a historical figure is still alive. As a result, it is now possible to see, for example, a full colour version of US President Abraham Lincoln (who died in 1865) marking his birthday with a very up-to-date speech. It is also controversial to make living people say or do things that in reality, they have not done. The possibilities appear endless and the potential to do damage to someone's reputation is clear, as the technology could easily be used for political or financial reasons.

There are, however, certain benefits to be gained in commercial fields. A company could produce a training video and have the same person present it naturally in many different languages without having to spend considerable time and money producing mountains of translated supporting documents. The use of deepfakes is growing rapidly in entertainment and educational fields as well and will continue to do so as technology gets more and more sophisticated. Can you imagine a world in fifty years' time when you have no idea if the person talking to you via a screen is the real one? Although AI technology is able to make the deepfake respond appropriately to certain questions, it may still have one or two differences that a trained eye can spot. This is usually in the eyes, which may blink unnaturally or else have a duller colour than in real life. There may also be certain unnatural-looking face movements that the AI is not able to make look more natural. Fortunately, intelligent software is also being developed which will be able to identify in an instant whether a video is real or fake.

Having said that, software experts are already busy making the next generation of even more sophisticated deepfakes to stay ahead of the game.

1. What does the text suggest about recognising a newsreader in the future?
A) AI technology is still too limited to create realistic deepfake presenters.
B) Viewers will always be able to tell the difference between real and fake newsreaders
C) It will become increasingly difficult to be sure if a presenter is real or artificial
D) News programs will stop using real presenters in the near future.

2. How did people react to the deepfake newsreader in South Korea?

A) They thought the technology was impressive but questioned its reliability.
B) They demanded that the station stop using artificial presenters.
C) They immediately noticed it was a deepfake and were not surprised.
D) They complained about the deepfake's inability to copy the real presenter's voice.

3. What is necessary to create a realistic deepfake?
A) A selection of images and a few voice recordings.
B) A large dataset of facial expressions and speech samples.
C) A professional actor who can mimic the person's behaviour.
D) A powerful computer that can generate new voices without any training data.

4. Why is deepfake technology considered controversial?
A) It allows historical figures to appear in modern-day videos.
B) It is too expensive to be widely accessible
C) It is mainly used for entertainment rather than serious purposes.
D) It can be used to manipulate people into believing false information.

5. What are some current limitations of deepfake technology?
A) The eyes and facial movements may not look completely natural.
B) The software is unable to generate realistic voices.
C) It can only be used for short videos.
D) Experts have already developed perfect deepfake detection tools.

II. Starting from the text above, write an article on the following topic: *Artificial Intelligence and its impact on young people* (220-250 words). (40 points)