INSPECTORATUL ŞCOLAR JUDEŢEAN COVASNA

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ETAPA LOCALĂ

CLASA a IX- 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.

I. SUBIECTUL A- USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

I. Read the sentences bellow and choose the correct word for each space. (10x1p=10p)

Weekend Trip

Last weekend, I decided to **(1)** _____ a short trip to the mountains. I had been working hard all month and really needed to **(2)**_____ away from the city. I **(3)** _____ my bags on Friday night so that I could leave early the next morning.

The drive was beautiful, although there was **(4)** _____ traffic on the main road. When I finally **(5)** _____ at the hotel, the staff were very friendly and **(6)** _____ me a room with a great view.

On Sunday, I went for a long walk. I didn't have a map, but I managed to find my **(7)** _____ quite easily. I even met some other hikers who **(8)** _____ me where the best viewpoint was. By the time I got back to the hotel, I was **(9)** _____ exhausted, but I felt much better. I am already **(10)** _____ forward to my next holiday!

1. **A)** do **B)** make **C)** take **D)** stay
2. **A)** get **B)** put **C)** bring **D)** take
3. **A)** filled **B)** moved **C)** packed **D)** did
4. **A)** many **B)** heavy **C)** strong **D)** thick
5. **A)** arrived **B)** reached **C)** got **D)** went
6. **A)** told **B)** gave **C)** said **D)** provided
7. **A)** path **B)** street **C)** way **D)** direction
8. **A)** spoke **B)** explained **C)** showed **D)** asked
9. **A)** completely **B)** nearly **C)** slightly **D)** hardly
10. **A)** seeing **B)** looking **C)** thinking **D)** waiting

II. Complete the text with ONE word that fits into each gap. (10x1p=10p)

THE POWER OF HABITS

Habits play a major role in shaping our daily lives, often without us being fully aware (1) _____ them. From the moment we wake up (2) _____ the time we go to bed, many of our actions are guided by routines.

Good habits, such as exercising regularly or reading every day, can improve our health and knowledge (3) _____ much effort. However, breaking bad habits is usually far more difficult (4) _____ creating good ones. This is because habits become deeply rooted (5) _____ our behaviour.

One effective way to change a habit is to replace it (6) _____ a better alternative. For example, instead of checking your phone constantly, you could try reading a few pages of a book. Over time, this new behaviour may become automatic (7) _____ well.

It is also important to be patient (8) _____ yourself during this process. Real change does not happen overnight. If you fail, do not give up, (9) _____ learn from the experience and continue trying. In the long run, small changes can lead (10) _____ remarkable results.

III. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the word given in capitals. (10x1p=10p)

1. It's useful to have a … to copy any documents you need to store. **SCAN**
2. I'm afraid I'm not very good at making …I never know what the best thing to do is **DECIDE**.
3. There was a great deal of…when the Queen arrived to open the new hospital. **EXCITE**
4. Thank you for the flowers. That was very … of you. **THOUGHT**
5. They now live in a smart new … on the outskirts of the city. **NEIGHBOUR**
6. You need to have a great deal of … to do this job. **PATIENT**
7. Organizing a holiday can be a very … task. **CHALLENGE**
8. It was quite … to read so many negative reviews of the film. **ANNOY**
9. You obviously …something, that's why you haven't written your homework. **UNDERSTAND**
10. What do you believe has been the greatest……. in medical science? **INNOVATE**

IV. For sentences 1-5, 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 two and five words, including the word given. (5x2p=10p)

1. I regret not studying harder for the test.

   WISH

   I _____ harder for the test.

2. It was unnecessary for you to buy so much food.

   NEED

   You _____ so much food.

3. People say this actor is very talented.

   SAID

   This actor _____ very talented.

4. She started learning French three years ago.

   FOR

   She _____ three years.

5. They didn't allow him to enter the competition.

   LET

   He _____ the competition.

SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (50 points)

I. Reading comprehension (5x2=10 points).

Read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for each question

The Future of the Page

In early 2026, the debate between physical books and digital screens has reached a fascinating turning point. For years, critics predicted that e-readers would be the "final nail in the coffin" for print. However, recent studies from late 2025 suggest that younger generations—specifically those aged 18 to 29—are actually leading a revival in physical book sales. While the convenience of carrying a thousand titles in one's pocket is undeniable, many readers report "digital fatigue," a desire to disconnect from the constant notifications and blue light of their daily lives.

Furthermore, researchers at the University of Valencia recently found that reading from printed paper can boost comprehension skills by up to six to eight times compared to digital reading. This is largely attributed to the tactile nature of a book; the physical act of turning pages helps the brain map information more effectively. Conversely, digital texts often lack complex syntax and are frequently interrupted by the temptation to multitask.

Despite this, the digital format is far from obsolete. E-books have become indispensable for academic research and quick reference due to features like hyperlinks and instant translation tools. In the current literary landscape, it seems the two mediums are no longer competing for dominance but are instead serving different purposes for the modern reader.

1. **What does the text conclude about the prediction that e-readers would destroy the print industry?**

   A) The prediction was accurate because digital formats are indispensable.

   B) The prediction was wrong because young people are buying more physical books in 2026.

   C) The prediction was delayed, but print is expected to vanish by the end of the year.

2. **According to the passage, why are some readers experiencing "digital fatigue"?**

A) They are overwhelmed by the constant presence of screens and notifications.

B) They find e-readers too heavy and inconvenient to carry around.

C) They are frustrated by the rising costs of digital book subscriptions.

3. **What did researchers discover about the benefit of physical books?**

A) They are more likely to contain complex vocabulary than digital versions.

B) They help the brain organize information better through the physical act of turning pages.

C) They allow readers to finish long novels much faster than they would on a screen.

4. **Why are e-books still considered "indispensable" in 2026?**

A) They provide specific tools like hyperlinks that are useful for academic work.

B) They have become the only way to access rare, historical manuscripts.

C) They are now more popular than print books for reading fiction and poetry.

5. **Which statement best describes the current relationship between print and digital books?**

A) They are in a fierce competition to see which format will survive.

B) Digital books are slowly being phased out in favor of traditional paper.

C) Both formats now coexist by serving different roles for the reader.

2. WRITING- 40 points

You have recently finished reading a book that left a strong impression on you. You see the following advertisement in an international student magazine called *The Reading Room*.

WE WANT YOUR BOOK REVIEWS!

Have you read a book recently that you either absolutely loved or strongly disliked? We are looking for reviews for our "Reader's Choice" section.

Your review should:

- briefly outline the plot (without giving away the ending)
- comment on the characters or the writing style
- explain why you would or would not recommend it to other students

The best reviews will be published in next month's issue!

Write your **book review** in **160-200 words** in an appropriate style.