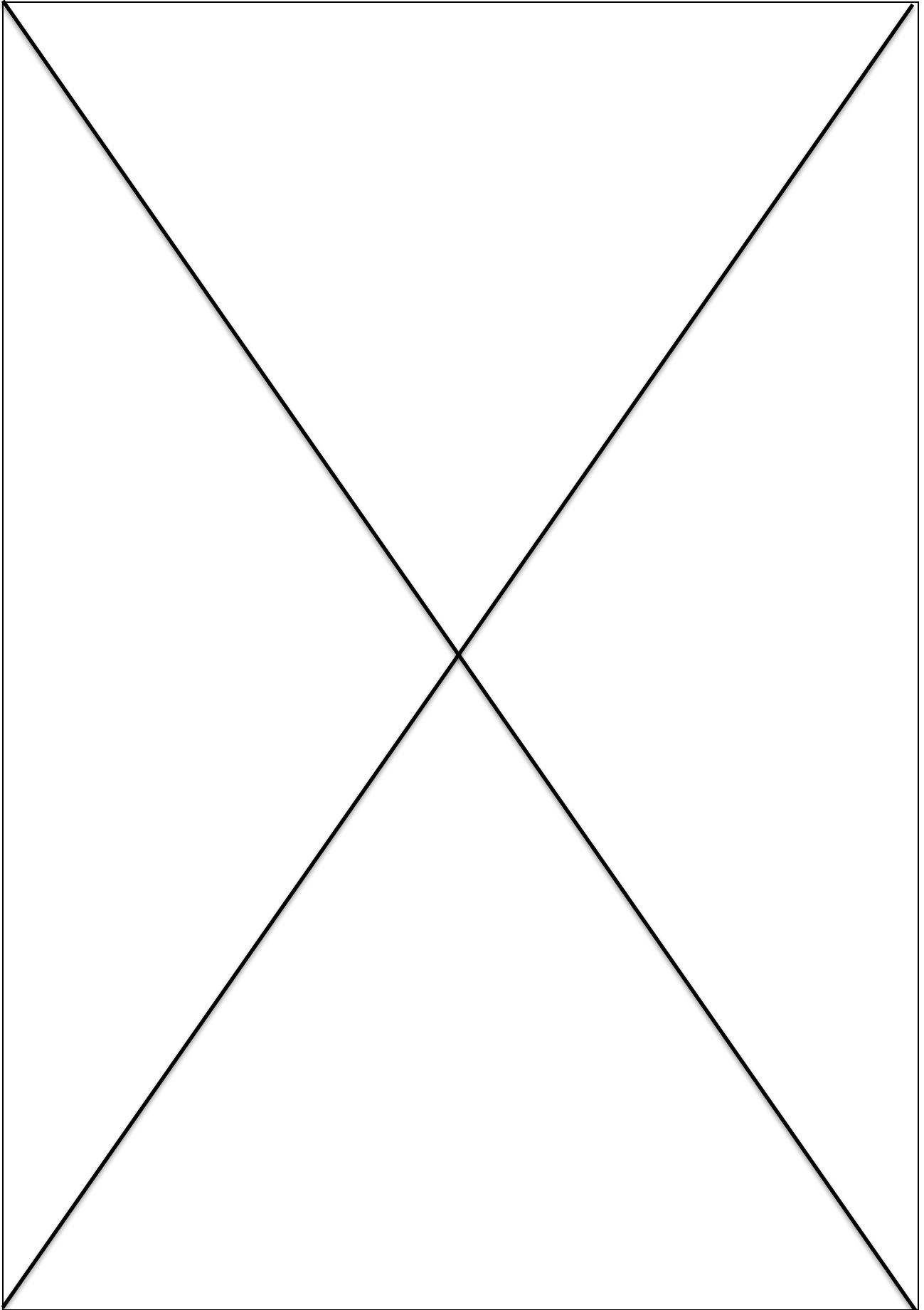


**OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ**  
**ETAPA LOCALĂ**  
**10 februarie 2025**

**CLASA A XII-A**  
**SECȚIUNEA A – REGIM DE STUDIU NORMAL**

Numele și prenumele elevului: \_\_\_\_\_  
Unitatea de învățământ: \_\_\_\_\_  
Codul elevului: \_\_\_\_\_



**VĂ RUGĂM SĂ NOTAȚI CODUL DUMNEAVOASTRĂ ÎN CASETA DE MAI JOS:****COD ELEV:**

**OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ  
ETAPA LOCALĂ  
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**CLASA A XII-A  
Secțiunea A – REGIM DE STUDIU NORMAL**

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu.
- Timpul de lucru efectiv este de 3 ore.

**USE OF ENGLISH****(40 de puncte)****I. Read the text bellow and choose the correct answer A, B, C or D. (10x1p=10p)**

Synonymous with energy and enthusiasm on the one hand, and with otherworldly outfits and wild looks on the other, she is not everyone's cup of tea. Lauren is an (1) \_\_\_ talented singer and artist with unique ideas which can sometime be seriously questionable. Her work often (2) \_\_\_ a great deal of criticism but also garners lavish praise. When she (3) \_\_\_ a competition, it is clear who is going to win as there is no match for her talent or eccentric dance routines. She is not just about dancing and singing, she is also (4) \_\_\_ about various causes and (5) \_\_\_ them, pushes them through social media and presses politicians to deal with them. She does (6) \_\_\_ like she does everything else, with the utmost (7) \_\_\_.

Although her efforts may come to (8) \_\_\_, her fans commend her for having the courage to do so. She believes that pop stars owe it to their fans to always (9) \_\_\_ their image. Although she appreciates her fans dressing like her, she encourages them to have their own (10) \_\_\_ of style and celebrate their individuality.

- |                     |                    |                   |                 |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| (1) A exclusively   | B actually         | C understandably  | D extremely     |
| (2) A faces up to   | B comes up against | C catches up with | D gets round to |
| (3) A goes on at    | B goes on about    | C goes in for     | D gets out of   |
| (4) A passionate    | B rebellious       | C competitive     | D hungry        |
| (5) A looks up to   | B stands up for    | C puts out for    | D turn out for  |
| (6) A things        | B both             | C some            | D these         |
| (7) A contradiction | B rejection        | C conviction      | D convention    |
| (8) A nothing       | B something        | C anything        | D everything    |
| (9) A look up to    | B make up to       | C get out of      | D live up to    |
| (10) A mood         | B sense            | C case            | D base          |

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

Picky eating is partly genetic. Parents, whose children like something one day but dislike it the next day, might be surprised to find out that their child may have (1) \_\_\_\_\_ born to be fussier than others. Studies have shown that (2) \_\_\_\_\_ sensitive we are to flavours (3) \_\_\_\_\_ inherited. While parents can relate to the daily challenge of finding foods that children (4) \_\_\_\_\_ eat, they shouldn't simply give in to certain food the child wants or (5) \_\_\_\_\_ food at all. Encouraging a variety of healthy food and getting the children exposed (6) \_\_\_\_\_ foods can help to counter this tendency.

Research has shown that (7) \_\_\_\_\_ babies are given a wide range of healthy foods from six months (8) \_\_\_\_\_, they are likely to develop healthy eating habits. Elena, a twenty-two-year-old from London who is an emotional eater believes that her childhood habits (9) \_\_\_\_\_ resulted in her having an awfully sweet tooth. Although it is crucial for children to have a balanced diet, they shouldn't (10) \_\_\_\_\_ pushed too hard to try different things as this can have an adverse effect.

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

Artificial intelligence (AI) has progressed at a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (PHENOMENON) rate, transforming industries and reshaping how we live and work. Its ability to perform (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (CALCULATE) and decision-making processes with extraordinary efficiency has revolutionized fields such as healthcare, finance, and transportation.

However, the rapid (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (ADVANCE) of AI has also generated ethical dilemmas. One pressing concern is the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (ACCOUNTABLE) of AI systems, especially when they make decisions affecting human lives. There is also the risk of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (SUBJECT) in AI algorithms, which can perpetuate inequality and reinforce harmful stereotypes.

Another issue arises in the job market, as the increasing automation of tasks may lead to significant issues such as (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (EMPLOY). Critics warn that governments must act (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (DECIDE) to prevent economic instability in vulnerable industries.

To address these challenges, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (TRANSPARENT) must become a core principle in AI development. Governments and organizations must collaborate to create (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (ENFORCE) regulatory frameworks. By doing so, society can harness the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (BOUND) potential of AI responsibly and equitably.

**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'm convinced that David is holding something back about his plans for moving.  
I'm convinced that David is \_\_\_\_\_ about his plans **HONEST** for leaving.
2. John always trained hard, but he never succeeded in winning a gold medal.  
No \_\_\_\_\_ trained, he never succeeded in winning a **HOW** gold medal.
3. Most people these days would be completely lost without their mobile phones.  
Most people these days would \_\_\_\_\_ manage **IDEA** without their mobile phones.
4. The manager never doubted that the latest model of the phone would be a great success.  
There was never any \_\_\_\_\_ that the latest model of **MIND** the phone would be a great success.
5. Gina found it impressive that her tutor was able to remember all his students' names.  
Gina was \_\_\_\_\_ to remember all his students' **ABILITY** names.

**INTEGRATED SKILLS****(60 de puncte)**

**I. You are going to read an online article in which five professionals talk about critical thinking and reading. For questions 1-10, choose from the professionals A-E. The professionals may be chosen more than once. (10x1p=10p)**

**Critical thinking and reading**

*Think about what you read and take nothing at face value – that's the message our five experts share.*

**A.**

As a student on a course of academic study, you will be required to present evidence of your own thinking in most things that you write. In order to reach that stage, you will necessarily have had to be critical of the things you read. The widespread availability of research papers on the internet can undoubtedly make your studying easier. However, just because it has been made public, this is no guarantee of academic validity whatsoever. Has the paper been peer-reviewed, or is it the work of a lone writer who, for all we know, failed or never even finished the course? Print lends an air of authenticity but you need to be aware that, beyond the classy layout, suitable font and other nods to convention, content is king. This is where your thinking gets critical. If it doesn't, you are in big trouble.

**B.**

With the wealth of information available, you sometimes need to make snap decisions about what it's worth dedicating your time to. Critical thinking aids this process and helps you skip things which are likely to be of little value to you. Sometimes a sensationalist title is enough to tell you that the writer has an axe to grind and is probably not going to be very objective. Be wary of this, whether in news reporting or in other areas that interest you. With a little more delving, a text can reveal giveaway clues that help you realise that the truth is somehow being distorted. Although it is human to make mistakes, writing which contains a number of them should not be trusted. If the same site regularly features writing like this, you can safely say that reliable information can be better sourced elsewhere. Steer clear of unreliable site and publications completely and you will save a great deal of time.

**C.**

Nowhere does using a little critical thinking pay better dividends than when you are reading literature or poetry. While a superficial reading of a story or poem can provide a pleasant distraction, those who dig deeper are rewarded with an infinitely more stimulating appreciation

of an art form. Great works of art stand up closer analysis precisely because they are crafted in such a way that there are manyfold hidden gems be discovered. Sometimes, the full significance of something might take a lifetime to appreciate, whereas just a little questioning about the use of a word, phrase, image or rhyme can more than repay you for your effort. Getting close to what the writer wants to convey is a labour of love and it helps to open doors into hitherto unknown worlds.

**D.**

Critical thinking when reading requires that you leave your own biases and prejudices at the door. Too many of us read things through the filter of our own beliefs. All that does is confirm that we already think, which could well be wrong. By all means, compare a text with ideas and beliefs of your own, and if the views tally with yours, great. But make sure you don't subconsciously select only these types of texts to read. Once in a while, seek out an opposing viewpoint and pay attention. Analyse the writer's ideas if they are different to what you think. Put yourself in that writer's place. Is he or she just as committed to their beliefs as you are to yours? If they are wrong, how is this possible? Deconstruct their argument. If you do it fairly, you might learn some surprising facts about yourself.

**E.**

Text analysis operates on different levels and it is important to understand anything beneath the surface if you are to avoid getting carried away by the spirit or enthusiasm of a piece. Are the chosen words purely descriptive or overly emotive? Does the writer want you to go in a certain direction in your understanding of an issue, but without stating so explicitly? Think about examples; do they fully support the point the writer is making or is there a mismatch serving only the writer's hidden agenda? Is the opposing viewpoint sufficiently dealt with? Is it, in fact, raised at all? When you can process a text in this way, you can assess its worth as an independent piece of writing. Only then can you begin to evaluate the place it occupies in your own studies and its suitability for your purpose.

<b>Which professional makes the following statements?</b>	
<b>1.</b> You should occasionally read texts that challenge what you believe.	<b>1.</b>
<b>2.</b> Understanding the writer better will bring greater enjoyment.	<b>2.</b>
<b>3.</b> You can be convinced by an argument despite the lack of logic in its presentation.	<b>3.</b>
<b>4.</b> Sometimes you don't even need to read a text to know that it is worthless to you.	<b>4.</b>
<b>5.</b> It is possible that closer analysis of a text will lead to greater self-knowledge.	<b>5.</b>
<b>6.</b> You can be fooled by the professional-looking presentation of a text.	<b>6.</b>
<b>7.</b> A text cannot be considered appropriate to use until you ascertain that it is not biased.	<b>7.</b>
<b>8.</b> It is important to develop an instinct for texts which are best avoided.	<b>8.</b>
<b>9.</b> You need to express your opinion in combination with valid opinions you have read.	<b>9.</b>
<b>10.</b> The writer's intention is that some messages are not immediately obvious.	<b>10.</b>

**II. Write an article on the importance of critical thinking in today's world (220-260 words). (50p)**

