



OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ – ETAPA JUDEȚEANĂ/PE MUNICIPIUL BUCUREȘTI,
2018
CLASA A XII-A - SECȚIUNEA B

Varianta 1

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

SUBIECTUL A – USE OF ENGLISH (40 points)

I. Read the paragraph below and do the tasks that follow. (20 points)

Religion isn't often talked about in medicine, but should it be? I asked New York psychiatrist Dr. Robert Klitzman, author of "When Doctors Become Patients", to tell us about his experiences with patients, prayer and faith. "I will pray for you," a senior psychiatrist told my patient. His comment surprised me. I was in training, and the patient was a petite Latina woman who had remained **despondent** despite medication, psychotherapy or anything else I did. Would he really pray for her? Occasionally, as a trainee, I would spot a hospital chaplain, but at the medical school where I was trained and others, nothing about religion or spirituality is ever taught. Science is supposed to be logical, rational and objective, while spiritual beliefs are irrational, subjective, elusive and hard to describe. Not surprisingly, research suggests that doctors tend to be less religious than their patients. But then, a few years ago, I became a patient myself and began to look at these issues differently. My sister died in the September 11 World Trade Center attacks, leaving me stunned and depressed. As I **recovered**, I began to wonder about other doctors who had become patients. I ended up interviewing more than 50 of them. I soon learned that when doctors get sick with serious disease, they also tend to reconsider their spiritual beliefs. Several doctors I spoke with were religious before they became patients, but they were **admittedly** even more so once they faced serious illness. Others changed more dramatically. "Patients used to ask me to pray for them, and I'd pooh-pooh it", one elderly physician told me. After he got sick, he "realized how important prayer was." Often these doctors expressed a hodgepodge of beliefs, drawing on the organized religion in which they were raised, and adding elements of Eastern philosophy or New Age beliefs. That said, some physicians weren't changed by illness, remaining skeptical and disillusioned with organized religion. "I see it helps my patients," one doctor told me. "I wish I had it in my life more...But I don't." It could not always be willed. Some doctors felt that prayer can directly alter the physical process of healing through God's intervention. My view is that prayer and faith give vital strength and motivation that can help patients cope and continue to fight.

A. Answer the following questions.

8 points

1. What was Dr. Robert Klitzman required to do?
2. What is the main difference between science and spirituality in the writer's view?
3. What is the possible explanation for the writer's change of attitude concerning religion?
4. According to the writer, what connection can be made between medicine and religion?

B. Choose the right synonym.

6 points

1. **despondent:** a. hopeful b. exhilarated c. glad d. dejected
2. **to recover:** a. to pull through b. to pull together c. to come down with d. to get through
3. **admittedly:** a. doubtfully b. undoubtedly c. uncertain d. illegally

C. Rephrase the following sentences so as to preserve the meaning. 6 points

1. Research suggests that doctors tend to be less religious than their patients.
It isthan their doctors.
2. After he got sick, he realized how important prayer was.
Only after.....of prayer.
3. I became a patient myself and began to look at these issues differently.
Had I.....a different look at these issues.

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

Tea began as a medicine and grew into a beverage. In China, in the eighth century, it entered the realm of poetry as one of the polite (1) _____ (AMUSE). The fifteenth century saw Japan ennoble it into a religion of aestheticism – Teism. Teism is a cult founded on the (2) _____ (ADORE) of the beautiful among the sordid facts of everyday (3) _____ (EXIST). It inculcates purity and harmony, the mystery of mutual charity, the (4) _____ (ROMANTIC) of the social order. It is (5) _____ (ESSENCE) a worship of the (6) _____ (PERFECT), as it is a tender attempt to accomplish something possible in this impossible thing we know as life. The Philosophy of Tea is not mere (7) _____ (AESTHETIC) in the ordinary acceptance of the term, for it expresses, conjointly with ethics and religion, our whole point of view about man and nature. It is hygiene, for it enforces (8) _____ (CLEAN); it is economics, for it shows comfort in (9) _____ (SIMPLE) rather than in the complex and (10) _____ (COST); it is moral geometry, in as much as it defines our sense of proportion to the universe.

III. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits in each gap. Use only one word in each gap. 10 points

“Ah, my dear Basil, that is exactly why I can feel it. Those who are faithful know only the trivial side of love: it is (1) _____ faithless who know love’s tragedies.” And Lord Henry struck a light on a dainty silver case and began to smoke a cigarette with a self-conscious and satisfied air, as if he had summed up the world in a phrase. There was a rustle of chirruping sparrows in the green lacquer leaves of the ivy, and the blue cloud-shadows chased themselves across the grass like swallows. How pleasant it was in the garden! And how delightful other people’s emotions were!—much more delightful than their ideas, it seemed to him. One’s own soul, and the passions of (2) _____ friends - those were the fascinating things in life. He pictured to himself with silent amusement the tedious luncheon that he had missed by staying so long with Basil Hallward. (3) _____ he to have gone to his aunt’s, he would have been sure to have met Lord Goodbody there, and the whole conversation would have been about the feeding of the poor and the necessity for model lodging-houses. Each class would have preached the importance of those virtues, for (4) _____ exercise there was no necessity in their own lives. The rich would have spoken on the value of thrift, and the idle grown eloquent over the dignity of labour. It was charming to have escaped all that! No sooner had he thought of his aunt (5) _____ an idea seemed to strike him.

**SUBIECTUL B – INTEGRATED SKILLS (60 points)**

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

In a competition to woo students, public universities are increasingly offering lavish amenities that have nothing to do with education. The latest trend is *lazy rivers*, which have been installed at several big institutions, including the Universities of Alabama, Iowa and Missouri. Last year, Louisiana State University topped them all with a 536-foot-long “leisure” river in the shape of the letters “LSU,” part of an \$85 million renovation and expansion of its gym. It was L.S.U. students who footed the bill. At a time when college has never been more expensive, this is the last thing students should be paying for. According to the College Board, tuition and fees at public four-year institutions grew more than 60 per cent over the past 10 years. State budgets for higher education have been slashed, and students have to make up the difference. In the case of L.S.U., the lazy river was financed entirely by student fees, an addendum to their annual tuition. According to the ***Chronicle of Higher Education***, over the past five years, those fees increased by 60 per cent, nearly triple the amount L.S.U. students paid in 2000.

Tuition and fee hikes at public universities don’t come out of nowhere. Each has to be approved by a school’s governing board, whose trustees are typically appointed by the governor. Ensuring affordable, quality education is an essential part of trustees’ responsibility, but unfortunately often not part of their practice. Trustees of public universities are stewards of a public trust that rests nobly on the notion that an enlightened citizenry is vital to a democratic society. They have a fiduciary duty to represent the citizens and taxpayers who support public institutions of higher education, as well as the students who attend them. But even though the best interests of students and taxpayers revolve around college access, affordability and graduation outcomes, too often presidents and boards are more focused on the rankings, reputation and popularity of the institution itself.

In my career as the president of two state universities and a consultant to nearly 50 higher-education institutions, I’ve observed dozens of college presidents skilfully co-opt their governing boards into approving costly projects that make schools look more attractive. (Of course, every college president has to increase costs sometimes. But the goal is to make sure it is necessary, while keeping expenses as low as possible for students.)

Trustees, who typically meet four to eight times each year, are entertained as if they are visiting heads of state, flattered for their service and financial contributions to the institution. College presidents sweeten requests for new buildings and research centres, as well as additional student affairs programming, with cleverly branded words like “promise” and “excellence.” What board would want to withhold promise and excellence from its beloved student body?

College presidents also tranquilize trustees into agreement with impossibly large volumes of reading material. Trustees get binders full of documentation about institutional successes that are padded with expensive plans for increasing growth and reputation. Most come away impressed by their president’s expertise and vision and assured that — thanks to their efforts — the university is on the right track.

The unfortunate truth is that while most college presidents care deeply about their institution’s success, an important part of their job is to shake free more resources. They seldom initiate serious campaigns to contain costs.

This means it falls on trustees to be better prepared to help challenge costly proposals that don’t add educational value. When it comes to state schools, the states themselves should educate trustees to understand their responsibilities to the citizenry and students. Training on big-picture issues and higher-education trends, such as the financial trade-off between instruction and research, the costs of intercollegiate athletics, and the expansion of amenities, would help trustees develop courage to ask college presidents probing questions that look beyond institutional narratives and cherry-picked rhetoric.



Our nation's governors must also play a role. As they appoint public university trustees, they can and should mandate training to make university boards responsible to taxpayers and students. I don't mean to imply that trustees should devote themselves to ritual opposition to presidents, who usually possess an unmatched understanding of the institutions they lead.

But presidents are not infallible.

I. For each question decide which answer (A, B, C or D) fits best according to the text. 10 points

1. Because funding for colleges has been reduced
 - A. students must pay for extra-classes.
 - B. students can no longer go on adventure holidays.
 - C. students can no longer benefit from grants.
 - D. students have to pay a part of college expenditures.

2. Although they should, school trustees don't always
 - A. listen to what professors have to say.
 - B. take students' needs into account.
 - C. consider education as a process a top priority.
 - D. agree on the best curricular options.

3. To make schools more attractive, college presidents usually convince their boards to invest money in
 - A. lavish amenities.
 - B. student exchange programmes.
 - C. sports competitions.
 - D. summer schools.

4. College presidents use words like "promise" and "excellence" in order to
 - A. promote the institution abroad.
 - B. receive funding.
 - C. describe their students.
 - D. use money for utopian interests.

5. It is implied in the text that college presidents
 - A. do their best to get projects done as soon as possible.
 - B. ask trustees to read too much scientific documents.
 - C. don't really care about the state of their college.
 - D. don't actually try to cut expenditures.

II. Write an *opinion* essay starting from the statement "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest". (250-280 words) 50 points