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ETAPA LOCALĂ
23 FEBRUARIE 2018
CLASA a VIII-a**

INSTRUCTIONS: Write the answers to the following tasks on the answer sheet.

I. READING COMPREHENSION (25 POINTS)

THE FRENCH SPIDER-MAN

While no one is looking, Frenchman Alain Robert jumps up an office building and starts to climb the wall. He **hangs** from balconies, crawls along ledges* and grips the edges of the grass and **concrete**. There is no rope and no safety net- he's using only his bare hands! By the time he's halfway up, a crowd has gathered on the pavement below. After an hour, he reaches the top and the crowd sighs with relief.

Alain has climbed over 85 of the tallest structures in the world, including the Eiffel Tower, the Empire State Building and the Petronas Twin Towers in Malaysia. One of his first climbs was at the age of twelve. He didn't have his flat keys and his parents were out, but he was able to climb up the outside of the building -seven storeys high- and crawl through a window. Nowadays he can manage eighty storeys but, amazingly, Alain suffers from vertigo-he feels dizzy when he's up high! He has fallen seven times, suffering dozens of **broken bones**, which has left him partly disabled. But this doesn't stop Alain. "I only think about what I can do, not what I can't do," he says.

So why does he do it? Apart from raising awareness about **world issues** such as climate change, Alain wants people to see their environment differently. He says, "Maybe they think their building is ugly, this big tower with lots of glass-the opposite of a natural landscape. But for me it's a kind of an urban mountain. So I use the place where they work, and make it a kind of wonderland. Everywhere I climb, I see people who are happy."

After a climb, Alain often leaves in handcuffs. What he does is something illegal, but most of the time he just gets a fine. The police say he can't climb public buildings, but the only thing that stops this daredevil is rain! When it's wet, Alain can't grip the slippery surface. In 2002, he **got stuck** on the 35th floor of London's Canary Wharf Tower when it started to rain. Alain risks his life everytime he climbs a new building. His nickname may be Spider-Man, but he is no superhero. He's just an ordinary man living a very dangerous life!

(*ledge-shelf at the bottom of a window)

(adapted from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alain_Robert)

1. Read again and choose the best answer, A, B, C or D. Write only the correct letter on your answer sheet. (12 points)

1. When Alain Robert climbs a structure,
 - A. many people watch him begin
 - B. he rests on his way to the top
 - C. he enjoys looking down at the crowd
 - D. he doesn't use any safety equipment
2. When he was young, Alain climbed up to his flat because
 - A. his parents lost their key
 - B. he wanted to see if he could do it
 - C. it was the only way he could get in
 - D. his parents encouraged him to do it

3. Alain has a problem with
 - A. heights
 - B. confidence
 - C. crowds
 - D. doctors
4. Alain climbs skyscrapers because he wants to
 - A. shock people
 - B. challenge himself
 - C. make city life more exciting
 - D. change people's thinking
5. Alain didn't reach the top of the Canary Wharf Tower because
 - A. the police stopped him and arrested him
 - B. he slipped and injured himself
 - C. the weather stopped him
 - D. he felt too dizzy halfway up
6. The purpose of this text is to
 - A. criticise Alain Roberts
 - B. stop people from trying dangerous activities
 - C. give information about Alain Roberts
 - D. encourage people to support Alain Roberts

A. Choose the right words from the list below in order to complete the sentences about Alain Roberts. Write the words on the answer sheet. (8 points)

**safety net, gather, sigh with relief, raise awareness,
gets a fine, daredevil, slippery surface, nickname**

1. Alain's _____ is "Spider-Man".
2. Crowds of people _____ to watch him when he climb up a building.
3. The people _____ when Alain reaches the top of a building safely.
4. Alain doesn't use a _____ or rope to climb a building.
5. He wants to _____ about climate change or other issues.
6. The police sometimes arrest Alain but he doesn't usually go to prison -he _____.
7. It's very dangerous to climb up a _____ when it rains.
8. Alain is a _____ - what he does is very dangerous, but he enjoys it!

B. Read the definitions below and find the appropriate words in the text. Choose from the bolded and underlined words. Write them on the answer sheet. (5 points)

1. substance buildings are made of
2. became unable to move
3. parts of the skeleton which are snapped
4. suspends himself off the ground
5. problems such as homelessness, poverty, hunger, etc that affect people over the world

- f. The children in the audience _____ (**be**) amazed last week. They _____ (**never / see**) a sword swallower before.
- g. If my friend invited me to the party, I _____ (**go**) for sure.
- h. As I _____ (**have breakfast**), my roommate was reading the morning paper.

4. Complete the sentences with the right question tag. Write it on the answer sheet.

(5 points)

- a. You are Bob's wife, _____?
- b. There's no reason for us to fight, _____?
- c. Somebody told you about the accident, _____?
- d. Don't forget to call me, _____?
- e. She has breakfast at 9:00 a.m., _____?

5. Choose the right word(s) and write it / them on the answer sheet.

(5 points)

Today English **1. speaks / is spoken** all over the world and has many different forms of varieties. In fact many different dialects **2. can be heard / can hear** even within the British Isles. The oldest form of English **3. spoke / was spoken** by the Anglo-Saxons about 1500 years ago, but it was very different from the English we know. It would be difficult for us **4. to understand / to be understood** it today! Since then, English **5. has changed / has been changed** by people who have gone to the British Isles over the centuries. Today many people learn English as a second language and it is certain that it is going to be spoken for many years to come.

6. Read the text and complete the gaps with the correct word A, B, C or D. Write only the correct letter on your answer sheet.

LEAD THE WAY

On the 22nd January, 2007, Dave Cornthwaite from Wales became the first person to skateboard across Australia. He **1) _____** a new world record, by skating a total of 5,823 km. Jack Smith, the previous champ, had skated a total of 4,830 km across the US in 2003. Dave's

2) _____ started in Perth and ended in Brisbane travelling on average 60 km per day. **3) _____** took him five months, 13 pairs of shoes and over a dozen tubes of suncream lotion. He went through great physical **4) _____** and he got extremely sore feet.

5) _____ Dave hadn't believed in making his dreams **6) _____** true, none of these would have happened. Dave quit his job two weeks after he had bought a skateboard and decided to go on a journey. He wanted his journey to be about something more than him, **7) _____** he created BoardFree- an association that would raise money for charities. "If people follow my journey and make donations, then I'm doing a lot of people a lot of good," said Dave. This journey had **8) _____** of challenges. He travelled across the Australian desert **9) _____** temperatures reached 48°C during the day and 0° at night. He had a serious accident in Adelaide when he jumped on a piece of metal that cut through his heel. He also had a nasty fall where he banged his head hard on the pavement and twisted his ankle.

Dave helped **10)** _____ more than £50,000 (€74,000) for children's charities, wrote a book and motivated others to follow his footsteps. I wish we had more people like him leading the way!

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|---------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. A. put | B. made | C. set | D. fixed |
| 2. A. travel | B. journey | C. flight | D. crossing |
| 3. A. There | B. It | C. These | D. They |
| 4. A. suffer | B. hurt | C. ache | D. pain |
| 5. A. Since | B. As | C. If | D. Because |
| 6. A. draw | B. happen | C. reach | D. come |
| 7. A. then | B. after | C. before | D. so |
| 8. A. enough | B. plenty | C. lot | D. much |
| 9. A. which | B. whose | C. what | D. where |
| 10. A raising | B. raise | C. raised | D. raises |

III. WRITING (25 POINTS)

Write a narrative composition (150-180 words) having the following title:

A Day in the Life of a Superhero

Count your words and write the total number at the end of your composition between brackets. e.g. (174 words)

Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.

Timpul de lucru este de 90 de minute.

Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu

