

**CONCURSUL DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ PENTRU LICEE  
CU PROFIL TEHNOLOGIC ȘI VOCAȚIONAL  
ETAPA JUDEȚEANĂ, 26 martie 2022  
CLASA a X-a**

- Toate subiecte sunt obligatorii
- Timp de lucru: 2 ore
- Total puncte: 100. Nu se acordă puncte din oficiu

**SUBJECT I**

**20 points**

**Read the following text and choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to the text.**

Of all the subjects that divide men and women, it is probably the female love of accessories – and handbags in particular – that baffles men the most. For women, a handbag is a statement of personality and attitude. It is an indicator of status, a weapon in a crowd and a home on the move.

For men, it seems to be little more than an expensive device for carrying around unwanted receipts and other useless items. It is certainly no substitute for a really good trouser pocket.

The gap between the sexes looks likely to grow deeper with a study suggesting that women's love affair with bags has reached a new level of intensity. Between 2010 and last year sales of handbags in the UK soared by 146 per cent to a record £350 million.

Claire Birks, the author of the study, believes that the phenomenal growth is being fuelled in part by the must-have celebrity handbag. "The rising number of working women has played a key role in this market as they not only have the money, but also the need for stylish, well accessorised outfits and handbags. It is now commonplace for women to have a wide variety of bags for a whole host of occasions – from smart evenings out to a night in the pub and from a day in the office to a day's shopping."

Top of the range designer bags with price labels of £1000 are not uncommon and their popularity has never been greater. Any woman wanting one of this season's must-have bags, the Dior Gaucho, should be prepared to fork out £815 and join a month-long waiting list.

It takes just a glimpse of a new Gucci or Chloe bag on the arm of Kate Moss or Paris Hilton in Heat magazine for that model to fly off the shelves at Selfridges and Harrods. But while designer brands have played a part, the rising sales have mostly been driven by cheaper imported handbags and own-label imitation designs. Supermarkets are also branching out into the lucrative accessories market.

Tamara Melon, the owner of the Jimmy Choo label, said she had seen a major change in the accessory market. "Handbags are a status symbol, the perfect accessory to dress up your day and your outfit. For women of all ages and from all walks of life, acquiring a handbag is an enjoyable experience".

Last year a study found that 60 per cent of women own at least 10 handbags, while three per cent have at least 25. In addition to this, *it* also suggests that the demand for handbags has yet to be satisfied.

"There is no reason to believe that sales will not continue to increase over the next five years," Miss Birks said.

While men remain baffled by the attraction of handbags, some light has been shed on what they contain. A survey of 1700 women carried out by Prudential discovered that alongside the old train tickets, receipts and pens, the average handbag contains around £550 worth of personal possessions. Typically, they include a mobile phone, a purse, a hair brush, perfume, a make-up bag, a leather diary or a personal organizer, and house and car keys. In summer months, a pair of sunglasses usually joins the collection. Most women questioned assumed that their handbags and contents were worth only £150.

(David Derbyshire, *How handbags became a girl's best friend*, [www.telegraph.co.uk](http://www.telegraph.co.uk))

**1. How does the writer feel about women's obsession with handbags?**

- A. He thinks men need to carry them.
- B. He thinks they contain a lot of non-essential objects.
- C. He thinks they are too expensive
- D. He thinks it's a short-term craze.

**2. Whose influence is encouraging women to spend more on handbags?**

- A. Their husbands and boyfriends.
- B. Their colleagues at work.
- C. Famous people.
- D. Large corporations.

**3. What is the problem with the Dior Gaucho bag?**

- A. There are not enough of them on sale.
- B. It is the most expensive bag on the market.
- C. It is not popular anymore.
- D. You have to be a member of a special club to buy one.

**4. Most handbag sales in UK are**

- A. Only from a few famous shops.
- B. Generated only by a small number of designers.
- C. Only made in one season of the year.
- D. From selling bags that look like mor famous ones.

**5. How does Tamara Mellon feel about handbags?**

- A. Any handbag will look good.
- B. You have to match your clothes very carefully with your handbag.
- C. What you wear on your feet is as important as your handbag.
- D. Handbags aren't really very important.

**6. What does *it* in the 8<sup>th</sup> paragraph refer to?**

- A. The typical handbag.
- B. Annual sales of handbags.
- C. A report on handbag ownership.
- D. The number of handbags people have.

**7. What do women's handbags typically contain?**

- A. Some cosmetic items.
- B. Mainly cheap objects.
- C. No objects that are useful for work.
- D. Nothing relating to their home.

**8. What do many women feel about the value of their handbag contents?**

- A. They underestimate it.
- B. They overestimate it.
- C. They aren't able to guess how much it is.
- D. They know exactly how much it is.

**SUBJECT II**

**30 points**

You have seen this advertisement in a newspaper:

*Tour guides wanted*

We are looking for people to work as tour guides around the city castle and museum. Applicants should be available to work throughout the summer (July to August) and be aged 21 – 65. In addition, the ideal applicant will:

- Have an interest in history;
- Have good communication skills;
- Be able to speak at least one foreign language.

Please write requesting an information pack to Julian Hinchcliffe.

**SUBJECT III**

**20 points**

**Use the word given in capital to form a word which fits the space.**

In Chinese astrology there are twelve signs based on \_\_\_\_\_ (DIFFER) animals. Tigers, for example, are brave and like \_\_\_\_\_ (COMPETE). They are also optimistic. \_\_\_\_\_ (FAME) tigers are Tom Cruise and Leonardo di Caprio. Rabbits, on the other hand, are shy, generous people whose \_\_\_\_\_ (FRIEND) you can rely on. The \_\_\_\_\_ (ACT) Al Pacino and Robin Williams are typical dragons. They have \_\_\_\_\_ (STRONG) and energy and are born leaders. Snakes have \_\_\_\_\_ (CONFIDENT) in themselves; they are polite and \_\_\_\_\_ (ATTRACT) people who usually give good advice. Finally, Bruce Willis, though he has a \_\_\_\_\_ (REPUTE) for being a tough guy, is a ram and rams are \_\_\_\_\_ (SENSE) people. According to Chinese astrology, they are good at giving sympathy, so you know who to go to if you're feeling a bit down.

**SUBJECT IV**

**20 points**

**Choose the correct words to complete the text.**

The first episode of Secret Millionaire, one of the most successful reality series, was \_\_\_\_\_(1) by Fox Television in May 2008. In the series, wealthy benefactors go undercover in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Each week a millionaire leaves their luxury life \_\_\_\_\_ (2) in order to take \_\_\_\_\_ (3) a secret identity and live in a deprived area for about ten days.

\_\_\_\_\_ (4) on a limited budget with no modern conveniences, they have to try and find a place in the community and work alongside the locals to identify those who they think deserve a slice of their fortune. At the end of the show, the millionaire \_\_\_\_\_ (5) his true identity to the community and gives \_\_\_\_\_ (6) a minimum of \$100000 of his own money to at least one \_\_\_\_\_ (7) person. Most participants are men, but not all. Each episode traces two storylines: the millionaire's culture shock as he or she is \_\_\_\_\_ (8) face to face with the realities of poverty, and the fairy tale of struggling individuals who get a sudden blessing. Secret Millionaire is \_\_\_\_\_ (9) on a Chanel 4 UK hit which in 2007 won the prestigious \_\_\_\_\_(10) for best reality series at the annual festival in Lucerne, Switzerland.

- |                |                |            |                |
|----------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| 1 A broadcast  | B published    | C exposed  | D displayed    |
| 2 A away       | B behind       | C off      | D out          |
| 3 A up         | B in           | C to       | D on           |
| 4 A Living     | B Having lived | C To live  | D To be living |
| 5 A discovers  | B reveals      | C uncovers | D detects      |
| 6 A off        | B out          | C away     | D over         |
| 7 A respecting | B deserving    | C admired  | D applauded    |
| 8 A taken      | B brought      | C kept     | D caught       |
| 9 A based      | B established  | C founded  | D set up       |
| 10 A award     | B reward       | C price    | D gift         |

## **SUBJECT V**

**10 points**

**Match the answers to the questions. There are three extra answers which you do not need to use:**

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. What are you doing tonight?     | a. Nowhere. We're staying at home this year.            |
| 2. What shall we cook for dinner?  | b. Anything. I really don't mind.                       |
| 3. What are you going to buy?      | c. Nothing special. I don't have plans.                 |
| 4. Why didn't you enjoy the party? | d. Something for my sister's birthday.                  |
| 5. Where are you going on holiday? | e. Because I didn't know anyone.                        |
|                                    | f. No one I knew. They were all friends of his brother. |
|                                    | g. Somewhere near the airport.                          |
|                                    | h. Why don't you join us?                               |