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CONCURS “MICII BALCEȘTI” LIMBA ENGLEZĂ, 18 IANUARIE 2025  
CLASA a VIII-a

**SUBIECTUL I:**  
**READING COMPREHENSION (30 points)**

**Read the article about two sisters. Are the sentences ‘Right’ or ‘Wrong’? If there is not enough information to answer ‘Right’ or ‘Wrong’, choose ‘Doesn’t say’**

My parents have always loved tennis and they’re members of a tennis club. My older brother was really good at it and they supported him – taking him to lessons all the time. So I guess when I announced that I wanted to be a tennis champion when I grew up I just intended for them to notice me. My mother laughed. She knew I couldn’t possibly be serious, I was just a 4-year-old kid! Later, I joined the club’s junior coaching group and eventually took part in my first proper contest, confident that my team would do well. We won, which was fantastic, but I wasn’t so successful. I didn’t even want to be in the team photo because I didn’t feel I deserved to be. When my coach asked what happened in my final match, I didn’t know what to say. I couldn’t believe I’d lost – I knew I was the better player. But every time I attacked, the other player defended brilliantly. I couldn’t explain the result.

After that, I decided to listen more carefully to my coach because he had lots of tips. I realised that you need the right attitude to be a winner. On court I have a plan but sometimes the other guy will do something unexpected so I’ll change it. If I lose a point, I do my best to forget it and find a way to win the next one.

At tournaments, it’s impossible to avoid players who explode in anger. Lots of players can be negative – including myself sometimes. Once I got so angry that I nearly broke my racket! But my coach has helped me develop ways to control those feelings. After all, the judges have a hard job and you just have to accept their decisions.

My coach demands that I train in the gym to make sure I’m strong right to the end of a tournament. I’m getting good results: my shots are more accurate and I’m beginning to realise that with hard work there’s a chance that I could be a champion one day.



1. Harry wanted to be a tennis champion in order to get some attention from his parents.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
2. Harry's parents have never loved tennis.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
3. Harry didn't feel confused about his defeat after his first important competition.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
4. When he is on the court he tries to remember not to keep thinking about his mistakes.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
5. On court Harry always has a plan.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
6. Harry says that in tournaments he tries to stay away from players who behave badly.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
7. Once Harry got so angry that he broke three rackets.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
8. His coach has always helped him control his feelings.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
9. His coach advices that him to train in the gym.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
10. Harry realizes that if he is lucky he could be a champion one day.  
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say

**SUBIECTUL II. Use of English (30p)**

- a. Read the text below and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits each space. (10 x 1p = 10p)**

**San Francisco**

Whatever you hope for from a visit to San Francisco in the USA, you won't be disappointed. The hills are just as steep as you imagined they would be, and the Golden Gate Bridge is just as spectacular. It's no (1) ..... then that the city is among the world's (2) ..... tourist destinations. (3) ..... many people live there, San Francisco (4) ..... more like a small town than a city of more than 4 million people. Its (5) ..... on the water, its parks, and its hills all (6) ..... that you can never see further than a few blocks. One of the most (7) ..... trips is a drive across the Golden Gate Bridge. This is a journey (8) ..... should be saved for a sunny day so that you can (9) .....



the fantastic view, and Golden Gate Park has wonderful gardens, (10) ..... addition to being great for a picnic.

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|---------------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| 1. A guess    | B excuse  | C question   | D surprise |
| 2. A complete | B top     | C proper     | D full     |
| 3. A Although | B Besides | C Unless     | D Despite  |
| 4. A shows    | B fits    | C seems      | D makes    |
| 5. A location | B point   | C landscape  | D scene    |
| 6. A allow    | B mean    | C let        | D intend   |
| 7. A amazed   | B popular | C interested | D positive |
| 8. A who      | B where   | C which      | D what     |
| 9. A admire   | B approve | C accept     | D attract  |
| 10. A in      | B as      | C on         | D by       |

**b. Put the verbs in brackets in the correct tense: (2x10= 20 points)**

Dear Ann,

I (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (RECEIVE) your letter about two weeks ago and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (TRY) to find time to write you back ever since. I (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) very busy lately. In the past two weeks, I (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (HAVE) four tests, and I have another one next week. In addition, a friend (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (STAY) with me since last Thursday. She wanted to see the city, so we (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (SPEND) a lot of time visiting some of the interesting place here. Yesterday we (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (GO) to the park and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (WATCH) a balloon race. Between showing her the city and studying for my exams, I (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (HAVE, BARELY) enough time to breathe.

How (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (YOU, GET) along? Please write soon.

Yours, Janet

**SUBIECTUL III. Writing (30 points)**

**Write a story ending like this:**

‘He had been told that was a magic mirror. Why didn’t he believe it then???’

**Write your story in 150-180 words** and give it an appropriate title. Pay attention to the following:

- you don’t need to write long descriptions;
- use dialogues only if they are relevant to your characters or events;

Don’t count the words given in the ending

*Nota : Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.*

*Timp de lucru; 2 ore.*

**SE ACORDA 10 PUNCTE DIN OFICIU.**