**MUNICIPAL OLYMPIAD IN ENGLISH**-**09.01.2016**

**FIRST GROUP (VIII GRADE)**

**Утвърдил:**

**Директор:…………………..**

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**Part One**

**DICTATION**

**Part Two**

**Reading Comprehension**

**Directions**:*Read the text below and mark the statements that follow as* ***True*** (**A**)*,* ***False*** (**B**)*or* ***No information in the text***(**C**). *Mark your answers on the* ***answer sheet.***

**I THOUGHT, THIS IS AMAZING**

**We will never find anything like this again**

When Emma and Matthew moved to Norfolk, they rented a house to see if they could make their new life there. Two years later they’re still there and want to stay for good. What keeps them in Norfolk? It’s their house, Holly Grove, which they finally decided to buy, renovate and decorate using their own skills and imagination.

Holly Grove was previously a farmhouse. Like many houses in East Anglia, it is a combination of different architectural styles. One side comes from the time of King George V, Queen Victoria’s grandson, the middle part is Victorian, and the other side is just a series of unattractive rooms from the 1950s.

Emma and Matthew were looking for a quick way of improving on this strange mixture of styles. They decided on colour. For example, the dining room in the Georgian part of the house had great French windows at either end, which made it very cold. Now it is much more optimistic and warm because it was painted yellow. Emma believes that yellow is always good – the brighter and deep, the better!

Another big colour idea was the redecoration of the drawing room. There was ugly wallpaper on its walls. One day Emma and Matthew decided that they had had enough, and covered all the walls with cheap red material. For nearly no money and in almost no time, they created a wonderful effect. The room changed into a great place to display their old furniture and paintings.

As well as colour, Emma and Matthew also use a lot of unusual things and pictures to put on the walls of their house. In the bathroom there are large charts showing different kinds of birds and flowers. The kitchen is decorated with toys and the children’s paintings. In the bedroom Emma used a lot of printed materials and paper. For example, the little toilet is covered in wrapping paper which makes it look like a bright little gift box.

Emma and Matthew’s decorating ideas also helped to improve their daughter’s room. The walls are covered with old pictures Emma had when she was a child. A family friend painted the ceiling full of poppies, anemones and roses – and now Elizabeth and Kitty wake up to a sea of flowers!

1. **When they came to Norfolk, Emma and Matthew bought a house.**

 **A)** True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

 **2. Holly Grove is the main reason why they want to settle in Norfolk.**

1. True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

 **3. The middle part of the house is the oldest.**

 **A)** True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

 **4. Emma and Matthew experimented with colour because it was the cheapest way to**

 **start the redecoration**.

1. True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

 **5. Emma believes that the brighter and deeper the yellow colour is, the better it looks.**

**A)** True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

 **6. The shabby drawing room was turned into a great place the moment the walls were**

 **painted red.**

 **A)** True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

 **7. Emma and Matthew experimented not only with colour, but with materials as well.**

 **A)** True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

 **8. Emma and Matthew have got some old furniture and pictures that they inherited**

 **from their parents.**

 **A)** True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

 **9. The re-decorating of the little toilet created an unexpected effect.**

 **A)** True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

 **10. The floral design of the children’s room matches the girls’ age and hobbies.**

 **A)** True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

**Section Two**

**Directions:** *From the list of headings* **A-E** *below choose the most suitable one for each* *paragraph of the text* **1-5**.

1. Too easy to score
2. Last minute loss
3. Thanks, Dad
4. Walk, don’t run!
5. Mechanical failure

**HEARTBREAKING MOMENTS IN SPORT**

**1**………………….

Nigel Mansell was leading the 1986 Formula One drivers’ championship by six points from Alan Prost. Only nineteen laps before the end of the final race of the season, Mansell was in third position. If he stayed in third, he would win the title for the first time. Just then, one of the tyres of his Williams car exploded. Prost won the race and the title by one point.

**2**…………………

As she entered the athletics stadium in the final of the women’s 20km walk at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, Australian Jane Saville was in the lead. She was sure to win the gold medal. But then an official stepped forward to disqualify her for having both feet off the ground at one point in the race. Saville began screaming :’No, not me! When asked what she wanted, she replied: ‘A gun to shoot myself’.

**3**………………….

In May 2000, Calais, an amateur football team from the fourth division, played first division Nantes in the final of the French Cup. Apart from the Nantes fans, everyone in France was supporting Calais. Just before half-time Calais scored a goal. Early in the second half Nantes equalised. Then, in the final minute of the match, the referee gave Nantes a soft penalty. The ball hit the goalkeeper’s knee and bounced into the net. Calais had lost.

**4**………………….

1992. The Olympic 400m semi-final in Barcelona. Derek Redmond felt good. He had helped the British 4x400m relay team to victory at the world championships. Now, after years of suffering from injuries, he was in great physical condition and felt he had a good chance of winning Olympic gold. The race started, but Derek pulled a muscle. Desperately, he tried to continue running. ‘I told myself I had to finish. Then, I felt a hand on my shoulder’. It was his father, Jim. 70.000 people stood and cheered and Derek cried as his father helped him finish the race.

**5**…………………

The 1991 World Cup semi-final against England was the hardest game Scotland’s rugby captain Gavin Hastings ever played in. Late in the second half, with the score 6-6, Scotland had a penalty in front of the posts. Hastings had already scored two more difficult penalties. If he succeeded, Scotland would go three points ahead. Surprisingly he missed it. Nobody in the ground could believe it. A few minutes later England scored and won the game.

**Part Three**

**USE OF ENGLISH**

**Section One: CLOZE**

**Directions:** *Read the text and the sentences below and for each gap circle the letter (****A, B*** *or* ***C****) of the word or phrase that best suits each space. Mark your answers on the* ***answer sheet.***

 **The text**

**THE STANDING STONES**

**Stonehenge**, the most famous prehistoric monument in Europe,**1. A. sits B. stands C. locates** on a windswept plain 13 km north **2. A.from B. away C. of** Salisbury in the South of England. It was built over a period of about 1700 years, during the transition from the Stone Age to the Bronze Age (2800 BC- 1100 BC). **3. A. Regardless B. Though C. However** it has been studied by amateurs and professionals alike for centuries, we still know very **4. A. few B. many C. little** about this mysterious place.

Stonehenge is the most elaborate of many stone circles in Britain. It **5. A. embraces B. consists**

**C. includes** of three circles surrounded **6. A. with B. by C. in** a bridge and a ditch. Some of the stones are **7. A. really B. very C. so** big that for many years people found it hard to believe that the monument **8. A. has been built B. was being built C. had been built** by man at all. The so- called ‘Sarsen stones’ of the outer circle are the biggest and have the characteristic lintels. Within the circle of Sarsen stones there are two rings of smaller ‘Bluestones’. These came from the Preseli Mountains in South Wales, 385 km away. Exactly how these stones were transported is unknown. One **9. A.conviction B.theory C.belief** is that they were brought naturally by glaciers during the Ice Age, but until recently geologists considered this impossible. **10. A. Instead B. Because C.Despite** , it is thought that the four- ton stones were transported by man using rafts to take them across the sea and up rivers.

  **The sentences**

**1.** Slovakia has one of the highest levels of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the world. Nearly 99% of the population can read and write.

**A.** intelligence **B.** literacy **C**. population

**2.** It was once part\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the former Czechoslovakia.

**A.** at **B.** from **C.** of

**3.** Slovakia has several mountain regions that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ skiers in the winter.

**A.** attract **B.** encourage **C.** like

**4.** The Slovak language is similar \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Czech and the two peoples can communicate easily.

**A.** from **B.** of **C.** to

**5.** Apart \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ skiers and hikers Slovakia attracts visitors to its many thermal spring spas.

**A.** at **B.** from **C.** in

**6.** Before John Kennedy was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ President of the USA he had won a medal for bravery during the Second World War.

**A.** created **B.** elected **C.** pointed

**7.** He had also won several prizes for books he had written \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Second World War.

**A.** about **B.** for **C.** of

**8.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Kennedy was elected president he was the youngest American president ever.

**A.** As **B.** For **C.** When

**9.** Kennedy established a direct telephone link between the Soviet Union and the USA known \_\_\_\_\_\_

the hot line.

**A.** as **B.** by **C.** like

**10.** He was very popular in America and he supported many human rights \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**A.** arguments **B.** issues **C.** problems

**11.** Kennedy was assassinated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ riding in an open-top car in Dallas.

**A.** as **B.** during **C.** while

**12.** Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested and accused \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ killing the president.

**A.** of **B.** at **C.** in

**13.** Two days after his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lee Harvey Oswald was shot.

**A.** arrest **B.** check **C.** punishment

**14.** The mystery of who really killed Kennedy has never been completely \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**A.** figured **B.** solved **C.** understood

**15.** Several other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Kennedy family have also been shot.

**A.** associates **B.** members **C.** partners

**Section Two: ERROR IDENTIFICATION**

**Directions**:*Each sentence below contains an error in grammar or usage. The error is**contained in one of the underlined parts of the sentence. For each sentence, choose the letter (****A, B*** *or* ***C****) of the underlined part that contains the mistake. Mark your answers on the* ***answer sheet.***

**1.** There was no one in the schoolyard as the pupils had already a break.

 **A B C**

**2.**Who’s that man Peter talks to?

 **A B C**

**3.** We yet don’t know when the rally will be.

 **A B C**

**4.** I have a cousin who is a MBA professional player.

 **A B C**

**5.** The Browns have always had many money.

 **A B C**

**Section Three: SENTENCE COMPLETION**

**Directions**:*For each of the sentences below, choose the word or phrase (****A, B*** *or* ***C****) that best**completes its meaning*. *Mark your answers on the* ***answer sheet.***

**1.**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we go ice-skating?

**A.** Why **B.** Shall **C.** How

**2.** He’s a wonderful chef. The meal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ be delicious.

**A.** will **B.** may **C.** might

**3.** The sky is quite cloudy. It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rain.

**A.** can **B.** may **C.** must

**4.** If we’re late, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ miss the beginning of the film.

**A.** we **B.** we will **C.** we won’t

**5.** I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to music in bed because it helps me relax.

**A.** ‘m sometimes listening **B.** sometimes listening **C.** sometimes listen

**Section Four: OPEN THE BRACKETS Directions**:*For each of the sentences below, open the brackets and put the verb in the right**form*. *Write your answers on the* ***answer sheet.***

At the end of the 12th century, England **1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(have)** a good king. His name **2.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **(be)** Richard the Lion Heart. But when the king **3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(leave)** the country for the Crusades, his brother John Lackland **4.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (take)** the throne. It was a bad time for honest and hard-working people. John **5.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(order)** the people of England to pay very high taxes.

**Section Five: SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION**

**Directions**:*Complete the second sentence so that it is as close as possible in meaning to**the first one. Write your answers on the* ***answer sheet.***

1. **I have never read such an interesting story.**
2. **This is………………………………………………………………………..**

**2. Travel between Europe and Australia is still rather difficult.**

 **I it still……………………………………………………………………..**

**3. The Smiths send their children to study abroad last September.**

 **The Smiths`children……………………………………………………………….**

**4.** **I last saw my brother two years ago.**

 **I haven`t……………………….……………………………………..**

**5.** **Geoffrey stayed home because he had a cold.**

**If Geoffrey………………………………....…………………………………….**

**Part Four**

**WRITING**

**Directions** :*Write a composition of about 150 – 170 words on* ***ONE*** *of the following topics.**Write your composition on the* ***answer sheet.***

**1.**Write about a day in your life that you will always remember.

**2.** Write about your best friend. Explain how you met him/her, describe his/her appearance and personality, and give information about his/her interests and hobbies.