**Национална хуманитарна гимназия „Св.св.Кирил и Методий“ Благоевград**

**MUNICIPAL OLYMPIAD IN ENGLISH**

**2018**

**Group Three - 10th grade**

**Part Two: READING COMPREHENSION**

**Section One**

**Directions:** *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question - A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET.*

In my job as a dishwasher at Timothy Dwight College I usually worked dinners, but one of the workers had asked me to fill in for him at breakfast one day. I needed the money so I agreed, expecting to wash dishes again. When I reported to work, though, it turned out that I was expected to work on the serving line.

At all Yale’s dining halls, a hot breakfast is served until nine o’clock. After nine, only continental breakfast is available; students serve themselves cold cereal or toast. When nine o’clock rolled around, I still had some scrambled eggs and a piece of toast. I decided to finish serving them, rather than bring them back to the kitchen, where they would just be thrown out.

At about ten after nine, a resident fellow of Timothy Dwight showed up for breakfast. He was a tall man, about forty-five years old, with short gray hair and a pair of wire-rimmed glasses.

“Would you like to give me some eggs,” he grumbled. I took a plate and gave him some eggs.

“Now, would you like to give me some toast to eat with the eggs?” I reached for the last piece of toast and put it on his plate.

“Now,” he exploded, “would you like to give me two pieces of toast instead of one piece of toast?”

“That was the last piece,” I told him as I put two more pieces of bread in the toaster. Then I remembered that it was past nine o’clock and that I didn’t have to be making more toast.

“If you want hot breakfast,” I said, “you should get down here before nine o’clock.”

He looked at me and spoke through clenched teeth and snarled:

“Tomorrow, you can come and serve me breakfast in my room before nine o’clock.”

I reached behind me to the toaster and pushed up the slices of bread, half toasted. If he wanted toast, he could make it himself. He went out of the kitchen furious.

When he left, I realized I was shaking. If I had been alone in my room, I probably would have cried. It hurt to be treated as if I were inferior. I felt a hate for that man stronger than any hate I had ever felt, and the strength of that hate scared me.

**1. The narrator decided to finish serving what was still left from the hot breakfast**

**because**

**A)** he needed the extra money he was going to receive.

**B)** he knew the resident fellow hadn’t had his breakfast yet.

**C)** he didn’t want any food to be waste .

**D)** he wanted to impress people and keep his new job.

**2. The resident fellow at the college, who arrived for breakfast late, was**

**A)** one of the narrator’s teachers.

**B)** in a rather cheerful mood.

**C)** quite arrogant and rude.

**D)** fairly talkative and polite.

**3. The narrator reminded the resident fellow that**

**A)** he could make some toast himself.

**B)** there were rules in the dining hall.

**C)** workers deserved better treatment.

**D)** he could still have continental breakfast.

**4. In his turn the resident fellow**

**A)** invited the narrator to breakfast the next morning.

**B)** went out angrily to complain to the Dean.

**C)** required the narrator to do something humiliating.

**D)** threatened the narrator he would lose his job.

**5. The narrator pushed up the slices from the toaster deliberately**

**A)** because the slices were done just to his taste.

**B)** to show that he had his pride.

**C)** because his working hours were over.

**D)** to avoid being punished by his superiors.

**Section Two**

**Directions**: *Read the paragraphs* ***A – F*** *below and put them into their correct order* ***1 – 5*** *in a complete article. There is one extra paragraph which doesn’t fit into the context of the article. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET.*

1. **………**
2. **………**
3. **………**
4. **………**
5. **………**
6. The next morning I awoke in a guest bedroom to a strange calm. The heavy snowfall and strong winds meant the windows and doors were blocked. The roads were too dangerous to drive on. Fortunately, the phone still worked. So we called the owner of the inn to give him the most recent information and assured our families we were safe.
7. I stepped outside, with chef Danny, aged only 18. I took one step into the road and sank to my waist in snow. Then the voice of our waitress, Katie, also 18, echoed from inside: “The radio says they’ve stopped cleaning the roads. We’re stuck!” Suddenly the Lion felt like the last place left on Earth. The evening shift comprised Katie, Danny, me, fellow barman Rob, aged 22, and 25-year-old head chef Stuart. We’d worked together for years and were good friends. There were only two guests in their 50s.
8. The first snow storm hit at 9 p. m. I was working behind the bar of the Lion Inn. Built in 1553, the Lion is the fourth highest pub in England and it is one of the most remote. The pub’s nearest village is Castleton, six miles down the valley. On a normal night, you can spot its lights in the distance. But that night they were gone, hidden behind a wall of white.
9. On the ninth day I’d had enough. I was determined to get back to my life. I could see the snow had begun to melt a little, so I went outside to dig out my car. I dug for seven hours until I could get inside. Then, as I turned the key, I heard the chug-chug of a diesel engine and two yellow lights appeared through the mist. The snow-cleaning machine had arrived to dig us out.
10. For the next nine days we worked by day, looking after our two guests, and by night we ate and drank like kings, feasting on all the finest food from the specials menu – steaks, pies, roasts. After all, if we didn’t eat the food, it would go off. We kept the fires going and had a party every night. We drank, laughed, watched movies and played Monopoly before staggering up to bed in whichever guestroom took our fancy.
11. If you don’t want to miss on this great opportunity, make sure you get your tickets in advance because they are not always available on the day and even if they are, there can be long queues. Or you can visit the Eye at night-time when it is less crowded and the views are even more spectacular.

**Section Three**

**Directions***: In the following text, six sentences or parts of sentences have been removed. Above the extract you will find the six removed sentences PLUS one sentence which doesn't fit. Choose from the sentences (****A-G****) the one which fits each gap (****0-6****). Remember, there is one extra sentence you do not need to use.**Choose from the following sentences to fill the spaces in the text. There is one extra. There is also an example – sentence F is for paragraph 0. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET.*

***The sentences***

A. Though our pace was slow in terms of distance covered, it was never boring.

B. We even remembered a torch to light the walk back from the pub!

C. That is why we were given a thorough explanation of all the safety regulations in force along the canal.

D. He patiently talked us through the boat's simple controls.

E. It passes through no big towns but has everything else that makes this type of holiday such fun: lovely scenery, friendly people, and a few locks, lift-bridges and a tunnel thrown in for good measure.

F. At a speed of four miles-per-hour, we travelled less than 20 miles in three days.

G. Sometimes there was so much to take in we almost forgot to bow our heads for the distinctive stone hump-back bridges: so narrow and low they seem to grow out of the banks.

***The text***

Two hundred years ago, Britain's canals were the arteries of the Industrial Revolution but now they are used almost exclusively for pleasure. They're a great way to meet the British - and other nationalities: even actors Harrison Ford and Calista Flockhart have enjoyed a Welsh narrowboat holiday. Bob Barton reports on a trip afloat in Mid Wales.

Less is more on the canals. **(0)……F……** Yet we felt we had seen and experienced so much and let into the secret that is one of the most beautiful parts of Britain's unique waterway world.

We became very fond of *Bronwen*, our three year-old cruiser, which was our movable home for a few serene days as we sailed along the Monmouth and Brecon canal in Mid Wales. With home comforts including a fully fitted kitchen complete with gas cooker and fridge, crockery and cookware; comfortable beds; a shower and toilet; central heating and cosy lounge area with TV and DVD player, it is easy to see how some boaters become so enthusiastic they decide to live on them for months at a time.

Any fears we had about taking charge of a 50ft-long behemoth on a narrow canal with its numerous toytown-like stone bridges were quickly dispelled by John of Cambrian Cruisers. **(1)**   How to take on water, work the locks and lifting bridges we would encounter, and even came along with us for the first ten minutes to check we had got the hang of things.

We need not have worried: by the end of our first afternoon of cruising we had negotiated four lifting bridges, one tunnel and five locks, all enough to give my 'crew' a hearty appetite to be sated in one of the many canal-side pubs. One of the lifting bridges was electrically powered and my daughters, aged 11 and 15, loved closing the gate across the road to stop traffic and pushing the buttons to make lights flash and the bridge slowly rise.

The 35-mile Monmouth and Brecon Canal is a small, isolated part of Britain's 2,000-mile (3,220 km) network of navigable waterways, but it is a real gem. Built to carry coal and iron down to the sea, it is an 18th-century time-capsule, now used entirely for pleasure, which winds its way south from the market town of Brecon through the rocky uplands - the highest in Southern Britain - of the Brecon Beacons National Park. **(2)**  

Its banks canopied with a wide variety of trees, the canal is constantly twisting, first one way and then another. For much of its length it is on a ridge, high above the foaming waters of the River Usk, whose route is even more convoluted than the canal; while in the distance are sheep-dotted meadows and craggy peaks with romantic names such as Sugar Loaf and Table Mountain. **(3)**   There's always something to see, someone to wave at or talk to, or another brew of tea or coffee to attend to: it is thirsty work!

This being springtime, wild flowers were everywhere - bluebells, daffodils, forsythia and primroses, growing in huge bunches along the banks. Other seasons offer their own delights, I'm sure. Birds spotted ranged from skylarks and chaffinch to pheasants and the ubiquitous ducks with their ducklings in tow and, at one stage, a bat even circled our boat. Farther on, white tree blossom floated down on us like snowflakes - an idyllic scene**. (4)**  

We prepared breakfast and lunch on board using the ample facilities, but when we wanted a more substantial meal there was a good choice of pubs, often with a blazing log fire, in canalside villages such as Talybont-on-Usk. At the *Coach and Horses* in Langynidr there was a particularly tasty, wide-ranging menu: the Portuguese owner, Abilio, explained that he arrived here as chef but liked it so much he decided to buy the whole pub and settle down.

One of the liberating aspects of canal boating is that you can moor up for the night almost wherever the fancy takes you. We just hammered in the mooring spikes, tied-up, placed a plank across to the bank and our mobile home was all set for the night**. (5)**  

Brecon is best-known for its annual Jazz Festival when the whole town comes to life with the sound of music and of people having a good time. Sadly, we weren't able to sample the event this time - but we did manage to visit nearby Hay-on-Wye, the fascinating "town of second-hand books" established by Richard Booth in 1961, on our way back to the airport.

Part Three: USE OF ENGLISH

**Section One: Cloze**

**Directions:** Read the text and the sentences below .For each gap choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits the space. Mark your answers on the *ANSWER SHEET.*

**Text**

**Too Much Homework, Too Little Time**

A 15-year-old young girl sits at her desk, reviewing her homework tasks for the evening. English: read three chapters of the novel and write a journal response. Math: complete 30 problems,

**1. A. accounting B. justifying C. reasoning** **D. grounding**. Science: do a worksheet, front and back, not forgetting to list your sources. French: study vocabulary for tomorrow's test. Clearly, it’s going to be a long night.

This describes a typical weeknight for students across the USA. And it’s all over the news: kids are spending a lot of time **2. A. for B. on C. with D. above** homework. According to some, it’s way too much. With the current emphasis on high-stakes testing — i.e. doing tests with important **3. A. conclusions B. effects C. traces D. consequences** for the test taker - educators are trying to do more with less, which results in an overabundance of schoolwork outside of school. Some critics say there is no **4. A. support B. evidence C. testament D. point** to suggest that homework is helpful to student achievement; **5. A. on the contrary B. on the other hand C. on the average D. on one hand,** too much of it can overwhelm students and cause them to disengage. Others, however, claim that homework is necessary, especially if it is designed in such a way that students can |**6. A. practise B. exercise C. perform D. play**  the concepts taught in class, build good study habits, and reflect on their own learning. According to the |**7. A. headlines B. guidelines C. outlines** **D. underlines** endorsed by the National Education Association (NEA), a student should be |**8. A. appointed B. assigned C. attributed** **D. agreed** no more than 10 minutes per grade level per night. For example, a first grader should only have 10 minutes of homework, a second grader - 20 minutes, and so on. This means that a student in my grade - tenth - should have no more than 100 minutes of work each night. Yet this is often doubled, sometimes even tripled! Thus I’m cascaded with homework tasks every day and I have to **9. A. stay up B. sit around C. stand by** **D. be ready** until 11 o’clock at night more often than not. Obviously, this is a |**10. A. dread B. fright C. drawback D. threat** to my health as a developing teenager. It could stunt my growth because it causes a lot of fatigue and stress: everyone knows that no good sleep leads to no good grades.

***Banked text***

**Directions**: *Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Write your answer on the ANSWER SHEET.*

Swimming is generally considered to be **1……………** of the best ways of exercising the whole body without risk of injury. According to health experts, it can also ease back pain and even reduce blood pressure. There is only one problem: to enjoy all the benefits of swimming, you **2………………** to do it properly. **3……………….**you visited your local swimming pool and just watched, you might be surprised to see **4………………..** badly many people swim. Poor technique may result from a number of factors including anxiety, the swimmer’s lack **5….....................** body awareness, or just a concern about **6…………………….**their hair wet. What’s **7…………………,** swimming techniques do not always improve with practice. **8……………………**the contrary, once people have fallen **9………………** bad habits, they tend to be stuck with them. For all those keen to learn to swim properly, and so **10………………** advantage of all the health benefits, there is now something known as the Shaw Method.

**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, circle the letter (A, B, C or D) of the underlined part that contains the mistake. Mark your answers on the *ANSWER SHEET.*

1. Tina’s mother used to sav. “It is not Thanksgiving unless there is no turkey on the table” and

**A B**

indeed, we all remember her serving a big traditional dinner every year: roasted turkey, mashed

**C**

potatoes, com bread, and of course, pumpkin pie for dessert.

**D**

1. Yesterday I tested the hypothesis that walking fast bums more calories than running: I ran on a

**A**

treadmill for two minutes and then, after a ten-minutes rest to allow my heart rate to return to

**B C**

normal, I repeated the same thing walking.

**D**

1. The fashion of painting one’s nails was popularized by French makeup artist Michelle Ménard

**A**

as early as the 1920's, but obviously women were slow to catch on it.

**B C D**

4. The rating system for electronic games is similar to the movie rating system in that it provides

**A B**

consumers with a quick reference which makes easier for them to determine whether the subject matter and contents are appropriate **C D**

5. Atoms that have the same atomic number, and therefore the same number of protons, but

**A B**

differ in their number of neutrons are said to have been isotopes of each other.

**C D**

**Section Three** **WORD FORMATION**

**Directions:** *Read the text below and fill in the gaps using the words in CAPITALS to form a new word. Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET*

Albert Einstein was going on a cross-country lecture tour to deliver a speech on his **1…………………………….(GROUND**) new theory. On the sixteenth day of the trip, while travelling to yet another **2…………………………..(ENGAGE)**, he mentioned to his chauffeur that he was tired of **3…………………………(LECTURE)** and eager to get back to his **4…………………………(LABOR)** work. The chauffeur, a good-humored, **5………………………..(EASY)** fellow who somewhat resembled Einstein in looks and manner, turned to the scientist and said:

"I have an idea, boss. I've heard your speech so many times that I know it by heart by now. Why don’t I give it for you while you take a break?" Einstein laughed **6………………….(LOUD)** and said, "Why not? Let's do it!"

When they arrived at the lecture hall, Einstein put on the chauffeur's cap and jacket and sat in the back row. The chauffeur gave the speech and even answered a few questions. Then an **7………………………(EXTREME)** pompous professor asked a rather complicated question about anti-matter **8…………………………..(FORM),** showing off his **9……………………………(COMPETE)** to both the audience and the lecturer. The chauffeur was panic-stricken for a second but quickly recovered. He fixed the **10……………………….(SNOB)** professor with a steely stare and said, "Sir, the answer to that question is so simple that I will let my chauffeur, who is sitting over there in the back, answer it for me."

**Section four SENTENCE COMPLETION**

**Directions:** For each sentence below choose the word or expression that best completes its meaning. For each sentence, circle the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or expression that you have chosen. Mark your answers on the *ANSWER SHEET.*

1. The government had not the income tax for eight years until last month.

**A. raised B. arisen C. risen D. aroused**

1. Elizabeth really regretted her bad choice of words: it was a mistake that she

**A. was not to have made B. didn’t have to make C. ought not to have made D. couldn’t make**

3. Because of a few technical glitches my boss……. we left the computer disconnected.

**A. had sooner B. would rather C. had better D. no sooner had**

4. In the past, people used to receive information from a finite number of traditional media products, ………. ………..now we can utilize a huge range of online sources.

**A. notwithstanding B. whereas C. unlike D. nevertheless**

5……………….William has a master’s degree in business administration, he cannot fill out his tax form

1. **In spite B. Despite C. No matter D. Even though**

**Section five: SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION**

Directions: Transform each sentence below beginning with the word given. Preserve the meaning of the original sentence. Write your answers on the *ANSWER SHEET.*

1. “May I leave the room?” said Nick.

Nick asked the teacher to leave the room.

1. The rescue crew did not find the young pilot soon enough to save his life.

If the rescue crew ,

1. The children were very excited and they couldn’t get a wink of sleep.

So excited they couldn’t get a wink of sleep.

1. Although Michael was able to attract a good number of investors, he never realized the profit he hoped for.

Despite to attract a good number of

investors, he never realized the profit he hoped for.

1. In the past people thought that bilingual speakers were disadvantaged.

In the past bilingual speakers disadvantaged.

Part Four WRITING

Directions: Write an essay of about 200 - 220 words on ONE of the following topics. Comment drawing upon your own experience, observations or reading. Write your essay on the *A NS WER SHEET.*

1. Is it always important to tell the truth, or are there circumstances in which it is better to tell a lie? Give specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.
2. What is one of the most important skills a person should learn in order to be successful in the world today? Choose one skill and use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.