



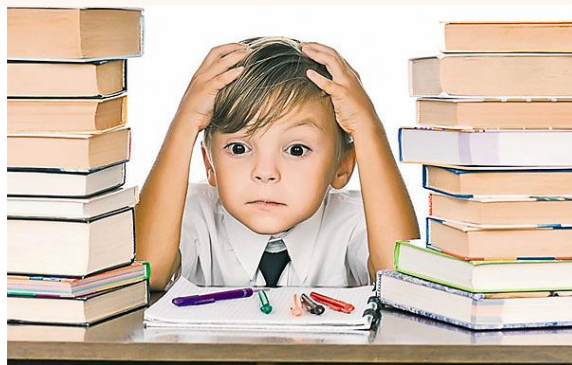
Nadina Vişan

Practise Your English

Manual pentru admiterea în învățământul superior



Editat de
Lidia Vianu



CONTEMPORARY
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The University of Bucharest. 2015

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Manual pentru admiterea în învățământul superior

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Editat de Lidia Vianu

Lansăm din nou un manual de pregătire pentru examenul de admitere la Facultatea de Engleză din București. El se adresează în primul rând liceenilor și profesorilor lor. Primele 5 teste au în partea a doua a cărții o cheie posibilă și instrucțiuni de rezolvare. Restul testelor necesită, desigur, prezența unui profesor.

Autoarea manualului, Nadina Vișan, predă la Facultatea de Limbi și Literaturi Străine din cadrul Universității București.

Dorim mult noroc viitorilor noștri tineri colegi, care se pregătesc să dea la vară examenul de admitere la engleză!

Lidia Vianu



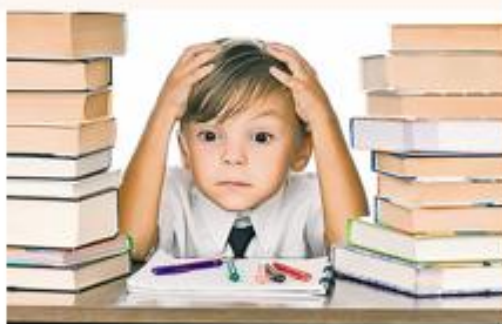
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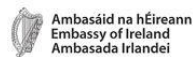


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Lidia Vianu
Executive Advisor
George Sandulescu



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Holograph
list of the
40
languages
used by
James Joyce
in writing
*Finnegans
Wake*

Director
Lidia Vianu
Executive Advisor
**George
Sandulescu**

Nadina Vişan

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Nadina Vişan
Practise Your English
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Dear Readers,

This book is meant to help all those who wish to further their knowledge of English with a view to attending the English programme of the University of Bucharest. Many of the exercises offered here were already submitted on entrance examination sheets, and their solving will, without doubt, prove useful for those people who have made up their minds to try for college.

The book is also intended for those who simply enjoy brushing up their English and who are keen on reading and translating high quality English texts. Many of the texts selected here were adapted from the works of some of the greatest English writers, and might prove invaluable for a learner of this language.

The book offers some suggested answers (with comments) for the first five tests, and will thus help students check their own work and improve their own answers. My intention was to whet your appetite for English. I do hope I have managed to do so, and that you will find as much joy in reading the texts and in solving the tests as I did when I put them together.

The Author

Teste: Practise Your English



1.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Old Mrs Mingott's foreign daughters had become a legend. They never came back to see their mother, and as the latter was, like many persons of active mind and dominating will, sedentary and corpulent in her habit, she had philosophically remained at home. But the cream-coloured house was there as a visible proof of her moral courage; and she rested in it as placidly as if there were nothing peculiar in living on that street. Everyone was agreed that old Catherine Mingott had never had beauty—a gift which, in the eyes of New York, justified every success, and excused a certain number of failings. Unkind people said that, like Catherine the Great, her Imperial namesake, she had won her way to success by strength of will and hardness of heart, and a kind of pride that was somehow justified by the extreme decency and dignity of her private life. Mr Manson Mingott had died when she was only twenty-eight, and had 'tied up' the money with an additional caution born of a general distrust; but his bold young widow went her way fearlessly, mingled freely in foreign society and married her daughters in heaven knew what corrupt and fashionable circles.

[Adapted from *The Age of Innocence*, by Edith Wharton]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Am ştiut tot ce se petrecea între voi, căci mă vizita deseori. Puteam astfel şti ce se întâmplă. Nu-mi spunea nimic, dar mă pricepeam să-l descos, fără ca să aibă vreo bănuială. Îi pricinuiam nelinişti, imaginam evenimente, puteam să-l fac să creadă orice. Aveam imense bucurii ca să-l chinui, dar cine va şti febrilitatea mea bolnavă producându-mi astfel de satisfacţii? Eu rămâneam pe multă vreme distrus, în timp ce el se refăcea imediat, fie că—om sănătos—nu-l puteam multă vreme covârşi tristeţile, fie că tu, cu care se întâlnea curând, aveai să-l consolezi prin vorbe. Discuţiile dintre noi evoluau în general asupra literaturii, dar fiecare ascundea alte emoţii, căci în fiecare vorbă sau gest ne cercetam, şi unul şi altul încântat de ce putea să-i ascundă



celuilalt.

[Adapted from *O moarte*, by Anton Holban]

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Turn the following sentences from active to passive:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. Who delivered this news?
- b. Will mother allow him to leave?

2. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. I would rather they do this by themselves.
- b. First he entered and then he went on scolding us.

3. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

(2 x 1 points)

- a. It was nice of you to give me the money. **WHICH**
- b. In your place, I would be vexed, too. **WERE**

4. Show the difference in meaning between the following sentences in pairs:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. I tried to smoke but I choked. / I tried smoking and found it disgusting.
- b. She's listening to the news. / She listens to a lot of news.

5. Choose the correct answer:

(4 x 0.5 points)

Nadina Vişan
Practise Your English
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- a. His growing anxiety..... to prevent him from doing his job.
A is starting B starts C is started D were starting
- b. John leave the hospital only two days after his accident.
A was able to B could C can D is able to
- c. The two little girls to the zoo during that summer.
A enjoy being taken B enjoyed being taken C were enjoyed taking
D enjoyed taking
- d. When you your letter, give it to me to post it.
A written B had written C having written D have written

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

American literature is a branch of English literature, as truly as are English books written in Scotland or South Africa. Our literature lies almost entirely in the nineteenth century when the ideas and books of the western world were freely interchanged among the nations and became accessible to an increasing number of readers. In literature nationality is determined by language rather than by blood or geography. M. Maeterlinck, born a subject of King Leopold, belongs to French literature. Mr. Joseph Conrad, born in Poland, is already an English classic. Geography, much less important in the nineteenth century than before, was never, among modern European nations, so important as we sometimes are asked to believe. Of the ancestors of English literature "Beowulf" is scarcely more significant, and rather less graceful, than our tree-inhabiting forebears with prehensile toes; the true progenitors of English literature are Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Italian, and French.

[From *American Literature*, by John Macy]

[progenitor – a person in one's family who was born a long time ago;
Beowulf is an Old English epic poem;
forebear – ancestor;
prehensile – flexible.]



Nadina Vişan
Practise Your English
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- What is the importance of geography with respect to literature?
- Why do you think that the author mentions monkeys in the context of literature?



2.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

We had nearly finished our coffee, and our cake, when heavy raindrops started falling; quicker and quicker they came, coming through the tender leaves as if they were tearing them apart; all the people in the garden were hurrying under shelter, or seeking for their carriages standing outside. Up the steps the miller came hastening, with a crimson umbrella, fit to cover every one left in the garden, and followed by his daughter, and one or two servants, each bearing an umbrella. "Come into the house—come in, I say. It is a summer-storm, and will flood the place for an hour or two, till the river carries it away. Here, here." And we followed him back into his own house. We went into the kitchen first. The red floor was spotless when we went in, but in two minutes it was all over slop and dirt with the tread of many feet; for the kitchen was filled, and still the worthy miller kept bringing in more people under his great crimson umbrella. He even called the dogs in, and made them lie down under the tables.

[Adapted from *The Grey Woman*, by Elizabeth Gaskell]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

În acea seară, eram în așa hal de sfârșeală că n-aș fi crezut să mă pot scula nici să fi luat casa foc. Dar deodată mă pomenii cu mine în mijlocul odăii, în picioare, uitându-mă speriat la ceasornic. Mi-adusesem aminte că eram poftit la masă de Pantazi. Ce noroc că mă deșteptasem; mare noroc! Privii acum cu recunoștință scrisoarea părintească; fără ea scăpam întâlnirea cu cel mai scump prieten. Mă îmbrăcai și ieșii. Era, spre căderea iernii, o vreme de lacrimi. Deși nu plouase, tot era ud; șanțurile plâneau, ramurile copacilor desfrunziți picurau, pe tulpine și pe grilaje se prelingeau ca o sudoare rece, stropi groși. Țasta e timpul care îndeamnă cel mai mult la băutură; rarii trecători ce se prefirau prin ceață erau mai toți afumați. Un lungan, coborând scările unei cârciumi, căzu grămadă și nu se mai sculă. Întorsei capul dezgustat.

[Adapted from *Craii de Curtea Veche*, by Mateiu Caragiale]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Turn the following sentences from active to passive:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. I forgive you, my friend.
- b. They say he defected.

2. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. She is know to have written an excellent essay.
- b. The grass is too wet to sit on it.

3. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentences printed before them:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. Why did John turn down his proposal? I'd rather ...
- b. The streets were muddy. There...

4. Show the difference in meaning between the following sentences in pairs; concentrate on the underlined phrases:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. They have been separated for two weeks. / They separated two weeks ago.
- b. There might be trouble ahead. / There must be trouble ahead.

5. Choose the correct answer:

(4 x 0.5 points)

- a. until 10 o'clock yesterday.

A I have been cycling B I cycled C I was cycling D I have cycled

b. We Poland twice during the 2000s.

A used to visit B would visit C visited D will visit

c. run for president.

A Mark was decided to B there was decided that Mark should

C it was decided that Mark should D Mark had been decided to

d. Jim noticed the car..... away from the bank.

A to speed B speed C speeding D have sped

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

An example of what seems to be the American habit of writing about everything except American life, is the work of General Lew Wallace. Wallace was one of the important secondary generals in the Civil War, distinguished at Fort Donelson and at Shiloh. After the war he wrote "Ben-Hur," a doubly abominable book, because it is not badly written and it shows a lively imagination. There is nothing in it so valuable, so dramatically significant as a week in Wallace's war experiences. "Ben-Hur," fit work for a country clergyman with a pretty literary gift, is a ridiculous inanity to come from a man who has seen the things that Wallace saw! It is understandable that the man of experience may not write at all, and, on the other hand, that the man of secluded life may have the imagination to make a military epic. But for a man crammed with experience of the most dramatic sort and discovering the ability and the ambition to write—for him to make spurious oriental romances which achieve an enormous popularity! The case is too grotesque to be typical, yet it is exceptional in degree rather than in kind.

[From *American Literature*, by John Macy]

[clergyman – a male priest, or a religious leader, especially a Christian one;

inanity – total lack of meaning or ideas;

secluded – isolated, private, not near other people or other places;

epic (poem) – a lengthy, narrative poem;

crammed – packed, loaded;



spurious – not reasonable or correct, not based on true facts.]

—What is the point that the author is trying to make?

—Why is a book such as *Ben Hur* considered to be ‚doubly abominable’? Use your own words to explain and comment upon the validity of Macy’s opinion.



3.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

"The picture must not be shown. You must not be angry with me, Dorian, for what I have told you. As I said to Harry, once, you are made to be worshipped."

Dorian Gray drew a long breath. The color came back to his cheeks, and a smile played about his lips. The peril was over. He was safe for the time. Yet he could not help feeling infinite pity for the young man who had just made this strange confession to him. He wondered if he would ever be so dominated by the personality of a friend. Lord Harry had the charm of being very dangerous. But that was all. He was too clever and too cynical to be really fond of. Would there ever be someone who would fill him, Dorian, with a strange idolatry? Was that one of the things that life had in store?

[Adapted from *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, by Oscar Wilde]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Un prieten de când lumea, așa-mi păruse deși, înainte de anul acela, nici nu-i bănuisem măcar ființa pe lume. Se ivise în București cam o dată cu întâile frunze. De atunci îl întâlneam mereu și pretutindeni. De la început îmi făcuse plăcere să-l văd, cu timpul căutasem chiar prilejul. Sunt ființe care prin câte ceva, uneori fără a ști ce anume, deșteaptă în noi o vie curiozitate, ațâțându-ne închipuirea să făurească asupra-le mici romane. M-am muștră pentru slăbiciunea ce-am avut pentru asemenea ființe; căci plătisem scump această slăbiciune. De data asta, peste curiozitate se altoia covârșitor un simțământ nou: o apropiere sufletească mergând până la înduioșare. Să fi fost pentru că omul era așa de fermecător de trist? Cu puțință, la dânsul numai ochii spunând atâtea. De un albastru rar, privirea lor, nespus de dulce, părea a urmări, îngândurată și plină de nostalgie, amintirea unui vis.

[Adapted from *Craii de Curtea Veche*, by Mateiu Caragiale]

III.

(9 + 1 points)



1. Turn the following sentences from active to passive:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. They should have revealed the truth to Susan.
- b. Bill is drawing a sketch of the mountains.

2. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. Mary have remembered her father's birthday.
- b. I will give you the book after you will enter the room.

3. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

(2 x 1 points)

- a. Who did you send the letter, Mary? **WHOM**
- b. I made Jim tell me the truth about the contest. **HAD**

4. Show the difference in meaning between the following sentences in pairs:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. I have been chewing gum for an hour already. / I chewed gum for an hour.
- b. You needn't leave your shoes outside the apartment. / You shouldn't leave your shoes outside the apartment.

5. Choose the correct answer:

(4 x 0.5 points)

- a. He as a quarterback in the team for two years.
A has played B has been playing C is played D is playing
- b. The new inspector next week.
A arrived B is supposed to be arrived C is arriving D will be arrived

c. Jim's wife as a shop-assistant before she married Jim.
A has worked B has been working C would work D had worked

d. I with the party, but I had to leave for London unexpectedly.
A was to have helped B helped C was to help D had helped

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Within the last two years she had begun to be moved by an ambition to draw. She began as most children do by scribbling in her school books, funny pictures. She bought cartoon magazines and took a course—rather casually, naturally, for she was, after all, a child with no strong purposes—and this year she tasted the first fruits of success by having her pictures accepted by the High School Annual. But the thrill of delight she got when Mr. Ecord, of the Normal Annual, asked her to do the cartooning for that book this spring, was too beautiful for words. She fell to her work with all her enthusiastic heart. Her drawings were accepted, and her pride—always repressed by a lively sense of the ridiculousness of the figure she was cutting—was a really gorgeous thing to see. No successful artist ever drank a deeper draught of satisfaction than she took from the little fame her work was getting among her schoolfellows. In her glory, she almost forgot her horse—but never her car.

[From *Mary White*, by William Allen White]

[draught—a serving of drink or a dose of liquid medicine.]

—In your own words, try to create a portrait of the character. What were her qualities and her flaws?

—Do you agree with the statement “she was a child with no strong purposes”? Support your opinion with arguments.

4.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

When Edna entered the dining-room one evening a little late, as was her habit, an unusually animated conversation seemed to be going on. Several persons were talking at once, and Victor's voice was predominating, even over that of his mother. Edna had returned late from her bath, had dressed in some haste, and her face was flushed. Her head, set off by her dainty white gown, suggested a rich, rare blossom. She took her seat at table between old Monsieur Farival and Madame Ratignolle. As she seated herself and was about to begin to eat her soup, which had been served when she entered the room, several persons informed her simultaneously that Robert was going to Mexico. She laid her spoon down and looked about her bewildered. He had been with her, reading to her all the morning, and had never even mentioned such a place as Mexico. She had not seen him during the afternoon; she had heard someone say he was at the house, upstairs with his mother. This she had thought nothing of, though she was surprised when he did not join her later in the afternoon, when she went down to the beach.

[From *The Awakening*, by Kate Chopin]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Învăţături nu-ţi mai dau, căci e de prisos; când umbra ta, ca umbră încă, va începe a vorbi, ea va fi atotştiutoare şi-ţi va spune ce trebuie să faci; când te vei muta tu în firea ei, atunci vei fi tu atotştiutor şi în orice caz nu mai ai nevoie de mine. Dar vei fi băgat de samă o împrejurare: cartea mea, citind-o în şir, rămâne neînţeleasă... dar orideunde-i începe, răsfoind tot la a şaptea filă, o limpezime dumnezeiască e în fiecare şir.

Aceasta e o taină pe care nici eu n-o pricep, şi se zice că unui om încredinţat despre fiinţa lui Dumnezeu nici nu-i poate veni în minte cugetul ascuns în această ciudată numărătoare. În zadar ţi-i întreba şi umbra... ea nu ştie nimic despre această taină. Se zice că Diavolului înainte de cădere i-ar fi plesnit în minte această obscură idee şi de atunci a căzut. De ţi-ar veni în minte să ştii, se risipesc toate dimprejuru-ţi,



timp şi spaţiu fug din sufletul tău, şi rămâi asemenea unei crengi uscate, din care vremea asemenea a fugit. Neştiind eu singur această taină, căci, cum am spus, nici nu sunt în stare să-mi treacă prin minte, nici nu te pot sfătui în această privinţă.

[From *Sărmanul Dionis*, by Mihai Eminescu]

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. He casted every doubt away.
- b. They gave him thousands of money to spend on gifts.

2. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

(2 x 1 points)

- a. You could only visit him after he had done his homework. **UNTIL**
- b. We didn't have much money left so we had to hitchhike. **LITTLE**

3. Fill each of the blanks with a suitable word or phrase:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. You had better to make this mistake again, or else!
- b. Unfortunately we to attend the party and we're sorry for it.

4. Fill the gaps with an appropriate verb:

(6 x 0.5 points)

It is several weeks since my physician me to take this medicine and I well at all. It be because he me the wrong medicine or because he the dosage wrong. Who.....?

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

It is very restful to give up all effort at observing human nature and drawing social and political deductions from trifles, and to let oneself relapse into wide-mouthed worship of the wonders of nature. And this is very easy at Niagara. Niagara means nothing. It is not leading anywhere. It does not result from anything. It throws no light on the effects of Protection, nor on the Facility for Divorce in America, nor on Corruption in Public Life, nor on Canadian character, nor even on the Navy Bill. It is merely a great deal of water falling over some cliffs. But it is very remarkably that. The human race, apt as a child to destroy what it admires, has done its best to surround the Falls with every distraction, incongruity, and vulgarity. Hotels, powerhouses, bridges, trams, picture post-cards, sham legends, stalls, booths, rifle-galleries, and side-shows frame them about [...]. And in the midst of all this, overwhelming it all, are the Falls. He who sees them instantly forgets humanity. They are not very high, but they are overpowering. They are divided by an island into two parts, the Canadian and the American.

[From *Niagara Falls*, by Rupert Brooke]

[trifle – a thing that does not matter, something unimportant;
relapse – fall back, return to.]

- What is the point that the author is trying to make?
- Do you agree with the statement “He who sees the Falls instantly forgets humanity.”? Motivate your answer.
- Why do you think the author mentions America and Canada twice in the excerpt?

5.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

There is, as every schoolboy knows in this scientific age, a very close chemical relation between coal and diamonds. It is the reason, I believe, why some people allude to coal as "black diamonds." Both these commodities represent wealth; but coal is a much less portable form of property. There is, from that point of view, a deplorable lack of concentration in coal. Now, if a coal-mine could be put into one's waistcoat pocket—but it can't! At the same time, there is a fascination in coal, the supreme commodity of the age in which we are camped like bewildered travellers in a garish, unrestful hotel. And I suppose those two considerations, the practical and the mystical, prevented Heyst—Axel Heyst—from going away.

The Tropical Belt Coal Company went into liquidation. The world of finance is a mysterious world in which, incredible as the fact may appear, evaporation precedes liquidation. First the capital evaporates, and then the company goes into liquidation. These are very unnatural physics, but they account for the persistent inertia of Heyst, at which we "out there" used to laugh among ourselves—but not inimically.

[From *Victory*, by Joseph Conrad]

[garish – very bright and colourful but in an ugly way.]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

—Ano! grăi bărbatul înduioşat. Nu vorbi așa cu mine, acum, tocmai acum nu vorbi așa. Ai dreptate să fii mâhnită: m-am dus fără de veste, așa zicând, și nu ți-am spus, precum ar fi trebuit, cum stau lucrurile. Află acum că astă-noapte l-au bătut pe unul hoții de moarte și-au luat de la el bani, aur și argintărie, tot ce-au găsit și putut duce. Află că m-au luat și pe mine la bănuială, și că abia m-au lăsat să mă întorc acasă. Acum, întorcându-mă de la Ineu, am găsit în drum o trăsură boierească și lângă ea un copil ucis și aruncat la marginea drumului. Cine-a mai fost în trăsura aceea? Spune-mi, ca să-l vestesc pe Pinte.

Ana stătea ca un stâlp de piatră înaintea lui și asculta cu încordată luare-aminte,



însă cuvintele lui parcă îi sunau a sec în urechi şi nu puteau să străbată până la inima ei, tulburată de alte gânduri.

—O femeie a fost, zise ea, o domnişoară, o văduvă tânără! Mai ştiu eu cine!? Vor fi dus-o cu dâşii, căci era tânără şi frumoasă, urmă ea cu patimă, plină la faţă şi la trup, iară voi, bărbaţii, nu vă gândiţi decât la d-alde astea.

[Adapted from *Moara cu noroc*, by Ioan Slavici]

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Find the mistakes in each of the following sentences and correct them:

(4 x 0.5 points)

- a. My feet are killing me! I need to lay down.
- b. It is important that you to keep this secret.
- c. They didn't know what did I do to earn that money.
- d. This books are quite interesting.

2. Complete the sentences with an appropriate verb, using either the present perfect or the simple past:

(4 x 0.5 points)

- a. I haven't been able to sing since I my vocal chords in an accident.
- b. When they heard the news, they to jump for joy.
- c. They the door properly, it's hanging open!
- d. We too much money on books this month already.

3. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

(4 x 0.5 points)

- a. He believes Susan could improve her skills. **ENOUGH**
- b. There were a lot of magazines on the table, around twenty of them. **AS**
- c. Don't bother yourself, I can manage. **NEED**



d. I intend to get an even higher number of awards. **MUCH**

4. Fill in the blanks with ONE word only:

(6 x 0.5 points)

One never expects to find in trouble, but when one does, one..... to pull oneself out as soon as..... Advice is to help, if by a good friend, really knows how to prompt one into acting.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Infancy is not what it is cracked up to be. The child seems happy all the time to the adult, because the adult knows that the child is untouched by the real problems of life; if the adult were similarly untouched he is sure that he would be happy. But children, not knowing that they are having an easy time, have a good many hard times. Growing and learning and obeying the rules of their elders, or fighting against them, are not easy things to do. Adolescence is certainly far from a uniformly pleasant period. Early manhood might be the most glorious time of all were it not that the sheer excess of life and vigor gets a fellow into continual scrapes. Of middle age the best that can be said is that a middle aged person has likely learned how to have a little fun in spite of his troubles. It is to old age that we look for reimbursement, the most of us. And most of us look in vain. For the most of us have been wrenched and racked, in one way or another, until old age is the most trying time of all.

[From *The Almost Perfect State*, by Don Marquis]

[wrench—twist and pull violently;

rack—make someone suffer from pain or unpleasant feelings.]

—Which age is the most rewarding and which is most difficult? Enlarge on the author's opinion in your own words.

—What is the difference between adolescence and middle age? Comment on the author's opinion with respect to this issue.

6.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

One morning the Giant was lying awake in bed when he heard some lovely music. It sounded so sweet to his ears that he thought it must be the King's musicians passing by. It was really only a little bird singing outside his window, but it was so long since he had heard a bird sing in his garden that it seemed to him to be the most beautiful music in the world. [...] "I believe the Spring has come at last," said the Giant; and he jumped out of bed and looked out. What did he see? He saw a most wonderful sight. Through a little hole in the wall the children had crept in, and they were sitting in the branches of the trees. In every tree that he could see there was a little child. And the trees were so glad to have the children back again that they had covered themselves with blossoms, and were waving their arms gently above the children's heads. The birds were flying about and twittering with delight, and the flowers were looking up through the green grass and laughing. It was a lovely scene, only in one corner it was still winter. It was the farthest corner of the garden, and in it was standing a little boy.

[From *The Selfish Giant*, by Oscar Wilde]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Într-altă scrisoare donna Alba îi imputa lui Tudor Buzescu că într-o societate, în mijlocul căreia se găseau amândoi, el se arătase prea rezervat față de dânsa. Rezerva și-o impuseseră, e drept, anticipat, dar el păstrase o atitudine prea severă, "prea rigidă" [...]. De două ori se întâlniseră astfel în saloane străine, arătându-se unul altuia reci și străini. Totuși, a doua oară ea-i reproșa că depășise măsura dincoace, se dovedise acum prea îndrăzneț și exuberant, chiar dacă intenția lui fusese să acopere buna lui dispoziție cu zarva pe care izbutise s-o stârnească între fetele de față, ce-i făceau curte asiduă. *A propos* de fete, donna Alba îl îndemna cu un straniu persiflaj să-și aleagă una din ele, era curioasă să-i afle gustul, altfel i-ar fi indicat-o chiar dânsa. Dar găsea necesar, "vorbind serios", ca el să se însoare. Îl sfătuia să reflecteze mai



adânc la asta; ea însăşi şi-ar fi simţit cu conştiinţa uşurată, dacă el ar fi fost însurat.

[Adapted from *Donna Alba*, by Gib Mihăescu]

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Correct these sentences if necessary:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. I think she believe herself to be rather intelligent.
- b. None of the people which came to visit us were very entertaining.
- c. You should think of yourself as person who will fix everything.

2. In each of the sentences below identify the correct verb form:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. I suggest *to look / looking* over the plan once more.
- b. Many of us *have / has* an idea about what is going on in that house.
- c. John is *starting / started* on the wrong foot.

3. Fill the gaps with an appropriate verb:

(3 x 0.5 points)

Before I my future wife, I as miserable as everybody else I..... friends with.

4. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

(3 x 1 points)

- a. Although they wanted to get married, they could not set a date. **SPITE**
- b. You should have proposed to her already. **TIME**
- c. The prospect of meeting him again filled her with horror. **AT**



5. Fill each of the blanks in the following passage. Use only ONE word in each space.

(6 x 0.5 points)

People have tendency to visits to their physician at very notice and seem take it very badly when they told that the physician is engaged.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Any system of government under which the individual does all the sacrificing for the sake of the general good, for the sake of the community, the State, gets off on its wrong foot. We don't want things that cost us too much. We don't want too much strain all the time. The best good that you can possibly achieve is not good enough if you have to strain yourself all the time to reach it. A thing is only worth doing, and doing again and again, if you can do it rather easily, and get some joy out of it. Do the best you can, without straining yourself too much and too continuously, and leave the rest to God. If you strain yourself too much you'll have to ask God to patch you up. And for all you know, patching you up may take time that it was planned to use some other way.

BUT... overstrain yourself now and then. For this reason: The things you create easily and joyously will not continue to come easily and joyously unless you yourself are getting bigger all the time. And when you overstrain yourself you are assisting in the creation of a new self—if you get what we mean.

[From *The Almost Perfect State*, by Don Marquis]

[patch someone up – mend by putting a patch on.]

—Comment upon the following oppositions used by the author in the text: individual/community, sacrifice/joy, strain/ease. What is the point that the author is trying to make?

—What does the author mean by 'a new self'?

7.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Little Hans had a great many friends, but the most devoted friend of all was big Hugh the Miller. Indeed, so devoted was the rich Miller to little Hans, that he would never go by his garden without leaning over the wall and plucking a large bouquet, or a handful of sweet herbs, or filling his pockets with plums and cherries if it was the fruit season. "Real friends should have everything in common," the Miller used to say, and little Hans nodded and smiled, and felt very proud of having a friend with such noble ideas. Sometimes, indeed, the neighbours thought it strange that the rich Miller never gave little Hans anything in return, though he had a hundred sacks of flour stored away in his mill, and six milch cows, and a large flock of woolly sheep; but Hans never troubled his head about these things, and nothing gave him greater pleasure than to listen to all the wonderful things the Miller used to say about the unselfishness of true friendship.

[From *The Devoted Friend*, by Oscar Wilde]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

—Atunci pentru ce te-ai dus la şcolile latineşti? întrebă dascălul cu totul domol. Aceasta era întrebarea la care se aştepta Huţu şi la care de mult îşi pregătise răspunsul; el făcu dar un pas înainte, îşi potrivi hainele pe trup, răsuflă o dată din greu, apoi grăi răspicat şi desluşit:

—Jupâne învăţător! Profesorul a zis că mă dă la facultate şi i-am spus că nu se poate, fiindcă d-ta ai zis că trebuie să mă duc la şcoala pedagogică, ca să mă fac învăţător. El a răspuns că tocmai spre a mă face învăţător trebuie să învăţ mai nainte latineşte. Eu atunci i-am spus că nu se poate, fiindcă d-ta ai zis că limba latinească e o limbă păgânească. El atunci a râs şi a zis că eu sunt prost, deoarece chiar limba românească e şi ea un fel de limbă latinească, şi că nu pot să fiu profesor dacă nu ştiu latineşte.

[Adapted from *Budulea taichii*, by Ioan Slavici]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

- a. I (play) chess for twenty years and (win) for as long a time. In fact I (start) playing when I turned 15.
- b. I wish the folks upstairs (not play) their records so loud. They (drive) me crazy! If I (not be) such a patient man I would call the police on them.

2. Show the difference in meaning between the following sentences in pairs, either by explaining each sentence or by rewriting the sentences in your own words:

(4 x 0.5 points)

- 1. a. I think he should be proud of your achievements.
b. I think he might be proud of your achievements.
- 2. a. He never leaves home without checking the door.
b. He is never leaving home without checking the door.

3. Replace the strings in italics using modal verbs:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. *It is impossible that he bought a car* without asking for money first.
- b. *They usually watch* old reruns on TV for hours and hours.

4. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. Go ask for some money from your friend's.
- b. He is such pushover!

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for

each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

There was need for him to be economical. His vacation had consumed nearly all he had earned in the laundry [...]. Except at such times as he saw Ruth, or dropped in to see his sister Gertude, he lived as a recluse, in each day accomplishing at least three days' labor of ordinary men. He slept a scant five hours, and only one with a constitution of iron could have held himself down, as Martin did, day after day, to nineteen consecutive hours of toil. He never lost a moment. On the looking-glass were lists of definitions and pronunciations; when shaving, or dressing, or combing his hair, he conned these lists over. Similar lists were on the wall over the oil-stove, and they were similarly conned while he was engaged in cooking or in washing the dishes. New lists continually displaced the old ones. Every strange or partly familiar word encountered in his reading was immediately jotted down, and later, when a sufficient number had been accumulated, were typed and pinned to the wall or looking-glass. He even carried them in his pockets, and reviewed them at odd moments on the street, or while waiting in butcher shop or grocery to be served.

[From *Martin Eden*, by Jack London]

[toil – hard work;

recluse – someone who lives alone, who avoids the company of others;

scant – mere;

to con – to commit to memory, to learn by heart.]

—What skills does Martin have? Support your opinion with arguments.

—What future profession do you think Martin will have? Support your opinion with arguments.

8.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Fumbling in her purse, she pressed a five-dollar piece into his hand. "I guess I forgot your last birthday, Martin," she mumbled lamely. Martin's hand instinctively closed on the piece of gold. In the same instant he knew he ought not to accept, and found himself struggling in the throes of indecision. That bit of gold meant food, life, and light in his body and brain, power to go on writing, and—who was to say?—maybe to write something that would bring in many pieces of gold. Clear on his vision burned the manuscripts of two essays he had just completed. He saw them under the table on top of the heap of returned manuscripts for which he had no stamps, and he saw their titles, just as he had typed them: "The High Priests of Mystery," and "The Cradle of Beauty." He had never submitted them anywhere. They were as good as anything he had done in that line. If only he had stamps for them! Then the certitude of his ultimate success rose up in him, an able ally of hunger, and with a quick movement he slipped the coin into his pocket.

[Adapted from *Martin Eden*, by Jack London]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Pâinea şi salamul mă luau de nas; migdalele şi alunele mă luau de urechi; toate mă întorceau spre coşul în care purtam greutatea unei fericiri străine. Să fi furat? Oh! tăceţi!... Nu ştiţi de câte ori m-a chinuit acest gând. Si nu m-a oprit morala creştină. Eram sigur că Dumnezeu ar fi ținut cu mine. Dar de unde ştiam eu ce însemnase băcanul într-un caiet mic? Si n-aţi cunoscut pe cocoana. Naltă, subţire, slabă şi cu nişte ochi... Doamne, ce ochi! Ce ochi ascuţiţi şi cum îi jucau în cap! Ochii ei, de m-ar fi ținuit un sfert de ceas, mi-ar fi găurit fruntea şi-ar fi trecut pe dincolo. Cum îi aduceam coşul, deschidea caietul, citea în gând, mişcând buzele, apoi se uita la mine: la mâini, la gură, la sân, la buzunare. Mi se părea că mă dezbrăca, că-mi scutura albiturile, rând pe rând, una după alta. Dupe cum ne deprinsese sa fim—laşi, mincinoşi, pârători, leneşi—ne-ar fi fost uşor să furăm, dar ochii cocoanei erau mai neînduraţi ca morala creştină.



Eram sigur că ochii ei, dintr-o aruncătură, cântăreau salamul şi numărau alunele şi migdalele!

[Adapted from *Domnul Vucea*, by B. Şt. Delavrancea]

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(4 x 0.5 points)

As soon as his cousin (depart), he started telling Jane how much he thought they (enjoy) themselves while Jim (be) gone. He was sure they (find) something to fill their time with.

2. Show the difference in meaning by rewriting the sentences in your own words:

(4 x 0.5 points)

- a. I don't believe Jim knows what he's doing. / I don't believe Jim knows what he does.
- b. You needn't have gone to the theatre. / You didn't need to go to the theatre.

3. Replace the strings in italics using modal verbs:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. *It is very unlikely that he married* his cousin out of a sheer sense of pity.
- b. If you don't believe you will be successful, you *have the option of quitting*.

4. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. The furniture he bought were broken.
- b. His books were so dirty books, that we had to leave them there.
- c. I cannot prevent him from go to his friend's party.

5. For each of the sentences below, write a new sentence as similar as possible in

meaning to the original sentence but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. Maybe you can describe the cover of that book to him. **LIKE**
- b. She is the best dressed person in her class. **BETTER**
- c. Their car was half the price of ours. **TWICE**

6. Fill in the blanks with a suitable word or phrase:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. I am sure that your the treasure in time will solve all your money problems.
- b. Only when I phoned my wife that she had taken the kids and left me.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Robert Hardy was our first ABOLITIONIST—awful name! [...] He was a New-Englander, a stranger. And, being a stranger, he was of course regarded as an inferior person—for that has been human nature from Adam down and of course, also, he was made to feel unwelcome, for this is the ancient law with man and the other animals. Hardy was thirty years old, and a bachelor; pale, given to reverie and reading. He was reserved, and seemed to prefer the isolation which had fallen to his lot. He was treated to many side remarks by his fellows, but as he did not resent them it was decided that he was a coward.

All of a sudden he proclaimed himself an abolitionist—straight out and publicly! He said that negro slavery was a crime, an infamy. For a moment the town was paralyzed with astonishment; then it broke into a fury of rage and swarmed toward the cooper-shop to lynch Hardy. But the Methodist minister made a powerful speech to them and stayed their hands. He proved to them that Hardy was insane and not responsible for his words; that no man COULD be sane and utter such words.

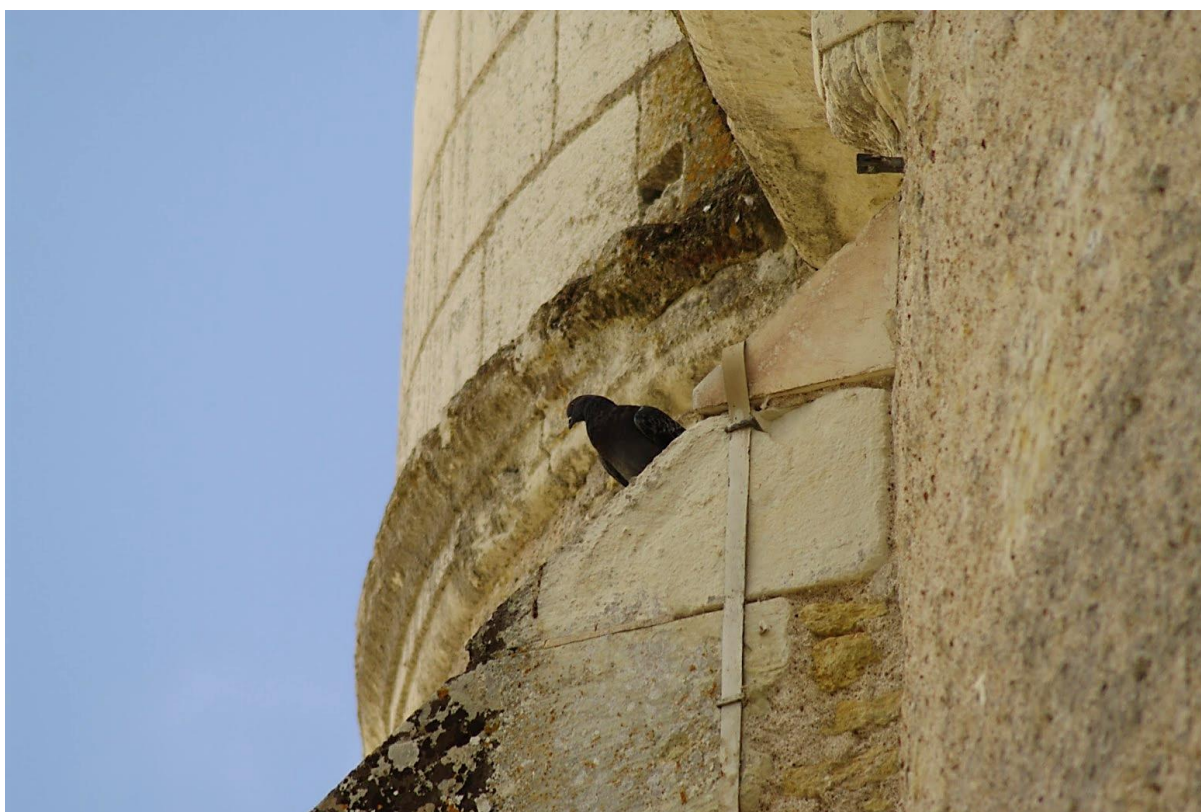
So Hardy was saved. Being insane, he was allowed to go on talking. He was found to be good entertainment. Several nights running he made abolition speeches in the open air, and all the town flocked to hear and laugh. He implored them to



believe him sane and sincere, and have pity on the poor slaves, and take measures for the restoration of their stolen rights, or in no long time blood would flow—blood, blood, rivers of blood!

[From *A Curious Scrap of History*, by Mark Twain]

- What is the author's attitude towards abolitionism?
- What is the town's attitude towards Hardy?



9.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

So they drifted on through the sultry weeks of July. At that season the business of the little shop almost ceased, and one Saturday morning Mr. Ramy proposed that the sisters should lock up early and go with him for a sail down the bay in one of the Coney Island boats. Ann Eliza saw the light in Evelina's eye and her resolve was instantly taken. "I guess I won't go, thank you kindly; but I'm sure my sister will be happy to." She was pained by the perfunctory phrase with which Evelina urged her to accompany them; and still more by Mr. Ramy's silence. "No, I guess I won't go," she repeated, rather in answer to herself than to them. "It's dreadfully hot and I've got a kind of headache." "Oh, well, I wouldn't then," said her sister hurriedly. "You'd better just sit here quietly and rest." "Yes, I'll rest," Ann Eliza assented.

[Adapted from *The Bunner Sisters*, by Edith Wharton]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

De hotărârea de a pieri nu m-am răzgândit pe deplin, am schimbat numai felul, alegând în locul morţii îndepărtarea. Chiar altminteri, cu vremea, aş fi isprăvit tot prin a mă înstrăina, aici ce mai rămânea să mă ispitească? Măririle poate? Dar în ţara unde tata nu voise să fie ministru şi străbunicul să fie domn, ce mai puteam eu râvni? Nu voiam să-mi jertfesc libertatea. De acum, stăpâni aveau să-mi fie numai fantezia şi capriciul. Altfel ar fi însemnat să mă arăt nevrednic de atâta noroc. Am şi avut; cu carul. Să vezi. Mai îmi rămăsese de stat în Bucureşti o noapte. Înainte să mă culc, voind să-mi iau dintr-un scrin paşaportul, am dat să trag sertarul unde îl pusesem, iar acesta, fiind prea plin, s-a înţepenit. A trebuit un ceas să-l smucesc şi să-l zgâlţâi ca să-i dau de hac şi atunci altă bucurie: năzdrăvanul de paşaport, cum era deasupra, căzuse după sertare, iar sertarele nu ieşeau de tot din rafturi. Mi-a venit să fac scrinul ţandări cu toporul, dar l-am cruţat, mulţumindu-mă să-i desprind o scândură din dos. Mi-am găsit paşaportul şi nu singur. Se mai afla acolo, mototolit, un plic mare galben pe care sta scris: "Testamentul meu".

[Adapted from *Craii de Curtea Veche*, by Mateiu Caragiale]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

- a. I have reached the conclusion that the philosophers are the most interesting people in this universe.
- b. My proposition was made for reminding her that she still has some friends.
- c. If you leave the turkey sandwiches out, they are spoiling.

2. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

- a. I have a friend who resembles me in everything. **ALIKE**
- b. Do you really believe he is going to help you? **CONVINCED**
- c. Her father promised to send her to school abroad. **MADE**

3. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentences printed before them:

- a. Almost no one believed he was going to make it. Few ...
- b. I have never made such a delicious pie before. It's
- c. We made dinner as soon as we finished peeling the potatoes. Only after
- d. I found that it was hard to understand what he was saying. I found.....

4. Fill the gaps with an appropriate preposition or particle:

He was on the verge telling his wife to shutwhen he heard a noise his head and had to step..... .

5. Choose the correct answer:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. Tom right after dinner.
A left B has left C will have left D had left
- b. You been so rude! Everybody heard you.

A needn't B needn't have C mustn't D need to

c. I avoided about his problems in front of his fiancée.

A to speak B speaking C told D having told

d. The man me this parcel is a foreigner.

A that have given B giving C who'll be giving D who is given

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

"Oh, brothers! I don't care for brothers. My elder brother won't die and my younger brothers seem never to do anything else." "Harry!" "My dear fellow, I am not quite serious. But I can't help detesting my relations. I suppose it comes from the fact that we can't stand other people having the same faults as ourselves. I quite sympathize with the rage of the English democracy against what they call the vices of the upper classes. They feel that drunkenness, stupidity, and immorality should be their own special property, and that if any one of us makes an ass of himself he is poaching on their preserves. When poor Southwark got into the Divorce Court, their indignation was quite magnificent. And yet I don't suppose that ten per cent of the lower orders live correctly." [...] Lord Henry replied: "How English you are, Basil! If one puts forward an idea to a real Englishman,—always a rash thing to do,—he never dreams of considering whether the idea is right or wrong."

[Adapted from *The Portrait of Dorian Gray*, by Oscar Wilde]

[to poach— to hunt animals on other people's property;
preserves— domain belonging to a specific person.]

—What is the point that Harry is trying to make?

—Why do you think Lord Henry makes a generalization about Englishmen at the end of their conversation?

10.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

He had the place for a long time—it seemed to him a quarter of an hour—to himself; and while Aunt Maud kept him and kept him waiting, while observation and reflexion crowded on him, he asked himself what was to be expected of a person who could treat one like that. The visit, the hour were of her own proposing, so that her delay, no doubt, was but part of a general plan of putting him to inconvenience. As he walked to and fro, however, taking in the message of her massive florid furniture, the immense expression of her signs and symbols, he had as little doubt of the inconvenience he was prepared to suffer. He found himself even facing the thought that he had nothing to fall back on, and that that was as great an humiliation in a good cause as a proud man could desire.

[Adapted from *The Wings of the Dove*, by Henry James]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Mi-adusei aminte că am părinți, care m-așteptau, și mă dusei degrabă acasă încins cu sabia mea peste haină. Răposata mama era foarte bună, dar o femeie de modă veche, un spirit reacționar; era departe de a-nțelege importanța politică a formelor democratice. Aflase tot ce se petrecea în oraș și tremura de grija mea văzând că nu vii la dejun. Mi-a făcut o scenă grozavă—că de ce m-am amestecat cu derbedeii, că doresc s-o fac de râs în mahala, că vreau să grăbesc, poate, sfârșitul lui tata, care era greu bolnav; pe urmă mi-a poruncit aspru să rămân acasă; în zadar am protestat; în zadar i-am spus, arătându-i arma, că am o funcțiune publică de îndeplinit: mi-a luat sabia, pe care a aruncat-o, unde? nu știu, și mi-a încuiat ghetetele și pălăria în scrin. O săptămână m-a ținut astfel captiv, până s-a potolit primejdia. Atât mai bine! Când eu plângeam acasă de ciudă soarta rușinoasă a săbiei mele, ce se-ntâmpla în inima Republicei?

[Adapted from *Boborul*, by I.L. Caragiale]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Explain the difference in meaning between the following sentences:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. He shouldn't have helped his brother with his homework.
- b. He needn't have helped his brother with his homework.

2. Fill each of the blanks with a suitable word or phrase:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. We ... at the bank. We didn't need a loan, after all.
- b. The dog ... but a noise woke it up.
- c. Would you like ... some tea before you leave for work?

3. Find the mistake and correct it:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. My neighbours's sister has fifteen years.
- b. It couldn't have meant which she meant.
- c. Her husband has never stricken her.

4. Put the verbs in brackets in an appropriate form:

(5 x 1 points)

The minute Susan found out that her brother (arrest) by the police because they (discover) he (rob) a bank, she (hire) a good lawyer, determined (fight) for her brother's freedom.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Childhood is a stage in the process of that continual remanufacture of the Life Stuff by which the human race is perpetuated. The Life Force either will not or cannot

achieve immortality except in very low organisms: indeed it is by no means ascertained that even the amoeba is immortal. Human beings visibly wear out, though they last longer than their friends the dogs. Turtles, parrots, and elephants are believed to be capable of outliving the memory of the oldest human inhabitant. But the fact that new ones are born conclusively proves that they are not immortal. Do away with death and you do away with the need for birth: in fact if you went on breeding, you would finally have to kill old people to make room for young ones.

Now death is not necessarily a failure of energy on the part of the Life Force. People with no imagination try to make things which will last for ever, and even want to live for ever themselves. But the intelligently imaginative man knows very well that it is waste of labor to make a machine that will last ten years, because it will probably be superseded in half that time by an improved machine answering the same purpose.

[From *Parents and Children*, by George Bernard Shaw]

- How does the author define childhood? What criteria does he use?
- Why does the author mention the amoeba?
- What do you think the author refers to when he speaks about ‘a waste of labour’?



11.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

He hadn't known—and in spite of Kate's repeated reference to her own rebellions of taste—that he should “mind” so much how an independent lady might decorate her house. It was the language of the house itself that spoke to him, writing out for him with surpassing breadth and freedom the associations and conceptions, the ideals and possibilities of the mistress. Never, he felt sure, had he seen so many things so unanimously ugly—operatively, ominously so cruel. He was glad to have found this last name for the whole character; “cruel” somehow played into the subject for an article—an article that his impression put straight into his mind. He would write about the heavy horrors that could still flourish, that lifted their undiminished heads, in an age so proud of its short way with false gods [...]. Yet the great thing, really the dark thing, was that, even while he thought of the quick column he might add up in the newspaper, he felt it less easy to laugh at the heavy horrors than to tremble before them.

[Adapted from *The Wings of the Dove*, by Henry James]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Să fi mers o bucată bună de drum. Viforul creştea scuturându-mă de pe şa. În înalt, nori după nori zburau ca de spaima unei pedepse de mai sus, unii la vale pe dedesubt, alţii pe deasupra la deal. Frigul ud mă pătrundea; simţeam că-mi îngheaţă pulpele şi braţele. Mergând cu capul plecat ca să nu mă-nece vântul, începui să simt durere la ceafă, la frunte şi la tâmpile fierbinţeală. Am băut prea mult! m-am gândit eu, dându-mi căciula mai la ceafă şi ridicându-mi fruntea spre cer. Dar vârtejul norilor mă ameţea; mă ardea sub coastele din stânga. Am plecat iar bărbia. Mi-era rău... N-am făcut bine să plec! La Iordache trebuie să doarmă toată lumea: m-or fi aşteptat; pe vremea asta, or fi crezut oamenii, fireşte, că n-am fost prost să plec...

[Adapted from *La hanul lui Mânjoală*, by I.L. Caragiale]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentence printed before them:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. What a pity she didn't talk to Jim about their fall-out! / She wishes...
- b. Why did you disclose the information? / I'd rather you...

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

If you (met) your wife earlier, she (give) you the car keys and you could have avoided the traffic. Now it is too late (drive) your car. It (be) as bad as yesterday, when you (take) the bus to work and (come) late for a meeting.

3. Find the mistake and correct it:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. Oops! You mustn't have broken that cup!
- b. Will you helped me, please?
- c. Only when I've met the mayor I will be content.

4. Use the words in capitals to form new sentences similar in meaning to the original ones. Do not alter the word in capitals in any way.

(2 x 1 points)

- a. I think you'd better tell him the secret as soon as possible. **ADVISABLE**
- b. The odds are that he is sleeping right now. **BE**

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

What is a Child?

An experiment. A fresh attempt to produce the just man made perfect: that is, to make humanity divine. And you will vitiate the experiment if you make the slightest attempt to abort it into some fancy figure of your own: for example, your notion of a good man or a womanly woman. If you treat it as a little wild beast to be tamed, or as a pet to be played with, or even as a means to save you trouble and to make money for you (and these are our commonest ways), it may fight its way through in spite of you and save its soul alive; for all its instincts will resist you, and possibly be strengthened in the resistance; but if you begin with its own holiest aspirations, and suborn them for your own purposes, then there is hardly any limit to the mischief you may do. Swear at a child, throw your boots at it, send it flying from the room with a cuff or a kick; and the experience will be as instructive to the child as a difficulty with a short-tempered dog or a bull.

[From *Parents and Children*, by George Bernard Shaw]

[suborn – to procure for evil purposes.]

- What does the author caution parents against?
- What is the relation between divinity and humanity?
- Why does the author mention pets in this excerpt?

12.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

After a pause he told the boy a little, a very little, about the journey's end. But they did not chatter much, for the boy, when he liked a person, would rather sit silent in his company than speak, and this, he discovered, was also the mind of Sir Thomas Browne and of many others with whom he was to be acquainted [...]. The light grew stronger, though the fog did not disperse. It was now more like mist than fog, and at times would travel quickly across them, as if it was part of a cloud. They had been ascending, too, in a most puzzling way; for over two hours the horses had been pulling against the collar, and even if it were Richmond Hill they ought to have been at the top long ago. Perhaps it was Epsom, or even the North Downs; yet the air seemed keener than that which blows on either. And as to the name of their destination, Sir Thomas Browne was silent.

[Adapted from *The Celestial Omnibus*, by E.M. Forster]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Am încălecat... Calul a pornit năuc. De mult acum, mergea ca nebunul sărind peste gropi, peste buşteni, fără să-l mai pot opri, fără să cunosc locurile şi fără să ştiu unde mă ducea. În goana asta, când la fiecare clipă îmi puteam frânge gâtul, cu trupul îngheţat şi capul ca-n foc, mă gândeam la culcuşul bun pe care-l părăsisem prosteste... De ce? Cicoana Marghioala mi-ar fi dat mie odaia ei, aminteri nu mă poftea... [...] Ce prost am fost!... Calul se poticneşte; îl opresc în silă; vrea să pornească iar, dar cade zdrobit în genunchi [...]. Am greşit drumul! merg la vale... Unde sunt? Mă uit înainte [...] Calul se scoală scuturându-şi capul ca de buimăceală; se ridică în două picioare, se smuceşte-ntr-o parte şi mă trăneste în partea ailaltă; pe urmă o ia la goană pe câmp şi piere-n întunec. Pe când mă ridic zdruncinat, auz un glas de om din apropiere, tare.

[Adapted from *La hanul lui Mânjoală*, by I.L. Caragiale]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentence printed before them:

- a. He regrets not marrying Susan. / He wishes...
- b. They should not have been bothered about it. / They'd rather not...

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

And then I heard a gun (fire). We (rush) into the room, but by then the murderer (be able) to get away. My friend (lie) in a pool of blood and I saw at once that he (shoot) in the head. I sent the maid to phone the police and (tell) the others not to leave everything untouched.

3. Find the mistake and correct it:

- a. Has he eated yet?
- b. What thinks he about her job?
- c. They aren't seen anything like this before.

4. Use the words in capitals to form new sentences similar in meaning to the original ones. Do not alter the word in capitals in any way.

- a. You'll not be sorry if you think twice about it. **BETTER**
- b. If you happen to meet him, tell him he owes me. **SHOULD**

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

To tell you the truth [...], between you and me, you know, I think it does a man good to swear. Swearing is the safety-valve through which the bad temper that might otherwise do serious internal injury to his mental mechanism escapes in harmless vapping. When a man has said: "Bless you, my dear, sweet sir. What the sun, moon, and stars made you so careless (if I may be permitted the expression) as to allow your light and delicate foot to descend upon my corn with so much force? Is it that you are

physically incapable of comprehending the direction in which you are proceeding? You nice, clever young man—you!” or words to that effect, he feels better. Swearing has the same soothing effect upon our angry passions that smashing the furniture or slamming the doors is so well known to exercise; added to which it is much cheaper. Swearing clears a man out like a penny worth of gunpowder does the wash-house chimney. An occasional explosion is good for both. I rather distrust a man who never swears, or savagely kicks the foot-stool, or pokes the fire with unnecessary violence. Without some outlet, the anger caused by the ever-occurring troubles of life is apt to rankle and fester within. The petty annoyance, instead of being thrown from us, sits down beside us and becomes a sorrow, and the little offense is brooded over till [...] it grows into a great injury, under whose poisonous shadow springs up hatred and revenge.

[Adapted from *On Cats and Dogs*, by Jerome K. Jerome]

[corn – a small piece of hard skin on your foot that is painful;
rankle – annoy, upset;
fester – to become infected;
petty – not important, not worth worrying about;
to brood over something – to think too much and worry too much of something.]

—Identify the arguments used by the author to support swearing and describe them in your own words.

—The excerpt makes use of humour. Identify the place where the author uses humour and explain the mechanism lying at its basis.

13.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

When Mr. Pontellier learned of his wife's intention to abandon her home and take up her residence elsewhere, he immediately wrote her a letter of unqualified disapproval. She had given reasons which he was unwilling to acknowledge as adequate. He hoped she had not acted upon her rash impulse; and he begged her to consider first, foremost, and above all else, what people would say. He was not dreaming of scandal when he uttered this warning; that was a thing which would never have entered into his mind to consider in connection with his wife's name or his own. He was simply thinking of his financial integrity. It might be rumoured that the Pontelliers had met with difficulties, and were forced to conduct their menage on a humbler scale than before. It might do incalculable mischief to his business prospects. But remembering Edna's whimsical turn of mind of late, and foreseeing that she had immediately acted upon her impetuous determination, he grasped the situation with his usual promptness and handled it with his well-known business tact and cleverness.

[Adapted from *The Awakening*, by Kate Chopin]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

La amintirile acelea din Deltă, pe care le-am notat a doua zi ca să nu le uit, marele meu prieten, Mihail Sadoveanu, mi-a răspuns prin câteva pagini, pagini de strălucitoare poezie. Dl Sadoveanu își revendică acolo cu tărie autenticitatea personagiilor și faptelor din povestirea la care făceam aluzie. Și se miră că le-am uitat. În adevăr, mi-am adus aminte. L-am cunoscut și eu pe moș Procor, am intrat în coliba lui și am stat de vorbă cu el, într-una din rătăcirile noastre prin Delta Dunării. Dar îl uitasem de mult... Cine ar putea să se mai laude cu un aparat de înregistrare atât de sensibil ca al tovarășului meu, căruia nimic nu-i scapă din câte-i trec pe dinainte și care ține minte ani întregi intonația unei fraze și gestul cu care un biet pescar bătrân și-a alungat un fânțar de pe frunte...



[Adapted from *Țara de dincolo de negură*, by George Topârceanu]

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentence printed before them:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. Why did he borrow so much money from the bank? / If only...
- b. I don't like it when people tell me what to do! / I'd rather...

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

Why (you, think) that nobody (like) you? All your friends (visit) you when you (be) sick and (bring) you gifts. And any of them would help you if you (ask) for help.

3. Find the mistake and correct it:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. I've had tens of visitor's so far.
- b. How many mouses can you see over there?
- c. He must be a worst man to behave like that.

4. Fill in the gaps with a suitable variant of it is or there is:

(3 x 2 points)

- a. ____ a lot of time left for you to finish your paper.
- b. ____ time you made up your mind.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Yet, in general, I like cats and dogs very much indeed. What jolly chaps they

are! They are much superior to human beings as companions. They do not quarrel or argue with you. They never talk about themselves but listen to you while you talk about yourself, and keep up an appearance of being interested in the conversation. They never make stupid remarks. They never observe to Miss Brown across a dinner-table that they always understood she was very sweet on Mr. Jones (who has just married Miss Robinson). They never mistake your wife's cousin for her husband and fancy that you are the father-in-law. And they never ask a young author with fourteen tragedies, sixteen comedies, seven farces, and a couple of burlesques in his desk why he doesn't write a play.

They never say unkind things. They never tell us of our faults, "merely for our own good." They do not at inconvenient moments mildly remind us of our past follies and mistakes. They do not say, "Oh, yes, a lot of use you are if you are ever really wanted"—sarcastic like. They never inform us, like our wives sometimes do, that we are not nearly so nice as we used to be. We are always the same to them. They are always glad to see us. They are with us in all our humors. They are merry when we are glad, sober when we feel solemn, and sad when we are sorrowful.

[Adapted from *On Cats and Dogs*, by Jerome K. Jerome]

—Identify the arguments used by the author to support his fondness for cats and dogs and describe them in your own words.

—Can you come up with at least two arguments of your own?



14.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Had we stopped indoors that afternoon nothing would have happened. It was all owing to Emily's mother, who insisted on our taking our tea out. Opposite the village, across the stream, was a small forest and a few Roman earthworks. There did I drag up a tea-basket and a heavy rug for Emily's mother, while Emily and a little friend went on in front. The little friend—who has played all through a much less important part than he supposes—was a pleasant youth, full of intelligence and poetry, especially of what he called the poetry of earth. He longed to draw Mother Earth's secrets, and I have seen him press his face passionately into the grass, even when he has believed himself to be alone. Emily was at that time full of vague aspirations, too, and, though I should have preferred them all to be aimed at me, yet it seemed unreasonable to deny her such other opportunities for self-culture as the neighbourhood provided.

[Adapted from *The Curate's Friend*, by E.M. Forster]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Într-o dimineată mai de demult, îl zării pe moş Toma Gaiţă în drum spre pădure, cu puşca la spinare. Eram prin clasa a doua de liceu; venisem numai de vreo săptămână acasă, în vacanţa Crăciunului, şi aveam şi eu o rablă de puşcă, mică şi ruginită. Într-o clipă am fost gata. Ninsese toată noaptea din belşug. Prin zăpada de două palme m-am luat după urma proaspătă şi singuratică a lui moş Toma şi în curând l-am ajuns din urmă, în poiana cea mare. Şi cum moşneagul era cam tare de ureche, nu m-a simţit deloc până în clipa când m-am alăturat de el.

—Da-ncotro ai plecat, moş Toma?

—La lupi! îmi răspunse, morocănos.

—Apoi... tot la lupi pornisem şi eu! îl încredinţai cu multă seninătate, călcând pe lângă el.

[Adapted from *Amintire*, by George Topârceanu]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Fill each of the blanks with a suitable word or phrase:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. He talks as if ... the office.
- b. It ... pouring, so the car was skidding along the driveway.
- c. I have been here ever since mother me the house.

2. Find the mistake and correct it:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. It's no used to take advice from strangers.
- b. You're brother is the greatest!
- c. This is most peculiar, isn't there?

3. Write out the sentence, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

Little Stevie Brown (drown), people were saying, he (drown) because he (neglect) and he had been let run free. If someone in the family had taken time to look after him, if he (warn) enough and given chores to do, he (not fall) off that branch and he (not drown).

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

I always feel sentimental myself after dinner. It is the only time when I can properly appreciate love-stories. Then, when the hero clasps "her" to his heart in one last wild embrace and stifles a sob, I feel as sad as though I had a bad hand of cards; and when the heroine dies in the end I weep. If I read the same tale early in the morning I should sneer at it. Digestion, or rather indigestion, has a marvelous effect

upon the heart. If I want to write any thing very pathetic—I mean, if I want to try to write anything very pathetic—I eat a large plateful of hot buttered muffins about an hour beforehand, and then by the time I sit down to my work a feeling of unutterable melancholy has come over me. I picture heartbroken lovers parting forever, while the sad twilight deepens around them, and only the tinkling of a distant sheep-bell breaks the sorrowful silence. [...] A full stomach is a great aid to poetry, and indeed no sentiment of any kind can stand upon an empty one. We have not time or inclination to indulge in fanciful troubles until we have got rid of our real misfortunes. We do not sigh over dead birds with the bailiff in the house, and when we do not know where on earth to get our next shilling from, we do not worry as to whether our lovers' smiles are cold, or hot, or lukewarm, or anything else about them.

[Adapted from *On Eating and Drinking*, by Jerome K. Jerome]

[bailiff – an official whose job is to take away the possessions of someone who owes them money;

lukewarm – neither hot nor cold enough to be enjoyable.]

–Why do you think the author considers that he feels sentimental after dinner?

–What does the author mean by ‘real misfortunes’?

–Why does the author make a connection between muffins and melancholy?



15.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

We spoke no more of Gregory. We could not speak of him; but he was strangely in our thoughts. Aunt Fanny—always a talker—told me all. How, on that fatal night, my father, irritated by my prolonged absence, and probably more anxious than he cared to show, had been fierce and imperious to Gregory; had scolded him for his own stupidity which made his services good for nothing. [...] At last, Gregory had risen up, and whistled Lassie out with him—poor Lassie, crouching underneath his chair for fear of a kick or a blow. Some time before, there had been some talk between my father and my aunt regarding my return; and when aunt Fanny told me all this, she said she fancied that Gregory might have noticed the coming storm, and gone out silently to meet me. Three hours afterwards, when all were running about in wild alarm, not knowing where to go in search of me, Lassie came home, with my handkerchief tied round her neck.

[Adapted from *Half Brothers*, by Elizabeth Gaskell]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Erau cincizeci de ani de când împăratul purta război c-un vecin de-al lui. Murise vecinul şi lăsase moştenire fiilor şi nepoţilor ura şi vrajba de sânge. Cincizeci de ani, şi numai împăratul trăia singur, ca un leu îmbătrânit, slăbit de suferinţe—împărat ce-n viaţa lui nu răsese niciodată, care nu zâmbea nici la cântecul nevinovat al copilului, nici la surâsul plin de amor al tinerei lui soţii, nici la poveştile glumeţe ale bătrânilor lui ostaşi. Se simţea slab, se simţea murind şi n-avea cui să lase moştenirea urii lui. Trist se scula din pat, de lângă împărăteasa tânără, trist mergea la război, cu inima neîmblânzită, iar împărăteasa sa, rămasă singură, plângea cu lacrimi de văduvie singurătatea ei.

[Adapted from *Făt Frumos din Lacrimă*, by Mihai Eminescu]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentence printed before them:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. I won't like it if you trespass my property again! / I would rather you...
- b. But for him we'd be in big trouble. / If it...

1. Use the appropriate verb form for the verbs between brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

When (question) by the police, the choir boy did not prove exactly helpful. He (not notice) her leaving or entering the church. He was quite sure Susan (not go) out by the main door, but if she (come) down from her room, she could have gone out of the back door, and nobody (notice) her because no one was around until six o'clock, when the bingo game (be) over.

1. Find the mistake and correct it:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. Their informations troubled Jim immensely.
- b. Must you to make so much noise?
- c. For the life of me, I cannot understand your thinkings.

4. Fill in the gaps with a suitable variant of it is or there is:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. ____ really not your business who is going to get the prize.
- b. ____ not much business at this time of the year.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Young Man. You really think man is a mere machine?

Old Man. I do.

Y.M. And that his mind works automatically and is independent of his control—carries on thought on its own hook?

O.M. Yes. It is diligently at work, unceasingly at work, during every waking moment. Have you never tossed about all night, imploring, beseeching, commanding your mind to stop work and let you go to sleep?—you who perhaps imagine that your mind is your servant and must obey your orders, think what you tell it to think, and stop when you tell it to stop. When it chooses to work, there is no way to keep it still for an instant. The brightest man would not be able to supply it with subjects if he had to hunt them up. If it needed the man's help it would wait for him to give it work when he wakes in the morning.

Y.M. Maybe it does.

O.M. No, it begins right away, before the man gets wide enough awake to give it a suggestion. He may go to sleep saying, "The moment I wake I will think upon such and such a subject," but he will fail. His mind will be too quick for him; by the time he has become nearly enough awake to be half conscious, he will find that it is already at work upon another subject. Make the experiment and see.

[From *The Man-Machine Again*, by Mark Twain]

[diligently — in a hard-working, careful manner.]

—What is the point that the author is trying to make?

—Provide an argument against the author's opinion.



16.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

To the old man's vision, Nell was still the same. When he could, for a moment, disengage his mind from the phantom that haunted it always, there was his young companion with the same smile for him, the same earnest words, the same merry laugh, the same love and care that, sinking deep into his soul, seemed to have been present to him through his whole life. And so he went on, content to read the book of her heart from the page first presented to him, little dreaming of the story that lay hidden in its other leaves, and murmuring within himself that at least the child was happy. She had been once. She had gone singing through the dim rooms, and moving with light step among their dusty treasures, making them older by her young life, and sterner and more grim by her cheerful presence. But, now, the chambers were cold and gloomy, and when she left her own little room she was still and motionless as their inanimate occupants.

[Adapted from *The Old Curiosity Shop*, by Charles Dickens]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Donna Alba sună, în ziua hotărâtă, la cinci și douăsprezece minute după ceasul meu. O văzusem de la fereastra biroului descinzând dintr-o mașină. I-am ieșit eu singur în întâmpinare și i-am deschis; gonisem toți servitorii pentru după-amiaza asta și voiam să observe că m-am gândit la acest lucru. Am primit-o cu un adânc compliment, ea mi-a răspuns cu un zâmbet care dorea să se vadă că e foarte măgulită. Era toată în gri-închis, iar blana de la gât, fără a fi identică în culoare cu restul îmbrăcăminții, se apropia pe cât se poate: nu sunt cunoscător în materie și n-aș putea spune cărui animal aparținea, dar era lucitoare și somptuoasă și-i îmbrăca figura într-un chip cu adevărat princiar. În *hall*, donna Alba înaintă încet și se întoarce întrebătoare spre mine, neștiind pe unde să apuce. Aveam aci biroul într-o parte, și un salon într-alta, cu ușile larg deschise, ca un fel de adaos al sălii de așteptare.

[Adapted from *Donna Alba*, by Gib Mihăescu]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentence printed before them:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. It's a big mistake to talk to him in this manner. / I'd rather you...
- b. "You will see to it that your master is well taken care of." / He ordered that the servant...

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

In the big bedroom (overlook) the sea, Connor was sitting in his chair by the window, (read) some newspaper. No sooner (be) she in the room with him than she (feel) the charisma of the man. It (be) as though the injuries which (leave) him a cripple had managed to give him a sharper focus.

3. Choose the most appropriate answer:

(2 x 1 points)

- 1. A: Wow, there's so much to do tomorrow.
B: I know. I think I have some rest.
a. am intended to b. am to c. will be d. ought to
- 2. A: I'll be back in a second.
B: Fine. I'll wait over there until you back.
a. are being b. will be c. are d. have been

4. Negate the following sentences:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. Susan came here very early.

- b. I have a lot of things to do.
- c. My brother's wife has already managed to annoy me.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):
(9 + 1 points)

Yes! I, too, would like to hold the magic wand giving that command over laughter and tears which is declared to be the highest achievement of imaginative literature. Only, to be a great magician one must surrender oneself to occult and irresponsible powers, either outside or within one's breast. We have all heard of simple men selling their souls for love or power to some grotesque devil. The most ordinary intelligence can perceive without much reflection that anything of the sort is bound to be a fool's bargain. I don't lay claim to particular wisdom because of my dislike and distrust of such transactions. It may be my sea training acting upon a natural disposition to keep good hold on the one thing really mine, but the fact is that I have a positive horror of losing even for one moving moment that full possession of myself which is the first condition of good service. And I have earned my notion of good service from my earlier into my later existence. I, who have never sought in the written word anything else but a form of the Beautiful—I have carried over that article of creed from the decks of ships to the more circumscribed space of my desk, and by that act, I suppose, I have become permanently imperfect in the eyes of the ineffable company of pure esthetes.

[From *A Familiar Preface*, by Joseph Conrad]

- What is the danger that a writer might find when trying to make his readers laugh or cry? What is the 'fool's bargain' that the author mentions in this excerpt?
- What job did the author have before becoming a writer? Support your statement with arguments from the text.
- How did the author's former job influence his writing?

17.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

He said nothing more, but went to his own room. His voice had that constrained note which she had heard in it the night before. She felt fairly sure of herself now. She was ready before he was and when he came downstairs she was already seated in the car. "I'm afraid I've kept you waiting," he said. "I shall survive it," she replied, and she was able to smile as she spoke. She made an observation or two as they drove down the hill, but he answered curtly. She shrugged her shoulders; she was growing a trifle impatient: if he wanted to sulk, let him, she didn't care. They drove in silence till they reached their destination. It was a large dinner party. There were too many people and too many courses. While Kitty chatted gaily with her neighbours she watched Walter. He was deathly pale and his face was pinched. "Your husband is looking rather washed out. I thought he didn't mind the heat. Has he been working very hard?" "He always works hard."

[From *The Painted Veil*, by Somerset Maugham]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Azi se împlinesc treizeci și șase de ani de la moartea mamei... [...] Când voi dispărea și eu, va fi murit și ea complet din univers. Prea mic, când a murit, ca s-o țin minte, imaginea ei mi-am creat-o mai târziu, în copilărie, după o fotografie rea și ștearsă, pe care am înviat-o și am colorat-o cu tot ce am auzit de la alții și cu propria mea fantezie: o fată tăcută, înaltă, cu părul castaniu, cu ochii căprui. Amintire a unei imagini arbitrare de altădată, aceasta și atâta *este* mama. În cursul vieții, imaginea rămânând aceeași, a variat, totuși, odată cu perspectiva în care mă mutau anii. În copilărie, fata cu părul castaniu îmi era mamă. La douăzeci de ani, soră. Astăzi, o simt fiică. Dar aceste sentimente speciale, aceste ipoteze afective, fără substratul vreunei realități experimentate în viața de familie, au fost nostalgii pentru o fată frumoasă, moartă de mult.

[Adapted from *Adela*, by Garabet Ibrăileanu]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentence printed before them:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. If only you hadn't been so rude to him. / I'd rather...
- b. She regretted her behaviour from last night. / I wish....

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

He had no difficulty (climb) the cliff. I had a slight difficulty myself, but (hide) it from him. It was too early (start) losing face and I (not want) to look old to him. I (want) him (accept) me as a comrade.

3. Find the mistake and correct it:

(3 x 1)

- a. Your constant complaining is getting to we.
- b. He didn't catch what were you saying.
- c. Nobody is as worthy of praise than he is.

4. Fill in the gaps with a suitable variant of it is or there is:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. ____ needless to say that everybody will get their money back.
- b. ____ a terrible draught, please close the window.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

It is commonly said that everybody can sing in the bathroom; and this is true. Singing is very easy. Drawing, though, is much more difficult. I have devoted a good deal of time to Drawing, one way and another; I have to attend a great many committees and public meetings, and at such functions I find that Drawing is almost the only Art one can satisfactorily pursue during the speeches. One really cannot sing during the speeches; so as a rule I draw. I do not say that I am an expert yet, but after a few more meetings I calculate that I shall know Drawing as well as it can be known.

The first thing, of course, is to get on to a really good committee; and by a good committee I mean a committee that provides decent materials. An ordinary departmental committee is no use: generally they only give you a couple of pages of lined foolscap and no white blotting-paper, and very often the pencils are quite soft. White blotting-paper is essential. I know of no material the spoiling of which gives so much artistic pleasure—except perhaps snow. Indeed, if I was asked to choose between making pencil-marks on a sheet of white blotting-paper and making foot-marks on a sheet of white snow I should be in a dilemma.

Much the best committees from the point of view of material are committees about business which meet at business premises—shipping offices, for choice. One of the Pacific Lines has the best white blotting-paper I know; and the pencils there are a dream. I am sure the directors of that firm are Drawers; for they always give you two pencils, one hard for doing noses, and one soft for doing hair.

[From *On Drawing*, by A.P. Herbert]

[blotting-paper – paper used to dry ink with.]

- What is the relation between singing and drawing?
- What does snow have to do with drawing?
- What does drawing have to do with sitting in committees?

18.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Then, through his daze, he heard the lieutenant, in a loud voice, explaining to the men outside the wood, that they were to suppose the bridge on the river below was held by the enemy. Now they were to march to the attack in such and such a manner. The lieutenant had no gift of expression. The orderly, listening from habit, got muddled. And when the lieutenant began it all again he ceased to hear. He knew he must go. He stood up. It surprised him that the leaves were glittering in the sun, and the chips of wood reflecting white from the ground. For him a change had come over the world. But for the rest it had not—all seemed the same. Only he had left it. And he could not go back. It was his duty to return with the bottle. He could not. [...] The lieutenant was still hoarsely explaining. He must go, or the enemy would overtake him. And he could not bear contact with anyone now.

[From *The Prussian Officer*, by D. H. Lawrence]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Niciodată, niciodată n-am dat mamei mele a mia parte din ce mi-a dat ea! Pentru ce s-a născut ea, pentru ce a trăit? Sunt milioane de ființe care au avut soarta ei și pe care nu le știu. Dar ea, fiindcă mi-a fost mamă, în mintea mea are un loc unic și întâmplarea ei e un lucru extraordinar pentru mine. Orice viață e un lucru extraordinar pentru cineva—și nimic, absolut nimic, pentru alții! Sora mea a murit peste vreo doi ani. Semăna cu mama mea și o chema tot Maria. Am trăit fără mamă, fără frați și surori, și fără tată. Cine a trăit înconjurat de familie, nu poate înțelege un suflet ca al meu, această stare sufletească specială—după cum nici eu nu mă pot pune în locul unui om care a avut familie. Dar aceste lucruri au dat sufletului meu un ton veșnic de nostalgie, de melancolie—o privire îndărăt—un sentiment de singurătate, de degajare de lumea reală.

[Adapted from *Adela*, by Garabet Ibrăileanu]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Explain the difference in meaning between the following pairs of sentences:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. John can't behave like that without expecting consequences. / John should not behave like that without expecting consequences.
- b. Nobody knows this better than I. / Anybody knows this better than I.

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

I (lie) in tall green grass which (come) out into pink flower. I (hold) a pocket mirror and (look) at my friend who just (come) out into the garden and whose face (look) so pale in that light.

3. Find the mistake and correct it:

(2 x 0.5 points)

- a. Nowhere did I saw such a pompous man.
- b. Her fastly paced typing made her the best typist in the office.

4. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word(s) given in brackets. The word(s) must not be altered in any way.

(3 x 1 points)

- a. Come over here and I'll show you a new game of cards. (UNLESS)
- b. I had to talk him into paying for my dinner as well. (PERSUADED)
- c. They made a mistake when they didn't foot that bill. (FOOTING)

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

The strength of a student of men is to travel—to study men, their habits, character, mode of life, their behavior under varied conditions, their vices, virtues, and peculiarities. Begin with a careful observation of your fellow students and of your teachers; then, every patient you see is a lesson in much more than the malady from which he suffers. Mix as much as you possibly can with the outside world, and learn its ways. Cultivated systematically, the student societies, the students' union, the gymnasium, and the outside social circle will enable you to conquer the diffidence so apt to go with bookishness and which may prove a very serious drawback in after-life. I cannot too strongly impress upon the earnest and attentive men among you the necessity of overcoming this unfortunate failing in your student days. It is not easy for every one to reach a happy medium, and the distinction between a proper self-confidence and “cheek,” particularly in junior students, is not always to be made [...].

I wish we could encourage on this continent among our best students the habit of wandering. I do not know that we are quite prepared for it, as there is still great diversity in the curricula, even among the leading schools, but it is undoubtedly a great advantage to study under different teachers, as the mental horizon is widened and the sympathies enlarged.

[Adapted from *The Student*, by William Osler]

[diffidence – lack of self-confidence;
bookishness – exaggerated studiousness.]

—This excerpt describes an ideal student. What are the qualities that a good student must cultivate, according to the author?

—What are the failings that the author cautions against? Why do you think they are to be avoided?

—Why do you think the author mentions traveling and wandering?

19.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Jolly alone sustained the conversation; he had many possessions, and was anxious that his unknown friend with extremely large moustaches, and hands all covered with blue veins, who sat with legs crossed like his own father (a habit he was himself trying to acquire), should know it; but being a Forsyte, though not yet quite eight years old, he made no mention of the thing at the moment dearest to his heart—a camp of soldiers in a shop-window, which his father had promised to buy. No doubt it seemed to him too precious; a tempting of Providence to mention it yet. And the sunlight played through the leaves on that little party of the three generations grouped tranquilly under the pear-tree, which had long borne no fruit.

[From *The Man of Property*, by John Galsworthy]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Pe Nadina o indispusesse întâi Platamonu, pe urmă mirosul de usturoi şi vorbăria ţăranului. Ea în realitate nu se gândea să vândă moşia. A spus astă-primăvară arendaşului c-ar vrea să scape de moşie, dar fără să fie hotărâtă şi mai mult ca să zică ceva, fiindcă omul nu pleca şi nu-l putea concedia nedelicat, tocmai când îi număraseră o sumă de bani. Se pare că dintr-o vorbă aruncată a ieşit o întreagă poveste. Ieri, pe nepusă masă, socrul ei; azi, ţăranii. Acuma se dumeri pentru ce s-a plâns adineaori Platamonu că e prea grea arenda. Nu-şi putu ascunde un surâs ironic, aruncându-i o privire. Şedea în acelaşi fotoliu, cu ochii la ţărani, cu o mirare încremenită pe faţă, care voia să-i mascheze turburarea, căci în creieri îi ardeau usturător numai cuvintele: "Uite norocul meu !"

[From *Răscoala*, by Liviu Rebreanu]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentence printed before them:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. Why don't you propose to him yourself? / Suppose...
- b. Why do the neighbours upstairs have to shout so loud? / I wish...

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

Susan (not be) an early riser. Her regular habit was (sleep) until about eleven or half past and then ring for breakfast. It goes without saying that Connor's (talk) to the police at that early hour had been of great help: the police (take) charge of everything before any servant (touch) the room and before any of Susan's friends (steal) any of her possessions.

3. Choose the most appropriate answer:

(2 x 1 points)

1. A: I'm glad you saved the day.

B: If I hadn't, I think you....

a) might have been fired b) could have been fired c) would have been fired d) will have been fired

2. A: I'm coming down with flu.

B: Well, in that case you start drinking plenty of tea and orange juice.

a) should better b) had better c) would better d) can better

4. Fill in the gaps with a suitable variant of it is or there is:

(2 x 1 points)

a. ____ no use crying over what has been.

b. ____ no real value attached to this investment.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Last night the waiter put the celery on with the cheese, and I knew that summer was indeed dead. Other signs of autumn there may be—the reddening leaf, the chill in the early-morning air, the misty evenings—but none of these comes home to me so truly. There may be cool mornings in July; in a year of drought the leaves may change before their time; it is only with the first celery that summer is over.

I knew all along that it would not last. Even in April I was saying that winter would soon be here. Yet somehow it had begun to seem possible lately that a miracle might happen, that summer might drift on and on through the months—a final upheaval to crown a wonderful year. The celery settled that. Last night with the celery autumn came into its own.

There is a crispness about celery that is of the essence of October. It is as fresh and clean as a rainy day after a spell of heat. It crackles pleasantly in the mouth. Moreover it is excellent, I am told, for the complexion. One is always hearing of things which are good for the complexion, but there is no doubt that celery stands high on the list. After the burns and freckles of summer one is in need of something. How good that celery should be there at one's elbow.

[From *A Word for Autumn*, by A. A. Milne]

[upheaval – sudden, violent change;
complexion – the skin on one's face.]

—What is the relation between autumn and one's complexion?

—In what way can the mention of celery provide readers with an accurate picture of an English autumn?

—Does the author praise celery in this essay?

20.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

The situation which at this stage might seem, and especially to Forsyte eyes, strange—not to say “impossible”—was, in view of certain facts, not so strange after all. Some things had been lost sight of. And first, in the security bred of many harmless marriages, it had been forgotten that Love is no hot-house flower, but a wild plant, born of a wet night, born of an hour of sunshine; sprung from wild seed, blown along the road by a wild wind. A wild plant that, when it blooms by chance within the hedge of our gardens, we call a flower; and when it blooms outside we call a weed; but, flower or weed, whose scent and colour are always, wild! And further—the facts and figures of their own lives being against the perception of this truth—it was not generally recognised by Forsytes that, where this wild plant springs, men and women are but moths around the pale, flame-like blossom.

[From *The Man of Property*, by John Galsworthy]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Se întoarseră în Ruginoasa, unde Grigore mai avea puţin de lucru. Pe urmă o luară pe alt drum, înapoi la Amara. Mai mult decât locurile şi gospodăria, pe tânărul Herdelea îl interesa că în sfârşit avea prilejul să vorbească în tihnă cu Grigore Iuga. Nu îndrăznise şi n-avusese ocazia să-l întrebe măcar ce-a făcut la Baloleanu în chestia cu *Universul*. Acum Grigore îi spuse de la sine, printre altele, că Baloleanu a aruncat o vorbă şi a primit o asigurare că va fi satisfăcut, dar el, Grigore, nu s-a mulţumit cu atâta, ci i-a luat cuvântul de onoare că până se înapoiază Titu va fi aranjat tot. Deocamdată să nu se gândească totuşi la capitală şi la jurnale, ci să se simtă bine aici. Titu îi mulţumi cu efuziune şi-i povesti apoi cum a fost ieri prin sat, la Dragoş şi la popa Nicodim. Grigore laudă pe învăţător că e harnic şi inimos, adăugând că şi bătrânul îl preţuieşte, deşi îl consideră cam demagog, ceea ce chiar este într-un fel.

[Adapted from *Răscoala*, by Liviu Rebreanu]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Turn the following sentences from active to passive:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. They made him tell them all his secrets.
- b. I have found a coin in the dirt.
- c. They're solving the problem as we speak.

2. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(2 x 1 points)

- a. Children, it's going to be some changes from now on!
- b. I didn't thought you would be so difficult.

3. Show the difference in meaning between the following sentences in pairs:

(4 x 0.5 points)

- a. I will not give in to blackmail. / I must not give in to blackmail.
- b. I forgot paying the phone bill. / I forgot to pay the phone bill.

4. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(4 x 0.5 points)

If it hadn't been for Mary's unexpected arrival, we (not/sit) here, waiting for her (tell) us all about the wonderful adventures she (be) through.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

There were heroes before the son of Atreus and historians before Herodotus, yet the latter is rightly hailed as the father of history, for in him we discover not merely the empirical connection of cause and effect, but that constant reference to Laws,

which is the characteristic of the historian proper.

For all history must be essentially universal; not in the sense of comprising all the synchronous events of the past time, but through the universality of the principles employed. And the great conceptions which unify the work of Herodotus are such as even modern thought has not yet rejected. The immediate government of the world by God, the nemesis and punishment which sin and pride invariably bring with them, the revealing of God's purpose to His people by signs and omens, by miracles and by prophecy; these are to Herodotus the laws which govern the phenomena of history. He is essentially the type of supernatural historian; his eyes are ever strained to discern the Spirit of God moving over the face of the waters of life; he is more concerned with final than with efficient causes.

[From *The Rise of Historical Criticism*, by Oscar Wilde]

[to hail – to say publicly how good somebody is, to appreciate publicly;

empirical – based on real experience rather than theory;

nemesis – revenge;

omens – signs that show that something good or bad will happen in the future;

to strain – to push something very hard so as it will work to its best abilities.]

—What are the characteristics of history, in the author's opinion? Explain in your own words.

—What laws does Herodotus observe in his historical writings?



21.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Mrs. Soames, usually somewhat pale, had a delightful colour in her cheeks; and Mr. Bosinney's manner was strange, though attractive (Euphemia thought him rather a distinguished-looking man). He seemed to be pleading. Indeed, they talked so earnestly—or, rather, he talked so earnestly, for Mrs. Soames did not say much—that they caused, inconsiderately, a stop in the traffic. One nice old General, going towards Cigars, was obliged to step quite out of the way, and chancing to look up and see Mrs. Soames' face, he actually took off his hat, the old fool! So like a man! But it was Mrs. Soames' eyes that worried Euphemia. She never once looked at Mr. Bosinney until he moved on, and then she looked after him. And, oh, that look! On that look Euphemia had spent much anxious thought. It is not too much to say that it had hurt her with its dark, lingering softness, as though the woman wanted to drag him back, and unsay something she had been saying.

[Adapted from *The Man of Property*, by John Galsworthy]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

În scrisoare Ghighi adăuga că ea nu se cunună, orice ar face bătrânii, dacă nu vine şi el la nuntă, şi-i mai spunea că va merge negreşit la balul studentesc, dar încă nu ştie cu ce rochie, că ea ar vrea să-şi facă una nouă, mai ales că e şi logodită, şi toţi *ochii vor fi pe ea*. Bătrânul Herdelea îl îndemna să nu uite a scrie ceva pentru revistă, cum a făgăduit când a plecat. De asemenea să-i trimită gazete, să vadă şi domnii noştri foi româneşti adevărate, iar când va publica articole de ale lui, să poată arăta tuturor ce face feciorul lui în România. Titu reciti scrisoarea de câteva ori, parc-ar fi vrut s-o înveţe pe dinafară. Completa din sufletul lui toate veştile. Se simţea din nou acasă, în Ardeal, în lumea unde fiecă amănunt, oricât de neînsemnat, avea o rezonanţă vie pentru întreaga lui fire. Sub farmecul amintirilor, cuprins de o nostalgie dureroasă, vru să se apuce pe loc să răspundă, ca şi când numai astfel şi-ar fi putut uşura inima.

[Adapted from *Răscoala*, by Liviu Rebreanu]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Turn the following sentences from active to passive:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. I will see to your wound as soon as possible.
- b. They had found the pin on the carpet.
- c. Who is writing tomorrow's column?

2. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. The rhinos are on the verge of extinction.
- b. How badly is your headache?
- c. It is required attending all your classes.

3. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(3 x 1 points)

It looks as though this crime (commit) out a fit of passion or jealousy, but I for one (begin) to think that it was not exactly so: if it (be) so, then it's clear that the disappearance of the victim's purse could not be explained. Nobody that (commit) crimes of passion (leave) with the victim's possessions, unless they want you to believe that this is exactly what they (mean).

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

The strongest, fiercest force in nature is human will. It is the highest organization we know of the will that has created the whole universe. Now all honest civilization, religion, law, and convention is an attempt to keep this force within

beneficent bounds. What corrupts civilization, religion, law, and convention (and they are at present pretty nearly as corrupt as they dare) is the constant attempts made by the wills of individuals and classes to thwart the wills and enslave the powers of other individuals and classes. The powers of the parent and the schoolmaster, and of their public analogues the lawgiver and the judge, become instruments of tyranny in the hands of those who are too narrow-minded to understand law and exercise judgment; and in their hands (with us they mostly fall into such hands) law becomes tyranny. And what is a tyrant? Quite simply a person who says to another person, young or old, "You shall do as I tell you; you shall make what I want; you shall profess my creed; you shall have no will of your own; and your powers shall be at the disposal of my will." It has come to this at last: that the phrase "she has a will of her own," or "he has a will of his own" has come to denote a person of exceptional obstinacy and self-assertion. And even persons of good natural disposition, if brought up to expect such deference, are roused to unreasoning fury, and sometimes to the commission of atrocious crimes, by the slightest challenge to their authority. Thus a laborer may be dirty, drunken, untruthful, slothful, untrustworthy in every way without exhausting the indulgence of the country house. But let him dare to be "disrespectful" and he is a lost man, though he be the cleanest, soberest, most diligent, most veracious, most trustworthy man in the county.

[From *On Parents and Children*, by George Bernard Shaw]

[thwart – hinder, prevent, put a stop to something;
profess – claim something which might not be true;
creed – a set of beliefs and norms;
deference – behavior showing respect and willingness to accept someone else's beliefs;
slothful – lazy;
diligent – hard-working;
veracious – truthful.]

- How does the author define civilization?
- How does the author define corruption?
- What connection does the author make between respect and tyranny?

22.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

One day a good fortune befell him, for he hit upon Lane's translation of *The Thousand Nights and a Night*. He was captured first by the illustrations, and then he began to read, to start with, the stories that dealt with magic, and then the others; and those he liked he read again and again. He could think of nothing else. He forgot the life about him. He had to be called two or three times before he would come to his dinner. Insensibly he formed the most delightful habit in the world, the habit of reading: he did not know that thus he was providing himself with a refuge from all the distress of life; he did not know either that he was creating for himself an unreal world which would make the real world of every day a source of bitter disappointment. Presently he began to read other things. His brain was precocious. His uncle and aunt, seeing that he occupied himself and neither worried nor made a noise, ceased to trouble themselves about him.

[From *Of Human Bondage*, by Somerset Maugham]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Fum pe coşul Hagiului nu s-a pomenit. Ridice viscolul nămeţii până la acoperiş. Apele să îngheţe tun. Treaba lor! Hagiul nu vrea să ştie de crapă pietrele de ger în ianuarie, nici dacă în iulie turbează câinii de căldură. Iarna tremură, vara gâfâie. Toată viaţa lui, de câte ori nepoată-sa—trăind pe lângă dânsul—îi pomenea, la Crăciun, să taie şi ei un porc, ca tot creştinul, bătrânul răspundea:

—Îmi face rău, nepoată, s-aud guiţând... Îmi face rău... c-aşa sunt eu... milos...

—Cumpără-l, nene, tăiat gata.

Dacă aşa îl aducea din cuvânt Leana, înghiţind în sec, cu gândul la friptură, bătrânul răspundea liniştit:

—Un porc... carne multă... Se strică... Două guri suntem... [...].

De mic copil Hagiul fusese copil cuminte şi aşezat. Nu i s-auzea guriţa, nici paşii. Nu rupea pantofii. Nu-şi hărtănea rochiţa. Pe ce puneă mâna puneă bine.

[Adapted from *Hagi Tudose*, by B. Şt. Delavrancea]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

Nobody would have believed that Jim (turn out) the way he (do). His parents had been the gentlest of souls and (give) him the proper education. He (raise) to behave like a gentle respectful fellow and (make) his mark in this world like the noble man he (be) supposed to be. And yet he (turn out) a coward.

2. Rewrite the sentences, beginning as shown:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. As soon as they wrote their letter of resignation, they left the building. / No sooner...
- b. I delivered that parcel two days ago. / It's two days...
- c. Although he was an intelligent man, nobody wanted him on their team. / Intelligent as...

3. Negate the following sentences:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. She came home very early.
- b. Bill is still a handsome man.
- c. He has met her before.

4. Rewrite each sentence so that it contains a suitable modal verb and the meaning remains the same:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. It is important that you go to that meeting.
- b. I am sure they didn't quarrel.

c. Last year, Bill managed to fly a kite for a whole hour.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Of the many wild absurdities of our existing social order perhaps the most grotesque is the costly and strictly enforced reservation of large tracts of country as deer forests and breeding grounds for pheasants whilst there is so little provision of the kind made for children. I have more than once thought of trying to introduce the shooting of children as a sport, as the children would then be preserved very carefully for ten months in the year, thereby reducing their death rate far more than the fusillades of the sportsmen during the other two would raise it. At present the killing of a fox except by a pack of foxhounds is regarded with horror; but you may and do kill children in a hundred and fifty ways provided you do not shoot them or set a pack of dogs on them. It must be admitted that the foxes have the best of it; and indeed a glance at our pheasants, our deer, and our children will convince the most sceptical that the children have decidedly the worst of it.

This much hope, however, can be extracted from the present state of things. It is so fantastic, so mad, so apparently impossible, that no scheme of reform need ever henceforth be discredited on the ground that it is fantastic or mad or apparently impossible. It is the sensible schemes, unfortunately, that are hopeless in England. Therefore I have great hopes that my own views, though fundamentally sensible, can be made to appear fantastic enough to have a chance.

[From *On Parents and Children*, by George Bernard Shaw]

[pheasant – a wild species of bird;
to have the worst of something – to get the bad end of a deal;
henceforth – from now on.]

—Explain in your words the author's proposal for the preservation of children. Why do you think he makes such an outrageous proposal?

—Why do you think the author says that 'it is the sensible schemes that are hopeless'?

23.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

It was thus that he spoke of the object of my visit, of his earnest desire to see me, and of the solace he expected me to afford him. He entered, at some length, into what he conceived to be the nature of his malady. It was, he said, a constitutional and a family evil, and one for which he despaired to find a remedy—a mere nervous affection, he immediately added, which would undoubtedly soon pass off. It displayed itself in a host of unnatural sensations. Some of these, as he detailed them, interested and bewildered me; although, perhaps, the terms and the general manner of the narration had their weight. He suffered much from a morbid acuteness of the senses. The most insipid food was alone endurable; he could wear only garments of certain texture; the odors of all flowers were oppressive; his eyes were tortured by even a faint light; and there were but peculiar sounds, and these from stringed instruments, which did not inspire him with horror.

[From *The Fall of the House of Usher*, by Edgar Allan Poe]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Alături de Fram se afla o platformă învelită cu postav alb. Acolo se urca el să se joace cu greutățile [...], să prindă în gură portocale aruncate de public. Acum se așeză pe marginea platformei, așa cum se așază un om pe gânduri. Își prinse capul în labele de dinainte. Era într-adevăr ca un om care nu-și amintește ceva, a pierdut ceva, e deznădăjduit de ceva.

—Își bate joc de noi, dragă! se supără cucoana cea mai ascuțită. Uite pentru ce plătim bani! Ca să-și bată joc un dobitoc de noi...

Mâna bunicului apăsă ușor umărul fetei cu părul cârlionțat sub cușmulița albă. Simțise, prin haină, cum se frământa și cum e gata să-și apere pe Fram al ei. Dar Fram era într-adevăr de neînțeles în această seară. Părea că a uitat unde se află. Părea că a uitat ce așteaptă lumea de la dânsul.

[From *Fram, ursul polar*, by Cezar Petrescu]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Turn the following sentences from active to passive:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. You must never doubt me.
- b. They never thought of him as the best man for the job.
- c. Mary is spreading rumours about the Browns all over the town.

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

John just (receive) a parcel from the postman when his wife (enter) the house and announced him that they (have) guests for dinner. He (try) to tell her that he (not/be able) to attend because he (already/make) plans with his friends for dinner.

3. Find the mistake and correct it:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. It didn't happen anything!
- b. We aren't convinced of nothing you are saying.
- c. Lending money from strangers is not the brightest of things.

4. Use the words in capitals to form new sentences similar in meaning to the original ones. Do not alter the word in capitals in any way.

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. People assume that convicts can never be rehabilitated. **ASSUMED**
- b. I asked him for his new phone number but he didn't want to give it to me. **WOULD**
- c. Perhaps they haven't met our new boss yet. **MAY**

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for

each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Anybody can write a three-volumed novel. It merely requires a complete ignorance of both life and literature. The difficulty that I should fancy the reviewer feels is the difficulty of sustaining any standard. Where there is no style a standard must be impossible. The poor reviewers are apparently reduced to be the reporters of the police—court of literature, the chroniclers of the doings of the habitual criminals of art. It is sometimes said of them that they do not read all through the works they are called upon to criticise. They do not. Or at least they should not. If they did so, they would become confirmed misanthropes, or if I may borrow a phrase from one of the pretty Newnham graduates, confirmed womanthropes for the rest of their lives. Nor is it necessary. To know the vintage and quality of a wine one need not drink the whole cask. It must be perfectly easy in half an hour to say whether a book is worth anything or worth nothing. Ten minutes are really sufficient, if one has the instinct for form. Who wants to wade through a dull volume? One tastes it, and that is quite enough—more than enough, I should imagine. I am aware that there are many honest workers in painting as well as in literature who object to criticism entirely. They are quite right. Their work stands in no intellectual relation to their age. It brings us no new element of pleasure. It suggests no fresh departure of thought, or passion, or beauty. It should not be spoken of. It should be left to the oblivion that it deserves.

[From *The Critic as Artist: with Some Remarks about the Importance of Doing Nothing*, by
Oscar Wilde]

[cask – a larger barrel, a container for liquids.]

—How does the author describe critics and reviewers of books?

—Why do you think that the author makes the following remark: *To know the vintage and quality of a wine one need not drink the whole cask.*

—Are critics and reviewers necessary? Support your answer with arguments from the text.

24.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

He came out, followed by little Joe, who kept fast hold of his father's hand. The early sunshine was already pouring its gold upon the mountain tops; and though the valleys were still in shadow, they smiled cheerfully in the promise of the bright day that was hastening onward. The village, completely shut in by hills, which swelled away gently about it, looked as if it had rested peacefully in the hollow of the great hand of Providence. The tavern was astir, and the figure of the old agent, cigar in mouth, was seen on the threshold. Old Graylock was glorified with a golden cloud upon his head. Scattered likewise over the breasts of the surrounding mountains, there were heaps of mist, in fantastic shapes, some of them far down into the valley, others high up towards the summits, and still others, of the same family of mist or cloud, hovering in the gold radiance of the upper atmosphere. Stepping from one to another of the clouds that rested on the hills, and from here to the higher brotherhood that sailed in air, it seemed almost as if a mortal man might thus ascend into the heavenly regions. Earth was so mingled with sky that it was a day-dream to look at it.

[Adapted from *Ethan Brand*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

La bătrânețe, afacerea nu mai mergea. Desfăcu prăvălia. Vându tot.

—M-am ales și eu c-o pâne, dupe o muncă câinească de la opt și până la șazeci de ani.

Dar în acest bătrân, pentru care prietenii, copiii și nevasta erau banii agonisiți și ascunși, un singur gând, mai presus de orice, îi turbura fericirea:

—Dumnezeu vede toate... plătește toate. Vede toate!... Cum vede?... N-am furat pe nimeni... N-am luat banul nimăru!

„Vede toate, plătește toate”. Icoanele și vorbele din biserică i se deșteptau în minte. Ce strică bogatul nemilostiv dacă nu fură și nu bate pe nimeni? Dacă bogații ar da în fiecare zi la săraci, săracii s-ar îmbogăți și bogații ar săraci. În ce ar fi D-zeu mai câștigat? Trupul lui n-a vroit femeie; buzele lui n-au avut copil de sărutat; pânțele



lui n-au poftit la mâncări grase, şi o vecinicie toată să nu vază faţa luminoasă a idolului său?

Într-o zi bătrânul, nemaiputând răbda aceste gânduri, s-a hotărât:

—Da, da, am să mă iau bine cu Dum... Să văd locurile sfinte! Ce jertfă ar putea întrece jertfa mea?

[Adapted from *Hagi Tudose*, by B. Şt. Delavrancea]

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

Would there be a reason why you (believe) that someone (steal) your homework and (put) their name on it? It's true that some people (behave) like that, but no one in this classroom (give) you this impression so far, (you/not/think) so?

2. Rewrite the sentences, beginning as shown:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. After they left the room, they went to buy themselves a new car. / Having...
- b. It is believed she wrote a novel. / She is...
- c. Jim was the one who won the prize. / It was...

3. Negate the following sentences:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. He looked at his watch.
- b. They have already met her.
- c. I have something to tell you.

4. Rewrite each sentence so that it contains a suitable modal verb and the meaning remains the same:

(3 x 0.5 points)



- a. Why didn't you tell your friend about the loan?
- b. They probably met in secret!
- c. It is possible that she is talking to her lawyer as we speak.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Often enough the lover of cities tires of their unceasing noise; the din of the traffic buzzes perpetually in his ears, and even in the silences of night he hears the footfalls on the pavement, the dull stamping of horses, the screeching of wheels; the fog chokes up the lungs so that he cannot breathe; he sees no longer any charms in the tall chimneys of the factory and the heavy smoke winding in curves against the leaden sky; then he flies to countries where the greenness is like cold spring water, where he can hear the budding of the trees and the stars tell him fantastic things, the silence is full of mysterious new emotions. And so the writer sometimes grows weary to death of the life he sees, and he presses his hands before his eyes, that he may hide from him the endless failure in the endless quest; then he too sets sail for Bohemia by the Sea, and the other countries of the Frankly Impossible, where men are always brave and women ever beautiful; there the tears of the morning are followed by laughter at night, trials are easily surmountable, virtue is always triumphant; there no illusions are lost, and lovers live ever happily in a world without end.

[From *The Choice of Amyntas*, by Somerset Maugham]

[din – loud noise;

stamp one's foot – to put one's foot down forcefully and loudly;

leaden – gray, like lead;

weary – tired.]

—The author makes an analogy between cityfolk and writers. What do these people have in common? Explain in your own words.

—How would a land of the Frankly Impossible look, in your opinion? Would there be a difference between your idea of it and the author's?

25.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

When the night had worn away thus far the child would close the window, and steal softly downstairs, thinking as she went that if one of those hideous faces below, which often mingled with her dreams, were to meet her by the way, rendering itself visible by some strange light of its own, she would be so terrified. But these fears vanished before a well-trimmed lamp and the familiar aspect of her own room. After praying fervently, and with many bursting tears, for the old man, and the restoration of his peace of mind and the happiness they had once enjoyed, she would lay her head upon the pillow and sob herself to sleep: often starting up again, before the daylight came, to listen for the bell and respond to the imaginary summons which had roused her from her slumber. One night, the third after Nelly's interview with Mrs Quilp, the old man, who had been weak and ill all day, said he would not leave home. The child's eyes sparkled at the information, but her joy subsided when they reverted to his worn and sickly face.

[Adapted from *The Old Curiosity Shop*, by Charles Dickens]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Leana plecă bombănind în odaia d-alături. Hagiul rămase singur. Trist, întuneric și frig. Vântul se repede pe coș, rece ca gheața, și nu găsește în vatră nici cărbuni, nici cenușe. Hagiul tremură și morfoleşte o bucată de pâine. Fiori reci îi trec prin șira spinării. Nu-și mai simte picioarele din tălpi până la genuchi.

Zăpada se ridică până la geamuri. În toată mahalaua nu s-aude nici om, nici câne.

Hagiul adoarme, mâhnit că, dacă iarna va ține tot așa, n-o mai duce fără lemne. Și ce scumpe trebuie să fie lemnele. Așa e, o să iasă din iarnă sărac lipit. A adormit. Se mișcă. Se învârtește. Toată noaptea visează că se încălzește la un foc mare.

A doua zi nepoată-sa îl găsi pe jumătate înghețat. Abia putu să zică: "Leano, foc, că mor", și îi întinse un bănuț de aur, închizând ochii. Îi fu rușine ca să nu-l vadă



acel ochi de aur cu câtă uşurinţă îl aruncă în mânilor nemiloase ale lumii. Oftă dureros.

[Adapted from *Hagi Tudose*, by B. Şt. Delavrancea]

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. I holded his hand for a long time, thinking hard.
- b. Explain me why you are so sad.
- c. If you would have come earlier, you would have found out that everybody had already left.

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

Although he (be) aware of the fact that his employees (not/have) much fondness for him, he (think) of himself as a pretty fair boss, one who always (remember) his employees' birthdays and who (give) them a fair chance to explain themselves if they (make) a mistake.

3. Negate the following sentences:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. She met Susan's father.
- b. We are looking at some dot on the wall.
- c. I have always known the truth.

4. Rewrite each sentence so that it contains a suitable modal verb and the meaning remains the same:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. I would like you to pour me some tea, please.
- b. It's possible that he's having an affair.



c. It is regrettable that they met.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

There are few books which go with midnight, solitude, and a candle. It is much easier to say what does not please us than what is exactly right. The book must be, anyhow, something mild, by a sinning fellow-man. Cleverness would be repellent at such an hour. Cleverness, anyhow, is the level of mediocrity to-day; we are all too infernally clever. The first witty and perverse paradox blows out the candle. Only the sick in mind crave cleverness, as a morbid body turns to drink. The late candle throws its beams a great distance; and its rays make transparent much that seemed massy and important. The mind at rest beside that light, when the house is asleep, and the consequential affairs of the urgent world have diminished to their right proportions because we see them distantly from another and a more tranquil place in the heavens where duty, honor, witty arguments, controversial logic on great questions, appear such as will leave hardly a trace of fossil in the indurated mud which presently will cover them—the mind then certainly smiles at cleverness.

For though at that hour the body may be dog-tired, the mind is white and lucid, like that of a man from whom a fever has abated. It is bare of illusions. It has a sharp focus, small and starlike, as a clear and lonely flame left burning by the altar of a shrine from which all have gone but one. A book which approaches that light in the privacy of that place must come, as it were, with honest and open pages.

[From *Bed-books and Night-lights*, by H. M. Tomlinson]

[beam – ray;

indurated – hardened;

presently – immediately;

abate – go down.]

—In your own words, describe the qualities of a book that should be read at bed time.

—Do you agree with the author? Support your opinion.



26.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

The whole school rushed noisily into the play-ground. The new boys were told to go into the middle, while the others stationed themselves along opposite walls. They began to play Pig in the Middle. The old boys ran from wall to wall while the new boys tried to catch them: when one was seized and the mystic words said—one, two, three, and a pig for me—he became a prisoner and, turning sides, helped to catch those who were still free. Philip saw a boy running past and tried to catch him, but his limp gave him no chance; and the runners, taking their opportunity, made straight for the ground he covered. Then one of them had the brilliant idea of imitating Philip's clumsy run. Other boys saw it and began to laugh; then they all copied the first; and they ran round Philip, limping grotesquely, screaming with shrill laughter. They lost their heads with the delight of their new amusement, and choked with helpless merriment. One of them tripped Philip up and he fell, heavily as he always fell, and cut his knee. They laughed all the louder when he got up.

[From *Of Human Bondage*, by Somerset Maugham]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Un oarecare caraghios Marcu (originar din Sinaia) îi făcuse propuneri matrimoniale, dar ea îmi povestise faptul ca pe-o cerere ridicolă, şi eu nici nu ştiam dacă nu e numai o glumă de a Irinei. În orice caz, avea o reală părere de rău pentru necazul meu, ceea ce în limbajul obișnuit s-ar putea traduce prin “avea inimă bună”. Sau poate totul nu era decât un plan, ca să mă facă pe mine, în sfârșit, s-o accept oficial? Ceea ce iarăși era posibil. I-am scris toate aceste observații ale mele, juste. După o zi, m-am simțit incapabil ca să aștept răspunsul cel puțin opt zile, și într-o clipă m-am hotărât să mă întorc în țară. Cum n-aveam bani de drum imediat, m-am dus să cer prietenilor, eu care nu cerusem niciodată. Am fost refuzat politicos.

[From *O moarte care nu dovedește nimic*, by Anton Holban]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Rewrite the sentences, beginning as shown:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. They have been here for two months now. / They came here...
- b. They say he is the best writer of his generation. / He is said...
- c. Jim has this bad habit of borrowing money from his friends. / Jim is always...

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

Although I prefer (watch) birds to (paint) them, I must admit that Jane's proposal (have) a painting session and try (capture) a humming bird on canvas (sound) rather pleasant. I really believe it (be) a lot of fun.

3. Negate the following sentences:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. Bill was always a fool.
- b. He has left his wallet somewhere in the park.
- c. They will meet after dark.

4. Rewrite each sentence so that it contains a suitable modal verb and the meaning remains the same:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. His friend is permitted to visit him in the evening.
- b. He is such a liar sometimes.
- c. If only they hadn't had this conversation!

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Marion City, on the Mississippi River, in the State of Missouri—a village; time, 1845. La Bourboule-les-Bains, France—a village; time, the end of June, 1894. I was in the one village in that early time; I am in the other now. These times and places are sufficiently wide apart, yet today I have the strange sense of being thrust back into that Missourian village and of reliving certain stirring days that I lived there so long ago.

Last Saturday night the life of the President of the French Republic was taken by an Italian assassin. Last night a mob surrounded our hotel, shouting, howling, singing the “Marseillaise,” and pelting our windows with sticks and stones; for we have Italian waiters, and the mob demanded that they be turned out of the house instantly—to be drubbed, and then driven out of the village. Everybody in the hotel remained up until far into the night, and experienced the several kinds of terror which one reads about in books which tell of night attacks by Italians and by French mobs: the growing roar of the oncoming crowd; the arrival, with rain of stones and a crash of glass; the withdrawal to rearrange plans—followed by a silence ominous, threatening, and harder to bear than even the active siege and the noise. The landlord and the two village policemen stood their ground, and at last the mob was persuaded to go away and leave our Italians in peace. Today four of the ringleaders have been sentenced to heavy punishment of a public sort—and are become local heroes, by consequence.

That is the very mistake which was at first made in the Missourian village half a century ago. The mistake was repeated and repeated—just as France is doing in these latter months.

In our village we had our Ravochals, our Henrys, our Vaillants; and in a humble way our Cesario—I hope I have spelled this name wrong. Fifty years ago we passed through, in all essentials, what France has been passing through during the past two or three years, in the matter of periodical frights, horrors, and shudderings.

[From *A Scrap of Curious History*, by Mark Twain]

[drub—beat thoroughly (in a competition or in a fight);
ominous— which predicts that bad things will happen;
siege—the surrounding of a building;
ringleaders—leaders of the criminals.]

- The author makes an analogy between two places and speaks of the inhabitants in these places making the same mistake. What do you think this mistake is about?
—What do you think happened in Missouri?



27.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Mr. Arabin, as he sat at his open window, enjoying the delicious moonlight and gazing at the gray towers of the church, which stood almost within the rectory grounds, little dreamed that he was the subject of so many friendly or unfriendly criticisms. Considering how much we are all given to discuss the characters of others, and discuss them often not in the strictest spirit of charity, it is singular how little we are inclined to think that others can speak ill-naturedly of us, and how angry and hurt we are when proof reaches us that they have done so. It is hardly too much to say that we all of us occasionally speak of our dearest friends in a manner in which those dearest friends would very little like to hear themselves mentioned, and that we nevertheless expect that our dearest friends shall invariably speak of us as though they were blind to all our faults, but keenly alive to every shade of our virtues.

[From *Barchester Towers*, by Anthony Trollope]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Bineînţeles, am uitat multe lucruri, așa că nu voi transcrie decât câteva momente care nu se leagă imediat, dar care, în general, formează o atmosferă. Mai întâi mi-am preparat intrarea. Când mă va vedea pe neaşteptate, orice izbucnire de a ei va fi mai sinceră. Contam pe surprindere. Am spus servitoarei, care trebuia s-o introducă în cameră, să-i spuie că nu voi veni decât mai târziu, cu toate că eram acolo de mai-nainte. Cum se făcuse noapte şi lumina nu era aprinsă, nu m-ar fi văzut imediat. M-a găsit însă de îndată ce a intrat şi n-a avut nici o tresărire. Efectul meu fusese ratat. Am sărutat-o ca pe o străină şi nu ştiam ce să ne spunem. O simţeam transformată. Cum prevăzusem altfel întâlnirea noastră, rămăsei deconcertat şi-mi simţii capul vâjâind.

[From *O moarte care nu dovedeşte nimic*, by Anton Holban]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Rewrite the sentences, beginning as shown:

(3 x 1 points)

- a. Why did you strike your fiancée? / I wish you...
- b. They say all of them conspired to murder the Pope. / All of them...
- c. They can't have won that competition! / It is...

2. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

Summer is generally a time when people (pack) their bags and (leave) for other places, so it was totally out of character for John (unpack) his bag and (lie back) in his bed just one hour before his plane (schedule) to take off. But, as we all know, John always (be) a surprising man.

3. Negate the following sentences:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. Both Tom and Bill are liars.
- b. They had a lot of trouble with their new car.
- c. He caught his wife in bed with another man.

4. Correct the mistake in each sentence:

(3 x 0.5 points)

- a. Look, the baby drowns!
- b. They gave Bill a three-months holiday in Honolulu.
- c. It is no room for you in this institution!

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

When Martin left the library, he carried under his arm four volumes. [...] Unfortunately, he began the most difficult book of them. Every line bristled with many-syllabled words he did not understand. He sat up in bed, and the dictionary was in front of him more often than the book. He looked up so many new words that when they recurred, he had forgotten their meaning and had to look them up again. He devised the plan of writing the definitions in a note-book, and filled page after page with them. And still he could not understand. He read until three in the morning, and his brain was in a turmoil, but not one essential thought in the text had he grasped. He looked up, and it seemed that the room was lifting, heeling, and plunging like a ship upon the sea. Then he hurled the book and many curses across the room, turned off the gas, and composed himself to sleep. Nor did he have much better luck with the other three books. It was not that his brain was weak or incapable; it could think these thoughts were it not for lack of training in thinking and lack of the thought-tools with which to think. He guessed this, and for a while entertained the idea of reading nothing but the dictionary until he had mastered every word in it.

Poetry, however, was his solace, and he read much of it, finding his greatest joy in the simpler poets, who were more understandable. He loved beauty, and there he found beauty. Poetry, like music, stirred him profoundly, and, though he did not know it, he was preparing his mind for the heavier work that was to come. The pages of his mind were blank, and, without effort, much he read and liked, stanza by stanza, was impressed upon those pages, so that he was soon able to extract great joy from chanting aloud or under his breath the music and the beauty of the printed words he had read.

[Adapted from *Martin Eden*, by Jack London]

- Martin is an avid reader. Explain how he goes about reading.
- Why do you think Martin was not successful when reading the first book he borrowed from the library?
- Why do you think Martin was successful when reading poetry?

28.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

The lad bit his lip. He made a hundred good resolutions. He would imitate Mr. Bons all the visit. He would not laugh, or run, or sing, or do any of the vulgar things that must have disgusted his new friends last time. He would be very careful to pronounce their names properly, and to remember who knew whom. Achilles did not know Tom Jones—at least, so Mr. Bons said. The Duchess of Malfi was older than Mrs. Gamp—at least, so Mr. Bons said. He would be self-conscious, reticent, and prim. He would never say he liked any one. Yet all these good resolutions went to the winds, for the omnibus had reached the summit of a moonlit hill, and there was the chasm, and there, across it, stood the old precipices, dreaming, with their feet in the everlasting river. He exclaimed, "The mountain! Listen to the new tune in the water! Look at the camp fires," and Mr. Bons, after a hasty glance, retorted, "Water? Camp fires? Ridiculous rubbish. Hold your tongue. There is nothing at all."

[Adapted from *The Celestial Omnibus*, by E.M. Forster]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

—Te bate?

Băiatul dete din cap şi-ncepu să plângă. A vrut bunica să-l mustre, să-l îndemne la supunere—ba, că aşa bate stăpânul, să-nveţe băieţii minte; ba, că trebuie să aibă copilul răbdare dacă e la stăpân: că dacă n-a vrut să-nveţe carte şi nici la stăpân nu vrea să stea, atunci ce-o să se facă el? s-ajungă vagabond, ori pungaş, ori să se prăpădească pe drumuri; că de! e băiat mare acuma, de treisprezece ani... de treisprezece ani...! Şi şi-a adus aminte baba că adineaori, acu, a împlinit copilul copilului ei d-abia atâta, şi că e destul de mâhnit el şi de bătut la ziua lui, când alţi copii cine ştie ce bunătăţi şi ce mângâieri au la ziua lor: ce să-l mai mustre şi ea?... şi tot uitându-se la el cum plângea ca un prost, şezând pe marginea lăzii, cu legătura într-o mână, şi se ştergea cu căciula la ochi, a început şi baba să plângă ca o proastă.

[From *Cănuţa om sucit*, by I.L. Caragiale]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

If you (tell) me that you (spend) your holiday abroad and you (need) a cat-sitter, I (change) my plans and (try) to help you (find) one for your kitty.

2. Rewrite the following sentences into Indirect Speech, beginning as shown:

(3 x 1 points)

1. "They are going to meet their parents-in-law next week in New York."

She explained that...

2. "Where are the keys to your brother's car?"

Mother asked Jim...

3. "Well, my dear, I would give you the money if I had it."

Mary told Jim that...

3. Finish each sentence in such a way that it means exactly the same as the sentence above it:

(3 x 0.5 points)

1. When did they arrive?

How long is.....

2. John has built twenty houses and is keen on building another one before he retires.

By the time....

3. The minute they entered the room, they started arguing.

No sooner....

4. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(3 x 0.5 points)

1. Why didn't you fought harder?



2. He is a such nice guy, for a policeman.
3. As soon as we will give them the suitcase, they will arrest us.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

About once in so often you are due to lie awake at night. Why this is so I have never been able to discover. It apparently comes from no predisposing uneasiness of indigestion, no rashness in the matter of too much tea or tobacco, no excitation of unusual incident or stimulating conversation. In fact, you turn in with the expectation of rather a good night's rest. Almost at once the little noises of the forest grow larger, blend in the hollow bigness of the first drowse; your thoughts drift idly back and forth between reality and dream; when—snap!—you are broad awake!

Perhaps the reservoir of your vital forces is full to the overflow of a little waste; or perhaps, more subtly, the great Mother insists thus that you enter the temple of her larger mysteries.

For, unlike mere insomnia, lying awake at night in the woods is pleasant. The eager, nervous straining for sleep gives way to a delicious indifference. You do not care. Your mind is cradled in an exquisite poppy-suspension of judgment and of thought. Impressions slip vaguely into your consciousness and as vaguely out again.

[From *Of Lying Awake at Night*, by Stewart Edward White]

[rash—hasty;

drowse—nap, sleep;

idly—lazily;

to strain for something—to try hard to get it.]

—What reasons does the author provide for sleeplessness?

—Explain in your own words what happens when you are sleepless in the woods.



29.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Swithin's hand enclosed Irene's, and his eyes swelled. She was a pretty woman—a little too pale, but her figure, her eyes, her teeth! Too good for that chap Soames! The gods had given Irene dark brown eyes and golden hair, that strange combination, provocative of men's glances, which is said to be the mark of a weak character. And the full, soft pallor of her neck and shoulders, above a gold-coloured dress, gave to her personality an alluring strangeness.

Soames stood behind, his eyes fastened on his wife's neck. The hands of Swithin's watch, which he still held open in his hand, had left eight behind; it was half an hour beyond his dinner-time—he had had no lunch—and a strange primeval impatience surged up within him.

"It's not like Jolyon to be late!" he said to Irene, with uncontrollable vexation. "I suppose it'll be June keeping him!"

"People in love are always late," she answered.

[From *The Man of Property*, by John Galsworthy]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Multe şi de toate a încercat el în viaţa lui, ca să şi-o poată cârpi de azi pe mâine. A făcut, fiindcă şi el era român, a făcut şi politică: a părăsit totdeauna opoziţia, din cauza nemărginitei şi injustei ei violenţe, în anul venirii ei la putere, şi s-a alipit totdeauna de guvern, care în definitiv nu era aşa de vinovat, cu câteva zile înainte de trecerea acestuia în opoziţie. Şi pe urmă iar aşa şi tot aşa. Ducând viaţă destul de grea, i-a venit şi lui ceasul, şi s-a însurat ca toată lumea. L-a înşelat la început soacră-sa, nu i-a dat zestrea făgăduită—el a zis şi n-a prea zis ceva. L-a înşelat nevasta întâia oară—el a zis prea puţine. A doua oară—n-a zis nimic.

[From *Cănuţă om sucit*, by I.L.Caragiale]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

As no one (know) where the keys (be), Jim decided to leave the room and (search) elsewhere in the house. He (mean) to head for the dining-room, which, for a long time, (be) the repository of all the little things in that house. He was sure he (find) the keys there.

2. Rewrite the following sentences into Indirect Speech, beginning as shown:

(3 x 1 points)

a. "I simply don't see why you had to tell him that nonsense!"

He explained to Susan that...

b. "Try and go to bed earlier than usual, you've got an early appointment tomorrow!"

John suggested that...

c. "Where do you think that guy went?"

Tom asked Mary ...

3. Finish each sentence in such a way that it means exactly the same as the sentence above it:

(3 x 0.5 points)

a. How long has he known the truth?

When...

b. I haven't tasted this kind of delicacies in ages.

It's ...

c. I think next April is a good deadline for your project.

By next April...

4. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(3 x 0.5 points)

1. There cannot be no excuses for you, my friend.
2. The Johnsons have been being married for at least a decade.
3. I don't know how to say you that you are fired.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):
(9 + 1 points)

But the world of fact, after all, is not good; and, in submitting our judgment to it, there is an element of slavishness from which our thoughts must be purged. For in all things it is well to exalt the dignity of Man, by freeing him as far as possible from the tyranny of non-human Power. When we have realized that Power is largely bad, that man, with his knowledge of good and evil, is but a helpless atom in a world which has no such knowledge, the choice is again presented to us: Shall we worship Force, or shall we worship Goodness? [...] The answer to this question is very momentous, and affects profoundly our whole morality. The worship of Force [...] is the result of failure to maintain our own ideals against a hostile universe: it is itself a prostrate submission to evil [...]. If strength indeed is to be respected, let us respect rather the strength of those who refuse that false "recognition of facts" which fails to recognize that facts are often bad. Let us admit that, in the world we know there are many things that would be better otherwise, and that the ideals to which we do and must adhere are not realized in the realm of matter. Let us preserve our respect for truth, for beauty, for the ideal of perfection which life does not permit us to attain, though none of these things meet with the approval of the unconscious universe. If Power is bad, as it seems to be, let us reject it from our hearts. In this lies Man's true freedom.

[From *A Free Man's Worship*, by Bertrand Russell]

[slavishness – submissiveness;
to exalt – to raise, elevate; to praise, glorify;
momentous – crucial because it has an effect on future events;
attain – touch, reach.]

- The author mentions two kinds of strength. Enlarge upon this idea.
- What is Man's true freedom? Explain in your own words the author's point of view.

30.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

James reflected sourly that his son and his daughter-in-law had a nice house (rather small) in an excellent position, no children, and no money troubles. [...] There was no reason why Irene should not be happy, yet they said she'd been asking for a separate room. He knew where that ended. It wasn't as if Soames drank.

James looked at his daughter-in-law. That unseen glance of his was cold and dubious. Appeal and fear were in it, and a sense of personal grievance. Why should he be worried like this? It was very likely all nonsense; women were funny things! They exaggerated so, you didn't know what to believe; and then, nobody told him anything, he had to find out everything for himself. Again he looked furtively at Irene, and across from her to Soames. "He's fond of her, I know," thought James. "Look at the way he's always giving her things." And the extraordinary unreasonableness of her disaffection struck him with increased force.

[From *The Man of Property*, by John Galsworthy]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Seara, toată lumea ştia cum s-au petrecut lucrurile, ce a zis Mihu, ce-a zis Safta, ce-au zis Mitrea şi Simion şi în ce chip Marta a stat înaintea lor şi a zis că are să fie cum vrea Mihu, stăpânul casei, fiindcă astfel se cuvine să răspundă o fată de familie bună. Unul văzuse cum Mihu şi Safta au petrecut pe Mitrea şi pe Simion până la porţiţă; altul auzise cum i-a rugat să spuie sănătate şi voie bună viitorilor cuscri şi să-i dorească de bine junelui, şi iarăşi altul a văzut pe Simina foarte veselă şi a fost prin apropiere când oamenii s-au întors la casa ei. Pentru ca să facem vorbă scurtă: gura satului se pornise ca niciodată mai nainte. Dar vorbele multe izvorau din bucuria obştească. Nu era în sat nici un om care nu s-ar fi simţit părtaş la bucuria celor două case, căci unii erau rude, alţii cuscri ori prieteni şi iarăşi alţii fini sau oameni ce se ţineau de una ori de alta din cele două case fruntaşe.

[From *Gura satului*, by Ioan Slavici]



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Write out the sentences, using the most logical form of the verbs in brackets:

(6 x 0.5 points)

My friend, Martin, always (be) the worst sort of grumbler: he always (mutter) about this thing and that and, frankly speaking, he (drive) us crazy! Only yesterday he (tell) me, in a peevish voice, that young people always (complain) about their own little troubles. It was really funny to hear him complaining so innocently about other people (be) grumblers themselves!

2. Rewrite the following sentences into Indirect Speech, beginning as shown:

(3 x 1 points)

1. "Could you possibly tell me if my paper has arrived?"

She asked me...

2. "Why is he behaving so badly?"

He wondered...

3. "You should mind your own business!"

She demanded...

3. Finish each sentence in such a way that it means exactly the same as the sentence above it:

(3 x 0.5 points)

a. It took him an hour to build that sandcastle.

He built

b. He stopped talking to his brother ages ago.

He hasn't ...

c. She passed away before I managed to send her my book.

By the time...

4. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(3 x 0.5 points)



- a. This idea couldn't be farther from the truth.
- b. Hardly had he knocked that he was answered.
- c. He is assumed to meet the victim before.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

New furniture has no charms for me compared with old. It is the old things that we love—the old faces, the old books, the old jokes. New furniture can make a palace, but it takes old furniture to make a home. Not merely old in itself—lodging—house furniture generally is that—but it must be old to us, old in associations and recollections. The furniture of furnished apartments, however ancient it may be in reality, is new to our eyes, and we feel as though we could never get on with it. As, too, in the case of all fresh acquaintances, whether wooden or human (and there is very little difference between the two species sometimes), everything impresses you with its worst aspect. The knobby wood-work and shiny horse-hair covering of the easy-chair suggest anything but ease. The mirror is smoky. The curtains want washing. The carpet is frayed. The table looks as if it would go over the instant anything was rested on it. The grate is cheerless, the wall—paper hideous. The ceiling appears to have had coffee spilt all over it, and the ornaments—well, they are worse than the wallpaper.

[From *On Furnished Apartments*, by Jerome K. Jerome]

[furnished apartments – apartments containing furniture chosen by someone else;
knobby – full of knots and bumps;
horse-hair covering – a covering made of raspy, unpleasant fabric;
easy-chair – a very comfortable chair;
frayed – ragged, torn, worn-out.]

—Do you agree with the first generalization made by the author, that new furniture is more interesting than old furniture? What arguments does the author offer?

—Do you agree with the second generalization made by the author, that the species of man is similar to that of furniture in that both species impress you negatively when



you first get to know them? What arguments does the author offer?

SUGGESTED ANSWERS FOR SUBJECTS 1-5

Nota Bene!

The underlined comments contain additional information meant to help the candidate understand the difficulties and the issues related to the subjects. These comments need not be part of the final answer sheet.



Îndrumări de rezolvare



1.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

Old Mrs Mingott's foreign daughters had become a legend. They never **came** back to see their mother, and as **the latter** was, like many persons of active mind and dominating will, sedentary and corpulent in her habit, she had philosophically remained at home. But the **cream-coloured** house was there as a visible proof of her **moral courage**; and she rested in it as placidly as if there were nothing peculiar in living on that street. Everyone was agreed that old Catherine Mingott had never had beauty—a gift which, in the eyes of New York, justified every success, and excused a certain number of failings. Unkind people said that, like **Catherine the Great**, her Imperial namesake, she had won her way to success by strength of will and hardness of heart, and a kind of pride that was somehow justified by the extreme decency and dignity of her private life. Mr Manson Mingott had died when she was only twenty-eight, and had **'tied up'** the money with an additional caution born of a general distrust; but his bold young widow went her way fearlessly, mingled freely in foreign society and married her daughters in **heaven knew**

Fetele bătrânei doamne Mingott erau legendare. Nu veneau niciodată să-și viziteze mama și aceasta alesese filozofic să rămână acasă, întrucât, ca multe alte persoane cu minte activă și tendințe dominatoare, era sedentară și corpulentă de felul ei. Însă casa cu pereții de un alb-gălbui ședea acolo ca o dovadă vizibilă a tăriei ei de caracter; și ea ședea în ea la fel de placid de parcă nu era nimic ciudat în a trăi pe strada aceea. Toată lumea era de părere că bătrâna doamnă Catherine Mingott nu fusese niciodată o mare frumusețe—însușire care, în ochii (locuitorilor) New Yorkului, justifica orice fel de succes și scuza un număr de nereușite. Gurile rele spuneau că, asemeni Ecaterinei cea Mare, tiza ei imperială, își dobândise succesul mai mult prin puterea voinței și neștrămutarea inimii, precum și printr-un soi de mândrie justificată întrucâtva de extrema decență și demnitate a vieții ei personale. Domnul Manson Mingott murise când ea n-avea decât douăzeci și opt de ani și nu îi lăsase dreptul să dispună cum dorește de moștenire, căci firea lui precaută se datora unei neîncrederi generale în omenire; însă vajnica văduvă mersese pe drumul ei



what corrupt and fashionable circles. [Adapted from <i>The Age of Innocence</i> , by Edith Wharton]	neînfrică, cultivase liber societatea celor veniți din străinătate și își măritase fiicele cu soți din numai ea știa ce cercuri sociale mondene și corupte.
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Difficulties:

—The verbal form *came* is a simple past form indicating past habit, it requires a Romanian Imperfect form.

—*The latter*—needs to be translated by a demonstrative form without additional modification (not: *aceasta din urma*).

—*Cream-coloured* cannot be translated literally, it needs a Romanian equivalent.

—*Moral courage* cannot be translated literally, it produces a phrase that sounds odd in Romanian. An equivalent is needed.

—*Catherine the Great* has a Romanian equivalent which needs to be employed in translation.

—The concept of *tying up* inheritances was regular practice in British and American society. The translation might pose problems due to the technicality of the term. Paraphrase is recommended here.

—*Heaven knew* is a parenthetical phrase, which can easily be omitted. It could have also been translated by *Dumnezeu stie*.

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Am știut tot ce se petrecea între voi, căci mă vizita deseori. Puteam astfel ști ce se întâmplă. Nu-mi spunea nimic, dar mă pricepeam să-l descos, fără ca să aibă vreo bănuială. Îi pricinuiam neliniști, imaginau evenimente, puteam să-l fac să creadă orice. Aveam imense bucurii ca să-l chinui, dar cine va ști febrilitatea mea bolnavă producându-mi astfel de satisfacții? Eu rămâneam pe multă	I knew about what was going on between the two of you, for she often visited me. So I was well informed about what was happening/ I was in the know. He wouldn't tell me much, but I was well able to get the truth out of him, without him even suspecting it. I caused him to worry, I made up events, I could make him believe anything. I took great pleasure in tormenting him,
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<p>vreme distrus, în timp ce el se refăcea imediat, fie că—om sănătos—nu-l puteau multă vreme covârşi tristeţile, fie că tu, cu care se întâlnea curând, aveai să-l consolezi prin vorbe.</p> <p>Discuţiile dintre noi evoluau în general asupra literaturii, dar fiecare ascundea alte emoţii, căci în fiecare vorbă sau gest ne cercetam, şi unul şi altul încântat de ce putea să-i ascundă celuilalt.</p> <p>[Adaptated from <i>O moarte</i>, by Anton Holban]</p>	<p>but who was to know my sick fever which gave me so much satisfaction? I myself would feel devastated afterwards, while he would recover in no time, either because—healthy as he was—sorrow could not keep him down for too long or because you, the person he was meeting soon, were to give him the comfort of your words. Our conversations were mainly about literature, but each of them would hide various trends of emotion, for each of us would delightedly try to unearth in the other's words or gestures what was hidden from us.</p>
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—The underlined form (*would*) is used with its modal, habitual meaning. The translation could have been also made with the aid of the Simple Past: *I myself felt devastated afterwards, while he recovered in no time...; each of them hid various trends of emotion, for each of us delightedly tried to unearth...*

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Turn the following sentences from active to passive:

(2 x 1 points)

a. Who delivered this news?

By whom was this news delivered? / Who was this news delivered by?

b. Will mother allow him to leave?

Will he be allowed to leave (by mother)?

2. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:



(2 x 1 points)

a. I would rather they do this by themselves.

*I would rather they **did** this by themselves.* (the form *did* is a form of present subjunctive required after *would rather* when there is a change of subject in the subordinate. Compare: I would rather do it myself. / I would rather **he did** it.)

b. First he entered and then he went on scolding us.

*First he entered and then he went on **to scold** us.* (the form *to scold* is required after the verb *to go on*. This verb works with an -ing form when it means 'to continue', but in this context, the meaning is 'to proceed with something else', which requires the presence of an infinitival form).

3. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

(2 x 1 points)

a. It was nice of you to give me the money. **WHICH**

You gave me the money, which was nice of you/ a nice thing to do.

b. In your place, I would be vexed, too. **WERE**

If I were you/ If I were in your shoes, I would be vexed, too.

4. Show the difference in meaning between the following sentences in pairs:

(2 x 0.5 points)

a. I tried to smoke but I choked. / I tried smoking and found it disgusting.

The difference lies in the combination between the verb *to try* and an infinitival or an -ing form: in the first case the subject of the sentence tries to smoke but does not manage to smoke. In the second sentence, the presence of the -ing verb form implies that some smoking took place, but that the subject did not like it. Consequently, in the second sentence, the implication is that the subject did some smoking.

b. She's listening to the news. / She listens to a lot of news.



The difference lies in the distinct semantics of the Present Continuous vs. the Present Simple: in the first sentence, the subject is in the middle of listening to the news as we speak. In the second sentence, the subject of the sentence listens to the news regularly (every day).

5. Choose the correct answer:

(4 x 0.5 points)

a. His growing anxiety..... to prevent him from doing his job.

A is starting B starts C is started D were starting

His growing anxiety is starting to prevent him from doing his job.

A is the only variant possible in this case. The clue is the adjective *growing*, which matches the semantics of the Present Continuous. B contains a simple present form which is disallowed by the semantics of the adjective *growing*. C contains an ungrammatical formation. D is a past continuous form, which would have been acceptable if it had been in the singular. However, if faced with a choice between a present continuous and a past continuous form, the candidate is advised to go with the present form unless there is clear indication in the context that the event is in the past.

b. John leave the hospital only two days after his accident.

A was able to B could C can D is able to

John was able to leave the hospital only two days after his accident.

The preferred variant is A, a past form of *be able to*, which implies the completion of the event. The second variant B does not imply completion of the event, and it would have clashed with the semantics of the time adverbial *only two days after his accident*. A similar case of mismatched semantics between tense and the time adverbial is offered by both variant C and D.

c. The two little girls to the zoo during that summer.

A enjoy being taken B enjoyed being taken C were enjoyed taking D



enjoyed taking

The two little girls enjoyed being taken to the zoo during that summer.

The first variant is excluded by the time adverbial *during that summer*, which indicates that the event is in the past. Variant C contains an ungrammatical formation. Variant D does not contain the necessary passive and is, also, ungrammatical since it does not contain a direct object. The only possible sentence here would have been: *The two little girls enjoyed taking **their younger brother** to the zoo during that summer.*

d. When you your letter, give it to me to post it.

A written B had written C having written D have written

When you have written your letter, give it to me to post it.

The combination between the relative adverb *when* and a perfect form (present or past) elicits an 'after' reading: *when you have written your letter* = *after writing your letter*.

Variant A and C are both excluded because they are mere participial forms and the context requires a complex tense form. Variant B would have been all right if the sentence had been in the past: *He **told** her to give him the letter to post when she had written it.* The verb *told* indicates that the context is past.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

American literature is a branch of English literature, as truly as are English books written in Scotland or South Africa. Our literature lies almost entirely in the nineteenth century when the ideas and books of the western world were freely interchanged among the nations and became accessible to an increasing number of readers. In literature nationality is determined by language rather than by blood or geography. M. Maeterlinck, born a subject of King Leopold, belongs to French literature. Mr. Joseph Conrad, born in Poland, is already an English classic. Geography, much less important in the nineteenth century than before, was never,



among modern European nations, so important as we sometimes are asked to believe. Of the ancestors of English literature “Beowulf” is scarcely more significant, and rather less graceful, than our tree-inhabiting forebears with prehensile toes; the true progenitors of English literature are Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Italian, and French.

[From *American Literature*, by John Macy]

[progenitor – a person in one’s family who was born a long time ago;

Beowulf is an Old English epic poem;

forebear – ancestor;

prehensile – flexible.]

—What is the importance of geography with respect to literature?

The excerpt implies that, when it comes down to writing, geography is of lesser importance. It is not your birthplace that necessarily dictates the language you choose to write in. Many persons born elsewhere were perfectly able to express themselves elegantly in the second language of their choosing and to produce valuable pieces of literature in that particular language.

The author illustrates this point of view by mentioning the works of M. Maeterlinck who, although a Fleming, chose French to express his thoughts in writing and produced work that earned him the Nobel prize in the end. Another great example is an important writer in the history of British literature, Joseph Conrad, who was Polish and who also spoke perfect French, but who chose English as a medium for his writings. There are countless other names that can be added as an illustration: Vladimir Nabokov, Salman Rushdie, Kazuo Ishiguro, etc.

—Why do you think that the author mentions monkeys in the context of literature?

The author mentions monkeys in connection with *Beowulf*, considered to be one of the most important epic poems in English literature. He creates a hyperbole by comparing the significance and grace of this poem with that of our alleged biological ancestors who used to climb trees and possessed prehensile toes. The point the author is trying to make is that *Beowulf* is not one of the most gracefully written poems and should not necessarily be viewed as significant for the development of English literature.

A second connection is made when the author mentions the real ancestors of English



literature: classical languages such as Latin and Greek or important modern languages such as French and Italian. Biological ancestors (the tree-inhabiting forbears, i.e. monkeys) are placed in opposition with spiritual ones (the true progenitors of English literature, i.e. other languages of international repute, metonymically seen as important vehicles for human thinking).



2.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

We had nearly finished our coffee, and our cake, when heavy raindrops started falling; quicker and quicker they came, coming through the tender leaves as if they were tearing them apart; all the people in the garden were hurrying under shelter, or seeking for their carriages standing outside. Up the steps the miller came hastening, with a crimson umbrella, fit to cover every one left in the garden, and followed by his daughter, and one or two servants, each bearing an umbrella. "Come into the house—come in, I say. It is a summer-storm, and will flood the place for an hour or two, till the river carries it away. Here, here." And we followed him back into his own house. We went into the kitchen first. The red floor was spotless when we went in, but in two minutes it was all over slop and dirt with the tread of many feet; for the kitchen was filled, and still the worthy miller kept bringing in more people under his great crimson umbrella. He even called the dogs in, and made them lie down under the tables.

[Adapted from *The Grey Woman*, by
Elizabeth Gaskell]

Eram pe punctul de a termina de băut cafeaua şi de mâncat tortul când stropi grei începură să picure afară; ploaia se întetă, căzând printre frunzele fragede, gata-gata să le sfâşie; toată lumea din grădină se grăbea să intre la adăpost sau în trăsurile lăsate afară. Sui scările în grabă şi morarul, cu o umbrelă stacojie, atât de mare că putea adăposti toată lumea rămasă în grădină, urmat de fiica sa şi de doi-trei servitori, fiecare cu o umbrelă în mână. —Poftiţi, poftiţi înăuntru, nu vă sfiţi. Este doar o ploaie de vară, apa nu va rămâne prea mult în grădină, doar o oră-două, se va scurge repede în râu. Pe aici.

Îl urmarăm mai întâi în bucătărie. Podeaua roşie strălucea de curăţenie când intraserăm, dar în doar câteva clipe se acoperise de noroi şi mizerie de la atâtea picioare; căci bucătăria era plină ochi, iar vajnicul morar continua să călăuzească înăuntru alte persoane, cu ajutorul uriaşei lui umbrele stacojii. Băgă până şi câinii înăuntru şi le porunci să şadă sub masă.



II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

În acea seară, eram în așa hal de sfârșeală că n-aș fi crezut să mă pot scula nici să fi luat casa foc. Dar deodată mă pomenii cu mine în mijlocul odăii, în picioare, uitându-mă speriat la ceasornic. Mi-adusesem aminte că eram poftit la masă de Pantazi. Ce noroc că mă deșteptasem; mare noroc! Privii acum cu recunoștință scrisoarea părintească; fără ea scăpam întâlnirea cu cel mai scump prieten. Mă îmbrăcai și ieșii. Era, spre căderea iernii, o vreme de lacrimi. Deși nu plouase, tot era ud; șanțurile plângeau, ramurile copacilor desfrunziți picurau, pe tulpine și pe grilaje se prelingeau ca o sudoare rece, stropi groși. Țasta e timpul care îndeamnă cel mai mult la băutură; rarii trecători ce se prefirau prin ceață erau mai toți afumați. Un lungan, coborând scările unei cârciumi, căzu grămadă și nu se mai sculă. Întorsei capul dezgustat.

[Adapted from *Craii de Curtea Veche*, by Mateiu Caragiale]

That evening I was in such a state of exhaustion that I would not have thought I could get up for all the tea in China. But I suddenly found myself in the middle of the room, standing, glancing at the clock in fright. I had remembered I had been invited to dine with Pantazi. What a piece of luck for having woken up after all! I was indeed a lucky fellow. I now eyed gratefully the letter from my father; had it not been for the letter, I would have missed my appointment with my dearest friend. I got dressed and went out. It was early winter, tearful weather. It hadn't been raining, yet everything was wet around; the ditches were weeping, the bare branches of the trees were dripping, the trees and railings were covered in a cold sweat, of heavy drops. This is the time most conducive to drinking; what few passers-by could be seen in the fog were mostly tipsy themselves. A tall man who was climbing down the stairs of a pub fell down in a heap and could not get up. I turned my head away, in disgust.



III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Turn the following sentences from active to passive:

(2 x 1 points)

a. I forgive you, my friend.

You are forgiven, my friend.

b. They say he defected.

He is said to have defected.

2. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(2 x 1 points)

a. She is know to have written an excellent essay.

She is known to have written an excellent essay.—the form of the verb to know must be a past participle

b. The grass is too wet to sit on it.

The grass is too wet to sit on.—the object of the verb to sit is the noun the grass

3. Finish the following sentences without changing the meaning of the sentences printed before them:

a. Why did John turn down his proposal? I'd rather ...

I'd rather John hadn't turned down his proposal.

Acceptable: *I'd rather John had accepted his proposal.*

b. The streets were muddy. There...

There was (a lot of) mud in the streets.

4. Show the difference in meaning between the following sentences in pairs; concentrate on the underlined phrases:

(2 x 0.5 points)

a. They have been separated for two weeks. / They separated two weeks ago.

The first sentence contains a Present Perfect form which indicates that the separation



started two weeks ago and is going on at this moment.

The second sentence contains a Past Simple form which indicates that the separation took place two weeks ago. Stress is laid on the moment the action took place not on the starting point of the state of separation, as is the case with the first sentence. Translation into Romanian manages to reflect the different focus (*Sunt despărţiţi de două săptămâni. / S-au despărţit acum două săptămâni.*) between the two sentences.

b. There might be trouble ahead. / There must be trouble ahead.

Here the difference lies in the distinct semantics of the modal verbs: *might* implies that there exists a distinct possibility for trouble in future, where *must* indicates that trouble will almost certainly come in future. Translation into Romanian indicates this distinction: *S-ar putea să fie probleme. / O să avem probabil necazuri.*

5. Choose the correct answer:

(4 x 0.5 points)

a. until 10 o'clock yesterday.

A I have been cycling B I cycled C I was cycling D I have cycled

I cycled until 10 o'clock yesterday.

Variant A and D are not accepted due to the definite time adverbial (*yesterday*). Variant C is not accepted due to the time limit given by the first time adverbial (*until 10 o'clock*).

b. We Poland twice during the 2000s.

A used to visit B would visit C visited D will visit

We visited Poland twice during the 2000s.

Variant A and B are excluded due to the frequency adverbial *twice*, whose semantics clashes with the iterative meaning provided by both *used to* and *would*. Variant D is not acceptable due to the definite time adverbial *during the 2000s*.

c. run for president.

A Mark was decided to B there was decided that Mark should C it was



decided that Mark should D Mark had been decided to

It was decided that Mark should run for president.

Variant A is not correct because the form *decided* can only be a past participle (not an adjective) in English; the adjective in English is *determined*, which would have produced a good sentence: *Mark was determined to run for president.*

Variant B is not accepted because the subject *there* cannot select be + past participle verbal forms.

Variant D visits the same problem as Variant A (*decided* cannot function as an adjective), plus a Past Participle tense form.

d. Jim noticed the car..... away from the bank.

A to speed

B speed

C speeding

D have sped

Jim noticed the car speeding away from the bank.

Variant A is not correct since physical perception verbs such as *notice* only select bare infinitive forms or -ing forms.

Variant B would have been possible if the semantics of the verb *speed* had allowed for a complete event to be observed. However, the verb *to speed* presupposes progression, which goes nicely with an -ing form.

Variant C contains a plural Present Perfect form. The plural makes the sentence ungrammatical, as well as the main verb *noticed* which excludes the presence of a Present Perfect form.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

An example of what seems to be the American habit of writing about everything except American life, is the work of General Lew Wallace. Wallace was one of the important secondary generals in the Civil War, distinguished at Fort Donelson and at Shiloh. After the war he wrote "Ben-Hur," a doubly abominable book, because it is not badly written and it shows a lively imagination. There is nothing in it so



valuable, so dramatically significant as a week in Wallace's war experiences. "Ben-Hur," fit work for a country clergyman with a pretty literary gift, is a ridiculous inanity to come from a man who has seen the things that Wallace saw! It is understandable that the man of experience may not write at all, and, on the other hand, that the man of secluded life may have the imagination to make a military epic. But for a man crammed with experience of the most dramatic sort and discovering the ability and the ambition to write—for him to make spurious oriental romances which achieve an enormous popularity! The case is too grotesque to be typical, yet it is exceptional in degree rather than in kind.

[From *American Literature*, by John Macy]

[clergyman – a male priest, or a religious leader, especially a Christian one;
inanity – total lack of meaning or ideas;
secluded – isolated, private, not near other people or other places;
epic (poem) – a lengthy, narrative poem;
crammed – packed, loaded;
spurious – not reasonable or correct, not based on true facts.]

—What is the point that the author is trying to make?

The point that the author is trying to make is that people should write from their own experience if they do decide to write fiction. The author illustrates this point by mentioning the book *Ben Hur*, which was written by a famous general of the American army. His point is that this general should have written a book about his personal military life and experiences, not about things that happened hundreds of years ago in the Orient. His opinion is that the general deprived his readership of valuable experience and fed them inaccurate facts instead.

It can be argued that one can indeed write about things they have not experienced, but then they at least should do serious research before starting to write about those things.

—Why is a book such as *Ben Hur* considered to be 'doubly abominable'? Use your own words to explain and comment upon the validity of Macy's opinion.

The book *Ben Hur* is considered by the author to be 'doubly abominable' because it is

in fact a pleasant read: it is written with a certain style and it has imagination and originality. These features should have made a success out of this book if the book had been founded on genuine experience. However, as it is, the book manages to be captivating without really being built on real life, which, in the eyes of the author, is a sin. Therefore, this book is in the author's opinion more than a failure: it is a double failure, because it is tantalizingly pleasant, yet it only sells fiction of the worst kind. Macy might have a point, were it not for the fact that literature (which is also known under the name of *fiction*) deals with imagination in the first place and with facts only in the second place.



3.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

<p>“The picture must not be shown. You must not be angry with me, Dorian, for what I have told you. As I said to Harry, once, you are made to be worshipped.” Dorian Gray drew a long breath. The color came back to his cheeks, and a smile played about his lips. The peril was over. He was safe for the time. Yet he could not help feeling infinite pity for the young man who had just made this strange confession to him. He wondered if he would ever be so dominated by the personality of a friend. Lord Harry had the charm of being very dangerous. But that was all. He was too clever and too cynical to be really fond of. Would there ever be someone who would fill him, Dorian, with a strange idolatry? Was that one of the things that life had in store?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[Adapted from <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>, by Oscar Wilde]</p>	<p>—Tabloul nu trebuie arătat nimănui. Dorian, să nu te superi pe mine pentru ce ți-am spus. Așa cum i-am spus și lui Harry pe vremuri, tu ești cel care trebuie venerat.</p> <p>Dorian Gray trase adânc aer în piept. Obrajii îi prinseră culoare și buzele îi schițară un zîmbet. Pericolul trecuse. Pentru moment era în afara primejdiei. Și totuși nu se putea abține să nu simtă o nețărmită milă pentru tânărul care tocmai îi făcuse această stranie mărturisire. Se întreba dacă se va lăsa la rândul lui vreodată dominat atât de puternic de personalitatea unui prieten. Lordul Harry avea acest dar, care putea să-l facă foarte periculos. Inșă nu avea mai mult de atât. Era prea deștept și prea cinic pentru a deveni obiectul adorației cuiva. Va exista oare vreodată o persoană care să îi insuflă lui, lui Dorian, o idolatrie neobișnuită ? Avea oare viața pentru el o astfel de surpriză ?</p>
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II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Un prieten de când lumea, așa-mi păruse deși, înainte de anul acela, nici	He had seemed like an old friend to me, although I had hardly known he existed
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nu-i bănuisem măcar fiinţa pe lume. Se ivise în Bucureşti cam o dată cu întâile frunze. De atunci îl întâlneam mereu şi pretutindeni. De la început îmi făcuse plăcere să-l văd, cu timpul căutasem chiar prilejul. Sunt fiinţe care prin câte ceva, uneori fără a şti ce anume, deşteaptă în noi o vie curiozitate, aţâţându-ne închipuirea să făurească asupra-le mici romane. M-am muştră pentru slăbiciunea ce-am avut pentru asemenea fiinţe; căci plătisem scump această slăbiciune. De data asta, peste curiozitate se altoia covârşitor un simţământ nou: o apropiere sufletească mergând până la înduioşare. Să fi fost pentru că omul era aşa de fermecător de trist? Cu putinţă, la dânsul numai ochii spunând atâtea. De un albastru rar, privirea lor, nespus de dulce, părea a urmări, îngândurată şi plină de nostalgie, amintirea unui vis.

[Adapted from *Craii de Curtea Veche*, by Mateiu Caragiale]

before that year. He had turned out in Bucharest with the first autumn leaves. Ever since I had kept meeting him everywhere. I had enjoyed his company from the very first moment, and sometimes I had even looked for it.

There are some people who have something, something unknown, which arouses a keen curiosity in us and fire our imagination into conjuring real novels about them. I scolded myself for this weakness I had for such people; for I had paid dearly for it. This time, my curiosity was strongly doubled by a new feeling: a certain affinity which went as far as tenderness. Could it have been there just because he was so charmingly sad? It might be so, since one look into his eyes might have revealed so much. Of an unusual blue, their look, unspeakably sweet, seemed to chase the memory of a dream pensively, wistfully.

III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Turn the following sentences from active to passive:

(2 x 1 points)

a. They should have revealed the truth to Susan.

The truth should have been revealed to Susan.



b. Bill is drawing a sketch of the mountains.

A sketch of the mountains is being drawn by Bill.

2. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(2 x 1 points)

a. Mary have remembered her father's birthday.

Mary has remembered her father's birthday.

b. I will give you the book after you will enter the room.

I will give you the book after you enter the room.

As we know, time adverbial clauses do not allow for the use of future auxiliaries.

3. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

(2 x 1 points)

a. Who did you send the letter, Mary? **WHOM**

Mary, to whom did you send the letter?

b. I made Jim tell me the truth about the contest. **HAD**

I had Jim tell me the truth about the contest.

4. Show the difference in meaning between the following sentences in pairs:

(2 x 0.5 points)

a. I have been chewing gum for an hour already. / I chewed gum for an hour.

In the first sentence, there is a Present Perfect Continuous verb form which indicates that the event is going on as we speak: the chewing of gum started an hour ago and is going on. In the second case, the chewing of gum lasted an hour but ended.

Translation into Romanian makes this distinction visible: *Mestec gumă de o oră.* / *Am mestecat gumă o oră.*

b. You needn't leave your shoes outside the apartment. / You shouldn't leave your



shoes outside the apartment.

The distinction lies in the semantics of the modals: in the first sentence, the modal *need* implies that the subject of the sentence does not have to leave his shoes out if he does not feel like it. In the second sentence, however, the modal *should* indicates that the subject is strongly advised against leaving his shoes out (they might be stolen, or damaged, or who knows?).

Translation into Romanian makes this distinction visible: *Nu e nevoie să-ți lași pantofii afară. / Nu e bine să îți lași pantofii afară.*

5. Choose the correct answer:

(4 x 0.5 points)

a. He as a quarterback in the team for two years.

A has played B has been playing C is played D is playing

He has been playing as a quarterback in the team for two years.

Variant B is preferred over variant A or D due to the durative time adverbial *for two years*, which requires both a perfect and a continuous verb form. Variant C contains an ungrammatical verb form.

b. The new inspector next week.

A arrived B is supposed to be arrived C is arriving D will be arrived

The new inspector is arriving next week.

Variant A is excluded because the semantics of the Simple Past clashes with that of the time adverbial *next week*. Variant B contains an ungrammatical verb form, as does variant D.

c. Jim's wife as a shop-assistant before she married Jim.

A has worked B has been working C would work D had worked

Jim's wife had worked as a shop-assistant before she married Jim.

Variant A and B are excluded because they contain a Present Perfect verb form which would have meant that the wife's working as a shop-assistant was subsequent to her marrying Jim. Variant C contains a modal which implies iteration (repetition of action) and is semantically odd.

d. I with the party, but I had to leave for London unexpectedly.

A was to have helped B helped C was to help D had helped

Both variant A and C are acceptable. However, variant A is preferred, since the perfect aspect definitely implies that the helping did not take place. Variant B and C are semantically odd, since they imply that the helping took place, which is disproved by the second part of the sentence.

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Within the last two years she had begun to be moved by an ambition to draw. She began as most children do by scribbling in her school books, funny pictures. She bought cartoon magazines and took a course—rather casually, naturally, for she was, after all, a child with no strong purposes—and this year she tasted the first fruits of success by having her pictures accepted by the High School Annual. But the thrill of delight she got when Mr. Ecord, of the Normal Annual, asked her to do the cartooning for that book this spring, was too beautiful for words. She fell to her work with all her enthusiastic heart. Her drawings were accepted, and her pride—always repressed by a lively sense of the ridiculousness of the figure she was cutting—was a really gorgeous thing to see. No successful artist ever drank a deeper draught of satisfaction than she took from the little fame her work was getting among her schoolfellows. In her glory, she almost forgot her horse—but never her car.

[From *Mary White*, by William Allen White]

[draught—a serving of drink or a dose of liquid medicine.]

—In your own words, try to create a portrait of the character. What were her qualities and her flaws?

The character seems to be a person who took pride in her achievements. She sounds like an ambitious, persevering woman: she learned how to draw by working hard and studying and her efforts were rewarded when a high school annual chose to use her drawings. Later on, spurred by her success, she received more orders and continued improving her craft. She was very proud of her success, which sometimes made her forgetful of other interests she used to have (her riding, for instance). This might mean that she was the enthusiastic kind, which sometimes might constitute a flaw because people tend to become overenthusiastic and forget other, important, things in the process.

—Do you agree with the statement “she was a child with no strong purposes”? Support your opinion with arguments.

I do not agree with the statement because all that the character does seems to lead towards the idea that she is an ambitious, purposeful kind of woman: she does not give up her hobby, rather takes classes and improves upon it until she starts receiving recognition for it. The author explains that her success was a small-scale kind of success, but that she took great satisfaction in it, to the extent that she sometimes forgot about any other interests she might have had. This indicates that she is the sort of person ready to give up everything else for the sake of her ambition. This kind of behavior does not recommend the character as a purposeless person.

4.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

<p>When Edna entered the dining-room one evening a little late, as was her habit, an unusually animated conversation seemed to be going on. Several persons were talking at once, and Victor's voice was predominating, even over that of his mother. Edna had returned late from her bath, had dressed in some haste, and her face was flushed. Her head, set off by her dainty white gown, suggested a rich, rare blossom. She took her seat at table between old Monsieur Farival and Madame Ratignolle. As she seated herself and was about to begin to eat her soup, which had been served when she entered the room, several persons informed her simultaneously that Robert was going to Mexico. She laid her spoon down and looked about her bewildered. He had been with her, reading to her all the morning, and had never even mentioned such a place as Mexico. She had not seen him during the afternoon; she had heard someone say he was at the house, upstairs with his mother. This she had thought nothing of, though she was surprised when he did not join her later in the</p>	<p>Într-o seară, când Edna intră cu oarecare întârziere în sufragerie, lucru destul de obișnuit pentru ea, nimeri în mijlocul unei conversații deosebit de animate. Mai multe persoane vorbeau în același timp, iar vocea lui Victor le acoperea pe celelalte, chiar și pe a mamei lui. Edna se întorsese târziu de la baie, se îmbrăcase în grabă și avea obrajii îmbujorați. Capul ei, pus în evidență de rochița albă, vaporosă, trimitea cu gândul la o floare rară, involtă. Se așeză la masă între bătrânul Monsieur Farival și Madame Ratignolle. În timp ce se așeza pe scaun și se pregătea să înceapă să-și mănânce supa, care tocmai fusese servită când intrase ea în cameră, câteva persoane o anunțară într-un glas că Robert urma să plece în Mexic. Ea își puse lingura jos și privi în jur buimăcită. Robert stătuse cu ea, îi citise toată dimineața, dar nu pomenise nimic de Mexic. Nu îl văzuse după amiază; auzise pe cineva spunând că era în casă, sus la maică-sa. Însă nu își bătuse capul cu asta, deși fusese surprinsă că nu îi căutase compania mai târziu, în timpul după amiezii, când plecase la plajă.</p>
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afternoon, when she went down to the beach.

[From *The Awakening*, by Kate Chopin]

II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

Învățători nu-ți mai dau, căci e de prisos; când umbra ta, ca umbră încă, va începe a vorbi, ea va fi atotștiutoare și-ți va spune ce trebuie să faci; când te vei muta tu în firea ei, atunci vei fi tu atotștiutor și în orice caz nu mai ai nevoie de mine. Dar vei fi băgat de samă o împrejurare: cartea mea, citind-o în șir, rămâne neînțeleasă... dar orideunde-i începe, răsfoind tot la a șaptea filă, o limpezime dumnezeiască e în fiecare șir.

Aceasta e o taină pe care nici eu n-o pricep, și se zice că unui om încredințat despre ființa lui Dumnezeu nici nu-i poate veni în minte cugetul ascuns în această ciudată numărătoare. În zadar ți-i întreba și umbra... ea nu știe nimic despre această taină. Se zice că Diavolului înainte de cădere i-ar fi plesnit în minte această obscură idee și de atunci a căzut. De ți-ar veni în minte să știi, se risipesc toate dimprejururi, timp și spațiu fug din sufletul tău, și rămâi asemenea unei crengi uscate, din care vremea asemenea a fugit. Neștiind eu singur această taină, căci, cum am spus, nici nu sunt în stare

I am not going to teach you anything else, it's no use anyway; when your shadow – a shadow still – starts talking, it will be all-knowing and will advise you about what you must do; it is only when you start inhabiting your shadow that you will become wise yourself; anyway, you don't have need of me any more. But you will have noticed one thing: my book, read and re-read, is still impossible to understand... wherever you start reading, every seventh page, you will notice a godly clarity in its every line.

This is a secret I cannot fathom myself, and they say that a man convinced about God's being cannot find any hidden meaning in this strange counting. In vain will you ask your shadow... it will know nothing of this secret. They say that, before his fall, the Devil might have thought up this obscure idea and that was the moment when he fell. If you came to know it, everything would vanish around, time and space would disappear from your heart and you would be left like a barren branch, forsaken, too, by time.



să-mi treacă prin minte, nici nu te pot sfătui în această privință. [From <i>Sărmanul Dionis</i> , by Mihai Eminescu]	As I do not know this secret myself, since, as I said, I cannot think of such things, I cannot in all honesty give you any advice about it.
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III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Find the mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it:

(2 x 1 points)

a. He casted every doubt away.

He cast every doubt away.

b. They gave him thousands of money to spend on gifts.

They gave him piles of money to spend on gifts.

They gave him thousands (of pounds) to spend on gifts.

2. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

(2 x 1 points)

a. You could only visit him after he had done his homework. **UNTIL**

You couldn't visit him until he had done his homework.

b. We didn't have much money left so we had to hitchhike. **LITTLE**

We had little money left so we had to hitchhike.

3. Fill each of the blanks with a suitable word or phrase:

(2 x 1 points)

a. You had better to make this mistake again, or else!

You had better try not to make this mistake again, or else!

b. Unfortunately we to attend the party and we're sorry for it.

Unfortunately we were unable to attend the party and we're sorry for it.



4. Fill the gaps with an appropriate verb:

(6 x 0.5 points)

It is several weeks since my physician me to take this medicine and I well at all. It be because he me the wrong medicine or because he the dosage wrong. Who.....?

It is several weeks since my physician advised me to take this medicine and I don't feel well at all. It might be because he gave me the wrong medicine or because he got the dosage wrong. Who knows?

IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

It is very restful to give up all effort at observing human nature and drawing social and political deductions from trifles, and to let oneself relapse into wide-mouthed worship of the wonders of nature. And this is very easy at Niagara. Niagara means nothing. It is not leading anywhere. It does not result from anything. It throws no light on the effects of Protection, nor on the Facility for Divorce in America, nor on Corruption in Public Life, nor on Canadian character, nor even on the Navy Bill. It is merely a great deal of water falling over some cliffs. But it is very remarkably that. The human race, apt as a child to destroy what it admires, has done its best to surround the Falls with every distraction, incongruity, and vulgarity. Hotels, powerhouses, bridges, trams, picture post-cards, sham legends, stalls, booths, rifle-galleries, and side-shows frame them about [...]. And in the midst of all this, overwhelming it all, are the Falls. He who sees them instantly forgets humanity. They are not very high, but they are overpowering. They are divided by an island into two parts, the Canadian and the American.

[From *Niagara Falls*, by Rupert Brooke]

[trifle – a thing that does not matter, something unimportant;
relapse – fall back, return to.]

—What is the point that the author is trying to make?

The author tries to draw attention to the greatness of nature, whose perfect embodiment is Niagara Falls. He, like many other writers before him, hints at the greatness of nature and makes a comparison between this and the insignificance of man. Nature (the Falls) is majestic just by being there; Man is small, petty, drowned in daily details and unimportant conflicts.

The author also hints at the possibility of Man's borrowing a fraction of this greatness just by admiring nature, by becoming aware of its grandeur. He uses words such as 'overwhelming', 'overpowering', which are appropriate when they are associated with such a great natural miracle as the Falls.

—Do you agree with the statement "He who sees the Falls instantly forgets humanity."? Motivate your answer.

The author's statement is one that many of us would agree with whenever we go sightseeing. There are so many wonderful sights to see in this world, wild places, natural reservations, rivers, waterfalls, mountains, but Niagara Falls is one of the greatest. The author makes use of hyperbole to impress this idea upon the reader: the sight of these waterfalls is so impressive, so extraordinary, that whoever lays eyes upon them forgets about themselves, about their daily problems, which become small and unimportant in the face of so much greatness. Here the word 'humanity' has a derogatory meaning, it refers to 'our wordly, daily insignificant problems'.

—Why do you think the author mentions America and Canada twice in the excerpt?

The first reason why the author mentions both America and Canada is a geographical one: the author explains at the end of the paragraph that, geographically, the Falls are divided into two parts, an American part and a Canadian part. This information is however provided at the end of the excerpt and someone who doesn't have knowledge of the place might indeed wonder at the author's mentioning all sorts of issues related to American public life or to Canadian character at the beginning of the essay.

More importantly, the author mentions both America and Canada ironically. As stated above, the author makes a comparison between the majesty of nature as opposed to

the smallness of men. In this case, Americans and Canadians happen to own this beautiful place (the Falls) and they should in fact revere and honour it, not clutter it with all sorts of unimportant stuff belonging to a consumerist society. Tourism should not be a business, but a profession.



5.

I. Translate into Romanian:

(9 + 1 points)

There is, as every schoolboy knows in this scientific age, a very close chemical relation between coal and diamonds. It is the reason, I believe, why some people allude to coal as "black diamonds." Both these commodities represent wealth; but coal is a much less portable form of property. There is, from that point of view, a deplorable lack of concentration in coal. Now, if a coal-mine could be put into one's waistcoat pocket—but it can't! At the same time, there is a fascination in coal, the supreme commodity of the age in which we are camped like bewildered travellers in a garish, unrestful hotel. And I suppose those two considerations, the practical and the mystical, prevented Heyst—Axel Heyst— from going away.

The Tropical Belt Coal Company went into liquidation. The world of finance is a mysterious world in which, incredible as the fact may appear, evaporation precedes liquidation. First the capital evaporates, and then the company goes into liquidation. These are very unnatural physics, but they account for the persistent inertia of

Orice şcolar vă poate spune în această eră a ştiinţei că între cărbune şi diamante există o relaţie chimică foarte apropiată. Acesta, cred eu, este motivul pentru care unii oameni se referă la cărbuni cu numele de "diamante negre." Amândouă aceste bunuri sunt un semn de bunăstare materială; dar cărbunele este o formă de proprietate mult mai greu de transportat. Din acest punct de vedere, cărbunele se află într-o concentraţie deplorabilă. Acum, dacă am putea lua într-un buzunar o mină întreagă de cărbune!—însă acest lucru este imposibil! Însă există în acelaşi timp şi o fascinaţie pentru cărbune, bunul suprem al epocii în care ne-am întâmplat asemenea unor călători uimiţi, refugiaţi într-un hotel grotesc, incomod. Şi presupun că aceste două consideraţii, cea practică şi cea mistică erau ceea ce îl împiedica pe Heyst—Axel Heyst—să-şi ia câmpii.

Compania de Cărbune de la Tropică intrase în lichidare. Lumea finanţelor este o lume misterioasă în care, oricât de incredibil ar părea, evaporarea precedă lichidarea. Întâi se evaporă capitalul, apoi compania intră în lichidare. Un



Heyst, at which we “out there” used to laugh among ourselves—but not inimically. [From <i>Victory</i> , by Joseph Conrad]	proces fizic extrem de nenatural, dar care explică inerţia profundă care-l cuprinsese pe Heyst şi de care noi, cei “de acolo” râdeam când vorbeam între noi—dar nu cu răutate.
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II. Translate into English:

(9 + 1 points)

<p>—Ano! grăi bărbatul înduioşat. Nu vorbi așa cu mine, acum, tocmai acum nu vorbi așa. Ai dreptate să fii mâhnită: m-am dus fără de veste, așa zicând, și nu ți-am spus, precum ar fi trebuit, cum stau lucrurile. Află acum că astă-noapte l-au bătut pe unul hoții de moarte și-au luat de la el bani, aur și argintărie, tot ce-au găsit și putut duce. Află că m-au luat și pe mine la bănuială, și că abia m-au lăsat să mă întorc acasă. Acum, întorcându-mă de la Ineu, am găsit în drum o trăsură boierească și lângă ea un copil ucis și aruncat la marginea drumului. Cine-a mai fost în trăsura aceea? Spune-mi, ca să-l vestesc pe Pinte.</p> <p>Ana stătea ca un stâlp de piatră înaintea lui și asculta cu încordată luare-aminte, însă cuvintele lui parcă îi sunau a sec în urechi și nu puteau să străbată până la inima ei, tulburată de alte gânduri.</p> <p>—O femeie a fost, zise ea, o domnișoară, o văduvă tânără! Mai știu eu cine!? Vor fi dus-o cu dâșii, căci era tânără și frumoasă, urmă ea cu patimă,</p>	<p>“Ana,” the man said, tenderly. “Don’t speak to me like that, now, of all moments, just don’t. You are right to be sad: I went there without notice, and I didn’t tell you about how things were, although maybe I should have. You should know that last night a man was beaten to death by some thugs who robbed him of his money, his gold and silver, all he had and all they could carry. You should also know that the police suspected me and I had trouble coming back home. But coming back from Ineu, I found a rich carriage on the road and by its side was a murdered child, left on the edge of the road. Who else was in that carriage? Tell me, so I could let Pinte know.”</p> <p>Ana was standing frozen in front of him and was listening with tense concentration, but his words sounded hollow and couldn’t get to her heart, so troubled by thoughts.</p> <p>“It was a woman,” she said, “a young lady, a widow! They must have taken her along, for she was young and</p>
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plină la față și la trup, iară voi, bărbații, nu vă gândiți decât la d-alde astea. [Adapted from <i>Moara cu noroc</i> , by Ioan Slavici]	beautiful," she continued passionately, "she was well-rounded in face and body, and you, men, can only think of these things."
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III.

(9 + 1 points)

1. Find the mistakes in each of the following sentences and correct them:

(4 x 0.5 points)

a. My feet are killing me! I need to lay down.

My feet are killing me! I need to lie down.

b. It is important that you to keep this secret.

It is important that you keep this secret.

c. They didn't know what did I do to earn that money.

They didn't know what I did/had done to earn that money.

d. This books are quite interesting.

These books are quite interesting.

2. Complete the sentences with an appropriate verb, using either the present perfect or the simple past:

(4 x 0.5 points)

a. I haven't been able to sing since I my vocal chords in an accident.

I haven't been able to sing since I damaged my vocal chords in an accident.

b. When they heard the news, they to jump for joy.

When they heard the news, they started to jump for joy.



c. They the door properly, it's hanging open!
They can't have locked the door properly, it's hanging open!

d. We too much money on books this month already.
We have spent too much money on books this month already.

3. For each of the sentences below write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given. The word must not be altered in any way.

(4 x 0.5 points)

a. He believes Susan could improve her skills. **ENOUGH**
He believes Susan isn't skilled enough.

b. There were a lot of magazines on the table, around twenty of them. **AS**
There were as many as twenty magazines on the table.

c. Don't bother yourself, I can manage. **NEED**
You need not bother, I can manage.

d. I intend to get an even higher number of awards. **MUCH**
I intend to get much more awards than I have now.

4. Fill in the blanks with ONE word only:

(6 x 0.5 points)

One never expects to find in trouble, but when one does, one..... to pull oneself out as soon as..... . Advice is to help, if by a good friend, really knows how to prompt one into acting.

One never expects to find oneself in trouble, but when one does, one has to pull oneself out as soon as possible. Advice is known to help, if given by a good friend, who really knows how to prompt one into acting.



IV. Consider the following text and answer the questions below (150 words for each answer):

(9 + 1 points)

Infancy is not what it is cracked up to be. The child seems happy all the time to the adult, because the adult knows that the child is untouched by the real problems of life; if the adult were similarly untouched he is sure that he would be happy. But children, not knowing that they are having an easy time, have a good many hard times. Growing and learning and obeying the rules of their elders, or fighting against them, are not easy things to do. Adolescence is certainly far from a uniformly pleasant period. Early manhood might be the most glorious time of all were it not that the sheer excess of life and vigor gets a fellow into continual scrapes. Of middle age the best that can be said is that a middle aged person has likely learned how to have a little fun in spite of his troubles. It is to old age that we look for reimbursement, the most of us. And most of us look in vain. For the most of us have been wrenched and racked, in one way or another, until old age is the most trying time of all.

[From *The Almost Perfect State*, by Don Marquis]

[wrench—twist and pull violently;

rack—make someone suffer from pain or unpleasant feelings.]

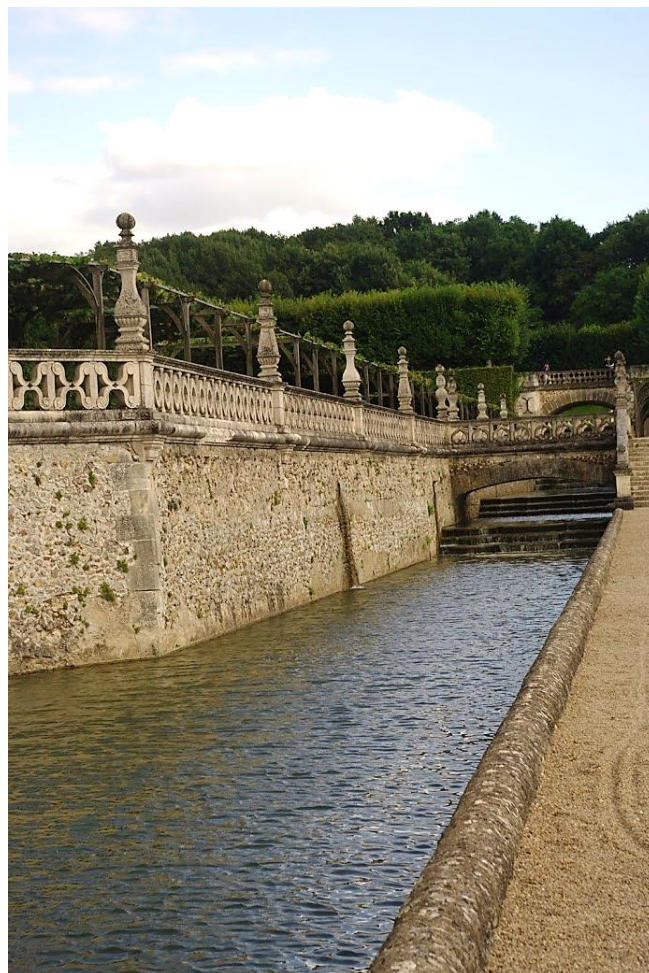
—Which age is the most rewarding and which is most difficult? Enlarge on the author's opinion in your own words.

The author points out that no age is in fact devoid of problems. Although childhood is supposed to be the most rewarding age of all, and might look so in the eyes of an adult, who believes that children are innocent and untouched by real problems, children might experience difficulties of their own: difficulties in growing, in learning, in obeying the rules of grown-ups, etc. The author goes on to say that none of the other ages are easy: youth comes with the danger of paying dearly for one's wild ways, maturity comes with the lukewarm satisfaction that one has finally settled down, whereas old age carries along the traumas already experienced during one's younger years, which come to haunt one at the end of their life.

—What is the difference between adolescence and middle age? Comment on the

author's opinion with respect to this issue.

The author places both adolescence and middle age in a similar category, stating that neither of these ages are rewarding for a person. He underlines the fact that adolescence in men is accompanied by an excess of energy which translates into every kind of exaggeration: too much drinking, gambling, partying, etc. The glory of youth is thus marred by excess and the costs are high. Middle age is no better because at this point in life a person has learned how to tone down their impulses and how to channel their excess of energy and all one does is to live a life of restraint and moderation, without being able to enjoy nature's gifts for fear they might overindulge. It can be argued that moderation is not the worst of things, but the author seems to be adamant that this is a deplorable state to be in.



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