

Concursul județean de limba engleză din cadrul Parteneriatului
Educațional "WHY...? WHY NOT?"
Ediția a XIV-a - 17.01.2026

Nume	
Prenume	
Școala de proveniență	
Clasa	

Clasa a VIII-a

1. Read the following story about an unsolved mystery. Four sentences have been removed. Choose from the sentences A-E the one which fits each gap. There is one extra sentence you do not need to use. (4x1p=4p)

The Unsolved Mystery of D.B. Cooper

On November 24th, 1971, a quiet man bought a plane ticket in Portland, Oregon. He used the name "Dan Cooper," and he has since become a **legend** in American crime history. While the plane was flying towards Seattle, Cooper gave a note to a member of the cabin crew. The note said that he had a bomb in his **briefcase**. 1.

Cooper's **demands** were very specific. He demanded \$200,000 in cash and four parachutes. When the plane landed in Seattle, he exchanged the 36 passengers for the money and the parachutes. 2. Then, he ordered the pilot to take off again and fly towards Mexico City, but at a low speed and altitude.

While the plane was flying over a dark, stormy, and **remote** forest area between Seattle and Reno, Cooper did something incredible. He went to the back of the plane, opened the rear door, and jumped out into the night with the **ransom** money. 3.

The FBI immediately started one of the biggest investigations in its history. 4. Over the years, they investigated more than 800 **suspects**, but they never found the man. The only piece of evidence ever discovered was a small amount of the ransom money, found by a young boy on a riverbank in 1980. Did Cooper survive the jump? Nobody knows for sure. After 45 years, the FBI officially closed the case in 2016, leaving the **mystery** of D.B. Cooper unsolved forever.

- A. The crew, however, had to stay **on board**.
- B. They searched the forest area, but they found no sign of Cooper or his parachute.
- C. He was **hijacking** the plane.
- D. He **released** the crew and the passengers.
- E. He was never seen or heard from again.

2. Read the story again, then answer the questions about the text and circle the best answer for each question. (6x1p=6p)

1. How did Cooper first inform the plane's crew that he was hijacking it?
 - a. He went into the pilot's cabin.
 - b. He passed a message to the flight attendant.
 - c. He showed them a bomb in his briefcase.
 - d. He made an announcement to all the passengers.
2. What did Cooper do when the plane landed in Seattle?
 - a. He ran away from the plane with the money.
 - b. He demanded to be taken to Mexico City.
 - c. He let the crew go and kept the passengers.
 - d. He let the passengers go in exchange for the ransom.

3. Which phrase best describes the conditions when Cooper jumped?

- a. On a sunny afternoon near the airport.
- b. In the morning over a calm sea.
- c. During bad weather over an isolated, wooded area.
- d. Over a big city on a clear night.

4. What happened during the FBI investigation?

- a. They investigated many suspects but couldn't identify Cooper.
- b. They found the briefcase he used to carry the bomb.
- c. They immediately found Cooper's parachute in the forest.
- d. They found the suspect, but he had no money.

5. What was the only real piece of evidence ever found?

- a. The parachute he used for the jump.
- b. Some of the stolen cash.
- c. Cooper's briefcase with the bomb inside.
- d. A plane ticket with his real name on it.

6. What is the final status of the D.B. Cooper case?

- a. Authorities have ended their investigation without finding answers.
- b. The case was solved in 2016 with new evidence.
- c. They found the suspect, but there was not enough evidence.
- d. The FBI is still actively looking for him.

3. Read the text again and match the words in bold to the following synonyms: (10x1p=10p)

- 1. onto a ship, plane or train -
- 2. case used for carrying documents -
- 3. firm requests -
- 4. the use of violence or threats to take control of a plane -
- 5. old, well-known story -
- 6. something impossible to explain about which little is known -
- 7. an amount of money paid to free prisoners -
- 8. when someone was let to go free -
- 9. far away in space or time -
- 10. people who are thought to be guilty of crime -

4. Complete the following text with ONE word for each space. (10x1p=10p)

TEGLA LOROUPE - PEACE FOUNDATION

Tegla Loroupe was born in 1973 in western Kenya. She **1)** _____ up in an area where many tribes depend on raising cattle **2)** _____ a living.

At the age of seven, Loroupe started school and had to run 10 kilometres to and from school every day. It was at school that she became aware **3)** _____ her talent for running and, with the support of her mother, she decided to pursue a career **4)** _____ a runner. Initially, the Kenyan athletics federation were not too impressed with Loroupe, believing her to be too small and thin. This changed after she won a prestigious cross-country race in 1988. She began to train for international events and, in 1994, she became the first African woman **5)** _____ history to win the New York City Marathon. She then went on to win many major marathons around the world.



After retiring **6)** _____ professional running, Loroupe founded the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation in Nairobi, Kenya, which aims to promote peace through sport. She wanted to **7)** _____ an end to the conflict between the tribes in Kenya and across Africa. Her foundation created the Tegla Loroupe Peace Race, an annual 10-kilometre running event that brings together runners from rival African tribes. The race encourages them to lay down their weapons and build stronger relations with **8)** _____ other. Loroupe says that the Peace Race had a significant impact **9)** _____ reducing violence in the region within just a few years. The foundation has also built a school **10)** _____ offers children access to sports in addition to protection and education.

5. Fill in the gaps with the correct word derived from of the words in bold: (10x1p=10p)

e.g. There is a wide ...**variety**... of bicycle racing.

VARY

1. This is _____ - we have to figure out another way.

HOPE

2. Our club will hold its _____ meeting next Wednesday.

MONTH

3. Only a very _____ person can afford to live here!

WEALTH

4. The hotel is situated within a _____ distance of the beach.

REASON

5. It's important to protect your skin from the _____ effects of the sun.

HARM

6. I don't think your arguments are _____ to this discussion.

RELEVANCE

7. The painting's a fake - it's completely _____ .

WORTH

8. The book contains really _____ advice on starting a new business.

You should buy it.

VALUE

9. I think it's dangerous to climb a mountain in such _____ weather.

STORM

10. After a _____ night's sleep, Penelope woke up feeling refreshed.

PEACE

6. Read the text below and choose the correct word A,B,C or D for each space: (10x1p=10p)

The invention of crisps

Potato crisps were invented by accident in 1853, by a chef called George Crum. He was extremely **(1)** of his **(2)** skills, and the expensive hotel where he worked attracted customers who were **(3)** to eating only the best food.

One evening, a particularly difficult-to-please guest complained **(4)** Crum's fried potatoes. 'They're too thick,' he said, 'too soft, and have no flavour.' He **(5)** that they should be replaced.

The customer's negative **(6)** made Crum extremely angry, so he decided to annoy the customer. He cut a potato into paper-thin slices, fried the pieces until they were hard, then put **(7)** too much salt on them. 'He'll hate them,' Crum thought. But the customer loved them and ordered **(8)**.....

News of this new snack travelled fast and an absolutely **(9)** global industry has grown from Crum's invention - even though his fried potatoes were actually **(10)** to taste disgusting!

- | | | | | |
|----|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | A proud | B satisfied | C pleased | D impressed |
| 2 | A cooked | B cookery | C prepare | D prepared |
| 3 | A prepared | B familiar | C used | D known |
| 4 | A for | B about | C of | D to |
| 5 | A convinced | B wanted | C needed | D demanded |
| 6 | A comments | B notes | C reasons | D explanations |
| 7 | A more | B less | C by far | D far |
| 8 | A too | B most | C more | D also |
| 9 | A big | B huge | C large | D wide |
| 10 | A hoped | B intended | C attempted | D tried |

7. Underline the correct word: (10x1p=10p)

1. I've always dreamt of watching wildlife. Finally, I'm lucky to go on **safari / camping holiday**.
2. You need to **eat / take** one pill twice a day before meals.
3. I'm not a fan of fried chicken because it's so **greasy / sour**.
4. I'd like a burger with a **side / back** order of chips.
5. Mary has taken sick leave because she has a **sick / sore** throat.
6. I didn't recognise Matt yesterday. He must have shaved off his **freckles / beard**.
7. My grandfather **made / did** a fortune selling recipe books.
8. It's a bad idea to go to London in July since all the sights are **booked / crowded** with tourists.
9. You might need to cut down **on / with** sugar to lose some weight.
10. I've never **driven / sailed** a yacht, but I'd love to try.

8. Circle the correct form of the verbs. (10x1p=10p)

1. Simon looks happy – he his Maths test.
A. will pass B. has passed
C. was passing D. had passed
2. By the time we arrived at the restaurant, they eating.
A. were starting B. will start
C. have started D. had started
3. Tim while Pam was watching TV.
A. is sleeping B. has slept
C. was sleeping D. has been sleeping
4. Ann locked up the house, in her car and drove away.
A. get B. was getting
C. got D. had got
5. I promise I'll pay you back as soon as I paid.
A. get B. will get
C. got D. has got
6. The president Ohio in a week's time.
A. has visited B. is visiting
C. visits D. would visit
7. He out with Sam when they were at university.
A. goes B. was going
C. has gone D. used to go
8. He hasn't driven a car since he that accident.
A. had B. was having
C. has had D. had had
9. Make sure you arrive on time tomorrow because the bus for you.
A. isn't waiting B. didn't wait
C. hasn't waited D. won't wait
10. Now that I've finished everything I had to do, I a little rest.
A. was taking B. will be taking
C. have taken D. am going to take

9. Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning to the first sentence. Use between three and five words, including the word in bold. (10x1p=10p)

1. Sally went to ballet classes three times a week when she was in primary school.

GO Sally ballet classes three times a week when she was in primary school.

2. It was my intention to phone you last night, but I forgot.

GOING I you last night, but I forgot.

3. How long is it since he broke his leg?

BREAK When his leg?

4. It's the first time he's ever seen a skyscraper.

NEVER He a skyscraper before.

5. The tourists found the carnival fascinating.

WERE The tourists the carnival.

6. There's no need for you to water the plants this morning.

HAVE You the plants this morning.

7. The sign says we have to leave our luggage here.

MUST The sign says our luggage here.

8. No other job is as well-paid.

BEST It job.

9. Tony finds History easier than Geography.

NOT Geography History for Tony.

10. Someone stole their car while they were asleep.

HAD They while they were asleep.

10. Underline the correct word: (10x1p=10p)

1. Lia **said** / **told** Paul she had done her homework.

2. Jamie said he would phone me the day **before** / **after**.

3. He told me he **would** / **will** lend me some books to read.

4. I must look **in** / **through** this essay before I hand it in tomorrow.

5. The news **was** / **were** interesting this evening.

6. The money must be on the table. I didn't take **them** / **it**.

7. We went to Bath **in** / **by** our car.

8. She has got **some** / **the** flu, so she isn't coming to school today.

9. There are **a number of** / **a small amount of** Asian people living in our street.

10. **If** / **When** the exams are over, we will go to the seaside.

Notă: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Timp de lucru 60 minute. Se acordă 10 puncte din oficiu.