

Examenul național de bacalaureat 2026

Proba C

**de evaluare a competențelor lingvistice într-o limbă de circulație internațională
studiată pe parcursul învățământului liceal**

Proba scrisă la Limba engleză

Toate filierele, profilurile și specializările/ calificările

Varianta 3

- Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii.
- Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 120 de minute.

ÎNȚELEGEREA TEXTULUI CITIT

SUBIECTUL I (40 de puncte)

Read the text below. Are the sentences 1-5 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B)? If there is not enough information to answer 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B), choose 'Doesn't say' (C). Mark A, B or C on your exam sheet.

Social media is full of influencers that showcase skincare routines. Influencers film themselves using cleansers, anti-ageing creams and face masks. Many of these products smell good and come in bright, colourful packaging. In the UK, interest in skincare is growing and young people asking parents to buy them products has doubled over the past couple of years. Many items can work really well on adult skin, but dermatologists say that some products could damage children's skin and lead to irritation.

On the one hand, it makes sense to begin taking care of your skin early on, to build good habits for life. Skincare can be a fun thing to do, either by yourself or with others. It provides a chance to relax and take time out from a busy day or schoolwork. There is lots of skincare that is safe for children. Sunscreen is important, but other products can also help. Using a gentle cleanser that washes away excess dirt along with exfoliators that remove dead skin cells, can lead to healthy-looking skin. If used in the right way, with safe ingredients, it can even help a child's self-confidence. Some feel that skincare gives them a way to be creative. If people feel good in their skin, it can lead to improvements in mental health and wellbeing.

On the other hand, experts say skincare for children is mostly unnecessary. Young skin doesn't need as much help as adult skin because it is more resilient. Children's skin absorbs skincare ingredients much more easily than adult skin, which could lead to irritation or allergic reactions. Some argue that children could be influenced by social-media videos to spend too much money on products that they don't need. There's also the concern that some people could get anxious about the way they look. Children need to learn that they should feel happy with how they look.

(adapted from *Winning well-being*)

- Influencers often show skincare products that look attractive and smell nice.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't say
- Dermatologists believe that all skincare products are safe for children if used correctly.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
- Some children use skincare as a way to escape bullying.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't Say
- It is said that children's skin absorbs ingredients more slowly than adult skin.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't say
- Social media may cause children to spend more money than necessary on skincare products.
A. Right B. Wrong C. Doesn't say

SUBIECTUL al II-lea

(60 de puncte)

Read the text below. For questions 1-10, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Voluntourism, a term formed from the words volunteer and tourism, refers to a form of travel in which people visit foreign countries while participating in short-term volunteer work. These activities often take place in developing regions and may include teaching English, working in orphanages, assisting with environmental conservation, or helping to build basic infrastructure. Over the past two decades, voluntourism has grown rapidly in popularity, particularly among young people from wealthier countries who are eager to “give back” while exploring the world.

Supporters of voluntourism argue that it can bring significant benefits to host communities. One frequently mentioned advantage is the financial contribution made by volunteers. Participants usually pay program fees that cover accommodation, meals and administrative costs, and part of this money may be directed toward local projects. In some cases, this income helps fund schools, clinics or environmental initiatives that might otherwise struggle to survive. Additionally, volunteers may bring enthusiasm, labour and international attention to issues that are often overlooked.

Another benefit often associated with voluntourism is cultural exchange. Volunteers are exposed to new cultures, languages and ways of life, while host communities have the opportunity to interact with people from different parts of the world. Proponents claim that these interactions can promote mutual understanding and break down stereotypes. Many volunteers report that their experiences abroad have made them more socially aware, empathetic and motivated to engage in global issues after returning home.

However, critics question whether voluntourism always delivers the positive impact it promises. One major concern is the short duration of many volunteer placements. Projects that last only a few weeks may fail to create meaningful or lasting change. For example, repeatedly introducing new volunteers into classrooms can disrupt students’ learning rather than support it. Experts argue that long-term development requires continuity, planning and professional expertise.

The issue of skills is another significant criticism. Many voluntourism programmes do not require volunteers to have specific qualifications, even when they are placed in sensitive roles such as teaching or childcare. While participants may be well-intentioned, they are not always adequately trained. As a result, the quality of work delivered may be lower than that provided by local professionals.

Voluntourism has also been criticised for its impact on local labour markets. When volunteers perform jobs for free, they may unintentionally replace paid local workers. This can reduce employment opportunities for residents and weaken the local economy. Critics argue that sustainable development should prioritise empowering local people rather than relying on temporary external help.

Ethical concerns are particularly strong in relation to projects involving vulnerable groups, such as children. Experts warn that the constant arrival and departure of volunteers can be emotionally harmful, especially for young people who may struggle with repeated attachments and separations. For this reason, several international organisations advise caution when choosing such projects.

Another criticism is that voluntourism can sometimes reflect the expectations of volunteers more than the real needs of host communities. Some programmes may focus on providing a meaningful experience for visitors rather than addressing local priorities. This can reinforce unequal power relationships instead of encouraging cooperation and partnership.

In response to these concerns, some organisations are working to improve voluntourism practices. They emphasise collaboration with local communities, appropriate training for volunteers and long-term engagement. When managed responsibly, such initiatives may contribute positively to development while offering valuable learning experiences.

In conclusion, voluntourism represents an opportunity for travel combined with social involvement, but its impact depends largely on how programmes are designed and implemented. Careful choices and ethical considerations are essential to ensure that voluntourism benefits both visitors and host communities.

(adapted from BBC Travel - <https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20190617-the-problems-with-voluntourism>)

1. What does the term “voluntourism” mainly refer to?
 - A. combining travel with volunteer work
 - B. professional humanitarian aid
 - C. permanent work abroad
 - D. financial donations to charities
2. According to supporters of voluntourism, what is one of its main advantages?
 - A. It replaces local employment.
 - B. It brings financial resources to local projects.
 - C. It guarantees long-term development.
 - D. It eliminates global inequality.
3. Cultural exchange in voluntourism is described as
 - A. having little effect on participants.
 - B. benefiting only local communities.
 - C. promoting mutual understanding.
 - D. causing cultural conflict.
4. Critics are concerned about short volunteer placements because they
 - A. attract too many tourists.
 - B. reduce travel opportunities.
 - C. are expensive to organise.
 - D. may fail to produce sustainable change.
5. One of the main problems related to volunteers’ skills mentioned in the text is that
 - A. most volunteers already have professional experience that exceeds local standards.
 - B. volunteers are often enthusiastic but lack adequate training for the roles they perform.
 - C. local professionals usually refuse to cooperate with foreign volunteers.
 - D. voluntourism programmes never require any skills or preparation at all.
6. Voluntourism can have a negative effect on local labour markets when it
 - A. leads to an increase in wages for local employees.
 - B. creates long-term employment opportunities for residents.
 - C. results in unpaid volunteer work replacing jobs that could be done by local workers.
 - D. attracts international companies willing to invest in the local economy.
7. Ethical concerns regarding voluntourism projects involving children mainly focus on the fact that
 - A. such projects are expensive and difficult to organise.
 - B. volunteers are rarely interested in working with children.
 - C. educational results are difficult to measure.
 - D. frequent changes of volunteers may cause emotional instability and attachment problems.
8. Some voluntourism programmes are criticised in the text because they
 - A. completely ignore the personal experiences of volunteers.
 - B. are designed primarily to satisfy volunteers’ expectations rather than local community needs.
 - C. focus exclusively on environmental conservation.
 - D. discourage cooperation between international organisations.

9. According to the text, more ethical approaches to voluntourism involve
- A. limiting contact between volunteers and local residents.
 - B. encouraging very short placements with minimal preparation.
 - C. focusing mainly on creating enjoyable experiences for visitors.
 - D. developing long-term partnerships and working closely with local communities.
10. The author's overall attitude towards voluntourism can best be described as
- A. fully supportive, as voluntourism is presented as entirely beneficial.
 - B. strongly negative, focusing only on its harmful effects.
 - C. balanced and cautious, acknowledging both potential benefits and serious risks.
 - D. neutral and uninterested, without expressing any clear opinion.

PRODUCEREA DE MESAJE SCRISE

SUBIECTUL I

(40 de puncte)

You are the secretary of a youth environmental foundation that organises nature conservation projects. This year, your team is hosting a local volunteering event for the first time. Write an email to your team members, giving them details about the event: dates, location, meeting point, transportation, and some planned activities.

Write your email in 80 - 100 words.

SUBIECTUL al II-lea

(60 de puncte)

Nowadays, many young people communicate more online than face to face. Some believe that online communication is convenient and helps people stay connected, while others think it weakens real-life relationships and social skills. Write an opinion essay in which you express your opinion on whether communicating mostly online is a positive or negative development for young people, supporting your ideas with relevant arguments and examples.

Write your essay in 180 - 200 words.