

Examenul de bacalaureat 2012

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 5

- 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). Write your answers on your exam sheet.

As a genre of creative writing, Science Fiction was often first published in vulgar 'pulp' magazines and in cheap mass-produced paperback originals. Many SF and fantasy writers were not considered prestigious enough to merit regular hardcover publication or deserving of serious critical attention. How ironic then, that some rare SF books are now worth many thousands of dollars each. And that the fans and collectors who campaigned long and hard to have SF recognized as a valid art form can now – if they so choose – enroll their sons and daughters on university courses devoted to the serious scholarly study of science fiction. Strange days, indeed. University professors now discourse long into the night on what was the first true science fantasy book. Was it, as some argue, Mary Shelley's tale of a modern Prometheus, the mad scientist 'Frankenstein'? First published in 1818 and filmed many times since - expect to pay upwards of \$10,000 for a fine copy of the first edition. Or maybe the prize should go to Bram Stoker's dark pre-Freudian fantasy 'Dracula' – published in 1897 and now also worth \$10,000 in its original yellow cloth. If you are thinking about investing in a copy of this book there is an intriguing issue point to consider. The first issue of the first edition – i.e. the most desirable – was printed without advertisements at the back. The later issues of the first edition all had publishers advertisements bound in at the rear and are not as valuable. Sadly, human nature being what it is, it is not impossible to remove the advertisements from the later issue in an attempt to pass off a later book as a copy of the supremely valuable first issue. The bottom line is – be very careful and only buy from an established and knowledgeable dealer.

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|--|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Popular magazines first published science-fiction books. | A Right | B Wrong | C Doesn't say |
| 2. Science-fiction books were first published in hardcover editions. | A Right | B Wrong | C Doesn't say |
| 3. Nowadays Science-fiction is more popular than all other genres. | A Right | B Wrong | C Doesn't say |
| 4. Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein' was first published in 1818. | A Right | B Wrong | C Doesn't say |
| 5. Bram Stoker's 'Dracula' is more popular in the States than it is in Europe. | 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. Write your answers on your exam sheet.

The polar bear can be saved from extinction – but only if action is taken quickly to make deep cuts to greenhouse gas emissions, a new study shows. The study, published today in journal *Nature*, conflicts with previous research, which suggested that Arctic temperatures are already on track to exceed the threshold required to trigger rapid, irreversible ice loss.

Researchers from Polar Bears International said sea ice in the Arctic, which polar bears use as a platform on which to hunt seals and breed, is unlikely to undergo a rapid and irreversible decline when temperatures rise beyond a certain threshold.

"It's widely believed that nothing can be done to save the polar bear," said author Steven Amstrup of Polar Bears International in Winnipeg, Canada. "But that's not true."

According to Andrew Derocher, a polar bear expert based at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada who was not involved in the study, Amstrup's study is the first to assess whether a campaign to slash emissions will benefit polar bears. "Mitigation [of carbon emissions] was not considered by any of the analyses to date," he said. Amstrup's team used global climate models and five scenarios of the level of greenhouse gas emissions to estimate sea ice loss in the Arctic over the next century. The paper suggests that there will be a linear relationship between temperature and sea ice: as temperatures rise, the amount of sea ice will decline smoothly. If emissions continue to rise at today's rate, two-thirds of polar bears will disappear by 2050, the models suggest. Populations in Hudson Bay, Baffin Bay, the Southern Beaufort Sea and Barents Sea will be hit the hardest. In addition, the amount of optimal polar bear habitat in the Arctic will fall by 50%, according to Amstrup.

But stringent emissions cuts of 70% by 2100 would limit habitat loss to just 20% – saving the polar bear, says the study. "Reduced emissions would yield greater abundance and wider distribution of polar bears than the 'business as usual' emission scenario," said Derocher of the paper.

Derocher is sceptical that policymakers will act to curb emissions in time. "There are few indications that such policies will be implemented in a timely manner. Globally, 25% of mammalian species are threatened with extinction and, in this context, **the plight of polar bears is sadly typical**," he said.

Loss of habitat isn't the only threat to Arctic species such as the polar bear, according to a separate paper published in *Nature* this week. As sea ice melts, species that have been separated for thousands of years are expected to start to interbreed, generating novel hybrid species and driving existing rare species extinct.

"When human activities abruptly alter environments, **it** can increase the frequency of hybridisation, which can have negative effects, including pushing some species toward extinction," said lead author Brendan Kelly, who is based at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Juneau, Alaska. Kelly conducted a survey of published literature on hybridisation. He counted 34 hybridisation events between distinct populations, species and genera in marine mammals living in or near the Arctic.

The review was not focused on a specific period but is biased toward the most recent decades when research in the Arctic increased, and focused on the Arctic Ocean, where ice forms a diminishing barrier between marine mammals. Of the 22 species that had hybridised, 14 were listed as endangered, threatened or of special concern in more than one country.

For example, a white bear with brown patches of fur was shot by Inuit hunters in 2006. DNA tests revealed that it was a half- polar bear, half-grizzly hybrid – also known as a "grolar" bear. In the late 1980s, a hybrid narwhal-beluga was seen off the west coast of Greenland, and last year, a hybrid bowhead-right whale was photographed in the Bering Sea.

(Observer.co.uk)

1. According to the new study published in journal Nature:
 - A. the polar bear cannot be saved from extinction.
 - B. the ice loss is irreversible.
 - C. the polar bear can be saved from extinction, if greenhouse gas emissions are reduced.
 - D. the previous research was right.
2. Andrew Derocher says that:
 - A. Amstrup's study is the only one which considered the reduction of carbon emissions.
 - B. Amstrup was not involved in the study.
 - C. Amstrup's study did not consider the reduction of carbon emissions.
 - D. the previous analyses also took into consideration a campaign to reduce emissions.
3. Amstrup's team suggests that:
 - A. 50% of polar bears will disappear by 2050.
 - B. half of the optimal polar bear habitat will fall.
 - C. the populations in Hudson Bay and Baffin Bay will not be affected.
 - D. there is no relation between temperature and sea ice.
4. How much do emissions have to be reduced by 2100 in order to save the polar bear?
 - A. 25%
 - B. 50%
 - C. 20%
 - D. 70%
5. Derocher:
 - A. says that 20% of mammalian species are threatened with extinction.
 - B. thinks that emissions will not be reduced in time.
 - C. doesn't believe that reduced emissions help the polar bear.
 - D. thinks that policymakers will act to curb emissions in time.
6. The bolded sentence " **the plight of polar bears is sadly typical**" in paragraph six means that Derocher:
 - A. is optimistic about the future of polar bears.
 - B. does not care about the future of polar bears.
 - C. is sceptical about the future of polar bears.
 - D. believes that polar bears are not threatened with extinction.
7. What negative effects does hybridisation have?
 - A. the extinction of some rare species.
 - B. only the extinction of polar bears.
 - C. there aren't any negative effects of hybridisation.
 - D. the extinction of all species.
8. Bolded **it** in paragraph eight refers to:
 - A. people.
 - B. the environment.
 - C. all human activities.
 - D. the alteration of the environment by human activities.
9. Where did the survey on hybridisation take place?
 - A. in Winnipeg, Canada.
 - B. in and near the Arctic Ocean.
 - C. only in the Bering Sea.
 - D. in Edmonton, Canada.

10. In the Bering sea was photographed:

- A. a white bear with brown patches of fur.
- B. a "golar" bear.
- C. a hybrid bowhead-right whale.
- D. a grizzly.

PRODUCEREA DE MESAJE SCRISE

SUBIECTUL I

(40 de puncte)

Write a short letter to your pen friend telling him/ her about the new flat/house you have just moved into. Include information about its location and its size and why you like it.

Write your letter in 80-100 words.

SUBIECTUL al II-lea

(60 de puncte)

Write an opinion essay in response to the following statement: *Having a hobby is the ideal way to spend your free time.*

Write your essay in 180-200 words.