

English Competition for Transcarpathian Schools with Hungarian as the Language of Instruction
Regional Level11th form of Secondary Schools – 7th form of Grammar Schools- 2nd Form of Lyceums

ID number

Reading

Task 1: *Read the text and do the task that follows. For items 1-5, choose the answer (A, B, C, or D) which fits best according to the text. Transfer your answers to the Answer Sheet.*

Culture, Logic, and Rhetoric

Logic, which is the basis of rhetoric, comes from culture; it is not universal. Rhetoric, therefore, is not universal either but varies from culture to culture. The rhetorical system of one language is neither better nor worse than the rhetorical system of another language, but it is different.

English logic and English rhetoric, which are based on Anglo-European cultural pattern, are linear—that is, a good English paragraph begins with a general statement of its content and then carefully develops that statement with a series of specific illustrations. A good English paragraph may also use just the reverse sequence: it may state a whole series of examples and then summarize those examples in a single statement at the end of the paragraph. In either case, however, the flow of ideas occurs in a straight line from the opening sentence to the last sentence. Furthermore, a well-structured English paragraph is never digressive. There is nothing that does not belong to the paragraph and nothing that does not support the topic sentence.

A type of construction found in Arabic and Persian writing is very different. Whereas English writers use a linear sequence, Arabic and Persian writers tend to construct a paragraph in a parallel sequence using many coordinators such as *and* and *but*. In English, maturity of style is often judged by the degree of subordination rather than by the degree of coordination. Therefore, Arabic and Persian style of writing, with their emphasis on coordination, seem awkward and immature to an English reader.

Some Asian writers, on the other hand, use an indirect approach. In this kind of writing, the topic is viewed from a variety of angles. The topic is never analyzed directly; it is referred to only indirectly. Again, such development in an English paragraph is awkward and unnecessary vague to an English reader.

Spanish rhetoric differs from English rhetoric in still another way. While the rules of English rhetoric require that every sentence in a paragraph relate directly to the central idea, a Spanish-speaking writer loves to fill a paragraph with interesting digressions. Although a Spanish paragraph may begin and end on the same topic, the writer often digresses into areas that are not directly related to the topic.

Spanish rhetoric, therefore, does not follow the English rule of paragraph unity.

In summary, a student who has mastered the grammar of English may still write poor papers unless he/she has also mastered the rhetoric of English. Also, the students may have difficulty reading an essay written by the rules of English rhetoric unless he/she understands the ‘logical’ differences from those of his/her native tongue.

1. The author's aim is to prove that
A. rhetoric is culturally specific.
B. foreign learners of English should acquire the rules of English rhetoric.
C. Asian and Spanish writers ignore English rhetoric. D. English rhetoric is the best.

2. Mature English style can be characterized by
A. digression. B. linear sequence. C. degree of coordination. D. vagueness.

3. Spanish writers tend to
A. neglect the central idea in the paragraph. B. develop the topic in reverse sequence.
C. give a lot of examples. D. wander away from the main topic.

4. It is difficult for the English reader to understand the Asian authors because
A. their texts follow different rules. B. the rendering of ideas is too difficult.
C. the paragraphs contain subordinate clauses. D. there is no coordination in the text.

5. The word "those" in the last sentence refers to
A. the rules of rhetoric. B. other students. C. logical differences. D. foreign languages.

Points: 15

Task 2: You are going to read an article about cycling. For questions 6-20, choose from the cyclists (A-D). The cyclists may be chosen more than once. Transfer your answers to the Answer Sheet.

<p>A Erin</p> <p>This old second-hand bike was given to me by my sister when she went away to college and it gets me from A to B all right. I wanted a solid town bike – nothing too complicated because you don't need flashy sets of gears or anything like that in a city of this size. Also it makes it less of a target for thieves. But having said that, mine's a very bright colour - it cheers me up, especially when I have to cycle home in the pouring rain. I've always thought that the bike was a good reflection of a real me actually and I usually wear jeans when I'm cycling. But I might need to rethink that because I've just started my own company, and my outlook on life has changed a little. There may be time when I need to turn up looking a bit more elegant! I'd say to anyone thinking of getting a bike, make sure the saddle's right before you part with your money. If you're going to use it a lot, you don't want to be sore.</p>	<p>C Claire</p> <p>My parents picked this up for me in New York after I had a mishap with the last one – it wasn't much good for anything after being run over by a bus! The new one's a red and black cruiser with a burger-shaped bell – some of my friends think that's a bit uncool, but I don't really go along with that idea. I've got two helmets, a summer and a winter version – but I still get too hot on really sunny days. Still, you can't really do without one, can you? I cycle down to college in no time at all, but the uphill trek home takes me around thirty-five minutes. I only take a bus if it's wet. It's quicker, but then I have to stick with the schedule, whereas on the bike I can make my own mind up about when I travel. I cycle in high heels, which you might think would be tricky, but is actually easier than trying to walk any distance in them. But I wouldn't recommend them to other cyclists.</p>
<p>B Luke</p> <p>I bought my bike from an Internet auction site and had to have it shipped from Germany in pieces. I then paid to have it assembled here in Dublin – but it was worth it. I use it every day and tend to wear everyday clothes and try and dodge the showers. I cycle all over the city because it's much quicker than walking and you don't get snarled up in the traffic, which can be a pain in a motor vehicle. At least on a bike you can keep moving. The only tip I'd give to notice cyclists round here is keep a lookout for drivers turning left, it's easy for them to miss you because you can see what they are doing but can't necessarily see you. I worked briefly as cycle courier - delivering letters and staff. It was fun, but I wouldn't recommend making a career out of it because you have to get the stuff delivered whatever the weather!</p>	<p>D Kieran</p> <p>This bike is an early 1980s racer and I bought it off an old man who sells junk out of his garage once a month. He reckoned it had once belonged to a professional cycling champion, but I think he was making it up. I was looking for old cameras, but when I saw it I couldn't resist it. It did get stolen on one occasion, but then later that week I saw someone riding it up my street. I grabbed him his taxi fare home so that I could take it back. My advice to cyclists would be to wear fluorescent armbands, especially at night or in poor weather conditions. They're less uncomfortable than the waistcoats or jackets in the same material. I've just invested in special raingear actually, but I don't find it very comfortable, to be honest, because when the sun comes out, you feel overdressed.</p>

When talking about their bike, which cyclist

- accepts the need to wear uncomfortable safety equipment? **6**____
advises people to make sure a new bike is comfortable to ride? **7**____
believes that false information was given by the seller? **8**____
disagrees with other people's opinion of one of the bike's features? **9**____
has advice for other cyclists about safety equipment? **10**____
hopes not to get caught in bad weather on the bike? **11**____
feels that cycling is less frustrating than driving? **12**____
finds some cycle journeys easier than others? **13**____
is not impressed by some recently purchased cycling clothing? **14**____
likes the fact that the bike is a simple one? **15**____
feels the bike is less likely than others to be stolen? **16**____
mentions a previous bike that got managed? **17**____
feels that the bike matches the owner's character? **18**____
was once the victim of bike crime? **19**____
was a professional cyclist for a short time? **20**____

Points: 15

Part II: Use of English

Task 3. Read the following text below and decide which answer A, B, C, or D fits best each space (21- 30). The first one is done for you. Transfer your answers to your answer sheet.

WHERE MANNERS ARE THE KEY TO SUCCESS

Whatever (0) line of work you're in, there's a lot to learn when you start a new job. At big Japanese companies, new employees have to undergo several weeks of formal instruction in the basics of how behave at work. After mastering the company song, new (21) _____ are taught everything from how to shake hands to how to hand over a cup of tea correctly. In Japan, manners play an important role in all (22) ____ of adult life. Business has its own rules of behavior, which must be adhered to. Business cards, for example, must be presented and received with the body held at a specific angle. Cards must be (23) _____ respectfully as they are considered an extension of the holder's identity. An (24) _____ businessman, for instance, who put a card he had just (25) _____ into his trouser pocket would cause great offence. This would seriously (26) _____ his chances of closing a deal. Therefore, the correct gestures have to be learnt and practised.

Even after completing the training course, new employees may still find that corporative life is not easy. Workers at large Japanese firms are expected to sacrifice a great (27) _____ for the company. They often live in a company-owned accommodation with their colleagues and put in (28) _____ hours at work. In offices, workers are not (29) _____ to leave until their (30) _____ have done so.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| 0. | A. line | B. way | C. route | D. ladder |
| 21. | A. employers | B. contracts | C. recruits | D. resources |
| 22. | A. perspectives | B. aspects | C. worlds | D. sides |
| 23. | A. delegated | B. demanded | C. handled | D. dealt |
| 24. | A. innovative | B. impersonal | C. unemployed | D. inexperienced |
| 25. | A. taken on | B. received | C. circulated | D. set up |
| 26. | A. fall | B. shrink | C. downsize | D. diminish |
| 27. | A. status | B. deal | C. increase | D. field |
| 28. | A. broad | B. high | C. long | D. great |
| 29. | A. clear | B. free | C. official | D. feasible |
| 30. | A. employees | B. staff | C. prospects | D. superiors |

Points: 20

Task 4: For questions 31-45, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers on your Answer Sheet.

Example:

0 HAS _____

Exploring the Arctic Ocean

A huge international project to explore the Arctic Ocean (0) _____ begun. It is expected to discover thousands of new species of marine animals, many of (31) _____ have been completely cut (32) _____ from the rest of the world for thousands of years. Scientists claim that the study of the unknown depths of the Arctic Ocean, perhaps the (33) _____ understood ocean on earth, is now urgent (34) _____ of the growing threat (35) _____ its unique marine life posed by global warming.

Climatologists estimate that the Arctic summer has increased by five days every decade for the (36) _____ forty years, and that a totally ice-free Arctic summer will soon occur.

The Arctic Ocean is unusual as much of it is capped (37) _____ ice and there is land all around it. “

It is as (38) _____ the Arctic Ocean is inside a box which has a lid of ice on the top. There's (39) _____ other place in the world like it,” says chief scientist Ron O'Dor. A particular focus planned for the project he is undertaking (40) _____ be the Canada Basin, an underwater hole 3,800 metres deep (41) _____ life has remained isolated (42) _____ millennia.

This Arctic exploration project is part of the Census of Marine Life, a collaboration of more than 300 scientists from 53 countries, (43) _____ aim is to address our ignorance of what lives in the sea.

(44) _____ the Census began several years ago, more than 500 new species of fish have been identified. However, scientists believe (45) _____ could be ten times as many yet to be discovered.

Points: 15

Task 5: Choose the correct linking expression from the list below to complete sentences 46-50 about the two students who started a magazine.

You do not need to use all the expressions. The first has been done for you. Transfer your answers to the Answer Sheet.

0..... together with

so that, above all, while, owing to, because, unless, as long as, despite, together with, whereas

0. Sean Spooner, his schoolmate Louis Spencer, was recently named the youngest publisher in the world.

46. The two students decided to start a magazine they have always been interested in business.

47. You probably won't have seen Louis and Sean's magazine you live in their town.

48. They went ahead with the project not having any money.

49. They asked companies to advertise in the magazine they could earn some money.

50. their hard work, they've been very successful.

Points: 5

