

**Kategória 2A – Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – Krajské kolo 2010/2011****G R A M M A R**

Complete the each sentence below by choosing the best answer (a, b, c or d) and writing its LETTER in the space provided.

1. The Concord was once ..... plane.  
a. fastest world's    b. the fastest world's    c. the world's fastest    d. world's fastest
2. It was ..... that Jenny simply gave up.  
a. such difficult    b. so many difficult    c. such difficulty    d. so difficult
3. None of them ..... a car.  
a. drive    b. is driving    c. are driven    d. have been driving
4. Children attending private schools ..... being spoiled.  
a. often accuse of    b. are often accused for    c. are often accused of    d. are being accused for
5. While many people believe in ghosts, there are ..... who do not.  
a. a few    b. less    c. few    d. a little

Complete the email by putting the verbs in brackets into their correct forms.

Hi, Jenny,

Thanks for your email. I'm really glad that your sister is coming next week. I  
6 ..... (meet) her at the station at 5 o'clock, so no worries! If I  
7 ..... (not be) on the platform, I'll be in front of the station.

I<sup>8</sup> ..... (still enjoy) my stay here in London. I didn't know you  
9 ..... (visit) the city before – how long did you stay here? I love the cafes!  
The only problem is the weather, as it<sup>10</sup> ..... (rain) all day long. If it  
11 ..... (not rain) so much I could go out more, but it's just too wet to go out.

How are the things going at home? I can't stop<sup>12</sup> ..... (think) about my  
family. Sometimes, I think that I should<sup>13</sup> ..... (not come) here. I know my  
family would like me<sup>14</sup> ..... (return) home as soon as possible but I really  
need to improve my English. Do you know that I<sup>15</sup> ..... (learn) English for  
11 years and still have troubles speaking?! What a joke!

I have to go now, but I'll be back online tonight. Maybe we can chat?

**Total Points: ...../15pts**

**Kategória 2A – Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – Krajské kolo 2010/2011****V O C A B U L A R Y**

Complete the sentences below (1-5) using ONE of the words in the box.

HAIR	FACE	NOSE	EAR	MOUTH
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**Example:** He knew the risks and went in with his eyes open.

1. During the wedding someone started giggling and I couldn't keep a straight .....
2. There is no real difference – you are just splitting ..... s.
3. He is such a snob – he looks down his ..... at everyone.
4. Don't bother to tell me how to get there – I'll just follow my .....
5. They normally see ..... to ..... on almost everything, but this time they ended up in a major argument over the thing!

...../5pts

Choose the best answer (A-D) for questions 6-10 below. Put the LETTER of your answer in the space provided.

6. Which of these is nearest in meaning to the word QUEST? .....  
 a. search                      b. question                      c. inquest                      d. inquiry
7. Which word is NOT commonly used to describe a jewel? .....  
 a. costly                      b. priceless                      c. dear                      d. precious
8. Finish this proverb: A bird in the hand is worth two in the.....  
 a. air                      b. nest                      c. tree                      d. bush
9. The place where a river starts is its .....  
 a. beginning                      b. source                      c. origin                      d. outset
10. Complete this phrase: as cool as.....  
 a. a cucumber                      b. a marrow                      c. an iceberg                      d. a snowdrift

...../5pts

**Total Points: ...../10pts**

**Kategória 2A – Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – Krajské kolo 2010/2011**  
**READING COMPREHENSION**

**Read the article carefully. There is ONE task to do on the next page.**

**THE QUEUE AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD**

Just before the dawn on 12 May 1992, Rodrigo Jordan and his two colleagues emerged from their tent high above Everest's Kanshung Face to make their summit bid. It was to be the culminating moment of the Chilean expedition's long and lonely climb on the mountain's demanding northeast face by one of its hardest routes. But the weeks of solitude and self-reliance were about to be shattered, for there, following behind them along the trail through the soft snow was a file of climbers approaching from the easier South Col route.

Stopping for breath, Rodrigo counted the brightly coloured figures struggling painfully up towards them. Ten... no twelve, no sixteen climbers in all spread out along the summit ridge like a high-altitude crocodile. Rodrigo took out his camera to photograph what had previously been unthinkable: a queue for the summit of Everest.

It was the beginning of an extraordinary day on the world's highest mountain. By nightfall, 32 mountaineers would stand on the same summit cone at 29,028 feet (8,848 metres) above sea level and look out across the Himalayas.

It was a number to be reckoned with. In a single day the total number of Britons to have reached the top had been surpassed more than three times over. Put another way, it equalled half of the US total of ascents and a third of that of the most successful nation – the Nepalese. It also represented close to a quarter of the 114 climbers who – counting to the end of 1992 – had perished on its frozen slopes in pursuit of that same goal.

A year later, another climber reached the summit crest. As Thierry Defrance, a 31-year-old teacher from France, stepped onto the summit another psychological barrier lay broken at its feet. Signing up for a commercial, guided expedition, the ambitious and imaginative Defrance had embroidered his experience as an alpinist with claims of ascents of Mont Blanc and the Matterhorn. It was all lies. When Defrance stood on the mountain's summit it was – as he would later boast to an astonished world – his first and only climb.

The attention of the masses has left its mark. The South Col route, once a wilderness of rock and untouched slopes, is littered with hundreds of abandoned oxygen cylinders. Other popular routes are marked with the faded remains of flattened tents, crushed and buckled by elemental forces of wind and weather.

Human activity has also left more chilling "*litter*". Over the years, there have been the repeated sightings of the remains of Hannelore Schmatz, one of the two women to die on Everest, her body an unpleasant reminder of the risks that all high-altitude mountaineers must face. There are other bodies lurking, alternately covered and revealed by shifting snow.

It is difficult to appreciate quite the impact that the first ascent of Everest had upon the public imagination on Queen Elizabeth's Coronation in 1953. In those days, before Nepal and the greater ranges had been opened up to ordinary mountaineers, Everest and the Himalayas seemed a remote place indeed. On top of that, the mountain already carried the heavy baggage of "heroic failure", with the deaths of Mallory and Irvine close to the summit in 1924 ranking in popular consciousness with the defeat of

**(continued on the next page)**

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**( R E A D I N G C O M P R E H E N S I O N – continued )**

Captain Scott and his companions at the Antarctic.

The mountain and the way of climbing it still requires hold an unparalleled allure for mountaineers and armchair adventurers alike. What is curious, however, is the way in which it still captivates the public imagination. There have been other equally inspiring feats of human endurance: the first circumnavigation of the globe by sail, the first man in space, the deepest exploration underground – yet none has managed to hold the lasting fame of those Everest men. It is a fatal attraction for some.

Last week a Nepalese Sherpa climbing instructor fell to his death as he descended Everest. It is most unfair that these Himalayan Sherpas do not get more of the glory. In fact, they don't get any. They are badly paid; they have to do evening shifts, after their daily ascent of Everest, as mini-cab drivers. But what is the most depressing is that they don't see any point in climbing the wretched mountain.

**Based on what you read, choose and circle the letter of the best answer (a, b, c or d) for each question (1-10).**

**1. What were Jordan and his team about to do?**

- a. Climb the Kanshung Face
- b. Take down their tent
- c. Climb the last leg
- d. Photograph the queue of climbers behind them

**2. What was unexpected about the situation?**

- a. Other climbers had got there before them.
- b. They were no longer alone.
- c. They couldn't make it.
- d. They had to stand in line.

**3. What was amazing about the number of climbers that day?**

- a. There were more Britons than Nepalese.
- b. 50% of climbers were American
- c. 25% were killed on the slopes
- d. There were more Britons than ever before.

**4. What was remarkable about the French climber?**

- a. He pretended to be inexperienced.
- b. He broke all-time records.
- c. He was lacking in experience.
- d. He had only climbed in the Alps.

**5. What is said about the South Col route?**

- a. It's marked by the elements.
- b. It's hardest to conquer.
- c. It's polluted by the mountaineers.
- d. It's become crowded.

**6. What does the word "litter" (in quotes) in the text refer to?**

- a. People guarding the slopes
- b. Two dead climbers
- c. Occasional glimpses of a deceased climber
- d. Shifting snows

**7. How did people look upon Himalayas some decades ago?**

- a. People showed no interest in them.
- b. People were scared of them.
- c. They were out of reach for ordinary climbers.
- d. They would be conquered one day.

**8. What is said about Mallory and Irvine?**

- a. They had too much baggage.
- b. They perished on the climb.
- c. They had been to the Pole.
- d. They were badly prepared.

**9. What makes Himalayas so special?**

- a. Climbing them is the most expensive climb.
- b. They require more endurance than other climbs.
- c. They seem more inspiring than anything else.
- d. They appeal to people's sense of adventure.

**10. Why do the Sherpas seem unfairly treated?**

- a. They do all the driving.
- b. They are very poorly paid.
- c. Their efforts are not appreciated.
- d. Their lives are not appreciated.

**Total Points: ...../10pts**

**L I S T E N I N G   C O M P R E H E N S I O N**

**You will hear someone talking about problems caused by East Somalia's lack of water. Listen carefully and choose the correct answer (a, b, c or d) for each question or statement below.**

**Put the letter of your answers in the spaces provided. You will hear the information twice.**

**1. How might East Somalia's lack of rain affect electricity supplies and miners? .....**

- a. Copper mines will have to use less electricity.
- b. Coal supplies will fail to reach power stations.
- c. Electricity supplies to mines may be cut by up to thirty percent.
- d. Copper mines may be unable to pump water by October.

**2. Where does the Electricity Supply Commission produce most of its electricity? .....**

- a. Along the Haro River
- b. Near the copper mines
- c. At the Malawa Dam
- d. In Eastern Province

**3. The action that the engineers are taking .....**

- a. may not help if there is insufficient rain.
- b. will become effective towards the end of the year.
- c. should get enough water to the mines.
- d. will use up a lot of electricity.

**4. The engineers aim to .....**

- a. change the direction of the Haro River.
- b. get more water into the Haro River.
- c. keep more water at Malawa Dam.
- d. dig out artificial lakes near the dam.

Participant's number: .....

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**5. Why are the copper mines important to East Somalia? .....**

- a. They train many skilled mechanics.
- b. Each mine employs approximately 3,000 people.
- c. Their costs and production are rising.
- d. They bring in fifty percent of what the country earns.

**Total Points: ...../5pts**

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