

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

Choose the best answers (a, b, c or d) to complete the article. Put the LETTER of your answers in the spaces provided.

It is very unusual for a snake to bite anyone in Britain but ¹ _____ much more afraid of them ² _____ of rats and treat them ³ _____ if they come across them.

The three kinds of snake that ⁴ _____ survive in the country ⁵ _____ to changing conditions since the age of the dinosaurs. ⁶ _____ is very large and only one, the adder, which lives off other creatures ⁷ _____ mice, is ⁸ _____ a man.

The first rule in handling with snakes is to leave them alone and the second is to know ⁹ _____ and which ones are dangerous. Even adders are not aggressive and will just go away as ¹⁰ _____ as people give them the chance to ¹¹ _____. The ¹² _____ way to ¹³ _____ bitten, however, is to wear strong boots and thick socks in the countryside, since ¹⁴ _____ is quite small. If you are unlucky enough ¹⁵ _____ bitten, the important thing is not to panic.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. a. the most people are | b. most people are | c. the most people | d. most of the people are |
| 2. a. as | b. then | c. even | d. than |
| 3. a. bad | b. badly | c. worst | d. worse |
| 4. a. still | b. yet | c. even | d. already |
| 5. a. must adapt | b. must be adapted | c. had to adapt | d. have had to adapt |
| 6. a. Anyone | b. None | c. No one | d. Neither |
| 7. a. as the | b. such as the | c. as | d. such as |
| 8. a. capable of killing | b. capable to kill | c. able of killing | d. able to be killing |
| 9. a. how they are | b. how are they | c. what they look like | d. what do they like |
| 10. a. far | b. long | c. much | d. well |
| 11. a. do such | b. do so | c. make such | d. make so |
| 12. a. more easy | b. most easy | c. easier | d. easiest |
| 13. a. prevent from being | b. prevent | c. prevent to be | d. prevent being |
| 14. a. an adder's tooth | b. an adder tooth | c. an adders' tooth | d. a tooth of an adder |
| 15. a. that you are | b. for to be | c. for being | d. to be |

Total Points:/15pt

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

For questions 1 to 6, decide which word (a, b, c, or d) is the best synonym for the underlined word in each sentence. Put the letter of your answers in the spaces provided.

- _____ 1. The house by the sea had a mysterious air of serenity about it.
a. melancholy b. sadness c. joy d. calmness
- _____ 2. The speaker emphasized the need for cooperation in the project we wanted to undertake.
a. accentuated b. discussed c. downplayed d. displayed
- _____ 3. Suzan found it difficult to cope with the loss of her job.
a. anticipate b. deal with c. think about d. confirm
- _____ 4. Migrant workers have difficulty finding steady employment.
a. midget b. uneducated c. transient d. unmotivated
- _____ 5. His company empowered him to negotiate the contract.
a. authorized b. forbade c. helped d. ordered
- _____ 6. His involuntary reflexes betrayed his feelings.
a. unbelievable b. unconscious c. unnecessary d. unreasonable

...../6 pts

Fill in the correct letters to complete the words for each definition below. The first letter of each word is given.

7. A shallow place in a river suitable for crossing is called a **F** ____ ____ ____ .
8. **N** ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ means to be active at night and quiet during daylight hours; pertaining to or occurring at night.
9. To spatter water or liquid; to wet or soil with liquid is to **S** ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ .
10. The main male attendant at a wedding is called the **B** ____ ____ ____ **M** ____ ____ .

...../4 pts

Total Points:/10pts

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

Read the article on these 2 pages. There is one (1) task to do on the page that follows.

ROBOTS BELOW

Robots have travelled to the farther reaches of the solar system, but they have not mastered the ocean depths – yet. In the 1960s, some people talked of the ocean depths as ‘inner space’. The similarities were obvious. Both offered brave men the delights of cramped living quarters, artificial air, and certain death if complex and largely untried technologies were to fail. Dreams and science took men to both destinations and, if the ocean depths never offered the same return in national pride as the noble heights of space orbit, they did offer clear commercial benefit as the off-shore oil drilling business boomed.

In the 1990s, brave men were no longer necessary in either arena. Just as unmanned satellites dealt with the new business of communications, space science and spying, so robots could do the work that needed doing in the depth. The world's oil companies, telephone-cable layers and navies had been using unmanned vehicles for around two decades. Then, scientists, who were late to join the crowd, started sending their mechanical servants to join them in ever-increasing numbers.

Among the oldest of these scientific seadogs is *Jason*, run by the Wood's Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI). *Jason* has been operating at the end of its 10km line, which feeds power and control signals to the vehicle and takes data back from it, and is part of the explanation for the delay. Oil companies – the main users of remotely operated undersea vehicles – generally work on continental shelves, rarely more than a few hundred metres below the surface. Most of the world's wet places are far deeper, nearly 4km deep on average. Oil companies do not work in these difficult and expensive depths; cable-layers use equipment too expensive and clumsy to be much use to scientists. And since the science of the oceans is not nearly as well supported financially as the science of space, its practitioners have not had the resources to develop deep-ocean robots tailor-made to their own ends. But then, nor have they been served by *Alvin*, a manned deep-water submarine operated by WHOI but supported in large measure by the American Navy. *Jason*, too is partly paid for by the Navy, and thus can afford expensive solutions to the problems of working in the deep sea.

The most ingenious solution is called *Medea*. It is a second submarine which hangs between *Jason* and the ship controlling it. Besides carrying most of *Jason's* computing power and some cameras to watch over it, *Medea* also acts like a float on a fishing line – insulating *Jason* and its fragile cable from sudden movements of the mother ship in the way that the hook is insulated from the movements of the rod by the float.

Jason has obvious advantages over *Alvin*. Instead of suffering in a cramped capsule, WHOI's pilots can now sit in the comfort of a ship's cabin, viewing the scene on television. Indeed, the potentially seasick do not even have to set foot on board. A satellite link allows people to stay on dry land to exercise control if they want to – and to observe. *Jason's* recent trip to the Sea of Cortez was watched by school children all over America, and in Liverpool as well. Keeping people above the waterline makes things safer, too.

(continues on the next page)

Kategória 2A – Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – Celoštátne kolo 2010/2011**(R E A D I N G C O M P R E H E N S I O N – continued)**

***Alvin's* crew of three faces the risk involved in the exploration of the unknown. In the 1970s, an *Alvin* expedition took the first photographs of 'black smokers' – underwater geysers which belch out water at 350°C. That is hot enough to melt lead, and, as it happens, *Alvin's* portholes. One false move could have landed the crew in very hot water indeed.**

At \$5m, *Jason* was not cheap but *Alvin* was far more expensive, at around \$50m in today's prices. And *Jason* has the advantage of being able to stay down for days at a time, while *Alvin* is restricted to a few hours, so it can make the most of the ship's time at sea. But though *Jason* and similar equipment have advantages over manned submarines, they are not perfect. *Jason* needs constant attention by a full-time team of 12 – more than *Alvin* requires. The real breakthrough will be a machine that can look after itself. Many are trying to build it.

At the moment, prototypes of independent ('nanny-free') machines come in two sorts. Some are 'long-distance runners'. *Odyssey*, a seven-metre long 'cigar', made its maiden voyage in 1993 under an Antarctic ice sheet. It can travel 800km if it is loaded with expensive batteries and not too heavily burdened down with scientific instruments.

The other approach – being pursued by WHOI – is a probe which has an undersea 'garage'. Such a probe would stay on the same bit of sea-bed for months, regularly patrolling the things in its neighbourhood – a black smoker, perhaps, or a shipwreck carrying toxic waste. A prototype called *ABE* had its first try-out off Bermuda.

Autonomous vehicles such as these have to look after themselves for a while; they need to be strongly built and have reasonably clever electronics on board. They also have to carry a long-lasting power supply. *ABE* saves on electricity by spending most of its time asleep. When it is not moving around collecting data it goes back to its parking space and sleeps; its master computer wakes up briefly every second, to make sure everything is all right.

For the more mobile sort of probe, the secret to success is finding ways to carry lots of energy and use it sparingly. One solution is to make the probes very slim. It also helps if you know where you are going. *ABE* relies on preplaced sound signal equipment to tell it where it is. The 'long-distance runners' need some other clever forms of navigation. One recent prototype is designed to tail moving objects. All it should require is a simple order: "Follow that fish."

There is one (1) task to do on the following page.

Kategória 2A – Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – Celoštátne kolo 2010/2011**READING COMPREHENSION (continued)**

Choose the best answer (a, b, c or d) for each question below (1-10). Write the letters of your answers in the spaces provided.

- _____ **1. What change took place in the 90s in the exploration of the 'inner' and 'outer' space?**
- The new technology was increasingly more difficult to master.
 - Scientists became keen to sell their technology to companies.
 - Clever technology decreased the need of direct human involvement.
 - Robots made spying much easier than ever before.
- _____ **2. Which of the following best summarizes the opening paragraph?**
- Ocean and space exploration obviously have little in common.
 - Ocean exploration is somewhat unexciting but a good investment.
 - Space travel has proved more difficult than ocean exploration.
 - Brave men prefer ocean exploration to space travel.
- _____ **3. Why did a robot like *Jason* take so long to be developed?**
- Cable-lying already had well-tried and cheap solutions.
 - Most underwater operations take place fairly close to the surface.
 - Oil companies preferred to work at greater depths.
 - The Navy kept its new project top-secret for a long time.
- _____ **4. What makes *Medea* a promising innovation in deep-sea exploration?**
- It is inexpensive considering what it can do.
 - It can also function as a clever modern fishing tool.
 - It controls its movements by cameras.
 - It carries out both technical and safety tasks.
- _____ **5. What, in particular, makes *Jason* preferable to *Alvin*?**
- Its inexpensive television system.
 - Convenience and avoidance of many risks.
 - Even children can dive deep inside it.
 - Its capability to operate all over the world.
- _____ **6. What is the main idea in the paragraph printed in bold?**
- Alvin* can take down only a few explorers.
 - Alvin* can still take the most accurate pictures.
 - In spite of being quite old, *Alvin* is surprisingly dependable.
 - Being a manned submarine, *Alvin* may put explorers in danger.
- _____ **7. On what points are *Alvin* and *Jason* compared by the writer?**
- Cost and operational reliability.
 - Cost, reliability and need of training.
 - Cost, length of operation and need of support staff.
 - Cost, need of manning and safety restrictions.
- _____ **8. What is the main difference between *Odyssey* and *ABE*?**
- Odyssey* is unmanned while *ABE* is manned.
 - ABE* is more expensive than *Odyssey*.
 - ABE* is much more recent and modern piece of equipment.
 - Odyssey* is more mobile than *ABE*.
- _____ **9. What is a special design feature of *ABE*?**
- An extra-strong power supply.
 - A new way of analysing data.
 - A new safety method for the crew.
 - A new system of energy-saving.
- _____ **10. What are new possibilities in probe navigation?**
- Computerized light signals
 - Solutions imitating runner's sense of distance.
 - Guidance by sound or movement nearby.
 - Equipment modelled after the behaviour of fish.

Total Points:/10pts

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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 a two people talking about the aristocracy in the UK.

Listen carefully, read the each statement below and, based on what you here, decide if it is true (T), false (F) or not stated (NS).

You will hear the conversation twice.

- T / F / NS 1. One of the talking persons (man) thinks that the English people love the aristocracy.
- T / F / NS 2. The aristocracy in its present form does not belong to contemporary modern society.
- T / F / NS 3. The aristocrats are still the owners of huge areas of land in the United Kingdom.
- T / F / NS 4. The aristocrats also serve as mediators between the queen and common people.
- T / F / NS 5. Many other countries have a kind of society similar to the English meritocracy.

Total Points:/5pts

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