

**SIMULAREA EXAMENULUI DE BACALAUREAT 2004**  
**PROBA SCRISĂ LA LIMBA ENGLEZĂ**  
**3 - 4 ore săptămânal**

- ◆ Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Se acordă 10 puncte din oficiu.
- ◆ Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 3 ore.

**SUBIECTUL I**

- a) Read the text below and sum it up in about 50 words: 10 puncte**

Recently there has been a great whooping and hollering<sup>1</sup> over the diminished dignity and importance of the American father.

Be that as it may, the symbol of the diminished domestic male has come to be dishwashing. Sociologists (or psychologists, I forget which) have informed us that the washing of dishes by husbands is not only a symbol of domestic servitude, it is undermining *Pop* as a respected 'authority-figure' in the household. Hence the deterioration of the family, hence juvenile delinquency, hence the decline of the republic, etc.

Experience has made it quite apparent that marriage calls for maturity and mutual sacrifice. Most of the marriages that fail, marriage counselors tell us, fail because the partners lack such qualities. Dishwashing, by general agreement, is a classic example of domestic drudgery<sup>2</sup>.

Every meal that a wife cooks and serves her husband is, if it is prepared with imagination and skill, a genuinely creative act - a minor work of art - and the meal itself is an offering of the wife's devotion. Now, do our experts recommend that after such a repast<sup>3</sup> the husband go into the living room to watch TV or to read the comic section of the daily paper while the wife retreats to the depressing disorder of a kitchen full of greasy plates and crusty pots? Is this their prescription for a successful and happy marriage?

(Page Smith, *A Case for Male Dishwashing*)

1. loud cry
2. hard, boring, or unpleasant work
3. (*formal or humorous*) meal

- b) Comment upon the ideas in the text above. Include reference to the writer's tone and attitude in relation to the topic. Sustain your opinions with evidence from the text and with examples from your own experience. (200-250 words)**

**25 puncte**

**SUBIECTUL II**

- a) Translate into English: 15 puncte**

Cei din familia Pope sunt oameni bine adaptați, cu o vedere clară, cu o voință a gesturilor și acțiunilor care impune ordine, chiar când concepția de viață pe care o exprimă diferă de a ta. Tatăl, funcționar la o bancă, este tipul omului nu prea favorizat de soartă, dar care nu disperă și nu se dă niciodată bătut, glumind calm despre ea.

(*R. Rusan, America ogarului cenușiu*)

- b) Rephrase each sentence, beginning as shown, so that the meaning stays the same:**

**10 puncte**

1. He isn't working here now because he didn't listen to her advice.  
If he .....
2. I organised my papers in front of me. Then I started.  
When .....

3. The phone stopped ringing the moment I got near it.  
No sooner .....
4. She regrets not going to bed early last night.  
She wishes .....
5. The President is not to attend the meeting. His representatives are not to attend the meeting.  
Neither .....

### **SUBIECTUL III**

**30 puncte**

**Choose one of the following topics:**

- a) **Write about your favourite holiday spot (real or imaginary) and explain what makes it special to you. Describe the place, the scenery, the people, and the general atmosphere. (300 - 350 words)**
- b) **You have just come back from a package holiday where you were dissatisfied with the lack of facilities and the poor services. Write a letter to the travel agent; explain the reasons for your complaint and say what you expect the company to do. Address your letter to *Mr Smith* and sign it as *Tom Adams*. (300-350 words)**