

PROBA SCRISĂ LA LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
(bilingv - proba e)

Sesiunea iunie - iulie 2004

Varianta 1

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

SUBIECTUL I

30 puncte

a) Read the text below and sum it up in 50 - 60 words:

10 puncte

After her return to prison, Hester Prynne was found to be in a state of nervous excitement that demanded constant watchfulness. To say the truth, there was much need of professional assistance, not only for Hester, but more urgently for the child, who was having convulsions of pain. Roger Chillingworth, a physician of great skill, was announced.

The stranger entered the room, examined the infant carefully, and then proceeded to open a leather case, which contained a certain medical preparation, one of which he mixed with a cup of water.

He presented the cup to Hester, who received it with a slow, earnest look into his face. "I have thought of death," said Hester, "however, if death is in this cup, I beg you to think again."

"The medicine is potent for good, and were it my own child, I could do no better for it. Do you know me so little, Hester Prynne?" As he spoke, he laid his forefinger on the scarlet letter, which seemed to burn into Hester's breast, as if it had been hot red. "Hester, the reason you have fallen into the pit or ascended to the pedestal of infamy is not hard to understand. It was my folly, and years to feed the hungry dream of knowledge. What did I have to do with youth and beauty like your own! From the moment we came down the old church steps together, a married pair, I saw the fire of a scarlet letter burning at the end of your path!"

"You know," said Hester, "you know I was honest with you."

"I was the first to do wrong, when I betrayed your youth into a false and unnatural relation with my decay. I seek no vengeance, and plot no evil against you. Between you and me, the scale hangs fairly balanced. But Hester, who is the man who has done both of us wrong?"

"Do not ask me!" replied Hester Prynne. "You shall never know!"

"You will not reveal his name! None the less, he is mine. He bears no scarlet letter on his clothing, but I shall read it on his heart."

"Your acts are like mercy," said Hester, "but your words are like terror."

"You have kept me the secret of your lover's name. You must also keep mine! There are none in this land that know me. Do not tell any human soul that you once called me your husband!"

"I will keep your secret as I have kept his," said Hester.

"Swear it!" rejoined he. And she took the oath.

(Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*)

b) Comment in about 300 words upon the text above, having in view the following:

20 puncte

1. the author's narrative technique (point of view)
2. the possible meaning of the scarlet letter on Hester's chest
3. the relationship between the two protagonists and their character traits

SUBIECTUL II

30 puncte

a. Rewrite each sentence, beginning as shown, so that the meaning stays the same.

10 puncte

1. It's not pleasant at all when a teacher keeps picking on you.
Being
2. The number of fans who attended the rock concert exceeded their expectations.
More fans
3. It's no wonder you failed the driving test. You should have learned the theory, too.
If you
4. Max remembered he had forgotten to call Joan only when he got on the train.
Only
5. It was an impressive fashion show, but it wasn't to my taste.
Impressive

b. Translate into English:

20 puncte

Au trecut mai bine de patru luni de cînd sunt aici. Pomii nu înfloriseră încă, nu-i așa? M-am gîndit mult la tine în tot acest timp. Cu cît m-am gîndit mai mult, cu atît mi-am dat seama că nu am fost cinstită față de tine. Recunosc, ar fi trebuit să fiu mult mai onestă, să mă fi purtat mai frumos cu tine, să-mi fi ascuns mîndria rănită... Regret că n-am făcut-o... Fetele de vîrsta mea nu folosesc niciodată cuvîntul *onest*. Puțin le pasă de acest aspect. Of, Doamne! Cît aș vrea să mă pot exprima mai bine, mai coerent!

(Haruki Murakami, *Pădurea norvegiană*)

SUBIECTUL III

30 puncte

In his inaugural speech of 1961, addressed to his 'fellow Americans', President John F. Kennedy made the now-famous plea: '... ask not what your country can do for you – ask what *you* can do for your country'. Comment on the quotation and think of what you can do for your country. (300 – 350 words)