



Written component

GENERAL INFORMATION

Most students made a very good attempt at each section of the 2012 Romanian examination. The degree of student comprehension (listening and reading) was very pleasing. However, students' ability to write in Romanian was not at a high standard and mistakes occurred across all grammatical areas.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Section 1 – Listening and Responding

Part A – Answer in English

General comprehension of this section was good, but some students needed to read and follow the instructions more carefully and convey the information more precisely.

Text 1

These questions were answered well by most students.

Question 1a.

Mihai found out about the course from Cristina.

Question 1b.

To enrol in the Romanian Art History course, you need to consider that the

- cost is \$150
- course starts in February
- duration is one year.

Text 2

Question 2a.

Sergiu found the movie appealing because

- it's a new movie
- his friends were going as well
- the movie is about young people going on holiday to the Amazon Jungle.

Text 3

Question 3a.

The first City Park Administration collection will take place

- right after the first of March
- on Tuesday of the following week (Thursday was not accepted as an answer).

Question 3b.

The two ways the plants can be recycled or reused are

- as a natural fertiliser in the city's park
- by being planted along the highway Bucharest Brasov.

Text 4

Question 4a.

The narrator finds it unusual that

- front yard fences have pots stuck on poles
- most of the pots are black.

Question 4b.

The knowledge of this craft comes from ancestors/family traditions.

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Question 4c.

The steps involved in producing the ceramics are

- they are burnt in a special kiln
- the smoke (fumes) are trapped inside the kiln
- the soot penetrates the pores of the pots
- they are cooled for one day and one night
- they are polished with river pebbles.

Question 4d.

The quality of the colour is very special because it

- is shiny/beautiful black
- doesn't come off.

Part B – Answer in Romanian

Text 5

Question 5a.

The car maker chose Transfagarasan because

- in autumn the road is closed to normal traffic
- of its scenic splendour
- of the quiet surroundings.

Question 5b.

The targets of the advertisement are

- television viewers
- attendees at the Frankfurt show.

Text 6

Question 6a.

Descriptive words are used to create a vivid image. Personification is also used; for example, *foc vessel*.

Question 6b.

The ingredients for this dish are

- sheep cheese
- lamb meat.

Question 6c.

The drink offered with the meal is

- a liquid similar to lemonade in colour
- icy
- sour and pinches the tongue.

Section 2 – Reading and Responding

Part A – Answer in English

Students were required to read the text and then answer the questions in English. A few of them did not pay enough attention to the correct language.

Text 7

Question 7a.

We know that Dimitrie Cantemir was a very cultured man because he

- was a great scholar
- studied in many fields, such as geography and history
- spoke 10 languages
- wrote interesting books.

**Question 7b.**

The significance of the book *Descrierea Moldovei* is that

- he included all he knew about his country and the history of its people
- the scholar of Europe found out about life on the other side of the Danube
- they learn about the geography of the country
- it was written in Latin.

Question 7c.

- The book was lost.
- It was found near spring by Madalina.
- Madalina handed it to the priest.
- Finally the book arrived in Berlin.
- It was published after a few decades.

Text 8**Question 8a.**

The child was attracted to the room because

- he will spend the whole afternoon reading and daydreaming
- he was thrilled by the unexpected things hidden inside the cupboard or the mystery of the hidden objects
- he could never finish the investigations
- of the absence of other children, or the privilege of being the first one looking into the chests
- of the fascination of many locked doors.

Question 8b.

- sight: big, bright room with golden furniture, small chairs and armchairs that look like toys with unusual shapes
- hearing: the loud ticking of the clocks
- smell: a strong smell of lavender

Part B – Answer in Romanian

Text 9**Question 9**

Students were asked to use the information in the flyer to write a letter about the advantages of using social media for professional purposes. Students could

- refer to the advantages of using social media
- stress the difference between a personal and a professional profile
- urge people to follow the specialist recommendations.

Section 3 – Writing in Romanian

Students needed to answer one question in this section in 200–250 words in Romanian.

Question 10

Students needed write the text for a speech to give to the end-of-year school assembly, evaluating a popular movie.

Question 11

Students were asked to write an informative report titled ‘Public holidays in Australia’ for their school newsletter.

Question 12

Students were required to write an imaginative story about a student who has discovered a magic word. This was the most popular question chosen by students. Some of the responses were full of imagination, with unexpected twists in the action and unexpected endings. Many students used very rich vocabulary and complicated syntax with long sentences.

Question 13

Students were asked to write a personal profile in an application for a position as a newsreader with a Romanian television company in Australia, giving details about their abilities and reasons for applying for such a position.