

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 34. ročník, celoštátne kolo 2023/2024, kategória 1C – úlohy

## GRAMMAR

*Read the text below and fill in each gap with the proper verb tense or verb form. Write your answers in the spaces below the article. Spelling counts! There is an example at the beginning (0).*

Anyone who -0- ... (learn) a second language will have made an exhilarating discovery: there is never a one-to-one correspondence in meaning between the words and phrases of one language and another. Even the most banal expressions have a slightly different sense, issuing from a network of attitudes and ideas unique to each language. Switching between languages, we may feel as if we -01- ... (step) from one world into another. Each language seemingly -02- ... (compel) us to talk in a certain way and to see things from a particular perspective. But is this just an illusion? Does each language really embody a different worldview, or even dictate specific patterns of thought to its speakers?

In the modern academic context, such questions -03- ... (treat) under the rubrics of 'linguistic relativity' or the 'Sapir-Whorf hypothesis'. Contemporary research -04- ... (focus) on pinning down these questions, on trying to formulate them in rigorous terms that can be tested empirically. But current notions -05- ... (concern) connections between language, mind, and worldview have a long history, spanning several intellectual epochs, each with their own preoccupations. Running through this history is a recurring scepticism surrounding linguistic relativity, -06- ... (engender) not only by the difficulties of pinning it down, but by a deep-seated ambivalence about the assumptions and implications of relativistic doctrines.

A long-held assumption in Western philosophy, classically formulated in the work of Aristotle, -07- ... (maintain) that words are mere labels we apply to existing ideas in order to share those ideas with others. But linguistic relativity makes language an active force in shaping our thoughts. Furthermore, if we permit fundamental variation between languages and their presumably entangled worldviews, we -08- ... (confront) with difficult questions about the constitution of our common humanity. Could it be that there are unbridgeable gulfs in thinking and perception between groups of people speaking different languages?

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## GRAMMAR – continued

*Continue reading the text and fill in the gaps with ONE word. Use only function words. Write your answers in the space provided below the text. Spelling counts! There is an example at the beginning (00).*

The roots -00- ... our present ideas -09- ... linguistic relativity extend at least as far back as the Enlightenment of the late 17<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Enlightenment discussions were often couched in terms of the 'genius' of a language, -10- ... expression first coined -11- ... French as *le genie de la langue*. The term was used in a wide variety of senses, -12- ... the point where it was often not clear what precisely was meant. One contemporary commentator remarked: '[W]e often ask what is the genius of a language, and it is difficult to say.' What we *can* say is -13- ... the genius of a language was understood as representing -14- ... distinct character, the *je ne sais quoi* that constitutes the idiomatic in each idiom. This unique character was frequently taken to embody something -15- ... the national mentality of the speakers of a language.

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**Total points: \_\_\_\_\_ / 15 pts**

## VOCABULARY

*Read the text below about skip lagging. Use the word given in brackets and form a word that fits in the preceding space. Write your answers in the spaces provided. There is an example at the beginning (00).*

**Heard of skip-lagging? Here's what the controversial travel hack entails, and how it could truly make or break your travel experience.**

Let's face it – these days, finding cheap fares when **-00- flying (flight)** can really be a challenge. There are plenty of apps out there that can do the guesswork for you in finding **-01- \_\_\_\_\_ (cheap)** options, but how do you ever *really* know if you're getting the best deal on your **-02- \_\_\_\_\_ (fly)?** Plus, with all of the fees that come with booking airfare, sometimes it can be **-03- \_\_\_\_\_ (courage)** seeing how much your final bill adds up to. Frequent **-04- \_\_\_\_\_ (flight)** have found a bit of a **-05- \_\_\_\_\_ (sneak)** way around this, and it's a little-known travel hack called skip-lagging: aka, booking **-06- \_\_\_\_\_ (hide)** city fares, saving you a lot of money in the long run.

"The reason someone might try to **-07- \_\_\_\_\_ (utilization)** hidden-city ticketing is simple: People can fly **-08- \_\_\_\_\_ (direction)** to their destination without paying the direct-flight price tag," Going.com spokesperson Katy Nastro told Conde Nast Traveler.

Essentially, passengers are booking cheaper one-stop flights with layovers at their desired destination – and from there, then leave the airport, foregoing the second leg of what they had fully booked.

According to CN Traveler, the site Skiplagged specifically has seen **-09- \_\_\_\_\_ (enormity)** payoff with people using this method: "Average Skiplagged **-10- \_\_\_\_\_ (save)** on flights between San Francisco and Chicago are 55.08% less, Los Angeles and Atlanta 59.19%, Minneapolis and Detroit 63.91%, and Honolulu and Salt Lake City, 67.6%, according to Daniel Gellert, COO of Skiplagged," CN Traveler reports.

This trend recently surfaced due to a young man who was practising skip-lagging – he booked a flight from Florida to New York with a layover in Charlotte, North Carolina, which just so happened to be his final destination. Before taking off from his original take-off **-11- \_\_\_\_\_ (locate)** in Florida, his plan was **-12- \_\_\_\_\_ (recognition)** by a flight attendant, who made him buy a full-priced ticket to Charlotte, according to News Nation. Although the boy's plan was foiled, many have been using this hack for years – but experts are saying the efforts could be in vain.

**VOCABULARY – continued**

“My strong advice is don’t do this,” Clint Henderson told News Nation on a live broadcast. “The airlines will catch on eventually if you’re doing it enough... it’s a really bad idea, as this young man found out, -13- \_\_\_\_\_ (**fortune**).”

“If a customer knowingly or -14- \_\_\_\_\_ (**know**) purchases a ticket and doesn’t fly all of the -15- \_\_\_\_\_ (**segmentation**) in their itinerary, it can lead to -16- \_\_\_\_\_ (**operation**) issues with checked bags and -17- \_\_\_\_\_ (**prevention**) other customers from booking a seat when they may have an urgent need to travel,” American Airlines told CN Traveler. -18- “ \_\_\_\_\_ (**intention**) creating an empty seat that could have been used by another customer or team member is an all-around bad outcome.”

But is the practice -19- \_\_\_\_\_ (**legal**)? Technically, no – but it is breaking airline policy, leaving you at the mercy of the -20- \_\_\_\_\_ (**authority**) of whichever airline you’d be taking this risk on. In fact, you could even be banned from a specific airline altogether for trying to skip-lag a flight, says CN Traveler, as some airlines state this policy in their terms and conditions.

**Total points:** \_\_\_\_\_ / 10 pts

Participant Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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**VOCABULARY: PROGRESSIVE TEST**

*List as many words connected with animal sounds as you can. You will score 1 point for every 5 correctly spelled answers.*

*For example: bark, moo...*

**Total points: \_\_\_\_\_ pts**

## READING COMPREHENSION

*Read the following article about “The new architecture wars”. For questions 01-10, decide which of the sentences (A-M) below the article best fits into each of the numbered gaps in the article. There are three extra sentences.*

The ultramodern architecture bubble has burst. Today, in much of the world, new public buildings are no longer designed by the ‘starchitects’ who dominated in the late 1990s and 2000s, including Zaha Hadid, Herzog & de Meuron, Rem Koolhaas, and Frank Gehry. Cities are no longer filling with vaulting, flowing, gooey, non-orthogonal buildings engineered through advanced computing power.

-01-. Tradition, apparently, is back.

The reaction against ultramodern architecture arrived slowly at first, -02- as the world economy and many political systems became increasingly unsteady. Amid this apparent chaos, the stability of neoclassical architecture was advocated from the very top. In 2020, United States President Donald Trump signed an executive order advocating ‘classical’ architecture, -03-. This followed the British Conservative government appointing the late philosopher Roger Scruton to head a 2018 commission ensuring that new housing would be ‘built beautiful’, which Scruton made clear meant ‘traditional’.

-04-. Also in Beijing, the traditional alleyways known as ‘hutongs’, -05-, have been carefully restored over the past few years as tourist attractions. And in the European Union, particularly Germany and Poland, projects of historical reconstruction – the kind that, in a previous decade, -06- – now feature new traditional-style buildings with gables and pitched roofs, set along winding lanes.

The argument made by the advocates of tradition and classicism is that the answers to the problems plaguing architecture and urbanism in the 21<sup>st</sup> century lie in the past: the *style* needed today, the logic goes, -07-, not some ‘weird’ global version of modernism.

-08-. These include gooey CGI formalism, warm Scandinavian architecture from the 1930s, or the harsh and tactile Brutalist monuments built by Britain, Brazil, and Japan in the 1960s. There is no single thing called ‘modern architecture’, which is why rejecting it *in toto* should be as ridiculous as claiming that all jazz or all modern paintings are worthless.

-09-. This problem, according to many of its critics, is that the style is *placeless*. This argument is not always accurate – most countries have had their own regional or intensely local versions – but, as a broad point against modern architecture, it is a convincing criticism. These buildings could be anywhere; -10-. At one time, these features were actually considered virtues.

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- A. In 2014, Chinese President Xi Jinping issued an edict demanding an end to 'weird architecture' in China.
- B. However, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, modern architecture has reached an impasse.
- C. many of which were swept away by the Olympics in 2008
- D. then was hit by a financial crisis in 2008
- E. Architecture has been hit by a new sobriety.
- F. with designers rolling out similar designs on ex-industrial waterfronts across the globe
- G. but accelerated with the financial crash of 2008
- H. they fail to engage with what is around them
- I. The International Style has been the most successful sub-strand of modern architecture.
- J. might have involved ultramodern non-orthogonal CGI-optimised arts centres
- K. is a revival of the traditionally 'beautiful' forms of classicism
- L. Modernism in architecture is now at least a century old and has many traditions within it.
- M. including 'beautiful' traditional styles such as Greek Revival, Gothic, and Georgian

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**Total points: \_\_\_\_\_ / 10 pts**

**LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

*You will hear a recording in which a psychologist talks about ineffective approaches to preventing bullying. For statements 01 to 08, indicate the order in which you hear the information by writing the letters A to E next to their corresponding statements in the spaces provided. Three statements do not directly match the texts – put X instead of a letter for these.*

1. Grouping bullies together might strengthen their tendency to bully. \_\_\_\_\_
2. It is important to hold brief assemblies to prevent bullying. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Children should respond to bullying in a non-aggressive way. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Bullying may pose a risk for youth grappling with mental-health issues. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Educators should foster a supportive and empathetic atmosphere. \_\_\_\_\_
6. There is a direct correlation between suicide and bullying. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Exclusionary techniques have been supported by several experts. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Students can be discouraged from reporting bullying due to suspensions. \_\_\_\_\_

**Total points: \_\_\_\_\_ / 5 pts**

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