

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 36. ročník, celoštátne kolo 2025/2026, kategória 2A – úlohy

V O C A B U L A R Y

Read the text and complete the sentences with the correct form of the word written in brackets.

Any discussion of films and TV series about the American Revolution has to start with a warning. Historical movies have been around for as long as movies themselves, but films and TV series about the great (1) _____ (FOUND) event of the United States have been few and with varying degrees of success, certainly until the 21st century. In 1917, an American (2) _____ (DIRECT) was officially charged with a crime for making *The Spirit of '76*, a film about the Revolution that criticized Great Britain, America's new ally. The Al Pacino movie *Revolution* from 1985, while spectacular, had an incoherent storyline and was a failure. Another 15 years passed before Hollywood tried again, with *The Patriot*. The Mel Gibson movie was more (3) _____ (FINANCE) successful than *Revolution* but even less popular among the (4) _____ (HISTORY) community. Among all these failures, however, a few treasures can be found in a different medium: television.

1. *John Adams* (2008)

This wonderful mini-series stars Paul Giamatti as John Adams and Laura Linney as Abigail Adams, the power couple of the American Revolution. Linney and Giamatti both won Emmy Awards for the show and brilliantly portray their complex but (5) _____ (LIKE) characters. My favourite scene shows Abigail putting herself and her children in smallpox quarantine in Revolutionary-era Boston. This happened as shown and sheds light on the system in which infected patients would shut themselves away for at least two weeks while healing and building (6) _____ (IMMUNE). The series creates a great picture of two powerful figures in the Revolution and the history of the U.S. The couple established many of the key features of the roles of president and first lady. They also wrote each other thousands of letters over their 54-year marriage, but the most fascinating is Abigail's letter to John on the evening of the signing of the Declaration of (7) _____ (INDEPENDENT).

2. *Franklin* (2024)

This mini-series records Benjamin Franklin's attempts to (8) _____ (NEGOTIATION) an alliance with France during the War of Independence. Featuring a strong (9) _____ (PERFORM) by Michael Douglas in the main role, the series covers some of the same historical ground as *John Adams*. Both the second president, John Adams, and Franklin spent much of the Revolutionary War in Europe attempting to secure alliances with European powers. This series is very (10) _____ (ENTERTAIN). For an account of the young Franklin, his autobiography is well worth a read, and it also masterfully captures life in Colonial Pennsylvania.

(Adapted from Salmon, S. (2026, February 2). *What are the best TV shows about the American Revolution? A historian outlines five of his favorites*. Smithsonian Magazine (republished from The Conversation).

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/what-are-the-best-tv-shows-about-the-american-revolution-a-historian-outlines-five-of-his-favorites-180987995/>)

1 point/correct answer
Total: _____ / 10 pts

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 36. ročník, celoštátne kolo 2025/2026, kategória 2A – úlohy**GRAMMAR**

Read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C, or D) best fits each space. Then circle the correct option on the following page.

Los Ratonés, for the uninitiated, are (1) ____ European League-of-Legends esports team that recently made the jump (2) ____ the amateur to the professional level. They may (3) ____ more popular than some of Europe's biggest established teams—and they have even beaten them on Summoner's Rift.

This (4) ____ the first time it has happened. Throughout League-of-Legends esports history, numerous teams have made this jump and gone on (5) ____ professional powerhouses (6) ____ their region. One example is Karmine Corp, (7) ____ in 2024 made the jump to the professional level after dominating the European amateur scene and (8) ____ one of the loudest fanbases in the game. Before that came G2, who—like Los Ratonés—(9) ____ founded by a former professional player and captivated fans with elite play and elite personalities. However, despite huge success—especially for G2, the most decorated team in Western LoL esports—the magic has begun to fade. That's largely due to frequent roster and staff changes, made in pursuit of (10) ____ that the West can compete on the global stage. As a result, the connection with fans has become weaker.

That's where Los Ratonés come in. While there's nothing to suggest Los Ratonés (11) ____ inevitably suffer the same fate as (12) ____ predecessors, we should take stock of what's happening now and appreciate it.

I'll admit: I was late to the party. Los Ratonés emerged in the winter of 2024, when I (13) ____ particularly invested in the scene. By autumn—when my interest usually peaks for the World Cup—I (14) ____ them everywhere and had no idea who they were. There's great content on their origins and early days, and I'm no expert, so I'll refrain from (15) ____ into it. In short, Marc Robert "Caedrel" Lamont—one of the biggest streamers and voices in the LoL esports space—started his own team years after (16) ____ from the professional scene, with a different vision for how things could (17) ____.

Two things stood out to me:

1. They streamed everything. We occasionally get behind-the-scenes insight into pro teams, but it's usually after (18) ____ fact. Live reactions to losses, practice matches ("scrims"), reviews, team building, and memes—Los Ratonés broadcast it all FOR FREE to millions of people.
2. Baus. It was a head-scratcher when I first saw his name (19) ____ the roster. I recognized the name, but I assumed I (20) ____ be thinking of someone else. I wasn't. Simon "Baus" Hofverberg is an LoL streamer known (21) ____ innovation and lateral thinking—qualities that the scene had been missing for a while. He is the kind of player (22) ____ makes you tune in to watch a game. The Messi of League.

After an extremely impressive first year—two wins away from sweeping Europe's regional events in 2025—they (23) ____ the chance to compete in the LEC (Europe's top league), for one "split" of the 2026 season. Essentially, they were offered a two-month-long chance to prove themselves at the elite level, with no guarantees beyond (24) _____. This is where, I think, the magic started to come back. The split started rough: three straight losses, and—despite an impressive showing against Karmine Corp—the highs of 2025 (25) ____ far away for some LR fans.

Only one thing changed from last year: Head Coach Jakob "YamatoCannon" Mebdi was brought in to support Caedrel. And with YamatoCannon came another change: (26) ____ behind-the-scenes access. Caedrel tasked YamatoCannon with winning the LEC, and understandably, that meant (27) ____ some preparation offline. That could have been where it all fell apart. Fans didn't have as much access to Los Ratonés' streamer-style content due to LEC obligations—and if the team bombed out and lost all their games, they might never (28) ____ seriously again.

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This is where I think Yamato's appointment was a stroke of genius. Not only is Yamato highly experienced in LoL, he also has a certain charm. And you could say the same about everyone on the roster. He fits the vibe perfectly, and one of his biggest strengths is making players feel confident. If I had a rough start—maybe nerves from the jump to the pro level—he is exactly the person I would want to pick me back up. And that is exactly what he (29) _____. LR turned it around and beat G2 and another LEC powerhouse, MKOI, in their own funky fashion.

Whatever happens from here, it (30) _____ phenomenal. If you listen their latest comms, the way the team talks to each other in and around the game is unique in the scene. Carl Martin "Rekkles" Larsson telling his teammates how special this team is to him. Baus saying there's no one else he'd rather be doing this with. Yamato saying the same. This is how teammates should talk. Los Ratones, I salute you.

(Adapted from Price, C. (2026, February 5). Why Los Ratones matters. Rum Hamming (Substack).
<https://rumhamming.substack.com/p/why-los-ratones-matters>)

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. A) a | B) an | C) the | D) <i>no article</i> |
| 2. A) at | B) in | C) by | D) from |
| 3. A) became | B) becoming | C) have become | D) be becoming |
| 4. A) wasn't | B) isn't | C) hadn't been | D) didn't be |
| 5. A) to become | B) become | C) becoming | D) became |
| 6. A) in | B) at | C) by | D) on |
| 7. A) who | B) what | C) whose | D) where |
| 8. A) build | B) building | C) built | D) to build |
| 9. A) are | B) had | C) were | D) be |
| 10. A) prove | B) to prove | C) proved | D) proving |
| 11. A) will | B) would | C) are | D) have |
| 12. A) them | B) their | C) they | D) theirs |
| 13. A) am not | B) wasn't | C) weren't | D) haven't been |
| 14. A) see | B) am seeing | C) was seeing | D) have seen |
| 15. A) dig | B) to dig | C) dug | D) digging |
| 16. A) retire | B) retiring | C) retired | D) to retire |
| 17. A) do | B) be done | C) be doing | D) done |
| 18. A) a | B) an | C) the | D) <i>no article</i> |
| 19. A) in | B) at | C) on | D) to |
| 20. A) must | B) have | C) should | D) would |
| 21. A) as | B) to | C) for | D) with |
| 22. A) what | B) who | C) whose | D) whom |
| 23. A) gave | B) have given | C) were given | D) were giving |
| 24. A) this | B) that | C) those | D) these |
| 25. A) feel | B) felt | C) have felt | D) are feeling |
| 26. A) few | B) fewer | C) less | D) least |
| 27. A) take | B) to take | C) taken | D) taking |
| 28. A) take | B) be taken | C) be taking | D) taken |
| 29. A) do | B) does | C) did | D) has done |
| 30. A) is | B) was | C) has been | D) will |

0.5 point/correct answer
 Total: _____ / 15 pts

READING COMPREHENSION

Nepal's Mountainside Teahouses Elevate the Experience for Trekkers Heading to the Top of the World

We were only three days into a 27-day journey through the forests of eastern Nepal, pushing through low clouds and a steady rain. "Are we going the right way?" I asked Arjun Rai, my guide on the Mera Peak trekking trail. "I think so," he said, rain dripping from the bill of his baseball cap. "I'm pretty sure." The mist was so dense we could barely see 100 feet ahead. (1) ____ As we descended a narrow, muddy valley, we reached a rushing waterfall that directly blocked our path. To cross it, we slipped off our shoes and socks and waded barefoot through the icy torrent.

Rai crossed with ease and grace, lightly gliding from one slick river stone to the next. I clumsily grabbed on to rocks in the water to hold my balance, trying not to scrape my feet or tumble down the waterfall to my death. After we made our way to the other side, Rai lit a cigarette and said, "Now this is a real adventure!" We looked at each other through the downpour and both threw our heads back in laughter, briefly forgetting that we were drenched, cold, and covered with mud.

That positive outlook is the way of the Nepalis—and especially the native Nepalis of the mountains. (2) ____ Still, only about 7 per cent of Nepal's population lives in these high-altitude regions. Life in the Solukhumbu district—home to many of the country's tallest peaks, including Everest—is harsh and often unforgiving: freezing temperatures, steep cliffs, infertile soil, and few drivable roads. Yet its remoteness and rugged beauty are exactly what draw tourists here. (3) ____

After five hours of trekking through the rain, we finally saw it: a small hut on a hillside, smoke curling from its entrance. A teahouse. Reaching the doorway, I ducked beneath a low beam and found Pembadoma Sherpa (14), and her sister, Mingmakanchhi (7), tending the fire. Pembadoma smiled shyly as she stirred a savoury pot of *po cha*, or Sherpa tea. (4) ____ As the rain drummed against the tin roof, she stirred the tea with a wooden dowel, her movements steady and practiced.

This modest teahouse is one of hundreds of simple mountain shelters that are the lifeblood of Himalayan trekking, serving as rest stops and social hubs for climbers, herders, and travellers moving between villages. (5) ____ But often what they're seeking is connection. Conversations around teahouse stoves can stretch for hours, spanning languages and continents. Inside, the food is hearty and nourishing: steaming plates of *dal bhat*, Nepal's national dish of lentil stew with rice, vegetables, and pickles; *momos*, soft dumplings filled with meat or vegetables and served with spicy dipping sauce; *roti*, a thin flatbread; and *thukpa*, a thick noodle soup. These meals reflect a blend of Indian, Tibetan, and Chinese influences, humble but built for endurance and warmth.

Some teahouses are operated by the wives of mountain guides who spend months away leading expeditions. Many others are family-run, some passed down through generations. For many women and families, the teahouse is more than a business; it's a vital source of stability. It keeps families—many named for the Sherpa ethnic group—rooted in their ancestral villages, financially provides for their children's education, and creates a steady income in places where few other opportunities exist.

(Adapted from Trieb, E. (2026, January–February). *Nepal's mountainside teahouses elevate the experience for trekkers heading to the top of the world*. *Smithsonian Magazine*. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/nepal-mountainside-teahouses-elevate-experience-trekkers-heading-to-top-world-180987844/>)

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A. Read the article *Nepal's Mountainside Teahouses Elevate the Experience for Trekkers Heading to the Top of the World* and decide which of the sentences (A–E) best fits into each of the numbered gaps (1–5) in the article. Write the correct letter in the blank chart provided below. There are three extra sentences.

- a) When things get hard, which in the Himalayas is most of the time, you make the best of it and keep walking.
- b) It was an especially wet September, the end of monsoon season.
- c) By late afternoon we were racing the fading light, counting the minutes until we could pitch our tents.
- d) Between October 2023 and September 2024, around 56,000 tourists visited Solukhumbu, most of them foreigners.
- e) Yet even here, tourism can feel distant: most visitors hurry through, chasing checkpoints rather than conversation.
- f) In this region, the thick, salty brew is made of *dzomo* (a yak and cow hybrid) butter, black tea, and roasted barley flour.
- g) Pembadoma tipped the pot, and a buttery sheen shimmered across the tea's surface.
- h) Tourists stop here for many reasons—to rest, stay overnight, eat, or dry their clothes by the fire.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.

B. Read the text and for questions 1 to 5, choose the correct answer. Circle your answer.

1. What attitude does the text present as typical of the mountain Nepalis?

- A) They avoid hardship whenever possible.
- B) They complain loudly when conditions worsen.
- C) They maintain optimism and keep moving despite difficulty.
- D) They rely on technology to solve trail problems.

2. Why does the text say tourists are drawn to Solukhumbu?

- A) Because of its remoteness and rugged beauty.
- B) Because it has many shopping malls and highways.
- C) Because it is inexpensive and close to airports.
- D) Because it guarantees perfect climbing weather.

3. What made visibility especially difficult on the trail?

- A) The sun reflecting off ice.
- B) Dense mist.
- C) Thick smoke from fires.
- D) Nightfall.

4. What was the narrator worried might happen while crossing?

- A) Getting lost forever in the mist.
- B) Being attacked by wild animals.
- C) Slipping and tumbling down the waterfall.
- D) Breaking their backpack of equipment.

5. The narrator's clumsiness compared with Rai's grace primarily serves to highlight...

- A) the narrator's dislike of mountains.
- B) that the narrator is physically stronger than Rai.
- C) that the waterfall was not dangerous at all.
- D) Rai's familiarity and confidence in the terrain.

1 point/correct answer
Total: _____ / 10 pts

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 36. ročník, celoštátne kolo 2025/2026, kategória 2A – úlohy**LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

You will listen to an interview with some editors at JSTOR Daily, who will recommend some of their favourite books published in 2023. Match the statements (01–10) with the speakers (A–D). Some statements do **NOT** match any speaker — choose **E** in those cases. You will hear the recording twice. You can score up to five points in this exercise.

The speakers are:

- A. Betsy
- B. Johnson
- C. Amelia
- D. Emily
- E. No speaker matches

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 01. This speaker went to a book talk by a Yale professor. | _____ |
| 02. This speaker calls a book “beautiful, strange, and hilarious.” | _____ |
| 03. This speaker says they loved the audiobook narrated by the author. | _____ |
| 04. This speaker mentions woolly mammoths taking revenge. | _____ |
| 05. This speaker notes that the Marvel TV show came later than the book they read. | _____ |
| 06. This speaker connects saints’ feats to mystical miracles. | _____ |
| 07. This speaker describes a sport as needing only a decent pair of basic items to start. | _____ |
| 08. This speaker warns about spoilers for a TV show finale. | _____ |
| 09. This speaker notes Loki admits he’s “not the most likeable guy.” | _____ |
| 10. This speaker quit running after an injury this year. | _____ |

0.5 point/correct answer

Total: _____/ 5 pts

Autorka: Mgr. Zuzana Sucháňová, PhD.

Recenzentka: PaedDr. Anna Brisudová

Korektor: Joshua M. Ruggiero

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – celoštátne kolo 2025/2026

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