Małopolski Konkurs Języka Angielskiego dla uczniów gimnazjów w roku szkolnym 2016/2017

Etap wojewódzki - 8 marca 2017 r.

		ZADANIE											
	А	В	C	D	E	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	Razem	
Maksymalna liczba punktów	6	12	10	10	10	10	16	14	8	12	12	120	
Uzyskana liczba punktów													
Podpis sprawdzającego													
Punktacja po weryfikacji													
Podpis weryfikatora		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			

Droga Uczennico / Drogi Uczniu!

Zanim przystąpisz do rozwiązywania testu, wpisz na oddzielnej karcie swoje imię i nazwisko, nazwę szkoły oraz imię i nazwisko nauczyciela przygotowującego Cię do konkursu. Wypełnioną kartę z danymi osobowymi włóż do przygotowanej koperty i zaklej.

Test, który masz przed sobą, zawiera jedenaście zadań od A do K. Przeczytaj bardzo uważnie polecenia i przykłady do zadań. Zwróć uwagę na to, że w zadaniach D, E, G, H oraz I wymagana jest całkowita poprawność ortograficzna. Należy pisać czytelnie (długopisem lub piórem), gdyż nieczytelność liter dyskwalifikuje odpowiedź. Można używać drukowanych liter. Akceptowane są skrócone formy czasowników. Pamiętaj, że brak wyboru odpowiedzi lub zaznaczenie większej liczby odpowiedzi będzie traktowane jako błędna odpowiedź. Nie należy używać korektora. Jeśli się pomylisz, skreśl błędną odpowiedź, a właściwą oznacz określeniem "dobrze".

Zadanie A sprawdza rozumienie ze słuchu. Zadanie B sprawdza rozumienie tekstu pisanego. Zadania od C do I badają znajomość środków językowych. Zadania J i K sprawdzają znajomość geografii i historii Stanów Zjednoczonych.

Jeżeli jeszcze nie wyłączyłaś/eś telefonu komórkowego, to zrób to teraz. Czas przeznaczony na rozwiązanie testu: 90 min.

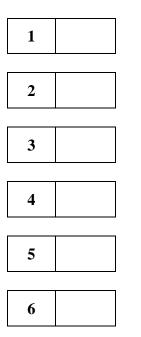
Życzymy Ci satysfakcji z uczestnictwa w konkursie i uzyskania wysokiego wyniku. Powodzenia!

Organizatorzy Konkursu

CZĘŚĆ I. ROZUMIENIE ZE SŁUCHU

ZADANIE A

Usłyszysz dwukrotnie sześć wiadomości radiowych. Do każdej wiadomości (1–6) dopasuj właściwy nagłówek (A–G). Jeden nagłówek został podany dodatkowo i nie pasuje do żadnej wiadomości. (6 pkt.)



- A Technology to help
- B Two generations' success
- C A puzzling discovery
- D Strangely shaped vehicles
- E Ancient treasure found in water
- F Better late than never
- G Where winter meets art

ZADANIE A	1	2	3	4	5	6	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów									
Punktacja po weryfikacji									

CZĘŚĆ II. ROZUMIENIE TEKSTU PISANEGO

ZADANIE B

Przeczytaj poniższy tekst. Z podanych odpowiedzi wybierz właściwą, zgodną z treścią tekstu. Zaznacz jedną z czterech możliwości, zakreślając literę A, B, C lub D. Za każdą poprawną odpowiedź otrzymasz 2 punkty. (12 pkt.)

Elizabeth Cochran Seaman, known by her pen name as Nellie Bly, was an American journalist, famous for launching a new kind of journalism and a record-breaking trip around the world. She was born in 1864 in Cochran's Mills, the town founded by her father, Michael Cochran, who abundantly provided for his family by working as a judge and a landowner. Elizabeth's grandfather had immigrated to America from Ireland in the 1790s. Elizabeth's mother was Michael Cochran's second wife. They had five children, the third of which was Elizabeth. Early in life, Elizabeth earned the nickname 'Pink' because her mother routinely dressed her in that colour. Michael was a widower and he had ten children from his first marriage.

In 1870 Elizabeth suffered a tragic loss when her father died suddenly. Michael Cochran's death presented a serious financial problem to his family, as he left them without a will, and, thus, no legal claim to his estate. Three years later her mother remarried to a cruel man whom she later divorced. In an effort to support her mother, Elizabeth enrolled at a college in Indiana, where she studied to become a teacher. However, after one term, luck of funds forced her to drop out of college. After that, she moved with her mother to the nearby city of Pittsburgh, where they ran a boarding house.

Elizabeth's future finally began to look brighter in the early 1880s, when she submitted a fierce response to an editorial piece that had been published in a local newspaper *The Pittsburgh Dispatch*. In that article, writer Erasmus Wilson claimed that the proper place for women was at home. In addition, he called a working woman 'monstrosity.' Horrified by Wilson's statements, Elizabeth produced her violent reply. Having witnessed her mother struggle most of her life, Elizabeth understood how much hardship single women experienced to keep their families afloat. Her letter grabbed the attention of the paper's managing editor who offered her a full-time position.

As a reporter for *The Pittsburgh Dispatch* Elizabeth earned \$5 per week. She also took on the pen name by which she's best known, Nellie Bly. Although at that time women who worked at newspapers almost always published articles on fashion, gardening or society, Elizabeth focused her attention on the poor and oppressed. For example, she wrote a series of investigative articles on women who were factory workers. Her writing fascinated the readers but drew criticism from the business community. When companies threatened to pull advertising from *The Pittsburgh Dispatch* because of her articles, Elizabeth was assigned to the women's page. Feeling limited in her work, she submitted her resignation.

Aspiring to find a more meaningful career, Elizabeth moved to New York where she found a job in the Joseph Pulitzer newspaper, *The New York World*. She pioneered the field of investigative journalism. Often going undercover, she exposed corruption in the government, reported on the conditions for poor workers in factories and much more. People couldn't wait to see what Nellie Bly was up to. So in 1889, Elizabeth proposed to travel around the world faster than the fictional character Phileas Fogg from *Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne. At first, the editors at *The New York World* declined her proposal saying that women didn't travel without escorts and carried too much luggage. But Elizabeth didn't give up and after several months of negotiating she boarded the ocean liner *Augusta Victoria* on November 14th, 1889, carrying only two small bags.

Elizabeth travelled the world heading east from New York. First she went to England, then to Egypt, Ceylon, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Japan, before she came back to the US. She even got to meet Jules Verne in France, who encouraged her to beat his fictional character's record. On January 25th, 1890 Elizabeth arrived back where she had started. She completed the trip in seventy-two days, six hours, eleven minutes, and fourteen

seconds. To achieve that she travelled not only by ship but also via train, rickshaw, donkey, even a hot air balloon. She became a hugely popular international celebrity. However, to her surprise, *The New York World* did not offer her a bonus despite the publicity she had created. Disappointed, Elizabeth resigned from the newspaper.

Adapted from: http://www.nellieblyonline.com/bio Adapted from: http://www.biography.com/people/

- 1. We learn from the first paragraph that
- A. as a child Elizabeth was called Nellie by her family.
- B. Michael Cochran was a first-generation immigrant.
- C. Elizabeth's mother gave birth to fifteen children.
- D. Elizabeth was born into a wealthy family.
- 2. After her father's death, Elizabeth
- A. had enough money to pay for her studies.
- B. took up a teaching profession.
- C. changed her place of living.
- D. got a gentle stepfather.
- 3. Which of the following is true?
- A. Elizabeth's mother encouraged her to write an article.
- B. Elizabeth got a job thanks to her passionate response.
- C. Elizabeth agreed with Erasmus Wilson's ideas.
- D. Erasmus Wilson replied to Elizabeth's article.
- 4. We learn from the fourth paragraph that Elizabeth
- A. was popular with entrepreneurs.
- B. chose easy social topics to write about.
- C. published articles under a pseudonym.
- D. left her job because she didn't earn much.

- 5. While working for The New York World, Elizabeth
- A. agreed with the view on women's travelling.
- B. set off on a journey that lasted two months.
- C. decided to stop taking up challenges.
- D. developed a new type of reporting.
- 6. In the last paragraph, the writer says that
- A. while travelling, Elizabeth met the writer whose book had inspired her.
- B. Elizabeth circled the globe using the same means of transport.
- C. the editors rewarded Elizabeth for what she had done.
- D. Elizabeth's journey lasted longer than expected.

ZADANIE B	1	2	3	4	5	6	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów									
Punktacja po weryfikacji									

CZĘŚĆ III. ZNAJOMOŚĆ ŚRODKÓW JĘZYKOWYCH

ZADANIE C

Podkreśl tę o	pcję, która na	ajlepiej pasuje do ko	ontekstu zdania. (10 p	okt.)
Przykład:			e in crime detection are	the size of
	a	of rice.		
a) crui	mb	b) bean	<u>c) grain</u>	d) seed
1. Some peop	le in northern	England are	of the Vikings who ca	ame from Scandinavia.
a) ance	estors	b) precursors	c) predecessors	d) descendants
2. Theresa is	a stu	dent and she puts a l	ot of effort in her wor	k. She usually gets the
highest marks	s in all tests.			

a) sincere	b) conscientious	c) particular	d) detailed
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3. Experts say that people are trying to eat healthier and increase their physical activity.

a) first of all b) furthermore c) more and more d) all in all4. Although the cake looked delicious he found himself for something salty for a change.

a) longingb) dreamingc) missingd) taking5. Josh couldn't get home as the traffic came to aafter a severe snowstorm that hitthe city.

a) sensitively b) bluntly c) tactfully d) doubtfully 7. Two 15-year-olds were arrested charges of breaking into at least twenty vehicles last night.

a) in b) for c) on d) about

8. Don't try to the blame on me for the damage to your bike. I didn't use it yesterday.

a) put b) give c) declare d) attach

9. Hurry up, please! The competition starts and you're not ready yet.

a) for the time being b) not long c) any minute now d) by then

10. Mike's final exams are next week. He is to feel nervous before them.

a) bound b) restricted c) limited d) courageous

ZADANIE C	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów													
Punktacja po weryfikacji													

ZADANIE D

Uzupełnij każde z poniższych zdań jednym słowem pasującym do kontekstu. Liczba kresek odpowiada liczbie liter w wymaganym wyrazie. Wymagana jest całkowita poprawność ortograficzna wpisywanych wyrazów. (10 pkt.)

Przykład: ____ of sleep makes you feel tired and irritable. **Odpowiedź:** LACK

1. Why don't you ask someone to help you with the weekly shopping? You shouldn't do it all by $- - \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{l} - \mathbf{l}$.

2. Our school expects a high _ t _ _ d _ _ _ of behaviour from all students at all times.

3. My great-grandmother can $_$ _ c $_$ t $_$ long texts from memory. She remembers many poems by Juliusz Słowacki.

4. Although aspirin has been $_$ d $_$ l $_$ used for a long time, its effects are still not fully understood.

5. Tom, what a surprise! I didn't $_ e _ _ i _ _$ it was you. You look so different with short hair.

6. Joan is a very **s** _ _ **l** _ _ **u** _ guitar player and an excellent singer.

7. The manager will $\mathbf{r} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{v} \ \mathbf{v}$ our report on the promotional campaign next Friday at the latest.

8. The boys in the park were so loud that an old man lost his $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p}$ and started shouting at them.

9. Georgij has a good job in Yakutsk, but he is not happy there. The $\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{z}$ and gloomy weather is making him want to leave the place for good.

10. The new government regulations on pollution control come into
<u>o</u> <u>c</u> next month.

ZADANIE D	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów													
Punktacja po weryfikacji													

ZADANIE E

Uzupełnij luki odpowiednią formą wyrazu utworzonego od słowa podanego na końcu każdego zdania. Wymagana jest całkowita poprawność ortograficzna wpisywanych wyrazów. (10 pkt)

Przykład: It's to whisper to each other when there are other people in the room. **POLITE**

Odpowiedź: IMPOLITE

1. My brother is always getting on my nerves because he's so He can't make up his mind about anything! **DECIDE** 2. I'm not going to visit this restaurant any more. They me when I was there with a group of friends, but I didn't realize until much later that I'd paid too much. **CHARGE** 3. There is a for rich people to move out of the city into the countryside. TEND 4. The pavement needs It's far too narrow for people in wheelchairs. WIDE 5. Some circuses stopped using animals in their shows in to public criticism. **RESPOND** 6. What would happen if everyone who has a bank account decided to all their money at the same time? **DRAW** 7. There is no pay for the in the event. However, you will have to cover your travel costs. **PARTICIPATE** 8. All of a sudden the door flew open and a lady in a red dress and a straw hat walked into the room. **ENERGY** 8. Robert's cousin used to be a very and trouble-making boy. But now he wants to do something positive with his life. **REBEL** 10. The of people in our city support the plans to build more bicycle lanes. MAJOR

ZADANIE E	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów													
Punktacja po weryfikacji													

ZADANIE F

Pokreśl tę opcję, która najlepiej pasuje do kontekstu zdania. (10 pkt.)

Przykład: It took Sabrina a long time to a) used to c) get used to	b) be used d) be used to
1. When Sabina was a little kid, she	, ,
parents enrolled her in gymnastics.	
a) has been climbing	b) will climb
c) was constantly climbing	d) climbs
2. Eva and Monica met in primary school. Their fr	iendship along
with them. Now, after all those years, they are stil	l close although they live far away.
a) grew	b) had grown
c) grows	d) have grown
3. The weather forecast says that the heavy rain	n by tomorrow
morning.	
a) would stop	b) will be stopping
c) is stopping	d) will have stopped
4. Tina and John each each	other for about two years when she decided
to stop the relationship to concentrate on her studie	es.
a) have been seeing	b) had seen
c) had been seeing	d) has been seeing
5. Oh, no. What have you done with my room?	You it without
consulting me first.	
a) shouldn't have redecorated	b) shouldn't have been redecorated
c) may not be able to redecorate	d) couldn't have been redecorated

6. I prefer reading books	. watching films based on them.
a) whereas	b) as opposed to
c) on the contrary	d) in contrast
7. Simon acts he was the	ne team leader.
a) though	b) like
c) as if	d) such as
8. Martin threatened	the teacher that I had cheated in the test.
a) that he would tell	b) that he will tell
c) telling	d) that he tells
9. Suddenly the bus tilted to the left. Only then	aware of the
danger of the situation.	
a) do we become	b) we had become
c) we will become	d) did we become
10. If they to invite you to	their wedding, what would you say?
a) should	b) were
c) will	d) supposing

ZADANIE F	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów													
Punktacja po weryfikacji													

ZADANIE G

Uzupełnij drugie zdanie tak, aby znaczyło to samo, co pierwsze, wykorzystując podany wyraz. Użyj <u>od trzech do sześciu wyrazów</u>. Nie zmieniaj formy podanego wyrazu. Wymagana jest całkowita poprawność ortograficzna wpisywanych wyrazów. (16 pkt.)

Przykład: Small children are not allowed to travel in the front passenger seat. let They travel in the front passenger seat. **Odpowiedź:** They *do not / don't let small children* travel in the front passenger seat. 1. Jessica won the singing contest last month. was It won the singing contest last month. 2. Students were told that the use of audio equipment during the exam was forbidden. not Students were instructed audio equipment during the exam. 3. It is compulsory for all employees to contribute to Social Security Organisation. required All employees contribute to Social Security Organisation. 4. You can walk to the nearest beach from the campsite. within The nearest beach is of the campsite. 5. I don't intend to go out on such a cold day. Freezing weather is not for me! intention I have on such a cold day. Freezing weather is not for me! 6. The destruction of three thousand buildings was caused by the earthquake. resulted in The earthquake destroyed. 7. We couldn't have won the race without the instructor's tips. for If it hadn't, we couldn't have won the race.

8. The cruiser was painted in camouflage pattern at the time of her loss.

known

The cruiser is in

camouflage pattern at the time of her loss.

ZADANIE G	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów											
Punktacja po weryfikacji											

ZADANIE H

Przetłumacz fragmenty podane w nawiasach na język angielski. Użyj <u>od dwóch do</u> <u>sześciu wyrazów</u>. Wymagana jest całkowita poprawność ortograficzna wpisywanych wyrazów. (14 pkt.)

Przykład: It was the first time (kiedy John pływał) in the ocean.

Odpowiedź: John had ever swum

1. As (robiło się coraz ciemniej), we decided
to look for a good place to set up a tent for the night.
2. Remember to destroy this letter
you finish reading it.
3. Yesterday Jim
light before going to bed.
4. How did you manage to find such (tanie
zakwaterowanie) in high season in Paris?
5. My younger brother (nie miałby nic
przeciwko, nie przeszkadzałoby mu) getting extra pocket money from time to time.
6. If you buy something, always keep a receipt
(na wypadek) you decide to exchange or return it.
7. Five years ago my aunt
swoje oszczędności) in her own computer shop. Now she has two more and employs twenty
people.

ZADANIE H	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów										
Punktacja po weryfikacji										

ZADANIE I

Uzupelnij zdania odpowiednimi formami wyrazów podanych w nawiasach. Zachowaj kolejność podanych wyrazów i dodaj wszystkie niezbędne elementy, aby otrzymać logiczne i gramatycznie poprawne zdania. W każdym zdaniu brakuje maksymalnie sześciu elementów. Wymagana jest całkowita poprawność ortograficzna. (8 pkt.)

Przykład: When Richard got to school, he realised he (**not/take**) the essay he was to hand in that day. **Odpowiedź:** hadn't taken

So far only three expeditions (succeed / reach) the top of Bainkha Brakk, a steep rocky mountain in Pakistan.
 These binoculars are not waterproof, so keep them under cover if it starts raining (order / not / get /they) soaked in heavy rain.
 Our neighbour almost never goes to a restaurant. He (hate / keep / wait)...... to be served.
 Unfortunately, the thick clouds (prevent / we / see) the Perseids meteor shower.
 Why don't you (your / eyes / test) if you suffer from headaches?
 I felt embarrassed when I broke my friend's favourite cup. I wish I (not / take)

..... it into my hands at all.

7. The two climbers (**could** / **die**) from the cold in the mountains if they hadn't been rescued by the local people.

8. Experts believe that in the future more and more people (**live**) in megacities and there won't be enough housing space.

ZADANIE I	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów											
Punktacja po weryfikacji											

CZĘŚĆ IV. WIEDZA O STANACH ZJEDNOCZONYCH

ZADANIE J Zakreśl poprawną odpowiedź. (12 pkt.)

- 1. Jamestown was the first settlement of the Virginia Colony, founded by
- a. the Reverend Thomas Hooker.
- b. James Edward Oglethorpe.
- c. Captain John Smith.
- d. George Calvert.

2. Which of these happened in September 1774?

- a. The Seven Years' War broke out.
- b. The Boston Tea Party took place.
- c. The Declaration of Independence was made public.
- d. The First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia.
- 3. The Treaty of Paris signed in 1783
- a. ended the War of Independence.
- b. established the Mason-Dixon Line.
- c. declared peace between the US and Mexico.
- d. forbade settlers to go west of the Appalachian Mountains.

4. Which of these Native American Chiefs was called 'Jumping Badger' when he was young?

- a. Cochise
- b. Geronimo
- c. Sitting Bull
- d. Crazy Horse
- 5. Which of these statements is **not** true about the Native American chiefs?
- a. Sitting Bull was also a holy man who had mystical visions.
- b. Both Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse fought at Killdeer Mountain.
- c. Geronimo raided and fought against Mexican and American forces.
- d. Unfairly imprisoned, Cochise escaped by cutting through the tent with his knife.

6. Sitting Bull

- a. started the Ghost Dance movement.
- b. united the Sioux tribes against white men.
- c. was the leader of the Santee Sioux uprising.
- d. discovered gold in the Black Hills of South Dakota.
- 7. Which is <u>true</u> about the Battle of the Little Bighorn?
- a. It started on 17th June 1876 and lasted five days.
- b. The Sioux and Cheyenne suffered a major defeat.
- c. Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer died in it.
- d. About six hundred soldiers were killed by the Native Americans.
- 8. After the Battle of the Little Bighorn, Sitting Bull
- a. spent the rest of his life at Fort Randall.
- b. was captured and taken a prisoner of war.
- c. led his people to Standing Rock Reservation.
- d. escaped to Canada where he spent several years.

- 9. Cochise was a leader of the Chiricahua Apaches living
- a. in southern Arizona and northern Mexico.
- b. on the North American Great Plains.
- c. in Montana Territory.
- d. in South Dakota.

10. Which of the following is **<u>not</u>** true?

- a. Cochise led successful raids against American settlers and the army for many years.
- b. Lieutenant George Bascom accused Cochise of kidnapping a rancher's son.
- c. The U.S. government offered Cochise and his people good peace terms.
- d. Cochise was captured by the soldiers in the Dragoon Mountains.
- 11. Following the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo,
- a. the Chiricahua Apaches were forced to move to northern Mexico.
- b. the United States took over the Southwest from Mexico.
- c. the Anglo-Americans made peace with the Apaches.
- d. the San Carlos Reservation was established in Oklahoma.
- 12. Which of these statements about Apache chief Geronimo is not true?
- a. Geronimo surrendered to General Nelson Miles in1886.
- b. Geronimo was kept at Fort Sill for over fourteen years.
- c. Geronimo was buried in Skeleton Canyon in Arizona.
- d. Geronimo's family was killed by Mexican soldiers.

ZADANIE J	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Uzyskana liczba punktów															
Punktacja po weryfikacji															

ZADANIE K

Uzupełnij poniższe zdania podanymi nazwami / nazwiskami. Wpisz litery *a–p* odpowiednio w kratki 1–12. Każdy z elementów może być użyty tylko raz. Cztery nazwy / nazwiska zostały podane dodatkowo. (12 pkt.)

1. William Penn founded a successful Quaker colony in

2. President doubled the size of the U.S. with a deal known as the Louisiana Purchase.

3. The Star-Spangled Banner is the U.S. National Anthem and was written by, a lawyer from Washington.

4. President passed the Indian Removal Act in 1830.

6. A group of Western Apache captured, who later joined the U.S. Army's Apache Scouts.

7. Methodist minister was responsible for the Sand Creek Massacre of Cheyenne and Arapaho people.

8. 'The white man and the Indian are to drink of the same water, eat of the same bread, and be at peace' said

9. The battle near was the turning point in the American Civil War.

10. President was a hero of the American Civil War.

- 11. Both the pressure of the journalists and the explosion on the battleship the *Maine* forced president William McKinley to declare war on
- 12. contributed to the introduction of the 19th Amendment which granted the American women the right to vote.
- a. Felix Tellez
- b. Gettysburg
- c. Francis Scott Key
- d. Pennsylvania
- e. Cochise
- f. Ulysses S. Grant
- g. Susan B. Anthony
- h. Georgia
- i. Spain

- j. Colonel Chivington
- k. France
- 1. Theodore Roosevelt
- m. Geronimo
- n. Thomas Jefferson
- o. Fort McHenry
- p. Andrew Jackson

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

ZADANIE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Razem	Sprawdzający	Weryfikator
Κ															
Uzyskana															
liczba															
punktów															
Punktacja															
ро															
weryfikacji															

This is the end of the test.

Małopolski Konkurs Języka Angielskiego dla uczniów gimnazjów w roku szkolnym 2016/2017

Etap wojewódzki – 8 marca 2017 r.

Transkrypcja do zadania A

Głos mężczyzny

And here's some of our strange news from around the world.

One

A man in Florida holds the Guinness World Record for the largest collection of hamburger memorabilia. So far, he has gathered nearly four thousand items. His favourite one is a Harley Davidson motorcycle which looks like a big hamburger, topped with ketchup, cheese and tomato. In the future he would like to build a helicopter, a bicycle, even a double-decker bus. All of them must be designed to look like burgers.

Two

Every February the best sculptors come to Lake Geneva, a city in the state of Wisconsin to take part in the U.S. National Snow Sculpting Championship. The competition attracts many teams of three, willing to compete for a national title. The teams receive a huge solid block of packed snow. The competitors work continuously for three days, even at night, creating magnificent sculptures. Later they are judged on creativity, technique and message.

Three

Last week a library in New York got back a copy of 'The Hobbit' by J. R. R. Tolkien which was borrowed in 1979 by a young boy called Bob James. When he started to work on a ship, he took the book with him. It became so popular with other sailors that there was always a waiting list. So the book went across the world and after 38 years of travelling it returned to the library.

Four

A cat named Whiskers has been given a new life, becoming Bulgaria's first 'bionic cat' with a pair of artificial back legs. Doctor Vladislav Zlatinov is the first one in Europe to successfully apply an innovative method invented by a celebrity veterinary surgeon in Britain. Zlatinov gave Whiskers a pair of titanium legs implanted into his body. Now the cat can move freely and treats his new legs like any other part of his body.

Five

When Victor Simson of Long Beach Island was walking with his dogs along the beach he found something unusual. There, left behind by the violent storm, was an old bottle with a note inside. The message was written on paper used on a ship which does transatlantic crossings from England to New York. The writer gave an email address and a phone number in England. Victor has tried to get in touch in a variety of ways, but so far no response.

Six

An Australian man with a passion for trains and Lego bricks constructed the toy railway that runs both inside and outside his home. The man built the track with his teenage sons over the course of two weeks. The track they built runs from inside the house, across the garden, around the pool and finally loops back into the house. It takes the train about three minutes to complete the journey.

Adapted from: https://www.yahoo.com/