



Choose the correct answer *a, b, c* or *d*.

Partea I: CITIT

I joined the National Youth Challenge (NYC) last year because I knew they went camping and sailing and taught skills like public speaking, and these were things I'd never done before. In the NYC you can do different activities to challenge yourself and you're always learning something. There are different levels, from beginner to advanced, run by adult volunteers called 'leaders'. When you complete each level you get a certificate.

When I first joined, my leader suggested that my first challenge should be helping to organise activities at a local children's club for two hours a week. I wasn't sure it was a good idea; I'd joined that same club when I was eight and I'd found it really difficult to make friends. I was quite shy then and all the other children already had their own friendship groups, so I'd stopped going after a couple of weeks. I decided to take up the challenge though, but only because I wanted my NYC certificate.

1. What was the main reason why the writer joined the NYC?

- a) to improve some of his skills
- b) to reach the advanced level
- c) to become volunteer leader
- d) to try new experiences

2. Why didn't the writer want to start helping at children's club?

- a) He felt he was too shy to do a good job there.
- b) He didn't like the children there.
- c) His memories of going there weren't very positive.
- d) None of his friends worked there.

My dad was a professional basketball player in Germany, as his father had been before him, and I went to watch many of his games when I was a kid. You might think that seeing so many matches would give me a love of the sport, but it actually had the opposite effect. I loved telling my friends how good my dad was, of course, especially when he won a game, but I used to take a book with me to read instead of watching.

Starting secondary school, I was still two years away from being a teenager but was already two meters tall. Seeing my height, my sports teacher asked if I'd be interested in training with the basketball team. Even though I enjoyed the session, I thought I'd need to develop my skills before I took part in a real match, but the teacher had more confidence in me than I did. It took me a while to agree, but a few weeks later I found myself playing against a team from another school. Mum and Dad coming to watch didn't really help - it made me more nervous. But it was ok in the end!

3. What does the writer say about his childhood?

- a) He felt proud of his father's success at basketball.
- b) He had a great interest in basketball.
- c) He enjoyed watching his father play basketball.
- d) He knew he wanted to become a basketball player.

4. How did the writer feel before his first match at secondary school?

- a) He was pleased that his parents were there.
- b) He wasn't happy about his teacher's attitude.
- c) He wasn't sure that he would do well.
- d) He was delighted to be part of the team.

Since I was a child who stood in my grandmother's kitchen sniffing the delicious smell of freshly baked bread and homemade soups, I've known there is only one thing I want to do in life: cook. So, when I spotted an advert on a website inviting young people to apply for a TV cooking competition, there was little doubt I'd be first in line to take part. I thought 'This could be the beginning of my cooking career!'

The application process was far from straightforward, as I soon discovered. First, I had to fill in a lengthy form, detailing everything from how I became interested in cooking (that was the easy part), to things like what I hoped to get out of being part of the show (these were much trickier!). Once I'd got through that stage of the process, the next step was to cook a dish for the show's judges: scary but exciting, too. If that was good enough, I'd be invited to take part in the four-week televised competition. One person, selected by the judges, would be voted out of the competition in each programme, until the winner was announced during the final.

5. What is the writer's purpose in the first paragraph?

- a) to describe the kinds of meals that the writer enjoyed cooking
- b) to help readers identify with the writer's ambitious character
- c) to highlight the writer's relationship with her grandmother
- d) to explain why the competition appealed to the writer

6. What does the writer say about applying for the competition in the second paragraph?

- a) She found it challenging to answer some of the questions.
- b) It took much longer than she had hoped it would.
- c) The process was as complicated as she had expected it to be.
- d) She discovered details about the competition which she did not like.

Partea a II-a: GRAMATICĂ ȘI VOCABULAR

7. The tourists were given a guided tour of ____ Houses of Parliament.

- a) a
- b) the
- c) -
- d) an

8. Lt. Brown wishes he ____ be deployed as soon as possible.

- a) could
- b) can
- c) should
- d) may

9. She spends ____ money on clothes.

- a) a couple of
- b) a great number of
- c) several
- d) a large amount of

10. ____ she couldn't afford it, she bought a new uniform.

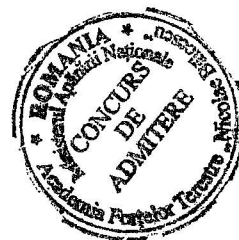
- a) However
- b) Although
- c) But
- d) Despite

11. The travel agent told me that if I ____ to book the cruise, I ____ in advance.

- a) wanted / would pay
- b) wanted / had to pay
- c) want / must to pay
- d) want / have had to pay

12. As soon as ____ the brochure, he decided to plan a trip to Egypt.

- a) he had read
- b) he was reading
- c) did he read
- d) had he read



13. He may come but, ____ the other hand, he may be too busy.
 a) in
 b) by
 c) for
 d) on
14. The long sea ____ lasted two weeks.
 a) travel
 b) journey
 c) voyage
 d) trip
15. Put your hand in cold water. That will help to ____ the pain of the burn.
 a) bear
 b) avoid
 c) resist
 d) relieve
16. Could you help me ____ these leaflets? They're for the new gym that has just opened on the base.
 a) take in
 b) give out
 c) hand in
 d) pass by
17. During the latest NATO Summit in Madrid, the participants ____ the issue of European security.
 a) raised
 b) brought
 c) referred
 d) put
18. He wants to get a better ____ and earn more money.
 a) employment
 b) work
 c) job
 d) trade

NOTĂ: Toți itemii sunt obligatorii. Pentru fiecare item corect rezolvat se acordă 0,5 puncte. Se alocă 1 punct din oficiu.

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