

PROPOSTA DI SOLUZIONE PER LA SECONDA PROVA DI MATURITÀ 2023

TRACCIA: Lingua inglese

ARGOMENTO: Part 1 - COMPREHENSION AND INTERPRETATION

Question A

From Julian Barnes, *Elizabeth Finch*, London, Penguin Random House, 2022, pp. 3-4

Testo:

- 1) FALSE - She stood before us
- 2) TRUE - The best form of education
- 3) TRUE - For some of you
- 4) FALSE - It could still be
- 5) TRUE - I imagined a regular
- 6) Miss Finch is aware that she is dealing with adult students and she is willing to treat them as they are. As regards the teaching method, she is inspired by the philosophical and Socratic method based on dialogue. Therefore, she does not intend to fill her students with books and sterile notions, as she too declares by comparing them to stuffed geese, but she aims to instill her teachings in a rigorous but not passive way for the students. This method is unconventional and she is not like most teachers. Students don't know how to react at the first meeting: some appreciate this method, others are perplexed, but almost all are definitely confused.
- 7) Based on Ms. Finch's description we can deduce that she is a very self-confident person, as she comes to class without notes, smiling and not nervous. She seems to be a creative (she uses original similes, for example the stuffed goose simile) and an intelligent person, confident of her students' abilities. She is a difficult person to understand at first meeting, in fact all the students are confused by her behavior, but undoubtedly charismatic. Her discreet but very elegant clothing and well-groomed hair reflect a great attention to details.
- 8) The passage presents a first person narrator, who is one of Ms Finch's students. The point of view of the narrator is internal and subjective. The tense of the narration is the past tense.

Question B

Being forgetful isn't stupid - it helps make smarter decisions, scientists say from

www.independent.co.uk

TESTO:

- 1) B
- 2) D
- 3) C
- 4) A
- 5) B
- 6) The recent findings outlined in the journal *Neuron* have changed course compared to the past neurobiological studies. If previously the attention was focused on memory in the strict sense, i.e. remembering, memorizing and not forgetting information (all considered important), now the attention is focused on the selection of what is useful to remember and what is negligible. Therefore, the goal is to store only useful information. According with this recent theory, this selection process is essential for our ability to make decisions in the best and most functional way.
- 7) Transience, which allows the elimination of obsolete and non-useful information, is important as it increases flexibility when we are about to act or make decisions. For our brain is more important not long-term memorization, but remembering the essential information, applying a generalization process so as to adapt them to future situations and decisions.

PART 2 - WRITTEN PRODUCTION

TASK A

"I learned that change only happens when ordinary people get involved and they get engaged, and they come together to demand it" Barack Obama, Chicago, January, 10, 2017

In 2017, during his farewell speech in Chicago, former US President Barack Obama said that "change only happens when ordinary people get involved". The poet John Donne in his poem wrote "No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main". And in my opinion it is true; we cannot consider ourselves selfishly single individuals since we live in a society that offers us opportunities, protections, rights and duties but also needs our collaboration. The small act of a single person united with everyone else can lead to big changes.

How many things seemed impossible in the past? And how many things, thanks to the determination of courageous people, have become reality? I am thinking, for example, about the protests of feminists, women who wanted to achieve political, economic, personal and social equality. All these protests have allowed us to obtain rights that were excluded up to a century ago. I think of the contemporary environmental protests that show thousands of young people demanding effective and fast changes to improve environmental conditions and to stop climate change. I am confident that the union can make the difference.

A thought that arises in my mind is that sometimes we only notice situations when they concern us very closely, but we should learn to put aside selfishness and self-referentiality. We often look at other people's problems with detachment, perhaps through a phone screen. We should learn to be more receptive, sensitive and willing to collaborate.

No matter how small the change may seem, every little step forward is the foundation for the next step.

TASK B

According to UNESCO *“Learning or forgetting a language is not merely about acquiring or losing a means of communication. It is about seeing an entire world either appear or fade away”*

Who doesn't like to travel? If we have chosen this school we probably have in common one thing: we are interested in the language and culture of other countries. Some of us prefer the English language, others French, still others German or Spanish. What doesn't change is our curiosity. Through the study of language and culture it almost seems to be able to travel, we can find ourselves in those places we dream of or for which we cry when the school test does not get the desired result. When it comes to foreign languages the fundamental thing is always to practice, look for some native speakers to practice with, travel, take the opportunity to chat with foreign people. Sometimes the fear of making a mistake stops us, but let's remember that getting a verb wrong has never killed anyone.

An important opportunity for practicing languages is the international student exchange, so if you are interested in and think you want to leave for this adventure, ask your teacher for information. You can stay in another country, experience the local culture firsthand for a whole year.

Another piece of advice I want to give you in order to always practice and have fun at the same time, is to watch movies and TV series in their original language (if you don't feel confident you can put subtitles). So you will enjoy your favorite movie while also listening to the correct pronunciation of the words.

That's all for today. Stay tuned for the next issue of the magazine.