



DRŽAVNO TAKMIČENJE 2025.

AUTOR/AUTORKA TESTA _____

RECENZENT/RECENZENTKINJA _____

PODGORICA, _____ 20__ GODINE

SREDNJA SKOLA, I i II RAZRED

ENGLISKI JEZIK



Test iz engleskog jezika sastoji se od četiri dijela.

	Broj bodova	Ostvareni broj bodova
Slušanje	20	
Čitanje	25	
Leksika i gramatika	25	
Pisanje	30	

Vrijeme rješavanja testa je **120 minuta**.

Dozvoljeni pribor su plava ili crna hemijska olovka. Ukoliko pogriješite, prekrižite i odgovorite ponovo. Za vrijeme rada na testu **nije dozvoljeno korišćenje rječnika**.

Ako neko pitanje/zadatak ne možete odmah da riješite, pređite na sljedeće. Ukoliko vam bude preostalo vremena, možete se kasnije vratiti na takva pitanja.

Želimo vam puno uspjeha!

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Listen to an excerpt from a radio podcast in which psychologist Thomas Curran discusses the concept of perfectionism and its associated consequences. Upon listening, do the exercises that follow.



A) Read each question below carefully and choose the best option (A, B, C or D). Then, write/copy your answers in the table provided on page 4.

1) How does the host describe his audience to his guest?

- A) A crowd that finds satisfaction in setting modest goals.
- B) Listeners who pursue excellence with a perfectionist edge.
- C) A laid-back folks with little focus on personal achievement.
- D) Listeners who prioritise leisure and avoid high-stakes ambition.

2) Complete the following sentence from the podcast:

"In hundreds and hundreds of such interactions, they began to see that perfectionism was a really quite broad personality characteristic ..."

- A) linked only to high personal ambition.
- B) underpinned by feelings of lack and deficit.
- C) fueled solely by the pursuit of fame and fortune.
- D) rooted in the belief that mistakes are impossible to make.

3) Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a potential effect of perfectionism?

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| A) Agitation | C) Self-harm |
| B) Low mood | D) Mental distress |

4) How did the host's children perceive their newly identified self-oriented perfectionism?

- A) As a helpful trait.
- B) As a source of pride.
- C) As an insignificant idea.
- D) As a heavy burden.

5) The host enjoys leaving listeners with a memorable one-liner that resonates long after the episode ends. Which of the following sentences would be the MOST FITTING ending based on what has been discussed in the podcast?

- A) *Dear gentle listeners, perfectionism is the secret sauce for success, adding flavour and flair to everything we pursue.*
- B) *Dear gentle listeners, a perfectionist mindset is like having a safety net, ensuring that we don't fall flat on our faces when taking risks.*
- C) *Dear gentle listeners, aiming for perfection is like trying to herd cats; it's a wild chase that leaves you with a gnawing unease.*
- D) *Dear gentle listeners, perfectionism is a fine-tuning fork for achieving excellence, helping us reach for the stars after an exhausting battle.*

B) Imagine you were a psychologist who took notes on the behaviours and challenges of various individuals who came to you. Read each scenario as if you had spoken with them and understood their experiences.

Based on these observations, answer the questions about each person's behaviour by selecting the option (A, B, C, or D) that most accurately reflects the underlying issue or tendency. Write/copy your answers in the table provided on page 4.

6)	Anthony	A college student who always aims for straight A's but feels intense anxiety over receiving a B, which he perceives as a failure. He often misses out on social events because he's studying, fearing that even a single mistake will ruin his chances of success.
		What does Anthony's fear of receiving a B indicate about his mindset? A) He exhibits self-driven perfectionistic beliefs. B) He appears indifferent toward academic achievement. C) He demonstrates a growth-oriented approach to challenges. D) He places a greater priority on social life than on academics.
7)	Daphne	A dedicated employee who works long hours to achieve perfection in her job. Despite her efforts, she is not getting ahead and she feels increasingly unhappy and disconnected from her passions.
		What is the common misconception Daphne holds about perfectionism? A) It fosters creative potential. B) It serves as a secret to success. C) It never ensures professional achievement. D) It leads to a deeper sense of self-awareness.

8)	Benedict	A high-achieving athlete who feels the constant pressure to win. He often criticizes himself for minor mistakes, making it hard to celebrate his achievements. He often feels unworthy but he believes that's the way every athlete feels.
		What psychological effect does Benedict's perfectionism have on his performance?
		A) It boosts resilience and self-reflection. B) It breeds self-doubt and fosters delusion. C) It negatively affects concentration but sharpens focus. D) It ensures a competitive edge over his fellows athletes.
9)	Colin	A senior manager who believes that perfectionism is essential for high performance. He constantly pressures his team to achieve flawless results, thinking this approach will lead to greater success. However, team morale is low, and productivity is suffering.
		What can we infer from Colin's belief in perfectionism as a pathway to success?
		A) High pressure always leads to improved outcomes. B) Perfectionism always guarantees high performance. C) There is a strong link between perfectionism and achievement. D) There are very weak associations between perfectionism and performance.
10)	Eloise	A 28-year-old marketing professional who often feels overwhelmed by her high standards. Despite her achievements, she struggles with apprehension over meeting her self-imposed expectations and wants to explore her perfectionistic tendencies.
		Based on the podcast, what type of assessment would best help Eloise understand her self-oriented perfectionism?
		A) A group discussion B) An online video assessment C) An extensive interview process D) A simple paper and pencil test

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

A)

1)	2)	3)	4)	5)

B)

6)	7)	8)	9)	10)

READING COMPREHENSION

A. Read the following article about Goodreads, an online platform that allows users to track, rate, and review books, connect with fellow readers, and discover new titles through personalised recommendations. Then, read the instructions below the text carefully and do the exercises that follow.



If you have not kept up with the latest scandal in the world of young adult publishing, it is a doozy. It involves a debut author with a lot of buzz, lies, clumsy alibis, “review bombing,” a long and sordid confession — and, of course, Goodreads. Because whenever there is a meltdown in publishing, Goodreads, the Amazon-owned site that bills itself as “the largest site for readers and book recommendations,” is reliably at the center of it.

But first, the scandal: Internet sleuths figured out that an author named Cait Corrain, whose debut novel was scheduled for 2024, had created fake accounts on Goodreads in order to review-bomb other books — overwhelming them with negative one-star reviews. When confronted online, she concocted a fake online chat to **divert** blame to a nonexistent friend; when that hoax was uncovered, she confessed, citing a “complete psychological breakdown.” Her publisher and her agent dropped her; the planned publication of her novel was canceled. As often happens in these scandals, the use and abuse of Goodreads — a site whose cheery name masks a recent history of abhorrent user behavior — has left many people hurt and at least one person’s career in ruins.

Goodreads is broken. What began in 2007 as a promising tool for readers, authors, booksellers and publishers has become an unreliable, unmanageable, nearly **un navigable** entanglement of unreliable data. At its inception Goodreads promised something different: a gathering space where ardent readers could connect with writers and with one another, swapping impressions and sharing recommendations. When I joined the site in 2007, I felt I had finally found my place online. At the time, I was still using a physical notebook to keep a list of the books I’d read or wanted to read, so discovering a place to track, rate and review books felt entirely, if you’ll pardon the word, **novel**.

But Goodreads quickly began to **languish** in an awkward limbo — neither a retailer nor an inviting online salon. Still, it’s become the most popular book discussion site, by far. As book coverage and criticism have been slashed in other areas of popular media,

Goodreads, by default, has taken on an outsize role in the book world's imagination. But it's also devolved into a place where users' worst instincts are indulged or even encouraged. Whether it's the **rampant**, widespread practice of review-bombing books that are listed online long before publication (often targeting primarily young adult novels that have acquired a whiff of offensiveness, some of which are ultimately pulled from publication) or the internet hecklers hounding beleaguered authors or those beleaguered authors tracking down their Goodreads hecklers and publicly shaming them, the combative culture of Goodreads is antithetical to the spirit in which it was started. My as-yet-unpublished memoir in essays already has two ratings on Goodreads, but it won't even go out to early readers until next year.

So how to fix it? It starts with people: Goodreads desperately needs more human moderation to monitor the goings-on. Obviously, part of any healthy discussion is the ability to express dissatisfaction — those one-star reviews, ideally accompanied by well-argued rationales, are sacrosanct — but Goodreads has enabled the weaponization of **displeasure**.

It's not just fledgling authors being pummeled. This year, Elizabeth Gilbert, the best-selling author of "Eat, Pray, Love," decided to withdraw a forthcoming novel, "The Snow Forest," after Goodreads users bombarded its page with one-star reviews objecting primarily to the fact that the novel (which no one had yet read) was set in Russia and would be published at a time when Russia and Ukraine were at war.

Fortifying the guard rails wouldn't be that difficult. Currently, Goodreads uses volunteer librarians who add new books to the site's database in their free time. Hiring these people and paying them a living wage would empower Goodreads's representatives to communicate with publishers, to facilitate posting books to the site when, and only when, a book has actually been written and edited and is ready to be shared with the world.

Given all of Goodreads's issues, it might seem easy enough to encourage writers and readers simply to flock to another forum. Sites like The Storygraph and Italic Type have sprung up as promising alternatives, but they're still far from reaching a critical mass of users. As a book critic and publishing professional, I'm still committed to the idea that Goodreads, or a place like it, must exist. As the usefulness of other social platforms deteriorates, this one is worth trying to save. If the saga of Goodreads has proved anything, it's that there are millions of readers who care about books and want to discuss them online. They — we — deserve better.

Adapted from: www.nytimes.com

PART ONE

A) Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text? In boxes 1-4 provided on page 11 write: T (if the statement agrees with the information) **or F** (if the statement contradicts the information).

1)	Goodreads was originally envisioned as a hub for readers to connect, exchange insights, and share book recommendations.
2)	The site permits authors to remove one-star reviews on their books when they have been found to be fake.
3)	The author implies that established authors are not exempt from negative feedback on Goodreads.
4)	There are alternative book review sites that have surpassed Goodreads in popularity and functionality.

B) Read the questions and choose the correct answer (A–D). Write/copy your answers in boxes 5-9 on page 11.

5) Which title BEST captures the essence of the article?

- A) *"Goodreads: A Vision Marred"*
- B) *"Amazon's Unlikely Literary Powerhouse"*
- C) *"The Unraveling of Digital Literary Spaces"*
- D) *"Goodreads and Reviewers: An Unbreakable Bond"*

6) What is indicated as a consequence of diminished book coverage in popular media?

- A) An increase in the quality of literary discussions.
- B) A resurgence of traditional publishing methods.
- C) The emergence of multiple competing book platforms.
- D) Goodreads acquiring a disproportionate influence in the literature.

7) The author finds the current culture of Goodreads to be

- A) civil.
- B) contentious.
- C) conciliatory.
- D) collaborative.

8) Which metaphor MOST EFFECTIVELY encapsulates the challenges faced by Goodreads as depicted in the article?

- A) A ship adrift in a calm sea
- B) A fading lighthouse in a storm
- C) An echo in an empty hall of voices
- D) An anchor cast in a river of doubts

9) To resolve Goodreads' shortcomings, the author advocates

- A) replacing Goodreads with other sites.
- B) integrating Goodreads into Amazon's platform.
- C) enhancing human oversight and moderation.
- D) significantly curtailing user review functionalities.

C) All of the words listed below are taken from the article (they have been bolded throughout the text to assist you in finding them). **Using the context, interpret their meanings and determine which one from the list best fits the sentences provided. Please write the correct letter, A-F, in boxes C) 10-12 in the grid on page 11.**

A) rampant	B) languish	C) displeasure
D) divert	E) novel	F) unnavigable

Her comprehensive and **10)** research findings challenge established theories and offer fresh insights into human behaviour.

The once-celebrated cultural festival began to **11)** in the shadows of larger events, losing its unique charm and appeal.

The city's age-long, **12)** graffiti problem has become a major concern for local authorities, as it detracts from the urban aesthetic.

PART TWO

You are a woman/man on a mission!

As a volunteer for Goodreads, you have accepted the challenge of uncovering potentially deceptive reviews. Your task is to analyse the reviews posted on the site and identify which may have been written by writers attempting to undermine the reputation of the books or by unscrupulous competitors.



In the table provided on page 11, please indicate which FOUR reviews you suspect to be fraudulent. For each identified review, specify the PARTICULAR WORD that led you to this conclusion.

REMEMBER: Your keen analysis will play a crucial role in upholding the integrity of the Goodreads community, ensuring that readers receive honest insights about the books they consider. So, be meticulous and determined!

A) One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel García Márquez

Username: LiteraryDisappointment

"Despite its universally celebrated status, this novel reads like a vibrant and monotonous loop of repetitive narratives. The characters are as stagnant as the fictional town of Macondo, leaving the reader craving for substantial depth and emotional evolution."

B) The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger

Username: HoldenHater

"Salinger's protagonist is more annoying than relatable, incessantly whining his way through a narrative that ultimately goes nowhere. The supposed depth of his anger is overshadowed by his juvenile behaviour and lack of personal growth."

C) Normal People by Sally Rooney

Username: RealisticBore

"Rooney's characters are painfully ordinary and utterly uninspiring, and their strained relationship thrives to captivate or engage readers. The dialogue often feels like an exercise in introspection devoid of any real payoff."

D) The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde

Username: MoralityPolice

"Wilde's attempts at moral exploration falter amid melodramatic twists. The characters lack authenticity and depth, rendering the story's cautionary message both hollow and mundane."

E) The Brothers Karamazov by Fyodor Dostoevsky

Username: PhilosophicalDoubter

"Heralded as a monumental work, The Brothers Karamazov ultimately disappoints with its overly long narrative that does not succeed in covering its "hidden" beauty. The characters' philosophical dilemmas are regularly overlooked, submerged beneath tedious digressions."

F) Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov

Username: CandidCritic

"While lauded as a supposed masterpiece, this novel is a chaotic jumble of disconnected themes that distracts rather than enlightens. The surreal elements feel forced, leaving readers confused rather than perplexed."

READING COMPREHENSION

PART ONE

A)

1)	2)	3)	4)

B)

5)	6)	7)	8)	9)

C)

10)	11)	12)

PART TWO

	13)	14)	15)	16)
REVIEW (circle the fraudulent one)	A B C D E F	A B C D E F	A B C D E F	A B C D E F
THE WORD THAT IS THE CLUE				

USE OF ENGLISH

A) Complete the sentences below using body-part idioms. Some letters have been given to make it easier for you to guess the word. Make sure the verbs are in the correct form. Use your answers to complete the crossword on the next page and then write them in the table on page 17.

ACROSS

5. When the project fell behind schedule, Elliott **.H.....ED** the burden alone, as no one else would step up amidst the chaos.

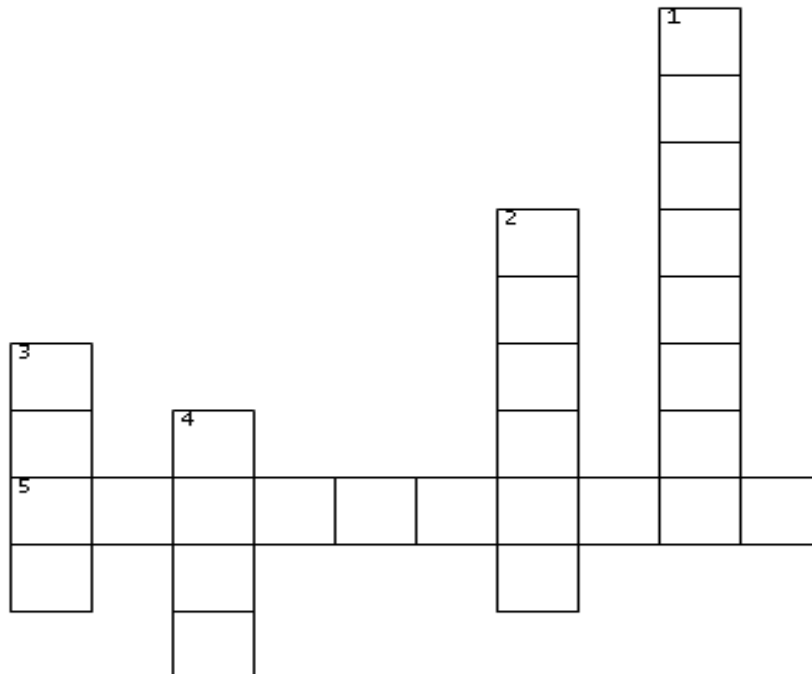
DOWN

1. Teo, though unassuming, was the **B...B...** of the operation; his absence would surely unravel the entire enterprise.

2. Always the opportunist, she had a **..N...** to the wind, shifting her alliances to match the prevailing currents of influence.

3. Success didn't come easy, but by keeping his **N...** to the grindstone, he steadily built a successful career over the years.

4. In a circle of avant-garde artists, Goya surprisingly **...D** the line of tradition, staunchly defending established norms.



B) Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) to fill in the gap. Write your answers in the grid provided on page 17.

6. This is the third time neither the professor nor she aware of the impending examination schedule.

- A) was
- B) were

- C) has been
- D) have been

7. Her creativity dormant but for the inspiring workshops she attended.

- A) Might have lain
- B) Might have laid

- C) Might have been laid
- D) might have been laying

8. Many employees at the organization the opportunity to go into the office.

- A) work remotely; however: I relish
- B) work remotely, however, I relish

- C) work remotely however; I relish
- D) work remotely; however, I relish

9. The exquisite painting,, finally received the recognition it deserved during the annual art exhibition.

- A) which had hanged in the gallery for decades

- C) which had been hung in the gallery for decades

- B) which was hanged in the gallery for decades

- D) which had been hanged in the gallery for decade

10. The Norwegians posited that the puffin nested on glaciers. All birds nest on land.

- A) Whereupon all birds nest on land, the Norwegians posited the puffin nested on glaciers.
- B) The Norwegians posited that the puffin nested on glaciers, whereas all birds nest on land.
- C) Whereof all birds nest on land, the Norwegians posited that the puffin nested on glaciers.
- D) The Norwegians posited that the puffin nested on glaciers since all birds nest on land.

C) Read the following passage and think of the word that best fits each space. Use only one word in each space (you have been given the first letter of each word to help you). Read the text through to check that it makes sense with the gaps filled and write your answers in the table on page 17.

In a hidden valley shrouded by mountains and mystery stood the ancient town of Varnemoor, a place seemingly untouched by time. My journey there was a last-minute decision, on the **11. S**..... of the moment, fueled by an old map given to me by a friend who said he had to **12. C**..... in me that Varnemoor held secrets that the world had long buried. This ancient place was rumoured to be the cradle of forgotten fairy tales—dark tales that had sowed the **13. S**..... of some of today's most unsettling myths. Locals whispered that Varnemoor's townsfolk had spun these stories to protect their way of life, hiding sinister truths behind enchanting tales.



Upon my arrival, I found myself spoilt for **14. C**..... by the relics and manuscripts filling the market. Each artifact suggested stories veiled in eerie warnings, yet cloaked in delicate beauty. I uncovered an old parchment inscribed with hints of a tale about a "benevolent" ruler whose empire thrived while his people suffered through a mysterious "Silent Famine." The death **15. T**..... of his subjects rose sharply, though his castle brimmed with feasts. As I listened to the locals' murmurs, I sensed that these tales served to conceal, distort, and perhaps even rewrite the town's history.

Before I left Varnemoor, an old storyteller shared with me one final warning: the secrets here were not for outsiders. I walked away, feeling as though my own thoughts were now somehow tangled in its web of shadowed truths.

D) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the words in brackets. Write your answers in the table on page 17.

In a stunning turn of events, the once-thriving technology giant Nexis Corp. fell victim to a catastrophic financial collapse that left its employees and investors in a state of utter **16.** (array). As executives attempted to underplay the severity of the internal crises, they embarked on increasingly unrelenting cost-cutting measures. **17.** (apprehend) regarding the company’s sustainability led many stakeholders to overlook the signs of impending doom, believing the brand’s innovative prowess could weather any storm. Their optimism ultimately proved to be a double-edged sword, exacerbating the issues they sought to **18.** (play).



The fallout from Nexis Corp.'s demise has been nothing short of **19.** (comprehend). Once hailed as a beacon of technological advancement, the company's rapid decline shattered the **20.** (assail) reputation it had built over decades, sparking outrage within the industry. Analysts, caught off guard by the sudden turn of events, struggled to piece together the factors that led to such a swift downfall. With its stock plummeting and investors in panic mode, Nexis Corp. serves as a cautionary tale about the perils of complacency and the dangers of ignoring the underlying vulnerabilities that can bring even the most esteemed organizations to their knees.

E) Transform the following sentences by using the given word so that they have a similar meaning. Do not change the word given. You must use exactly FOUR words, including the word given (hyphenated words and contractions such as “it’s” or “hadn’t” count as one word).



Transformation of sentence

- 21.** Marianne hasn't been at all discouraged by the terrible news.

PUT

The terrible news in the least.

- 22.** She admitted that she did not foresee the extent of the damage.

OWNED

She foreseeing the extent of the damage.

- 23.** The engine must not be turned off at any time during the test.

NO

At engine be turned off during the test.

- 24.** The community's calls for justice were ignored by the authorities.

DEAF

The community's calls for justice among the authorities.

- 25.** The fact that the children remain unbaptised makes Emma's mom angry and upset.

SORE

It's Emma's mom that the children have not been baptised yet.

Write only the missing words on the answer sheet on page 18.

USE OF ENGLISH**A)**

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

B)

6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

C)

11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	

D)

16.	
17.	
18.	
19.	
20.	

E)

21.	
22.	
23.	
24.	
25.	

WRITING

In the midst
of winter, I
found there
was within me
an invincible
summer.

Albert Camus

Praxis Plus
California

Camus uses seasons to illustrate enduring hope and inner warmth, even in life's hardest moments. His words imply that life's challenges, symbolised by the harshness of winter, serve as a backdrop against which our true character and capacity for joy, warmth, and vitality can emerge.

Write an essay of 180 to 250 words reflecting on a challenging period in your life when you discovered an inner strength or positivity that helped you persevere. Consider how this experience reshaped your understanding of resilience and personal growth.

KEY:

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

A)

1)	2)	3)	4)	5)
B)	B)	A)	D)	C)

(5 x **2** points)

B)

6)	7)	8)	9)	10)
A)	B)	B)	C)	D)

(5 x **2** points)

READING COMPREHENSION

PART ONE

A)

17)	18)	19)	20)
T	F	T	F

(4 x **1** point)

B)

21)	22)	23)	24)	25)
A)	D)	B)	B)	C)

(5 x **2** points)

c)

26)	27)	28)
E)	B)	A)

(3 x 1 point)

PART TWO

	1.	2.	3.	4.
REVIEW (circle the fraudulent one)	A B C D E F	A B C D E F	A B C D E F	A B C D E F
	VIBRANT	THRIVES	COVERING	PERPLEXED/ CONFUSED
A WORD OR A PHRASE THAT IS THE CLUE	(AND MONOTONOUS) How can something be both?	(the implicative positive meaning of the verb contrasts with what has been said, their relationship FAILS, FALLS SHORT to captivate)	(the "hidden" beauty is to be UN covered, not covered)	("confused" and "perplexed" are near synonyms, thus they cannot be used together in the phrase "rather than")

(4 x 2 points)

USE OF ENGLISH

A)

6.	BACKBONE
7.	FINGER
8.	NOSE
9.	TOED
10.	SHOULDERED

(5 x 1 point)

B)

6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
C)	A)	D)	C)	B)

(5 x 1 point)

C)

16.	SPUR
17.	CONFIDE
18.	SEEDS
19.	CHOICE
20.	TOLL

(5 x 1 point)

D)

26.	DISARRAY
27.	MISAPPREHENSION
28.	DOWNPLAY
29.	INCOMPREHENSIBLE
30.	UNASSAILABLE

(5 x 1 point)

E)

31.	HASN'T PUT MARIANNE OFF
32.	OWNED UP TO NOT
33.	NO TIME MUST THE
34.	FELL ON DEAF EARS
35.	A SORE POINT/SPOT/SUBJECT WITH(FOR)

(5 x **1 point**)

