

**ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ, ΑΘΛΗΤΙΣΜΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΝΕΟΛΑΙΑΣ
ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΗ ΑΝΩΤΕΡΗΣ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΣΗΣ
ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΕΞΕΤΑΣΕΩΝ**

ΠΑΓΚΥΠΡΙΕΣ ΕΞΕΤΑΣΕΙΣ ΠΡΟΣΒΑΣΗΣ 2025

ΜΑΘΗΜΑ: ΑΓΓΛΙΚΑ (6)

ΗΜΕΡΟΜΗΝΙΑ: ΤΡΙΤΗ, 10 ΙΟΥΝΙΟΥ 2025

ΩΡΑ: 8:00 - 11:15

ΤΟ ΕΞΕΤΑΣΤΙΚΟ ΔΟΚΙΜΙΟ ΑΠΟΤΕΛΕΙΤΑΙ ΑΠΟ ΔΕΚΑ (10) ΣΕΛΙΔΕΣ

Να απαντήσετε σε όλα τα ερωτήματα.

Πριν από κάθε απάντηση να σημειώσετε τα στοιχεία της ερώτησης.

ΟΛΕΣ ΟΙ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΙΣ ΝΑ ΓΡΑΦΟΥΝ ΣΤΟ ΤΕΤΡΑΔΙΟ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΩΝ

TASK 5**(10 marks)**

Read the article and answer the questions that follow.

From Aristotle to TikTok: The Philosophy Behind Aura Points

You can count calories, steps, or how many times you stream your favourite song – and now, you can also be assigned a score for how cool you are. This is called aura points. Think of it as a “coolness currency,” a way to measure your charisma – or “rizz,” as young people say.

Ask someone out and they say “yes”? That’s 100 aura points for you. Still using Snapchat after age 19? That’s minus 100 points – not cool. Rushing to answer a question in class but getting it wrong? You’re in the red now. This is how TikToks about aura points usually go. According to a recent *Wall Street Journal* report, posts with the hashtag #aurapoints have jumped by 378%.

On TikTok, people share stories about when they gained or lost aura points based on their actions. Avoided eye contact when greeting a friend? Lose 523 points. Bumped into a lamp post? That’s minus 634 points. Winning aura points typically comes from believing in yourself, acting with self-confidence, and not worrying too much about what others think or seeking sympathy. For example, if you move on quickly after a breakup and don’t share all the details online, you earn points. After all, it shows you’ve learned from the experience and become more emotionally developed. But if you stay in a relationship after being treated unfairly, that’s minus 1,000 points. Someone with aura would never put up with that.

Aura points are just another example of how social media trends create new ways to connect and share humour. It’s not a very serious system. There are the odd instances, though, when creators use it to describe overly dramatic moments. In one TikTok, a young woman said she wept uncontrollably when her father, who had been working abroad for years, showed up unexpectedly at her graduation ceremony. “How many aura points did I lose for crying so much?” she asked, sparking a discussion in the comments section about oversharing personal drama online.

Aura points may seem like just a fun new TikTok phenomenon, but some philosophers say elements of the trend come from ancient history. “This is in line with what’s known as ‘virtue ethics’, which comes from Aristotle and is popular in Greek and Roman philosophy,” says Ellie Anderson, a philosophy professor at Pomona College. This philosophy is about living a moral life by developing good character traits, not just following rules or religion.

“The aura point system is really all about reflecting on your life choices, asking yourself if your everyday actions match your idea of an ethical life,” Anderson says. “It also urges people to talk about their choices with others and consider whether those choices show good judgement.” Even though aura points are about being cool, Anderson believes the whole idea is not purely superficial. For example, someone

might gain aura points for standing up to a bully, or admitting they cheated in a test and accepting the consequences.

Another philosophy professor, Paul Blaschko from the University of Notre Dame, compares aura points to “moral credit”. This means your good actions can balance out bad ones. He explains that the trend turns life into a kind of game, where you gain or lose points based on what you do. It tracks actions and motivates behaviour. Users invite others to judge their actions, comment on them and offer critiques. As a result, they learn to answer for their behaviour and take ownership of their mistakes.

Understand the deeper meaning behind a simple TikTok trend? That’s 1,000 aura points for you.

Adapted from: <https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/article>

1. What are “aura points”, according to the article?
.....(1)

2. What does the jump in TikTok posts with “the hashtag #aurapoints” suggest about the trend?
.....(1)

3. What actions can make someone **lose** aura points? Mention three details.
.....(1)
.....(1)
.....(1)

4. How can aura points help people reflect on their lives?
.....(1)

5. Why are aura points said to turn “life into a kind of game”?
.....(1)

6. What kind of person does the aura points trend **encourage** someone to become? Give three **single adjectives** and support each one with a different quotation from the passage.
.....(1)
.....(1)
.....(1)

TASK 6

(10x0.5=5 marks)

Read the article about four creative minds (A-D) who left their mark on the 20th century. Then answer the questions that follow.

There are TWO extra questions which you do not need to use.

It is so hard to come up with fresh and new ideas but truly great artists have a rare talent that goes beyond just being original. The four artists we are considering all created spectacular work, filled with vision and creativity, which continues to inspire and resonate with us today.

A. Alfred Hitchcock: 1899-1980

Known for using a style where his cameras mimicked a person's point of view, Hitchcock developed a style that allowed audiences to peer into the hidden aspects of people's lives. His films offered an intimate gaze into the strangest – and sometimes darkest – corners of the human soul and mind. To create this 'Hitchcockian' style, he adopted new film technologies and worked with great composers, thinkers, and artists – even asking surrealist Salvador Dali to design a dream sequence. Unlike many artists who experimented across various forms, Hitchcock's artistry remained firmly rooted in the cinematic medium. He gave us cutting-edge cinema that everyone wanted to watch. Many of his best films were adaptations of stories by 20th century writers such as Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca* and Patricia Highsmith's *Strangers on a Train*. He also explored many of the concerns and ideas of his time. *Spellbound* looks at psychoanalysis, while *Rear Window* captures the tension of city life in thrilling fashion. His innovative approach revolutionised the way stories were told on screen.



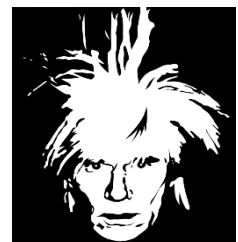
B. Pablo Picasso: 1881- 1973

Picasso explored an astonishing variety of techniques, art forms, and ideas, showing a remarkable ability to combine different creative traditions. From drawing and painting to sculpture and poetry, Picasso never allowed himself to be restricted. He constantly evolved his artistic approaches, influenced by the places he lived – including Madrid, Barcelona, and Paris – as well as the writers and artists he met. Yet a clear sense of how he experienced the world ran through all his work. He summed up his approach when he said, “Others have seen what is and asked why. I have seen what could be and asked why not.” This mindset of always questioning what existed before him helped him shape a new visual language fit for the 20th century. While some artists cut themselves off from society, Picasso always engaged with it. During Spain's civil war in the 1930s, he painted *Guernica*, a striking anti-war statement that drew global attention to the brutal conflict.



C. Andy Warhol: 1928-1987

Taking inspiration from soup cans, rock bands, and abstract films, Warhol influenced both high art and popular culture, and his popularity has never faded. His work accounts for one-sixth of all contemporary art sales, and the magazine he founded, *Interview*, is still in circulation. He also helped launch the career of *The Velvet Underground*, one of the most influential rock groups of all time. For Warhol, art went beyond traditional ‘works’ created in a studio. How he lived, what he did, and what society said about him were just as important as his prints or films. His revolutionary ideas blurred the boundaries between the ‘work’ and its creator, changing how we define and appreciate art. While making his art about himself fascinated academics and collectors, Warhol paid a price for his self-exposure. He was nearly killed by radical feminist Valerie Solanas in 1968, an attack that left him physically and emotionally scarred for the rest of his life. Yet documenting his life became an obsession, anticipating today’s social media-driven, selfie society, decades before anyone had heard of a status update.



D. Virginia Woolf: 1882-1941

Part of the influential Bloomsbury Group of intellectuals who explored new approaches to economics, feminism, pacifism and more, Woolf's writing made sense of a rapidly changing world. Her hugely innovative novels broke traditional rules, adopting fresh narratives and perspectives shaped by the modern age. She embraced controversial issues like mental illness. From the age of 13, she experienced mood swings ranging from severe depression to manic excitement. Despite these challenges, which deeply shaped her writing, she produced brilliant literary works that continue to influence readers today. She even designed book covers and was involved in the visual presentation of books. Remarkably for a woman of her time, she co-founded the Hogarth Press from her home in Richmond, allowing her to publish her own work and support other modern writers at a time when most publishing was controlled by men. Woolf was a passionate champion of women's rights and women writers. She fought for the inclusion of marginalised groups, reshaping how people and their experiences were portrayed in literature.



Adapted from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk>

Which artist...?	
1. seemed to predict today's habit of publicly sharing every aspect of one's life	_____
2. managed to succeed in a field traditionally dominated by the opposite sex	_____
3. preferred to keep their personal struggles separate from their creative work	_____
4. gave voice to overlooked and excluded people	_____
5. made their audience feel like they were secretly watching others	_____
6. avoided public attention and remained anonymous throughout their career	_____
7. raised awareness about a serious political issue	_____
8. drew inspiration from their experiences in various locations	_____
9. remained loyal to a single creative medium throughout their life	_____
10. got ideas from seemingly unrelated sources to shape their work	_____

TASK 7

(5x2=10 marks)

Read the article and answer the questions that follow. For each question, choose the best answer A, B, C or D.

The island that saved its ocean

Made up of 115 islands dotting the Indian Ocean off East Africa, Seychelles is known as a global hotspot for biodiversity and a paradise for nature lovers. With 85% of its animals and 45% of its plant species considered endemic (one famous example is the *coco de mer* palm, which is unique to these islands), the archipelago is often called the "Galapagos of the Indian Ocean." Both on land and in the ocean, various groups are working to preserve this ecological paradise.

This year, after creating a zoning plan and consulting with representatives from the tourism, fishing, petroleum, and conservation sectors, Seychelles is set to implement the *Marine Spatial Planning Initiative*, aimed at protecting 30% of its ocean territory. This initiative focuses on managing the islands' marine resources to preserve the environment. With the "Inner Islands" already impacted by tourism and climate change, the agreement — which includes a deal to write off the national debt in exchange for conservation measures — now targets the seventy-two low-lying coralline "Outer Islands" to prevent further harmful development.

The Aldabra Atoll, a UNESCO World Heritage site and a candidate for UNESCO Biosphere Reserve status, is one of the Seychelles' Outer Islands the initiative will help preserve. This rare cluster of coral reef islands has been protected to some extent in several ways. To begin with, its remote location has acted as a natural barrier to human activity for many years. In addition, strict access laws requiring a special permit, along with the fact that it takes a full day to reach, offer further protection. Despite these measures, the atoll remains vulnerable to climate change. In 1998, the Seychelles lost 90% of its coral reefs due to rising sea temperatures. The creation of thirteen new Marine Protected Areas is part of the initiative to help preserve this fragile ocean territory.

Despite the environmental gains the protection areas will bring, the agreement has not been without its challenges. For example, in these new protected areas — which cover an area the size of Germany — about half of the country's previous fishing areas would be off limits. However, the government claims that the benefits outweigh the drawbacks and maintains that they are working to bridge the gap between the ambitious initiative and the immediate needs of local economies by including stakeholders, such as fishing and tourism workers, in the conversation.

The ocean isn't the only part of Seychelles that's being preserved. On land, the National Parks Authority guards two main areas, Morne Seychellois Park and Praslin National Park, which are not only crucial to the country's conservation efforts but also supply important raw materials to the local population. Morne Seychellois Park, crossed by trails that pass historical ruins from when French and British colonists, as well as Indian and Chinese traders, passed through the islands, covers 20% of the

island's surface and supplies fresh water to locals. Praslin National Park, home to the Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve, is renowned for its rich biodiversity and plays a key role in safeguarding the country's ecological wealth, such as medicinal plants and sustainable timber that locals rely on. Both parks are essential in protecting the Seychelles' endangered ecosystem while supporting the needs of local communities.

The national parks were officially established once the Seychelles started growing as a tourist destination, a few years after the first international airport was built and the island nation gained its independence. Similar to the initiatives at sea, the national park status was meant to help protect the land while creating infrastructure to allow visitors to enjoy it by walking more than fifteen kilometres of trails and viewing its rare bird species and plants.

With all eyes on its landmark conservation goals, Seychelles is gearing up to show how such a small nation can become an example for the many other isolated places facing the effects of climate change. Hopefully, it's not too late.

Adapted from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/travel>

1. The Seychelles is often called “The Galapagos of the Indian Ocean” because_____.

- A. it is home to plants and animals found nowhere else
- B. the majority of inhabitants are environmentally conscious
- C. it is popular as a tourist destination for nature lovers
- D. it is home to a variety of habitats rich in wildlife

2. The Seychelles *Marine Spatial Planning Initiative* aims to _____.

- A. negotiate debts and pay back foreign creditors
- B. aid the sustainable use of the islands' marine environment
- C. fund climate change adaptation projects on the islands
- D. identify areas rich in biodiversity within low-lying coralline islands

3. What is not given as a reason for the partial protection of the Aldabra Atoll?

- A. Its remote location
- B. Government regulations
- C. Long travel time
- D. Its status as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

4. Apart from being conservation hotspots, what else do the National Parks in the Seychelles offer?

- A.** Access to important trade routes with India and China
- B.** Support for rare plant and animal organisations on the island
- C.** Resources that are useful in the daily lives of local communities
- D.** Opportunities to research and document endangered species

5. The purpose of the author is to_____.

- A.** highlight the importance of a controversial global issue
- B.** examine the undesirable impact of a global threat
- C.** illustrate approaches to tackling a global challenge
- D.** discuss the key features of an urgent global concern

TASK 8

(15 marks)

Read the following article about city and country life. Write a summary about the advantages of living in a city, according to the writer.

Your summary should be about 100 words long (and no more than 120 words long). You should use your own words as far as possible.

Country or City – A personal dilemma

When I left London, I eagerly embraced the perks of the countryside, and the benefits were immediate. My insomnia vanished, I felt a sense of freedom, I grew roses in the garden, and I enjoyed the simplicity of buying groceries at the farm shop. I spent evenings staring at flames and found peace in clover fields. For four years, I was happy.

Then a family emergency forced me to move temporarily back to London. Arriving in the city for the first time in four years, I remembered all the things I had lost. For one, I was immediately struck by how convenient life was. Milk was just a short walk away instead of a 15-minute drive. There was no need to plan your day around store opening hours or travel miles just to pick up a prescription. Everything was close at hand, and that ease was a real relief when life got busy.

I don't want to sound ungrateful. When I left East London for Somerset, I was desperate for peace — somewhere quiet enough to hear myself think and write. My desk in the city overlooked a street where someone always seemed to be shouting. But being back in London, the atmosphere was vibrant. Compared to the multiple shades of green I'd grown used to, the city felt like a sensory feast — a paradise of weird fashions, window displays, Christmas lights, and delicious smells at every corner. I wandered the streets delighted by the hustle and bustle.

I must admit I loved going to farm shops, choosing my groceries from yellow butter to muddy eggs. But I'd forgotten the endless variety of food the city offers. I started eating somewhere different every day — Chinese, Mexican, Japanese. It was a food lover's dream. Of course, with that came temptation, and overspending. The countryside did make sustainable living easier. I chopped my own wood, started a vegetable garden, and ate meals straight from it. Still, that simplicity started to feel monotonous.

The novelty of having a garden to myself was replaced by a feeling of profound loneliness, despite all the lovely country friends I had made. In all truth, there was a real sense of community in the countryside. Neighbours looked out for each other. But I was surrounded by families with set routines. In London, I had more opportunities to socialise because life is more spontaneous. For example, many of my friends were single and were often free for brunch, theatre, or cocktails on any random night. That meant I could easily make last-minute plans and enjoy unexpected moments — chats in cafés, bumping into someone from an old job, or overhearing something ridiculous on the bus. Of course, that same bus might have been so crowded you couldn't breathe, but these chance happenings made up for the stress.

London offered a wealth of cultural opportunities. I delighted in seeing the Van Gogh exhibition at the National Gallery, the Turner Prize at Tate Britain, and a modern dance performance at the Southbank Centre. It felt like a gateway to a new world, and I was ecstatic about the plethora of things to see and do. The overstimulation wore me down sometimes, but I felt more alive than I had in years. By comparison, Somerset's lush valleys felt monocultural and flat.

Don't get me wrong. Living in the countryside gave me beautiful moments. It felt like stepping into a fairy tale. But maintaining that dream came with constant chores. Oddly enough, I was more carefree in the city without the burden of having to fill up the oil tank, empty the septic tank or panic about clearing the gutters every time it rained. In London, despite the noise, I was able to leave those daily worries behind and focus more on enjoying life. I noticed that I was fitter too — without needing to drive everywhere, my step count tripled overnight.

Returning to my cottage felt like a comedown. I had missed city life. Now I wonder what to do: return to London, or stay and wait for my mood to shift? Maybe the issue isn't the place, but that I want it all.

Adapted from: <https://www.thetimes.com/life-style>

TASK 9**(15 marks)**

You recently attended a festival. Write an email to an English-speaking friend telling them all about it. In your email, you should:

- say what the festival was about
- describe the activities and atmosphere at the event
- explain why you would/would not recommend it to your friend.

Your email should be between 150-200 words long.

TASK 10**(15 marks)**

In your English class you have been discussing the importance of money. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay in response to the following statement:

Money does not bring happiness.

How far do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer.

Write your essay, giving your views.

Here are two comments from students in your class, but you are free to use any ideas of your own.

Money can't buy
love or true
friendship.

With money, you
can enjoy a
comfortable life and
avoid stress.

Your essay should be between 200 and 250 words long.

- ΤΕΛΟΣ ΕΞΕΤΑΣΗΣ -