

# ENGLISH COMPETITION

## 2020.



EMBERI ERŐFORRÁS  
TÁMOGATÁSKEZELŐ

**FOR YEAR 9 AND 10 STUDENTS IN GRAMMAR AND SECONDARY  
SCHOOLS**

**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR SCHOOL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR CLASS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CATEGORY**

**SCORES: TASK 1** \_\_\_\_\_

**TASK 2** \_\_\_\_\_

**TASK 3** \_\_\_\_\_

**TASK 4** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_



Nemzeti  
Tehetség Program



EMBERI ERŐFORRÁSOK  
MINISZTERIUMA

**TEACHER'S (COORDINATOR'S) SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## TASK 1

In this article some words have been left out. Your task is to fill in the gaps from the list. There is an example (0) at the beginning. There is one extra word that you will not need.



### Teen Climate Change Activist Greta Thunberg Is Time's Youngest Ever "Person Of The Year"<sup>1</sup>

Time Inc.'s "Person of the Year" tradition began in 1927, when the magazine 0)\_\_\_\_\_ 25-year-old aviator Charles Lindbergh for the first nonstop solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean. Though the media franchise has since recognized several young people for their global influence, it has never given the important distinction to a teenager. But then again, few teens are as passionate about their mission as 2019's "Person of The Year"— 16-year-old Swedish climate change 1)\_\_\_\_\_ Greta Thunberg.

Thunberg's rise to global prominence is even more stunning given that just over a year ago, she was a shy 15-year-old 2)\_\_\_\_\_ about the looming threat of climate change. In August 2018, tired of the “refusal” of world leaders to take action, the young girl started camping out in front of the Swedish Parliament every Friday with a sign that said: “School Strike for Climate.”

The teen's singular act of protest soon went 3)\_\_\_\_\_, inspiring kids and adults worldwide to take action. By September 2018, her weekly strike became a global climate change movement called “Fridays for the Future,” with tens of thousands of students 4)\_\_\_\_\_ school on this day to protest the inaction of the leaders of their 5)\_\_\_\_\_ countries.

Her rally cry for progress also encouraged other young activists to begin their own climate change movements. They include 17-year-old Xiye Bastida in New York City, USA; 19-year-old Artemisa Xakriaba in Brasilia, Brazil; 17-year-old Vidit Baya in Udaipur, India; 16-year-old Howey Ou in Guilin, China, and many more. Varshini Prakash, co-founder of the US youth-led Sunrise Movement, says Thunberg "symbolizes the agony, the 6)\_\_\_\_\_, the

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<sup>1</sup> KIM, Ariel (Dec 16, 2019) in *DOGOnews* (<https://www.dogonews.com/2019/12/16/teenage-climate-activist-greta-thunberg-is-times-youngest-person-of-the-year-ever>)

The picture is retrieved from <https://www.dogonews.com/2019/12/16/teenage-climate-activist-greta-thunberg-is-times-youngest-person-of-the-year-ever>



## TASK 2

In this article about fingerprints some parts of the sentences have been left out. Your task is to reconstruct the article by filling the gaps from the list. There is an example (0) at the beginning.



### Why do we have fingerprints?<sup>2</sup>

Ask anyone who has ever watched Law & Order, and they'll tell you 0)\_\_\_\_\_ is to look for fingerprints. Everywhere you go, everything you touch gets the full impact on those funky little spirals on each fingertip. But why? It's not like natural selection would've put whorls and circles on your fingers just 1)\_\_\_\_\_, right?

Well, the first thing to understand about fingerprints is 2)\_\_\_\_\_: as explained by Dr. Michael Roizen, MD, fingerprints are basically 3) \_\_\_\_\_ created by the amniotic fluid that swirls around a baby's fingertips as they touch things. Crazy, huh? Because there's a zillion ways they could be touching stuff, and a zillion ways the fluid could be swirling, it means that nobody — not even identical twins! — have the same fingerprints. That said, just because 4) \_\_\_\_\_ doesn't mean they don't serve a purpose ... even though, as it happens, scientists are still debating exactly what that purpose might be.

Okay, so there are two theories regarding the purpose of fingerprints. For a long time, the dominant thinking has been 5) \_\_\_\_\_, as explained by Live Science, since the little hills and valleys on your fingers presumably work similarly to the tread on your tires, thereby creating a more secure grip. And hey, you know how if your tires go bald, you'll be slipping and sliding all over the road? Fingerprints may perform the same function, since water can slip between the channels.

This theory seems logical enough, but studies have actually found that, at least 6)\_\_\_\_\_, fingerprints seem to reduce friction, rather than aiding it. Weird, right? That doesn't rule out the wet surfaces theory, but it had led to the rise of another, hotly debated notion, first raised by Georges Debrégeas of Sorbonne University: 7)\_\_\_\_\_. For example, one particular type of mechanoreceptor found right beneath the surface of the human

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<sup>2</sup> CONLEY, Nicholas in GRUNGE ([https://www.grunge.com/181050/why-do-we-have-fingerprints/?utm\\_campaign=clip](https://www.grunge.com/181050/why-do-we-have-fingerprints/?utm_campaign=clip))

The picture is retrieved from <https://www.istockphoto.com/ca/vector/a-fingerprint-a-set-of-fingerprints-gm915139858-251861983>



### TASK 3

Your task is to find the missing sentences of the text and put them in the right place. There is an example (0) at the beginning. There are extra two sentences that you do not have to use.



### We really don't know when Betelgeuse is going to explode<sup>3</sup>

But when it does, it's going to look spectacular (once it finally reaches our eyes).

Some scientists spent the holiday season speculating that “very large star” Betelgeuse might be on the verge of exploding (and no, we're not talking about the popularity of the beloved '80's movie or the hit Broadway show). Here's everything you need to know.

0) \_\_\_\_\_ . Even if you don't know the name (outside of the context of saying it three times to make Michael Keaton appear and make fart jokes), you already know Betelgeuse. (It's really pronounced bet-el-geeze, but follow your heart.)  
1) \_\_\_\_\_. That Orion guy doesn't skip deltoid day: Betelgeuse is a red giant so massive that if it sat in the center of our own solar system, it would easily consume Earth—along with Mercury, Venus, Mars, and possibly even Jupiter. 2) \_\_\_\_\_. Possibly around 600 light-years, by the highest estimates, though it may be closer to 400.

The star has always been a ticking time bomb because Betelgeuse is so vibrant and easy to spot, observers have been taking notes on it since the earliest days of astronomy. So we know quite a lot about it, including that it's young (less than 10 million years old, compared to our own sun's 4.6 billion-plus years). 3) \_\_\_\_\_. So even though this brilliant beast is a baby, cosmologically speaking, it's well on its way to going out in a blaze of glory.

Of course, in a universe where 10 million years is nothing but a blip, saying a star is bound to burn out any day now actually means it could linger much, much longer than a human lifetime. Tomorrow? A hundred thousand years from now? Ten or twenty times longer than that? 4) \_\_\_\_\_. But scientists have long pointed out that Betelgeuse's big finale could start playing out at any moment.

What exactly is a supernova, anyway? 5) \_\_\_\_\_. Once they run out of helium and hydrogen as fuel, they start to build up heavier elements in their cores, causing them to implode and grow increasingly hot and dense. 6) \_\_\_\_\_. When Betelgeuse finally explodes, some estimate it will be so bright as to appear like a second moon in the night sky.

Why some have suggested that Betelgeuse is about to explode? Betelgeuse has spent the last few weeks “fainting,” or getting dimmer. This isn't inherently unusual or worrying: The star is known to pulse with varying brightness.

<sup>3</sup> FELTMAN, Rachel (Dec 26, 2019) in *Popular Science* (<https://www.popsci.com/story/space/betelgeuse-star-supernova/>)

The picture is retrieved from [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KeGhT\\_MXdFk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KeGhT_MXdFk)



## TASK 4

The latest Star Wars movie is being dissected and debated around the world.<sup>4</sup> Here are what some San Francisco editors think about the last piece of the famous sci-fi saga.

**WARNING: spoilers.** Your task is to answer the questions related to the four texts (A-D). Please, write the appropriate letter of the text into the box next to the question.



### TEXT A

For decades I never thought I'd see the true end of the Star Wars saga. And after *The Phantom Menace*, I had a few years not wanting to see the end. So when sitting in the theater waiting for *The Rise of Skywalker* to start, I felt all those years of doubt that Disney could bring home the story's conclusion. And in a year when another big series -- *Game of Thrones* -- showed how hard it is to land an ending, I was ready to be disappointed.

But I wasn't: *The Rise of Skywalker* is a dark, entertaining and mainly satisfying end to the nine-movie saga.

The film moves with a frenetic, breathless J.J. Abrams' pace -- best of luck to anyone trying to find a good time for a bathroom break -- and the story is burdened in parts trying to touch on each piece of the 40-plus-year story. Yet by the end, I was content. The movie ticks all the boxes, giving me the conclusion to the grand sci-fi story that for years I didn't think I'd get.

-- Clifford Colby, *San Francisco*

### TEXT B

I've been a fan of Star Wars since the 1970s, so it's always confusing to me when I don't love a Star Wars movie. And I didn't love *The Rise of Skywalker*, although it doesn't betray the franchise in any way. I felt better by reminding myself that while it's not a great ending for a nine-movie saga, it is the ending of the Disney movies that began in 2015. Each of the other two trilogies had their ending, and this is the final chapter of the third one. Lowering those expectations made me feel better.

I went into the movie wanting to digest and enjoy every second. I wanted it to be the dessert of a three-course meal. Instead, J.J. Abrams took me to a Las Vegas buffet: There were new and old characters, new and old creatures, new and old planets, new and old weapons; even new and old storylines. I had no time to consume any of them. The rhythm in this movie is relentless. There are no pauses that allow you to reflect on what you're seeing. At the end of this meal I felt stuffed, but I didn't feel satisfied.

-- Gabriel Sama, *San Francisco*

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<sup>4</sup> TRENHOLM, Richard (Dec 24, 2019) in CNET (<https://www.cnet.com/news/star-wars-the-rise-of-skywalker-global-review-best-and-worst/>)

The picture is retrieved from <https://www.inverse.com/article/59886-star-wars-rise-of-skywalker-spoilers-kylo-comic-book>



## TEXT C

I approached *The Rise of Skywalker* with skepticism. I wasn't a fan of *The Force Awakens* or *The Last Jedi*. But this last *Star Wars* is more of a match for the original trilogy and a fitting homage to the galaxy far, far away. There's lots of humor from the increasing entourage of droids and Finn and Poe's bromance. There's a very tender Reylo moment. Han Solo has another "I know" moment. There are so many action and fight sequences, and horses ride on top of a spaceship! And Rey finally finds out her last name before choosing a much better one.

Now, when can I expect to see Jannah's quest to find out where she's from?

-- Patricia Puentes, San Francisco

## TEXT D

This was a weird experience for me. It was the first time since the prequels I walked out of a *Star Wars* film having not liked it. Thing is, I don't know if there was any way for me to have an overly positive feeling about this movie, since the two previous installments had done very little to get me to care about most of the characters or their plight at all.

There were some things I enjoyed: Multiple light speed jumps is a really cool concept, the Emperor looked disgusting and weird in all the best possible ways, and the "Rey Jedi support" scene was some really cool fan service. But at the end of the day, you have four really talented young actors giving committed performances that were failed by a nonsensical, convoluted script.

-- Eric Franklin, San Francisco

0. Which editor thinks it has a ridiculous script?     D
1. Which editor thinks it is hard to write a proper ending to a big series.
2. Which editor liked the friendship of two important characters?
3. Which editor thinks the film gives a proper ending to the entire saga.
4. Which editor does not care about the new trio's story?
5. Which editor had high expectations before watching the movie?
6. Which editor thinks it really fits well in the original trilogy?
7. Which editor attributes the not-so-great ending to a film studio.?
8. Which editor did not like the prequels?
9. Which editor thinks there were too much of everything in the movie?
10. Which editor prepared himself to be disappointed once the film is over.



