

# ENGLISH COMPETITION

## 2019.



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:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: .....

### Task 1

In this article you are going to read an article about excessive poaching of elephants. Some words are missing from the text. Use the words in brackets to form the words that fit in the gap (1-10). There is an example (0) at the beginning.



## EXCESSIVE POACHING MAY BE CAUSING AFRICAN ELEPHANTS TO EVOLVE WITHOUT TUSKS

By *Shariqua Ahmed* on December 14, 2018

While elephants **0. born** (bear) without tusks are not **1.** \_\_\_\_\_ (hear) of, they normally comprise just 2 to 6 percent of the herd population. However, that is not the case at Mozambique's Gorongosa National Park, where an **2.** \_\_\_\_\_ (astound) 33 percent of female elephants born after the country's civil war ended in 1992, are tuskless. While that may appear to be just a **3.** \_\_\_\_\_ (coincide), Joyce Poole, an elephant behavior expert and National Geographic Explorer, has another theory. The researcher thinks we may be witnessing an unnaturally induced evolution of the species due to the incessant poaching of the mammals for their valuable tusks.

Tusks are overgrown upper incisors which protrude from sockets in the elephant's skull. Unlike our permanent teeth, they continue to grow throughout the animal's life, becoming longer and thicker with age. While humans covet them for **4.** \_\_\_\_\_ (ornament) purposes, the teeth are an essential **5.** \_\_\_\_\_ (survive) tool for elephants. The mammals use tusks for a variety of tasks including, extracting tree bark, digging for water or roots and, in the case of males, even fighting with one another. While poachers usually first target older males due to their impressive tusks, females are not spared either. As a result, in areas where poaching goes **6.** \_\_\_\_\_ (check) for extensive periods of time, the proportion of tuskless females increases. This allows them to gain a biological advantage, resulting in a larger than average population of female offspring with no tusks.

Poole, who also serves as scientific director of nonprofit ElephantVoices, believes this phenomenon explains the **7.** \_\_\_\_\_ (precedent) rise in the number of tuskless females at Gorongosa National Park. The researcher, who has been studying the wildlife sanctuary's elephant population for many years, says prior to the country's 15-year-long civil war, the 100,000 acre-park was home to over 4,000 pachyderms. However, by the time the conflict ended in 1992, about 90 percent of the mammals had been slaughtered for ivory to help finance weapons and meat to feed the soldiers. Of the less than 200 survivors, over 50 percent of the females – 25 years or older – had no tusks. Hence, it is not surprising that the park's tuskless elephant population has grown **8.** \_\_\_\_\_ (substantial).

Name: .....

This is not the first time researchers have observed a drastic change in the population of elephant herds who have suffered severe poaching **9.**\_\_\_\_\_ (**lose**). At the Ruaha National Park in Tanzania, an area which was heavily poached in the 1970s and 1980s, 35% of elephants 25 years or older and 13% of those younger than 25 are now without tusks. A 2008 study published in the African Journal of Ecology found that the number of tuskless females at Zambia’s South Luangwa National Park and adjacent Lupande Game Management Area went from 10.5 percent in 1969 to almost 40 percent in 1989, largely due to illegal hunting for ivory.

Thus far, the genetic consequence of poaching has largely impacted female elephants. Poole explains, “Because males require tusks for fighting,**10.**\_\_\_\_\_ (**tusk**) has been selected against in males, and very few males are tuskless. For African elephants, tuskless males have a much harder time breeding and do not pass on their genes as often as tusked males.”

However, if the slaughtering of males with the most impressive tusks continues at this pace, it could result in a generation of elephants with much smaller tusks. Poole says, “Assuming that poachers select according to tusk size, they will tend to kill older males with very large tusks, thereby taking out of the population of breeding-aged males who also happen to have very big tusks. Those males then no longer pass on their genes for large tusks. In this manner, heavy poaching will select out genes for large tusks.”

The recent ban on ivory in both the US and China should help eliminate, or at least reduce, elephant poaching. However, scientists are not sure how long it will take for the herds with a higher rate of tuskless females, to reverse the trend.

The only silver lining is that the tuskless elephants look healthy, indicating they have learned to adapt without their all-important “tools.” To investigate how the pachyderms are able to thrive without tusks, a team led by University of Idaho researcher Ryan Long recently fitted six adult females, three with tusks and three without, with GPS tracking devices. The researchers plan to monitor the animals for a few years to document the tuskless mammals’ modified lifestyle and assess its impact on the surrounding environment.

[www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com) ([www.awf.org](http://www.awf.org))

- 0. \_\_\_\_\_ **born** \_\_\_\_\_
- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

- 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: .....

## Task 2

Read the following article about the goal of scientist to contact aliens with the help of laser. Some parts of the text have been removed. You must complete the text by matching the missing parts (1-10) with the correct letters (a-l). There is an example (0) at the beginning.



### SCIENTISTS WANT TO USE LASERS TO GUIDE ALIENS TO EARTH. WHAT COULD GO WRONG??

We could build a laser 0. \_\_\_\_\_.

Not we as in the staff of Live Science. (That's probably beyond our skill set.) But we as in humanity. A new paper published yesterday (Nov. 5) in The Astrophysical Journal has found that humanity could feasibly build an infrared laser hot and bright enough that — if we shined it directly at nearby exoplanets — alien astronomers should be able to detect it using sky-watching technology not too much more advanced than our own. (Presuming they're out there, of course.)

It would have to be pretty huge, but not unthinkably so: One possible design the researchers proposed would require a 1 to 2 megawatt laser and at least a 100-foot (30 meter) diameter primary mirror.

It's not clear 1. \_\_\_\_\_, James Clark, a graduate student at MIT and the lead author on the paper, said in a statement. But, he added, "it would certainly attract attention."

The main challenge for building an alien laser beacon, the authors wrote in the paper, 2. \_\_\_\_\_. Instead, it's a relatively minor one of eight planets orbiting a star far brighter than any laser humanity could reasonably hope to produce. From the perspective of an alien astronomer hundreds of light years away, the entirety of human civilization and any infrared source it might produce would be drowned out by the gigantic, white-hot source of light in our local space.

The goal of the laser then, 3. \_\_\_\_\_. Instead, the authors explained, it would be to make our sun look weird enough from an alien perspective to take a second look.

A set of aliens scanning the sky may have noticed that our sun has planets around it, 4. \_\_\_\_\_. But that doesn't seem to be all that rare. Maybe, if they're on Trappist-1, which hosts the largest number of exoplanets that could conceivably have liquid water at their surface, they'll have taken special notice of our system for the same reason we've taken notice of theirs: the possibility of habitable worlds a mere few-dozen light-years away.

However, if we pointed a laser of the scale Clark imagines directly at those aliens while they were looking at our sun, our sun would seem to exhibit some very unusual behavior.

Name: .....

Under normal circumstances, 5. .... And there are patterns to that variation. A focused infrared laser, though, could make our sun's light output vary far more in the infrared spectrum than is normal. Instead of creating a blinking beacon in the dark, 6. ....

If aliens nearby detected the signal and understood its significance, it might be possible to set up a communication channel using lasers with data transfer rates of up to 2 Mbps (megabits per second). That's similar to 7. .... Of course, there would be time delays of decades between the sending and receiving of messages, thanks to the speed of light.

Farther away from Earth, the researchers found, the laser could still be used to broadcast a more general "Hey, we're here!" signal 8. .... (Of course, space is much bigger than that. A 20,000 light-year signal would only reach other stars in our general region of the Milky Way.)

There could be 9. .... Infrared isn't visible to the human eye, but a targeted intense beam could still blind someone. As long as reasonable safety precautions 10. ....

As to whether any of this is a good idea, that's a question for readers to answer for themselves. (Perhaps after reading Cixin Liu's novel "The Three-Body Problem.")

[www.livescience.com](http://www.livescience.com)

- A *a slow modern internet connection*
- B *detectable from up to 20,000 light-years away*
- C *if aliens would immediately recognize the laser as a signal from intelligent life- forms*
- D *is that Earth isn't alone in space*
- E *or that at least one of those planets might possibly be habitable*
- F *some dangers to shining a super-bright infrared laser into the sky*
- G *stars vary a bit in terms of how much light they produce*
- H ~~*that could send signals to extraterrestrial intelligence*~~
- I *the laser would make our sun appear to be an existing light that had gone wonky*
- J *to prevent anyone from looking into it were taken though, it should be fine, they wrote*
- K *whether aliens would be scared*
- L *wouldn't be to create a blinking beacon in the darkness for aliens to sit up and notice*

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>H</b>										

Name: .....

### Task 3

Read the review on the recently released horror movie titled *Escape Room*. Your task is to put the missing sentences in the text. There is an example (0) at the beginning.



### ‘ESCAPE ROOM’ REVIEW: SIX PEOPLE, ONE HIGH-CONCEPT HORROR MOVIE, NO EXIT

(0) *A group must get through puzzle-solving levels of a deadly mystery game — or die tryin’ — in decent attempt to cash in on pop party fad*

By David Fear

The premise is simple: (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Inside this elaborate gift — think the Hellraiser cube, only a wee bit more benign — is an invite for a free session at an exclusive Chicago escape room. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ All of them trying to figure out why a corporate hotshot (*Insecure*’s Jay Ellis), a shy college student (Taylor Russell), an Iraqi War Veteran (Deborah Ann Woll), a trucker (Tyler Labine), a chain-smoking misfit (Logan Miller) and a gaming-enthusiast nerd apparently ordered from Central Casting (Nik Dodani) would be gathered together for an afternoon of team-building exercises.

Better save that brain power, people, because the penthouse waiting room where you’re discussing possible reasons for this random shindig while idly flipping through magazines? (3) \_\_\_\_\_ And yes, that ceiling grate and those pillars did just turn into makeshift oven burners! Puzzle clues are spotted and sussed out, last-minute exits are made before this ragtag band of players become human BBQ and safety is temporarily achieved. (4) \_\_\_\_\_ It’s all over but the shouting — and the baroque obstacle courses revolving around hypothermia, drowning, plummeting down elevator shafts, poison gas, etc.

Like Ouija boards and amusement parks, the newly popular past time of getting locked into a customized room with your friends and having to go full-tilt Hercule Poirot to find your way out is ripe for the horrorsploitation racket. (5) \_\_\_\_\_ And while using your wits and smarts is an essential part of beating the clock with these outings, *Escape Room* is pure No-Brainer Scary Moviemaking 101: get some photogenic actors, figure out creative ways to off them, push some phobic buttons, leave things open for a franchise and stay on-brand. Which director Adam Robitel and screenwriters Bragi F. Schut and Maria Melnik do really well, for a

Name: .....

little while. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ — especially if it involves, say, an upside down pool room where the floor boards keep dropping out to reveal a 10-story free-fall into the abyss.

Yes, there is indeed a connection between all these seemingly disparate folks, one besides the fact that they all live in a universe in which no one has ever seen any of the Saw movies. (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Even the digs at multinational corporate manipulation and class disparity — the filthy rich play a part in these evil shenanigans, but this is America; don't they always? — feel a little phoned in. (8) \_\_\_\_\_ You'll see worse movies this January. (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (Fingers crossed that 2019 is the year we finally get the Great Cinnamon Eating and/or Ice-Bucket Challenge Thriller!) (10) \_\_\_\_\_.

(www.rollingstones.com)

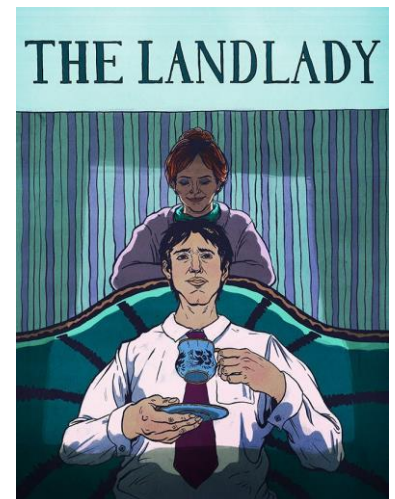
- A *The best thing you can say about Escape Room is that for most of it, you're not desperately searching for the exit sign.*
- B *(Once some filmmaker figures out how to place an escape room inside an amusement park filled with Ouija boards, they are going to sprain their wrists from counting piles of money.)*
- C *A group of folks who don't know each other receive a mysterious box in the mail.*
- D *They also figure out that the promise of an "immersive experience" was really a euphemism for "repeated life-or-death trials designed for maximum violent fatalities."*
- E *You'll see better horror movies this year.*
- F *They know how to milk an individual set piece for thrills and chills*
- G *They show up on the appointed date and time.*
- H *Once this pattern is revealed and the film becomes more of a stuck-on-simmer conspiracy potboiler, the returns begin exponentially diminishing.*
- I *It's part of the game!*
- J *You may even see more craven cash-ins on pop fads over the next 12 months.*
- K ~~*A group must get through puzzle-solving levels of a deadly mystery game — or die tryin' — in decent attempt to cash in on pop party fad*~~

<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>K</b>										

Name: .....

#### Task 4

There are some instalments from *The Landlady*, a short story written by Roald Dahl. Your task is to put in the missing letters on their lines in the text. There is an example (0) for you.



„On the other hand, a pub would be more (0) *con g e n i a l* than a boarding-house. There would be beer and darts in the evenings, and lots of people to talk to, and it would pro \_\_\_\_\_ be a good bit cheaper, too. He had stayed a couple of nights in a pub once before and he had liked it. He had never stayed in any boarding-houses, and, to be per \_\_\_\_\_ honest, he was a tiny bit fri \_\_\_\_\_ of them. The name itself con \_\_\_\_\_ up images of watery cabbage, rap \_\_\_\_\_ landladies, and a powerful smell of kip \_\_\_\_\_ in the living-room.” (...)

“But I’m always ready. Everything is always ready day and night in this house just on the off-  
ch \_\_\_\_\_ that an acc \_\_\_\_\_ young gentleman will come along. And it is such a  
ple \_\_\_\_\_, my dear, such a very great pleasure when now and again I open the door and I see  
someone standing there who is just ex \_\_\_\_\_ right.” She was half-way up the stairs, and she  
pa \_\_\_\_\_ with one hand on the st \_\_\_\_\_-ra \_\_\_\_\_, turning her head and smiling down at him with  
pale lips. “Like you,” she added, and her blue eyes travelled sl \_\_\_\_\_ all the way down the  
length of Billy’s body, to his feet, and then up again.

On the first-floor landing she said to him, “This floor is mine.” (...)

„He found the gu \_\_\_\_\_-b \_\_\_\_\_ lying open on the piano, so he took out his pen and wrote down  
his name and ad \_\_\_\_\_. There were only two other ent \_\_\_\_\_ above his on the page, and, as  
one always does with guest-books, he started to read them. One was a Christopher Mulholland  
from Cardiff. The other was Gregory W. Temple from Bristol. That’s funny, he thought  
sud \_\_\_\_\_. Christopher Mulholland. It rings a bell. Now where on earth had he heard that  
rather un \_\_\_\_\_ name before?” (...)



Name: .....

“Eton schoolboy?” she said. “Oh no, my dear, that can’t pos \_\_\_\_\_ be right because my Mr Mulholland was cer \_\_\_\_\_ not an Eton schoolboy when he came to me. He was a Cambridge und \_\_\_\_\_. Come over here now and sit next to me and warm yourself in front of this lovely fire. Come on. Your tea’s all ready for you.” She pa \_\_\_\_\_ the empty place beside her on the sofa, and she sat there smiling at Billy and waiting for him to come 380 over. He crossed the room slowly, and sat down on the edge of the sofa. She placed his te \_\_\_\_\_ on the table in front of him.

“There we are,” she said. “How nice and cosy this is, isn’t it?”

Billy started si \_\_\_\_\_ his tea. She did the same. For half a minute or so, neither of them spoke. But Billy knew that she was looking at him. Her body was ha\_\_-tu \_\_\_\_\_ towards him, and he could feel her eyes re\_\_\_\_\_ on his face, watching him over the rim of her teacup. Now and again, he caught a whiff of a pec\_\_\_\_\_ smell that seemed to ema \_\_\_\_\_ directly from her person. It was not in the least unp \_\_\_\_\_, and it reminded him – well, he wasn’t quite sure what it reminded him of. Pickled walnuts? New leather? Or was it the co \_\_\_\_\_ of a hospital? (...)



