

APROB

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Comandor

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Part I – READING 30p

Read the following text:

Somewhere in the world, every hour of every day, the Flintstones, originally called the Flagstones, is being broadcast. An incredible 300 million fans tune in to watch it regularly. Recently, all 166 episodes were broadcast nonstop on television across the U.S.A. Not bad for a cartoon, which was badly received by the critics on its first run 38 years ago.

Cartoonist Bill Hanna and Joseph Barbera are the men responsible for the Flintstones. They decided to create a family and give them the same problems as contemporary suburban families, but with something very different about them. The characters were drawn initially as pilgrims, Romans, Eskimos, cowboys and everything imaginable. Then an artist came up with a sketch using leopard skins on Neanderthal type characters. Drawing the characters with everyday objects wasn't funny, so they tried stone and other prehistoric materials. The result was a whole lot of clever Stone Age gadgets and endless jokes about rocks, which is why the Flintstones' neighbors go to be called "Rubble" and why they all live in "Bedrock". Fred Flintstone's famous yell – "yabba dabba doo" – wasn't originally in the script. It was the man behind Fred's voice, Alan Reed, who made it up.

On 30 September 1960, the first episode was shown. Most of the reviews were negative, some even hostile, but the viewers absolutely loved it. Since then it has been translated into 22 languages and has been seen in nearly every country in the world.

I. According to the text, what do the names/figures/years refer to:

- 1. The Flintstones 1p
- 2. The Flagstones 1p
- 3. 300 million 1p
- 4. B. Hanna and J. Barbera 1p
- 5. Rubble 1p
- 6. Bedrock 1p
- 7. 30 September 1960 1p
- 8. Alan Reed 1p

II. Answer the following questions in no more than 12-15 words:

- 1. How were the characters originally drawn? 7p
- 2. What was the reaction to the first episode? 7p
- 3. How did the famous yell appear? 8p

Part II – USE OF ENGLISH 30p

Supply the correct form of the verb in brackets:

1. Mother (fry) some fish at the moment; she usually (cook) at this time of the day. 2p
2. When we (arrive) at the theatre, some other people (sit) in our seats. 2p
3. She (work) in the kitchen for more than an hour when I (get) home. 2p
4. When he finally (come), we already (wait) for more than an hour. 2p
5. John just (go) out when I (call) at his house. 2p

Complete the sentences below:

1. It's a pity she didn't catch the train.
I wish 5p
2. You had only to ask me to find out what really happened there.
If you 5p
3. Nobody could do anything to help them.
Nothing 5p
4. "Why don't you tell me what happened?"
I asked him 5p

Part III – WRITING 30p

You have a new pen friend from the U.S.A. She has written to you asking about life in your country. Write a letter to her about shopping, food, entertainment and TV and think of some more topics of your own.

Your letter should be 15 lines (between 120–180 words) long.

10 puncte din oficiu.

Punctaj total 100 puncte.