

A P R O B

PREȘEDINTELE COMISIEI EXAMENULUI DE DIPLOMĂ

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PROBA LA LIMBA ENGLEZĂ

Part I—Reading

Read the following text:

Paul Gauguin was born in 1848 in Paris. At the age of three he and his family went to live in Lima, Peru, where they stayed until 1855. As a young man Gauguin worked as a stockbroker in Paris, but painted in his free time. In 1873 he married Danish Mette Sophie Gad who, over the next ten years gave birth to his five children. He began working with artist Camille Pissarro in 1874, showing his work at every Impressionist Exhibition between 1879 and 1886 and by 1884 Gauguin had moved with his family to Copenhagen, where he unsuccessfully pursued a business career. He returned to Paris in 1885 to paint full time, leaving his family in Denmark.

In 1885 Gauguin met Edgar Degas and in the following year he met Charles Laval and Emile Bernard in Pont-Aven and Vincent van Gogh in Paris. Under the influence of Bernard, Gauguin turned away from impressionism and adopted a less naturalistic style, which he called synthetism. Features of his painting at this time were the use of bright colors and thick, flat shapes which lacked any sense of perspective. With Laval he traveled to Panama and Martinique in 1887 in search of more exotic subject matter. He turned to primitive cultures more and more for inspiration.

In 1891 Gauguin was forced to auction his paintings to raise money for a voyage to Tahiti, which he undertook that same year. Two years later illness forced him to return to Paris. He was able to return to Tahiti in 1895, but remained weak and ill. Suffering from depression he unsuccessfully attempted suicide in January 1898, not long after completing his mural-sized painting *Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going?* In 1901 he moved to the Marquesas Islands in French Polynesia, where he died on May 3rd, 1903.

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

- | | |
|--------------------|----|
| 1. 1855..... | 1p |
| 2. 1873..... | 1p |
| 3. Pissaro..... | 1p |
| 4. Copenhagen..... | 1p |
| 5. 1887..... | 1p |
| 6. Pont-Aven..... | 1p |
| 7. 1901..... | 1p |
| 8. Denmark..... | 1p |

II. Using your own words, answer the following questions in no more than 12-15 words:

1. What did he do for a living until 1885?..... 7p
2. Which were the features of his paintings during the *Synthetism* period? 8p
3. What did he do to go to Tahiti?..... 7p

Part II—Use of English

1. Supply the correct form of the verb in brackets:

- They generally (go)....abroad for their holidays, but this year they (stay).....at home. 2p
The phone (ring)....while I (have).....lunch. 2p
I (see)....him six months ago, but I (not see).....him since. 2p
He (not tell).....anybody what he (do) 2p
He (leave).....his job last month and (be)....out of work ever since. 2p

2. Complete the following sentences with only ONE word:

One of the worst journeys I have ever experienced occurred a few weeks ago. I
(1).....booked a cheap flight to Switzerland so the ticket could not be changed
(2).....any way. (3).....I missed the flight, I would not be (4).....to use the ticket
for any alternative journey.
When I reached the railway station, I was told that (5).....the trains were running late; this
meant I would (6).....the connecting train for the airport. A loudspeaker announcement
helpfully (7).....us that an extra train would (8).....provided, so we need not worry.
Nothing could have been further from the (9)..... The extra train did not arrive. I inquired
(10).....buses, but the last one for the airport had left! Of course, I never caught my plane.

Part III—Writing

30p

You have recently seen a movie. Write a letter to a friend telling him about the movie. Include the following points:

- three things you liked about it
- three things you disliked about it
- whether it's worth seeing

Your letter should be 15 lines long.