

- ◆ Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. Se acordă 10 puncte din oficiu.
- ◆ Timpul efectiv de lucru este de 3 ore.

SUBJECT 1**30 points****a. Read the text below and sum it up in about 50 words.****10 points**

"Today's the day I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth". . . Lou Gehrig saying good-bye to the fans at Yankee Stadium on July 4th, 1939. A hardworking ballplayer, dedicated to his family, Gehrig was courageous in his battle against a fatal disease. He was a role model, the type of athlete that commentator Frank Deford says you don't hear much about these days.

The crux of the issue separating owners and players in all sports involves the question: How are players perceived? The players' unions – and this is a matter that crosses all sports lines – maintain that players are just like everybody else, while the owners argue that players are very special folks. Crazy, isn't it?

The buzzword is *role model*. For some reason, people are embarrassed to even use the word *hero* anymore. So ballplayers are, well maybe they are, role models. Unfortunately, being a role model is like being tall, or bald, or freckled. You don't have any control over it. And like it or not, kids are always going to make ballplayers their heroes, their role models. This is one of the reasons that ballplayers get paid much more than most other folks.

So, I'm getting very tired of players and the players' union people saying "they don't want to be role models; they're just like everybody else." I'm also getting very tired of people dredging up poor Babe Ruth's name and then putting him down. Babe Ruth was a terrific hero in his time. People say, "See! What a sham it all is! Babe Ruth drank too much, he ate too much, and he chased women." Yeah, but who knew? What they knew was he hit home runs.

I think ballplayers, in their selfishness and their self-centered escape mode, miss the point. Of course children should choose saints and statesmen and educators and preachers as their role models, but you know very well that they're not going to; that's why they're children, and also why they grow up to be grown-ups.

Do you know who children also choose as their role models? Well, rock singers, disc jockeys, anybody older who drives a red sports car, comedians who say very dirty words out loud. These, by and large, are today's role models for today's children. And, by comparison, ballplayers, I think, make very good role models, indeed. I think the unions ought to recognize that and make the players aware of it, too.

I have no idea where the idea grew up that sport was supposed to be perfect. And just because it isn't, then everyone can go around talking about Babe Ruth's failures and abdicate all personal responsibility themselves. Children are going to look up to ballplayers, and so, for that matter, will some adults. And in a very honest way, this shows what a healthy society we really are. Heroes have never been gods. Heroes, OK, "role models," are very human, and what is more human than a young man with a number on his back able to deal with curve balls better than temptation? We're in a sorry state if we can't relax and let ballplayers be heroes, the way they're supposed to.

(Frank Deford, *Have All The Heroes Died?*)

b. Answer the following questions. Do not quote from the text. Use your own words.**20 points**

1. Why does the author say that he's getting very tired of players and the players' union people saying "they don't want to be role models"?
2. Why shouldn't we think of heroes as gods?

SUBJECT 2**30 points**

a. Use the word in bold type at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. **5 points**

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| 1. A shop has to be friendly even when dealing with a rude customer. | assist |
| 2. Lifeguards have to be brave as they often find themselves in situations. | danger |
| 3. Teachers need to be very with their students. | patience |
| 4. Fashion designers should be very so that they can come up with new designs. | create |
| 5. She liked him despite his | responsible |

b. Complete the following making a sentence out of each. **10 points**

1. They deny
2. She is supposed to dinner.
3. I wish they soon.
4. He'd rather yesterday.
5. But for,

c. Look carefully at each line. Some lines are correct, but some have a word that should not be there. On your answer sheet, put a tick next to the numbers indicating each correct line. If a line contains a word that should not be there, write the word next to the number corresponding to each line. **15 points**

Women never generally live six years longer than men. Evidence suggests that boys are the more weaker sex because more boys than girls die in infancy. Also the women do not have as much heart disease as men. In terms of lifestyles, the men smoke more than women and thus die of smoking-related diseases. They also drink a lot many and are generally more aggressive in behaviour, so they are more likely to die in the accidents. Also, they have more dangerous occupations, such as building work.	1 ...
Historically, women died in at childbirth and men in wars. Therefore, philosophers and nuns often lived to the great ages. Now childbearing is less risky and there are more fewer wars. The country with the highest life expectancy is Japan, where the average age for the men is 76 and for women 82.	2 ...
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SUBJECT 3**30 points**

Write a five-paragraph opinion essay starting from this quotation:

Throughout history, the achievements of women have been largely ignored.

Support your opinions with relevant ideas and examples from your personal experience, reading or observation. Write about 300 words/ 30 lines.