

## DRŽAVNA STOPNJA TEKMOVANJA S PODROČJA ANGLEŠČINE ZA UČENKE IN UČENCE 8. RAZREDA OSNOVNE ŠOLE

3. MAREC 2025

### 8. RAZRED

NALOGA	MOŽNE TOČKE
<b>A. Bralno razumevanje</b>	
1.a THE 2024 PARIS OLYMPIC GAMES	5
1.b THE 2024 PARIS OLYMPIC GAMES	5
2. TOKAIDO SHINKANSEN MARKS 60TH ANNIVERSARY	10
<b>B. Raba jezika</b>	
1. GMAIL REVOLUTIONIZED EMAIL 20 YEARS AGO	10
2. BEST OF 2024: AMAZING WORLD RECORDS SET BY KIDS	9
<b>C. Pisno sporočanje</b>	
1. 2024 IN A WORD	20
<b>Skupaj:</b>	<b>59</b>

#### Drage tekmovalke in dragi tekmovalci!

Pred vami je tekmovalna pola z nalogami državne stopnje tekmovanja s področja angleščine. Vsebuje naloge bralnega razumevanja, rabe jezika in pisnega sporočanja.

**Rešitve nalog bralnega razumevanja in rabe jezika napišite na dodatni A4 list za odgovore, na katerega prilepite svojo šifro.**

**Pisni sestavek napišite na največ dva dodatna črtasta A4 lista (pišite le na prvo stran posameznega A4 lista). Na vsakega prilepite svojo šifro.**

**NA A3 TEKMOVALNO POLO LAHKO PIŠETE, VENDAR DRŽAVNA TEKMOVALNA KOMISIJA NE BO VREDNOTILA TEH ZAPISOV.**

Svetujemo vam, da preletite vse tekmovalne naloge in skrbno preberete navodila. Sami se odločite, po kakšnem vrstnem redu jih boste reševali. Pišite čitljivo, z nalivnim peresom ali kemičnim svinčnikom, nikakor ne s svinčnikom, sicer zapisanega ne bomo vrednotili. Če se zmotite, to prečrtajte in napišite ali označite novo rešitev. Nejasni popravki oziroma rešitve, napisane čez prvotno zapisane rešitve (npr. črke ali besede), bodo vrednoteni kot napačni. Korekturna sredstva niso dovoljena.

Če vam čas dopušča, rešitve vseh nalog in svoje besedilo še preverite. Slovarjev in drugih pripomočkov na tekmovanju ne morete uporabljati. Pojasnila vam lahko poda nadzorni učitelj le pred tekmovanjem, pozneje to ne bo več mogoče.

Za reševanje tekmovalnih nalog imate na voljo **90 minut**. Želimo vam veliko uspeha!

### 1. THE 2024 PARIS OLYMPIC GAMES

#### Read the text and do tasks A and B.

I The 2024 Paris Olympic Games opened on 26 July and closed on 11 August. During this time, global attention was fixed not only on the performance of its athletes, but also on its management.

II A **global** event such as the Olympic Games has the potential for numerous major disruptions. Indeed, early on opening day, saboteurs struck the train network with a series of co-ordinated arson attacks that led to havoc for those travelling to the Games. Although most trains resumed normal operating times by the following day, the disruption drew criticisms about security gaps and the safety of the Games.

III The suitability of the River Seine to host swimming races was another criticism levelled at organisers. A reported 1.4 billion euros was spent ensuring the water met official standards after its century-long swimming ban but despite this, some training sessions were cancelled and races were postponed, due to high levels of bacteria, which led to criticisms that back-up plans were lacking and races should have taken place in a reserve location. The Olympic Village too attracted its share of complaints. Built in part to help diminish the Parisian housing crisis, issues such as the lack of usable air conditioning in a heatwave added to existing ethical concerns surrounding the repurposing of industrial warehousing, which reportedly displaced vulnerable migrants and squatters.

IV The Seine's clean-up and new low-cost housing created by the Olympic Village are meant to outlast the sporting events and create a legacy to boost the City of Paris' reputation, but criticisms viewed by its global audience may have caused reputational damage. Although the Paris organisers responded to suggested reports of sickness caused by contaminated river water, the World Aquatics body simply deferred to the Paris organisers' comments, potentially giving the impression that they were not aware of or interested in the issues.

V However, despite these challenges, one of the major risks, that of a disruptive cyber security breach, appeared not to materialise. Vincent Strubel, director general of ANSSI, France's national cybersecurity agency, said: "The Games are facing an unprecedented level of threat, but we've also done an unprecedented amount of preparation work, so I think we're a step ahead of the attackers."

VI Another success story is the physical integrity of the Games. Tens of thousands of police officers and military personnel guarded Olympic venues, tourist attractions, and the streets to prevent disorder, not least during the ambitious opening ceremony that used miles of the River Seine instead of a traditional stadium. The physical presence of the police and military not only served as a deterrent to potential criminals, but also provided visitors with confidence that they would be safe. Routes around venues were also managed with precision, with visitors channelled down selected, guarded streets with surrounding roads closed off. Metro stations were also closed around venue hubs, reducing the risk of disruptive events on urban transit and pushing visitors above ground where they could be more easily monitored. Critical national infrastructures such as water and power supplies did not buckle under the strain.

VII Despite some issues, which are to be expected in an undertaking of such magnitude, the majority of commentators have widely hailed the Games as a success story. On the whole, Paris 2024 proved well organised and resilient, and emerged relatively unscathed from a global event that is challenged by numerous risks and played out in the public eye. Indeed, a reported record-breaking 9.7 million tickets sold this time, a marker of the Games' continuing popularity and success stories coming out of it.

**A) Read the whole article and for each question (1–5) choose the correct answer (A–D). Write the answers on the answer sheet. One example (0) has been done for you.**

**0. What was one of the major criticisms of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games management?**

- A. The physical presence of police and military was unnecessary.
- B. The river was not safe for swimming races because of contamination.**
- C. The event did not sell enough tickets to cover organisational costs.
- D. There was a lack of proper response to cyber security threats.

**1. What was one of the moral issues associated with the Olympic Village?**

- A. Converting old warehouses for new functions forced migrants and squatters to leave.
- B. During a heatwave, migrants and squatters had to endure poor air conditioning.
- C. The village was built too far from the city center forcing athletes to use private transport.
- D. The lack of available green public transport for athletes raised concerns.

**2. How did the organisers address the potential threat of cyber security attacks during the Games?**

- A. By preparing beforehand and anticipating potential breaches.
- B. By ignoring the threat and focusing on physical security.
- C. By dismissing cybersecurity as a non-critical issue.
- D. By relocating critical events to low-risk venues.

**3. What innovative approach was taken during the opening ceremony of the Games?**

- A. It was held in multiple smaller venues across the city.
- B. It was held in a traditional stadium.
- C. It took place near the banks of the River Seine.
- D. It was held on the River Seine.

**4. Why were metro stations closed around central sporting events during the Games?**

- A. To encourage visitors to use greener means of transport.
- B. To enable free access to previously closed roads.
- C. To lessen the chance of incidents on public transport.
- D. To provide a direct transport route to the river.

**5. What aspect of the Games was highlighted as a sign of success?**

- A. The quantity of tickets purchased.
- B. The number of commentators participating.
- C. The completion of new venues.
- D. The number of athletes participating.

(5 points)

**B) In the text, find the word for each definition. Write the answers on the answer sheet. Do not change the words and mind the spelling. One example (0) has been done for you.**

**0. relating to the world, worldwide (paragraph II)**

- 1. triggered a reaction or response (paragraph II)
- 2. an official order that prevents something from happening (paragraph III)
- 3. without protection, easily hurt physically or emotionally (paragraph III)
- 4. the long-lasting impact of something that took place in the past (paragraph IV)
- 5. a state of untidiness or lack of organization (paragraph VI)

(5 points)

Adapted from: <https://www.thebci.org/news/paris-2024-olympic-games-a-test-of-resilience-played-out-under-the-global-public-eye.html> (13. 12. 2024)

## 2. TOKAIDO SHINKANSEN MARKS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Read the text and choose the missing parts of sentences (A–O) to fill in the gaps (1–10). There are four parts of sentences too many. Write the answers on the answer sheet. One example (0) has been done for you.

The Tokaido Shinkansen, a Japanese high-speed rail line, marked its 60th anniversary on October 1, 2024, with a commemorative ceremony at Tokyo Station held by Central Japan Railway (JR Tokai) \_\_\_\_0\_\_\_\_. Nine officials, including JR Tokai President Shunsuke Niwa and Stationmaster Katsuyuki Wachi, were in attendance, as crowds of train enthusiasts watched the 6 a.m. departure of the Nozomi No. 1 bound for Hakata Station in Fukuoka Prefecture.

When Wachi raised his right hand to signal the departure, the Nozomi No. 1 gave a resounding horn blast \_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_. "I'm glad I got to hear the horn," said Kota Murano, a 14-year-old student from Toshima Ward in Tokyo, who arrived at around 5 a.m. with friends \_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_.

Among those celebrating the anniversary was 57-year-old Junko Sanuki, \_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_. She has witnessed the evolution of onboard services — from dining cars and cafeterias to wagon sales and smartphone orders — all while serving countless passengers.

Growing up in a house with views of the Sanyo Shinkansen, Sanuki joined the company \_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_. She started by selling sandwiches and other goods on board, and became a waitress in the dining car in her second year. Popular dishes at the time included curry rice and hamburg steak.

Back then, large tour groups were common, and she recalls carrying as many as eight bottles of beer at a time in the swaying cars. Despite the demanding, overnight shifts, her supervisors and colleagues provided crucial support. About 15 people worked in the dining car at any given time. However, what Sanuki fondly remembers is \_\_\_\_5\_\_\_\_, spending time like a family.

Sanuki also sometimes handled wagon sales. One summer day, she served 24 ice creams in just one car — a memory that remains vivid for her. "It wasn't even a tour group, so I was surprised at \_\_\_\_6\_\_\_\_," she remarked.

As train travel times shortened, \_\_\_\_7\_\_\_\_. Dining cars were discontinued in 2000, followed by cafeterias in 2003. Wagon sales also ended in October 2023, with services now transitioning to a "mobile order" system, where passengers in the green cars place orders via smartphone.

After many years aboard the Shinkansen, Sanuki has noticed how travel has become more accessible, \_\_\_\_8\_\_\_\_. While communication with foreign tourists via translation devices has become more challenging recently, she always has a smile on her face. "I guess I'll keep going just a little longer," she said with a chuckle.

The Tokaido Shinkansen began service between Tokyo and Shin-Osaka on October 1, 1964, just before the Tokyo Olympics. The new "Dream Superexpress" cut travel time between the two major cities from 6.5 hours on conventional lines to 4 hours. Today, the train operates at a top speed of 285 kilometers per hour, with the fastest service \_\_\_\_9\_\_\_\_.

With 372 trains running daily, \_\_\_\_10\_\_\_\_, the Tokaido Shinkansen has become Japan's primary transportation artery. However, the Shinkansen is highly vulnerable to disruptions during natural disasters. JR Tokai is pushing for the early launch of a magnetic levitation line to mitigate this risk.

A	after graduating high school in Hyogo Prefecture
B	and is the longest-serving train attendant on the Shinkansen
C	as it set off
D	completing the journey in just 2 hours and 21 minutes
E	dining cars were replaced with cafeterias offering takeout
F	how much we sold
G	how they would travel and go skiing together
H	making it easier for all kinds of people to use the service
I	that used to commute on the train daily
J	to make it even more beloved by everyone
<b>K</b>	<b><i>to send off the first train of the day</i></b>
L	to watch the event
M	transporting around 430,000 passengers on average
N	where we travelled together
O	who has spent 40 years working on the iconic line



(10 points)

Adapted from/image: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/10/01/japan/japan-tokaido-shinkansen-60-years/> (8. 12. 2024)

## B. Raba jezika

### 1. GMAIL REVOLUTIONIZED EMAIL 20 YEARS AGO

Read the text and fill in the gaps (1–10) with the appropriate words (A–P) from the box. Write the answers on the answer sheet. There are five words too many. One example (0) has been done for you.

A boasting B came C consistently D design E former F initially G leap H made  
I offer J past ~~K pulling~~ L running M shortly N showing O threaded P worthwhile

Google co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin loved \_\_\_0\_\_\_ pranks, so much so they began rolling outlandish ideas every April Fools' Day not long after starting their company more than a quarter century ago. One year, Google posted a job opening for a Copernicus research center on the moon. Another year, the company said it planned to roll out a "scratch and sniff" feature on its search engine.

The jokes were so \_\_\_1\_\_\_ over-the-top that people learned to laugh them off as another example of Google mischief. And that's why Page and Brin decided to unveil something no one would believe was possible 20 years ago on April Fools' Day.

It was Gmail, a free service \_\_\_2\_\_\_ one gigabyte of storage per account, an amount that sounds almost pedestrian in an age of one-terabyte iPhones. But it sounded like a preposterous amount of email capacity back then, enough to store about 13,500 emails before \_\_\_3\_\_\_ out of space compared to just 30 to 60 emails in the then-leading webmail services run by Yahoo and Microsoft. That translated into 250 to 500 times more email storage space.

Besides the quantum \_\_\_4\_\_\_ in storage, Gmail also came equipped with Google's search technology so users could quickly retrieve a tidbit from an old email, photo or other personal information stored on the service. It also automatically \_\_\_5\_\_\_ together a string of communications about the same topic so everything flowed together as if it was a single conversation.

"The original pitch we put together was all about the three 'S's' — storage, search and speed," said former Google executive Marissa Mayer, who helped \_\_\_6\_\_\_ Gmail and other company products before later becoming Yahoo's CEO.

It was such a mind-bending concept that \_\_\_7\_\_\_ after The Associated Press (AP) published a story about Gmail late on the afternoon of April Fools' 2004, readers began calling and emailing to inform the news agency it had been duped by Google's pranksters.

"That was part of the charm, making a product that people won't believe is real. It kind of changed people's perceptions about the kinds of applications that were possible within a web browser," \_\_\_8\_\_\_ Google engineer Paul Buchheit recalled during a recent AP interview about his efforts to build Gmail.

The AP knew Google wasn't joking about Gmail because an AP reporter had been abruptly asked to come down from San Francisco to the company's Mountain View, California, headquarters to see something that would make the trip \_\_\_9\_\_\_ and significant.

Nowadays Gmail has an estimated 1.8 billion active accounts — each one now offering 15 gigabytes of free storage bundled with Google Photos and Google Drive. Even though that's 15 times more storage than Gmail \_\_\_10\_\_\_ offered, it's still not enough for many users who rarely see the need to purge their accounts, just as Google hoped.

(10 points)

Adapted from: <https://apnews.com/article/google-gmail-anniversary-email-web-application-8ca1601944845282ecbc87ac9c335a6e> (9. 12. 2024)

## 2. BEST OF 2024: AMAZING WORLD RECORDS SET BY KIDS

Read the text and fill in the gaps (1–9) with one word only. Write the answers on the answer sheet. Mind the spelling. One example (0) has been done for you.

As 2024 comes to an end, it's time \_\_\_0\_\_\_ our annual look over the incredible world records achieved in the past 12 months. This year has been nothing short of extraordinary, with some of the most remarkable milestones being set by kids and teens!

### Sophia Hayden

Sophia Hayden from Washington, USA, set the cozy world record for the \_\_\_1\_\_\_ sweaters worn at once with a sweat-inducing total of 45 sweaters. Her clever strategy? Layering \_\_\_2\_\_\_ with sweaters of gradually increasing sizes, starting with the smallest and working her way up to the largest.

### Aaryan Shukla

13-year-old maths prodigy Aaryan Shukla from Maharashtra, India, stunned a live audience \_\_\_3\_\_\_ he earned a Guinness World Records title with his mind-boggling calculation skills. Appearing on our Italian TV show *Lo Show Dei Record*, this 'human calculator' set the record for the fastest time to mentally add 50 five-digit numbers – an astonishing 25.19 seconds, completing about one addition every 0.5 seconds!

### Reuben Looks Twice Jr.

A Native American 16-year-old has the world's longest hair on a male teenager, measuring 161 cm. Reuben Looks Twice Jr. from Rapid City, South Dakota, hasn't had his hair cut since he was two years old. He explained the reason behind his choice \_\_\_4\_\_\_ saying: "Culturally, Lakota people have long hair. It's part of our Nagi (spirit). It's who I am. I feel proud to represent my family and the Lakota Nation."

### Pratyaksh Vijay

While many people continue searching for their dream job well into their thirties, Pratyaksh Vijay secured his at just 5 years and 337 days. The young boy from India was verified \_\_\_5\_\_\_ the world's youngest yoga instructor after completing the 200 Hour Yoga Teacher Training Course. Pratyaksh's dream is to "spread the knowledge of ancient yoga \_\_\_6\_\_\_ people all over the world so everyone can enjoy a healthy and tension-free life."

### Cillian O'Connor

At just 15, Cillian O'Connor from County Meath, Ireland, has made his childhood dream a reality. Cillian's magic tricks are so impressive they seem like real sorcery, earning \_\_\_7\_\_\_ the Guinness World Records title for the most magic tricks performed in one minute (under 16), completing 28 tricks. His record-breaking act included making a wand appear out of nowhere and making pencils disappear.

### Eric Kilburn Jr.

16-year-old Eric Kilburn Jr. from Goodrich, Michigan, USA, holds the records for the largest feet and largest hands on a living teenager. His feet measure \_\_\_8\_\_\_ impressive 34.30 cm, which is an American size 23. That's significantly larger \_\_\_9\_\_\_ the average shoe for an adult male, typically ranging from 8.5 to 9. Eric's hands are just as extraordinary, measuring 23.20 cm, while the average size for his age stands at 19.04 cm. (9 points)

Adapted from: <https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/news/2024/12/best-of-2024-amazing-world-records-set-by-kids> (14. 12. 2024)



## C. Pisno sporočanje

### 1. 2024 IN A WORD

Every year, various words compete for the title of "Word of the Year". These are words that were coined in the past twelve months or existing words that became widely-used during that time. One such word, chosen by the publishing house behind the Oxford English Dictionary for 2024, is "brain rot".

Write an article for your online school newsletter titled "**2024 IN A WORD**". In it:

- look back on 2024 and discuss why "brain rot" was the right choice by providing two examples which support your point of view,
- explain how, in your opinion, words of the year like "brain rot" have an impact on the average person or society as a whole,
- suggest a different word of the year 2024 and argue why your choice is more appropriate.



Oxford University Press  
<https://corp.oup.com> > news

In 2024, 'brain rot' is used to describe both the cause and effect of this, referring to low-quality, low-value content found on social media and the internet, as well as the subsequent negative impact that consuming this type of content is perceived to have on an individual or society.

**Oxford Word of the Year for 2024 is 'brain rot'.**

Your composition should contain from **250 to 300 words**. Remember: longer is not necessarily better.

Your writing will be marked on content (5 points), vocabulary and spelling (5 points), grammar (5 points), and organisation (5 points).

You may **plan your draft** here. It will not be marked.

(20 points)