



# CONCURSUL INTERJUDEȚEAN DE CULTURĂ & CIVILIZAȚIE BRITANICĂ QUEEN VICTORIA

Ediția a IV-a

ETAPA JUDEȚEANĂ  
5 APRILIE 2025

CLASA A XI-A

Varianta 2

**I. Fill in the blanks with the following words:** *elite, bards, penchant, metalwork, tribute, hillforts, awe-inspiring, loose, artisans, clans.*

Portrayed by the Romans as savage and uncivilised – and with a supposed (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for human sacrifice – the Celts had been resident in the British Isles for many centuries prior to the invasion of Emperor Claudius's forces in AD 43. They were a (2) \_\_\_\_\_ conglomeration of tribes that ruled particular regions and shared ideals and ways of living.

Most Celts in Britain lived in roundhouses, either clustered together in small farms or enclosed settlements, or within large hillforts. With their conical, thatched roofs and wattle-and-daub walls, roundhouses offered substantial family accommodation, and are usually found together with timber granaries, animal pens and work sheds, all surrounded by ploughed fields and pasture. Farming was the main source of food production. Celtic families or (3) \_\_\_\_\_ belonged to larger tribes, each led by an (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to whom the farmers and food producers pledged their allegiance.

With their substantial banks and ditches that enclosed vast areas of land, hillforts are the most (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Celtic features of Britain, with hundreds being constructed between 600 and 100 BC. They were political, economic and religious centres which probably also served as refuges at times of war.

With capacity often exceeding population requirements, large parts of hillforts were given over to storing food. Significant evidence for religious activity can also be found, usually in the form of human burial, animal sacrifice and the widespread deposition of precious (6) \_\_\_\_\_, such as spears, swords and mirrors.

We know very little about the ways in which tribes were organised, but some of the larger ones were governed from the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ by powerful ruling monarchies. Wealth came from trade or war, with the elite, protected by a warrior class, presumably controlling all key resources and redistribution networks. Other privileged classes would have included (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (those who made exquisite artefacts), priests/priestesses and (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Below these were the farming families and their workers, all of whom would have come to the hillforts to pay (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to the leaders and fulfill their spiritual and economic obligations. The complex nature of hillfort defences, especially at the entrances, ensured that only those invited to participate could enter in safety, while those who were excluded could not easily force their way in.

[\(https://www.historyextra.com/period/iron-age/celts-britain-romans-who-were-they-human-sacrifice/\)](https://www.historyextra.com/period/iron-age/celts-britain-romans-who-were-they-human-sacrifice/)



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(20 points: 10 x 2p)

### II. Match the two columns:

1. <i>It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man</i>	a. resumes courting Jane.
2. The Bennet family lives in	b. when he sends her a letter explaining his actions.
3. Elizabeth's best friend is named	c. Pemberley.
4. Lady Catherine de Bourgh is Darcy's	d. by refusing to dance with her.
5. When Darcy first proposes to Elizabeth, he spends most of the proposal dwelling on	e. Charlotte Lucas.
6. Elizabeth's feelings toward Darcy begin to change	f. Longbourn.
7. Darcy's estate is called	g. how socially unsuitable a match she is for him.
8. When he returns to Netherfield, Mr. Bingley	h. Bingley marrying Jane, and Darcy marrying Elizabeth.
9. The novel ends with	i. <i>in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.</i>
10. At the first ball, Mr. Darcy offends Elizabeth	j. aunt.

(Adapted from <https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/pride/quiz/>)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

(20 points: 10 x 2p)

### III. Match the headings to the extracts. There are THREE extra headings you do not need to use:

A. Conservative Leadership	C. Resignation	E. Britain's First Female Premier	G. Final Years and Death
B. Early Foray into Politics	D. Who Was Margaret Thatcher?	F. Life After Politics	H. Early Life

### Margaret Thatcher

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Margaret Thatcher became Britain's Conservative Party leader and in 1979 was elected prime minister, the first woman to hold the position. During her three terms, she cut social welfare



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programs, reduced trade union power and privatized certain industries. Thatcher resigned in 1990 due to unpopular policy and power struggles in her party. She died on April 8, 2013, at age 87.

2	
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Thatcher was born as Margaret Hilda Roberts on October 13, 1925, in Grantham, England. Nicknamed the *Iron Lady*, Thatcher served as the prime minister of England from 1979 to 1990. The daughter of a local businessman, she was educated at a local grammar school, Grantham Girls' High School. Her family operated a grocery store and they all lived in an apartment above the store. In her early years, Thatcher was introduced to conservative politics by her father, who was a member of the town's council.

A good student, Thatcher was accepted to Oxford University, where she studied chemistry at Somerville College. One of her instructors was Dorothy Hodgkin, a Nobel Prize-winning scientist. Politically active in her youth, Thatcher served as president of the Conservative Association at the university. She earned a degree in chemistry in 1947 and went on to work as a research chemist in Colchester. Later, she worked as a research chemist in Dartford.

3	
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Two years after graduating from college, Thatcher made her first bid for public office. She ran as the conservative candidate for a Dartford parliamentary seat in the 1950 elections. Thatcher knew from the start that it would be nearly impossible to win the position away from the liberal Labour Party. Still, she earned the respect of her political party peers with her speeches. Defeated, Thatcher remained undaunted, trying again the following year, but once more her efforts were unsuccessful. Two months after her loss, she married Denis Thatcher.

In 1952, Thatcher put politics aside for a time to study law. She and her husband welcomed twins Carol and Mark the next year. After completing her training, Thatcher qualified as a barrister, a type of lawyer, in 1953. But she didn't stay away from the political arena for too long. Thatcher won a seat in the House of Commons in 1959, representing Finchley.

Clearly a woman on the rise, Thatcher was appointed parliamentary under secretary for pensions and national insurance in 1961. When the Labour Party assumed control of the government, she became a member of what is called the Shadow Cabinet, a group of political leaders who would hold Cabinet-level posts if their party was in power.



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When Conservatives returned to office in June 1970, Thatcher was appointed secretary of state for education and science, and dubbed *Thatcher, milk snatcher*, after her abolition of the universal free school milk scheme. She found her position frustrating, not because of all the bad press around her actions, but because she had difficulty getting Prime Minister Edward Heath to listen to her ideas. Seemingly disenchanted on the future of women in politics, Thatcher was quoted as saying, *I don't think there will be a woman prime minister in my lifetime*, during a 1973 television appearance.

Thatcher soon proved herself wrong. While the Conservative Party lost power in 1974, Thatcher became a dominant force in her political party. She was elected leader of the Conservative Party in 1975, beating out Heath for the position. With this victory, Thatcher became the first woman to serve as the opposition leader in the House of Commons. England was in a time of economic and political turmoil, with the government nearly bankrupt, unemployment on the rise and conflicts with labor unions. This instability helped return Conservatives to power in 1979. As party leader, Thatcher made history in May 1979, when she was appointed Britain's first female prime minister.

5	
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As prime minister, Thatcher battled the country's recession by initially raising interest rates to control inflation. She was best known for her destruction of Britain's traditional industries through her attacks on labor organizations such as the miner's union, and for the massive privatization of social housing and public transport. One of her staunchest allies was U.S. President Ronald Reagan, a fellow conservative. The two shared similar right-wing, pro-corporate political philosophies.

Thatcher faced a military challenge during her first term. In April 1982, Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands. This British territory had long been a source of conflict between the two nations, as the islands are located off the coast of Argentina. Taking swift action, Thatcher sent British troops to the territory to retake the islands in what became known as the Falklands War. Argentina surrendered in June 1982.

In her second term, from 1983 to 1987, Thatcher handled a number of conflicts and crises, the most jarring of which may have been the assassination attempt against her in 1984. In a plot by the Irish Republic Army, she was meant to be killed by a bomb planted at the Conservative



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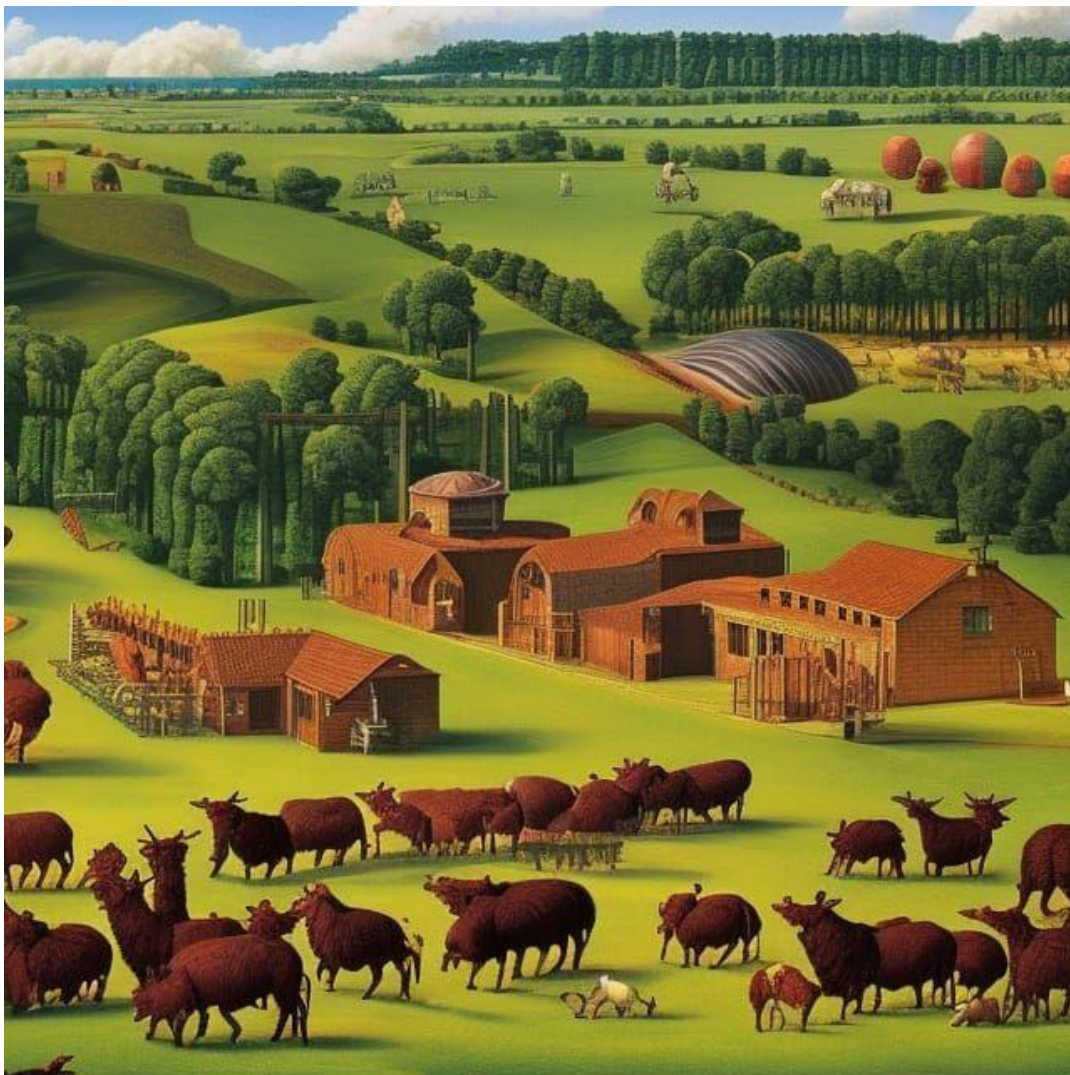
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Conference in Brighton in October. Undaunted and unharmed, Thatcher insisted that the conference continue, and gave a speech the following day.

(<https://www.biography.com/political-figures/margaret-thatcher>)

(20 points: 5 x 4p)

**IV. Write a text based on the picture below (220-250 words). Please remember to give a title to your text.**



(Animal Farm by George Orwell 4 - AI Generated Artwork – NightCafe Creator creator.nightcafe.studio)

(40 points)

**NOTA: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. \*\*\* Total 100p \*\*\* Timp de lucru 90 de minute.**