

UNIVERSIDADES PÚBLICAS DE LA COMUNIDAD DE MADRID
PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LAS ENSEÑANZAS UNIVERSITARIAS
OFICIALES DE GRADO

MATERIA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN A

QUESTIONS

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

1. El alumno dispone de dos opciones para contestar (A y B). Debe escoger sólo una de ellas.
 2. Lea todo el texto cuidadosamente.
 3. Lea atentamente todas las preguntas de la prueba.
 4. Proceda a responder en lengua inglesa a las preguntas en el papel de examen.
- TIEMPO: 1 hora y 30 minutos.
CALIFICACIÓN: La puntuación máxima de la prueba es de 10 puntos.

Political Polls*

Many people are closely following the political polls during the final weeks preceding an important election. But how do these polls actually work? They are surveys of a relatively small number of people compared to the actual number who will vote. They are an attempt to determine who may actually win an election before the final vote. Let's say that 100 million people are expected to vote in the general election. If 100 people are asked for their opinions, each respondent represents a million voters. Obviously, the results of such a poll are not very reliable. The more people surveyed, the more meaningful the results.

Political parties have various ways of making their polls more accurate. They try to find a representative variety of people to question. For example, they look for people with similar backgrounds and from similar regions to those of all the voters. Political parties also ask questions that try to determine how many people who support each candidate will actually vote. If a candidate has a higher percentage of enthusiastic supporters than his opponent, he has a better chance of winning than the simple numbers might suggest.

If we look at polls that are taken over time, we can often detect a tendency. We can tell if a candidate is gaining or losing support when we compare the most recent poll to earlier ones. Polls often ask potential voters what they like or dislike about each candidate. The campaigns use those results to help them decide which issues to stress or which positions to clarify. They can also determine which voters to target with their messages.

*Polls = Encuestas de opinión

1. Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.
 - a) The results of polls based on a small number of opinions are very precise.
 - b) One of the objectives of opinion polls is to find out how many people will go and vote.
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

2. In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.
 - a) How can political opinion polls be made more precise? (Give two answers.)
 - b) How do politicians and their advisors use opinion polls to their advantage? (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3. Find the words or phrases in the text that mean:
 - a) significant (paragraph 1)
 - b) correct (paragraph 2)
 - c) trend (paragraph 3)
 - d) to emphasise (paragraph 3)
(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4. Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.
 - a) Opinion polls _____ (use) for many years by politicians _____ (help) them plan their election strategy.
 - b) The _____ (large) the number of people questioned, the _____ (accurate) the result of the opinion poll.
 - c) Sometimes, _____ takes a long time for the election result to be decided. The votes have to be recounted several times _____ a final result is reached.
 - d) Opinion poll designers are people _____ always try to find new ways to improve their product. In the future the polls will certainly be more effective _____ they are now.
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
5. Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.
What would you propose to improve society if you were an influential politician?
(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

Después de leer atentamente los textos y las cuestiones siguientes, el alumno deberá escoger una de las dos opciones propuestas y responder en INGLÉS a las cuestiones de la opción elegida.

CALIFICACIÓN: Las cuestiones 1ª, 2ª y 4ª se valorarán sobre 2 puntos cada una, la pregunta 3ª sobre 1 punto y la pregunta 5ª sobre 3 puntos.

TIEMPO: 90 minutos.

Use or Abuse of Technology

People in Britain now spend more time watching TV, gaming, and using their mobile phones and computers than they do sleeping. Research by a British communications agency found that the average UK adult uses technology for eight hours and 41 minutes a day, 20 minutes longer than they spend sleeping. One of the biggest reasons for this is Wi-Fi. People can get online almost anywhere, so they spend more time online. Nowadays, it is very common that people make telephone calls or surf the web while watching television.

The study, which examined the use of technology by different age groups, also found that six-year-olds understand how to use gadgets such as tablets and mobile phones at the same level as 45-year-olds. Another finding was that people understand digital technology better when they are 14 or 15.

According to Dr. Arthur Cassidy, a social media psychologist, technology is changing the way people communicate with each other. He warned that we are becoming more and more anti-social and we are moving away from face-to-face conversations because of technology. He added that people are now saturated with digital technology and are becoming psychologically dependent on their smart phones.

Dr. Cassidy linked the increasing cases of Internet and social media addiction among youngsters with problems in mental and physical development. Perhaps we should think of recreational screen time as a form of consumption in the same way that we think of sugar, hours of sun, ... - measured in units of hours per day.

QUESTIONS

1.- Are the following statements **TRUE** or **FALSE**? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

a) An expert said that we are having more in-person conversations now than we used to in the past.

b) Dr Cassidy believes that the overuse of technology by young people only damages their brain.
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

a) Why do British people make more use of technology nowadays?

b) What are the research findings regarding children and teenagers?
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

a) nearly (paragraph 1)

b) discovery (paragraph 2)

c) due to (paragraph 3)

d) associated (paragraph 4)
(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

a) She uses her computer, _____ is in her living room, to keep _____ touch with her family.

b) People _____ (not communicate) so easily if the Internet _____ (not exist).

c) After _____ (get) home, she found out that her son _____ (use) the PlayStation while she was out.

d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said.

They shouldn't have sent the report off for printing yet.

The report _____

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.

What differences do you find between the use of technology by teenagers and by adults?

(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

1. Lea todo el texto cuidadosamente.
 2. Lea atentamente todas las preguntas de la prueba.
 3. Proceda a responder en lengua inglesa a las preguntas en el papel de examen.
- TIEMPO: 1 hora y 30 minutos.
CALIFICACIÓN: La puntuación máxima de la prueba es de 10 puntos.

Pointing the Finger

A child's future really may be written in his hands—not in the creases of his palms but in the relative lengths of his fingers. A report just published in *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* suggests that people with autism have ring fingers that are abnormally long compared with their index fingers.

Children with autism have trouble interacting with other people. Both their verbal and their gesture-based communication is poor, and they often have low intelligence. Early symptoms—a failure to point at things, follow the gaze of someone else, or engage in pretend play—are often obvious by the tender age of 18 months. About one child in 500 suffers from the condition.

Two British researchers, who have studied what fingers can indicate about everything from fertility to sexual preference, have observed 72 autistic children and 23 with Asperger's syndrome, a related condition in which the individual's intelligence is not affected.

The scientists photocopied the children's hands, and carefully measured the lengths of their fingers from the copies. They worked out the ratio of the length of the index finger to the length of the ring finger for each child, and compared it with those of their relatives.

The researchers found that autistic children had extremely long ring fingers compared with their index fingers. Children with Asperger's also had abnormal index-to-ring finger ratios, though less so than autistics. Even the unaffected relatives of the autistic children had ratios that differed significantly from the average lengths.

QUESTIONS

1. Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Write down the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.
 - a. Autistic children have index and ring fingers of the same length.
 - b. Autism in children cannot be perceived before the age of two. (Puntuación máxima 2 puntos)
2. In your own words and based on the ideas from the text, answer the following questions:
 - a. Why are the British researchers studying fingers? Explain.
 - b. According to the text, what cannot autistic children do? (Puntuación máxima 2 puntos)
3. Find the words in the text that mean:
 - a. lines (paragraph 1)
 - b. the look (paragraph 2)
 - c. relationship between two amounts (paragraph 4)
 - d. standard (paragraph 5)
 (Puntuación máxima 1 punto)
4. Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.
 - a. The relative sizes of our fingers _____ (fix) for life within three months of conception, and the relationship seems _____ (govern) by hormones.
 - b. _____ the reason is not yet understood, earlier studies have shown that finger-length ratios indicate the exposition _____ testosterone *in-utero*.
 - c. In general terms, the _____ (early) an illness is diagnosed, the _____ (easy) its treatment will be.
 Put in the correct order:
 d. say / I / things / could / so / fingers / never imagine / that my / many / could
 (Puntuación máxima 2 puntos)
5. Write about 100 to 150 words on one of the following topics.
 - a. The integration of children with learning difficulties at school. Discuss.
 - b. Living with a serious illness: how would life be every day? (Puntuación máxima 3 puntos)

UNIVERSIDADES PÚBLICAS DE LA COMUNIDAD DE MADRID
PRUEBA DE ACCESO A LAS ENSEÑANZAS UNIVERSITARIAS
OFICIALES DE GRADO

Curso 2009-2010

MATERIA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN B

QUESTIONS

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

1. Lea todo el texto cuidadosamente.
2. Lea atentamente todas las preguntas de la prueba.
3. Proceda a responder en lengua inglesa a las preguntas en el papel de examen.

TIEMPO: 1 hora y 30 minutos.

CALIFICACIÓN: La puntuación máxima de la prueba es de 10 puntos.

India's Economic Revival

The idea that India is a poor country is a relatively recent one. Historically, South Asia was always famous as the richest region of the globe. Ever since the great Greek conqueror Alexander penetrated the Hindu Kush in 329 B.C., Europeans fantasized about the wealth of these lands where precious jewels were said to lie scattered on the ground like dust.

During the 17th century, the Indian Mughal emperors were rivalled only by their Ming counterparts in China. For their contemporaries in distant Europe, they were potent symbols of power and wealth. By the 17th century, Lahore had grown even larger and richer than Constantinople and, with its two million inhabitants, was much bigger than either London or Paris.

What changed was the advent of European colonialism. Following Vasco da Gama's discovery of the sea route to the East in 1498, European colonial traders to India — first the Portuguese, then the Dutch and finally the British — slowly destroyed the old trading network and imposed a Western imperial system of economics. It was only at the very end of the 18th century that Europe had for the first time in history a favourable balance of trade with Asia. The era of Indian economic decline had begun. By 1870, at the peak of the British dominion, India had been reduced for the first time to a Third World nation, a symbol across the globe of famine, poverty and deprivation.

Then, what is happening today with the rise of India and China is not some miraculous novelty — as it is usually depicted in the Western press — so much as a return to the traditional pattern of global trade in the medieval and ancient world.

1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- a) In the past, people in the Western world dreamed about the treasures in South Asia.
- b) While India was ruled by the British it became a typical example of T underdevelopment.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

- a) Why are the Chinese emperors of the Ming dynasty mentioned in the text?
- b) What kind of influence did the Portuguese, Dutch and British have on India?

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

- a) riches (paragraph 1)
- b) powder (paragraph 1)
- c) highest point (paragraph 3)
- d) hunger (paragraph 3)

(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- a) India is a country in South Asia _____ comprises most of the Indian subcontinent. The Ganges is the _____ (long) river in India.
- b) The term "colony" comes _____ the Latin *colonia*, which originally _____ (mean) a place for agricultural activities.
- c) "How _____ does it take to fly from London to India?"
"It _____ (take) around nine hours."
- d) The Ming dynasty began in 1368, and lasted until 1644 AD. _____ founder was a peasant who became Emperor after _____ (defeat) the Mongols and the Yuan Dynasty.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.

What distant or exotic country would you like to visit? Give reasons for your choice.

(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

Después de leer atentamente los textos y las cuestiones siguientes, el alumno deberá escoger una de las dos opciones propuestas y responder en INGLÉS a las cuestiones de la opción elegida.

CALIFICACIÓN: Las cuestiones 1ª, 2ª y 4ª se valorarán sobre 2 puntos cada una, la pregunta 3ª sobre 1 punto y la pregunta 5ª sobre 3 puntos.
TIEMPO: 90 minutos.

Go on Two Wheels

"Beat the Tube strike, get a bike!" During the 48-hour shutdown of London Underground in February 2014, thousands did just that and took to two wheels. During the General Strike of 1926, the middle-class volunteers who drove trains were strike breakers. Similarly, these two-wheeled commuters were trying to beat the Tube strike.

With every turn of a bicycle wheel, human freedom is advanced. Cyclists do not have to face timetables; through their own sweat, they make their way in the world, free from following rigid lines of steel and electricity. The bike is individualism in action.

The bicycle is a reminder of the freedoms people enjoyed in the lost Victorian days. You pay no taxes or duties; you need no licence, permit or certificate of proficiency - you just get on your bike. And any cyclist with road sense will have a relaxed attitude towards highways regulations. It is absurd to give dog-like obedience to a red light when your eyes and ears tell you it is safe to go.

The bike has always pedalled individual freedom forward. The Lady Cyclists' Association, founded in 1892, knew that it not only gave women an escape from home and husband, but also a reason to throw off constricting dresses. Many lady cyclists, for practical reasons, made cause with the Rational Dress Society who opposed "the introduction of any fashion in dress that either deforms the figure or impedes the movement of the body".

The car is no longer a symbol of freedom, so if you want to feel free, go on two wheels.

QUESTIONS

- 1.- Are the following statements **TRUE** or **FALSE**? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only **TRUE** or **FALSE**.
- a) According to the text, traffic lights are essential for the safety of cyclists.
 - b) Nowadays, driving gives you more liberty than cycling.
- (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

- 2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.
- a) Explain how Londoners reacted to the transport strike in 1926 and in 2014.
 - b) How did cycling affect women in the past?
- (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

- 3.- Find the words in the text that mean:
- a) exactly (paragraph 1)
 - b) schedules (paragraph 2)
 - c) created (paragraph 4)
 - d) get rid of (paragraph 4)
- (Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

- 4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.
- a) I remember _____ (bike) with my friends when I was a teenager in the village _____ I was born.
 - b) The Lady's Association to protect women's health _____ (found) by Victorian women, who were much more advanced _____ you can imagine.
 - c) "Cyclists _____ wear a helmet". This statement appears in UK parks where it is compulsory _____ (do) so.
 - d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said.
"Why don't we go for a walk tomorrow if the weather is fine?"
John suggested _____
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

- 5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.
What are the advantages and disadvantages of cycling in big cities?
(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

Después de leer atentamente los textos y las cuestiones siguientes, el alumno deberá escoger una de las dos opciones propuestas y responder en INGLÉS a las cuestiones de la opción elegida.

CALIFICACIÓN: Las cuestiones 1ª, 2ª y 4ª se valorarán sobre 2 puntos cada una, la pregunta 3ª sobre 1 punto y la pregunta 5ª sobre 3 puntos.
TIEMPO: 90 minutos.

Genetic Fingerprinting

On September 10th 1984, Alec Jeffreys, a scientist at Leicester University, was using DNA in an experiment to analyse the inheritance element in illness. DNA is the molecule that carries our genetic information. Looking at an X-ray showing the DNA profiles of his assistant and her parents, he suddenly realised that he had, completely by accident, discovered a revolutionary new method of biological identification. He called it "Genetic Fingerprinting".

The importance of the discovery was recognised immediately by both the UK police and immigration authorities. The technique is now used in forensic science to assist police detective work and to resolve paternity and immigration disputes. It has also helped convict thousands of murderers, rapists and burglars while freeing many innocent people already in prison.

Genetic fingerprinting also has a promising future in the battle against disease. Scientists are storing genetic information of people in a "biobank", in the world's largest study of the role of nature and nurture in health and disease. Many of the worst illnesses, including heart disease, diabetes and Alzheimer's, are caused by complex interactions between genes, lifestyle and environment.

However, it does have a negative side. Many people are worried that the discovery could badly affect our civil liberties. Jeffreys fears possible abuses of the system. He wants a global DNA database but without any information on race, health or physical appearance. As the technique becomes more sophisticated, all this information and more will be available.

QUESTIONS

- 1.- Are the following statements **TRUE** or **FALSE**? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only **TRUE** or **FALSE**.
 - a) Genetic fingerprinting was the intended result of thorough research.
 - b) British institutions didn't take long to realise the relevance of the new discovery. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
- 2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.
 - a) How does genetic fingerprinting help the police in their work?
 - b) What are the possible consequences of the incorrect use of the new discovery? (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
- 3.- Find the words in the text that mean:
 - a) right away (paragraph 2)
 - b) keeping (paragraph 3)
 - c) concerned (paragraph 4)
 - d) at hand (paragraph 4) (Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)
- 4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.
 - a) He _____ (arrest) last year, accused of _____ (commit) an awful crime.
 - b) If the police _____ (have) all this information before, the investigation _____ (be) much easier for them.
 - c) _____ the method was good, it was necessary _____ improve its technique.
 - d) To get _____ (good) results than in previous years, governments _____ provide the necessary funds for investigation. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
- 5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic. Which do you think is the most revolutionary invention for mankind? Explain why. (Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)



UNIVERSIDADES PÚBLICAS DE LA COMUNIDAD DE MADRID
PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LAS ENSEÑANZAS UNIVERSITARIAS
OFICIALES DE GRADO
Curso 2011-2012

UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA
DE MADRID

MATERIA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN A

QUESTIONS

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

1. El alumno dispone de dos opciones para contestar (A y B). Debe escoger sólo una de ellas.
2. Lea todo el texto cuidadosamente.
3. Lea atentamente todas las preguntas de la prueba.
4. Procede a responder en lengua inglesa a las preguntas en el papel de examen.

TIEMPO: 1 hora y 30 minutos.
CALIFICACIÓN: La puntuación máxima de la prueba es de 10 puntos.

Facebook generation suffers from information withdrawal* syndrome

In an experiment, called "Unplugged", volunteers at 12 universities around the world spent 24 hours without access to computers, mobile phones, iPods, television, radio and even newspapers. They were allowed to use landline telephones or read books. Participants were asked to keep diaries about their experience. Entries in the diaries showed that many recorded feeling impatient, anxious or isolated.

Participants described feeling restless and reaching for their mobile phones even when they weren't there. There were also some good effects though, as people developed survival skills and went out for walks and visited friends rather than sitting in front of a computer.

"What was amazing for us was how dependent people now are on their technology. People often don't own watches or alarm clocks because they rely upon their mobile phones to wake themselves up," researchers commented. Most participants in the study struggled without their mobile phones and felt they were missing out by not using Facebook. However, it was abstinence from music that caused them the most difficulty.

"A lot of them said they found the silence quite uncomfortable and awkward," he said. "But as they got used to it, they began to notice more things around them like birds singing or hearing what their neighbours were doing. In their reflections on what they had been through, people freely admitted that they were experiencing symptoms of withdrawal. The students compared the experience to going on a diet or giving up smoking radically. The word addiction kept recurring."

*withdrawal = abstinence

1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- a) The experiment described in the text was carried out by twelve universities in Great Britain.
b) For most of the participants, not being able to use Facebook was the hardest part of the experiment.
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

- a) What did the volunteers in the experiment have to do?
b) What positive effects did the experiment have on participants? Mention two.
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

- a) lonely (paragraph 1)
b) uneasy (paragraph 2)
c) depend on (paragraph 3)
d) when (paragraph 4)
(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- a) 1% of Norwegians are addicted to the internet. An additional 5% are at risk of _____ (develop) internet addiction. The _____ (high) rate of addiction is in the 16-29 year old group.
b) Internet users in Greece have _____ internet addiction rate of 8.2%. Most internet addicts are males _____ play online games.
c) It wasn't _____ the 1940s, with the development of electronic data machines, that manual calculation _____ (become) obsolete.
d) Technology addiction amongst teenagers is having a negative effect _____ learning. The report revealed that, last year, students _____ (spend) 1-2 hours a day on social network sites.
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.

- Does technology help you save time or make you waste it? Explain your views.
(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

Después de leer atentamente los textos y las cuestiones siguientes, el alumno deberá escoger una de las dos opciones propuestas y responder en INGLÉS a las cuestiones de la opción elegida.

CALIFICACIÓN: Las cuestiones 1ª, 2ª y 4ª se valorarán sobre 2 puntos cada una, la pregunta 3ª sobre 1 punto y la pregunta 5ª sobre 3 puntos.

TIEMPO: 90 minutos.

Do Aliens Really Exist?

“Alien” is a word used to refer to beings from other worlds. Do aliens exist on Earth? No one knows the answer for sure, but it is a question that has been debated for ages. If history is to be believed, aliens have been a subject of mysticism in civilizations of places such as India, China, Babylon, South America and Arabia. The external appearance of aliens is also a much discussed matter: they have been depicted as green monsters, small creatures with arms and legs like humans, tiny viruses or beings that change appearance at will.

Many people nowadays, including well-known scientists such as Carl Sagan or Frank Drake, are tireless propagators of the theory that aliens are in fact regular visitors to Earth. This theory is supported by many reported alien sightings. For example, a person waiting at St Martin airport claimed to see fire in the sky; the fire suddenly transformed into a silver ball, moved over him like a jet and vanished in a few seconds. And two brothers in Chile said that they saw a humanoid creature about 80 cm tall, shiny and red, who resembled a child wearing a driver’s suit.

However, others believe that aliens are just figments of imagination. This view also has scientists on its side, such as Enrico Fermi. He proposed the famous “Fermi paradox”, which states that there is an apparent contradiction between the strong belief in the existence of extraterrestrial civilizations and the present lack of solid evidence for, or contact with, such civilizations. Putting the two views together, we cannot be sure if aliens are real unless and until we have strong evidence about their existence.

QUESTIONS

1.- Are the following statements **TRUE** or **FALSE**? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

- a) The hypothesis that there are aliens on Earth is sustained by lots of witnesses.
- b) The strange figure described in the text that looked like a small person seemed to be naked.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

- a) How are aliens described in the text? Mention four different characteristics.
- b) Explain the view of the scientist who does not believe in the presence of aliens on Earth.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

- a) described (paragraph 1)
- b) presently (paragraph 2)
- c) disappeared (paragraph 2)
- d) only (paragraph 3)

(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- a) If my father _____ (not believe) in aliens, he would have never listened that radio programme on extraterrestrial life.
- b) My friend Jim, _____ wife is a scientist, likes the paradox proposed Enrico Fermi.
- c) How _____ did you pay for that book about aliens? Oh, nothing. It _____ (give) to me as a birthday present!

d) When my brother talked to me about the appearance _____ a strange creature yesterday, I _____ (think) he had gone mad.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.

Do you think that aliens have ever been on Earth? Give reasons for your answer.

(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

Después de leer atentamente los textos y las cuestiones siguientes, el alumno deberá escoger una de las dos opciones propuestas y responder en INGLÉS a las cuestiones de la opción elegida.

CALIFICACIÓN: Las cuestiones 1ª, 2ª y 4ª se valorarán sobre 2 puntos cada una, la pregunta 3ª sobre 1 punto y la pregunta 5ª sobre 3 puntos.

TIEMPO: 90 minutos.

The Decline of "Once upon a time..."

Once upon a time, parents read bedtime stories to their children... But now it seems that the fairy tale is over. According to a poll of mums and dads with under-sevens, 36 per cent of parents never pick up a book with their little ones. Of those who do read with their kids, just 21 per cent make time for a story before bed every night. The study also showed that nearly half of the kids would rather watch TV or play with toys or computer games.

In light of the findings, Littlewoods.com, a British online retailer behind the study, has teamed up with 31-year-old British pop star Natasha Hamilton to get youngsters back into reading. Littlewoods and Natasha have just launched a bedtime story competition for children under seven to draw pictures and create their own tale. The winning entry will be turned into an audio book, narrated by Natasha. The pop star said: "As a mum of three, I know how enjoyable bedtime stories are for my kids. I'm really excited about seeing all the different story ideas. I can't wait to see what the kids come up with. Choosing a winner will not be easy".

Experts say that one of the key ways of helping children to learn to read and write well is to give them a love of books. However, some parents blame a lack of time for not reading with their children, while others say they are just too stressed, or that their kids are simply not interested. Surprisingly enough, the vast majority of parents were told bedtime stories regularly, when they were little.

QUESTIONS

- 1.- Are the following statements **TRUE** or **FALSE**? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only **TRUE** or **FALSE**.
- a) A little over a third of parents who took part in the study never read a story to their children.
 - b) Most of the mums and dads who participated in the study had bedtime stories read to them when they were kids. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

- a) How is Natasha Hamilton collaborating with Littlewoods.com in order to get young people to read again?
- b) Give two reasons why parents fail to read stories to their kids. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

- a) almost (paragraph 1)
 - b) joined forces (paragraph 2)
 - c) produce (paragraph 2)
 - d) main (paragraph 3)
- (Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- a) When my children were young, I _____ (tell) them a story every night before _____ (go) to bed.
- b) Nowadays, reading _____ (consider) to be an interaction _____ the reader and the text. The more you read to children, _____ (good) their reading and writing skills become.
- c) According to research, English children read less for pleasure _____ their peers in many other countries.
- d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said:
A spokesman from the company said: "We appreciate how important it is for parents and kids to spend quality time together."
A spokesman from the company said that _____.
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

- 5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.
What kind of books do you like to read? Explain why you like them.
(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)



UNIVERSIDADES PÚBLICAS DE LA COMUNIDAD DE MADRID
PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LAS ENSEÑANZAS UNIVERSITARIAS
OFICIALES DE GRADO

Curso 2010-2011

MATERIA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN A

QUESTIONS

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

1. El alumno dispone de dos opciones para contestar (A y B). Debe escoger sólo una de ellas.
2. Lea todo el texto cuidadosamente.
3. Lea atentamente todas las preguntas de la prueba.
4. Proceda a responder en lengua inglesa a las preguntas en el papel de examen.

TIEMPO: 1 hora y 30 minutos.

CALIFICACIÓN: La puntuación máxima de la prueba es de 10 puntos.

Cleopatra Was not Killed by a Snake

The Queen of the Nile ended her life in 30 BC. According to legend it was the bite of an Egyptian cobra which caused her death. After losing the Battle of Actium, her Roman lover, Mark Antony, is said to have committed suicide. Cleopatra did likewise, according to tradition, by killing herself. Her legacy survives in numerous works of art and the many dramatizations of her story in literature and other media. Cleopatra is usually portrayed as a great beauty and her successive conquests of the world's most powerful men are taken to be proof of her aesthetic and sexual appeal.

Now Christoph Schaefer, a German historian and professor at the University of Trier, has presented evidence on a television programme that drugs and not a snake were the cause of death. He said that the bite of a snake would have given her an agonizing death over several days. "Queen Cleopatra was famous for her beauty and was unlikely to have subjected herself to a long and disfiguring death," said Schaefer, the author of a best-selling book in Germany called *Cleopatra*.

"Cleopatra wanted to remain beautiful in her death to maintain her myth. The last female Pharaoh probably took a lethal cocktail, which, back then, was a well-known mixture that led to a painless death within just a few hours. We consulted eminent zoologists and toxicologists and they said that a snake bite would have been too uncertain and taken too long." Professor Schaefer added.

1.- Are the following statements **TRUE** or **FALSE**? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

- a) Professor Schaefer's new hypothesis about the cause of Cleopatra's death was made known through a specialized magazine.
- b) Experts in poisons told Schaefer that a snake bite causes immediate death. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

- a) Why is Mark Antony mentioned in the text?
- b) What made Professor Schaefer think that a snake bite was not the cause of Cleopatra's death? (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words or phrases in the text that mean:

- a) the same (paragraph 1)
- b) represented (paragraph 1)
- b) proof (paragraph 2)
- c) drink (paragraph 3) (Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- a) The popular image we have of Cleopatra is _____ of a beautiful queen _____ was adored by Roman politicians and generals.
- b) An old coin with the image of Cleopatra _____ (show) that she may not have been as attractive _____ first thought.
- c) The coin, which _____ (hide) in a bank vault, accidentally fell _____ the floor of the bank after a robbery.
- d) Shakespeare _____ (write) his tragedy *Antony and Cleopatra* in 1608, but it was first printed fifteen years _____ (late). (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.

Write about a historical figure that you admire. (Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)