



**IDIOMA EXTRANJERO: INGLÉS.**

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- Las preguntas deberán ser respondidas en inglés.
- Duración de la prueba: 1 hora y 30 minutos.
- Hay que responder todos los bloques de la propuesta elegida, A o B.

**PROPUESTA A KEY**

**TRIATHLON. A NEW SPORT FOR THE MIDDLE AGES**

More and more middle-aged men are trying to stay healthy through triathlons. They are events that combine swimming, running and cycling. Triathlons have grown very popular in the last five years, especially with men who are over 40. According to a sporting goods association there are 1.2 million triathletes around the world.

The triathlon mania probably started around fifteen years ago when the sport became an event in the Atlanta Olympics. Before that triathlon was only for "Ironmen", those who could swim 2.4 miles, ride a bike for 112 miles and run a classical 26.2-mile marathon. In the Olympics the distances became shorter and those athletes who did not want to struggle for 12 hours could also take part. A sprint triathlon can be finished in three hours.

More and older marathon runners have switched to the triathlon because they do not want to risk further injuries. Your knees get worse in long distance races and swimming and cycling takes a lot of pressure off them.

Triathlon is a booming sport in sportswear stores as well. They sell everything from special triathlon sunglasses to running shoes. Magazines are full of articles about triathlon, training tips and previews of events from all over the world.

Triathlon is not a cheap sport and many young men cannot afford it. An ambitious athlete preparing for an "Ironman" needs a year of training, fitness articles, wet suits, helmets and other things.

<https://www.english-online.at>

**QUESTIONS:**

**I. READING COMPREHENSION (2 POINTS) (0,5 points for each correct answer).**

Add TRUE or FALSE and copy the evidence from the text to support your answer.

No marks are given for only true or false. No marks are given for "T" or "F".

1. It is required to be under 40 to participate in a triathlon. **FALSE. Triathlons have grown very popular in the last five years, especially with men who are over 40.**
2. Triathlon became harder after the Atlanta Olympic Games. **FALSE. In the Olympics the distances became shorter and those athletes who did not want to struggle for 12 hours could also take part.**
3. Running is more harmful for the knees than triathlon. **TRUE. Your knees get worse in long distance races and swimming and cycling takes a lot of pressure off them.**
4. Everybody can practise triathlon, no matter the money you have. **FALSE. Triathlon is not a cheap sport and many young men cannot afford it.**

**II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS)**



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**A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0,25 points for each correct answer).**

Find words or phrases in the text that mean the same as these given.

1. Make great efforts: **struggle**
2. Useful hints or ideas: **tips**
3. Be financially able: **afford**
4. Coverings worn on the head for protection: **helmets**

**B. PHONETICS (1 POINT) (0,25 points for each correct answer).**

1. How is the “-ed” pronounced in “finished”, /t/, /d/ or /ɪd/? **/t/**
2. How is the “a” pronounced in “race”, /aɪ/ or /eɪ/? **/eɪ/**
3. How is the “th” pronounced in “healthy”, /ð/ or /θ/? **/θ/**
4. Write a word from the text that includes the sound /ɔ:/ as in “more”. **According, sporting, sport, before, shorter, store.**

**III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0,5 for each correct answer)**

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given.

1. You must send these letters this afternoon.  
These letters **must be sent this afternoon.**
2. Don't tell any more lies, please.  
Please, stop **telling lies.**
3. We didn't buy the tickets in advance, so we missed the concert.  
If **we had bought the tickets in advance, we wouldn't have missed the concert.**
4. “What time did you do the shopping, Mary?” he asked.  
He asked Mary **what time she had done the shopping.**
5. We haven't tasted this kind of food before.  
It's **the first time we have tasted this kind of food.**
6. I regret I don't have a good computer.  
I wish **I had a good computer.**

**IV. COMPOSITION (3 POINTS)**

Write a composition of at least 125 words on the following topic:

**Would you like to be a triathlete?**



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**PROPUESTA B**

**DO EMOJIS AND GIFS RESTRICT OUR LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION?**

Recently I read *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, a great novel by George Orwell set in a totalitarian state where even the language they use is controlled. Adjectives are forbidden and instead they use phrases such as 'ungood', 'plus good' and 'double plus good' to express emotions. As I first read this, I thought how impossible it would be in our society to have such vocabulary. However, the more I thought about it, the more I realised in some way it's already happening. I write messages for my friends and with each one I add the obligatory emoji (digital image to show an emotion). I often use them to emphasise something, or not to seem too serious, or because this specific GIF (animated images) conveys my emotions much better than I ever could using just words. And I wonder, with our excessive use of emojis, are we losing the beauty and diversity of our vocabulary?

English has the largest vocabulary in the world, with over one million words, but who's to say what it'll be like in the future? Perhaps we will have a shorter language, full of saying 'cry face' if something sad happens or using abbreviations like LOL (laugh out loud) or BRB (be right back) instead of saying the full phrase. So, does this mean our vocabulary will shrink? Is it the start of an exciting new era? Or is this a classic case of the older generations saying, 'Things weren't like that when I was younger, we didn't use emoticons to show our emotions'?

Yet when you look back over time, the power of image has always been there. Even in the prehistoric era they used imagery to communicate, and what's even more incredible is that we are able to analyse those drawings and understand the meaning of them thousands of years later. Pictures have the ability to transcend time and language. Images, be it cave paintings or emojis, allow us to convey a universal message.

*Adapted from <http://britishcouncil.org>*

**QUESTIONS**

**I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS)(0.5 points for each correct answer)**

Add TRUE or FALSE and copy the evidence from the text to support your answer. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE. NO marks are given for T or F.

1. All types of words are allowed in the society described in *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.  
**FALSE. The language they use is controlled. Adjectives are forbidden.**
2. The writer thinks GIFs cannot express the feelings. **FALSE. because this specific GIF (animated images) conveys my emotions much better than I ever could using just words.**
3. There aren't any languages with a wider vocabulary than English. **TRUE. English has the largest vocabulary in the world**



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4. You don't need to speak the same language to understand pictures. **TRUE.**  
**Pictures have the ability to transcend time and language. Images, be it cave paintings or emojis, allow us to convey a universal message.**

**II. LEXICON/PHONETICS (2 POINTS).**

**A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)**

Find words or phrases in the text that mean the same as these given.

1. Perceived, understood- **realised**
2. To give importance- **to emphasise**
3. Become smaller- **shrink**
4. Send- **convey**

**B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)**

1. Is the final "-s" pronounced / s /, / z / or / ɪz / in "emotions"? **/z/**
2. How are the "ee" pronounced in "seem", / e /, / i: / or / ɪ /? **/i:/**
3. Write a word from the text that includes the diphthong /aɪ/ as in "write".  
**Society, emphasise, like, cry, time, analyse**
4. Write a word from the text that includes the sound /ə/ as in "thought".  
**Something, things**

**III. USE OF ENGLISH (3 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)**

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:

1. Michael doesn't study that subject because his school doesn't offer it.  
If **his school offered that subject, Michael would study it.**
2. My grandmother didn't know how to use a mobile phone one year ago.  
My grandmother **couldn't use a mobile phone one year ago/ wasn't able to use a mobile phone one year ago.**
3. It's a pity Susan didn't see it.  
I wish **Susan had seen it.**
4. I started using this application two years ago.  
I've **been using this application for two years/ I've used this application for two years.**



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5. Despite speaking really good English, they have problems to communicate with some people in Scotland.

Although **they speak really good English, they have problems to communicate with some people in Scotland.**

6. The mechanic fixed my car yesterday.

I had **my car fixed yesterday.**

**IV. COMPOSITION (3 POINTS)**

Write a composition of at least 125 words on the following topic:

**Do GIFs and emojis affect our writing?**