

Universidad de Oviedo

INGLÉS II

Se deberá escoger la Opción A completa o la Opción B completa. TODAS las preguntas deberán responderse en el pliego de respuestas, NO en esta hoja.

OPCIÓN A

Friends reunited

Have you ever wondered what your old school-mates are doing now? Well, plenty of people in Britain do. One of the most successful internet ventures in Britain has shown how popular, and how lucrative, nostalgia can be. The website Friends Reunited was started for fun in 1999 by a couple who were interested to know what their old school friends were doing.

The project snowballed and by 2009, the site had 12 million members. One extraordinary fact is that Friends Reunited has never advertised, its success is entirely due to word-of-mouth. You can search for a school, college or university and find a list of the members who were there in any year. You can also post a personal profile showing what you are doing now, and read other people's details.

Steve Pankhurst, one of the founders of the site, thinks that one of the reasons for its success is that some people like to be anonymous. On Friends Reunited, you can snoop on other people's lives without giving away anything about yourself if you don't want to. Friends Reunited has also led to many successful school reunions, and people meeting up with each other after many years.

QUESTIONS. Do not copy literally from the text. (1 punto por respuesta=3 puntos)

- 1. What is Friends Reunited? How did it originate?
- 2. How does the website work?
- 3. If you join the site, is your personal information at risk? Provide details.

EXERCISES

4. Write the verb in brackets in the correct form: (1,5 puntos)

Friends Reunited is a British social pioneer. Traditionally known for (A) (REUNITE) old school friends, the site (B) (CHANGE) since it was created. Friends Reunited (C) (LAUNCH) in 1999 as the hobby of a husband and wife team in North London. The site quickly (D) (BECOME) a British media phenomenon. In 2003, sister site Genes Reunited was created (E) (ALLOW) members an easy way to search for their ancestors online. In 2008, the site (F) (BECOME) completely free for the first time.

5. Write down five words from the text containing the same vocalic sound as in "just": (0,5 puntos)

6. Rephrase the following sentences so that their meaning is as similar to the original as possible: (1 punto):

A. If you want to search for a school, please enter the name that you are looking for in the right box.

To look for a school, you...

B. We have listed your schools, workplaces and clubs down the left of every page.

Your ...

C. "Click on your name if you want to see your profile" she said to me.

She told...

D. The old Friends Reunited site was more expensive than the new version.

The new ...

7. Write a composition about what you think you will be doing ten years from now.

(100-120 words) (4 puntos)



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OPCIÓN B

Universities in the UK

Universities in Britain attract thousands of overseas students. There are currently over 200,000 from outside Britain studying at British universities. The largest single group is Chinese students. There are currently 50,000 in the UK. The British government expects the total number of overseas students to be around 900,000 by 2020, and also thinks that a quarter of these will be Chinese.

But why is the UK such a popular destination for university students? The British education system is very flexible in order to provide for the needs of a modern, complex society. Degree courses are usually shorter and more intensive than in other countries. There are lots of scholarships available. You normally need 3 A-levels, which are the exams taken by people leaving school at 18, in order to enter an undergraduate degree course.

British universities offer a personalised but independent approach. The emphasis is on creative and independent thought, which helps develop the skills you will need to compete in the global job market. Tutors not only teach but also provide support and guidance. As a result, international students have a very low drop out rate and a very high pass rate.

QUESTIONS. Do not copy literally from the text. (1 punto por respuesta=3 puntos)

- 1. "UK universities do not attract many foreign students". Is this statement true or false? Discuss.
- 2. What are the requirements to enter a UK university?
- 3. What are the main characteristics of the university teaching system in the UK?

EXERCISES

4. Fill in with the correct word: (1,5 puntos)

The University of Palencia (A) ______ the oldest and first university of Spain. Founded (B) ______ Alfonso VIII in 1212, before Salamanca (C) ______ Alcala, the infrastructure of the school began with scholars (D) ______ met to discuss science and virtue. Although well-trained teachers were brought (E) ______ France and Italy, the death (F) ______ its founder in 1214 meant the end of the school.

5. Write down five words from the text containing the vocalic sound of the word "more": (0,5 puntos)

6. Rephrase the following sentences so that their meaning is as similar to the original as possible: (1 punto): A. The American Baptist Education Society founded the University of Chicago in 1890.

The University...

B. Its staff has included 87 Nobel Prize winners.

87...

C. Students may work or apply for grants to pay for their studies.

Students can pay for their studies...

D. "Be prepared to work hard if you join the University of Chicago" she said. She told...

7. Write a composition about your expectations as a university student.

(100-120 words) (4 puntos)