



## 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

#### Cash

Money was originally introduced as a way to simplify the financial system. Nowadays, money is just paper printed with different colours. People agree that these pieces of paper have value and everyone accepts them because they will be able to buy other things with them in the future.

Now, however, the technological age is set to digitize money. The rise of credit card transactions is the first sign of this. Danish clothing stores, petrol stations and restaurants now show a sign that says 'no cash accepted', and force their customers to pay by credit card or cellphone. In other countries the use of plastic is not so widespread: the average Dutch person makes 340 card transactions a year, a Spaniard only 120. While people are changing their payment habits, so too are institutions; for example, the London Underground has changed its ticket machines, with the new ones only accepting payment by card.

Technology is changing constantly and in the future credit cards may also become obsolete, with many companies working on biometric payment technology. In 2005, passports and visas incorporated biometric information, such as the fingerprint, followed five years later by facial recognition.

But whether digitization comes from implementing biometrics in payment or using credit cards instead of paper notes, one thing is certain: in the future every transaction will be registered. It will be a good way to fight against fraud. For example: if you can't pay the plumber with paper money and you have to pay with credit card, you will not be able to pay him without adding taxes.

All experts say cash will eventually disappear. What they don't agree on is when this will happen. Some experts believe that this will be a progressive change that could last a couple of generations; others are confident that the transition will only take a few years. However, everything points to the fact that cash has an expiration date.

#### • QUESTIONS. Do not copy literally from the text. (1 punto por respuesta = 4 puntos)

1. What is the classical, traditional interpretation of money nowadays?
2. Give examples of situations in which payment in cash is more and more difficult, or simply impossible.
3. In what way is the future of credit cards open to question?
4. When exactly will cash disappear?

#### • EXERCISES

5. Fill in the gaps with the correct, most appropriate word in each case. (0,25 por acierto = 1 punto)

(A) \_\_\_\_\_ is the future for money? Will cash disappear over the coming decades? Some Swiss banks are removing their cash machines (B) \_\_\_\_\_ city centers (C) \_\_\_\_\_ that locals will have to (D) \_\_\_\_\_ an effort to get paper cash.

6. Rephrase the following sentences so that their meaning is as similar to the original as possible. (0,25 por acierto = 1 punto)

- A) Authorities would like young people to resist the temptation to use their mobiles inside the classroom.  
Authorities would like young people to stop...
- B) Harry can't afford to go on holiday.  
Harry hasn't...
- C) 'Please fill up this form,' the secretary said.  
The secretary asked...
- D) For a long time the earth was believed to be flat.  
For a long time people...

7. Write a composition about the following topic (100-120 words). (4 puntos)

Advantages and disadvantages of paying in cash



## OPCIÓN B

### English in the world

400 years ago, there were only about six million speakers of English in the world. Recent estimates suggest that there are now over 300 million who use it as their mother tongue. This is, of course, largely due to its widespread use in the USA. English is spoken as a first language by several countries including Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada, and the USA. While all of these countries share the same mother tongue, there are some differences in the way they speak and write. The first difference is in the accent: each country has its own accent. Another difference is the spelling of some words, like *color* and *colour*, or *theater* and *theatre*. And a third difference is that some of the words are not the same at all. For example, Americans say *restroom*, Canadians say *washroom*, and the British say *W.C.* (*water closet*.) But all of these words have the same meaning (the room where the toilet is located.)

However, globally native speakers are in the minority as perhaps as many as a billion more people use it as a non-native language. In some countries English is an official language; this means that it is used by their governments, churches, schools and business. For example, in Nigeria and Ghana English has the status of an official language; it was chosen so that none of the many different languages belonging to different ethnic groups would be placed above the others.

All round the world people are trying to learn English. People are motivated to learn because it has become the main language of communication in science, business, tourism and travelling by sea. It is also the official language of air-traffic control and airports. Two thirds of all scientists write in English. A Japanese company wishing to negotiate with an Arab client would conduct its negotiations in English. A Columbian doctor reports that he spends as much time improving his English as he does studying medicine.

#### • QUESTIONS. Do not copy literally from the text. (1 punto por respuesta = 4 puntos)

1. What is the role of the United States of America in the overall picture of English in the world?
2. Summarize the differences in the way native speakers of English from Great Britain, Canada and the USA speak and write the language.
3. What does the text say about English as an official language?
4. What motivates people to learn English?

#### • EXERCISES

5. Fill in the gaps with the correct, most appropriate word in each case. (0,25 por acierto = 1 punto)

Which English is the best English (A) \_\_\_\_\_ learn? There is no best English. They are (B) \_\_\_\_\_ equally good and correct. No (C) \_\_\_\_\_ where you study English or (D) \_\_\_\_\_ it is British or American, it is good to know a little about English in other countries.

6. Rephrase the following sentences so that their meaning is as similar to the original as possible. (0,25 por acierto = 1 punto)

- A) It's often quicker by underground than by bus.  
The bus often takes...
- B) It would be a good idea to stay in bed today.  
You'd...
- C) I think you were wrong to forget the keys!  
You shouldn't...
- D) The authors themselves have written a special edition for children.  
A special edition for children...

7. Write a composition about the following topic (100-120 words). (4 puntos)

What motivates *you* to learn English? Give reasons.