

## Anglès

Model 3. Opció A

Opció elegida

A  B

Nota 1<sup>a</sup>

Nota 2<sup>a</sup>

Nota 3<sup>a</sup>

Aferrau la capçalera d'examen  
un cop acabat l'exercici

**Read the passage carefully and answer the questions in English. USE YOUR OWN WORDS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.**

**Time allowed: 1 hour and 30 minutes. Total score: 10 points.**

### How selfies became a global phenomenon

It starts with a certain angle: a smartphone tilted at 45 degrees just above your eyeline. The pose is important. The sideways smile says you are not taking it too seriously. A casual look denotes natural beauty, as if you have just woken up and cannot help looking like this. Snap! Afterwards, a filter is applied. Outlines are blurred, colours are softened... All of this is the work of an instant. Then, you are ready to upload: to *Twitter*, to *Facebook*, to *Instagram*... Your image is retweeted and tagged and shared. Your screen fills with thumbs-up signs and heart-shaped emoticons. You are "liked" several times over. You feel a shiver of – what, exactly? Approbation? Reassurance? Existential calm? Whatever it is, it is addictive. Soon, you repeat the whole process, trying out a different pose. Again and again, you offer yourself up for public consumption.

This, then, is the selfie: the self-portrait of the digital age. We are all at it. Famous singers, top models, reality TV stars are constantly posting pictures of themselves on the web. The political classes have started doing it too. The trend has even reached outer space: in December, the Japanese astronaut Aki Hoshide took what might be the greatest selfie of all time at the International Space Station.

The selfie is revolutionising how we gather autobiographical information about ourselves and our friends. But why do we feel such a pressing need to share them with hundreds and thousands of friends and strangers online? To some, the selfie has become the ultimate symbol of the narcissistic age. Its instantaneous nature encourages superficiality. One of the possible side-effects has been that we care more than ever before about how we appear and, as a consequence, social acceptance comes only when the outside world accepts the way we look.

However, a selfie can also allow some people, mainly celebrities, to portray themselves in a more authentic way. It is all about self-exposure and control. According to the fashion blogger, Poppy Dinsey, "People like the control selfies give them". But, in some ways, the notion of control is just not real: once a selfie is posted online, it is out there for public consumption. Future employers can see it. Marketers can use it. A resentful former lover could exploit it. You can use digital technology to manipulate your own image as much as you like. But the truth about selfies is that once they are online, you can never control how other people see you.

*Adapted from The Guardian, 22nd May 2014*

#### Vocabulary:

- **Tilt (V)**: To move something so that one side is lower than the other.
- **Blur (V)**: To make or become vague, less distinct or hard to see.



1. Say whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Explain WHY using your own words OR finding evidence in the text. NO marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE. (1 point)

a) All kinds of people seem to take selfies and post them online. (0.5)

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b) People can always control the selfies they post online. (0.5)

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2. In your own words and based on the ideas from the text, answer the following question. NO marks are given for responses copied directly from the text. (1 point)

Why are selfies somehow considered to be a symbol of narcissism?

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3. Find in the text words or phrases which mean the same as the ones below. In the case of verbs, ONLY infinitive forms will be accepted (1 point):

1) A trembling or shaking motion. (0.25)

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2) To test something to see whether it suits you. (0.25)

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3) Urgent, needing attention. (0.25)

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4) Feeling angry or unhappy because you think you have been treated unfairly or without enough respect. (0.25)

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**4. Follow the instructions for each question and answer them (2 points):**

**4.1. Fill the blanks in the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. (0.5)**

A: When ..... you last ..... (hear) about Peter and Mary?

B: Oh, I ..... (see) them for ages. But they are constantly posting selfies on *Facebook* and they look all right.

**4.2. Complete the following sentences with an appropriate word (Use only one word in each blank). (0.5)**

a) You can't become a modern style blogger ..... you post daily updates on what you are wearing.

b) Her husband died a year ago. She was married ..... a very famous doctor.

**4.3. Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. (0.5)**

a) I wish she ..... (send) me pictures of hair and make-up that I like.

b) He was upset about not ..... (be) taken seriously .

**4.4. Join the following two sentences with a relative pronoun (0.5)**

This is a photograph of a top model. I follow her on *Instagram*.

This is .....

**5. Look at the highlighted part of the words below. Three of the words in each line (A, B, C, D) contain the same sound. Circle the word which contains a different sound (1 point):**

5.1. **A) come**      **B) ban**      **C) sudden**      **D) love**      (0.25)

5.2. **A) age**      **B) yoghurt**      **C) joke**      **D) gender**      (0.25)

5.3. **A) any**      **B) sell**      **C) early**      **D) men**      (0.25)

5.4. **A) cash**      **B) chips**      **C) lecture**      **D) catch**      (0.25)



## Anglès

Model 3. Opció B

Opció elegida

A  B

Nota 1ª

Nota 2ª

Nota 3ª

Aferrau la capçalera d'examen

un cop acabat l'exercici

**Read the passage carefully and answer the questions in English. USE YOUR OWN WORDS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.**

**Time allowed: 1 hour and 30 minutes. Total score: 10 points.**

### How to live forever

The director of the Laboratory of Survival and Longevity at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock (Germany), James Vaupel, studies longevity and survival in human and animal populations. According to him, "Life expectancy is increasing two-and-a-half years every decade. That's twenty five years every century".

Worldwide, the number of centenarians – people over the age of 100 – is predicted to increase 10 times as many between 2010 and 2050. A strong component in whether you will live to see this milestone lies in the age of your parents; that is, there is a genetic component to long life. But the rise in centenarians cannot be explained by genetics alone, which clearly have not changed much in the last couple of centuries. Rather, it is a great number of improvements to our lives that cumulatively improve our chances of living longer and stronger. The reasons include better healthcare, improving medical treatments, public health measures like cleaner water and air, better education, and improved standards of living such as houses that are warm and dry. "Mostly it's all about having more medicine and money", says Vaupel.

But why do we age at all? "Every day we suffer damage and don't perfectly repair it", explains Vaupel, "and this accumulation of unrepaired damage is what causes age-related disease". Vaupel admits that it might be possible to rapidly accelerate life expectancy through medical breakthroughs. But he warns that equally, there may be difficulties in the future that we do not anticipate. "Disease, economic crisis, and climate change might cause increases in mortality", he says. According to Gennady Stolyarov, a transhumanist philosopher, "it would be wonderful to get to a world where all death is optional. Right now, essentially all of us are sentenced to the death penalty, even though most of us have done nothing to deserve it".

At present, therefore, readers will have to take comfort in the knowledge that there are well-documented ways to try to avoid the Western world's two biggest killers – heart disease and cancer – through a combination of exercise, healthy eating, and moderation when it comes to alcohol and red meat. Very few of us actually manage to live by these criteria, perhaps because we think a longer life without rich food and wine is not worthy. Which leads to the question– if eternal life was possible, would you be willing to pay the price?

*Adapted from The BBC News, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2014.*



**1. Say whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Explain WHY using your own words OR finding evidence in the text. NO marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE. (1 point)**

a) Genetics alone can conclusively explain why we live longer. (0.5)

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b) Vaupel believes that there might be some problems in the future to ensure our possibilities of living longer. (0.5)

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**2. In your own words and based on the ideas from the text, answer the following question. NO marks are given for responses copied directly from the text. (1 point)**

According to the author, why do not people usually live taking into account well-documented criteria to avoid heart disease and cancer?

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**3. Find in the text words or phrases which mean the same as the ones below. In the case of verbs, ONLY infinitive forms will be accepted (1 point):**

1) A significant or important event in history. (0.25)

.....

2) Changes that you make to something in order to make it better. (0.25)

.....

3) Not wet, free from moisture. (0.25)

.....

4) To earn something because of the way you have behaved. (0.25)

.....

**4. Follow the instructions for each question and answer them (2 points):**

**4.1. Fill the blanks in the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. (0.5)**

A: Hey, what are you doing? why ..... you .....  
(turn on) the TV?

B: I ..... (watch) a documentary on life expectancy  
which starts in five minutes.

**4.2. Complete the following sentences with an appropriate word (Use only one word in each blank). (0.5)**

a) Why don't you go for a walk ..... of sitting here doing nothing?

b) In the end, I didn't go to the gym. Neither ..... I.

**4.3. Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. (0.5)**

a) I feel much better. I needn't ..... (take) the medicine.

b) Would you mind ..... (put out) your cigarette?

**4.4. Rewrite the following sentence in reported speech. (0.5)**

Will you take me to the doctor?, she asked me.

She asked .....

**5. Look at the highlighted part of the words below. Three of the words in each line (A, B, C, D) contain the same sound. Circle the word which contains a different sound (1 point):**

5.1. **A) jaw**      **B) note**      **C) coat**      **D) over**      (0.25)

5.2. **A) behind**      **B) hear**      **C) hill**      **D) honest**      (0.25)

5.3. **A) like**      **B) cereal**      **C) black**      **D) car**      (0.25)

5.4. **A) fall**      **B) cod**      **C) what**      **D) fox**      (0.25)



Aferrau una etiqueta identificativa de codi de barres

6. Write a composition of 120-150 words on the following topic. Answer all the questions (4 points):

What do you enjoy most about life? If eternal life was possible, would you like to live forever? Explain.

.....

Total number of words: . . . . .

<b>Assessment criteria:</b>					
<b>Task fulfilment:</b>	0	0.25	0.50	0.75	1
<b>Grammar:</b>	0	0.25	0.50	0.75	1
<b>Organisation:</b>	0	0.25	0.50	0.75	1
<b>Vocabulary:</b>	0	0.25	0.50	0.75	1
<b>Total :</b>					