



Anglès

Model 2A

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.

Playing video games does not make you a better person. But that is not the point.

At a debate on technology and the future a few months ago, the panel chair stated that computer games merely teach us how to play other computer games. If that is true, does it prove that games are practically worthless? Well, not really. I have been puzzled for a long time by the modern tendency to try to justify life experiences by pointing to research about how they “make us better” in some way. You know the kind of thing: Walking in the countryside improves cardiovascular function by 14%, believing in God increases lifespan by 2.6 years, falling in love increases self-esteem, etc. As if there are no other – important, immeasurable – reasons to go for a nice stroll or find a life partner. As if you should try to make yourself do things just to achieve the supposed “benefits”.

I do not see why games should be trying to “teach” us anything. On the contrary, I think that, like any other rich field of human activity, games have experiences to offer that you cannot find anywhere else. To take just three key examples: first, games are the only medium that can produce what the writer Andrea Phillips has brilliantly described as “the emotions of agency”. A novel can let you into a character’s triumph in battle, but only a game can make you feel proud of your victory. The second kind of experience you can get from games is related but distinct: deep, visceral identification with the player-character. Of course we have all identified with our favourite characters in stories, but if they keep too far from the kind of person we imagine ourselves to be, the identification is broken. In games, however, the identification is instinctive and immediate. Move the controller joystick: The character on the screen moves. “Oh, that’s me,” you say. Finally, games have that same electric tension you might find in the theatre, but instead of watching the actors, you are both the actor and the audience.

Games can be surreal, joyful and terrifying. If you never engage with them, you are missing out on part of the richness of contemporary culture. Of course, I cannot promise you that they will raise your intelligence quotient or improve your hand-eye co-ordination. But when was that ever the point of doing anything?

Adapted from The Guardian, 8th November 2015

Vocabulary:

- **Panel chair** (N) = a person who conducts a public discussion.
- **Joystick** (N) = a handle or lever used to control the movement of a computer's cursor, as in a video game.

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) The author believes games should not try to make us better people. (0.5)

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b) People do not easily identify with the player-characters in games. (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, what is the main point of playing video games?

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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) Having no practical or financial value. (0.25)

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2) A slow, leisurely walk without a definite direction, often for pleasure. (0.25)

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3) Crucial, essential, major. (0.25)

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4) To fail to experience or take advantage of something (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: Look, I have just bought a new video game.

B: Really, I
(see) it?

A: Sure, here you are.

B: That's great. (be) it too expensive?

A: Yes, quite so.

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

a) Mark is a good friend of who hates videogames.

b) He always wins. I wish I could be so good playing it.

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

a) He went to Tom's house (try out) his new computer game.

b) You mustn't (spend) so much time gaming.

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

I would like to visit the shop. John bought his new video game there.

I

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)** ball **B)** coke **C)** shore **D)** saw (0.25)

5.2. **A)** likes **B)** closes **C)** houses **D)** chances (0.25)

5.3. **A)** matches **B)** picture **C)** bridge **D)** chair (0.25)

5.4. **A)** visited **B)** wanted **C)** decided **D)** called (0.25)



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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.

Leonardo DiCaprio uses Oscar speech to speak out on climate change

While Leonardo DiCaprio took home his first Oscar on Sunday at the 88th annual Academy Awards, he used his speech to discuss climate change. The American actor emphasized that he saw the direct results of the changing planet while shooting the historical adventure film "The Revenant". According to DiCaprio, "Making 'The Revenant' was about man's relationship to the natural world, the world that we collectively felt in 2015 as the hottest year in reported history — our production needed to move to the southern tip of this planet just to be able to find snow", he said. The best actor winner declared: "Climate change is real. It is happening right now. It's the most urgent threat facing our entire species and we need to work collectively together and stop procrastinating". DiCaprio's closing comments were especially harsh on politicians. "We need to support leaders around the world who do not speak for the big polluters, but who speak for all of humanity...for our children's children, and for those people out there whose voices have been drowned out by the politics of greed. I thank you all for this amazing award tonight. Let us not take this planet for granted. I do not take tonight for granted".

As an active environmentalist, the actor often uses social media as a platform to inform others about the planet's issues, often re-tweeting President Obama, World Wildlife Fund and Greenpeace and sharing relevant articles on his Facebook page. Earlier this month, DiCaprio received the Crystal Award, which recognizes the achievements of leading artists who have shown commitment to improving the state of the world, at the World Economic Forum. DiCaprio was not the only winner to speak out about climate change. Jenny Beavan, who won best costume design for "Mad Max: Fury Road", also took the opportunity to talk about the environment. "I just want to say one quite serious thing, I've been thinking about this a lot, but actually it could be horribly prophetic, 'Mad Max,' if we're not kinder to each other, and if we don't stop polluting our atmosphere, so you know, it could happen," Beavan said.

Times seem to have changed and clearly this year's Oscars were the most politically charged ever.

Adapted from Variety Editions, US, 28th February 2016

Vocabulary:

- **Drown out** (V) = to be louder than other sounds so that you cannot hear them.

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) According to Leonardo DiCaprio, climate change is a pressing issue that requires immediate attention. (0.5)

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b) Jenny Beavan received the Crystal Award for best costume design. (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 is Leonardo DiCaprio's speech thought to be harsh on politicians?

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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) Avarice; excessive or strong desire for wealth, profit, or possessions. (0.25)

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2) To assume something without question or treat it with careless indifference. (0.25)

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3) Things that somebody has done successfully, especially using their own effort and skill. (0.25)

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4) A set of clothes worn by actors in a play or film. (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 was the last time you (go) to the cinema?

B: More than a month ago, I guess.

A: Well, then you (like) to watch Leonardo DiCaprio's new film some day this week?

B: Yes, sure. Give me a call.

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

a) Politicians should try to a bigger effort to combat climate change.

b) I think he is a huge fan of 'Star Wars', he?

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

a) He performed (brilliant) as Hamlet.

b) I would prefer (stay) at home at the weekends.

4.4. Rewrite the sentence using a modal verb. Do not change the meaning of the original sentence (0.5)

I'm certain it is a really good film.

It

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) phone** **B) old** **C) some** **D) so** (0.25)

5.2. **A) tie** **B) dye** **C) pea** **D) shy** (0.25)

5.3. **A) sore** **B) save** **C) suit** **D) sure** (0.25)

5.4. **A) jumped** **B) tried** **C) lived** **D) rained** (0.25)

