

PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD
MATERIAS COMUNES: FASE GENERAL
CURSO 2015–2016

MATERIA: INGLÉS

(2)

Convocatoria:

JUNIO

La prueba de Lengua Extranjera de INGLÉS consta de dos opciones (A y B). El alumnado tiene que optar por una de ellas y responder a todas las preguntas de la misma.

OPCIÓN A

Albert Einstein: the man who predicted gravitational waves

1 The detection of gravitational waves, announced in February, proves an Albert Einstein theory right. He made huge progress in physics, to the point that his surname is used as another way of calling someone a genius. Yet there is a lot more to know about the man himself. He played the violin, he started learning when he was a young boy and continued playing until old age stopped his left hand from being able to
5 move as quickly and precisely as was needed. He was a particular fan of the works of Mozart and Bach.

10 However, his teachers at school said he would “never get anywhere”. He did not enjoy studying humanities subjects. He struggled with writing and it is widely supposed that he had dyslexia, in a time before it was routinely tested for. Einstein failed his university entrance exam on his first attempt. It was not until a year later, in 1896, that he passed and could start his studies to be a subject teacher for mathematics and physics. Finding a job as a teacher at university was not easy for him either. He started to apply for jobs at different universities in 1900, but he had to wait until 1909 to obtain his first job as associate professor. Einstein published his first scientific paper in 1901, made revolutionary strides in physics including developing the theory of general relativity, and was given the Nobel Prize in 1921.

15 After Einstein died, his brain was measured and weighed by scientists. Pieces of it were sent around the world in the post. His brain was found to have more tightly-packed neurons than usual, which might have allowed him to process information more quickly than other people. The part of his brain responsible for spatial cognition and mathematical thought was wider than normal. But some people say this is all speculation - and it would be hard to prove any link between his physical brain and his genius.

(324 words)

Adapted from *BBC News*, 12 February 2016

1. **Say whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE according to the text. Copy the evidence from the text. No marks will be given without the evidence. (1.5 points)**

- a) Einstein had to retake his university entrance exam as he didn't pass the first try.
- b) Albert Einstein only played Mozart and Bach on the violin.
- c) Einstein is broadly believed to have suffered from dyslexia in a time when nobody else did.

2. **Choose ONLY THREE of the following words and write a synonym (=), an opposite (≠), a definition or a sentence (only one of these four) to show that you understand their meaning in the text. Use your own words. (1.5 points)**

- a) – huge (line 2)
- b) – yet (line 3)
- c) – to struggled (line 7)
- d) – to weigh (line 14)
- e) – to allow (line 16)
- f) – speculation (line 18)

3. Read this conversation between two people and complete it. Write the numbers (1-8) and complete each sentence on your exam paper. (2 points)

Sarah questions Lola about her upcoming trip to England over a cup of coffee at the café

- Sarah:** So, Lola, what's new?
Lola: I'm going overseas.
Sarah: Really, (1) _____?
Lola: I'm going to England.
Sarah: Wow! That sounds exciting! When are you going?
Lola: (2) _____
Sarah: And how long are you planning to stay there?
Lola: (3) _____
Sarah: More than a year? That's quite a long time.
Lola: I know.
Sarah: Is it your first time abroad?
Lola: Yes, it is and (4) _____
Sarah: Don't worry. England is a very safe country. You'll be OK.
Lola: (5) _____?
Sarah: Not many. There's a very inexpensive clothing store called Primark and you can buy whatever you need there.
Lola: Should I take warm clothes? I don't know what the weather is like there.
Sarah: It's cold in the winter and can be quite warm in the summer and it's always raining.
Lola: (6) _____?
Sarah: Yes, you'll certainly need that and also take a good raincoat. If you're staying for a year, you do need winter clothes.
Lola: OK. Do I need a visa?
Sarah: Of course not. England and Spain are both part of the European Union. Have you got your ticket yet?
Lola: Not yet. (7) _____?
Sarah: Check the ads in the magazines. Shop around. Look for the cheapest fare.
Lola: That's a good idea.
Sarah: (8) _____?
Lola: I'm going on my own.
Sarah: You're going alone! Great! You're very brave!

4. Choose only 4 of the following situations. Write what you would say in or about each one to show that you understand the context of the situation. Between 6 and 20 words. (2 points)

- 1.- Your best friend organised a pyjama party last Friday, but she didn't invite you. Express your dissatisfaction.
- 2.- You are not wearing trainers for the PE class. Explain why to your teacher.
- 3.- Your friend insists on going out tonight. Explain why you can't go.
- 4.- You are getting dressed to go out, but your friend can't stop telling you to hurry up and that makes you nervous. Complain about it.
- 5.- Your father is very angry with you because you have lost your keys again. Apologise and make a promise.
- 6.- Your father tells you, "Facebook is bad for your grades". Express your disagreement.

5. Write a composition of about 100 words on ONE of the following topics. (3 points)

- a) – Write an email to a friend who is living in Madrid and wants to stop studying when he finishes "ESO", encouraging him to continue.
- b) – The difficulty of choosing what to do when you finish "Bachillerato".

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OPCIÓN B

#HappyBirthdayTwitter!

1 Twitter entered the world ten years ago, on March 21st 2006, when Jack Dorsey, an American engineer, sent the first tweet ever– “Just setting up my twttr,”– it read. The social media site was designed by Dorsey, Evan Williams, Biz Stone and Noah Glass, and initially named 'twttr'.
5 However, the famous hashtag, essential to the service, was not created by Twitter. It was proposed by a user, called @Chris Messina who posted the first hashtag on Twitter “How do you feel about using # for groups?” in 2007. Since then, influential hashtags such as #YesAllWomen, #JeSuisParis, #BlackLivesMatter or, #RefugeesWelcome have been used as a form of social activism.

10 People and organizations are using social media to spread their ideas and gain support for their causes. With respect to Twitter, in fact, the term “Twitter Revolution” is used to refer to the different revolutions and protests in the Middle East and North Africa where the social networking site has helped provide information to the world. During the 2009 Iranian Presidential Election, for example, a US State Department official emailed Jack Dorsey telling him: "It appears Twitter is playing an important role at a crucial time in Iran. Could you keep it going?" This really illustrates the growing importance and influence Twitter has over the world. That is precisely why the platform is banned in countries like Pakistan, Turkey, Iran, China, Vietnam and North Korea.
15

On its tenth birthday, Twitter has 320 million users including hundreds of celebrities such as Taylor Swift, Justin Bieber, Katy Perry, Adele and, surprisingly, President Barack Obama. The platform has been used to break big celebrity news and share selfies. For instance, Leonardo DiCaprio's Oscar win for Best Actor in *The Revenant* broke Twitter record (440,000 tweets per minute).

20 It will take a few years before Twitter’s true power becomes clear, but its role in everything from political movements to how companies market themselves is undeniable. Yet, the social media giant is in trouble. The company is losing users as its competitors – Facebook, Snapchat or Instagram – just keep growing bigger and stronger.

(340 words)

Adapted from *www.entrepreneur.com*

1. Say whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE according to the text. Copy the evidence from the text. No marks will be given without the evidence. (1.5 points)

- a) The hashtag was invented by one of the co-founders of Twitter.
- b) The e-mail sent to Dorsey shows the power and impact of Twitter.
- c) Twitter is allowed all over the world.

2. **Choose ONLY THREE of the following words and write a synonym (=), an opposite (≠), a definition or a sentence (only one of these four) to show that you understand their meaning in the text. Use your own words. (1.5 points)**

a) – influential (line 6)

d) – to ban (line 15)

b) – activism (line 7)

e) – to share (line 18)

c) – crucial (line 13)

f) – yet (line 21)

3. **Read this conversation between two people and complete it. Write the numbers (1-8) and complete each sentence on your exam paper. (2 points)**

Conversation at the bus station between tourist and resident ticket clerk

Tourist: Morning, Can I have a ticket to the airport?

Ticket clerk: (1) _____?

Tourist: I'd like a ticket to the airport, please

Ticket clerk: Sorry, (2) _____

Tourist: I want a bus ticket to the airport!

Ticket clerk: Okay, Okay! No need to shout. It's crystal clear, a ticket to the airport.

Tourist: (3) _____?

Ticket clerk: It's 15 pounds.

Tourist: Oh, well. I haven't got enough money. (4) _____?

Ticket clerk: Yes, of course.

Tourist: How long does the journey take?

Ticket clerk: (5) _____

Tourist: And which platform does the bus leave from?

Ticket clerk: The next bus leaves from platform 2 in (6) _____

Tourist: Okay.

Ticket clerk: (7) _____, your ticket and your receipt.

Tourist: Thanks.

Ticket clerk: You're welcome. (8) _____!

4. **Choose only 4 of the following situations. Write what you would say in or about each one to show that you understand the context of the situation. Write between 6 and 20 words. (2 points)**

1. Your boyfriend/girlfriend complains about your lack of punctuality. Apologise and give an explanation.
2. A friend's mother invites you to spend the weekend with them. Give a polite refusal.
3. A classmate says, "I love the Spanish Language lessons". Express your disagreement.
4. Your granny tells you, "Recently, you hardly ever visit me!" Give her an explanation and make a promise.
5. Your brother/sister always forgets to switch off the light when he/she goes out. Give him/her some advice.
6. One of your teachers says, "Education is teaching students how to think, not what to think!" Express your agreement.

5. **Write a composition of about 100 words on ONE of the following topics. (3 points)**

a) – Are social networking sites good for our society?

b) – Write Jack Dorsey, Twitter co-founder, a congratulation e-mail for company anniversary.