



UNIVERSIDAD DE CANTABRIA

PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD

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INGLÉS

OPCIÓN DE EXAMEN Nº 1

Spanish School is Good for Your Kids

Studies have shown there are significant long term benefits to moving a child abroad and the younger the children are, the easier it will be for them to adapt to school in Spain.

Researchers from University College London conducted a study in 2004 which revealed that children who had moved abroad and learned a second language were more intelligent. A further study showed that children who had lived abroad had higher levels of resilience, a better understanding of the world and were more compassionate to people of different ethnicities. In simple terms, living abroad can increase both the intelligence and social capacity of a child.

Psychologists have found that the best age to move a child is either before the age of two or between the ages of six and eight. Between three and six, children seem to suffer a great deal of homesickness and after the age of eight they tend to struggle far more with the language barrier.

The number of foreigners in Spain is continually rising. Kids are surprisingly resilient and adapt quickly to their new lives. Those who have made the move often say that the quality of life for their children is far better in Spain than at home, due to more leisure time, an outdoors lifestyle and less crime.

Adapted from an Article by Jennifer Sheen from *Spanish Living.com* June 2011.

Question 1: [2 POINTS] Indicate whether the following statements are true or false and write down which part of the text justifies your answer.

- a) It is better to move abroad when your children are very young.
- b) The optimum age for moving children to a foreign country is when they are nine.
- c) The numbers of foreign people coming to Spain is gradually falling.
- d) British people that move to Spain say that the quality of life for their children in Spain is worse than the quality of life for their children in the U.K.

Question 2: [2 POINTS] Answer the following questions in your own words according to the text.

- a) What benefits to children that move abroad have the studies shown?
- b) What are the main differences between living in the U.K. and living in Spain?

Question 3: [1,5 POINTS] Find words or phrases in the text that correspond to the words and definitions given.

- a) Overseas (paragraph 1).
- b) Much (paragraph 3).
- c) Adjust (paragraph 4).

Question 4: [1,5 POINTS] Complete the following sentences without changing the meaning.

- a) They will delay the rescue because of the heavy rain.
The rescue “.....”
- b) “Don’t smoke in the waiting room, please” the nurse told the patients.
The nurse told the patients
- c) “Will you be home before nine tonight?” my mother asked me.
My mother asked me

Question 5: [3 POINTS] Write a short essay (about 120-150 words) on the following topic:

- Do you think it is important to learn a second language? Why?/Why not? Give reasons.

OPCIÓN DE EXAMEN Nº 2

South Korea Switches to Digital Textbooks in the Classroom

South Korea is planning to change from paper to digital textbooks in the next few years. The content of South Korea's school subjects will be available on PC's, iPads and mobile phones by 2015. The education department has announced that South Korea is preparing for a new digital revolution that will change schools of the future.

The project was started last summer. Classrooms throughout the Asian country will be equipped with wireless LANs so that students can access learning materials whenever and wherever they want. Pupils will no longer have to carry heavy schoolbags.

Compared to South Korea, western nations lag behind. American president Barack Obama has announced that the United States is installing a national learning centre to improve teaching standards and develop new teaching methods.

Educational experts are currently discussing whether digital technology in the classroom makes a great difference. Some argue that bad pupils will stay bad even if they have a computer in front of them. They agree, however, that going digital could motivate children and help schools save money. The biggest problem is how to get teachers to integrate new technologies into their lessons.

Other experts focus on a social problem. Introducing digital learning materials to the classroom could create two groups of children; those who have access to these new technologies and are able to use them and those who do not. The first group will have advantages in getting a good job, the others will stay behind.

Critics also fear that digitizing all learning materials will result in lack of trust. People have more confidence in textbooks simply because content is written in print, whereas material published on the Internet is subject to scepticism.

Adapted from an Article by Liz Dwyer from *Good Education* July 2011.

Question 1: [2 POINTS] Indicate whether the following statements are true or false and write down which part of the text justifies your answer.

- South Korea is getting ready for a dramatic change in technology.
- Some experts argue that although bad students have access to a computer this will not improve them.
- Students that are able to use new technologies will have difficulty in getting a good job.
- Critics are afraid that the digitized material cannot be relied on.

Question 2: [2 POINTS] Answer the following questions in your own words according to the text.

- What improvements will the project started last summer bring to schools in South Korea?
- What social problems could be created for children by introducing digital learning materials to the classroom according to some experts?

Question 3: [1,5 POINTS] Find words or phrases in the text that correspond to the words and definitions given.

- To transport (paragraph 2)
- To fall behind (paragraph 3).
- To incorporate (paragraph 4).

Question 4: [1,5 POINTS] Complete the following sentences without changing the meaning.

- Experts say that this sculpture dates form the 12th century.
This sculpture
- "We are not going on holidays this year. We can't afford it", she told her children.
She told her children
- The committee is going to appoint new members.
New members

Question 5: [3 POINTS] Write a short essay (about 120-150 words) on the following topic:

- Do you think digital technology will improve Education? Why?/Why not? Give reasons.