

Proves d'accés a la universitat

Llengua estrangera **Anglès**

Sèrie 2 - A

	Qualificació	Etiqueta de qualificació
Comprensió escrita		
Redacció		
Comprensió oral		

Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal

Número del tribunal

Convocatòria 2017

HOW A ROBOT COULD BE GRANDMA'S NEW CAREGIVER

With an ageing population and care costs rising, robots and smart homes may be a solution.

But would you want a plastic dog to look after your loved ones?

Sitting in a studio in Kensington, London, the designer Sebastian Conran walks me through a worst-case scenario. “Basically, what it’s looking for is a break in routine,” he explains, pointing to a drawing of an elderly woman lying on the floor of her home. “There’s an event. The e-sensor in the room notices that you’ve fallen over. MiRo goes to investigate.” MiRo is a robotic dog. There is an early model close to where we are sitting. Its head sits above a torso without arms or legs, its ears carry hidden speakers, and its big eyes stare out at me.

Conran’s company describes MiRo as a biomimetic companion robot, and says it will eventually work with facial recognition technology to make life easier for its owner. For example, the robot could **prompt** people to take medicine, or remind them of visitors’ names, or question them if it thinks there is a problem. “It tries talking to you,” he continues, “and then it will send a signal to the central office. Someone in the central office will then talk on the home speaker, asking if you’re all right, and telling you to touch your wrist.” Conran points at the wristband the elderly woman in the picture is wearing. It is another key part of his system because it monitors the vital signs of its wearer 24 hours a day. “If you touch your wrist the process will stop but will be recorded,” he says. “If you don’t touch your wrist it will contact a caregiver, who can see your heart rate and body temperature. The system rewinds the recording using the cameras in the home to see what happened. So when the ambulance gets there, the doctor will know what to expect.”

Many of these visions are just **emerging**, but at a time of rising elderly populations and less government **funding** for health care, they raise important questions about where we are going with care. Can robots supplement human contact? Do economic realities mean technology is pushing some of society’s most vulnerable into the arms of machines?

The technologists insist that their creations are designed to work alongside people, and not to replace them. They say there is a lot of misunderstanding about what robots are and whether they could have human-like qualities and give emotional support. Some technologists are against the idea of robots that resemble humans precisely for this reason. There are things that people are good at, and there are things that machines are good at. Designing robots to look like human beings could dangerously confuse these lines, they warn. Politicians might decide to spend much less money on doctors and nurses because they think robots can do everything.

Is a robot something people would actually want as a caregiver? Conran mentions an interesting point. For the generations now growing up that are accustomed to digital culture, centred on their instant gratification, the idea of 24-hour attention may even be desired. “These people are going to have completely different expectations,” he says. “They will expect the state to provide for them in a different way than previous generations did. The quality of life has constantly got better and better, and we’re coming up against the fact that, instead of getting better and better, things are beginning to drop off. Ageing needs to be improved.”

Text adapted from an article by

Thomas McMULLAN. *The Guardian* (November 6, 2016)

caregiver: cuidador, cuidadora

to prompt: indicar

to emerge: emergir / emerger

funding: fons / fondos

Part 2: Writing

Choose ONE topic. Write about number 1 or 2. Minimum length: 100 words.

[4 points]

1. Robots and other machines now do many things that only people used to do. Do you think using robots to monitor people's health is a good idea? Would you like to have a robot monitor you when you are sick, or when you grow old? Write an opinion essay.
2. You and your older relative have very different views of mobile phones. You think using a mobile phone is essential for maintaining contact with your friends and finding out what is going on in the world, and your older relative thinks that mobile phones may be convenient but really don't replace personal meetings, conventional telephones, watching television or reading the newspaper. Write the dialogue between you.

Grammar	
Vocabulary	
Text	
Maturity	
Total	
Nota de la redacció	

Part 3: Listening comprehension

SALVADOR DALÍ'S COOKBOOK

In the following conversation you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

gold-leaf: full d'or / hoja de oro

velvet: vellut / terciopelo

peacock: paó / pavo real

to clog: obstruir

lean: magre, sense greix / magra, sin grasa

canvas: llenç / lienzo

Ready?

Now read the questions on the following page. Read them carefully before listening to the conversation.

If you're of a certain age or if you love surrealist art, then you probably remember Salvador Dalí. He was widely known for his celebrity persona, his pointy mustache and his paintings filled with melting clocks and exotic deserts. But did you know that Dalí also enjoyed exotic desserts? Turns out that the artist published a cookbook in the early 1970s. It was called *Les dîners de Gala* or *The Dinners of Gala*, named for his wife. In the following interview, journalist Hank Ghazi talks to publisher Alexi Horowitz, who is preparing a facsimile of the original.

[Now listen to the interview.]

QUESTIONS

Choose the best answer according to the recording. Only ONE answer is correct.

[2 points: 0.25 points for each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.08 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

		Espai per al corrector/a		
		Correcta	Incorrecta	No contestada
1.	When did Alexi find out about the book? ☐ While looking for exotic French recipes. ☐ While talking to a publisher. ☐ While she was in a 30 year-old bookstore. ☐ While looking at old books in Germany.	☐	☐	☐
2.	Which of the following statements is TRUE? ☐ The book turns the joy of eating into a form of punishment. ☐ In one of their dinner parties, they served a unicorn's head. ☐ Dalí often showed food in his paintings. ☐ Gala used to preside over the table in red velvet slippers.	☐	☐	☐
3.	When he was eight years old, Dalí ☐ wanted to be Napoleon. ☐ wanted to be a cook. ☐ knew he would become a painter. ☐ didn't have any passions.	☐	☐	☐
4.	Which of the following are NOT part of the book? ☐ Drawings of exotic animals. ☐ Photographs of the painter with peacocks. ☐ Sketches of restaurants in Paris. ☐ Pyramids of lobsters and decadent dishes.	☐	☐	☐
5.	Which of the following best describes the recipes in the book? ☐ Meat is a very important ingredient in most of them. ☐ They are indicated for people who are calorie-conscious. ☐ They mix goose meat with chicken breast and salad. ☐ Avocados are served with cream sauces.	☐	☐	☐
6.	In what ways do the recipes resemble Dalí's paintings? ☐ Some of his small paintings could be eaten. ☐ Interpretations of both have changed a lot in the last 40 years. ☐ They both can be adapted to more modern tastes. ☐ They both share a desire to create a visual impact.	☐	☐	☐
7.	How many versions of the book will be published? ☐ One, exactly as it was published in the early 70s. ☐ Two, one with gold leaf and one without it. ☐ One, with all the recipes but cheaper than the original. ☐ Two, one with all the recipes and one with just a selection.	☐	☐	☐
8.	How did Dalí view the dinner table? ☐ As a collection of hard-to-find ingredients. ☐ It was an exception to his endless creativity. ☐ As a canvas, just like the rest of the world. ☐ He thought it was a tribute to his book.	☐	☐	☐

Recompte de les respostes

Nota de comprensió oral

Correctes Incorrectes No contestades

Etiqueta del corrector/a

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Etiqueta identificadora de l’alumne/a



Institut
d'Estudis
Catalans