



Proves d'accés a la universitat

2019

Llengua estrangera **Anglès**

Sèrie 1 - A

Qualificació		TR
Comprensió escrita		
Redacció		
Comprensió oral		
Suma de notes parcials		
Qualificació final		

Etiqueta de l'alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal

Número del tribunal

Etiqueta de qualificació

Etiqueta del corrector/a

THE EMOJI IS THE BIRTH OF A NEW TYPE OF LANGUAGE (NO JOKE)

Tyler Schnoebelen has discovered something curious about why people use the skull emoji. Schnoebelen is a linguist and the chief analyst for Idibon, a firm that interprets linguistic data. Recently he got interested in emoji. He analyzed a million social media posts containing those familiar little pictograms and found that when people talk about their phone, they're 11 times more likely to use the skull. Weird, right? But to Schnoebelen, it makes sense. Our phones, he points out, are social lifelines, and when they malfunction—a weak signal, short battery life—we're upset. "When you don't have access to your phone, or when nobody's texting you, you're socially dead," he says. So we reach for a metaphorical emoji: the skull.

Fully 92 percent of all people online use emoji now, and one-third of them do so daily. On Instagram, nearly half of the posts contain emoji, a trend that began in 2011 when Apple's iOS added an emoji keyboard. Rates increased when Android did the same two years later. Emoji are so popular they're killing off **netspeak**. The more we use emoji, the less we use LOL and OMG.

In essence, we're watching the birth of a new type of language. Emoji assist in a peculiarly modern task: conveying emotions in short, online texts. "They're trying to solve one of the big problems of writing online, which is that you have the words but you don't have the tone of voice," as Gretchen McCulloch, a linguist, says.

Purists are not so convinced. What have we become, children with **crayons**? Surely words alone can convey emotional tone. Maybe—if you're a novelist with years of experience. But most of us write speedily and conversationally on Instagram or WhatsApp. Of the 20 most frequently used emoji, nearly all are hearts, smilies, or hand gestures—the ones that express feelings. In an age of rapid chatter, emoji aid communication by adding an emotional meaning to the message.

We also use emoji to express a sort of ambient presence, when words alone aren't enough. Ryan Kelly, a computer scientist at the University of Bath, has found that texters often exchange a few emoji as nonverbal conclusion to a conversation. "You might not have anything else left to say," Kelly says, "but you want the person to know that you're thinking of them." So you send a couple of pandas. Or telescopes! Or some other symbol that seems **witty**. This is another aspect of emoji—many are open-ended. In fact, it is known that friends use that flexibility to assign their own private meanings to specific emoji. (My wife and I use the Easter Island head to connote absurdity.)

People are even developing syntax and rules of use for emoji. Schnoebelen found that when face emoji are used, they tend to occur before other objects. If you text about a late flight, you'll put an unhappy face followed by a plane, not the reverse. In linguistic terms, this is called conveying "**stance**." Just as with face-to-face talk, our expression illustrates our stance before we've spoken a word.

Social pessimists can stop worrying; no linguist thinks that this means the end of writing. Natural language is our most powerful communication tool. For most people, these ideograms represent an upgrade. Language always changes: slang is born, develops and becomes obsolete, for example. But it's exceedingly rare—maybe unprecedented—for languages with phonetic alphabets to suddenly acquire a big expansion pack of ideograms. In an age when we write more than ever, emoji are the new language of the heart.

Text adapted from an article by
Clive THOMPSON. *Wired* [online] (April 19, 2016)

netspeak: llenguatge del ciberespai / lenguaje del ciberespacio

crayon: llapis de cera / lápiz de cera

witty: enginyós / ingenioso

stance: actitud

Part 2: Writing

Choose ONE topic. Your answer should be 125-150 words in length. There is no specific penalty for exceeding 150 words in length. Extra points are not given for exceeding 150 words.
[4 points]

1. “Emoji is the new language of the heart.” Do you agree with the author’s statement? **Write an opinion essay.**
2. Although friendships can last a lifetime, it is also true that sometimes our relationship with a friend or someone in our family can take a turn for the worse. **Write a narrative essay** explaining what led to the breakup of a friendship.

Grammar	
Vocabulary	
Text	
Maturity	
Total	
Nota de la redacció	

Part 3: Listening comprehension

‘MOBY-DUCK’: WHEN 28,800 BATH TOYS ARE LOST AT SEA

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

to end up: resultar

deck: cubierta / cubierta

to stack: apilar

to maneuver: maniobrar, operar

Ready?

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

Presenter: This is *Fresh Air*, our weekly program devoted to the environment. What happens when 28,000 rubber ducks and other bath toys are accidentally dumped into the ocean? Where do the ocean currents take them, and what environmental impact do the ducks and other ocean junk have on the seas? That’s what our guest, the journalist Donovan Hahn, investigated in his book *Moby-Duck: The True Story of 28,800 Bath Toys Lost at Sea and the Beachcombers, Oceanographers, Environmentalists, and Fools, Including the Author, Who Went in Search of Them*.

[Now listen to the interview.]

QUESTIONS

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

[3 points: 0.375 points for each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.125 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

		Espai per al corrector/a		
		Correcta	Incorrecta	No contestada
1.	Where were the lost toy ducks first found? ☐ Alaska. ☐ Canada. ☐ China. ☐ Oregon.	☐	☐	☐
2.	How long did it take the first rubber ducks to surface on a beach after their container was lost at sea? ☐ Only three months. ☐ About a year and a half. ☐ Four years. ☐ Almost six years.	☐	☐	☐
3.	How many containers with rubber ducks and other toys were lost at sea? ☐ 12. ☐ 407. ☐ Hundreds and hundreds. ☐ Over 28,000.	☐	☐	☐
4.	Which of the following best describes the cargo ships discussed in the conversation? ☐ They regularly go through the Panama Canal. ☐ They mainly navigate between North America and South America. ☐ They carry hundreds of containers above and below deck. ☐ They almost always drop some containers in the sea.	☐	☐	☐
5.	Which of the following statements is TRUE? ☐ Large ships are better able to navigate in storms than smaller ships. ☐ The ship lost the toys in the Graveyard of the Pacific. ☐ The weather in the North Pacific is so good that few wrecks occur. ☐ Sailing ships in the 19 th century did not cross the Pacific.	☐	☐	☐
6.	What do we know for certain about the accident that resulted in the loss of rubber ducks at sea? ☐ It occurred at night. ☐ It occurred during the day. ☐ It occurred because of an error by the ship's captain. ☐ It occurred when there were high waves.	☐	☐	☐
7.	We can deduce from the conversation that the toys were originally ☐ packed in plastic bags. ☐ packed in cardboard boxes. ☐ not individually packed. ☐ made out of cardboard.	☐	☐	☐
8.	Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an important source of plastics in the oceans? ☐ Waste from coastal cities. ☐ Fishing fleets. ☐ Garbage dumps. ☐ Cruise ships.	☐	☐	☐
		Correctes	Incorrectes	No contestades
Recompte de les respostes		☐	☐	☐
Nota de comprensió oral				

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Etiqueta de l'alumne/a



Institut
d'Estudis
Catalans



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Llengua estrangera **Anglès**

Sèrie 4 - A

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Etiqueta de l'alumne/a

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THRILLER: MICHAEL JACKSON'S SURPRISING SUCCESS

The album that would become the most successful record in music history went unnoticed by the magazine *Time* when it was first **released** 35 years ago, on November 30, 1982. But it didn't take too long for that to change, as the album sat atop the charts for weeks and revolutionized the entire record industry and the music-video culture. About a year after its **release**, *Thriller* was still selling 200,000 copies a week. By the time Michael Jackson appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine in 1984, the album had become the best-selling album ever (and it still claims that title).

But, while it could be said that a success of that magnitude is always a surprise in some way, *Time*'s music critic Jay Cocks also suggests a deeper reason why the editors at *Time* may have **overlooked** the album when it was first released:

For the record industry, *Thriller* was a restoration of confidence, a rejuvenation. Its effect on listeners, especially younger ones, was nearer to a revelation. *Thriller* brought Black music back to mainstream radio, from which it had been **banished** in the mid-'70s. "No doubt about it," says composer-arranger Quincy Jones, who produced the albums *Off the Wall* and *Thriller* with Jackson. "He took us right up there where we belong. Black music had to **play second fiddle** for a long time, but its spirit is the whole motor of pop. Michael connected with every soul in the world."

Thriller does not have the mean, challenging immediacy of rap, but it is consummate contemporary rhythm and blues. Jane Fonda, one of Jackson's pals, put it as nicely as any music critic: "Michael had a fresh, original sound. The music is energetic, and it's sensual. You can dance to it, work out to it, make love to it, sing to it. It's hard to sit still to."

The pulse of America and much of the rest of the world **beat** in time to the tough **strut** of *Billie Jean*, the asphalt aria of *Beat It*, the cool chills of *Thriller*. *Thriller* was on the Japanese charts for 65 consecutive weeks, and local teens were copying Michael's moves and singing his songs. *Thriller* was also South Africa's top seller: "Jackson bridged the apartheid gap," declared one record executive. The Soviet press in Moscow denounced Jackson, and his fans couldn't buy his records in any stores, but **bootleg** tapes were swapped and treasured.

"Michael used to say, when he wrote, he'd write for everyone," says his mother Katherine, "even though the music business would list it as rhythm and blues because of him being Black." Jackson was the biggest thing in music since The Beatles. He was the hottest single phenomenon since Elvis Presley. He just may be the most popular Black singer ever.

This success, Jones says, "had never happened to a Black performer." Rock critics (who are mostly white) liked *Thriller* well enough and wrote respectfully of it when it was released in December 1982, but they were as surprised as record-company executives (who are mostly white) when the album started **burning its way into** the country's collective musical consciousness. The message is obvious anyway: soul is for sharing, not segregating.

When Jackson died in 2009, *Thriller* was still remembered by many as a high point in his career. "For a generation, the magic is partly nostalgic; everyone in his fifties remembers exactly where they were when they heard *Beat It* for the first time," wrote *Time*'s Richard Corliss in his remembrance of the pop idol. "As a piece of music, it remains the greatest pop album of all time."

Text adapted from an article by
Lily ROTHMAN. *Time* [online] (November 29, 2017)

to release: publicar

release: publicació / publicación

to overlook: passar per alt / pasar por alto

to banish: bandejar / desterrar

to play second fiddle: ser a l'ombra / estar en la sombra

to beat: marcar el ritme / marcar el ritmo

strut: estil de caminar fatxenda / pavoneo

bootleg: còpia pirata / copia pirata

to burn one's way into: establir-se ràpidament i amb força / establecerse rápidamente y con fuerza

Part 2: Writing

Choose ONE topic. Your answer should be 125-150 words in length. There is no specific penalty for exceeding 150 words in length. Extra points are not given for exceeding 150 words.
[4 points]

1. Do you buy music or do you pirate it? Some people argue that we should put an end to music piracy, as it generates huge losses for the record companies and music artists. Others claim that the record companies already have enough money, and that the prices they charge are too expensive. **Write a for-and-against essay** in which you state the pros and cons of paying for music.
2. You have missed a flight due to unexpected delays but you are not offered any rebooking or any compensation from the airline. **Write an email** to the customer service department complaining about the service and asking for compensation. Make sure you do NOT use your own name in your email.

Grammar	
Vocabulary	
Text	
Maturity	
Total	
Nota de la redacció	

Part 3: Listening comprehension

DO YOU GET ON WELL WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE?

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

overload: sobrecàrrega / sobrecarga

mindfulness: atenció plena / atención plena

dopamine: dopamina

boost: estimular

Ready?

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

Presenter: Hello. My name is Anne Smith, and on today's programme Dr. John Thomson is going to help us find out why smartphones are so addictive and how we can break our dependence on them. Can we learn how to renegotiate our relationship with our smartphone?

[Now listen to the interview.]

QUESTIONS

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

[3 points: 0.375 points for each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.125 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

		Espai per al corrector/a		
		Correcta	Incorrecta	No contestada
1.	According to Dr. Thomson, ☐ we are very dependent on mobile phones. ☐ we are addicted to our emotions. ☐ technology harms our mind. ☐ we should not use our phones while eating.	☐	☐	☐
2.	In Dr. Thomson's view, which of the following is NOT true? ☐ We need to learn to use digital devices intentionally. ☐ Mindfulness allows us to observe and reflect on our behaviour. ☐ We should change our text messaging habits to feel better. ☐ We should learn to observe consciously how we feel.	☐	☐	☐
3.	In order to understand how to use technology well, we need to ☐ become aware of how devices affect our lives. ☐ have a lot of determination. ☐ learn how to carry on business with it. ☐ stop using smartphones for entertainment.	☐	☐	☐
4.	Our addiction to technology is based on ☐ the high levels of dopamine in the food we eat. ☐ a neurobiological brain disorder related to eating habits. ☐ a mental condition that makes us forget what to do. ☐ a psychological system of reward related to survival.	☐	☐	☐
5.	E-mails can cause a dopamine hit if they are ☐ answered intermittently. ☐ received at irregular time intervals. ☐ received at regular time intervals. ☐ answered within 30 seconds.	☐	☐	☐
6.	To develop mindfulness, Dr. Thomson asks people to ☐ think about their body before thinking about their phone. ☐ take their phone out, hold it and put it away without turning it on. ☐ think about their phone and what happens in their mind and to their body. ☐ think of three questions to ask him.	☐	☐	☐
7.	In mindfulness training people are supposed to ☐ stop thinking about their own emotions. ☐ avoid expressing their own feelings. ☐ develop an awareness of their own habits. ☐ pay close attention to the others in the room.	☐	☐	☐
8.	When going through mindfulness training, some people ☐ feel anxious when asked to put their phone away. ☐ react violently and throw their phone away. ☐ relax when they put their phone away. ☐ create bad habits in the use of their phone.	☐	☐	☐
		Correctes	Incorrectes	No contestades
Recompte de les respostes		☐	☐	☐
Nota de comprensió oral				

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