



Proves d'accés a la universitat

Llengua estrangera **Anglès**

Sèrie 1 - A

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

Etiqueta de l'alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal

Número del tribunal

Etiqueta de qualificació

Etiqueta del corrector/a

Part 1: Listening comprehension

KAREN BLIXEN, A LIFE MADE FOR FILM

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

supplies: provisions / provisiones

spells of drought: sequera / sequía

hazardous: arriscat / arriesgado

auction: subhasta / subasta

engaged: comprometida / comprometida

breakdown: atac, crisi / ataque, crisis

Ready?

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

[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.	Which of these facts is TRUE about Karen Blixen according to the interview? ☐ She enjoyed being interviewed and gave many interviews. ☐ She did not talk much about herself and her ordinary life. ☐ Her father was a rich journalist working for <i>The New York Times</i> . ☐ She arrived in Kenya in the middle of the World War.	☐	☐	☐
2.	Who gave the Blixens money to start their coffee farm? ☐ The English government. ☐ The rulers in Kenya. ☐ A British aristocrat. ☐ Their own families.	☐	☐	☐
3.	Which of these statements is NOT true according to the text? ☐ It rained a lot and the farm was flooded often. ☐ Coffee could not be imported to Great Britain during the war. ☐ Karen Blixen's husband ran into debts. ☐ There were not enough workers for the farm because of the war.	☐	☐	☐
4.	How do we know about Karen Blixen's love affair? ☐ Her husband published a book about their life in Africa. ☐ She wrote about the love affair in <i>Out of Africa</i> . ☐ She wrote a letter to her brother that he made public. ☐ A Danish journalist wrote about it in a Copenhagen newspaper.	☐	☐	☐
5.	What happened to the coffee farm after the Blixens' divorce? ☐ The British government took it over and closed it. ☐ The farm went bankrupt and was sold at auction. ☐ Karen Blixen turned it into a successful business. ☐ Karen Blixen wanted to leave Kenya so she sold the farm.	☐	☐	☐
6.	When did Karen Blixen first start writing? ☐ After she met Denys Finch Hatton. ☐ When she moved back to Denmark from Kenya. ☐ When she was 8 years old. ☐ In 1925, while she was in Kenya.	☐	☐	☐
7.	Why did Karen Blixen stop writing when she got married? ☐ She wanted to follow the general expectations for women at that time. ☐ She and her husband worked on the coffee farm so she did not have time to write. ☐ She was ill most of the time and could not write. ☐ The first short stories she had published had been very poorly received by critics.	☐	☐	☐
8.	What did she do after the publication of <i>Seven Gothic Tales</i> ? ☐ She underwent several severe operations and could not write anymore. ☐ She visited several countries because she wanted to gather information for her books. ☐ She went on writing and gave lectures when her illness allowed. ☐ She changed her name and moved back to Africa.	☐	☐	☐
		Correctes	Incorrectes	No contestades
Recompte de les respostes		☐	☐	☐
Nota de comprensió oral				

Part 2: Reading comprehension

RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINES: HOW UNPLUGGING HELPS

In the past, people could “switch off” after work by simply going home or avoiding dealing with dramatic friends by not picking up the phone. But smartphones, social media and the expectation that everyone should be available all the time have made taking a break much more difficult. From this necessity, a new anti-tech trend has arisen: over the past few years, the concept of *unplugging* has become popular amongst bloggers and youtubers.

It is widely accepted that multitasking and constant email cause a lack of productivity, negatively impact on social relationships and increase stress. But can we reverse these bad consequences if we abstain from using technology? According to most research, the answer is “yes.”

Like a muscle, the brain needs recovery time in order to develop, grow and retain new memories. In fact, shutting off completely may be crucial: a Michigan university study found that students who walked in the woods after learning something new were more likely to retain it. Even brief activities such as taking a short walk, spending time in nature, or just daydreaming can help the brain. Without free time, it is impossible to fully learn new skills and keep the brain at its cognitive best.

Luckily more and more people are becoming aware of the importance of **down time**. Over the past few years, the idea of disconnecting from all online communication has grown into a major movement. In 2010, for instance, a group of Jewish artists created the *Sabbath Manifesto* designed to help people of all faiths and creeds find a day of rest amid the **fuss** of modern technology. This manifesto created the *National Day of Unplugging* which happens once a year, typically in early March.

Recently, countless bloggers have written about technological stress. For example, some of the people behind the lifestyle website *The Minimalists* suggest cancelling home Internet access in order to make using a computer more difficult and less appealing. Even some Internet celebs advocate a more radical approach: a 25-day digital detoxification after realizing their addiction was noticeable. And finally, a well-known magazine journalist has spent an entire year without Internet.

Unplugging is a trendy **buzzword** these days, but hopefully taking technological breaks is not just a **passing fad**. The Internet and mobile communication have grown by impressive leaps in the past ten years. But because we are used to tech companies releasing new and better products every week, we have assumed that more communication is good, more social media sites are better, and the ability to contact anyone at any time is best of all.

In reality, however, this behaviour might be unsustainable. Keeping up with email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other sites round-the-clock have been shown to be exhausting, bad for our brains, our relationships and our productivity. Regardless of length and intensity, technology **fasts** have proved an important point: with a little bit of effort we can stop living through our phones and computer screens. It would be better if we could re-connect with other human beings, thus reducing stress and **enhancing** creativity.

Text adapted from an article by
Sophia BREENE. *Greatist* [online] (June 2015)

down time: temps d'inactivitat / tiempo de inactividad

fuss: rebombori / jaleo

buzzword: paraula en voga / palabra de moda

passing fad: tendència passatgera / tendencia pasajera

fast: dejuni / ayuno

to enhance: augmentar / aumentar

QUESTIONS

Choose the best answer according to the text. 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.	Some years ago people did not answer phone calls so that ☐ they could be connected to the web without disturbance. ☐ they were able to forget about their problems. ☐ they could be available all the time. ☐ they could continue working from home.	☐	☐	☐
2.	According to most research, we can avoid the bad consequences of being permanently connected to the web ☐ if we leave little time for socialization. ☐ if we learn to go without technological tools. ☐ by emailing as little as possible. ☐ if we admit that multitasking harms our friends irreversibly.	☐	☐	☐
3.	A Michigan university study concluded that ☐ our brain only develops when it does not work. ☐ a student must leave the city if he/she wants to learn something new. ☐ students learn best after moments of outdoor relaxation. ☐ brief activities are beneficial for our memories.	☐	☐	☐
4.	The idea of disconnecting from all online communication ☐ was conceived by Israeli social activists. ☐ can unite people from all faiths and creeds. ☐ has induced several organizations to remind people to unplug. ☐ has been discarded because it is too expensive.	☐	☐	☐
5.	Which of these four statements is NOT true according to the text? ☐ Some famous people have decided to unplug for almost a month. ☐ For many network users, technological stress is a serious issue. ☐ If home Internet access is available, switching on a computer is appealing. ☐ Taking technological breaks can develop into a severe addiction.	☐	☐	☐
6.	The text states that one possible solution to reduce stress would be: ☐ to not use smartphones on weekends. ☐ to keep up with Facebook and Twitter all day. ☐ to pause our use of connected devices periodically. ☐ to maintain contact with everybody through social media.	☐	☐	☐
7.	According to the text, why do people think that increased use of technology to contact others is good? ☐ Because we know companies are constantly launching state-of-the-art devices. ☐ Because technology has barely developed since the beginning of the 21 st century. ☐ Because people have little time to communicate with each other. ☐ Because we know that it is always better to have more information.	☐	☐	☐
8.	What is unsustainable about not “unplugging”? ☐ Multitasking has a positive impact on our social relationships. ☐ Being connected all the time makes us less creative. ☐ Keeping up with Facebook and Instagram keeps people more informed. ☐ Maintaining a public profile on social media is the key to success in business.	☐	☐	☐
		Correctes	Incorrectes	No contestades
Recompte de les respostes		☐	☐	☐
Nota de comprensió escrita				

Part 3: 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. Due to your low marks, you have been punished and for the next three months your access to Internet after school is strictly limited to 30 minutes a day during the school week and to 1 hour a day on Saturdays and Sundays. Do you think this is an effective punishment? Write an **opinion essay**.
2. Live animals are used by many companies in the beauty industry for the testing of cosmetics. Many activists for animal rights claim that this practice should be stopped because it is cruel to the animals. The companies claim that testing on live animals is necessary to ensure safe products for humans. What do you think? Should beauty products that have been tested on animals be banned by the government? Write a **for-and-against essay**.
3. All of us occasionally have arguments with our friends, even with people who have been our very close friends for a long time. Big arguments sometimes mean the end of a friendship, and that often upsets us. In other cases, we are able to forgive and forget, and continue on with our friendship. Write a **narrative** about an argument with your best friend.

Grammar	
Vocabulary	
Text	
Maturity	
Total	
Nota de la redacció	

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Etiqueta de l'alumne/a



Institut
d'Estudis
Catalans