



# Prueba de Acceso a la Universidad de Extremadura

## Curso 2010-11

Asignatura: Inglés

Tiempo máximo de la prueba: 1h. 30 min.

El alumno deberá escoger una de las dos opciones, A o B, y responder **en inglés a todas las preguntas** que se formulan en la opción elegida, sin mezclar preguntas de una y otra. **En el caso de la primera pregunta (la redacción), deberá escribir tan sólo sobre uno de los dos temas propuestos.**

### Opción A

#### Wolf traditions and legends in Spain

As everywhere else, superstitions around the wolf are abundant in Spain. About seventy traditional expressions such as "amigo", "el otro" or "tío Juan" are often pronounced so that the speaker can avoid saying the word "lobo", because they are afraid that the creature can be invoked when that word is used. The first human records of the wolf in the Iberian Peninsula are in cave paintings in Jaén and Cádiz. Later, the wolf is a common animalistic motif in ancient Iberian vases, urns and dishes, usually reflecting the infernal character of the beast. In pre-Roman Spain, the wolf was strongly associated with life after death, surely as a result of wolves' habit of eating the bodies of dead humans they find.

However, the real fear and hate of the wolf appear to date from the Middle Ages when there was an extended fear of the supposed occult powers of nature. It is at this time when fantastic creatures like werewolves begin to appear in many legends, particularly in the west of the Peninsula. In Galicia, for instance, "hombres lobo" are known as "lobishomes" and are often associated with the curse of a parent.

One old tradition is the existence of half-wolf, half-dog hybrids, particularly in the Asturian folklore tradition, in which tame wolves (known as "lobos de jaulas", caged wolves) appear in the mountains and create chaos. A modern version of this has recently appeared in the news in Asturias, where the government and farmers have reported the presence of such hybrids. Unusual behaviour has been detected here among certain wolf individuals, which instead of running away when they see humans, stay and stare, although at a distance. The theory goes that a hybrid might have arisen through the mating of a lonely, old male wolf and a young female dog.

1. Write **one of the following two** compositions (maximum 4 points):

- Do you think that wild beasts, such as wolves and bears, should be protected in Spain? Give your opinion in at least 80 words.
- Write a story of at least 80 words **beginning with** this sentence: "*Andy had never seen a wolf before the day of his seventh birthday*". Remember that **the 13 words in this sentence cannot be counted in the 80 words you must write.**

2. Answer the following **two** questions:

- Does the writer say that people began fearing wolves in very recent times? Explain your answer (maximum 1 point).
- According to the text, are there any wolves behaving in a strange way in some areas of Spain nowadays? Explain your answer (maximum 1 point).

3. Imagine someone in your family is afraid of dogs. Advise him/her not to be so and give him/her a good reason for it (maximum 2 points).

4. Grammatical transformation.

- Rewrite the following sentence in indirect style (reported speech), beginning with the words *She said* (maximum 1 point):  
*Unusual behaviour has been detected here among certain wolf individuals.*
- Rewrite the following sentence in the future simple tense (maximum 1 point):  
*About seventy traditional expressions are often pronounced.*

## Opción B

### Things to think about when bringing foreign children to Spain

Are you planning to bring your children to Spain and incorporate them into the Spanish state education? That decision should be taken with great care, after appropriate research, and bearing in mind the needs and personality of each individual child. Never forget that the problem of changing from English to Spanish schools is more than a problem of language; it is a problem of culture and customs as well. Many people underestimate the impact of such a change on their children, are unaware of the cultural differences involved, and may misunderstand what is happening at the school in relation to their children. The Spanish state system allows for parental involvement; therefore you should take every opportunity to communicate with the school in order to solve all the little problems that will inevitably arise.

As a general rule, adapting to a different school environment and picking up the language along the way is easier for younger children than for teenagers. However, even as early as five or six, a child who is thrown into a classroom where he does not understand the language can feel dramatically disoriented. If your child has a tendency to be aggressive or introverted, these tendencies will perhaps be accentuated by the frustration or embarrassment of not being able to make him or herself understood, and not understanding what is expected of him or her. For all children there is an adaptation period, during which little real academic progress should be expected. This period may range from a few months to a year or more, depending on the child, but obviously it will be longer for older children. However, this should not stop parents from introducing their children into a Spanish school at primary level, as there is still plenty of time for them to adjust and adapt.

1. Write **one of the following two** compositions (maximum 4 points):
  - a. Do you think it is a good idea to take young children to study in a foreign country? Why or why not? Explain your answer in at least 80 words.
  - b. Write a story of at least 80 words **ending with** this sentence: "*So, Luke saw that living and studying in a foreign country was not such a terrible experience*". Remember that **the 17 words in this sentence cannot be counted in the 80 words you must write**.
2. Answer the following **two** questions:
  - a. Does the writer say that all children immediately adapt when they enter a new school where a different language is spoken? Explain your answer (maximum 1 point).
  - b. According to the text, is language the only difficulty for English children who enter a Spanish school? Explain your answer (maximum 1 point).
3. Imagine your best friend is not sure about starting a degree at a British university. Advise him/her to do so and give him/her a good reason for it (maximum 2 points).
4. Grammatical transformation.
  - a. Rewrite the following sentence as a third type (impossible) conditional (maximum 1 point):  
*If your child has a tendency to be aggressive, this will perhaps be accentuated by frustration.*
  - b. Rewrite the following sentence in the negative-interrogative. **Write only one sentence** (maximum 1 point):  
*You should take every opportunity to communicate with the school.*