



Prueba de Acceso a la Universidad de Extremadura

Curso 2014-15

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

Mobile phones

The invention of the telephone in the late 19th century changed the way that people interacted and communicated. This has been paralleled in the early 21st century by the introduction of mobile phones, which were originally created for business use. This situation is similar to the case of the conventional telephone in the early 20th century, when experts explained that it was made for the business world and not for social conversation. However, it is an unquestionable truth that nowadays a high portion of the world's mobile phone owners are teenagers who use their phones for social purposes.

The rate at which young people have adopted the mobile phone in many parts of the planet is certainly impressive. The reduction in the cost of phones, their smaller size and the introduction of the pre-paid phone card in the 1990's have all contributed to the surprisingly rapid adoption rate by young people. Various surveys worldwide show high rates of mobile phone use among young people: in Norway in 1999, 80% of 13 to 20-year-olds owned a mobile phone, while in the United Kingdom in 2001, 90% of young people under the age of 16 had one. In fact, teenagers are now more likely to own and use a mobile phone than their parents.

The mobile phone is, among other things, a status symbol for young people. The features of the phone, its appearance and personalised accessories all corroborate the phone's status. It is seen as a fashion accessory that satisfies the need for individualisation by having choices in mobile wallpaper, ring tones, phone covers and other accessories and, at the same time, it also signifies that the owner is a member of the group. Indeed, even the ownership of a mobile phone indicates that one is socially connected, accessible and in demand. For some, it can also be seen as a symbol of independence from one's family.

1. Write a composition about **one of the following topics** (maximum 4 points):
 - a. Do you think that all teenagers should have a mobile phone? Why or why not? Give your opinion in at least 80 words.
 - b. Write a story of at least 80 words **beginning with** this sentence: "*Sarah had never had a mobile phone before*". Remember that **the 8 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 mobile phones have become popular with young people little by little? Explain your answer, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point).
 - b. According to the text, were mobile phones originally intended for professional use only? Explain your answer, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point).
3. Imagine you have a son/daughter who is constantly using his/her mobile phone. Order him/her not to do so and give him/her a good reason for it (maximum 2 points).
4. Grammatical transformation.
 - a. Rewrite the following sentence in the interrogative form of the conditional perfect tense (maximum 1 point):
Various surveys worldwide show high rates of mobile phone use amongst young people.
 - b. Rewrite the following sentence in the active voice (maximum 1 point):
The invention of the telephone in the late 19th century changed world communications.

Opción B

Broadsheets vs. tabloids

You may have heard people using the terms "broadsheet" and "tabloid" to describe different kinds of newspapers but, can you tell the difference?

"Broadsheet" refers to the most common newspaper format, which is normally 12 inches (30 centimetres) wide and 20 inches (51 centimetres) long. Many of America's most respected newspapers –*The New York Times* or *The Washington Post*, for instance– are broadsheet papers. Broadsheet papers are usually six columns across.

Beyond their size, broadsheet papers tend to employ a traditional approach to news that emphasizes in-depth coverage and a moderate tone in articles and editorials. Broadsheet readers often are likely to be upper-middle-class, educated people living in the suburbs.

On the other hand, "tabloid" refers to a type of newspaper typically 11 X 17 inches (28 X 43 centimetres) and five columns across, narrower than a broadsheet newspaper. Since tabloids are smaller, their stories tend to be shorter than those found in broadsheets. Moreover, tabloid readers are often working-class residents of big cities. Indeed, many people living in big cities prefer tabloids because they are easy to read on the subway or bus.

Tabloids also have a tendency to be more irreverent and informal in their writing style than their more serious broadsheet brothers. In a crime story, a broadsheet will refer to a police officer, but the tabloid will probably call him a cop. And while a broadsheet might spend pages and pages on "serious" news –international politics or a debate in Congress, for instance–, tabloids normally prefer to pay attention to terrible crime stories or celebrity gossip.

But there's an important distinction to be made here. It is true that there exist some overdramatic tabloids like *The Enquirer*, but there are also the so-called respectable tabloids like *The Boston Herald*, which do serious, professional journalism. As a matter of fact, one of them, *The New York Daily News*, has won ten Pulitzer Prizes, print journalism's highest honour.

1. Write a composition about **one of the following topics** (maximum 4 points):
 - a. Do you think that newspapers should be absolutely objective? Explain your answer in at least 80 words.
 - b. Write a story of at least 80 words **ending with** this sentence: "*This is why Paula decided she wanted to become a journalist*". Remember that **the 11 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 broadsheets and tabloids have exactly the same kind of readers? Explain your answer, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point).
 - b. According to the text, are broadsheets usually larger than tabloids? Explain your answer, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point).
3. Imagine your best friend never reads any newspapers. 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 in the passive voice. **Do not omit any part of it** (maximum 1 point):
Tabloids normally pay attention to terrible crime stories.
 - b. Rewrite the following sentence in the negative interrogative form. **Write one sentence only** (maximum 1 point):
You may have heard people using the terms "broadsheet" and "tabloid".