



**UNIVERSIDAD
DE LA RIOJA**

Prueba de Acceso a la Universidad (LOE)

Curso: 2014/2015

Convocatoria: Junio

ASIGNATURA: INGLÉS

Hay dos opciones de examen, A y B. Se debe optar por una de ellas, sin combinar preguntas de una y otra. No se permiten diccionarios ni otros materiales didácticos.

OPCIÓN A

What is literature?

Understanding what literature is, has always been a challenge and giving a definition has proven to be quite difficult. Here is one definition of what literature is.

Literature is a term used to describe written or spoken material. Broadly speaking, "literature" is used to describe anything from creative writing to more technical or scientific works, but the term is most commonly used to refer to works of the creative imagination, including works of poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction.

Although the above definition seems to be adequate, I feel that literature is beyond that definition, it is more than what we see and perceive. Its boundaries cross our lives, our traditions, culture, social relations, national unity and a lot more.

Bill Clinton used to quote a line that says: "Children can't be expected to live a life they can't imagine". Many people's lives are circumscribed by poverty, discrimination, low expectations, cultural insularity, and other conditions that may make them unable to see beyond the limits of their immediate horizons. Literature does offer -inexpensively- a vision of other lives and other perspectives. One of its potential benefits is to enlarge a reader's sense about the many possible ways to live.

Books do not necessarily make such an impression. Just like movies, even some books are also commercial in nature, only intended to entertain the reader and make the book a bestseller. One simple way to make a judgement about the quality of a book is, if you find at least one leaf of the book reflecting your life or your relations, or at least if it makes you think that why such a scene has happened, leaving a lasting impression on the consequences of the scene, then that book had something in store for you!

1. Comprehension exercises (2 points):

1.a – The definition of literature given in the second paragraph (0.5 points):

- a. is wholly adequate.
- b. is not truly complete.
- c. is the only one existing.

1.b – People living in difficult circumstances (0.5 points):

- a. can get some benefit from literature.
- b. shouldn't devote their time to reading novels.
- c. are likely to get money by means of literature.

1.c – Some people think that children's future depends on their capacity to figure out alternatives to their present lives. (Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write a sentence in the text supporting or contradicting this statement, 0.5 points).

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1.d – Defining what literature is does not present many difficulties. (Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write a sentence in the text supporting or contradicting this statement, 0.5 points).

2. Do the following grammar exercises according to the instructions given (2 points):

2.a – Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one, (0.5 points):

- Many people's lives are circumscribed by poverty and discrimination,
- Poverty and...

2.b – Turn the two sentences into one sentence (0.5 points):

- What is literature? I would like to know it.
- I would like...

2.c – Complete the second sentence so that it expresses the same idea as the first one (0.5 points):

- When people spend more time reading, they get more accurate ideas about the world they live in.
- If people spent...

2.d – Rewrite the sentence using the word 'unable' (0.5 points):

- They cannot see the consequences of their actions.

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3. Below you will find the definitions of six words occurring in the text. Choose only four of them and indicate the word each definition corresponds to. Write the word and then copy its definition (1 point):

1. something which is very difficult to accomplish.
2. ways or thinking of acting, beliefs and ideas handed down from generation to generation.
3. inventive, imaginative, resulting from original thought.
4. motion pictures, films.
5. unfair treatment of a racial group or minority.
6. an opinion based on what one can see or what one knows.

4. Write a summary of the text of about 30 – 45 words using your own words. (2 points):

5. Write a composition of about 120 – 150 words on the following topic (3 points):

What kind of books do you prefer? -Explain why.



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OPCIÓN B

Humankind on Mars

If someone told you: "we are going to build a human settlement on Mars", what would you say?
–In fact, many people are ready to leave our planet even when there is no chance to return.

A one way trip (which means going with no possibility to return to our planet) has obvious technical advantages, but what does this mean for the astronauts themselves? That depends on who you ask.

You could say that most people would rather lose a leg than live the rest of their life on a cold, hostile planet, having said goodbye to friends and family forever, the best possible video call suffering from a seven minute delay.

However, there are individuals for whom traveling to Mars has been a dream for their entire life. They enjoy the challenge. Not unlike the ancient Chinese, Micronesians, and untold Africans, the Vikings and famed explorers of Old World Europe, who left everything behind to spend the majority of their lives at sea, a one-way mission to Mars is about exploring a new world and the opportunity to conduct the most revolutionary research ever conceived, to build a new home for humans on another planet.

Before leaving the Earth's atmosphere to travel to Mars, each astronaut will be put through the required eight years of training. The teams will be isolated from the world for a few months every year in simulation facilities, to learn how they respond to living in close quarters while isolated from all humans except for their crew members.

In addition to the expertise and work experience they must already possess, they have to learn quite a few new skills: physical and electrical repairs to the settlement structures, cultivating crops in confined spaces, and addressing both routine and serious medical issues such as dental upkeep, muscle tears and bone fractures.

1. Comprehension exercises (2 points):

1.a – Training involves (0.5 points):

- a. eight periods of isolation.
- b. the study of ancient explorer's feats.
- c. one year of isolation.

1.b – Communications from the Earth to Mars (0.5 points):

- a. suffer a delay of some minutes.
- b. allow to maintain a lively conversation.
- c. will never be possible.

1.c – There are no human beings ready to leave everything behind to travel to Mars. (Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write a sentence in the text supporting or contradicting this statement, 0.5 points).

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1.d – Compared to a one-way trip, a returning trip from Mars does not present relevant technical difficulties. (Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write a sentence in the text supporting or contradicting this statement, 0.5 points).

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2. Do the following grammar exercises according to the instructions given (2 points):

2.a – Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one, (0.5 points):

- When people discover that they cannot return, they show a different attitude.
- If people knew...

2.b – Turn the two sentences into one sentence beginning with 'After being' (0.5 points):

- They are taught some basic techniques. Then, they must pass a difficult exam.
- After being...

2.c – Complete the second sentence so that the meaning remains the same. 0.5 points):

- They will isolate the teams from the world for a few months every year.
- The teams ...

2.d – Write a sentence expressing the same idea as the first one. You must use the word "complicated" (0.5 points):

- A one way trip is technically easier than a return trip.

-

3. Below you will find the definitions of six words occurring in the text. Choose only four of them and indicate the word each definition corresponds to. Write the word and then copy its definition (1 point):

1. a colony, a new place where some people start living.
2. adverse, not hospitable, dangerous.
3. investigation, study.
4. groups of people assembled for a particular activity.
5. separated, placed apart.
6. renowned, well known.

4. Write a summary of the text of about 30 – 45 words using your own words. (2 points):

5. Write a composition of about 120 – 150 words on the following topic (3 points):

If you were given the chance, would you travel to another planet? -Why? -Why not?



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CRITERIOS ESPECÍFICOS DE CORRECCIÓN

Observaciones

- 1) No se permiten diccionarios ni otros materiales didácticos.
- 2) Hay dos opciones de examen, A y B. Se debe optar por una de ellas, sin combinar preguntas de una y otra.

Criterios específicos de corrección

A) **Pregunta 1.** Las cuatro cuestiones de esta sección evalúan la comprensión del texto. Se valorará con un máximo de 2 puntos (0,5 puntos por cuestión).

B) **Pregunta 2.** Su objetivo es evaluar la competencia morfosintáctica del alumno. Se valorará con un máximo de 2 puntos (0,5 puntos por cuestión).

C) **Pregunta 3.** Su objetivo es evaluar el dominio del léxico a través de la capacidad de deducir y recuperar el significado de las palabras en su contexto y, sobre todo, de encontrar en el texto las palabras cuyas definiciones se ofrecen. Hay que elegir cuatro definiciones de las seis dadas y sólo cuatro. Se valorará con un máximo de 1 punto (0,25 puntos por cuestión).

D) **Pregunta 4.** Esta parte del examen valora la capacidad de síntesis y de desatacar la información y las ideas más importantes del texto. Se valorará con un máximo de 2 puntos.

E) **Pregunta 5.** Se trata de una redacción. Se evaluará con un máximo de 3 puntos. Se valorarán especialmente los siguientes aspectos:

1. La corrección ortográfica y morfosintáctica.
2. La riqueza léxica.
3. La claridad y eficacia en la presentación de ideas; la coherencia y cohesión del texto (conectores entre unidades sintácticas, organización del texto,...).