



UNIVERSIDADES PÚBLICAS DE LA COMUNIDAD DE MADRID

PRUEBA DE ACCESO A LAS ENSEÑANZAS UNIVERSITARIAS  
OFICIALES DE GRADO

Curso 2011-2012

MATERIA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN A

QUESTIONS

### INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

1. El alumno dispone de dos opciones para contestar (A y B). **Debe escoger sólo una de ellas.**
  2. Lea **todo el texto** cuidadosamente.
  3. Lea atentamente **todas las preguntas** de la prueba.
  4. Proceda a responder en **lengua inglesa** a las preguntas en el papel de examen.
- TIEMPO:** 1 hora y 30 minutos.  
**CALIFICACIÓN:** La puntuación máxima de la prueba es de 10 puntos.

### Some People Never Forget a Face

A new study finds some people can remember faces of people they met years ago and only in passing. Others of us, of course, aren't blessed with that ability. In fact about 2 percent of the population has prosopagnosia, a condition characterized by great difficulty in recognizing faces.

The "super-recognizers", as they are called, excel at recalling faces. The study suggests that there is — as with many things — a broad spectrum of ability in this realm. The research involved standardized face recognition tests, and the super-recognizers scored far above average on these tests. Often super-recognizers are able to recognize another person despite significant changes in appearance, such as aging or a different hair color. They also recognize other people far more often than they are recognized. In these cases, they often compensate by pretending not to recognize someone they met in passing, so as to avoid appearing to attribute too much importance to a brief encounter.

Super-recognizers, then, really stand out in terms of their ability to remember people. They have extreme stories of recognizing people; it doesn't have to be a significant interaction. They can recognize someone who was shopping in the same store with them two months ago, for example, even if they didn't speak to the person. One woman in the new study said she had identified another woman on the street who served her as a waitress five years earlier in a different city. This outstanding ability could be important in courts, where one person's eyewitness testimony might thus be more credible than another based on their varying abilities to recognize a face.

**1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.**

- a) A small minority of people cannot identify other people's faces easily.
- b) Super-recognizers are only able to recognize people who have the same appearance as when they met.  
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

**2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.**

- a) Why do some super-recognizers pretend not to recognize people?
- b) Why might the results of the study be important in courts?  
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

**3.-Find the words in the text that mean:**

- a) remembering (paragraph 2)
- b) wide (paragraph 2)
- c) meeting (paragraph 2)
- d) believable (paragraph 3)  
(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

**4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.**

- a) According \_\_\_\_\_ the results of a recent study, some people \_\_\_\_\_ (find) to be super recognizers.
- b) People \_\_\_\_\_ suffer from prosopagnosia find it difficult \_\_\_\_\_ identify faces.
- c) Hi Jane! I remember \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) you \_\_\_\_\_ a party last year.
- d) If the witness \_\_\_\_\_ (not be) in that city five years earlier, she \_\_\_\_\_ (not meet) the waitress.  
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

**5. - Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.**

Would you like to have a photographic memory? Explain why or why not.  
(Puntuación maxima: 3 puntos)



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OPCIÓN B

QUESTIONS

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

1. El alumno dispone de dos opciones para contestar (A y B). **Debe escoger sólo una de ellas.**
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  4. Proceda a responder en **lengua inglesa** a las preguntas en el papel de examen.
- TIEMPO:** 1 hora y 30 minutos.  
**CALIFICACIÓN:** La puntuación máxima de la prueba es de 10 puntos.

**Diamonds**

Diamonds are the symbol of love, romance and weddings, and they are too expensive for most of us —usually. However, now, if you want one you don't have to spend so much money since, today, real diamonds can be grown in machines. In a factory in Florida, the process is overseen by Clark McEwen, manager of Gemesis Corporation. "Basically what we do here is to recreate, or emulate, the process that occurs 100 miles below the earth's surface," McEwen says. A lump of coal is placed in the middle of what is essentially a very large pressure cooker. Under extreme heat and pressure, carbon atoms form a diamond crystal. The machine reaches 1,500° C, and the pressure on the core is 385,553 kilos per square inch —that's equivalent to a hundred 3,628-kilo elephants standing on a coin. Once the machine is closed, nature takes over. Four days later, a man-made diamond is inside. Optically, chemically and physically they're identical to a mine diamond.

But diamond-making is not an exact science. Some turn out beautiful. Others don't. McEwen says there is a misconception that every one of the man-made diamonds is perfect. That's not the case. "Just like in nature, each one of these grows individually and has its own unique characteristics." After coming out of the machine, the rough diamonds are graded and sent to be made into what many women want for Valentine's Day.

As regards price, a one-carat yellow diamond from nature costs about \$20,000 and a man-made one costs about \$6,000. The Gemesis Corporation has its name inscribed on all of its diamonds so buyers know they are man-made.

**1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.**

- a) The structure of diamonds grown by man is completely different from that of natural diamonds.
- b) Gemesis diamonds are cheaper than those found in mines.  
(Puntuación máxima: **2 puntos**)

**2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.**

- a) Why is Clark McEwen mentioned in the text?
- b) Summarize what Gemesis Corporation does in order to make a diamond.  
(Puntuación máxima: **2 puntos**)

**3.- Find the words in the text that mean:**

- a) controlled (paragraph 1)
- b) piece (paragraph 1)
- c) classified (paragraph 2)
- d) written (paragraph 3)  
(Puntuación máxima: **1 punto**)

**4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.**

- a) A diamond is the \_\_\_\_ (hard) natural substance \_\_\_\_ earth.
- b) If a diamond is heated to about 700° C, it \_\_\_\_ (vanish), without \_\_\_\_ (leave) any ash.
- c) During the 15th century, it \_\_\_\_ (discover) that diamonds \_\_\_\_ only be cut with other diamonds.
- d) At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a prominent scientist, \_\_\_\_ was born in 1854, spent a considerable part of \_\_\_\_ fortune trying to produce diamonds.  
(Puntuación máxima: **2 puntos**)

**5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.**

How important is a brand name for people your age when they go shopping?  
(Puntuación máxima: **3 puntos**)

