

Elija una de las dos opciones propuestas, A o B / Hautatu proposatutako aukera bat, A edo B

Opción A Aukera

THE MAYFLOWER

The *Mayflower* was the ship that transported the first English Pilgrims from 1
 Plymouth (in England) to the New World (North America) in 1620. There were 102
 passengers, and the crew is estimated to have been about 30, but the exact number is
 unknown. This voyage has become an iconic story in American history, with its tale
 of death and of survival in the difficult New England winter environment. On 5
 September 6, 1620, the *Mayflower* sailed from Plymouth with what was described as
 "a prosperous wind". The voyage was a miserable one, with huge waves constantly
 crashing against the ship's topside deck. The passengers mostly slept and lived in the
 low-ceilinged cabins. These cabins were thin-walled and extremely cramped. Below 10
 decks, any person over five feet tall would be unable to stand up straight. Aboard the
Mayflower were many stores that supplied the pilgrims with the essentials needed for
 their journey and future lives. The *Mayflower* would also carry 12 artillery pieces, as
 the Pilgrims feared they might need to defend themselves against the Natives.

On November 9, 1620, they sighted land, and after several days of trying to sail 15
 to their planned destination, strong winter seas forced them to set anchor at Cape Cod
 on November 11. To establish legal order and to quell increasing conflict, the settlers
 wrote and signed the *Mayflower Compact* which established a rudimentary form of
 democracy, with each member contributing to the welfare of the community.

During the winter, the passengers remained on board the *Mayflower* and the harsh 20
 climate and scarcity of fresh food caused many deaths. There was an outbreak of a
 contagious disease described as a mixture of scurvy, pneumonia and tuberculosis.
 When it ended, there were only 53 passengers, just over half, still alive. After the
 winter, they built huts ashore, and on March 21, 1621, the surviving passengers
 disembarked at last. The *Mayflower* passengers were the earliest permanent European 25
 settlers in New England, referring to themselves as "First Comers". They lived in the
 perilous times of what was called "The Ancient Beginnings" of the New World
 adventure.

1. Answer these questions about the text. Use your own words whenever possible (2 points, 1 each)

- Why was life in the ship uncomfortable? Explain.
- What is The *Mayflower Compact*? Why did the pilgrims sign it?

2. Read the following statements, decide whether they are true or false and justify your answer by quoting evidence from the text (1 point, 0,5 each).

- The Pilgrims were not sure the Natives they might encounter would be friendly people.
- It wasn't until they had built some shelter that the pilgrims decided to leave the ship.

3. Find in the text the word or group of words which match these definitions (1 point, 0,20 each).

- Took or carried from one place to another. (Paragraph 1)
- The people who operate a ship, aircraft or spacecraft. (Paragraph 1)
- Unpleasant or extremely severe. (Paragraph 3)
- Illness. (Paragraph 3)
- Involving or full of grave risk or danger. (Paragraph 3)

4. Complete the text using the correct words from the box below. There are two words that you won't need (2 points, 0,25 each).

(a) _____ the American concept of *Thanksgiving* developed in the colonies of New England, its roots can be traced back to the other side of the Atlantic. (b) _____ the Separatists who came over on the *Mayflower* and the Puritans who arrived soon after, brought with them a tradition of providential holidays, days of fasting during difficult moments and days of feasting and celebration to thank God in times of (c) _____. Moreover, in ancient times, the Egyptians, Greeks and Romans feasted and paid tribute to their gods after the autumn harvest. *Thanksgiving* also bears a (d) _____ to the ancient Jewish harvest festival of *Sukkot*. (e) _____, historians have (f) _____ that Native Americans had a rich tradition of commemorating the autumn harvest with feasting and merrymaking (g) _____ before Europeans set foot on (h) _____ shores.

PLENTY	MOST	IN SPITE OF	NOTED	BOTH
THEIR	RESEMBLANCE	ALTHOUGH	FINALLY	LONG

5. Write a composition of about 150-200 words on ONE of the following topics (4 points).

- The people on board the *Mayflower* were immigrants. What's your opinion about immigration into Europe nowadays? What could be done?
- You booked a holiday with a well-known travel agency but things didn't go as expected... Write a letter to the travel agent's explaining what went wrong and asking for compensation.

LIVING A RECLUSIVE LIFE

Everyone wants to retreat from the world sometimes. But while sitting in your room playing video games, scrolling through microblogs and reading articles on the web may be the only things on your to-do list this weekend, you'll eventually get over that failed test or bad relationship, and leave your room again to rejoin society. However, some Japanese people find themselves spending months, sometimes years 5 of their lives in their bedrooms, only slipping out for midnight trips to the nearest store. Usually male and usually in their twenties, these are Japan's "missing million", known as *hikikomori*, and no one really knows why they've retired from the world.

The typical *hikikomori*'s day starts when everyone else's has ended. They're night owls who stay up late, keeping themselves occupied in the bluish glow of TV and 10 computer screens with just their own thoughts for company. Since they tend to initially retreat to their rooms during that existential period between graduating from school and starting a profession, they almost always live with their parents, who help take care of pesky things like food and shelter.

For Hide, the problems started when he gave up school. "I started to blame myself 15 and my parents also blamed me for not going to school. The pressure started to build up", he says. "Then, gradually, I became afraid of going out and fearful of meeting people. And then I couldn't get out of my house". Gradually, Hide relinquished all communication with friends and eventually, with his parents. To avoid seeing them he slept through the day and sat up all night, watching TV. "I had all kinds of negative 20 emotions inside me," he says. "The desire to go outside, anger towards society and my parents, sadness about having this condition, fear about what would happen in the future, and jealousy towards the people who were leading normal lives". Hide had become "withdrawn" or *hikikomori*.

The reasons why a *hikikomori* decides to withdraw from society are uncertain 25 although some may be related to the Japanese culture. In Japan most college graduates are expected to have a job waiting for them before they're even officially handed their diplomas. The societal shame of failing to get into a good school or get a good job can be too much and staying in your bedroom might feel like the most comforting 30 option.

1. Answer these questions about the text. Use your own words whenever possible (2 points, 1 each)

- Why do *hikikomori* normally live with their parents and not on their own?
- What could be a likely explanation for a youngster to turn into a *hikikomori* in Japan?

2. Read the following statements, decide whether they are true or false and justify your answer by quoting evidence from the text (1 point, 0,5 each).

- The most typical *hikikomori* is a young man.
- Both Hide and his parents felt guilty about the fact that he had dropped out of school.

3. Find in the text the word or group of words which match these definitions (1 point, 0,20 each).

- To come again into the company of. (Paragraph 1)
- Moving or going quietly or without being noticed. (Paragraph 1)
- People who tend to go to bed late. (Paragraph 2)
- Finally, ultimately, at some later time. (Paragraph 3)
- Resentment against a rival or a person enjoying success or advantage. (Paragraph 3)

4. Complete the text using the correct words from the box below. There are two words that you won't need (2 points, 0,25 each).

Saito Tamaki was working (a) _____ a therapist in the city of Funabashi when he noticed a recurring pattern. Concerned parents (b) _____ coming to Saito asking him (c) _____ they should do about their lethargic and anti-social children, who had sealed (d) _____ inside their bedrooms. Psychologists and other experts disagree on how to classify *hikikomori*: is it truly a disorder or just a symptom? Is *hikikomori* uniquely Japanese or does it occur in (e) _____ countries? Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare has defined a *hikikomori* as a person who does not participate in society (particularly school or work) and has no desire to do (f) _____. A *hikikomori* is also (g) _____ who doesn't have any close, non-familial relationships and these withdrawal symptoms must last for at (h) _____ six months.

OTHER LAST	KEPT AS	SO ANOTHER	SOMEONE THEMSELVES	WHAT LEAST
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5. Write a composition of about 150-200 words on ONE of the following topics (4 points).

- You have had a virtual friend for a year now and you think it is time you know him/her in person. Write a letter to your virtual friend explaining your feelings.
- A friend of yours has turned antisocial and never goes out. Explain how it all started, what the situation is now and if you see any feasible solution.