



UNIVERSIDADES PÚBLICAS DE LA COMUNIDAD DE MADRID  
PRUEBA DE ACCESO A LAS ENSEÑANZAS UNIVERSITARIAS  
OFICIALES DE GRADO

Curso 2013-2014

MATERIA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN A

**INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN**

Después de leer atentamente los textos y las cuestiones siguientes, el alumno deberá escoger una de las dos opciones propuestas y responder en INGLÉS a las cuestiones de la opción elegida.

**CALIFICACIÓN:** Las cuestiones 1ª, 2ª y 4ª se valorarán sobre 2 puntos cada una, la pregunta 3ª sobre 1 punto y la pregunta 5ª sobre 3 puntos.

**TIEMPO:** 90 minutos.

**The Decline of “Once upon a time....”**

Once upon a time, parents read bedtime stories to their children... But now it seems that the fairy tale is over. According to a poll of mums and dads with under-sevens, 36 per cent of parents never pick up a book with their little ones. Of those who do read with their kids, just 21 per cent make time for a story before bed every night. The study also showed that nearly half of the kids would rather watch TV or play with toys or computer games.

In light of the findings, Littlewoods.com, a British online retailer behind the study, has teamed up with 31-year-old British pop star Natasha Hamilton to get youngsters back into reading. Littlewoods and Natasha have just launched a bedtime story competition for children under seven to draw pictures and create their own tale. The winning entry will be turned into an audio book, narrated by Natasha. The pop star said: “As a mum of three, I know how enjoyable bedtime stories are for my kids. I’m really excited about seeing all the different story ideas. I can’t wait to see what the kids come up with. Choosing a winner will not be easy”.

Experts say that one of the key ways of helping children to learn to read and write well is to give them a love of books. However, some parents blame a lack of time for not reading with their children, while others say they are just too stressed, or that their kids are simply not interested. Surprisingly enough, the vast majority of parents were told bedtime stories regularly when they were little.

**QUESTIONS**

**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 little over a third of parents who took part in the study never read a story to their children.
- b) Most of the mums and dads who participated in the study had bedtime stories read to them when they were kids.

(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) How is Natasha Hamilton collaborating with Littlewoods.com in order to get young people to read again?
- b) Give two reasons why parents fail to read stories to their kids.

(Puntuación máxima: **2 puntos**)

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

- a) almost (paragraph 1)
- b) joined forces (paragraph 2)
- c) produce (paragraph 2)
- d) main (paragraph 3)

(Puntuación máxima: **1 punto**)

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

- a) When my children were young, I \_\_\_\_ (tell) them a story every night before \_\_\_\_ (go) to bed.
- b) Nowadays, reading \_\_\_\_ (consider) to be an interaction \_\_\_\_ the reader and the text. The more you read to children, \_\_\_\_ (good) their reading and writing skills become.
- c) According to research, English children read less for pleasure \_\_\_\_ their peers in many other countries.

**d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said:**

A spokesman from the company said: "We appreciate how important it is for parents and kids to spend quality time together."

A spokesman from the company said that \_\_\_\_.

(Puntuación máxima: **2 puntos**)

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

What kind of books do you like to read? Explain why you like them.

(Puntuación máxima: **3 puntos**)



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**CALIFICACIÓN:** Las cuestiones 1ª, 2ª y 4ª se valorarán sobre 2 puntos cada una, la pregunta 3ª sobre 1 punto y la pregunta 5ª sobre 3 puntos.

**TIEMPO:** 90 minutos.

#### Courses Online

For those students who struggle to leave their beds for a 9 a.m. lecture, the idea of studying online wherever and whenever you want – including under the duvet with a laptop – may seem like a dream come true. Soon some students will be able to do just that, as will anybody with a computer and internet connection, because a number of universities are planning to offer some of their courses online. Not only will these offer greater flexibility to online learners around the world, they will also be free.

EdX, an online platform founded by Harvard, Berkeley and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has already attracted 800,000 students from 192 countries since it started in autumn 2012. Significantly, the platform has developed an examination process, which means that online learners can graduate from an EdX course with a certificate and a grade.

However, it seems unlikely, for the time being, that online higher education will supersede traditional on-campus university degrees. It is well-known that many leading institutions, including Oxford and Cambridge, are absent from a list of 17 universities that have signed up to give away their course content online.

An obstacle preventing online courses from being taken seriously is the fact that many have a high drop-out rate. For instance, although 155,000 students registered online to take MIT's courses on electronics on EdX, only 7,200 students completed them. With no tutors or lecturers to help you in person, self-motivation and discipline are required in abundance to see a course through to the end.

### QUESTIONS

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

- a) Online courses do not offer the possibility of getting a diploma.
- b) Education online is already available in every university of Great Britain.  
(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) How will courses online change the academic routine of university students?
- b) Why is it so difficult for students to complete an online course?  
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

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

- a) make a great effort (paragraph 1)
- b) nevertheless (paragraph 3)
- c) replace (paragraph 3)
- d) needed (paragraph 4)  
(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

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

- a) I graduated years ago. If my university \_\_\_\_\_ (offer) courses online, I \_\_\_\_\_ (take) them.
- b) Professor Nelson is not interested \_\_\_\_\_ laptop lectures. He prefers traditional education \_\_\_\_\_ virtual platforms.
- c) Students who \_\_\_\_\_ (admit) in MIT are aware that they won't succeed \_\_\_\_\_ they work hard.
- d) **Complete the following sentence to report what was said.**  
"What would you like to do when you finish High School?" Mary asked her son.  
Mary asked her son \_\_\_\_\_  
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

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

Do you think online learning will eventually substitute traditional education? Give your opinion.  
(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)