EVALUACIÓN DE BACHILLERATO
PARA EL ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD (EBAU)
FASE GENERAL
CURSO 2018–2019

MATERIA: Primera Lengua Extranjera II: Inglés	**(3)**
Convocatoria:	

Esta prueba consta de dos opciones (A y B). El alumnado tiene que optar por una de ellas y responder a todas las preguntas de la misma.

OPCIÓN A

How Much Homework Is Too Much for Our Teens?

Today's teens are under a lot of pressure. They're under pressure to succeed, to win, to be the best and to get into the best universities. In fact, during the school year, teens say they experience stress levels higher than those reported by adults.

School can cause a lot of stress, which can lead to other serious problems, like sleep deprivation. During the school week, most teens only get about six hours of sleep a night, and some of that sleep deficit may be attributed to homework.

Homework is not only a source of stress for students, but it can also be a problem for parents because it affects home life. However, from a teacher's perspective, the assignments are meant to help students better understand the course content and prepare for upcoming exams.

Given the situation, a few questions should be considered:

Is homework necessary? Many teens may give a quick "no" to this question, but the verdict is still unclear. Research supports both sides of the argument. Personally, I would say, yes, some homework is necessary, but it must be purposeful. If it's "busy work", like copying pages from a text book, then it's a waste of time. Purposeful homework can come in the form of individualizing assignments based on students' needs or helping students practice newly acquired skills.

How much is too much? According to a study, students should only be doing about 10 minutes of homework per night per grade level. Much of a student's workload essentially depends on the courses they take, the teaching philosophy of educators and the student's commitment to doing the work. Regardless, research has shown that doing more than two hours of homework per night does not benefit high school students. Having lots of homework to do every day makes it difficult for teens to have any downtime and even family time.

Can there be a balance between home and school? Students can strike a balance between school and home, but parents will have to help them find it. They need parents' guidance to learn how to better manage their time, get organized and prioritize tasks. Equally important is developing good study habits. Learning should be fun, not mundane and complicated. Homework should only be given if it is purposeful and in moderation. Equally as important as homework is engaging in activities, socializing with friends and enjoying home life.

Most adults don't work a full-time job and then go home and do three more hours of work, and neither should a child. It's not easy learning to balance everything, especially if you're a teen.

Fragment adapted from *U.S. News*, March 2018

1. **Say whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE according to the text. COPY the evidence from the text. No marks will be given without the evidence. (1.5 points)**
   - **a)** Many students believe there is no need for homework.
   - **b)** During the academic year, teens are as stressed as adults.
   - **c)** The amount of homework assigned only depends on the grade level.

2. **ANSWER the questions below. COPY no more than 10 words and/or a number from the text to answer each question. (1.5 points)**

   a) What is one of the consequences of stress?
   b) Besides homework, what other things are fundamental for teens?
   c) What do teens lack because of excessive daily homework?

3. **WRITE a synonym (=), an opposite (≠), a definition or a sentence for each of the following words to show that you understand their meaning in the text. Use your own words. (1 point)**

   a) source (line 7)
   b) upcoming (line 9)
   c) regardless (line 18)
   d) to manage (line 24)

4. **READ this conversation and COMPLETE your part. Write the numbers (1-6) and complete each sentence on your exam paper. (1.5 points)**

At an English School asking for information to enrol

Receptionist: Good morning. What can I do for you?
You: Good morning. **(1)** _____
Receptionist: Well, we offer a great variety of courses and levels. It all depends on what you're looking for.
You: I've been studying English for many years and I know grammar basics, but **(2)** _____
Receptionist: Then, you should join one of our 'Spoken English Practice' courses. Is yours a beginner level?
You: **(3)** _____
Receptionist: In that case, it is better you take a placement test in order to assign you to the course level that suits you.
You: That's perfect! I'd also like to know **(4)** _____
Receptionist: The groups are very small, ranging between 5 and 8 students.
You: Fine! And **(5)** _____ ?
Receptionist: It is €100 per month, including two classes a week and one additional social activity every two weeks.
You: **(6)** _____ ?
Receptionist: We offer visits, cooking lessons, PE classes…in English, to help students become immersed in the language.
You: That's great! When can I take the level test?

5. **Read the following situations and WRITE what you would say in each one to show that you understand the context of the situation. Write between 10 and 25 words. (1.5 points)**

   a) You want to take a year off before going to university, but your parents think it's a waste of time. Try to convince them.
   b) Your friend is posting very personal photos on the social networks. Give some advice.
   c) You have prepared an oral presentation in a group, but the day you have to give it you are ill. Your group gives the presentation without you. Express your disappointment.

6. **WRITE a composition of about 120-150 words on the following topic (3 points):**

   Today's students have more stressful lives. Give your opinion.

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OPCIÓN B

Could hackers steal your memories?

Imagine being able to scroll through your memories like an Instagram feed, reliving with vivid details your favourite life moments and backing up the dearest ones.

Now imagine a completely different version of the same future in which hackers steal these memories and threaten to erase them if you don't pay a ransom.

It might sound improbable, but this scenario could be closer than you think. Advances in the field of neurotechnology have brought us closer to intensifying and improving our memories, and in a few decades we could also be able to manipulate, decode and re-write them.

The technologies likely to support these developments are brain implants which are today becoming a common tool for neurosurgeons. They deliver deep brain stimulation (DBS) to treat a wide range of conditions, such as tremors, Parkinson's, and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), in around 150,000 people worldwide.

Using the same technology, researchers are exploring how to treat memory disorders such as those caused by traumatic events. The US Defense Advance Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has begun a programme to develop and test a "wireless, fully implantable neural interface" which it hopes will help to restore memory loss in soldiers affected by traumatic brain injury.

"I wouldn't be at all surprised if there is a commercially available memory implant within the next 10 years or so – we are talking about this kind of time-frame," says Laurie Pycroft, a researcher at the University of Oxford. "In 20 years' time, the technology may evolve enough to allow us to capture the signals that build our memories, make them more vivid, and return them to the brain. By the middle of the century, we may have even more extensive control, with the ability to manipulate memories."

But the consequences of control falling into the wrong hands could be "very grave", says Mr Pycroft. A hacker could threaten to erase or overwrite someone's memories if money is not paid to them – perhaps via the dark web.

"Memory theft and malicious memory alteration pose a variety of challenges to security," says Dmitry Galov, a researcher at the cyber-security company Kaspersky Lab. "If we don't develop solutions for that first generation of implants, then the second and third generations will still be insecure – but the implants will be so much more powerful that the attackers will have the advantage."

Fragment adapted from *BBC World Service,* February 2019

1. **Say whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE according to the text. COPY the evidence from the text. No marks will be given without the evidence. (1.5 points)**

   a) Researchers predict that by the year 2050 advances in technology will allow people's memories to be changed.
   b) Brain implants are currently used for medical purposes.
   c) Investigators at DARPA already know how to treat memory loss in soldiers who have been in conflicts.

2. **ANSWER the questions below. COPY no more than 10 words and/or a number from the text to answer each question. (1.5 points)**

   a) When will it be possible for us to buy a brain implant?
   b) What might a hacker use to launch an attack on someone's memories?
   c) What problem will there be if security issues are not addressed in the first generation of implants?

3. **WRITE a synonym (=), an opposite (≠), a definition or a sentence for each of the following words to show that you understand their meaning in the text. Use your own words. (1 point)**

   a) dearest (line 2)
   b) tool (line 9)
   c) to evolve (line 18)
   d) alteration (line 24)

4. **READ this conversation and COMPLETE your part. Write the numbers (1-6) and complete each sentence on your exam paper. (1.5 points)**

Your brother's friend sees you waiting at the bus stop and stops her car to talk to you

Your brother's friend:	Hi! Can I give you a lift somewhere?
You:	**(1)** _____
Your brother's friend:	Everyone knows the 301 doesn't run at the weekend. I'll take you. It's no trouble.
You:	**(2)** _____
Your brother's friend:	So, I'll just send a text to my brother to let him know I'll be a bit late because I'm taking you, OK?
You:	You're driving, **(3)** _____
Your brother's friend:	Don't worry – I do it all the time. I'm really good at both things.
You:	But, **(4)** _____
Your brother's friend:	Oh, there are never any police around on Sundays – it won't be a problem.
You:	If you don't mind, **(5)** _____
Your brother's friend:	I never realised you were so fussy! You'll have to take a taxi because there are no buses on this route today!
You:	It's not a problem. **(6)** _____

5. **Read the following situations and WRITE what you would say in each one to show that you understand the context of the situation. Write between 10 and 25 words. (1.5 points)**

   a) Your friend wants to buy an expensive dress for the graduation ceremony but she can't really afford it. Say what you think and give her some advice.
   b) There is only one chocolate croissant (your favourite) left in the café; someone pushes in front of you and orders it. Tell the person what you think.
   c) You are late for an exam. Apologise to the teacher and explain why.

6. **WRITE a composition of about 120-150 words on the following topic (3 points):**

   There are negative and positive sides to all new technologies. Give your opinion.