



Prueba de Evaluación de Bachillerato para el Acceso a la Universidad Curso 2023-2024

Materia: Lengua extranjera (Inglés)

Tiempo máximo de la prueba: 1h 30 min

INSTRUCCIONES PARA REALIZAR EL EXAMEN

El examen consta de tres bloques de preguntas cuyo valor máximo es de 5, 3 y 2 puntos, respectivamente. Es obligatorio contestar las preguntas indicadas en cada bloque para llegar a la puntuación máxima del examen (10).

En ningún caso se corregirá un número de respuestas mayor de lo indicado para cada bloque. Para la corrección se seguirá el orden en el que las contestaciones aparezcan desarrolladas por el estudiante. Solo si el estudiante ha tachado alguna de ellas, se entenderá que esa respuesta no debe ser corregida y se procederá a corregir la siguiente de su mismo bloque.

PRIMER BLOQUE: COMPRENSIÓN LECTORA

Este bloque contiene dos textos ("Reading comprehension: Text 1" y "Reading comprehension: Text 2"), cada uno de ellos seguido por dos grupos de preguntas de comprensión lectora. El alumno deberá escoger **uno de los dos textos** y contestar las preguntas del texto elegido de la siguiente manera:

- Tres de las cuatro preguntas del primer ejercicio.

- Cuatro de las cinco preguntas del segundo ejercicio.

Reading comprehension: Text 1

Neuralink's First Brain Implant Is Working. Elon Musk's Transparency Isn't.

Elon Musk announced that Neuralink's first human trial participant can control a computer mouse with their thoughts. However, the company's communication has lacked transparency, frustrating some researchers.

Neuralink, based in California, has been secretive about its brain implant progress, mainly sharing updates through short social media posts. Despite Musk's tendency for bold claims, more openness is desired.

Last May, Neuralink announced FDA approval for the study and recruited paralyzed participants for their device, named Telepathy. Musk recently mentioned positive initial results from the first human implant, detecting neuron spikes.

Neuralink's goal is to create a brain-computer interface (BCI), initially helping paralyzed individuals control computers through thoughts. While not groundbreaking in BCI research, Neuralink's implant offers advancements, such as its wireless, rechargeable system, improving usability compared to wired setups.

The implant, with 1,024 electrodes on 64 threads thinner than a human hair, records signals from individual neurons, crucial for effective BCIs. Academic researchers confirm the feasibility of quick cursor control post-implantation.

However, concerns about transparency persist, with some researchers urging Neuralink to provide more information about its research and the participant's condition. Bioethicist Arthur Caplan emphasizes the moral obligation to protect research subjects and calls for greater transparency.

Neuralink's trial involves individuals with quadriplegia due to spinal cord injury or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). The study spans 18 months with long-term follow-up over five years. Despite this, some experts argue for more transparency to address public concerns and combat misinformation about the capabilities of BCIs.

Justin Sanchez stresses the distinction between current BCI technology and mind-reading devices, emphasizing the need for more sophisticated neurotechnology for complex cognitive tasks. Caplan echoes concerns about public perception and emphasizes the importance of transparency to maintain public trust.

Adapted from the magazine WIRED (Feb 21, 2024)

EXERCISE 1. Answer 3 of the following 4 questions, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point each, total 3 points):

- Does the writer say that Neuralink has been entirely transparent about the progress of its brain implant?
- According to the text, has Neuralink developed a wired system for its brain implants?
- Does the text imply that all experts agree on the need for greater transparency from Neuralink?
- According to the text, is the following statement true or false?
Signals from groups of neurons are recorded in the implant.

EXERCISE 2. Find in the text words to solve 4 of the following 5 questions. Use just one word in each case (maximum 0,5 points per word, total 2 points):

- A synonym for *test, experiment*.
- Find a word for this definition: *individuals hired for a specific purpose, typically within an organization, group, or team*.
- Recent in technology have revolutionized the way we communicate and access information.
- A synonym for *harm, damage*.
- Find a word for this definition: *false or inaccurate data*.

Reading comprehension: Text 2

Spain declares environmental emergency over plastic pellets spillage from ship

"The contamination of the oceans and ecosystems with plastics is one of the biggest problems faced by humanity," Spain's minister for the environment, Teresa Ribera, said. Millions of tiny plastic pellets are washing up on the shores of northern Spain prompting local authorities to declare an environmental emergency. Officials believe the plastic comes from a shipping container which fell off a ship last month.

"These little balls of plastic are an environmental problem because fish confuse them with fish eggs and eat them and they enter the food chain ... and end up on our dinner tables," Cristobal López, spokesperson for the Spanish environmental group Ecologistas en Acción, told The Associated Press from a beach in Galicia.

The regional governments of Galicia, which has borne the brunt of the pollution, and neighbouring Asturias, have asked Spain's national government for help. On Monday, Spanish state prosecutors opened an investigation. Prosecutors fear that the pellets could have toxic properties and said there are indications that they had also been found on French shores.

Spain's government representative for the Galicia region said that the container ship Toconao, sailing under a Liberian flag, lost six shipping containers off the coast of Portugal, some 80 kilometres to the west of Viana do Castelo.

One of the six containers contained 1,000 sacks of pellets, with each sack holding 25 kilograms of the tiny plastic balls. They are used in the manufacturing of plastic products.

The spill was first reported to authorities on 13 December, when hundreds of thousands of tiny white balls began washing up on Spain's Atlantic shoreline.

Greenpeace and other environmental groups calculate the total amount of pellets lost to be in the millions. They say that the pellets represent a danger for marine and human life since they can break down into even smaller microplastic that can be consumed by fish that are later caught by fishermen.

Volunteers and workers have organized to clean up the beaches and coasts of the area, which depends on a large fish and shellfish industry. Galicia's marine coastline had already been devastated by an oil spill from the Prestige tanker in 2002.

EXERCISE 1. Answer 3 of the following 4 questions, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point each, total 3 points):

- According to the text, can plastic balls be eaten by humans through eggs?
- According to the text, have pellets not only appeared on Spanish beaches?
- Does the text say that it is the first time that Galicia's coast is contaminated?
- According to the text, is the following statement true or false?

Greenpeace and other environmental groups consider pellets to be harmless for marine and human life

EXERCISE 2. Find in the text words to solve 4 of the following 5 questions. Use just one word in each case (maximum 0,5 points per word, total 2 points):

- The shipping container had fallen off a _____*
- Find a word for this definition: *a series of interrelated organisms in which the smallest is fed upon by a larger one, which in turn feeds a still larger one.*
- An antonym for *beneficial, nutritious.*
- A synonym for *crustacean, seafood.*
- Find a word for this definition: *Tiny pieces of plastic*

SEGUNDO BLOQUE: REDACCIÓN

El segundo bloque consiste en una pregunta de redacción con tres opciones, de las cuales el alumno deberá escoger y realizar tan solo una. La redacción tendrá que contener cien palabras como mínimo. La puntuación máxima es de tres puntos.

- Write a letter to a friend about your experience working as a volunteer cleaning Galicia's coast marine.
- Opinion essay: Neurotechnology, advantages and disadvantages of this medical science.
- Write a story that ends with the following words: "That was the moment when Lúa realized that those beaches she loved so much would no longer be the same" **Remember that the 20 words in this sentence cannot be counted in the 100 words you must write.**

TERCER BLOQUE: TRANSFORMACIÓN GRAMATICAL

El tercer bloque contiene seis ejercicios de transformación gramatical, de los cuales el alumno deberá escoger y contestar exclusivamente cuatro. Cada ejercicio contestado vale medio punto como máximo. La puntuación máxima del bloque en su conjunto es de dos puntos.

- Rewrite the following sentence in reported speech, beginning with "Cristobal López said that."
"These little balls of plastic are an environmental problem because fish confuse them with fish eggs and eat them and they enter the food chain"
- Rewrite the following sentence in the active voice. Do not omit any part of it.
Galicia's marine coastline was devastated by an oil spill from the Prestige tanker in 2002.
- Rewrite the following sentence in the interrogative form of the past perfect.
The spill was first reported to authorities on 13 December.
- Rewrite the following two sentences into a main clause and a non-defining relative clause.
Pellets represent a danger for marine and human life. They can break down into even smaller microplastic.
- Rewrite this sentence as a third type (impossible) conditional.
Fishermen caught fish that had consumed microplastic, so we ate that microplastic
- Rewrite the following sentence in the negative-interrogative form of the future simple.
Neuralink's goal is to create a brain-computer interface.

ANSWERS

PRIMER BLOQUE: Comprensión lectora

EXERCISE 1

Text 1. Exercise 1.a

La respuesta a esta pregunta ha de ser negativa y apoyarse en la información que se encuentra en las líneas 1-2: "the company's communication has lacked transparency, frustrating some researchers"

Text 1. Exercise 1.b

La respuesta a esta pregunta ha de ser negativa y apoyarse en la información que se encuentra en las líneas 8-9: "Neuralink's implant offers advancements, such as its wireless, rechargeable system, improving usability compared to wired setups."

Text 1. Exercise 1.c

La respuesta a esta pregunta ha de ser negativa (false) y apoyarse en la información de las líneas 16-17: "some experts argue for more transparency to address public concerns and combat misinformation about the capabilities of BCIs."

Text 1. Exercise 1.d

La respuesta ha de ser false y apoyarse en la información de las líneas 9-10: "records signals from individual neurons"

Text 2. Exercise 1.a

La respuesta a esta pregunta ha de ser negativa y apoyarse en la información que se encuentra en las líneas 6-7: "fish confuse them with fish eggs and eat them adn they enter the food chain...and end up on our dinner tables "

Text 2. Exercise 1.b

La respuesta a esta pregunta ha de ser afirmativa y apoyarse en la información de la línea 11: "There are indications that they had also been found on French shores"

Text 2. Exercise 1.c

La respuesta a esta pregunta ha de ser negativa y apoyarse en la oración de las líneas 23: "Galicie's marine coastline was devastated by an oil spill from the Prestige tanker in 2002"

Text 2. Exercise 1.d

La respuesta a esta pregunta ha de ser false y apoyarse la oración de las líneas 20: "Greenpeace and other environmental groups say that the pellets represent a danger for marine and human life."

EXERCISE 2

Text 1. Question 2

- TRIAL (línea 1)
- RECRUITED (línea 5)
- ADVANCEMENTS (línea 8)
- INJURY (línea 15)
- MISINFORMATION (línea 17)

Text 2. Question 2

- SHIP (línea 4)
- FOOD CHAIN (línea 6)
- TOXIC (línea 11)
- SHELLFISH (línea 22)
- MICROPLASTICS (línea 20)

TERCER BLOQUE. TRANSFORMACIÓN GRAMATICAL

- Cristobal López said that those little balls of plastic were an environmental problem because fish confused them with fish eggs and ate them and they entered the food chain.
- An oil spill from the Prestige tanker devastated Galicia marine coastline in 2002.
- Had the spill been first reported to authorities on 13 December?
- Pellets, which can break down into even smaller microplastic, represent a danger for marine and human life.

- e. If Fishermen hadn't caught fish that had consumed microplastic, we wouldn't have eaten that microplastic.
If fishermen had caught fish that had consumed microplastic, we would have eaten that microplastic.
Had fishermen caught fish that had consumed microplastic, we would have eaten that microplastic
- f. Won't Neuralink's goal be to create a brain-computer interface?
Will Neuralink's goal not be to create a brain-computer interface?

MODELO DE EXAMEN