



Castilla-La Mancha
Consejería de Educación,
Cultura y Deportes

PRUEBAS DE CERTIFICACIÓN

INGLÉS / B2

COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS
SESIÓN ORDINARIA 2023

INSTRUCCIONES PARA LA REALIZACIÓN DE ESTA PARTE

- **DURACIÓN: 50 minutos.**
- **PUNTUACIÓN:** A efectos de **certificación**, será necesario superar todas y cada una de las cinco actividades de lengua con una puntuación mínima del 50% en cada una de ellas y una calificación global final igual o superior al 65%. A efectos de **promoción**, será necesario obtener una puntuación mínima del 50% en todas y cada una de las cinco actividades de lengua.
- Las respuestas erróneas no descontarán puntos.
- Esta parte consta de TRES tareas.
- Leer las instrucciones al principio de cada tarea y realizarla según se indica.
- Las respuestas escritas a lápiz no se calificarán.
- No está permitido el uso del diccionario.
- **NO ESCRIBIR NADA EN LAS ÁREAS GRISES.**

DATOS DEL CANDIDATO

APELLIDOS:		
NOMBRE:		DNI:
COMISIÓN:	OFICIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	LIBRE <input type="checkbox"/>
CALIFICACIÓN:		

TASK 1

Read the text and choose the best option (A, B or C). Answer (0) is an example. Write your answers in the Answer Box. (1 item = 0.8)

WHAT TRAITS DO COMPETITIVE PEOPLE SHARE?



Being competitive isn't a good or a bad thing in itself: it has its advantages and disadvantages, depending on the situation and person. It can be beneficial when it inspires the person to maximize their effort and sacrifice; but it can be an obstacle, especially if the person doesn't know how to manage the frustration that defeat brings.

We often think of competitive people as dominant people who'll do anything possible to win, even if that means playing dirty. However, this isn't necessarily true as competitiveness is also associated with positive qualities such as leadership or tenacity.

Competitive people are always searching for new challenges to overcome. Routine and lack of action are uncomfortable and they try to avoid it at all costs. This attitude allows them to immerse themselves in new projects and not fear change. Unstable and unpredictable environments are where competitive people find themselves most content. They see these situations as opportunities to demonstrate their skills and beat their rivals. Also, their strong motivation to win means they don't abandon a task until they've completed it. Setbacks and complications aren't a reason to throw in the towel.

A competitive person isn't limited by their comfort zone, for the simple reason that they don't have one. Limits for this kind of person are just obstacles that interfere with their ability to keep moving forward towards victory.

As mentioned above, competitive people aren't afraid of challenges, which in addition to the fact that they don't acknowledge their limits, results in a combination that creates a practical attitude and the desire to keep improving. That doesn't mean that competitive people believe they're perfect. They're aware that they're flawed, as with all people, but they don't allow this to be a disadvantage.

It seems obvious that competitive people dedicate more time to their hobbies and favorite activities. But behind this statement, there are other very interesting psychological relationships between variables. According to a study on soccer players, playing sport has a strong, positive correlation with competitiveness and fights against social anxiety. The study also showed that there's a positive correlation between the level of competition and how fun the experience is. Additionally, the level of consequence and compromise was higher amongst competitive people, so it seems logical that they dedicate more hours to training and receive more satisfaction from these activities.

These individuals are in a continuous state of learning. New challenges require new solutions because to be successful you can't apply a one-size-fits-all solution already learned from a previous situation. To achieve success, a competitive person has to develop divergent thinking – a way of thinking dedicated to continuously searching for solutions to everyday problems. Their desire for success acts as a motivation to continuously reinvent themselves.

Being competitive also has a dark side. If this trait is poorly managed, it can be a huge setback for a person and it can cause the person anxiety.

Overall, being competitive can be an advantage when you know how to manage competition correctly, for which working with psychologists, trainers, and educating yourself on sporting values is fundamental.

(Adapted from: fitpeople.com)

0. **Not knowing how to handle failure...**
 - A. can be limiting for competitive people.
 - B. has its advantages and disadvantages.
 - C. inspires competitive people to do better.
1. **According to the article, competitive people...**
 - A. are sometimes viewed as cheaters.
 - B. feel it's always important to win fairly.
 - C. handle defeat better than expected.
2. **The attitude that allows competitive people to try new things is that they...**
 - A. aren't afraid of new experiences.
 - B. don't like to be passive and predictable.
 - C. enjoy looking for new challenges.
3. **When faced with challenges, competitive people...**
 - A. are able to recognize their limits.
 - B. become more determined.
 - C. focus on improving their skills.
4. **Not being perfect is seen by competitive people as...**
 - A. a source of motivation.
 - B. a way of relating to others.
 - C. an unthinkable concept.
5. **According to a study, a person who plays sport...**
 - A. is more likely to do a wider variety of activities.
 - B. may become more anxious in social settings.
 - C. tends to enjoy it more when it's highly competitive.
6. **Competitive people are more satisfied when they...**
 - A. devote a lot of time to work out sessions.
 - B. put limits on what they will compromise.
 - C. recognize the consequences of being competitive.
7. **Competitive people become successful by...**
 - A. exploring alternative possibilities.
 - B. learning from past experiences.
 - C. maintaining a fixed routine.
8. **The author concludes that a competitive nature...**
 - A. is generally a positive quality.
 - B. comes with many complications.
 - C. needs to be controlled.

ANSWER BOX

QUESTION	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ANSWER	A								

Marks 1: _____/6.4

TASK 2

Read the text and choose the best answer for each paragraph. There are **TWO** extra titles. Answer (0) is an example. Write your answers in the ANSWER BOX. (1 item = 0.8)

WAYS TO KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN GLOBALLY



Nowhere is the relationship between healthy ecosystems and healthy people more apparent than in the global water system.

F. MAKE A CONCIIOUS EFFORT

0. Clean water is the single most important building block of ecosystems around the world, says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It's also our most valuable resource, the EPA asserts. However, contamination of the world's waters leaves 2.5 billion people without access to sanitized water sources. Because global water conditions are declining, more people will soon have to rely on polluted water sources unless we make a concerted effort to clean our water supply.

9. Recycling items -- and properly disposing of items that cannot be recycled -- keeps them from making their way to rivers and oceans. Even cigarette butts have a dramatic environmental effect when people drop them on the ground at a beach or riverside area.

10. Eliminating or minimizing your use of harsh chemicals provides the surest way to protect global waters from chemicals. When chemicals leach into a body of water, they can devastate ecosystems. Nitrogen and phosphorus, commonly used in fertilizers, lead to a surge in algae growth when they enter a water body, killing off existing aquatic life, for example

11. Lower your water usage to keep water supplies cleaner by reducing chemicals used in treatment. Additionally, it keeps water available in aquifers for the times when people really need it, ensuring that more water won't be drained from the ecosystem. In contrast, irresponsible water usage can lead to droughts.

12. Water that runs down streets after rainfall, or after you wash your car with a hose, carries toxins from streets and yards that eventually may reach waterways. Sweep rather than hose down your driveway if you need to get rid of debris. When washing your car, use a bucket instead of a hose. Having porous outdoor surfaces like gravel, as well as gardens, also minimizes runoff.

13. Design a home rainwater capture system and gray-water reuse system to help maximize your home water use. A basic rainwater system channels water from gutters into a collection barrel. A gray-water system designed and installed by professionals recirculates water through your home in non-contaminating ways. For example, water used for showers or washing dishes would always be fresh and clean, but after it has been used, it may be channeled to the toilet and flushed away.

14. Take part in local clean-up days to help keep trash out of the water. Clean up litter along a river, stream or beach, or along city streets or highways. If you have children, use this opportunity to teach them how litter thrown into the street can eventually reach the ocean. Better yet, organize a clean-up day for a school or church group so everyone can work and learn together.

15. Once you've taken individual responsibility for cleaning the water supply, advocate for clean water policy or participate in a clean water outreach program. Use your knowledge to teach others how to keep the water clean through a community education program, for instance. Speak at PTA, chamber of commerce or city hall meetings about taking responsibility for keeping waters clean. Write to your representatives to urge them to take action for clean water as well.

16. Get involved with local initiatives to plan responsible water use systems and ensure that healthy waters become a component of any development initiative. Attend city council and town hall meetings regularly to contribute your input, or even run for a position on the city council or your county board of supervisors. Even if you're not an expert on water use, you can put the issue on the agenda, bring in expert consultants and educate yourself and the public. By exercising a direct impact on local planning, you'll also be protecting waters at the global level.

(Adapted from: homeguides.sfgate.com)

HEADINGS	
A.	BE THOUGHTFUL ABOUT USING NON-ORGANIC PRODUCTS
B.	CUT DOWN ON WATER
C.	DON'T JUST THROW THINGS AWAY
D.	GATHER PEOPLE TOGETHER
E.	GIVE WATER A SECOND CHANCE
F.	MAKE A CONCIOUS EFFORT
G.	REUSE RECYCLED WATER TO CLEAN YOUR CAR
H.	SHARE YOUR WISDOM WITH OTHER ADULTS
I.	TAKE PART IN YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
J.	THINK TWICE ABOUT HOW YOU CLEAN
K.	WRITE TO YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS

ANSWER BOX									
EXCERPT	0	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
HEADING	F								

Marks 2: _____/6.4

TASK 3

Read the text and complete each numbered space (17-25) with a sentence (A-L) from the Sentence Box. There are **TWO** extra sentences. Answer (0) is an example. Write your answers in the Answer Box. (1 item = 0.8)

TAIWAN'S SECRET WEAPON: FRIENDSHIP

Taiwan is an island off the coast of China. **(0.)** _____. Most of the world's computer semiconductor chips come from there. But there is a problem. **(17.)** _____. The "reunification" of Taiwan with China has been a goal of China for decades.

China is in the United Nations, and Taiwan is not. **(18.)** _____, such as the World Health Organization. Xi Ping is the president of China. His intentions to bring Taiwan into China became clear at a recent party conference. How can the much smaller Taiwan work to stay independent? The answer is simple: make friends. **(19.)** _____.

Formal diplomatic relations with other nations are lessening, and trade relations are increasing. The United States is helping. Countries like Japan and Australia see that friendship with Taiwan bolsters the country's place in the world order.

(20.) _____. Lithuania is an example. In an expo center, a government-sponsored trade group has set up a showroom of Lithuanian products. About a year ago, Lithuania rejected a popular Chinese cellphone with a censorship registry of 449 terms banned by the Chinese government. **(21.)** _____. Taiwan entered. It announced that it was setting up a \$200 million fund to invest in Lithuania. **(22.)** _____. Taiwan's government and people rallied around Lithuania. Stores have sold out of Lithuanian products. Some Lithuanians in Taiwan report that taxi drivers refused to let them pay.

(23.) _____. The ambassador of St. Vincent and the Grenadines said that when she arrived in Taiwan in 2019, the foreign minister greeted her at the airport to accept her credentials — at 5 a.m. "We have a friendship," she said. "Diplomatic allies tend to speak of interests, but Taiwan has been with us since 1981."

A nonprofit helping Taiwan said the Taiwanese people are eager to build international friendships. **(24.)** _____. It is also training hundreds of volunteers in social media messaging, and it will help keep Taiwan front of mind. The position of Taiwan in the world is better. Diplomacy and more informal approaches work. China has more money to offer. **(25.)** _____.

"We have to be more creative and, like, more adorable; we are trying to make friends, to make more friends," an observer said.



(Adapted from: thetimesinplainenglish.com)

SENTENCE BOX	
A.	As a consequence, China facilitated the distribution of its products in Lithuania
B.	Beijing made it hard for many Lithuanian companies to sell their wares in China
C.	China has kept Taiwan from other world agencies
D.	However, it is an opportunity for strengthening political agreements
E.	It added a \$1 billion program to finance joint projects, including semiconductors
F.	IT IS A PROSPEROUS, DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY
G.	It is the little things that count
H.	Some call it the “charm offensive”
I.	Taiwan is working to make friends
J.	Taiwan must find other ways to build loyalty
K.	The much more giant neighbor says it belongs to them
L.	To do that, a team produces social media content for countries where Taiwan is active

ANSWER BOX										
GAP	0	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
SENTENCE	F									

Marks 3: _____ /7.2

TASK 1	TASK 2	TASK 3	TOTAL MARKS
			_____/20

TASK 1
WHAT TRAITS DO COMPETITIVE PEOPLE SHARE?

ANSWER BOX

QUESTION	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ANSWER	A	A	B	B	A	C	A	A	C

TEXTO

Being competitive isn't a good or a bad thing in itself: it has its advantages and disadvantages, depending on the situation and person. It can be beneficial when it inspires the person to maximize their effort and sacrifice; **but it can be an obstacle, especially if the person doesn't know how to manage the frustration that defeat brings (0).**

We often think of competitive people as dominant people who'll do anything possible to win, even if that means playing dirty (1). However, this isn't necessarily true as competitiveness is also associated with positive qualities such as leadership or tenacity.

Competitive people are always searching for new challenges to overcome (2). Routine and lack of action are uncomfortable and they try to avoid it at all costs. This attitude allows them to immerse themselves in new projects and not fear change. Unstable and unpredictable environments are where competitive people find themselves most content. They see these situations as opportunities to demonstrate their skills and beat their rivals. Also, their strong motivation to win means **they don't abandon a task until they've completed it (3).** Setbacks and complications aren't a reason to throw in the towel.

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As mentioned above, competitive people aren't afraid of challenges, which in addition to the fact that they don't acknowledge their limits, results in a combination that creates a practical attitude and the desire to keep improving. That doesn't mean that competitive people believe they're perfect. **They're aware that they're flawed, as with all people, but they don't allow this to be a disadvantage (4).**

It seems obvious that **competitive people dedicate more time to their hobbies and favorite activities (5).** But behind this statement, there are other very interesting psychological relationships between variables. According to a study on soccer players, playing sport has a strong, positive correlation with competitiveness and fights against social anxiety. The study also showed that there's a positive correlation between the level of competition and how fun the experience is. Additionally, the level of consequence and compromise was higher amongst competitive people, so it seems logical that **they dedicate more hours to training and receive more satisfaction from these activities (6).**

These individuals are in a continuous state of learning. New challenges require new solutions because to be successful you can't apply a one-size-fits-all solution already learned from a previous situation. **To achieve success, a competitive person has to develop divergent thinking – a way of thinking dedicated to continuously searching for solutions to everyday problems (7).** Their desire for success acts as a motivation to continuously reinvent themselves.

Being competitive also has a dark side. If this trait is poorly managed, it can be a huge setback for a person and it can cause the person anxiety.

Overall, **being competitive can be an advantage when you know how to manage competition correctly, for which working with psychologists, trainers, and educating yourself on sporting values is fundamental (8).**

(Adapted from: fitpeople.com/health/sports-psychology/traits-of-competitive-people/adaptado, 15/10/2020. 521 words)

TASK 2

WAYS TO KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN GLOBALLY

ANSWER BOX

EXCERPT	0	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
HEADING	F	C	A	B	J	E	D	H	I

Distractors: G, K

TEXT

WAYS TO KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN GLOBALLY

Nowhere is the relationship between healthy ecosystems and healthy people more apparent than in the global water system.

F. MAKE A CONCIOUS EFFORT

0. Clean water is the single most important building block of ecosystems around the world, says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It's also our most valuable resource, the EPA asserts. However, contamination of the world's waters leaves 2.5 billion people without access to sanitized water sources. Because global water conditions are declining, more people will soon have to rely on polluted water sources unless we make a concerted effort to clean our water supply.

C. DON'T JUST THROW THINGS AWAY

9. Recycling items -- and properly disposing of items that cannot be recycled -- keeps them from making their way to rivers and oceans. Even cigarette butts have a dramatic environmental effect when people drop them on the ground at a beach or riverside area.

A. BE THOUGHTFUL ABOUT USING NON-ORGANIC PRODUCTS

10. Eliminating or minimizing your use of harsh chemicals provides the surest way to protect global waters from chemicals. When chemicals leach into a body of water, they can devastate ecosystems. Nitrogen and phosphorus, commonly used in fertilizers, lead to a surge in algae growth when they enter a water body, killing off existing aquatic life, for example.

B. CUT DOWN ON WATER

11. Lower your water usage to keep water supplies cleaner by reducing chemicals used in treatment. Additionally, it keeps water available in aquifers for the times when people really need it, ensuring that more water won't be drained from the ecosystem. In contrast, irresponsible water usage can lead to droughts.

J. THINK TWICE ABOUT HOW YOU CLEAN

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E. GIVE WATER A SECOND CHANCE

13. Design a home rainwater capture system and gray-water reuse system to help maximize your home water use. A basic rainwater system channels water from gutters into a collection barrel. A gray-water system designed and installed by professionals recirculates water through your home in non-contaminating ways. For example, water used for showers or washing dishes would always be fresh and clean, but after it has been used, it may be channeled to the toilet and flushed away.

D. GATHER PEOPLE TOGETHER

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H. SHARE YOUR WISDOM WITH OTHER ADULTS

15. Once you’ve taken individual responsibility for cleaning the water supply, advocate for clean water policy or participate in a clean water outreach program. Use your knowledge to teach others how to keep the water clean through a community education program, for instance. Speak at PTA, chamber of commerce or city hall meetings about taking responsibility for keeping waters clean. Write to your representatives to urge them to take action for clean water as well.

I. TAKE PART IN YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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(Adapted from: homeguides.sfgate.com/ten-ways-keep-water-clean-globally-79399.html, 10/11/2022, 675 words)

**TASK 3
TAIWAN’S SECRET WEAPON: FRIENDSHIP**

ANSWER KEY

GAP	0	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
SENTENCE	F	K	C	H	I	B	E	G	L	J

TEXT

Taiwan is an island off the coast of China. **It is a prosperous, democratic country (0)**. Most of the world’s computer semiconductor chips come from there. But there is a problem. **The much more giant neighbor says it belongs to them (17)**. The “reunification” of Taiwan with China has been a goal of China for decades.

China is in the United Nations, and Taiwan is not. **China has kept Taiwan from other world agencies (18)**, such as the World Health Organization. Xi Ping is the president of China. His intentions to bring Taiwan into China became clear at a recent party conference. How can the much smaller Taiwan work to stay independent? The answer is simple: make friends. **Some call it the “charm offensive.” (19)** Formal diplomatic relations with other nations are lessening, and trade relations are increasing. The United States is helping. Countries like Japan and Australia see that friendship with Taiwan bolsters the country’s place in the world order.

Taiwan is working to make friends (20). Lithuania is an example. In an expo center, a government-sponsored trade group has set up a showroom of Lithuanian products. About a year ago, Lithuania rejected a popular Chinese cellphone with a censorship registry of 449 terms banned by the Chinese government. **Beijing made it hard for many Lithuanian companies to sell their wares in China (21)**. Taiwan entered. It announced that it was setting up a \$200 million fund to invest in Lithuania. **It added a \$1 billion program to finance joint projects, including semiconductors (22)**. Taiwan’s government

and people rallied around Lithuania. Stores have sold out of Lithuanian products. Some Lithuanians in Taiwan report that taxi drivers refused to let them pay.

It is the little things that count (23). The ambassador of St. Vincent and the Grenadines said that when she arrived in Taiwan in 2019, the foreign minister greeted her at the airport to accept her credentials — at 5 a.m. “We have a friendship,” she said. “Diplomatic allies tend to speak of interests, but Taiwan has been with us since 1981.”

A nonprofit helping Taiwan said the Taiwanese people are eager to build international friendships. **To do that, a team produces social media content for countries where Taiwan is active (24).** It is also training hundreds of volunteers in social media messaging, and it will help keep Taiwan front of mind. The position of Taiwan in the world is better. Diplomacy and more informal approaches work. China has more money to offer. **Taiwan must find other ways to build loyalty (25).**

“We have to be more creative and, like, more adorable; we are trying to make friends, to make more friends,” an observer said.

(Adapted from: [thetimesinplainenglish.com/taiwans-secret-weapon-friendship/](https://www.thetimesinplainenglish.com/taiwans-secret-weapon-friendship/), 10/11/2022, 444 words)