



La Rioja

EDUCACIÓN, CULTURA, DEPORTE Y JUVENTUD

ESCUELAS OFICIALES DE IDIOMAS DE LA RIOJA

PRUEBA DE CERTIFICACIÓN

INGLÉS



Datos del candidato	Calificación final
Apellidos:	
Nombre:	
Modalidad: <input type="checkbox"/> Oficial Presencial <input type="checkbox"/> Libre <input type="checkbox"/> That's English <input type="checkbox"/> IES: _____	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Apto <input type="checkbox"/> No Apto
	Convocatoria MAYO 2023

PRUEBA DE COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS

INFORMACIÓN PARA EL CANDIDATO
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Esta prueba consta de 3 ejercicios.• Lea atentamente las instrucciones correspondientes a cada ejercicio.• Cada respuesta correcta tiene un valor de 0.4 puntos.• Debe registrar sus respuestas en el lugar indicado para ello en bolígrafo azul o negro.• No escriba en los cuadros sombreados, destinados a la calificación de la prueba.• Escriba con letra clara y legible que no lleve a dobles interpretaciones.• Las respuestas incorrectas NO penalizan.• Debe apagar su teléfono móvil – que no podrá estar encima de la mesa – antes de que comience la prueba.• Duración de la prueba: 60 minutos.

TEXT 1

Read the following article about the British Prime Minister's father-in-law and complete each blank with the best option from the box. Each option can be used only ONCE. There are **five extra options** that you will not need. *Item 0* is an example. Do not forget to write your answers in the white boxes on the next page. (4 marks: 0.4 each)

BOOST	CLEAR UP	JEWELLERS	REACHED
BOUND	DEBATING	LECTURING	SWEEPS
BRANDS	FAILURE	LOWER	WON
CANTEEN	HONESTY	OUTSTANDING	WORTH

SUNAK'S FATHER-IN-LAW


He may be (0) worth £3.9bn but Rishi Sunak's father-in-law, NR Narayana Murthy, lives in the same Bengaluru flat with his wife, Sudha, that he did decades ago, drives a small car, (1) _____ the dishes, and cleans his own toilet.

Murthy is famous in India for co-founding in 1981 the software firm *Infosys*, now a £9.6bn multinational that employs more than 345,000 people. The only difference from when he and Sudha were an unknown, ordinary couple is that the flat is filled with books. There is no glitz in their life, no private jets, no luxury (2) _____. Murthy is an introvert who likes nothing more than to read.

In Sudha's 2017 book, *Three Thousand Stitches*, she related how her husband cleans his own toilet, a job many Indians usually leave to employees of a (3) _____ caste, and also washes his own plate after meals.

Employees at *Infosys* have spoken of his belief in the dignity of labour and have seen Murthy fixing small electrical problems in the (4) _____ himself. He is renowned for his integrity. After books, philanthropy is another passion. "The real power of money is in giving it away," is one of his famous sayings.

Murthy and six engineer friends founded *Infosys* after sitting in his flat (5) _____ how they could create a company to write software codes. They had no computer and had to borrow 10,000 rupees (£100) from Sudha to start the company, using the front room of the Murthy home as its office.

Infosys grew over four decades to offer software infrastructure, technology and outsourcing services, and received a big (6) _____ in the 2000s when US companies began shifting software development work to India because it was cheaper. *Infosys'* revenues grew from 1999 to 2004. Today it is valued at \$11bn.

The Murthys, both in their late 70s, are viewed as a classic middle-class south Indian couple, implying simplicity in food, clothes and furnishings, living by strong family values, stressing education and hard work, (7) _____ and mild behaviour.

During the early years of *Infosys* when money was short, Murthy travelled economy class even on international flights. He stopped doing so only when the company (8) _____ a revenue of \$1bn.

"He was an inspirational, (9) _____ role model," said Suhel Seth, a marketing guru who knows Murthy. "He was unique in showing the average middle-class Indian that you can succeed while being ethical at the same time. He is the epitome of the self-made man and his humility is genuine."

The couple are (10) _____ to face more attention than before, given their powerful son-in-law, but friends say they are unlikely to become media-friendly or let his fame disturb their peaceful retirement.



	ANSWERS	
0	WORTH	✓
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		



TEXT 2

Read the following extract from the short story *The Heroine* and choose the correct answer (a, b or c) according to the text. *Item 0* is an example. Write your answers in the white boxes on the right. (3.2 marks: 0.4 each)

THE HEROINE

The girl was so sure she would get the job that she had come to Westchester with her suitcase. She sat in the living room of the Christiansens' house, looking in her plain blue coat and hat, even younger than her twenty-one years.

'Have you worked as a governess before?' Mr Christiansen asked. He sat beside his wife on the sofa. 'Any references, I mean?'

'I was a maid at Mr Dwight Howell's home in New York for the last seven months.' Lucille looked at him with suddenly wide gray eyes. 'I could get a reference from there if you like... But when I saw your advertisement this morning, I didn't want to wait. I've always wanted a place where there are children.'

Mrs Christiansen smiled at the girl's enthusiasm, and said, 'We might phone them, of course... What do you say, Ronald? You wanted someone who really liked children...'

And fifteen minutes later Lucille Smith was standing in her room in the servants' house, at the back of the big house, putting on her new white uniform.

'You're starting again, Lucille,' she told herself in the mirror. 'You're going to forget everything that happened before.'

But her eyes grew too wide again, as though to deny her words. They looked like her mother's when they opened like that, and her mother was part of what she must forget. There were only a few things to remember. A few silly habits, like burning bits of paper in ashtrays, forgetting time sometimes – little things that many people did, but that she must remember not to do. With practice she would remember, because she was just like other people (hadn't the psychiatrist told her so?).

She looked out at the garden and lawn that lay between the servants' house and the big house. The garden was longer than it was wide, and there was a fountain in the center. It was a beautiful garden! And trees so high and close together that Lucille could not see through them, and did not have to admit or believe that there was another house somewhere beyond... The Howell house in New York, tall and heavily ornamented, looking like an old wedding cake in a row of other old wedding cakes.

The Christiansen house was friendly, and alive! There were children in it! Thank God for the children. But she had not even met them yet. She hurried downstairs and went across to the big house. What had the Christiansens agreed to pay her? She could not remember and did not care. She would have worked for nothing just to live in such a place. Mrs Christiansen took her upstairs to the nursery where the children lay on the floor among colored pencils and picture books.

'Nicky, Heloise, this is your new nurse,' their mother said. 'Her name is Lucille.' The little boy stood up and said, 'How do you do.' 'And Heloise,' Mrs Christiansen said, leading the second child, who was smaller, to Lucille. Heloise stared and said, 'How do you do.' 'Nicky is nine, and Heloise six.'

Lucille could not take her eyes from them. They were the perfect children of her perfect house. They looked up at her with eyes that were curious, trusting, loving. Mrs Christiansen smoothed the little girl's hair with a loving gentleness that fascinated Lucille. 'It's just about time for their lunch,' she said. 'You'll have your meals up here, Lucille. Lisabeth will be up with the lunch in a few minutes.' She paused at the door. 'You aren't nervous about anything, are you, Lucille?' 'Oh, no, madam.'

'Well, you mustn't be.' She seemed about to say something else, but only smiled and went out.

Lucille stared after her, wondering what that something else might have been.

'You're a lot prettier than Catherine,' Nicky told her. 'Catherine was our nurse before. She went back to Scotland. We didn't like Catherine.' 'No,' said Heloise. 'We didn't like Catherine.' Nicky stared at his sister. 'You shouldn't say that.' Lucille laughed. Then Nicky and Heloise laughed too.

A maid entered with lunch and put it on the table in the center of the room. 'I'm Lisabeth Jenkins, miss,' she said shyly. 'My name's Lucille Smith,' the girl said.



0. *The girl had arrived in Westchester*

- a. *before she was expected to.*
- b. *in order to work anywhere.*
- c. ***with the intention to work.***

⓪

C



1. During the meeting, Lucille

- a. admitted not bringing any references.
- b. eagerly showed her references.
- c. lied about her references.

①

2. Lucille had

- a. a slight resemblance with her mum.
- b. already given up her dangerous habits.
- c. to share a room with other servants.

②

3. The psychiatrist had

- a. insisted on the importance of good memories.
- b. told her that she was an ordinary person.
- c. warned her of the dangers of playing with fire.

③

4. The Howell house

- a. had a plain garden with high trees.
- b. used to host wedding receptions.
- c. was surrounded by similar houses.

④

5. Lucille

- a. didn't particularly mind her salary.
- b. hadn't been informed about her salary.
- c. wasn't really content with her salary.

⑤

6. When meeting Lucille, the children showed

- a. familiarity.
- b. formality.
- c. indifference.

⑥

7. Lucille was captivated by

- a. all the amenities in the house.
- b. Mrs Christiansen's behavior.
- c. the fact of being served lunch.

⑦

8. The children's words about their previous nurse made Lucille feel

- a. amused.
- b. curious.
- c. suspicious.

⑧



TEXT 3

Read the following article about house sitting, and decide which of the options (A - J) is the most appropriate to fill in each gap. Each option can be used only ONCE. There are **two extra options** which do not match any gaps. *Item 0* is an example. Do not forget to write your answers in the white boxes on the next page. (2.8 marks: 0.4 each)

HOUSE SITTING

Staying in another country for free and cuddling cute pets? House sitting seems like (0) G , but what is it actually like to move into a stranger's home and take care of their pets for a few days, or even a few months?

Aside from the rent-free accommodation, one of the main reasons I wanted to try house sitting was because I miss having pets. I grew up with lots of different pets – dogs, fish, birds – but I've always been reluctant to have them as an adult because they don't mesh well with my ever-moving, unstructured lifestyle. Not all house sits involve taking care of pets, but I'm happy ours did. I loved having the opportunity (1) _____. I felt like I got to enjoy all the perks of being a pet-owner for a few months, but without the long-term commitment of actually having pets.

Similar to many of my teaching jobs and work exchange experiences, this house sit was also (2) _____. I would probably never had gone to otherwise. Before this house sit, I could barely point out Gibraltar on a map, and I had idea that Morocco is just a quick ferry ride away from southern Spain.

The town where we lived, Los Barrios, was a pretty average small Spanish village and that's part of what I loved about it. Without the influence of tourism, the locals were amused enough by our terrible Spanish; we could buy a bag of fresh *churros* from a street vendor and bring them to the nearby café to eat with our coffees; and an evening of Cruzcampo beers and tapas rarely cost more than 10€. We weren't doing spectacular, Instagram-worthy things every day, but it was the kind of low-key cultural immersion (3) _____.

While we generally enjoyed taking care of the home owners' dogs, the responsibility of caring for them felt magnified because they weren't our own. We often found ourselves (4) _____ if one of the dogs sneezed, or doubling back after leaving the house to triple-check we had actually locked the door.

We knew the location when we accepted the house sit, but there were definitely moments when the countryside setting felt a bit isolated. Although it only took us 10 minutes to walk into town, none of the residents we met spoke English; and (5) _____ didn't exactly fulfill our need to socialize.

Most unfortunately, near the end of the house sit, we got tangled up in a legal dispute when some squatters tried to move into an unoccupied cottage on the home owners' property. We ended up having to take on major responsibilities and quite literally hold down the fort until the home owners' could come back to take care of the issue. Although what happened to us (6) _____, it's a critical reminder that house sitting is an easy job when everything goes according to plan but it can be seriously complicated when something goes wrong.

Despite the downsides to house sitting, it's still something I'm eager to try again in the future. I think (7) _____ if you go into it with well-informed expectations, a clear sense of your responsibilities, and back-up plans for every worst-case scenario. It's an awesome way to make traveling more affordable, as well as experience a different perspective on a country by actually living in it for a while.



- A. an excellent chance to visit an area of the world
- B. can make him feel unsafe at times
- C. gesturing wildly or making statements about the weather in broken Spanish
- D. having disproportionately large freak-outs
- E. is far from a typical house sitting experience
- F. it can be an amazing experience
- G. ~~kind of a dream from the outside~~**
- H. that fits perfectly with our slow style of traveling
- I. to bond with the home owners' four dogs
- J. to make sure you have details of any emergency contacts

①	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦
G							
✓							



KEY

COMPRESIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS
B2
MAYO 2023

TEXT 1: SUNAK’S FATHER-IN-LAW (4 marks: 0.4 each)

	ANSWERS
0	WORTH
1	CLEARs UP
2	BRANDS
3	LOWER
4	CANTEEN
5	DEBATING
6	BOOST
7	HONESTY
8	REACHED
9	OUTSTANDING
10	BOUND

TEXT 2: THE HEROINE (3.2 marks: 0.4 each)

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

TEXT 3: HOUSE SITTING (2.8 marks: 0.4 each)

	ANSWERS
0	G
1	I
2	A
3	H
4	D
5	C
6	E
7	F