



Castilla-La Mancha

Consejería de Educación,
Cultura y Deportes

PRUEBAS DE CERTIFICACIÓN

INGLÉS / C1

COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS
SESIÓN EXTRAORDINARIA 2024

INSTRUCCIONES PARA LA REALIZACIÓN DE ESTA PARTE

- **DURACIÓN: 55 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 following text and choose the best answer (A, B or C) for each question (1-8). Question (0) is an example. Write your answers in the ANSWER BOX (1 item = 0.8).

THE TIKTOK DEBATE



Gen Zers might be about to have more free time on their hands. President Biden has promised he would sign a bill¹ barring TikTok from operating in the United States as long as it remains under the ownership of ByteDance, a Chinese company. The House looks close to passing it, leaving the Senate its last hurdle. Divestiture² — which would preserve Americans' ability to freely express themselves on a favorite app and permit a competitor of Silicon Valley giants to continue operating — would be much preferable to outright exclusion under current ownership. Maybe that is the outcome Mr. Biden and federal lawmakers hope to force. But threatening a one-off ban against a tech firm, arbitrarily overriding the government's existing process for assessing foreign corporate threats, is the wrong way to achieve that goal.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee voted 50-0 last week to advance legislation effectively prohibiting apps “controlled” by a foreign adversary from operating in this country, with TikTok and its Beijing-based parent company, ByteDance, mentioned by name. The only alternative the bill contemplates is for the executive branch to approve a divestiture. The proposal is drafted more carefully than previous attempts to send ByteDance packing and enjoys wide support. Still, Congress shouldn't exile a vibrant outlet for speech without a credible adjudication of whether and how it poses a threat to national security.

No one should assume TikTok is nothing more than an innocent diversion for young people (and admittedly some older ones, too), merely allowing them to scroll through makeup tutorials, cute animal clips and viral challenges. The app is immensely popular, with more than 100 million active users in the United States alone — and each of those users, some of them potentially people of power and influence, provides TikTok a trove of personal data that the company can theoretically access and exploit. Depending on the permissions granted to the app, that data might not be restricted to what happens on TikTok: It could also include locations visited, connected WiFi routers and more. The Chinese Communist Party has no qualms about demanding Chinese companies to hand over this kind of information; ByteDance would have no choice but to acquiesce.

That's the privacy threat. Then there's the information threat. China spreads propaganda far and wide on social media sites — including TikTok, where, a report recently released by the director of national intelligence's office warns, accounts run by a Chinese propaganda arm might have targeted candidates during the 2022 midterm elections. The question is whether Beijing will go further than just that, meddling with TikTok's algorithm to ensure that political narratives it prefers prevail in viewers' feeds. Discerning whether that's occurring is nearly impossible; recommendation systems are generally black boxes. But reports of censorship on the app, particularly during pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong, give cause for concern.

There's no concrete evidence at the moment that either of these two threats has materialized in the United States. There is only the risk they could. Perhaps the lawmakers who voted for the TikTok bill anticipate that the social media service will never have to be banned but that, instead, the threat of a ban will force ByteDance to divest its U.S. operations.

But such a bet would be risky and the process unfair. The proper response is for the government to deliberately evaluate TikTok's dangers, then act according to its findings. This is exactly what's supposed to be occurring right now at the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States — but the process, involving a potential arrangement with ByteDance that might mitigate concerns, has stopped and started and appears to be stalled. Mr. Biden has also directed the Commerce Department to devise regulations addressing foreign software more generally that would, if well-drafted, provide a framework for this sort of evaluation — of TikTok and any other software.

That's the right approach. The wrong approach is to skip the procedure and declare ByteDance's TikTok verboten³. The bill before the House would also create a mechanism for the president easily to designate other apps as impermissibly subject to foreign control. This is too vulnerable to the whims of legislators eager for a campaign trail talking point, as well as executives seeking geopolitical clout. Just look at

politicians' many overheated declarations about TikTok's harms. The government ought to set itself a high bar for dictating to Americans where they can and can't express themselves. This bill would place it too low.

¹legislation before it becomes an official law.

² the act of selling an asset, a business, or a part of a business.

³forbidden

(Adapted from: washingtonpost.com)

0. **According to the article, the proposed legislation...**
 - A. easily passed in the House.
 - B. **is awaiting Senate approval.**
 - C. was signed by the president.
1. **The main argument against the legislation is that it...**
 - A. is an unrealistic solution as it wouldn't guarantee user privacy.
 - B. unfairly targets a single company without proper investigation.
 - C. would eliminate competition in the social media market.
2. **The author feels that the proposal...**
 - A. has more restrictions than previous proposals.
 - B. needs to have more options other than divestiture.
 - C. should contain a risk assessment protocol.
3. **The author is particularly concerned with the...**
 - A. growing popularity of TikTok throughout the US.
 - B. passive attitude of young people using TikTok.
 - C. vast amount of information TikTok accumulates.
4. **The primary aim of the proposed legislation is to...**
 - A. address concerns over how China will use collected data.
 - B. control the spread of propaganda and fake news.
 - C. greatly limit Tik Tok's capacity to acquire information.
5. **The main concern with TikTok's algorithm is that...**
 - A. it can be manipulated to promote particular ideas and viewpoints.
 - B. it produces content that is largely irrelevant to users' interests.
 - C. it's unclear how content is chosen due to a lack of transparency.
6. **The author calls the process unfair because...**
 - A. it appears that lawmakers want to ban TikTok exclusively.
 - B. the existence of the perceived dangers has yet to be proved.
 - C. the legislation would compel a company to sell their operations.
7. **The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) is currently...**
 - A. assessing the threats to privacy and other risks posed by TikTok.
 - B. developing measures aimed at regulating companies such as Tik Tok.
 - C. negotiating with the Chinese government to resolve security problems.
8. **The author's final conclusion is that the bill...**
 - A. doesn't go far enough in enforcing privacy rights.
 - B. may be abused by politicians to create political debate.
 - C. potentially reduces one's freedom of expression.

ANSWER BOX

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

TASK 2

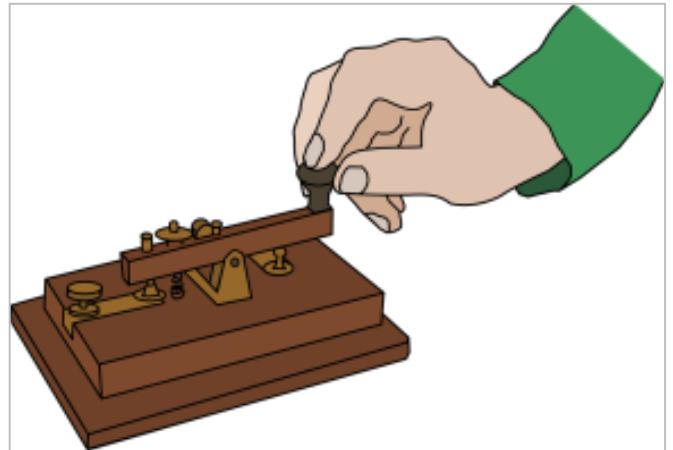
Read the text and complete each numbered space (9-16) with the SENTENCE (A-L) that fits best from the sentence box. There are THREE extra sentences. Answer (0) is an example. Write your answers in the ANSWER BOX. (1 ítem= 0.8)

WHY MORSE CODE ENDURED AFTER THE DEMISE OF THE TELEGRAPH

The invention of the telegraph was so revolutionary that it's often referred to as the "Victorian internet." The discovery of electromagnetism and its use in telegraphs forever freed communication from reliance on transportation. (0) _____. It effectively annihilated space and time.

Electromagnetism allows pulses of electric current to be transported along a conductor. (9) _____.

The first working optical telegraph was introduced in 1794 by the Chappe brothers. (10) _____. Morse is said to have had the idea for the electromagnetic telegraph in a "flash of genius" at a dinner party in 1832, which earned him the nickname Lightning Man. In 1838, after six years of experimentation, Morse



applied for a patent for his "American Electro-Magnetic Telegraph." The patent was officially issued in 1840. Morse's telegraph offered simplicity, and what Mossoff calls an "elegant solution" to the telegraph in the book *A History of Intellectual Property in 50 Objects*. (11) _____. It was also cheaper to build and operate. While he worked on the electromagnetic telegraph, Morse developed Morse code, a system that went hand in hand with the telegraph. Morse's associate Alfred Vail went on to improve Morse code and simplified it to a sequence of dots and dashes. Telegraphs work by tapping out electronic Morse code signals for each letter of the alphabet using short (dots) and long (dashes) pulses.

With advancements in wireless technology in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the telegraph and Morse code were adapted for maritime communication. (12) _____. In the maritime sector, Morse code was used to relay distress messages and to aid in navigational communication. The original maritime distress signal was CQD, meaning "all stations: distress." CQD was later replaced with SOS, which was adopted as a distinctive Morse code sequence. While SOS is commonly associated with the phrase "save our souls," it is not actually an abbreviation.

Perhaps the most famous maritime telegraph message is the haunting SOS from the *Titanic*. On the night of April 14, 1912, radio officers Jack Philips and Harold Bride stayed aboard the sinking *Titanic* until the very last moment, sending out CQD and SOS messages. (13) _____. As a result, 700 survivors were rescued. Without these wireless transmissions, all 2,200 passengers would likely have succumbed to the frigid Atlantic waters. Philips did not survive. Bride was seriously injured, but he helped the radio officers on the *Carpathia's* assigned escort, USS *Chester*, send news to surviving passengers' kin.

The telegraph was gradually replaced in everyday life by the radio and telephone, but Morse code was used for maritime communication until 1999. At the stroke of midnight on January 31, 1999, Morse code was retired from international maritime regulations. (14) _____. The Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) officially replaced the Morse system. After saving countless lives at sea, coastal stations around the world transmitted one last Morse message. In the United States, the final commercial message mirrored the first, "What hath God wrought." (15) _____.

While Morse code and the telegraph were born together, (16) _____. Though Morse code has officially been retired, it has not disappeared entirely. Many hobbyists around the world keep Morse code alive.

(Adapted from: vanmaritime.com)

SENTENCE BANK

A.	Before that, all ships were required to be equipped with Morse code for emergency services
B.	But the first electromagnetic telegraph was developed by Samuel F.B. Morse
C.	Morse has long outlived the telegraph
D.	Nevertheless, it became one of the most recognizable communication systems in the world
E.	Since a connecting telegraph wire was no longer necessary to physically connect telegraph stations, ships could now communicate with each other and with the shore
F.	The low cost of manufacturing the new machine meant that it was more affordable for global communication centers
G.	These calls for help reached the <i>Carpathia</i>
H.	This discovery was used to develop the telegraph, which transports an electric current along telegraph wires to a receiving instrument
I.	This transition radically transformed the technological, social and economic aspects of long-distance communication by providing fast and efficient communication across vast distances
J.	Though these technological advancements have improved maritime communication, Morse continues to be used when all else fails
K.	Thus, the world ended the era of Morse code using dots and dashes
L.	Unlike other early telegraphs, his invention could operate in many conditions, including at night and in any weather

ANSWER BOX

GAP	0	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
SENTENCE	I								

Marks 2: ____ /6.4

TASK 3

Read the text. Match each question (17-25) to the paragraph (A-E) that it refers to. Each paragraph may be used more than once. Question (0) is an example. Write your answers in the ANSWER BOX (1 item = 0.8).

INFLATION AND AMERICAN SPENDING

- A. Something unexpected is going on in the U.S. economy. Inflation remains high, yet many Americans went on a spending spree last month, eating out at restaurants and shopping for cars. In ordinary times, that additional spending would be welcome news to an economy that's heavily dependent on consumer dollars. But there's a catch: All that spending threatens to put more upward pressure on inflation at a time when the Federal Reserve is raising interest rates aggressively to keep prices in check. That makes it critical to gauge how long that consumer spending can last. A drop in consumer spending would help to cool inflation, but it would also raise concerns about a recession. On the other hand, if spending continues to grow at this pace, it could force the Fed to raise interest rates even more aggressively to bring prices under control.
- B. Just when it seemed that consumers were running out of gas, shoppers appear to be getting a second wind. Personal spending rose 1.8% in January, according to the Commerce Department on Friday, as consumers splurged on both goods as well as services like going out for meals or the movies. Lots of people have money in their pockets to spend, thanks to strong job growth and rising wages. Retirees also got a raise this year. Social Security benefits rose by 8.7% in January, the largest cost-of-living increase in four decades. Jonathan Silver, who tracks credit card use by about 100 million people nationwide, says that additional income will help to support consumer spending in the months to come.
- C. In addition, many people socked away extra savings during the early months of the pandemic, when spending opportunities were limited and the government was distributing multiple rounds of relief payments. While bank balances have come down, Americans are still sitting on a lot of additional cash. "We estimate households to still have about ten months of spending power if they continue to deplete excess savings at the pace they have over the past six months," Wells Fargo economists wrote. People who put off traveling during the worst of the pandemic are making up for lost time. Vacation visits to Las Vegas jumped more than 20% last year. January's numbers show a jump in both. Spending on goods rose 2.8% while spending on services rose 1.3%.
- D. Of course, not everybody is flush with cash. Some households are struggling. And businesses are not confident that consumers' free-spending habits will continue. Spending grew much faster than income in January, and shoppers may be nearing their limits. Walmart, the nation's largest retailer, is projecting only modest sales growth this year. CEO Doug McMillon notes that shoppers are increasingly focused on basic necessities like groceries, while limiting spending on more discretionary items. Restaurant owner Cameron Mitchell is similarly cautious. Mitchell, who operates dozens of restaurants, has noticed diners appear to be gravitating to his less expensive outlets. He opted to skip his usual spring price increase this year, out of concern that customers are feeling tapped out.
- E. There's another reason spending could cool. The Fed has been trying to get shoppers to slow their spending by raising interest rates, in an effort to curb inflation. Economist Ian Shepherdson thinks the Fed's efforts are working. He believes the surprisingly strong spending last month was a fluke, resulting from unusually warm weather. The economic lines are particularly zig-zaggy at the moment. Some, like the strong job market, point to continued growth in spending. Others, like the rising number of overdue car loans, point to a looming slowdown. But restaurant owner Cameron Mitchell remains cautiously optimistic. His food costs have begun to level off. Staffing shortages at his restaurants have eased. And he's planning to open about half-a-dozen new locations this year.



(Adapted from: npr.org)

WHICH SECTION MENTIONS ...?	
0.	a contradictory situation regarding the economy
17.	changing a business practice to meet current trends
18.	differing conclusions based on economic data
19.	dilemmas for the Federal Reserve
20.	factors contributing to an increase in available cash
21.	how climate impacted the economy
22.	how different sectors have benefitted
23.	how the elderly have been impacted
24.	people having accumulated an excess of funds
25.	the necessity for monitoring shopping activity

ANSWER BOX										
QUESTION	0	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
SECTION	A									

Marks 3: _____/7.2

TASK 1	TASK 2	TASK 3	TOTAL
			_____/20

TASK 1
THE TIKTOK DEBATE

ANSWER BOX

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

TEXT

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No one should assume TikTok is nothing more than an innocent diversion for young people (and admittedly some older ones, too), merely allowing them to scroll through makeup tutorials, cute animal clips and viral challenges. The app is immensely popular, with more than 100 million active users in the United States alone — **and each of those users, some of them potentially people of power and influence, provides TikTok a trove of personal data that the company can theoretically access and exploit (3)**. Depending on the permissions granted to the app, that data might not be restricted to what happens on TikTok: It could also include locations visited, connected WiFi routers and more. **The Chinese Communist Party has no qualms about demanding Chinese companies to hand over this kind of information; ByteDance would have no choice but to acquiesce (4)**.

That’s the privacy threat. Then there’s the information threat. China spreads propaganda far and wide on social media sites — including TikTok, where, a report recently released by the director of national intelligence’s office warns, accounts run by a Chinese propaganda arm might have targeted candidates during the 2022 midterm elections. **The question is whether Beijing will go further than just that, meddling with TikTok’s algorithm to ensure that political narratives it prefers prevail in viewers’ feeds (5)**. Discerning whether that’s occurring is nearly impossible; recommendation systems are generally black boxes. But reports of censorship on the app, particularly during pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong, give cause for concern.

There’s no concrete evidence at the moment that either of these two threats has materialized in the United States. There is only the risk they could (6). Perhaps the lawmakers who voted for the TikTok bill anticipate that the social media service will never have to be banned but that, instead, the threat of a ban will force ByteDance to divest its U.S. operations.

But such a bet would be risky and **the process unfair (6)**. **The proper response is for the government to deliberately evaluate TikTok’s dangers, then act according to its findings**. This is exactly what’s supposed to be **occurring right now at the Committee on Foreign Investment (7)** in the United States — but the process, involving a potential arrangement with ByteDance that might mitigate concerns, has stopped and started and appears to be stalled. Mr. Biden has also directed the Commerce Department to devise regulations addressing foreign software more generally that would, if well-drafted, provide a framework for this sort of evaluation — of TikTok and any other software.

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(washingtonpost.com, adapted, 12/03/2024, 737 words)

TASK 2

WHY MORSE CODE ENDURED AFTER THE DEMISE OF THE TELEGRAPH

ANSWER BOX									
GAP	0	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
SENTENCE	I	H	B	L	E	G	A	K	C

DISTRACTORS: D, F and J

TEXT

The invention of the telegraph was so revolutionary that it’s often referred to as the “Victorian internet.” The discovery of electromagnetism and its use in telegraphs forever freed communication from reliance on transportation. **This transition radically transformed the technological, social and economic aspects of long-distance communication by providing fast and efficient communication across vast distances (0).** It effectively annihilated space and time.

Electromagnetism allows pulses of electric current to be transported along a conductor. **This discovery was used to develop the telegraph, which transports an electric current along telegraph wires to a receiving instrument (9).**

The first working optical telegraph was introduced in 1794 by the Chappe brothers. **But the first electromagnetic telegraph was developed by Samuel F.B. Morse (10).** Morse is said to have had the idea for the electromagnetic telegraph in a “flash of genius” at a dinner party in 1832, which earned him the nickname Lightning Man. In 1838, after six years of experimentation, Morse applied for a patent for his “American Electro-Magnetic Telegraph.” The patent was officially issued in 1840. Morse’s telegraph offered simplicity, and what Mossoff calls an “elegant solution” to the telegraph in the book *A History of Intellectual Property in 50 Objects*. **Unlike other early telegraphs, his invention could operate in many conditions, including at night and in any weather (11).** It was also cheaper to build and operate. While he worked on the electromagnetic telegraph, Morse developed Morse code, a system that went hand in hand with the telegraph. Morse’s associate Alfred Vail went on to improve Morse code and simplified it to a sequence of dots and dashes. Telegraphs work by tapping out electronic Morse code signals for each letter of the alphabet using short (dots) and long (dashes) pulses.

With advancements in wireless technology in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the telegraph and Morse code were adapted for maritime communication. **Since a connecting telegraph wire was no longer necessary to physically connect telegraph stations, ships could now communicate with each other and with the shore (12).** In the maritime sector, Morse code was used to relay distress messages and to aid in navigational communication. The original maritime distress signal was CQD, meaning “all stations: distress.” CQD was later replaced with SOS, which was adopted as a distinctive Morse code sequence. While SOS is commonly associated with the phrase “save our souls,” it is not actually an abbreviation.

Perhaps the most famous maritime telegraph message is the haunting SOS from the Titanic. On the night of April 14, 1912, radio officers Jack Philips and Harold Bride stayed aboard the sinking Titanic until the very last moment, sending out CQD and SOS messages. **These calls for help reached the Carpathia (13).** As a result, 700 survivors were rescued. Without these wireless transmissions, all 2,200 passengers would likely have succumbed to the frigid Atlantic waters. Philips did not survive. Bride was

seriously injured, but he helped the radio officers on the Carpathia's assigned escort, USS Chester, send news to surviving passengers' kin.

The telegraph was gradually replaced in everyday life by the radio and telephone, but Morse code was used for maritime communication until 1999. At the stroke of midnight on January 31, 1999, Morse code was retired from international maritime regulations. **Before that, all ships were required to be equipped with Morse code for emergency services (14).** After saving countless lives at sea, coastal stations around the world transmitted one last Morse message. In the United States, the final commercial message mirrored the first, "What hath God wrought." **Thus, the world ended the era of Morse code using dots and dashes (15).**

While Morse code and the telegraph were born together, **Morse has long outlived the telegraph (16).** Though Morse code has officially been retired, it has not disappeared entirely. Many hobbyists around the world keep Morse code alive.

(vanmaritime.com, adapted, 09/09/2020, 630 words)

TASK 3
INFLATION AND AMERICAN SPENDING

ANSWER BOX										
QUESTION	0	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
SECTION	A	D	E	A	B	E	C	B	C	A

TEXT

- A.** Something unexpected is going on in the U.S. economy. **Inflation remains high, yet many Americans went on a spending spree last month (0)**, eating out at restaurants and shopping for cars. In ordinary times, that additional spending would be welcome news to an economy that's heavily dependent on consumer dollars. But there's a catch: All that spending threatens to put more upward pressure on inflation at a time when the Federal Reserve is raising interest rates aggressively to keep prices in check. That makes it critical to gauge how long that consumer spending can last. **A drop in consumer spending would help to cool inflation, but it would also raise concerns about a recession (25).** On the other hand, **if spending continues to grow at this pace, it could force the Fed to raise interest rates (19)** even more aggressively to bring prices under control.
- B.** Just when it seemed that consumers were running out of gas, shoppers appear to be getting a second wind. Personal spending rose 1.8% in January, according to the Commerce Department on Friday, as consumers splurged on both goods as well as services like going out for meals or the movies. **Lots of people have money in their pockets to spend, thanks to strong job growth and rising wages (20).** **Retirees also got a raise this year. Social Security benefits rose by 8.7% in January (23)**, the largest cost-of-living increase in four decades. Jonathan Silver, who tracks credit card use by about 100 million people nationwide, says that additional income will help to support consumer spending in the months to come.
- C.** In addition, **many people socked away extra savings during the early months of the pandemic (24)**, when spending opportunities were limited and the government was distributing multiple rounds of relief payments. While bank balances have come down, Americans are still sitting on a lot of additional cash. "We estimate households to still have about ten months of spending power if they continue to deplete excess savings at the pace they have over the past six months," Wells Fargo economists wrote. People who put off traveling during the worst of the pandemic are making up for lost time. Vacation visits to Las Vegas jumped more than 20% last year. January's numbers show a jump in both. **Spending on goods rose 2.8% while spending on services rose 1.3% (22).**

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- E.** There's another reason spending could cool. The Fed has been trying to get shoppers to slow their spending by raising interest rates, in an effort to curb inflation. Economist Ian Shepherdson thinks the Fed's efforts are working. **He believes the surprisingly strong spending last month was a fluke, resulting from unusually warm weather (21). The economic lines are particularly zig-zaggy at the moment. Some, like the strong job market, point to continued growth in spending. Others, like the rising number of overdue car loans, point to a looming slowdown (18).** But restaurant owner Cameron Mitchell remains cautiously optimistic. His food costs have begun to level off. Staffing shortages at his restaurants have eased. And he's planning to open about half-a-dozen new locations this year.

(npr.org, adapted, 25/02/2023, 628 words)