



Junta de Andalucía

Consejería de Desarrollo Educativo y Formación Profesional

Pruebas Específicas de Certificación 2022/2023

Comprensión de Textos Escritos

Cuadernillo de textos

NIVEL C2 | INGLÉS

Apellidos:

Nombre:

Alumno/a OFICIAL del grupo:

Indica el nombre de tu profesor/a-tutor/a:

Alumno/a LIBRE.

INSTRUCCIONES

- Duración máxima: 75 minutos.
- Este prueba consta de tres tareas:
 - En la Tarea 1 tendrás que identificar las ideas generales del texto.
 - En la Tarea 2 tendrás que entender las ideas principales del texto.
 - En la Tarea 3 tendrás que comprender los detalles importantes de un texto.
- En cada tarea obtendrás: 1 punto por cada respuesta correcta; 0 puntos por cada respuesta incorrecta o no dada.
- Solo se admitirán respuestas escritas con bolígrafo azul o negro.
- Por favor, no escribas en los espacios sombreados destinados a la calificación de las tareas.



TASK 1

'Letters to the Editor'

0. *The cover picture of world leaders at Cop27 (25 November) continues to overly focus on political heads rather than the corporate bosses directly responsible for the decisions that continue to keep us all on an unsustainable global warming trajectory. Political leaders are, at best, second-order players in the fundamental dynamics of change in capitalism. Your cover, indeed all of us, should always put the corporate leaders front and centre.*

Stewart Sweeney, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

1. Don't panic about the birth of "baby 8 bn", says Danny Dorling (Opinion, 25 November). Panic, no, but reflect more carefully, yes. It is good that Dorling focuses on consumption as a major driver of resource depletion and carbon pollution. But he is wrong to dismiss population growth as unimportant. The uncertainty is what lies behind average consumption per person, which is where inequality comes in. The other issue he neglects is the wishes of those who bear the babies. [...] Education and access to reproductive health services are crucial for women to take charge of their bodies and lives. Dorling is right not to panic about ageing populations: this is something we can manage, with goodwill, humanity, migration and foresight. He is also right to celebrate the individuals with us now. But let us not make it harder to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss by claiming numbers do not matter.

Rosalind Dean, Sheffield, England, UK

2. I am not swayed by Dorling's arguments that the population problem is overstated in relation to other problems; 8bn people are 8bn people, regardless of mitigating factors such as falling life expectancies. There are few if any major problems that aren't directly related to population. People pollute the oceans and atmosphere. They overconsume. They incubate and spread new diseases. They chop down forests. There's no reason to expect solutions to these problems any time soon. Yes, there are problems relating to equality and greed, but excessive population is likely to remain the central issue for decades to come.

Robert Jones, Bingil Bay, Queensland, Australia

3. I found your reports on where we are heading in the new year less than reassuring (The big story, 6 January). However, I do applaud their candour in euphemistically sharing with readers the reality of a 2023 "laced with some apprehension" but tempered by "important nuggets of hope". It is, as they indicate, a dangerously uncertain and confused world at present and it is up to global citizens of good conscience to somehow make it work.

Terry Hewton, Adelaide, South Australia

4. Damian Carrington's analysis left me with the impression that the fossil fuel industry's greed had triumphed over science and common sense. Australia's delegation came away with little to show, except being part of the loss and damages fund. Back home, the Labor government is still effectively being blackmailed by the fossil fuel industry into condoning, if not supporting, its demands to continue rampant emissions. Australia is blessed with abundant sunshine and wind, the space to build solar and wind farms, and the knowledge to develop and multiply them. When will the fossil fuel lovers ever learn?

Douglas Mackenzie Canberra, ACT, Australia



5. George Monbiot's powerful and evocative article (Opinion, 11 November) should be compulsory reading for anyone still sceptical about the catastrophic impacts to all life from high levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. As a geologist, and committed climate change activist, Monbiot's analysis particularly resonates with me. Unfortunately, some of the more vocal climate change deniers are geologists. Even if you ignore the overwhelming body of science to the contrary, it is morally bankrupt to argue that we should consume most of the fossil fuels accumulated over hundreds of millions of years in the space of a few generations. There is an alternative to the combustion of this fossilised solar energy. Planet Earth is bathed in it every day.

Fergus FitzGerald, Wurtulla, Queensland, Australia

6. Reported projections of population size by 2050 (Spotlight, 18 November) are untenable because they ignore the scale of the climate crisis. Given our apparent collective refusal to take the action required to rapidly reduce emissions (and noting the failure of Cop27 to make progress on this), large areas of India will become uninhabitable for those without air conditioning before 2050. The same applies to, for example, Pakistan and Nigeria where dramatic population increases are also predicted. Consequently, huge numbers of people can be expected to either die or migrate.

Andy J. Green, Professor of research, Doñana Biological Station, Seville, Spain

Source: The Guardian Weekly (issues of November 25th, December 2nd and 9th 2022, and January 20th 2023)

TASK 2

BIG CAT HAVEN

[0]

Draped in mist, the lush, forested landscape of Nagarahole tiger reserve in India's Southwestern Karnataka State looks enchanted.

[1]

An elephant lumbers through the foliage, feeding on shrubs and leaves, its gigantic ears flapping as if to the beat of a metronome. Up ahead along the dirt road, bison-like gaur graze in a meadow, not so much as glancing in our direction. Guided by photographer Shaaz Jung, who has lived in a lodge in the forest for the past 12 years, we drive on, stopping by a herd of spotted deer. An iridescent blue kingfisher flits between the trees.

[2]

As sunlight cuts through the haze, the tranquility is broken by the bark of a deer ringing out in the distance. It's an alarm, warning that a predator lurks nearby. Calls like this are heard here with increasing frequency. Nagarahole abounds with Bengal tigers and Indian leopards.

[3]

Tourists flock to the reserve to catch a glimpse of these big cats, including an especially bold black panther—a leopard with a mutation that causes dark pigmentation. That cat, often sighted, has become something of a star. "Usually when you go on a safari, it's like, Did you see a tiger?" says Krithi Karanth, a scientist at the Centre for Wildlife Studies in Bengaluru (formerly Bangalore). "Now it's like, Oh, you saw a tiger. Great, but did you see the black panther?"

[4]

Less than a 10th of the 327-square-mile park is open to visitors. At the southern end of this tourism zone lies the Kabini River, fringed with brush and tall grasses. Beyond are meadows and streams and dense woods. It's the perfect milieu for tigers and leopards to coexist: tigers prowling in the undergrowth; leopards lounging in trees, safe from tigers.

[5]

Being able to climb trees is a superpower that helps leopards avoid confrontations with tigers, which would prevail in a fight. Leopards tend to spend the daytime resting high off the ground on branches. They clamber down in the evenings to hunt. Leopards can haul kills into trees to keep them from scavengers.

[6]

Until 2006, India's tiger census, conducted every four years, was more of a guesstimate based on a survey of paw prints—a lengthy and tedious exercise carried out by teams covering tens of thousands of square miles. The bulk of the counting is now done using images from camera traps that enable the identification of individual tigers and leopards by their unique patterns of stripes or spots.

[7]

Vijay Mohan Raj, chief conservator of forests in Karnataka, credits the success at Nagarahole and other reserves to more effective antipoaching personnel strategically stationed inside the reserves. These frontline workers, Raj says, now are better trained and better equipped because of increased government funding that followed India's commitment in 2010 to an international plan to double the number of tigers worldwide. "That's been the biggest deterrent for anybody looking to enter the forest to poach for meat or even to collect firewood," he says. "All such incursions stopped."

[8]

As a result, the density of prey species such as deer and wild boar has gone up, helping their predators—tigers and leopards—to thrive. At Nagarahole the big cats also appear to have benefited from 26 solar-powered bore wells installed next to ponds, keeping them full even in the dry months.

[9]

The future of big cats in Nagarahole and similar reserves hinges in part on minimizing conflict between the animals and neighboring communities. In one village I visited just outside the park boundary, I watched kids rolling rubber tires along a mud track as the sun was setting over the Kabini. A cart trundled by, pulled by a pair of oxen, their bells jangling. As the competition for territory inside India's reserves intensifies, tigers and leopards are wandering into such villages more often, killing cattle and sometimes humans. In Karnataka alone, at least nine people were killed by tigers from 2019 to 2021.

[10]

Even though revenue from big cat tourism has been growing, Wright says, the money hasn't helped local residents. "So they don't feel they benefit from the presence of tigers," she adds. Wildlife authorities do compensate people who lose cattle to tigers and have moved some villages away from tiger terrain, but they still need to do more to give surrounding communities a stake in the success of the reserves, conservationists say, or the gains made over the past decade could disappear.

Source: National Geographic magazine (March 2022)



TASK 3

Why Ursula von der Leyen is the ‘world’s most powerful woman’

By Caroline de Gruyter. The Guardian.

The president of the European Commission has earned the title bestowed on her by Forbes magazine. News magazines from Time to Austria’s Profil have put Volodymyr Zelenskiy on their covers as Person of the Year 2022. The business weekly Forbes’s choice was a little more surprising: naming Ursula von der Leyen, the president of the European Commission, “the world’s most powerful woman”.

A good choice. After a weak start three years ago, the former German defence minister is becoming Europe’s crisis manager par excellence. With her somewhat formal, stiff demeanour, Von der Leyen may have won few hearts and minds, but during the pandemic, and especially since Vladimir Putin’s invasion of Ukraine in February, she has established a reputation for getting things done in Europe. VDL, as she is also known, “is a machine”, a senior official in the commission told me. “She’s tough, focused and extremely efficient.”

The “Qatar-gate” corruption scandal unfolding in the European parliament may have put Von der Leyen on the spot for not having proposed a stronger EU ethics body. But that criticism is unfair. She has worked on it, but the parliament has so far rejected the much stricter rules that apply to the commission. For EU governments, which find parliament a nuisance anyway and are in no mood to subject their own institution – the law-making European Council – to the commission’s transparency standards either, VDL’s worth lies elsewhere. In a turbulent world, Europe’s self-perception – as a peaceful, values-based community with a relatively open market and scant geopolitical clout – is sorely tested and requires urgent adjustment. Without the commission they cannot even begin to do this.

With Russia waging an economic and information war against the EU, China trying to squeeze political capital out of economic dependencies and the US embarking on a protectionist path, Europe’s successful model needs protection. So Europe’s leaders are now taking steps towards “more Europe” that they were previously unwilling to take. During the pandemic, they agreed on joint vaccine procurement and large financial injections to stricken economies. Since February, they have beefed up common security and border controls, welcomed millions of Ukrainian refugees, relaunched the EU’s enlargement process and moved to secure common energy supplies. Meanwhile, Europe is seeking to become the world’s first carbon-neutral bloc.

European governments do not like to “Europeanise” powers held at national level – unless, as the founding father Jean Monnet once said, there is a crisis and “they do not know what to do”. Now is such a moment. National leaders face huge problems they cannot solve on their own. They look for joint solutions, with Von der Leyen both service-provider and midwife.

The commission’s first female president’s secret is neither that she occupies an unchallenged powerful position, nor her charisma. EU decision-making has become increasingly intergovernmental in recent years, with a corresponding loss in power for “Brussels”. The member nations’ leaders may agree to European solutions, even on issues that are politically sensitive for their citizens, such as security, monetary policy, health or migration. But they want to keep their implementing body, the commission, on a short leash.

They constantly ask the commission to submit to them draft proposals for new European laws and regulations. At the same time, they weaken EU institutions – and often bypass parliament – by cutting budgets and keeping control of the implementation of policies to themselves. During the pandemic,



they agreed to jointly borrow more than €700bn to support affected countries, while insisting that all 27 heads of state and government co-decide what to allocate to whom. The same is now happening with energy security, migration and foreign policy. Last week, all 27 had to sign off on an €18bn aid package for Ukraine – which Hungary threatened to veto unless its own funding from Brussels was unblocked.

Thus, the EU is becoming one big bazaar for national governments, complete with haggling and dramatic walkouts. This renders compromises more byzantine and complex, less transparent and less accountable. But more than ever, member states need the expertise of the European Commission, legal and otherwise, to draw up common policies, plans and compromises. Von der Leyen is supplying this around the clock.

A commission official tells me she is “better” than her famous predecessor Jacques Delors. This remark underlines how the EU is evolving. Delors drove the single market and monetary union, sealed in the Maastricht Treaty. He was a visionary. Von der Leyen is more of a pragmatist. Member states demand more than ever of Brussels – from cheap gas and tougher anti-corruption rules to a new state aid policy to prevent companies moving to the US.

To deliver on all these things, Von der Leyen oversees the commission like a military operation. She sleeps in a small space next to her office (for which she pays rent), regularly asking staff on Friday evenings to prepare reports for Sunday morning meetings. In policy terms, she runs a tight ship, keeping everything close to her chest (including Brexit talks), often leaving other commissioners in the dark. This does not make her popular among staff. Employees complain they are chronically overworked. Vacancies stay open for months because appointments have not had VDL’s imprimatur.

This, however, is how the former physician delivers. National diplomats, always ready to scapegoat the commission, now praise it for giving them the service they demand. Occasionally, she uses that trust to steer them as in the old days when the commission was a more powerful force. She has nudged them, for example, towards controversial decisions they disliked – such as withholding more than half of Hungary’s European funding for violating the EU’s rule of law conditionality. This principled stance has earned Von der Leyen much respect in the parliament, whose members had started the first procedures against Hungary years ago and were keen to see them bear fruit in the end.

Herding the 27 governments towards common decisions should be a task for the president of the European Council, Charles Michel. He commands little respect in European capitals, even less in Brussels. So heads of government often turn to the commission president to perform this role too. In VDL, Europe seems finally to be getting that single telephone number that Henry Kissinger always said he needed if he wanted to call Europe.