

**Instrucciones:** a) Duración: 1 h.30m. b) No se permite el uso de diccionario. c) La puntuación de las preguntas está indicada en las mismas. d) Los alumnos deberán realizar completa una de las dos opciones A o B, sin poder mezclar las respuestas.

**OPTION A: "Hearing Dogs"**

- 1 Dogs are commonly known as man's best friend, but it turns out they may also be a child's – particularly if the child is  
2 one of the 45,000 deaf children in the UK. "Hearing dogs", as they are known, could transform many young lives by offering  
3 companionship, confidence and independence. Not only that, but these specially trained dogs could improve children's  
4 behaviour and lead to better academic performance, a recent study has found. Children are also more likely to wear a  
5 hearing aid, which often leads to improved speech.
- 6 James Cheung is 11 years old and the owner of Kurt, a golden labrador retriever. Kurt is specially trained to respond to  
7 household sounds that a deaf child cannot hear, like a telephone ringing or any alarms going off in the home.
- 8 But Kurt has proved to be much more than just a dog who hears. "He is a wonderful accompaniment to our family," says  
9 James's mother, Louise. "James had sleep anxieties, which he was being treated for, but now that Kurt sleeps in his  
10 bedroom he feels much less isolated when he takes out his hearing aid at night." Kurt has also helped James's social  
11 interaction, which he had always found difficult because of a speech disability.
- 12 Hearing dogs are trained to alert children by touching the child with their nose. They can also be used to carry  
13 messages in a small purse.
- 14 All hearing dogs are retired at 11 years of age but families usually keep them. "The connection between family and  
15 hearing dog is so strong. It's a joy to see. They just become part of the family," says Louise.

**I \* COMPREHENSION** (4 points: questions 1-3, 1 point each; 4-5, 0.5 points each)

ANSWER QUESTIONS 1-3 ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE TEXT. USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

1. **Do hearing dogs help improve children's speaking skills? Explain.**
2. **Why is James sleeping better since he has Kurt?**
3. **Why did James find it difficult to communicate with people?**

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

4. **Hearing dogs can help deaf children improve their results at school.**
5. **Families usually keep the dogs after retirement age.**

**II \* USE OF ENGLISH** (3 points; questions 6-9, 0.25 points each; 10-13, 0.5 points each)

6. GIVE A NOUN WITH THE SAME ROOT AS "**strong**" (adjective).
7. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE OPPOSITE FOR "**deaf**" (adjective).
8. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE SYNONYM FOR "**link**" (noun).
9. COMPLETE THE SERIES WITH ANOTHER WORD FROM THE SAME SEMANTIC GROUP: **respond / reply / retort...**
10. JOIN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING A RELATIVE. MAKE CHANGES IF NECESSARY.  
**Hearing dogs are trained to alert children. They also help them to improve behaviour.**
11. TURN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE INTO THE ACTIVE VOICE: **The plumber wasn't paid when he finished.**
12. FILL IN THE GAP WITH A CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB IN BRACKETS:  
**Speech therapies ..... (improve) considerably since they were originally developed.**
13. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING (CONDITIONAL) SENTENCE:  
**If all deaf children had trained dogs, .....**

**III \* PRODUCTION** (3 points)

14. WRITE A COMPOSITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 WORDS ABOUT THE TOPIC PROPOSED AND FOCUS STRICTLY ON IT:  
**Discuss the importance and problems of animals in modern urban societies.**

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**OPTION B: "Are bucket lists a good idea?"**

- 1 The phrase "bucket list" derives from "kick the bucket", an expression meaning "to die" of unclear origins, but which  
2 quite likely relates to the bucket kicked away at a hanging. It was popularised by the 2007 film *The Bucket List*, in which  
3 characters played by Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman meet in a cancer ward of a hospital, then travel around the world,  
4 packing in experiences.  
5 As in that story, some people start these lists when diagnosed with incurable illnesses. Swimming with dolphins,  
6 mountain-climbing, meeting pop stars or throwing tomatoes at the Tomatina festival in Spain are just a few of the popular  
7 items on the lists of things people want to do before it is too late. Bill Clinton, Jane Fonda, and Cameron Diaz have spoken of  
8 having a list.  
9 It can be useful to have defined goals, of course, but the lists seem to encourage consumerist behaviour. There is an  
10 acquisitive note to many of the lists, which usually include so many items to be obtained that they look like a shopping list.  
11 There is also an innate air of competition to bucket lists, of trying hard to get the better of yourself, but also of others. In some  
12 ways it is no surprise that they have risen in popularity in a showy age when we are all encouraged to exhibit ourselves,  
13 treating our Facebook pages as a shop window for our achievements. Psychologist Linda Blair says that pursuing big  
14 experiences is worthwhile if you enjoy the whole process. "But if you're constantly living in the future, ignoring what's going  
15 on right now because you're always trying to achieve difficult goals, you're not really living."

**I \* COMPREHENSION** (4 points: questions 1-3, 1 point each; 4-5, 0.5 points each)

ANSWER QUESTIONS 1-3 ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE TEXT. USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

1. In what sense do bucket lists encourage consumerism?
2. Why isn't the writer surprised at the popularity of bucket lists nowadays?
3. What is the danger of these lists, according to psychologist Linda Blair?  
ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS.
4. The expression "to kick the bucket" comes from the film *The Bucket List*.
5. According to the text, many American celebrities are said to have a bucket list.

**II \* USE OF ENGLISH** (3 points; questions 6-9, 0.25 points each; 10-13, 0.5 points each)

6. GIVE AN ADJECTIVE WITH THE SAME ROOT AS "specify" (verb).
7. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE SYNONYM FOR "aim" (noun).
8. FIND IN THE TEXT THE WORD WHICH HAS THE FOLLOWING DEFINITION: "sufficiently important, rewarding, or valuable to justify time or effort spent".
9. WHICH WORD DOES NOT HAVE THE SAME MEANING? help / aid / assume / assist
10. USE THE WORDS IN THE BOXES TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL SENTENCE. USE ALL AND ONLY THE WORDS IN THE BOXES WITHOUT CHANGING THEIR FORM:

you	waiting	been	long	?	how	for	have	me
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11. FILL IN THE GAP WITH THE CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB IN BRACKETS: **The judge made him ..... (apologise) to his victims.**
12. REWRITE THE SENTENCE WITHOUT CHANGING ITS MEANING. BEGIN AS INDICATED:  
**The best artist in the country painted his grandmother's portrait.**  
**His grandmother had ...**
13. GIVE A QUESTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORDS: **Mr. Dean's secretary told her that she had been given the job.**

**III \* PRODUCTION** (3 points)

14. WRITE A COMPOSITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 WORDS ABOUT THE TOPIC PROPOSED AND FOCUS STRICTLY ON IT:

**What experiences would you like to live before you are old, and why?**