

**PRUEBA DE ACCESO Y ADMISIÓN A LA  
UNIVERSIDAD**  
CURSO 2017-2018

**LENGUA EXTRANJERA**  
(Inglés)

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

**OPTION A: BILINGUAL PEOPLE PROCESS MATHS DIFFERENTLY DEPENDING ON THE LANGUAGE**

1 A new study has found that people who speak more than one language fluently will process maths differently depending on  
2 the language that they use. Intuition enables the brain to recognise numbers up to four. However, when calculating mathematical  
3 problems, we depend on language. This led researchers at the University of Luxembourg to explore just how arithmetic skills are  
4 affected when bilingual people use different languages.  
5 The authors of the study selected students in francophone universities in Belgium whose mother tongue was Luxembourgish  
6 —a dialect of German. They were therefore fluent in both German and French. In two different test situations, participants were  
7 asked to solve a mixture of simple and complex maths problems in both languages. They were able to solve the simple tasks  
8 equally well in both languages. However, they took longer to calculate complex tasks in French than in German. Furthermore, they  
9 made fewer errors in their mother tongue.  
10 The students' brain activity was measured by magnetic resonance scanning techniques and the results showed that different  
11 regions of the brain were in use when the participants were solving problems in different languages. For example, when solving  
12 the simple task in German, a small section of the left temporal lobe was activated. However, the part of the brain that processed  
13 visual information became active while doing the complex tasks in French. So researchers concluded that students had to make  
14 an "extra effort" to solve mathematical problems in their non-native tongue.  
15 "The research results clearly show that calculatory processes are directly affected by language," the authors wrote. They noted  
16 that this evidence will gain importance in the next few decades thanks to growing migration and an increasingly globalised job  
17 market.

**I \* COMPREHENSION** (4 points)

CHOOSE AND WRITE THE CORRECT OPTION (A, B, C or D). (0.5 points each)

**1. The experiment was designed and carried out by...**

- (a) analysts from a European university. (b) people who had migrated to another country to find a job.  
(c) analysts working for a Belgian company. (d) bilingual students from Belgium and Luxembourg.

**2. The participants in the experiment...**

- (a) had to use intuition to recognise numbers in two languages. (b) had to solve one problem in French and another in German.  
(c) had to solve several problems only in German. (d) had to use French and German to solve a number of problems.

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS. (0.5 points each)

**3. The students taking part in the experiment spoke French as their native language.**

**4. Students had to solve mathematical problems of different levels of complexity.**

**5. Advanced technological equipment was employed in the experiment.**

**6. The conclusions of the experiment will be more significant in the future.**

**7. FIND IN THE TEXT:** (0.5 points)

- 7.1. ONE OPPOSITE FOR "prevent" (verb).  
7.2. ONE SYNONYM FOR "combination" (noun).

**8. FIND IN THE TEXT:** (0.5 points)

- 8.1. ONE WORD MEANING "able to speak a foreign language easily and correctly."  
8.2. THE WORD WHICH HAS THE FOLLOWING DEFINITION: "movement of people to or from another country."

**II \* USE OF ENGLISH** (3 points; 0.5 points each)

**9. FILL IN THE GAPS WITH THE CORRECT OPTION:**

- 9.1. "I never know... early I must leave to be there on time." when / so / how / which  
9.2. "Do you remember... was your first maths teacher at secondary school?" whose / that / what / who

**10. FILL IN THE GAPS WITH THE CORRECT WORD:**

- 10.1. "I've now stopped worrying so much... (preposition) money."  
10.2. "The experiment dealt... (preposition) the use of renewable energies at school."

**11. GIVE A QUESTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORDS: "They took ten minutes to solve the problem"**

**12. TURN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE INTO THE PASSIVE VOICE: "They never tested the bilingual students."**

**13. USE THE WORDS IN THE BOXES TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL SENTENCE. USE ALL AND ONLY THE WORDS IN THE BOXES WITHOUT CHANGING THEIR FORM.**

I	month	my	hair	every	cut	have
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**14. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING (CONDITIONAL) SENTENCE: "If I ever decide to study abroad, ..."**

**III \* WRITING** (3 points)

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

**Do you think that speaking foreign languages is important? Why?**

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**OPTION B:**

**WE ARE LIVING IN A POST TRUTH WORLD**

- 1 "Post truth", which is so popular nowadays, refers to the power of emotional effect over fact and evidence. Truth is losing its  
2 value in society, as the following examples show. One instance was seen after Donald Trump's inauguration in January 2017. White  
3 House officials insisted that it had been "the largest audience to ever witness an inauguration". Even when the media produced video  
4 and photographs to contradict their unsustainable claim, officials refused to accept that they had lied and called these allegations  
5 "alternative facts".  
6 Another example happened during the Brexit campaign. The main argument for the "Vote Leave" campaign was the promise  
7 that the weekly cost of staying in Europe —allegedly £350m— would be put into the National Health Service (NHS). The actual  
8 amount was revealed to be £100m lower. Days after the referendum, the campaign leaders reduced the promise to "an aspiration"  
9 and admitted they knew they would have never won without this promise. The promise was abandoned so quickly that it became  
10 obvious they never meant to keep it.  
11 The third case in point is the controversy about Obama's birthplace, which Trump exploited to attack President Obama by  
12 suggesting he had not been born in America. Obama then published his birth certificate on the White House website. Case closed?  
13 Not a bit. Months later, in a shocking rejection of the facts, the number of US citizens who had doubts about Obama's birthplace rose  
14 from 33% to 41%.  
15 According to political scientists, people tend to reject arguments and even evidence that contradicts their opinions —in fact, they  
16 may maintain their original view more strongly. It's the so-called "backfire effect". Like an infection resisting antibiotics, post-truth can  
17 fight off even incontestable facts.

**I \* COMPREHENSION** (4 points)

CHOOSE AND WRITE THE CORRECT OPTION (A, B, C or D). (0.5 points each)

**1. The post truth examples show that...**

- (a) it is impossible to know the truth nowadays. (b) truth is manipulated for political purposes.  
(c) truth is the same as "alternative facts". (d) society does not tolerate lying in today's world.

**2. Obama's birthplace...**

- (a) remains a mystery after all these years. (b) was revealed by Donald Trump.  
(c) was questioned even after it was proved by documents. (d) stopped being controversial when the evidence was shown.

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS. (0.5 points each)

**3. White House officials admitted their mistake when images proved that the crowd assembled was not so big.**

**4. During the Brexit campaign, the true cost of remaining a member of the EU was exaggerated.**

**5. Pro-Brexit campaign leaders kept their promise to increase the amount of money for the NHS.**

**6. Experts claim that people maintain their beliefs no matter what the facts say.**

**7. FIND IN THE TEXT:** (0.5 points)

- 7.1. ONE SYNONYM FOR "proof" (noun).  
7.2. ONE OPPOSITE FOR "acceptance" (noun).

**8. FIND IN THE TEXT:** (0.5 points)

- 8.1. ONE WORD MEANING "to see something happen."  
8.2. ONE WORD MEANING "causing intense surprise or horror."

**II \* USE OF ENGLISH** (3 points; 0.5 points each)

**9. FILL IN THE GAPS WITH A CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB IN BRACKETS:**

- 9.1. "Would you mind... (close) the window, please?" 9.2. "You'd better... (give) up smoking."

**10. FILL IN THE GAPS WITH THE CORRECT OPTION:**

- 10.1. "I've just tidied... the room." over / out / up / away 10.2. "I think he looks tired, ...? do you / doesn't he / are you / isn't it

**11. THERE ARE TWO MISTAKES IN THIS SENTENCE. FIND THE MISTAKES AND REWRITE THE SENTENCE CORRECTLY. "I want to work as teacher when I will finish my degree."**

**12. GIVE A QUESTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORDS: "I have known Isabel all my life."**

**13. TURN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE INTO THE PASSIVE VOICE: "When did they find the missing child?"**

**14. JOIN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING A RELATIVE. MAKE CHANGES IF NECESSARY. "J.F. Kennedy was born 100 years ago. His assassination remains a mystery."**

**III \* WRITING** (3 points)

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

**Do you believe everything you read on the Internet or social networks? Explain.**