



Prova d'accés a la Universitat 2013

Anglès

Model 2. Opció A.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions in English. USE YOUR OWN WORDS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

Time allowed: 1 hour and 30 minutes. Total score: 10 points.

University and housemates: how to choose prospective housemates... with care

If you are moving away to university, you might have no choice but to find someone with whom to split the cost of living. If you find a compatible housemate, you will have a valuable partner who will make your life easier. But you should make your choices wisely.

The best way to avoid roommate conflicts is to choose the right housemate in the first place. It can be tempting to select a housemate on the basis of how friendly they are, but lovable traits in a friend do not always translate well to lovable traits in a housemate. Living with a friend tends to damage the relationship, and too often the small things work into big things. If you are wondering who you could put up with, just be straightforward with what you are looking for in a housemate. Roseanna Levermore, a second-year English student at Goldsmiths looked for people with the same approach to socialising; "I prefer people who want to go out and see the city – as opposed to those who just like staying in and getting drunk". Also, if everyone is willing to fulfil a slightly different role then things are much more likely to work out. In Roseanna's house, everyone does something a little different but it works well "One of us always does the cooking, one is really good to talk through things with, and I am the organiser, the one who sorts the bills and things. They are like my sisters". Boyfriends, girlfriends and friends coming over can cause a little friction too. Sometimes small things, like taking showers may become an issue, which means it is probably worth discussing with your potential flatmates what everyone is comfortable with – what guests are ok, how often are they welcome and should they make a financial contribution?

No student house has ever made it through a year without a little tension and no student has ever lived in a house where everything runs the way they would like it to. It is just part of living in the big adult world: be flexible, be calm and take time over your decision.

Adapted from 'The Independent', 10th December 2012.

Vocabulary:

- **Trait (N)** = characteristic, a particular quality in someone's character.
- **To put up with (V)** = To tolerate, to resign (yourself) to something.



1. Say whether the following statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE**. Explain **WHY** using your own words **OR** finding evidence in the text. **NO** marks are given for only **TRUE** or **FALSE**. (1 point)

a) It is advisable to choose housemates taking into account how friendly they are. (0.5)

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b) Almost all students have some little disagreements with their housemates over the year. (0.5)

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2. **In your own words and based on the ideas from the text**, answer the following question. **NO** marks are given for responses copied directly from the text. (1 point)

Why can friends be the cause of some arguments between housemates when they are invited to a student house?

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3. Find in the text words or phrases which mean the same as the ones below. In the case of verbs, **ONLY infinitive forms** will be accepted (1 point):

1) To divide, to share something by dividing it into several parts. (0.25)

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2) Direct, clear, honest or sincere. (0.25)

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3) Pieces of paper or written statements that show you how much money you have to pay for something. (0.25)

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4) People who are invited to your home, for a party, a meeting or any other event. (0.25)

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4. Follow the instructions for each question and answer them (2 points):

4.1. Fill the blanks in the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. (0.5)

A: Liz is very tired. She (study) for her final exams the whole week!

B: When the exams (be)?

A: Next week.

4.2. Complete the following clauses with an appropriate word. (Use only **one** word in each blank). (0.5)

a) He worked a waiter for a year to pay the rent.

b) A: What Sara's boyfriend ?

B: He's not very nice, I'm afraid.

4.3. Rewrite the sentence using a **modal verb**. Do not change the meaning of the original sentence. (0.5)

'Perhaps she's a nice person to live with'.

She

4.4. Rewrite the following sentence using the 3rd conditional form. Do not change the meaning of the original sentence. (0.5)

'He didn't go to university because his father was ill'.



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Model 2. Opció B.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions in English. USE YOUR OWN WORDS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

Time allowed: 1 hour and 30 minutes. Total score: 10 points.

Why is *Superman* still so popular?

Superman recounts the familiar story of a child from a distant planet, raised by farmers in Kansas who seek to keep his powers secret and call him by the human name of Clark Kent. Since his first appearance in *Action Comics* in 1938, *Superman* has adapted to changing times. After the Second World War broke out, he changed his slogan from fighting for "truth and justice" to fighting for "truth, justice and the American way". That continued during the 1950s, when he became a symbol of muscular American patriotism which could do no wrong. But as the nation dealt with the confusion of the 1970s and embraced a more diverse culture, Christopher Reeve gave *Superman* more human qualities in Richard Donner's 1978 film version of the comic book saga. According to Professor Benjamin Saunders of the University of Oregon, "*Superman* changes with remarkable rapidity and yet manages to paradoxically project an idea of unchanging virtue".

Indeed, *Superman's* influence is so great that he is leading the growing academic study of comic heroes and their role in society. Such figures are seen as fulfilling the same societal function as the myths of ancient Greece or Rome. They are extravagant creatures doing battle for high ideals and teaching us moral lessons. Furthermore, most experts believe it is probably unwise to assign *Superman's* popularity to any one culture, since even though *Superman* is so often seen as American, he has largely expanded beyond that now and has become the first global superhero.

So what will the *Superman* of 2013 look like? In the end, perhaps it does not matter how Zack Snyder directs the new film, called 'Man of Steel' in 2013. He can take *Superman* in a darker direction. He can make him represent the confusing world of 2013. But in the end the more he changes the more *Superman* stays the same, because *Superman* is not just some sort of unique hero flying high above us. In the projection of our desires, hopes and fears, *Superman is us*.

Adapted from 'The Observer', 5th January 2013



1. Say whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Explain WHY using your own words OR finding evidence in the text. NO marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE. (1 point)

a) The character *Superman* has remained the same over time. (0.5)

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b) *Superman* plays the same role as the myths of ancient Greece or Rome. (0.5)

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2. **In your own words and based on the ideas from the text, answer the following question. NO marks are given for responses copied directly from the text. (1 point)**

Why is *Superman* thought to be the first global superhero?

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3. Find in the text words or phrases which mean the same as the ones below. In the case of verbs, ONLY *infinitive forms* will be accepted (1 point):

1) To start, begin or originate. (0.25)

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2) Surprising, astonishing, amazing. (0.25)

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3) Not sensible, wrong or stupid. (0.25)

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4) To resemble physically. (0.25)

.....

4. Follow the instructions for each question and answer them (2 points):

4.1. Fill the blanks in the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. (0.5)

A: you (be) to the cinema to watch the latest *Superman* film?

B: No, I'm afraid I (not want) to line up for two hours to get a ticket.

4.2. Complete the following sentences with the appropriate form of the verb in brackets. (0.5)

a) You'd better (hurry up) if you don't want to miss the beginning of the film.

b) What about (go) out tonight?

4.3. Complete the following clauses with an appropriate word (Use only one word in each blank). (0.5)

a) It was a good film that I went to see it twice.

b) I liked the comic book and the film.

4.4. Turn the following sentence into the passive voice. (0.5)

'They are showing the new *Superman* film at our local cinema'.

The new *Superman* film

