

PROVES D'ACCÉS A LA UNIVERSITAT

PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD

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| CONVOCATÒRIA: JUNY 2012 | CONVOCATORIA: JUNIO 2012 |
| Llengua estrangera II: ANGLÈS | Lengua extranjera II: INGLÉS |

BAREM DE L'EXAMEN:

BAREMO DEL EXAMEN:

OPCIÓ A/OPCIÓN A

Part A. Reading Comprehension.

Read the following text:

WHAT THE *TITANIC* MEANS TODAY

A century ago, on an April night in the cold waters of the North Atlantic, a world came to an end. When *RMS Titanic* struck that iceberg and sank, killing 1,500 people, the disaster became one of those few truly landmark events before which things were one way and after which things were quite another.

The great lesson of the disaster is that no matter how smart we think we are, how skilled and how technologically advanced, we remain at the mercy of events beyond our control.

Writing in 1955, Walter Lord understood the significance of the subject in *A Night to Remember*. "The *Titanic* marked the end of a general feeling of confidence. Until then men felt they had found the answer to a steady and civilized life. For 100 years the Western world had been at peace, technology had steadily improved and the benefits of peace and industry seemed to be filtering satisfactorily through society. The *Titanic* woke them up. Never again would they be quite so sure of themselves."

It seems fair to argue that the 20th century really began the night the *Titanic* sank. Two years later came the Great War, and the tragedy of Versailles, and the rise of Hitler, and the splitting of the atom, and so on.

Yet perhaps the most interesting part of the centennial of the *Titanic* for us now lies in the fact that technology, like any other human endeavor, is flawed and subject to disaster. We can never innovate nor create ourselves totally out of harm's way.

Time, 13 April 2012

I. Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text. (2 points: 1 point each)

- a. What are people supposed to have learnt after the sinking of the Titanic?
- b. Why does the author suggest that the 20th century really started that day in April?

II. Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage on the answer sheet. (1.5 point: 0.5 each)

- a. The lesson to learn is that everything is under control when technology is advanced.
- b. Before the Titanic sank, most people were confident in technology and industrial development.
- c. The Great War, the tragedy of Versailles and the rise of Hitler were the real consequences of this tragedy.

III. Find a synonym for each of the four definitions below from these six options: (1 point: 0.25 each)

disaster landmark smart mercy steady flawed

- a. bright
- b. imperfect
- c. transcendental
- d. free from change

IV. Choose a, b, or c, in each question below. Only one choice is correct (1.5 points: 0.5 each)

1. When the Titanic sank...
 - a. 1,500 people were killed and then the iceberg sank, too.
 - b. 1,500 people were struck and killed.
 - c. 1,500 people died and the world changed drastically.

2. In 1955, Walter Lord stated that...
 - a. this tragedy put an end to a period of peace because of the rise of Hitler.
 - b. people would not be so confident any more.
 - c. people were confident with technology and industry before and after this tragedy.

3. This tragedy reminds us that technology is...
 - a. perfect if carefully planned.
 - b. innovative and creative and always safe.
 - c. defective and we cannot be sure of its final results.

Part B. Write a 130 to 150-word composition. (4 points)

Do you think that life is possible without technology these days? Give reasons.

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BAREM DE L'EXAMEN:

BAREMO DEL EXAMEN:

OPCIÓ B/OPCIÓN B

Part A. Reading Comprehension.

Read the following text:

CLEANER RUINS 800,000€ ARTWORK THAT SHE THOUGHT WAS DIRTY

An overzealous cleaner in Germany has ruined a piece of modern art worth 800,000€ after mistaking it for an eyesore that needed a good scrub.

The sculpture, by Martin Kippenberger, had been on loan to the Ostwall Museum in Dortmund. The work, called *When It Starts Dripping from the Ceiling*, comprised a rubber bucket. Inside the bucket, Kippenberger had spread a layer of paint representing dried rainwater. He thought it was art, but the cleaner saw it as a challenge, and set about making the bucket look like new and removed the patina from the four walls of the bucket.

"It is now impossible to return it to its original state." a spokeswoman for the museum said.

She said that cleaning crews had been told to keep 20cm away from artworks, but it was unclear if the woman had received the memo.

But Kippenberger is not the only artist to have his works ruined by cleaners. In 1986, a "grease stain" by Joseph Beuys valued at about 400,000€ was mopped away at the Academy of Fine Arts in Düsseldorf.

In 2004, a cleaner at Tate Britain in London threw away part of a work by another German artist, Gustav Metzger, after mistaking it for rubbish. The cleaner failed to realise that a plastic bag containing discarded paper and cardboard was an integral part of *Recreation of First Public Demonstration of Auto-Destructive Art*, and not just some litter. The bag was later recovered, but it was too damaged to display, so Metzger replaced it with another bag.

Adapted from an article published in guardian.co.uk, 3 November 2011

I. Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text. (2 points: 1 point each)

- a. Why did the cleaner clean the bucket of the sculpture?
- b. What happened to Gustav Metzger's work?

II. Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage on the answer sheet. (1.5 point: 0.5 each)

- a. Kippenberger's sculpture belonged to the Ostwall Museum in Dortmund.
- b. The cleaner thought Kippenberger's sculpture needed cleaning.
- c. The spokeswoman told the cleaner to clean the artwork.

III. Find a synonym for each of the four words below from these six options: (1 point: 0.25 each)

challenge removed failed litter damaged display

- a. eliminated
- b. deteriorated
- c. rubbish
- d. show

IV. Choose a, b, or c, in each question below. Only one choice is correct. (1.5 points: 0.5 each)

1. Someone told the cleaning crews that...

- a. they had to keep 20 cm away from artworks.
- b. they all had to keep 20 cm away from artworks except the cleaning woman.
- c. they had received the memo.

2. Joseph Beuys' work was worth...

- a. under 400,000€.
- b. more than 400,000€.
- c. around 400,000€.

3. In 2004, a cleaner...

- a. didn't realise that a plastic bag with discarded paper and cardboard was an artwork.
- b. replaced a plastic bag with another bag.
- c. displayed an integral part of Recreation of First Public Demonstration of Autodestructive Art.

Part B. Composition (130 to 150 words approximately) (4 points)

Do you agree with the statement: "Modern and contemporary art is not real art"? Discuss.