

SEGUNDA LINGUA ESTRANXEIRA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN A

Read the text and the instructions to the questions very carefully. Answer all the questions in English.

Jonathan and his family were on their way to Silver Mountain for a day of walking in the hills. Jonathan sat in the back seat, clutching Boggle, his toy dog, in his arms, and looking at the scenery: majestic mountains divided by deep long blue rivers, and more tree species than he ever knew existed. "Do you want to see too?" he asked, putting Boggle's head out through the open window.

There were a few branches and many stones, large and small, on the lonely road. As they passed a little bridge, the car hit one of the largest stones. Boggle dropped out of the window and rolled downhill towards the river. "Daddy! I lost Boggle!" Jonathan shouted.

The car stopped almost immediately and he raced out just in time to see Boggle disappear out of view in the back of a canoe travelling down the river.

Carlos heard a noise behind him. "Hey, there," he said, picking up the toy dog from the bottom of his canoe and looking up to see where it came from. He thought he could see a young boy standing on the bridge, looking down, but there was no way he could go back against the strong current. Not having any use for a toy dog, he tossed it onto the riverbank.

An eagle flying overhead saw something white down below. It looked like a tasty mouse, so it swooped and picked it up with its claws. The eagle soon realized the animal could not be eaten, and dropped it in a pine tree, where it remained until a soft breeze made it fall onto the walking path below.

A little while later, a family came along the path. Suddenly, "Boggle!" exclaimed Jonathan. "How did you get here?" Boggle couldn't answer, of course. It just stared at Jonathan with its big, yellow eyes.

Questions

- 1. Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points using your own words (approximately 50 words; 1 point).**
- 2. Mark the following sentences true or false (T/F) according to the text. Then write the part (and ONLY that part) of the text which justifies your answer. (1 point; 0.25 each)**
 - It was easy to drive on the mountain road.
 - Jonathan's father didn't do anything when he knew the toy dog was lost.
 - The toy dog fell into the water.
 - The eagle thought it could eat the toy, until it picked it up.
- 3. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the words and definitions given here. (1 point; 0.25 each).**
 - view
 - empty, deserted
 - ran
 - threw
- 4. Pronunciation. (2 points; 0.50 each)**
 - Say which word contains a silent "h": heard - while - having - behind
 - In which one of the following words is the ending "ed" not pronounced "id" /ɪd/?
wanted - divided - folded - swooped
 - Complete the list with a word that rhymes with the vowel sound of these three: show, toe, no,
through - looking - stone - toy
 - Which pair of words does not rhyme? seat, tree; flying, white; tasty, passed; eagle, breeze.
- 5. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one(s). Use the word or expression in brackets, if any, making the necessary changes. (2.0 points; 0.5 points each)**
 - Jonathan was sitting in the back seat, clutching Boggle, his toy dog, in his arms. (While...)
 - Not having any use for a toy dog, he tossed it onto the riverbank. (Because...)
 - "Boggle!" exclaimed Jonathan. "How did you get here?" (Jonathan asked...)
 - The eagle soon realized the animal could not be eaten, and dropped it in a pine tree. (After...)
- 6. Is it better to live in the town or in the country? Why? (Approximately 120 words: 3 points)**

SEGUNDA LINGUA ESTRANXEIRA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN B

Read the text and the instructions to the questions very carefully. Answer all the questions in English.

Finland has just been shown to be the happiest country in the world. Some people who live there suggest the reasons: Melissa Georghiu says: There are a few main factors that make Finns so happy ... and it's not the grey Helsinki weather! Even when the skies are grey, the air is clean. There's a culture of trust and a lack of corruption. It doesn't matter how much wealth you have, everyone expects to pay their taxes. These are very high but so are the benefits in return. People aren't worried about their basic needs not being met. Finland has also struck the right balance between learning and play in their education system. Learning is of enormous value but so is play. Both are offered by the education system in equal measure.

Erika Roos-Kulrik says: It's about so many things. We don't have serious terrorism, gun violence, pollution or homeless people living on the streets. Our country is safe and you can trust the police and the law. Everything works and people mostly play by the rules. We are quite honest. We have complete access to the Internet and every citizen is equal; we have free healthcare, free education from elementary to university and Finland is one of the world's safest places to give birth or to be born.

It doesn't matter what your background is; anyone can be anything if they just work hard for their dreams. And if you fall, our social security system will catch you. Or at least it is designed to do so. We love our clean nature and believe in fresh air. Finland was the first country in Europe and the third country in the world to give women a right to vote in 1906. We had our first female minister in 1926. So in terms of equality, gender and otherwise, I like to think that we are well educated and open minded.

Questions

- 1. Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points using your own words. (Approximately 50 words; 1 point)**
- 2. Mark the following sentences true or false (T/F) according to the text. Then write the part (and ONLY that part) of the text that justifies your answer. (1 point; 0.25 each)**
 - There is not much contamination in Finland.
 - Learning is more important than play in the Finnish education system.
 - Only rich people pay taxes in Finland.
 - Finland was a pioneer in women's rights.
- 3. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the words and definitions given here. (1 point; 0.25 each).**
 - elements
 - prosperity
 - degree
 - have confidence in
- 4. Pronunciation. (2 points; 0.50 each)**
 - In which one of the following words is the ending "-es" pronounced /ɪz/, like in *close*s?
reasons – taxes – rules – dreams.
 - Write the word whose underlined letters are pronounced differently: counrtry – struck – education – anyone.
 - Write the word in which the underlined letters are pronounced /ɪd/ the same as "-ed" in "*mend*ed":
completed – backed – washed – taxed.
 - Find a word in the text that includes the sound /z/ like the "s" in "bruisging".
- 5. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one(s). Use the word or expression in brackets, if any, making the necessary changes. (2.0 points; 0.5 points each).**
 - We have free healthcare and free education. (...both...)
 - "Our country is safe and you can trust the police," she said. (She said that...)
 - Finland was the third country in the world to give women a right to vote. (Only two...)
 - We don't have serious terrorism or gun violence. (neither...nor...)
- 6. What, in your opinion, are the things that give you "quality of life"? (Approximately 120 words: 3 points)**

SEGUNDA LINGUA ESTRANXEIRA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN A

Read the text and the instructions to the questions very carefully. Answer all the questions in English.

A cyclist who was knocked down by a car on a zebra crossing sent a message to other riders after the police said they would not prosecute the driver: "Learn the Highway Code!" The retired underground worker, Peter Fernandes, 76, suffered bruising on his left side and an injured shoulder when he was sent sprawling by a car that failed to stop at a crossing in west London. The driver was not arrested. Police investigated but later informed Mr Fernandes they would not pursue a criminal case. They said that Mr Fernandes had breached rules 64 and 79 of the Highway Code, which prohibit cycling on a pavement and demand that riders dismount on a zebra or pelican crossing. He claimed they threatened to send him a "warning letter".

In a message to other cyclists, Mr Fernandes said: "Don't make the same mistake I did. I might be in the wrong, but I was not aware that cycling on a crossing is not allowed. I'm disappointed that the driver has not been prosecuted." Mr Fernandes, who has been cycling around west London for more than 30 years, said he did not take risks. He accepted that he had indeed breached the code, but added that this did not excuse the driver for not stopping. He said: "I don't think justice has been served; I received a personal injury and I'm worried about the message this sends out to other drivers." The Metropolitan Police said: "A breach of the Highway Code, although not an offence in itself, may be used as evidence of a road user's liability. Prosecutors will take a number of factors into consideration in their decision on whether or not to prosecute."

Questions

1. Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points using your own words. (Approximately 50 words; 1 point)

2 Mark the following sentences true or false (T/F) according to the text. Then write the part (and ONLY that part) of the text that justifies your answer. (1 point; 0.25 each)

- Peter Fernandes had his leg broken.
- The driver did not go to prison after the accident.
- The cyclist admitted he had made a mistake.
- According to the Highway Code, riders are not allowed to cycle on a pelican crossing.

3. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the words and definitions given here. (1 point; 0.25 each).

- a) hit and caused to fall b) told c) forbid d) conscious

4. Pronunciation. (2 points; 0.50 each)

- In which of the following words is the ending "-es" pronounced /ɪz/, as in *closes*? sends – uses – factors – receives.
- Write the word whose underlined letters are pronounced differently: *worried – code – suffered – London.*
- Write the word in which the underlined letters are pronounced /ɪd/ the same as "-ed" in "parted":
added – watched – puzzled – listened
- Which one of the following words includes the sound /z/ like the "s" in "brusing": crossing, bends, disappointed, cyclists.

5. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one(s). Use the word or expression in brackets, if any, making the necessary changes. (2.0 points; 0.5 points each).

- The Police said they would not prosecute the driver.
The police said: "....."
- A breach of the Highway Code, although not an offence, may be used as evidence.
Although a ...
- Riding a bicycle on a crossing is not allowed.
You...
- The retired underground worker, Peter Fernandes, suffered bruising on his left side.
Peter Fernandes, who...

6. Write a composition entitled: "Cycling, advantages and disadvantages." (Approximately 120 words, 3 points)

SEGUNDA LINGUA ESTRANXEIRA: INGLÉS

OPCIÓN B

Read the text and the instructions to the questions very carefully. Answer all the questions in English.

The Second Amendment of the US Constitution serves as the legal basis for the "right of the people to keep and bear arms." Gun control is one of the most divisive issues in American politics. With each mass shooting — defined as four or more victims having been killed indiscriminately — antagonism grows between both sides of the gun control argument.

Proponents of stricter gun regulations fear for their safety in a country where there is an average of 88 guns per 100 people. The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence estimates that around 114,994 people are shot each year in the US. This includes murders, accidents, police intervention, suicide attempts and suicides. Opponents of regulatory control, however, also fear for their safety. They argue that restricting the right to bear arms would leave citizens unable to protect themselves against other individuals or the government.

Though regulations vary from state to state, there are some conditions for obtaining guns in the US. The Gun Control Act of 1968 requires that citizens must be at least 18 years old to purchase shotguns or rifles. All other firearms — handguns, for example — can only be sold to people 21 and older. State or local officials may implement higher age restrictions but are not allowed to lower the federal minimum.

Fugitives, people deemed a danger to society and patients committed to mental institutions are among those who cannot purchase firearms. People with previous convictions that include a prison sentence exceeding one year are also prohibited from purchasing firearms.

Federal law also blocks the sale of guns to people who have been found guilty of unlawfully possessing controlled substances within the past year. This includes marijuana, which, though legalized in many US states, remains illegal under federal law.

Only a dozen states require purchase permits for handguns, and only three require permits for the purchase of rifles and shotguns.

Questions

1. Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points using your own words. (Approximately 50 words; 1 point)

2. Mark the following sentences true or false (T/F) according to the text. Then write the part (and ONLY that part) of the text that justifies your answer. (1 point; 0.25 each)

- The text says that most people agree that there should be more gun control.
- A person over 18 years old and without previous convictions can buy some types of firearm in the US.
- In some states, the age for purchasing weapons can be under 18.
- People who have consumed marijuana can never buy a gun.

3. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the words and definitions given here. (1 point; 0.25 each).

- a) controversial b) more severe c) put into practice d) illegally

4. Pronunciation. (2 points; 0.50 each)

- In which one of these words is the vowel sound different from the "eɪ" in "say"? basis; safety; danger; average
- In which one of these words is the vowel sound the same as the "i" in "right"? legalized; guilty; year; sale
- In which one of the following words is the "s" pronounced like the "z" in "zoo"? substance; prison; patients; society
- In which one of the following words is the stress on the second syllable, as in "important"? attempts; purchase; regulations; individuals

5. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one(s). Use the word or expression in brackets, if any, making the necessary changes. (2.0 points; 0.5 points each).

- Restricting the right to bear arms would leave citizens unable to protect themselves. (Citizens would be...)
- There are some conditions for obtaining guns in the US. (...exist...)
- Firearms can only be sold to people 21 and older. (Only people 21 and older...)
- A dozen states require purchase permits for handguns, but only three require permits for the purchase of rifles. "While..."

6. Should people be allowed to carry guns in this country? Why / why not? (Approximately 120 words: 3 points)