

# IES PLURILINGÜE FONTEXERÍA

NAME:

## INGLÉS II

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

### Option 1

A full bookcase, or kindle, says good things about your mind. Lifelong learning will help you be happier, earn more, and even stay healthier, experts say. Plus, plenty of some of the smartest names in business, from Bill Gates to Elon Musk, insist that the best way to get smarter is to read. So what should you do? You should go out and buy books, lots of them. And according to bestselling author Nassim Taleb, it isn't even that important whether you have read all the books you own or not.

Taleb begins his thesis with an anecdote about the legendary library of Italian writer Umberto Eco, which contained an amazing 30,000 volumes. Did Eco actually read all those books? Of course not, but that wasn't the point of surrounding himself with so much potential knowledge. By providing a constant reminder of all the things he didn't know, Eco's library kept him intellectually hungry and perpetually curious. An ever growing collection of books you haven't yet read can do the same for you, the author argues.

A private library is not just something to boost your ego but a research tool. Books you have already read are actually far less valuable than unread ones. The library should contain as much of what you do not know as your personal circumstances allow you to put there. You will accumulate more knowledge and more books as you grow older, and the growing number of unread books on the shelves will look at you menacingly. Probably, the more you know, the more books you'll buy, and so the larger the number of unread books you have. Taleb calls this collection of unread books an "antilibrary."

An antilibrary is a powerful reminder of your limitations - the vast quantity of things you don't know, think you know, or are probably wrong about. By living with that reminder daily you can nudge yourself towards the kind of intellectual humility that improves decision-making and drives learning. Why? Perhaps because it is a well known psychological fact that it is the most incompetent who are the most confident of their abilities and the most intelligent who are full of doubt. It's equally well established that the more readily you admit you don't know things, the faster you learn. So, just relax. All those books you haven't read are your greatest opportunity to grow.

### Questions

- Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points using your own words (approximately 50 words; 1 point).
- 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)
  - Experts suggest that continuing to learn can help you have a higher salary.
  - Umberto Eco felt quite bored by his library.
  - The books you haven't read yet are said to be worth more than the ones you have.
  - It's common knowledge that learning is quicker if you recognise what you don't know.
- Find words and phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the words and definitions given here. (1 point; 0.25 each)
  - in fact
  - permit
  - huge
  - chance
- Pronunciation. (1 point. 0.25 each)
  - Circle the word not pronounced with /e/: many – threat – great – pleasant
  - Circle the word not pronounced with /ʌ/: glove – prove – love – dove
  - Circle the word not pronounced with /ʊ/: push – rush – bush – cushion
  - Find THREE words in the text pronounced with /θ/ as in things
- Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning. Use the word in brackets and / or the expression given, making the necessary changes. (1.5 points; 0.5 points each)
  - A mechanic repaired my car yesterday.  
I ...
  - My father is too old to understand computers.  
My father is not ...
  - To work abroad is OK for me. (mind)  
...
- Do you prefer books or the Internet for studying and entertainment? Justify your opinion. (approximately 120 words; 3 points)

## Option 2

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

Zika virus, which is present in Brazil and in Central America and Mexico, now may jump to the United States. Zika virus infection is not lethal. It typically causes minor or even no symptoms but in pregnant women the virus is extremely dangerous. The reason is clear: it has been linked to a birth defect called microcephaly, which leaves babies with abnormally small heads and partially developed brains. This is why the rapid spread of Zika virus in the Americas raises alarm.

The mysterious tropical virus is transmitted by mosquitoes. Travellers have already brought Zika to Texas, Hawaii and Illinois, though the virus doesn't seem to have infiltrated U.S. mosquitoes yet. But the United States, with its warm and humid regions, has all the right ingredients for an outbreak of the virus, says Peter Hotez, a paediatrician and microbiologist at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Scientists first collected Zika virus in 1947 from a monkey that was part of an infectious-disease study in the forests of southern Uganda. For decades, the virus affected monkeys and mosquitoes, infecting humans only rarely — and until 2007, never outside of Africa and Asia. In 2013, the virus was detected in French Polynesia. Then, two years later, in 2015, Zika infected nearly 1.3 million people in Brazil. Zika virus has now spread through 18 countries and territories in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Brazil is fighting the virus in different ways. The government has sent army soldiers on a mission to stop Zika. The soldiers have provided insect repellent to 400,000 pregnant women and distributed leaflets door to door in the fight against the epidemic.

### 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)

1. Zika virus may kill the infected person.
2. The virus has already affected U.S. mosquitoes.
3. In 2105 in Brazil the virus infected more than 1.3 million people.
4. The Brazilian government has sent troops to fight Zika.

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

1. associated with
2. damp
3. eruption
4. extended

4. Pronunciation. (1 point; 0.25 each)

1. Write THREE words from the text that include the sound /ɔ:/ as in "port".
2. Write THREE words from the text ending with /ɪd / as in provided.
3. How is the "th" pronounced in "lethal", /t/, /θ/ or /ð/?
4. Write THREE words from the text ending with the sound /s/ as in States.

5. Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning. Use the word in brackets and/or the expression given, making the necessary changes. (1.5 points; 0.5 points each).

- a. I did not ask her to be my wife because she was married at that time.  
If ...
- b. I prefer to stay at home than take the dog for a walk. (rather)  
...
- c. I started learning Chinese three years ago.  
I have ...

6. Write a composition of approximately 120 words on the following topic: 'Would you like to work as a doctor? Why? Why not?' (3 points)