



Junta de Andalucía  
Consejería de Educación y Deporte

## Pruebas Específicas de Certificación 2021/2022

### Comprensión de Textos Escritos

NIVEL B1 | INGLÉS

Apellidos: .....

Nombre: .....

Alumno/a OFICIAL del grupo: .....

Indica el nombre de tu profesor/a-tutor/a: .....

Alumno/a LIBRE.

#### INSTRUCCIONES

- Duración máxima: 60 minutos.
- Este prueba consta de tres tareas:
  - En la Tarea 1 tendrás que identificar las ideas generales del texto.
  - En la Tarea 2 tendrás que entender las ideas principales del texto.
  - En la Tarea 3 tendrás que comprender los detalles importantes de un texto.
- En cada tarea obtendrás: 1 punto por cada respuesta correcta; 0 puntos por cada respuesta incorrecta o no dada.
- Solo se admitirán respuestas escritas con bolígrafo azul o negro.
- Por favor, no escribas en los espacios sombreados destinados a la calificación de las tareas.

PUNTUACIÓN	NOTA FINAL	CALIFICACIÓN
/ 26	/ 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Superado <input type="checkbox"/> No Superado

## TASK 1

Read the following text about improving your language skills and answer the questions on page 2. Notice that the words or expressions in bold\* will appear in a glossary at the end of the text.

### SEVEN WAYS TO QUICKLY IMPROVE YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS

[ 0 ] \_\_\_\_\_

Watching series on Netflix might not exactly improve your debating skills or formal register, but it helps you to understand the language better, get used to colloquial, conversational forms of English and implicitly get a feeling for the language. Also, you could try to pick out words that sound highly informal and look up their more scholarly counterparts. Of course, there is also a **plethora\*** of documentaries (try anything by David Attenborough to start you off) to be found online as well. Being exposed to a language for the length of a movie might help you to actually start thinking in English.

[ 1 ] \_\_\_\_\_

Try to sample a broad range of English language newspapers, including broadsheets as well as magazines and tabloids. As well as helping you keep up to date with current affairs, this range of news sources will also expand your vocabulary. Another advantage is that you will also become more comfortable with how words are spelt and the contexts in which they are used.

[ 2 ] \_\_\_\_\_

Either in a notebook or on your computer, start making a list of useful words and phrases. Every time you hear or see a word you're not familiar with, note it down. Don't only focus on the word itself, but search for synonyms and phrases in which it's used. After all, you might understand what words such as "precedence" or "tantalizing" mean, but do you know how to use them accurately?

[ 3 ] \_\_\_\_\_

As helpful as listening and reading tasks may be, you also need to use English interactively and practice your own speaking skills. If you're lucky, you'll be friends with a few native speakers who can help you out, but if not then try to meet up with someone else studying English. Another option is to talk to yourself in the mirror or record yourself. Listening to the sound of your own voice might be a little bit awkward at first, but you will be able to hear mistakes of which you weren't previously aware.

[ 4 ] \_\_\_\_\_

Let's face it, academic phrases won't just fall from heaven and straight into your brain. Even if your English is already quite good, don't be complacent and underestimate stressful factors such as the time pressure in an exam. You still have to practice, no matter how much time you have left before your big day. Try coming up with a word of the day, and then try to employ it as often as possible. If you do this, don't waste time on extremely specific words you will never actually use. Instead, focus on conversational English which is likely to be relevant in the exam.

[ 5 ] \_\_\_\_\_

In order to improve rapidly, you should ask a lot of questions and resolve them. Don't just read phrases. Ask why they are used in a particular way, whether other constructions are possible as well and don't trust everything you read online. Of course, it is tempting to be content with the first answer that pops up on Google, but you'll find more rewards if you show a bit of curiosity.

**[ 6 ]** \_\_\_\_\_

If studying the English language only feels like a **burden\***, it will seem tedious and you won't perform as well. This is why it's important to stay motivated and enjoy the experience of learning a new language. Find ways to add entertainment into your studies, such as playing word games with friends that will boost your critical thinking skills.

*Adapted from: <https://www.topuniversities.com/student-info/studying-abroad/7-ways-quickly-improve-your-english-language-skills>*

**GLOSSARY:**

\***Plethora:** excess

\***burden:** trouble, worry

**Read the SEVEN paragraphs about ways to improve your English language skills on pages 1 and 2. For headings B-I, match each piece of news with the heading which best summarizes it. The first one is an example (0). There are TWO headings that you do not need to use. Write your answers in the corresponding boxes. You will get 1 point per correct answer.**

	ANSWER	
A. Watch movies and series in English.	0	✓
B. Be interested and curious when learning.		
C. Don't forget to have fun while you learn.		
D. Get trained in language testing.		
E. Have conversations in English.		
F. Immerse yourself in English language news.		
G. Practice and try to use what you learn.		
H. Start a vocabulary book of useful words.		
I. Travel to an English-speaking country.		

**MARK** / 6



## TASK 2

Read the text about **Amazing Seniors Set Records** on pages 4 and 5. The text has **ELEVEN** gaps. The missing phrases or sentences are all below in the wrong order. Match the phrases/sentences (A-N) to the correct gap in the text (1-11). The first one is an example (0). There are two sentences/phrases that you do not need to use. All the options begin with a lower-case letter. You will get 1 point per correct answer.

	ANSWER	
A. set her first world record in 2017		
B. at age 86		
C. because he tried it very hard		
D. because they simply decided not to stop	0	✓
E. but he kept going anyway		
F. had been a professor of medicine		
G. he'd always wanted to do		
H. if you feel tired		
I. if you want to be as healthy and happy		
J. keep in mind that Ms. Hawkins is 105 years old		
K. known on the Trail as "Nimblewill Nomad"		
L. the first book was called "Ten Million Steps".		
M. to do something incredible.		

MARK

/ 10

Apellidos y Nombre: .....

## TASK 2

Read the following text and answer the questions on page 3.

### NEVER TOO OLD: AMAZING SENIORS SET RECORDS

NFK EDITORS - NOVEMBER 18, 2021

Today NFK looks at three amazing older people who've made the news recently, mainly [ 0 ] \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_. Their inspiring stories are a good reminder that you're never too young or too old [ 1 ] \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Manfred Steiner Gets a Ph.D. In Physics at Age 89

Dr. Manfred Steiner didn't really need another Ph.D. degree. After all, he already had two. Besides, Dr. Steiner was trained as a doctor, and [ 2 ] \_\_\_\_\_ for years.

But after Dr. Steiner retired, he realized he finally had time to do something [ 3 ] \_\_\_\_\_ – study Physics. At first, Dr. Steiner just took a few classes, but after a while, he finished enough classes to complete a regular college degree. That's when he decided to get a Ph.D.

It took him a long time, but in September, at age 89, Dr. Steiner finally earned his physics Ph.D. Dr. Steiner encourages young people to have a dream to "follow that dream. Don't give up on it."

#### Julia "Hurricane" Hawkins – Still Setting Records at 105

Julia "Hurricane" Hawkins set a new world record earlier this November by running the 100-meter dash in just over 62 seconds. If that doesn't sound like a record to you, [ 4 ] \_\_\_\_\_. Before this year, there wasn't even a category for female runners over the age of 104. They had to create one for Ms. Hawkins.

Running isn't Ms. Hawkins' main sport – she's been biking for most of her life. But she took up running a few years ago and [ 5 ] \_\_\_\_\_.

Encouraging others to be active is a big part of what keeps Ms. Hawkins running. "My message to others," she says, "is that you have to stay active [ 6 ] \_\_\_\_\_ as you age."

#### Nimblewill Nomad: 83-Year-Old Hikes Full Appalachian Trail

In early November, M.J. "Sunny" Eberhart became the oldest person to hike the full Appalachian Trail (AT). Mr. Eberhart – [ 7 ] \_\_\_\_\_ – is 83 years old.

The 2,193-mile (3,530 kilometer) hiking trail through the Appalachian Mountains isn't easy, even for younger people. Mr. Eberhart had to deal with pain and injuries, [ 8 ] \_\_\_\_\_. "I've a got a couple of skid marks on me," he says, "But I'm okay."



Mr. Eberhart didn't just hike the whole trail, he hiked several hundred miles from his home in Alabama to the beginning of the Trail. He's not exactly new to hiking. He's been hiking extremely long distances since 1993, when he retired as an eye doctor. He's even written books about his hiking. [9]

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For the last few miles of this hike, Mr. Eberhart was joined by Dale Sanders. Mr. Sanders set the same record when he hiked the AT at the age 82. Now, [10] \_\_\_\_\_ , he came to celebrate as Mr. Eberhart broke his record.

Mr. Eberhart has been writing about his hike on his website. He ended his final report with this quote: "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

### TASK 3

Read the following text and answer the questions on page 8. Notice the glossary at the end of the text.

#### THE HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY FOR STUDENTS

Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate love and friendship and the joy of having other people in your life. It's a day of flowers, candy and [ 0 ] \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ decorated with hearts. This special day's origin, though, is not so rosy.

There are many theories on how Valentine's Day began, but the most noted one begins in [ 1 ] \_\_\_\_\_ in the year 268 [ A.D.]. Emperor Claudius II wanted a fierce team of young men to fight in his armies. He found that when young men were in love or sharing their lives with a wife and [ 2 ] \_\_\_\_\_, they tended to be more cautious. To insure large numbers of soldiers for his armies, Claudius outlawed marriage for those young men.

Claudius may have outlawed love, but he could not stop it. Young men and women still fell in love and wanted to become [ 3 ] \_\_\_\_\_ in the eyes of the church. A brave, and obviously romantic, priest [ 4 ] \_\_\_\_\_ Valentine thought the law was horribly unjust. Putting his life in danger, Valentine continued performing marriage ceremonies, doing so in secret and hidden from the eyes of the authorities.

Still, word of Valentine's secret ceremonies made its way back to Claudius. The priest was found and put to [ 5 ] \_\_\_\_\_, as some versions state, on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Centuries later, the Catholic Church made that kindly priest a saint, one of three saints named "Valentine."

No one knows exactly when St. Valentine's Day was first [ 6 ] \_\_\_\_\_, but there is a poem in existence that is considered to be the first ever written Valentine's Day card. It was sent from a prisoner in the Tower of London to his wife in the year 1415. [...]

Today, greeting card [ 7 ] \_\_\_\_\_ estimate that over a billion cards of love and affection are sent each St. Valentine's Day.

While Valentine is a Catholic Christian saint, his death and the tradition of love that he created is celebrated [ 8 ] \_\_\_\_\_ by people of all religions. People send cards, flowers and candy in many countries around the world.

Some countries have banned St. Valentine's Day, but people in love show the courage of the doomed\* priest by celebrating the occasion. Repressive governments may confiscate all of the



[ 9 ] \_\_\_\_\_ roses available in the country. Still, no one can ever halt\* the flow of love and affection.

Today's click-and-post culture is tossing aside\* many old [ 1 0 ] \_\_\_\_\_ and rules. Still, the history of Valentine's Day lives on annually every February 14th in a worldwide celebration of love. [...]

*Source: <https://www.safesearchkids.com/>*

**GLOSSARY:**

\* **doomed:** unfortunate, unlucky.

\* **halt:** stop.

\* **to toss something aside:** to throw something out of the way.





Apellidos y Nombre: .....

### TASK 3

Read the text on pages 6 and 7 called 'The History of Valentine for Students' and complete each gap (1-10) with ONE suitable word from the list below (A-M). There are TWO extra words which you do not need to use. The first one (0) is an example. Write your answers in the grid provided. You will get 1 point per correct answer. Notice that there is a glossary with difficult words (marked with an\*) after the text.

	ANSWER	
A. couples		
B. death		
C. cards	0	✓
D. children		
E. red		
F. army		
G. celebrated		
H. world-wide		
I. named		
J. calls		
K. companies		
L. traditions		
M. Rome		

MARK / 10