



**Región de Murcia**

Consejería de Educación y Cultura  
Dirección General de Innovación Educativa  
y Atención a la Diversidad

# ESCUELAS OFICIALES DE IDIOMAS DE LA REGIÓN DE MURCIA

**PRUEBA ESPECÍFICA  
DE CERTIFICACIÓN**

**NIVEL B2  
CONVOCATORIA  
JUNIO 2020**

**COMPRESION DE  
TEXTOS ESCRITOS**

**APELLIDOS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMBRE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DNI:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PUNTUACIÓN:** \_\_\_\_ / **26**

**APTO** ☐

**NO APTO** ☐

**TAREAS:** La prueba de Comprensión de Textos Escritos consta de TRES textos y TRES tareas.

**DURACIÓN TOTAL: 75 minutos**

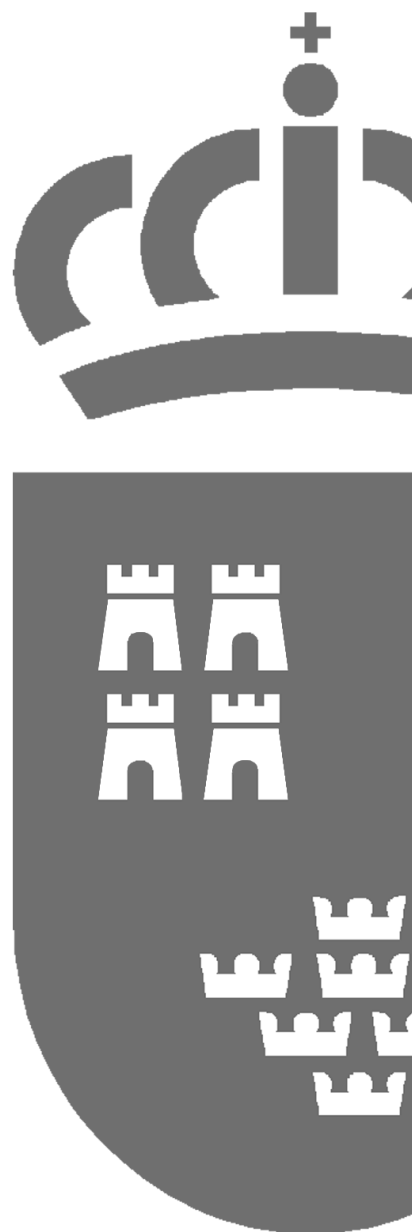
**INDICACIONES:**

- Las tareas se desarrollarán en los espacios indicados.
- No escribir en las zonas sombreadas
- Emplear tinta permanente azul o negra. No usar lápiz.
- Corregir tachando el texto. No usar correctores líquidos o cintas.
- Puntuación total: **26 puntos. "Apto" ≥ 13**

C O R R E C T O R

**B2  
INGLÉS**

COMPRESIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS



**TASK 1 ▷ Read TEXT 1 “Why you can’t trust travellers on social media”. Decide which SIX of the statements below are TRUE, according to the text. Write your answers in the grid provided below, as shown in example 0.**

**6 points**



0. (EXAMPLE) Instagram has become a priceless tool for travel lovers. ✓

1. Instagram has changed the way we book our holidays.
2. Instagram is a source of inspiration for the writer to travel the world.
3. An increasing number of Instagram users are changing their travel plans persuaded by their favourite influencers.
4. Lots of research has shown that Instagram users tend to compare their lives to others’.
5. Followers benefit from comparing their own lives to those of their influencers.
6. Followers tend to believe all they learn about their influencers’ lives on Instagram.
7. You can even make true friends with some of the influencers you follow on Instagram.
8. You should follow the most influential Instagramers to be socially accepted in some social circles.
9. The writer admits being offered free trips to different countries by their corresponding tourism authorities.
10. Travel writers are normally paid directly by the tourism boards of the countries they travel to.
11. Influencers seldom get their money paid straight from their sponsors.
12. Influencers are less free to be honest in their travel reviews than travel writers.
13. The writer suggests that most of the pictures posted by Instagram influencers are misleading.

0							<b>SCORE:</b>
✓							<b>___ / 6</b>

**TASK 2 ▷ Read TEXT 2 “The History of the Loch Ness Monster”. For items 1-10, choose the line from the list below that best completes each gap. Write your final answers in the grid provided below, as shown in example 0.**

**NOTE: There are TWO extra lines that you DO NOT need to use.**

**10 points**



A. (EXAMPLE) Lochy, Oich and Ness ✓

- B. Also managed to photograph the monster, if that is indeed what it was
- C. And both sightings and ticket sales were on the rise!
- D. It is deeper than the North Sea and is very long and very, very narrow and has never been known to freeze
- E. Halfway across the monster appeared and rushed at the young man, roaring in a most frightening way!
- F. Nevertheless, there might still be hope for the Nessie believers
- G. Interest in Nessie became intense and over the years scientific research has taken place
- H. Nessie has been seen many times but has never harmed anyone
- I. It is pleasing to think that there are still mysteries like the Loch Ness Monster
- J. They claimed that a beast crossed the road right in front of their car
- K. It didn't help either when the lady monster got damaged when set afloat on the water
- L. The footage was broadcast by BBC Scotland and on STV's North Tonight programme
- M. It showed something with a long neck arched over a thick body

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	SCORE: ___ / 10
A											
✓											

**TASK 3 ▷ Read TEXT 3 “Oxbridge elitism”. For items 1-10, choose the best option (A, B, C or D). Write your final answers in the grid provided below, as shown in example 0.**

**10 points**



**EXAMPLE:**

0.	A. always	B. before	C. meanwhile	D. throughout ✓
1.	A. congratulated	B. despised	C. laughed at	D. warned
2.	A. agreeing	B. arguing	C. confronting	D. competing
3.	A. Above	B. Among	C. Before	D. Within
4.	A. pretend not	B. reject	C. struggle	D. try not
5.	A. After all	B. At the end	C. However	D. Instead
6.	A. achieve	B. give away	C. make up	D. win
7.	A. avoided	B. denied	C. shared	D. questioned
8.	A. amazement	B. laughter	C. shouts	D. surprise
9.	A. education	B. knowledge	C. sensibility	D. wish
10.	A. awareness	B. expectations	C. the alarm	D. their voice

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	<b>SCORE:</b> ____ / 10
<b>D</b>											
✓											

# Text 1: Why you can't trust travellers on social media.

*Ben Groundwater*

You've got to love Instagram. Although, do you?

For travellers the social media platform can be an invaluable tool. You can meet people through Instagram. You can be inspired by Instagram. You can research destinations, [...] find new places, discover great food, explore amazing locations and pick up priceless local tips all through that little app on your phone.

It's changed the game. I do a lot of my travel research over Instagram. Sometimes consciously, sometimes completely organically. I've been inspired to travel to places I'd never even heard of thanks to the people I follow on Instagram. I've been encouraged to try new food, to take chances on strange places, to just get out there and explore and discover and marvel.

And yet, who are these people inspiring us on Insta? And what effect are they really having?

Plenty of studies have shown that Instagram is the worst social media for mental health. Worse than Facebook. Worse than Twitter. Instagram makes you feel bad about yourself. It presents you a curated, highlights-package version of other people's lives and it makes you feel as if yours is incredibly inadequate.

So there's that. And then, there is the world of "influencers", this free-for-all of the powerful and the popular, the beautiful and the talented.

You know influencers, even if you don't think you do. Anyone you follow who has, say, more than 10,000 followers, is an influencer. In travel, that means someone who is encouraging a wide audience to go to certain places and do certain things.

Instagram users trust influencers, which is a big part of their appeal. There's an organic feel to your social feed that makes you think you're talking to a friend, even if you're following some A-list celebrity with a million followers who has no idea who you are. You take influencers at face value. There's no cynicism. No mistrust. These are just real people.

And then suddenly, someone you follow and trust pops up on holiday in Saudi Arabia. They're having a great time there. The country is open for business, they tell you. And it's so much better than what you've heard.

If you follow someone like Tara Whiteman (@*taramilktea* – 1.3 million followers), or Gab Scanu (@*gabscanu* – 363,000), you might have noticed that exact scenario on your feed recently. The Australian pair are two of multiple influencers who have recently been paid by the Saudi government to travel to the country, take photos and say nice things about it.

[...] Traditional travel media is not exactly perfect. Writers like me accept free trips from the tourism boards of various countries around the world all the time. We write travel stories about those countries, and we often post photos and anecdotes to our social media accounts from the trips we take in them.

There are a few differences though. Writers for mainstream media organisations always declare any interest from a third party up front ("The writer travelled as a guest of the Tourism Authority of Thailand" etc.). Those writers are also not being paid directly by the tourism authority – we make our living from selling stories, whereas influencers tend to be paid in a direct sponsorship arrangement – and so have a greater degree of freedom to write what we see and what we feel.

This isn't to say that the influencers are always wrong, or that their industry is inherently bad. It's just a warning.

The people you follow on Instagram aren't your friends. They're businesspeople making a living from advertising. Sometimes they'll give you sound advice, and sometimes they'll lead you astray. It's worth remembering though that if everything they photograph and write seems too good to be true – it probably is.

Source: Adapted from <https://www.traveller.com.au>

## Text 2: The History of the Loch Ness Monster

The Great Glen in the Scottish Highlands is a rift valley 60 miles long and contains three famous lochs; **(EXAMPLE) – 0 –**. The most famous of these is Loch<sup>1</sup> Ness because of the monster said to 'lurk'<sup>2</sup> in its deep waters. **– 1 –**.

There have been numerous sightings of the monster, affectionately known as 'Nessie'. The first recorded account is of an eyeball to eyeball confrontation with the Irish saint, St. Columba in the 6th century. St. Columba, so the story goes, ordered one of his monks to swim across the loch and fetch a boat. **– 2 –** Columba cried out to the monster, "Go no further, nor touch the man! Go back!". The monster is said to have fled!

Since then, **– 3 –**. Sightings have been sporadic over the centuries, but in the 20th century Nessie has been more active, which has had a profound effect on local business!

1933 was the year when the first photograph was taken of the monster, or what is said to be the monster. **– 4 –**. This photograph, taken by a London surgeon, caused a sensation when first published in the Daily Mail.

The circus owner Bertram Mills, who was travelling via the Loch on his way to Inverness, offered a £20,000 reward (the equivalent of £2 million today) to anyone who could capture the monster for his circus, but so far no one has claimed the reward. It could be said that Mills was quite the entrepreneur since the reward brought many flocking to the Loch **– 5 –**. The fact that the circus animals were fed and watered on the banks of the Loch and that the head and neck of the 'monster' closely resembled an elephant's trunk was, perhaps unsurprisingly, not made common knowledge!

In 1951, Lachlan Stuart, a forestry worker who lived beside the loch, **– 6 –**. He saw three humps in the water appear in line and ran back to his house to get his camera. After taking one photograph his camera shutter jammed, but his photograph got wide publicity as further proof of the existence of Nessie.

**– 7 –**. In 1961 the Loch Ness Phenomena Investigation Bureau was formed and even two submarines have been brought into the search with sonar experts on board! When the submarine Pisces was diving off Castle Urquhart, where the water is 950 feet deep, a vast underwater cavern was found. Was this Nessie's home?

In 1975 four firemen from Hemel Hempstead decided that the monster must be a male, as all monsters usually are, so they built a 309-foot-long papier-mâché 'lady monster' to attract 'Mr Nessie'. It had false eyelashes, full make-up and gave out a pre-recorded mating call. Unfortunately, the mating call turned out to be that of a male walrus, so not unsurprisingly it didn't tempt Nessie! **– 8 –**. Her 'behind' was flattened by the dock when a sudden wind blew her sideways. The attempt was abandoned.

However, the Loch Ness monster is not as unique as it seems – reports of similar creatures have come from other lochs in the West Highlands. Nessie provides us with an enduring mystery and in the 21st century, where there is an explanation for everything, **– 9 –**.

Indeed, the most recent 'sighting' was in May 2007, when Gordon Holmes, a lab technician, took a video of what he described as 'this jet-black thing, about 45 feet long, moving fairly fast in the water'. **– 10 –**. The credibility of the video has however come into question; amongst other concerns, it does not include any objects or features by which the size of the 'thing' can be measured.

It appears that the existence of 'Nessie' remains to be proved.

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<sup>1</sup> loch (n): in Scotland, a lake.

<sup>2</sup> lurk (v): lie or wait in hiding.

Source: Adapted from <https://www.historic-uk.com>

# Text 3: Oxbridge<sup>1</sup> elitism

*I thought I'd made it when I got to Cambridge University. How wrong I was...*

Daniella Adeluwoye

I've always been a diligent worker. Having had a part-time job in a fish and chip shop - 0 - my A-levels, I know what hard work means. When I received my offer to study at Cambridge University I was - 1 - by my colleagues for finally "making it". In the warm heat of June, a few days before my last exam, I thought this would be the last time I would smell the fish in batter as it hit the sizzling oil. I reflected on the idea that Cambridge meant I was finally - 2 - on a level playing field with socially and economically privileged students.

- 3 - my first four days at university, by which time tickets had already sold out for the winter ball<sup>2</sup>, I realised this was not the case. Around me, students effortlessly parted with well over £100 for that one night out. I could only - 4 - to do the same, so I applied to work for half of the ball in order to enjoy the other half for free. It soon dawned on me that, for a working-class student, a Cambridge education did not give me equal status.

Research shows that Oxbridge graduates from more privileged backgrounds earn about £5,000 a year more than those that are less well off. When I discovered this, I was shocked. I'd been told by teachers that a Cambridge degree would be the "great equaliser". - 5 -, I had been chosen through meritocracy, selected on the basis of my ability. It didn't matter where I had come from. I could - 6 - anything.

Now, as I enter my second year and feel closer to the jungle of graduate job-hunting, I have come to realise the power of financial patronage. These worries about money are - 7 - by many of my working-class friends at Cambridge. One told me how she dreamed of pursuing a career in acting, but soon realised that the financial insecurity of that industry means that it won't be an option.

I worry, too, that I do not display the "polish" that many recruiters seek. At one of the first talks I attended at university, the speaker made several references to 17th-century French politicians and compared them with contemporary British MPs. Each of the examples were greeted with bursts of - 8 -. Did I keep missing the punchline? How was I expected to know the biography of Louis XIV? This episode made me realise how strongly people's very sense of humour was tied to class background.

As I navigate Cambridge, I often feel alienated as student colleagues confidently charm their way through conversations – referencing their favourite poetry by the likes of Keats, Browning and Hardy. I could not name a single title.

Many working-class friends tell me they often feel isolated like this, too. I worry that, in job interviews, this lack of - 9 - will be unfairly confused with my ability to do the job. At Eton they learn the art of "oiling": how to charm your way to success. Maybe that's how Boris Johnson got into Downing Street: not by merit or hard work but because of his lessons in charm and persuasion.

During freshers' week, I overheard a conversation between students discussing their social networks. Their family friends ranged from various CEOs to big names in the City. These often help to "pull strings" for privileged students once they graduate. My parents cannot provide valuable connections.

I would urge schools and teachers to not raise - 10 - not to paint an Oxbridge degree as a working-class escape route. It's an empty promise. I was sold a dream of upward mobility, but my one year has already exposed this as being far from the truth. I've learned that our class shapes our economic, cultural and social capital, and much of our potential, from birth. This is something a Cambridge degree cannot erase

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<sup>1</sup> **Oxbridge**: upper-class intellectual life in England, as felt to be under the influence of Oxford and Cambridge universities.

<sup>2</sup> **ball** (n.): formal party

Source: Adapted from <https://www.theguardian.com>



**INGLÉS  
NIVEL B2**

**COMPRENSIÓN DE  
TEXTOS ESCRITOS**

**CONVOCATORIA  
JUNIO 2020**

**(CORRECTOR)**

# COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS

## NIVEL B2

### - CORRECTOR -

#### TASK 1: WHY YOU CAN'T TRUST TRAVELLERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

0	2	4	6	9	12	13
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#### TASK 2: THE HISTORY OF THE LOCH NESS MONSTER

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A	D	E	H	M	C	B	G	K	I	L

#### TASK 3: OXBRIDGE ELITISM

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
D	A	D	D	C	A	A	C	B	B	B

**TASK 1** ► Read TEXT 1 “*Why you can’t trust travellers on social media*”. Decide which SIX of the statements below are TRUE, according to the text. Write your answers in the grid provided below, as shown in example 0.

6 points



0. (EXAMPLE) Instagram has become a priceless tool for travel lovers. ✓

1. Instagram has changed the way we book our holidays.
2. Instagram is a source of inspiration for the writer to travel the world.
3. An increasing number of Instagram users are changing their travel plans persuaded by their favourite influencers.
4. Lots of research has shown that Instagram users tend to compare their lives to others’.
5. Followers benefit from comparing their own lives to those of their influencers.
6. Followers tend to believe all they learn about their influencers’ lives on Instagram.
7. You can even make true friends with some of the influencers you follow on Instagram.
8. You should follow the most influential Instagramers to be socially accepted in some social circles.
9. The writer admits being offered free trips to different countries by their corresponding tourism authorities.
10. Travel writers are normally paid directly by the tourism boards of the countries they travel to.
11. Influencers seldom get their money paid straight from their sponsors.
12. Influencers are less free to be honest in their travel reviews than travel writers.
13. The writer suggests that most of the pictures posted by Instagram influencers are misleading.

0	2	4	6	9	12	13	SCORE:
✓							___ / 6

# Text 1: Why you can't trust travellers on social media.

*Ben Groundwater*

You've got to love Instagram. Although, do you?

0. For travellers the social media platform can be an invaluable tool. You can meet people through Instagram. You can be inspired by Instagram. You can research destinations, [...] find new places, discover great food, explore amazing locations and pick up priceless local tips all through that little app on your phone.

It's changed the game. I do a lot of my travel research over Instagram. Sometimes consciously, sometimes completely organically. 2. I've been inspired to travel to places I'd never even heard of thanks to the people I follow on Instagram. I've been encouraged to try new food, to take chances on strange places, to just get out there and explore and discover and marvel.

And yet, who are these people inspiring us on Insta? And what effect are they really having?

4. Plenty of studies have shown that Instagram is the worst social media for mental health. Worse than Facebook. Worse than Twitter. Instagram makes you feel bad about yourself. It presents you a curated, highlights-package version of other people's lives and it makes you feel as if yours is incredibly inadequate.

So there's that. And then, there is the world of "influencers", this free-for-all of the powerful and the popular, the beautiful and the talented.

You know influencers, even if you don't think you do. Anyone you follow who has, say, more than 10,000 followers, is an influencer. In travel, that means someone who is encouraging a wide audience to go to certain places and do certain things.

6. Instagram users trust influencers, which is a big part of their appeal. There's an organic feel to your social feed that makes you think you're talking to a friend, even if you're following some A-lister celebrity with a million followers who has no idea who you are. You take influencers at face value. There's no cynicism. No mistrust. These are just real people.

And then suddenly, someone you follow and trust pops up on holiday in Saudi Arabia. They're having a great time there. The country is open for business, they tell you. And it's so much better than what you've heard.

If you follow someone like Tara Whiteman (@taramilktea – 1.3 million followers), or Gab Scanu (@gabscanu – 363,000), you might have noticed that exact scenario on your feed recently. The Australian pair are two of multiple influencers who have recently been paid by the Saudi government to travel to the country, take photos and say nice things about it.

[...] Traditional travel media is not exactly perfect. 9. Writers like me accept free trips from the tourism boards of various countries around the world all the time. We write travel stories about those countries, and we often post photos and anecdotes to our social media accounts from the trips we take in them.

There are a few differences though. Writers for mainstream media organisations always declare any interest from a third party up front ("The writer travelled as a guest of the Tourism Authority of Thailand" etc.). 12. Those writers are also not being paid directly by the tourism authority – we make our living from selling stories, whereas influencers tend to be paid in a direct sponsorship arrangement – and so have a greater degree of freedom to write what we see and what we feel.

This isn't to say that the influencers are always wrong, or that their industry is inherently bad. It's just a warning.

The people you follow on Instagram aren't your friends. They're businesspeople making a living from advertising. Sometimes they'll give you sound advice, and sometimes they'll lead you astray. 13. It's worth remembering though that if everything they photograph and write seems too good to be true – it probably is.

Source: Adapted from <https://www.traveller.com.au/why-you-cant-trust-travellers-on-social-media-h1j0e0>

**TASK 2 ▷ Read TEXT 2 “*The History of the Loch Ness Monster*”. For items 1-10, choose the line from the list below that best completes each gap. Write your final answers in the grid provided below, as shown in example 0.**

**NOTE:** There are TWO extra lines that you DO NOT need to use.

**10 points**



A. (EXAMPLE) Lochy, Oich and Ness ✓

- B. Also managed to photograph the monster, if that is indeed what it was
- C. And both sightings and ticket sales were on the rise!
- D. It is deeper than the North Sea and is very long and very, very narrow and has never been known to freeze
- E. Halfway across the monster appeared and rushed at the young man, roaring in a most frightening way!
- F. Nevertheless, there might still be hope for the Nessie believers (DISTRACTOR)
- G. Interest in Nessie became intense and over the years scientific research has taken place
- H. Nessie has been seen many times but has never harmed anyone
- I. It is pleasing to think that there are still mysteries like the Loch Ness Monster
- J. They claimed that a beast crossed the road right in front of their car (DISTRACTOR)
- K. It didn't help either when the lady monster got damaged when set afloat on the water
- L. The footage was broadcast by BBC Scotland and on STV's North Tonight programme
- M. It showed something with a long neck arched over a thick body

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	SCORE: ____ / 10
A	D	E	H	M	C	B	G	K	I	L	
✓											

## Text 2: The History of the Loch Ness Monster

The Great Glen in the Scottish Highlands is a rift valley 60 miles long and contains three famous lochs; **(EXAMPLE) 0A.** Lochy, Oich and Ness. The most famous of these is Loch<sup>1</sup> Ness because of the monster said to 'lurk'<sup>2</sup> in its deep waters. **1D.** It is deeper than the North Sea and is very long and very, very narrow and has never been known to freeze.

There have been numerous sightings of the monster, affectionately known as 'Nessie'. The first recorded account is of an eyeball to eyeball confrontation with the Irish saint, St. Columba in the 6th century. St. Columba, so the story goes, ordered one of his monks to swim across the loch and fetch a boat. **2E.** Halfway across the monster appeared and rushed at the young man, roaring in a most frightening way! Columba cried out to the monster, "Go no further, nor touch the man! Go back!". The monster is said to have fled!

Since then, **3H.** Nessie has been seen many times but has never harmed anyone. Sightings have been sporadic over the centuries, but in the 20th century Nessie has been more active, which has had a profound effect on local business!

1933 was the year when the first photograph was taken of the monster, or what is said to be the monster. **4M.** It showed something with a long neck arched over a thick body. This photograph, taken by a London surgeon, caused a sensation when first published in the Daily Mail.

The circus owner Bertram Mills, who was travelling via the Loch on his way to Inverness, offered a £20,000 reward (the equivalent of £2 million today) to anyone who could capture the monster for his circus, but so far no one has claimed the reward. It could be said that Mills was quite the entrepreneur since the reward brought many flocking to the Loch **5C.** And both sightings and ticket sales were on the rise! The fact that the circus animals were fed and watered on the banks of the Loch and that the head and neck of the 'monster' closely resembled an elephant's trunk was, perhaps unsurprisingly, not made common knowledge!

In 1951, Lachlan Stuart, a forestry worker who lived beside the loch, **6B.** Also managed to photograph the monster, if that is indeed what it was. He saw three humps in the water appear in line and ran back to his house to get his camera. After taking one photograph his camera shutter jammed, but his photograph got wide publicity as further proof of the existence of Nessie.

**7G.** Interest in Nessie became intense and over the years scientific research has taken place. In 1961 the Loch Ness Phenomena Investigation Bureau was formed and even two submarines have been brought into the search with sonar experts on board! When the submarine Pisces was diving off Castle Urquhart, where the water is 950 feet deep, a vast underwater cavern was found. Was this Nessie's home?

In 1975 four firemen from Hemel Hempstead decided that the monster must be a male, as all monsters usually are, so they built a 309-foot-long papier-mâché 'lady monster' to attract 'Mr Nessie'. It had false eyelashes, full make-up and gave out a pre-recorded mating call. Unfortunately, the mating call turned out to be that of a male walrus, so not unsurprisingly it didn't tempt Nessie! **8K.** It didn't help either when the lady monster got damaged when set afloat on the water. Her 'behind' was flattened by the dock when a sudden wind blew her sideways. The attempt was abandoned.

However, the Loch Ness monster is not as unique as it seems – reports of similar creatures have come from other lochs in the West Highlands. Nessie provides us with an enduring mystery and in the 21st century, where there is an explanation for everything, **9I.** It is pleasing to think that there are still mysteries like the Loch Ness Monster.

Indeed, the most recent 'sighting' was in May 2007, when Gordon Holmes, a lab technician, took a video of what he described as 'this jet-black thing, about 45 feet long, moving fairly fast in the water'. **10L.** The footage was broadcast by BBC Scotland and on STV's North Tonight programme. The credibility of the video has however come into question; amongst other concerns, it does not include any objects or features by which the size of the 'thing' can be measured.

It appears that the existence of 'Nessie' remains to be proved.

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<sup>1</sup> loch (n): in Scotland, a lake.

<sup>2</sup> lurk (v): lie or wait in hiding.

**TASK 3** ▷ Read TEXT 3 “*Oxbridge elitism*”. For items 1-10, choose the best option (A, B, C or D). Write your final answers in the grid provided below, as shown in example 0.

**10 points**



**EXAMPLE:**

0.	A. always	B. before	C. meanwhile	D. throughout ✓
1.	A. congratulated	B. despised	C. laughed at	D. warned
2.	A. agreeing	B. arguing	C. confronting	D. competing
3.	A. Above	B. Among	C. Before	D. Within
4.	A. pretend not	B. reject	C. struggle	D. try not
5.	A. After all	B. At the end	C. However	D. Instead
6.	A. achieve	B. give away	C. make up	D. win
7.	A. avoided	B. denied	C. shared	D. questioned
8.	A. amazement	B. laughter	C. shouts	D. surprise
9.	A. education	B. knowledge	C. sensibility	D. wish
10.	A. awareness	B. expectations	C. the alarm	D. their voice

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	SCORE: ___ / 10
<b>D</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B</b>	
✓											

# Text 3: Oxbridge<sup>1</sup> elitism

*I thought I'd made it when I got to Cambridge University. How wrong I was...*

Daniella Adeluwoye

I've always been a diligent worker. Having had a part-time job in a fish and chip shop – **0D. THROUGHOUT** – my A-levels, I know what hard work means. When I received my offer to study at Cambridge University I was – **1A. CONGRATULATED** – by my colleagues for finally “making it”. In the warm heat of June, a few days before my last exam, I thought this would be the last time I would smell the fish in batter as it hit the sizzling oil. I reflected on the idea that Cambridge meant I was finally – **2D. COMPETING** – on a level playing field with socially and economically privileged students.

– **3D. WITHIN** – my first four days at university, by which time tickets had already sold out for the winter ball<sup>2</sup>, I realised this was not the case. Around me, students effortlessly parted with well over £100 for that one night out. I could only – **4C. STRUGGLE** – to do the same, so I applied to work for half of the ball in order to enjoy the other half for free. It soon dawned on me that, for a working-class student, a Cambridge education did not give me equal status.

Research shows that Oxbridge graduates from more privileged backgrounds earn about £5,000 a year more than those that are less well off. When I discovered this, I was shocked. I'd been told by teachers that a Cambridge degree would be the “great equaliser”. – **5A. AFTER ALL** –, I had been chosen through meritocracy, selected on the basis of my ability. It didn't matter where I had come from. I could – **6A. ACHIEVE** – anything.

Now, as I enter my second year and feel closer to the jungle of graduate job-hunting, I have come to realise the power of financial patronage. These worries about money are – **7C. SHARED** – by many of my working-class friends at Cambridge. One told me how she dreamed of pursuing a career in acting, but soon realised that the financial insecurity of that industry means that it won't be an option.

I worry, too, that I do not display the “polish” that many recruiters seek. At one of the first talks I attended at university, the speaker made several references to 17th-century French politicians and compared them with contemporary British MPs. Each of the examples were greeted with bursts of – **8B. LAUGHTER** –. Did I keep missing the punchline? How was I expected to know the biography of Louis XIV? This episode made me realise how strongly people's very sense of humour was tied to class background.

As I navigate Cambridge, I often feel alienated as student colleagues confidently charm their way through conversations – referencing their favourite poetry by the likes of Keats, Browning and Hardy. I could not name a single title.

Many working-class friends tell me they often feel isolated like this, too. I worry that, in job interviews, this lack of – **9B. KNOWLEDGE** – will be unfairly confused with my ability to do the job. At Eton they learn the art of “oiling”: how to charm your way to success. Maybe that's how Boris Johnson got into Downing Street: not by merit or hard work but because of his lessons in charm and persuasion.

During freshers' week, I overheard a conversation between students discussing their social networks. Their family friends ranged from various CEOs to big names in the City. These often help to “pull strings” for privileged students once they graduate. My parents cannot provide valuable connections.

I would urge schools and teachers to not raise – **10B. EXPECTATIONS** – not to paint an Oxbridge degree as a working-class escape route. It's an empty promise. I was sold a dream of upward mobility, but my one year has already exposed this as being far from the truth. I've learned that our class shapes our economic, cultural and social capital, and much of our potential, from birth. This is something a Cambridge degree cannot erase

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<sup>1</sup> **Oxbridge**: upper-class intellectual life in England, as felt to be under the influence of Oxford and Cambridge universities.

<sup>2</sup> **ball** (n.): formal party

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/sep/23/cambridge-university-upward-mobility-working-class-background>