



Junta de Andalucía

Consejería de Desarrollo Educativo y Formación Profesional

Pruebas Específicas de Certificación 2023/2024

Comprensión de Textos Escritos

Cuadernillo de respuestas

NIVEL C2 | INGLÉS

Apellidos:

Nombre:

☐ Alumno/a OFICIAL del grupo:

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

☐ Alumno/a LIBRE.

INSTRUCCIONES

- Duración máxima: 75 minutos.
- Esta 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

/ 26

NOTA FINAL

/ 10

CALIFICACIÓN

☐ Superado

☐ No Superado



TASK 1

HOMEOWNERS FACE A \$25trn BILL FROM CLIMATE CHANGE

Read the extracts about the effect of climate change on homeowners from *The Economist*. Then, choose the appropriate statement (A-H) which is directly related to the extract you have read in 1-6. There is one extra statement you **MUST NOT** use so you **MUST** leave one gap blank (for each **EXTRA** statement which you use, **ONE POINT WILL BE SUBTRACTED** from the total of 6 points). Item 0 is an example. You will get 1 point per correct answer.

ANSWER		
A. Firms need to be upfront to avoid costs.		
B. Desertion on the cards.	0	✓
C. Public funds bolstering up a crash.		
D. Ubiquitous greenwashing.		
E. A Delicate Balance Amid Climate Change.		
F. Sinking sand scenario.		
G. Firms going to the wall despite exorbitant fees.		
H. Discontent leads to retreat on greening up.		
MARK		/ 6



TASK 2

OBITUARIES

Read the obituaries and choose one of the headings A-M as a title for each of the paragraphs 0-10. There are TWO extra headings you MUST NOT use so you MUST leave two gaps blank (for each EXTRA heading which you use, ONE POINT WILL BE SUBTRACTED from the total of 10 points). Item 0 is an example. You will get 1 point per correct answer.

		ANSWER	
A.	Not on any bandwagon.		
B.	Lied through his/her teeth.		
C.	A scarred being.		
D.	<i>Didn't give a curse.</i>	0	✓
E.	Arrogance behind the façade.		
F.	No need to sell him/herself.		
G.	Well able to fend for him/herself.		
H.	Behaviour of a bygone era lead to his/her demise.		
I.	Ruthless commentator on sociocultural downfall.		
J.	Rebel to regimentation.		
K.	Outspokenness and flair to boot.		
L.	No fear of the Grim Reaper.		
M.	Introspection vs. the limelight.		

MARK / 10



TASK 3 GENERATION Z

Read the text about Generation Z, and choose the best option (A, B, C or D) to complete each sentence according to what you read. Write your answer in the box provided. Only one of the answers is correct. The first one (0) is an example. You will get 1 point per correct answer.

ANSWER	
0. The two 1930's journalists: A. lamented the war mongering of the younger generation. B. painted a grim picture of the younger generation. C. pointed the finger at dope.	<div>B</div> <div>✓</div>
1. The recurring theme of older generations' apprehension about the young is best exemplified by which of the following? A. The cyclical nature of economic downturns. B. The evolution of societal norms and values. C. The persistent critique of younger generations' behaviour. D. The advancements in technology and media.	
2. Jonathan Haidt's analysis in "The Anxious Generation" suggests that the rise in mental health issues among the young is attributable to: A. A decline in traditional family structures. B. The pervasive influence of smartphones and social media. C. The lack of rigorous academic challenges. D. The overemphasis on competitive sports.	
3. In "The Anxious Generation," what parenting approach is implicated in contributing to later-life challenges? A. Shelteredness and control. B. Insufficient academic encouragement. C. Neglect of technological literacy. D. Overemphasis on competitive achievements.	
4. Abigail Shrier's "Bad Therapy" posits that the distress of the young stems from: A. The overbearing nature of modern education. B. The absence of strong community bonds C. Overreliance on digital devices. D. The detrimental impact of the mental-health industry.	
5. "The Anxious Generation": A. praises the work of mental health professionals. B. is considered the more rigorous work. C. says that today's youth is disengaged from political and social activism. D. is not based on personal experience.	
6. The contradiction of the author of "Bad Therapy" is: A. Her singular focus on parental influence. B. Her use of non-academic sources. C. Her failure to acknowledge the benefits of therapy. D. Her support of the mental-health industry.	
7. The authors' limited geographical exposure is critiqued for resulting in: A. Misrepresentations of global youth culture. B. A focus on anecdotal rather than empirical evidence. C. An underestimation of the diversity of youth challenges. D. Overgeneralizations from specific urban experiences.	



Apellidos y Nombre: _____

8. Which trend is NOT identified as declining among American youth in the text?

- A. Substance abuse.
- B. Violent behavior.
- C. Academic engagement.
- D. Teenage pregnancy.

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9. Generation Z's stance on discrimination is characterized as:

- A. Apathetic.
- B. Accepting.
- C. Uncompromising.
- D. Indecisive.

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10. The pattern of generational criticism suggests that Generation Z will likely:

- A. Escape the scrutiny of future generations.
- B. Disregard the experiences of subsequent generations.
- C. Address all the issues raised by their elders.
- D. Perpetuate the cycle of critiquing the young.

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MARK

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 / 10



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TASK 1

HOMEOWNERS FACE A \$25trn BILL FROM CLIMATE CHANGE

0. In the long run there is a good chance that both physical and transition risks will land with governments. Carolyn Kousky, of the Environmental Defense Fund, a pressure group, imagines a scenario in which multiple natural disasters strike different parts of America at the same time. That could lead to a sudden increase in insurance prices across much of the country and a slide in property values. Homeowners unwilling to pay a fortune to keep living in a disaster zone might simply hand the keys to their houses back to their mortgage-providers, which could in turn face losses owing to the fall in prices.
1. Climate change is doing vast damage to property all around the world, and not always in the places or the ways that people imagine. Hurricanes, wildfires and floods are becoming more common and more severe—but so are more mundane banes. In London, for instance, the drying of the clay on which most of the city stands during summer heatwaves is causing unexpected subsidence, landing homeowners with big bills. A similar problem afflicts Amsterdam, where many older buildings are built on wooden piles inserted into the boggy soil in lieu of conventional foundations. Extended dry spells in summer are lowering the water table, drying out the piles and exposing them to the air. This allows the piles to rot, prompting the buildings above to sag.
2. To make matters even worse, physical risks are not the only peril climate change presents to property-owners. There is also “transition risk”, which refers to the possibility that governments may oblige homeowners to renovate in ways that reduce the carbon footprint of their properties. Such policies can lead to substantial costs. Germany’s coalition government, for example, had planned to ban new gas boilers from the beginning of this year, which would have landed lots of homeowners with costs of €15,000 or more, even after subsidies. The policy caused such an uproar that the changes were watered down and delayed last year.
3. In theory, house and insurance prices should provide a clear market signal about the risks of climate-related harm to any given property. But even in places obviously in harm’s way, such as Miami, the signal is often distorted. For one thing, it was only in March that Florida’s legislature approved a bill requiring those selling a property to disclose if it had previously flooded. Worse, there is good reason to think that home insurance in Florida is underpriced. Most Floridians would gasp at such a notion: according to Insurify, an insurance company, the average annual premium for a typical single-family home in the state is likely to hit \$11,759 this year. Yet even with such swingeing rates, several private home insurers have gone bust or withdrawn from Florida in recent years.

4. Two-fifths of London's housing stock, 1.8m homes, will be susceptible to subsidence by 2030, according to the British Geological Survey. Other nearby cities, such as Oxford and Cambridge, are also at risk. Remediation, often by installing concrete underpinning, typically costs around £10,000 (\$12,500) but can be much more. PWC, a consultancy, estimates that British home insurers will be paying out £1.9bn a year on subsidence claims by 2030. "To be honest the insurance companies would do themselves a good service by making people aware," says Mr Brooker.
5. The state government, however, shields homeowners from the market through a state-owned insurer of last resort, which provides policies to homes that private insurers will not cover. *Citizens Property Insurance Corporation* has become Florida's largest home insurer. Its exposure is now \$423bn, much more than the state's public debt—and all on houses that, by definition, other insurers deem too risky to cover. This suggests that *Citizens* has been providing a big subsidy to homeowners from taxpayers. Flood insurance underwritten by the federal government suffers from similar flaws. *First Street Foundation*, which aims to track the threats to American property from climate change, calculates that home values in West Palm Beach, a glitzy city up the coast from Miami, would fall by 40% if owners had to pay the true cost of insuring against hurricanes and floods.
6. In democracies where lots of voters own their homes, politicians have an incentive to shield homeowners from the bill from climate change for as long as possible. Even in Germany, which still has a large rented sector, the row over gas boilers is considered a cautionary tale. Procrastination is also a reflection of the global logic of climate change: even if a government introduces stringent measures to cut emissions in its own country, that does not necessarily reduce global emissions and therefore physical risks. No amount of investment in energy efficiency in German homes, for instance, would have prevented the floods in 2021 that caused more than \$40bn of damage. Yet the longer governments protect homeowners from the risks the larger they become. Vulnerable places like Miami grow even as climate change intensifies, with new arrivals assuming that taxpayers will defray the ballooning future costs. At some point, that assumption will become untenable, with unpredictable consequences. Climate change is often cast as something happening to other people, in faraway places and in desperate circumstances. But for much of the rich world, the results are already palpable.

Source: *The Economist*



TASK 2

OBITUARIES

[0] GLENDA JACKSON

Praise didn't interest her, and nor did awards. She won an Oscar for "Women in Love", another for "A Touch of Class", nominations for "Sunday Bloody Sunday" and "Hedda". She won Emmys, Baftas and a Tony. Thank you kindly, she said, while inwardly muttering, Come off it! The Oscars went to her mother for bookends and her mother, being a cleaner, soon polished all the guilt off.

[1] ALEXEI NAVALNY

His speeches weren't full of literary quotes or references to history. Instead he liked to sit down with people and talk about what worried them: health care, schools, the price of bread. He was no philosopher, just a jobbing lawyer, turned obsessive blogger, turned leading opponent of Vladimir Putin and his regime of crooks and thieves. He resisted everything they stood for: cronyism, greed, moral rot. For that he knew he would be endlessly harassed, imprisoned and silenced. Killed, possibly. But Alexei Navalny was not afraid of death. He often talked as if he had died already, and got over it.

[2] SINÉAD O'CONNOR

Paradoxically, she felt almost nothing for Ireland. The whole place was a church in which people, women especially, did not dare raise their voices. The best day of her life was in 1983 when she left. Divorce and homosexuality were still illegal then. The unmarked graves of the Magdalen mothers had still to be uncovered. As a bad-lot teenager, she had spent time in such a place herself. She knew girls who had become suicidal when their babies were taken away. But one of the nuns bought her a guitar, which became her life. She was just a troubled soul who needed to scream into mikes now and then. Her models were Bob Dylan and Bob Marley, protest singers who made people hear the truths that no one talked about.

[3] MILAN KUNDERA

Because truth was mysterious. And novels were a wide-open territory of play and hypotheses where he could question the world as a whole: digressively like Sterne in "Tristram Shandy", or adventurously, like Cervantes's Don Quixote. No answers, questions only; answers (in advance) were what kitsch provided. He played with philosophical musings, psychological analysis, investigations of misunderstood words, irony, eroticism and dreams. It could make a mish-mash for readers, especially Anglophone ones, and no other novel did as well as "Unbearable Lightness". The Nobel talk came to nothing, and he was glad, because he preferred reclusive delving to any sort of fame.

[4] ROSE DUGDALE

At home, Rose was expected to dress for dinner, curtsy to guests and hunt both deer and a husband. And above all she had to do "the season", that "upper-class version of a puberty rite" as the writer

Jessica Mitford called it, when four hundred girls in pearls curtsied before the queen. Or, as Princess Margaret put it, when “every tart in London” did. Rose was repelled: it was no more than a pornographic marriage market.

[5] SILVIO BERLUSCONI

He had always taught his salespeople that they should “carry the sun in their pocket”, and he himself always radiated positivity and optimism. But what the Great Recession revealed was that he was almost physically incapable of communicating bad news. On the contrary, he told Italians the crisis would not affect them. And as their economy crumbled the next year, even many of his most devoted followers realised—like that pension-fund chief at the start of it all—that they too had been duped by the great seducer.

[6] TINA TURNER

The album “Private Dancer” featured her biggest hit, “What’s Love Got to do With it?” It was a cynical song she didn’t like, and a strong-woman anthem like Gloria Gaynor’s “I Will Survive”, but she didn’t put herself in that category. She didn’t necessarily want to be a strong person, or part of any women’s movement. She was just Tina, who had come into this lifetime with a particular job to finish and intended to get it done. Her ex-husband Ike’s abuse was bad karma that trapped her in negative energy, but she overcame it.

[7] MARTIN AMIS

His own smaller efforts were symptomatic of Britain’s decline: its aura of filthy pub carpets, its morbidly obese children, phone booths “slobberingly coated with thick red paint”, London “like the insides of an old plug”. Purpose had been lost along with the empire, and under Thatcher, that old witch, civility and civilisation had fallen apart. Nothing but weak left-liberalism remained to confront the ruins; that, and the scathing onslaught of his prose.

[8] QUEEN ELISABETH II

Tirelessly, the small and somewhat dumpy figure, with a large handbag and a taste for spring-bright coats, travelled the country and overseas. She was the target of much gentle mockery for her social chat (“Have you come far?”), her sempiternal gloves and hats and her high, clipped diction, all from another age. With that ribbing went an instinct to protect her, though it was clear, from the level stare and the flashes of dry wit in her speeches, that this was quite unnecessary, thank you. Outrage swept the British press when heedless foreign leaders touched her, Michelle Obama even stroking her back, but she would calmly ignore it.

[9] MADELEINE ALBRIGHT

When she accused Fidel Castro’s operatives of having no *cojones*, or called Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia a murderer, people were more startled than if a man had said it. A streak of aggression in a woman



went a long way. So did sheer pizzazz. When she was nominated as secretary of state by President Bill Clinton in 1996 she wore a bright red outfit and a pearl necklace with an eagle pendant, both of which advertised her pride and joy far better than boring black could.

[10] BERNARD HAITINK

When he did speak, it was often to put himself down. Terribly, cripplingly shy as he was, this was a way of closing down a subject. It also helped keep his feet on the ground, as critics increasingly marvelled at the beauty, pace and clarity of his work. There was no better guide, they said, to the architecture of a Mahler symphony or the spiritual complexities of Bruckner, no better painter of the sea-and-sky colours of Debussy; some of his interpretations approached the supernatural. How was it done? He did not know. As he saw it, he could always be better.

On the podium he did nothing showy: a lift of a finger, a meaningful glance, a vestige of a smile. His musical personality, he thought, said everything necessary, and orchestras round Europe and America—especially the Amsterdam Royal Concertgebouw, where he was chief conductor for 27 years, and the London Philharmonic, where he stayed for 12—learned to read it perfectly, mood for mood.

TASK 3

GENERATION Z

The Anxious Generation. By Jonathan Haidt. *Penguin Press*; 400 pages; \$30. *Allen Lane*; £25

Bad Therapy. By Abigail Shrier. *Sentinel*; 320 pages; \$30. *Swift Press*; £20

In 1935 *Harper's* magazine published a sorrowful article about young Americans. The authors, journalists George Leighton and Richard Hellman, argued that a generation was “rotting before our eyes”. Apathy and disenchantment were taking hold, together with criminality. Even high-school students were packing guns and were “out for what they can get”. Leighton and Hellman blamed mass unemployment for this tragedy. Some of their contemporaries pointed at marijuana.

Around 50 years after that article—and 40 years after the supposedly rotten generation had saved the world from fascism—older people again complained that the young were going awry. In a book, “The Disappearance of Childhood” (1982), Neil Postman, an educational theorist, argued that teenagers were adopting adult vices such as heavy drinking and crime, and having far too much sex. The chief culprit, he explained, was television.

Two more books have now been published about the troubles and flaws of young people. They say almost nothing about unemployment, marijuana or TV; indeed, they do not agree with each other about

why the young are in such a mess. The causes change, the measurements change. What does not change is the absolute certainty with which older adults hold forth on the problems of youth.

"The Anxious Generation" describes a cohort suffering from unprecedented levels of mental ill-health. One-fifth of American students were diagnosed with or treated for depression in 2019, up from one-tenth a decade earlier. Jonathan Haidt, a social psychologist at New York University, argues this is not just a sign of increased frankness. Suicides are rising too, more than doubling among American 10- to 14-year-old girls since 2010.

Smartphones and social media are the chief villains. Instead of small, stable real-world communities, young people join virtual ones, where they experience "a daily tornado of memes, fads and ephemeral micro-dramas, played out among a rotating cast of millions of bit players". Smartphones are so alluring that they reduce interest in all other activities. Reversing Postman's complaint about teenagers in the 1980s, Mr Haidt says that modern ones are slow to date and to have sex.

Mr Haidt rehearsed some of these arguments in an earlier book, *"The Coddling of the American Mind"*, which explained why university students have become so sensitive. **"The Anxious Generation"** posits that the problems begin much earlier, with an over-protective style of child-raising. The book argues for banning phones during school hours, preventing pre-teens from accessing social media and letting children run wild more often. All the suggestions sound sensible. Some even sound fun.

"Bad Therapy" agrees that young people are deeply troubled, but disagrees about the cause. To Abigail Shrier, the culprit is not technology but what she calls the "mental-health industry". Almost two-fifths of young Americans say they have received help from a mental-health professional, and it has done them great harm, she argues. They can "never ignore any pain, no matter how trivial". Therapists and counsellors have sapped them of agency. A boy who has been pronounced learning-disabled and neurodivergent "no longer has the option to stop being lazy".

Ms Shrier, who has previously written about the perils of transgender treatment, also has sharp words for modern parents, although her criticism differs slightly from Mr Haidt's. Parents' desire to be loved by their children, and to see them always happy, leads them to stifle and coddle, she thinks. The result is a crop of "far more self-involved, undisciplined and unlikeable children" than any before. Because children grow up without clear rules, they are confused and aggressive. When their behaviour becomes troubling, the therapists are summoned.

"The Anxious Generation" is the better book. It deals seriously with counter-arguments and gaps in the evidence; although it might sound like faint praise, the endnotes are well worth reading. And Mr Haidt's assured tone is pleasantly interrupted by personal admissions. He, too, has struggled with severe anxiety. He gave his son a smartphone at a startlingly young age and used it to track his movements.



"Bad Therapy" admits no nuance. Ms Shrier has spoken to many therapists, but she declares that she trusts only those who assert that therapy can harm young patients. When assessing arguments that she dislikes, such as the notion that childhood trauma often produces damaged adults, she rightly insists on rigorous evidence. By contrast, some of her own arguments are based on conversations with friends and on a Facebook group where liberal parents complain about their children.

Both authors would have benefited from more travel. Mr Haidt hangs out in New York, Ms Shrier in west Los Angeles. They generalise from those privileged, sometimes nutty places to the rest of America and the world. Their limited perspectives lead them into trouble. Mr Haidt—in the course of saying that fierce competition for university places cannot explain why young Americans are so miserable—argues that applying to university is "far less fraught" in Britain. That will come as a nice surprise to British readers.

"Everyone goes" to university, writes Ms Shrier in a typically sweeping aside. They do not. And young people who do not attend university, who live far from the most privileged corners of America, are often the ones to worry about. The youth suicide rate is much higher in states like Alaska and South Dakota than it is in California or New York; in Britain, it is high in Northern Ireland. It seems unlikely that teenagers in such places are afflicted by a peculiarly large number of smartphones, therapists or permissive parents.

Many young people are certainly anxious, unhappy or lonely. But the conviction that their mental state matters above all is contemporary. Previous generations of adults cared less about young people's minds than about their deviant and unruly behaviour. By such yardsticks, the rising generation is angelic. Fighting, juvenile crime, drug use and teenage pregnancy are all retreating in America.

Generation Z improves on earlier cohorts in other ways. It is intolerant of prejudice: members of Generation X might care to recall how much of their youthful repertoire of insults questioned other people's sexuality or pointed to mental and physical disabilities. To describe Gen Z as hopelessly self-involved, as Ms Shrier does, ignores recent history. Children and teenagers submitted to extraordinary, painful restraints in 2020 in order to save older people from Covid.

The generation that is now young will eventually grow up, get jobs, form relationships and have children. If the past is any guide, its members will proceed to write articles and books that find fault with young people. In the 1930s the young were seen as threats to public order; in the 1980s they were growing up too fast. Today they are growing up too slowly and are miserable. What judgement awaits a generation not yet born?