

INGLÉS

CERTIFICADO DE NIVEL AVANZADO C2

CONVOCATORIA JUNIO 2025

COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS

ALUMNO: OFICIAL ☐ LIBRE ☐

APELLIDOS: _____ NOMBRE: _____

DNI/NIE: _____ EOI: _____

INSTRUCCIONES PARA LA REALIZACIÓN DE ESTA PARTE:

DURACIÓN: 75 minutos

- Esta parte consta de tres tareas.
- Lea las instrucciones al principio de cada tarea y realícela según se indica.
- Las respuestas escritas a lápiz o en rojo no se calificarán.
- No escriba en los recuadros sombreados.
- No está permitido el uso de diccionarios.

	TAREA 1	TAREA 2	TAREA 3	TOTAL	CALIFICACIÓN
PUNTOS				/25	/10

TASK ONE (8 X 1 mark = 8 marks)

Read the following text and insert the missing sentences you will find at the end (A to J) into the most appropriate gap in the text. Each paragraph can only be used ONCE. There is one extra sentence you will not need to use. Sentence 0 is an example.

MARK

GIVEN UP ON YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION ALREADY? WHY QUITTING CAN ACTUALLY BE A GOOD THING

We're taught to grit our teeth and stick it out when the going's tough—but having the courage to cut loose should be celebrated

I had given it nearly two years, hundreds of hours out of my own time and several dozen trips to the disabled loos to have a cry. ____**[0]**____. But with the outlook bleak, and no real signs of things improving, I decided I had finally had enough; I needed to quit my dream job.

Announcing that I was done, handing in my notice and packing my meagre office belongings into a small plastic box went against every fibre of my being. From a very young age, ____**[1]**____: "winners never quit, and quitters never win." It's this attitude that then burdens us throughout school, and that we then apply to relationships, work, even hobbies, doggedly sticking it out in awful environments despite being visibly miserable. ____**[2]**____ – the idea that you, personally, are giving up on something can lead to a profound sense of failure, ultimately underlining that you are at fault, and you are the problem.

It may be something many of us may be feeling today. The second Friday of January is known as "Quitters Day," where the majority of people jack in their new year's resolutions. Research shows as many as 43% of us will have given up on our new year's goals by the end of the month, and nearly one in five will have turned our backs on last year's aspirations in the first week. New year new me? Not a chance.

____**[3]**____. The weather is crap, our bank accounts are empty and any Christmas spirit hanging over from last year has fast depleted. Giving up on a goal you've set yourself, then, can make you feel even worse. Quitting has been badly branded to suggest weakness, serving as a wider indictment of you as a person.

But what if it's not pride and stubbornness we need, but the ability to take a step back and accept that something is not working? ____**[4]**____. Instead, we need to reframe the great act of letting go, allowing us to see it as courageous to cut loose when it's often easier to stay. Quitting should be liberating; it's a chance to take stock, assess all the options and make adjustments as you find options that work for you. It's not to say grit is worthless and persevering shouldn't be rewarded – but we need to recognise that ____**[5]**____.

Thankfully, we seem to be moving away from the somewhat retro beliefs of toughing it out for no real reason. Alongside the quiet quitting phenomenon of 2021, where one survey found 59% of workers are just "not engaged" with their jobs, ____**[6]**____. Knowing you've reached a limit, and setting that boundary, can be beneficial to our mental health; a 2021 study showed that healthcare workers that set limits and boundaries were more adequately buffered from burnout and stress.

____**[7]**____. Consider Dry January; a recent survey found more than half of Britons are likely to give up on Dry January by the second week, while 3 in 10 say they would rather give up booze for a shorter amount of time. It's also unlikely to lead to long term change; a 2021 study found that increased participation in Dry January between 2015 and 2018 was not associated with overall changes in drinking habits six months later.

It makes sense, then, that Damp January, where people cut back on booze instead of stopping altogether, is becoming more popular – ____ **[8]** ____.

So if your new year’s resolution has been broken so early, don’t be disheartened. Instead of seeing quitting as failure, see it as an opportunity to adjust your goals to be more manageable and a chance to take charge of the changes you want to see. Sometimes, quitters really *can* win.

Adapted from © Cosmopolitan, 2024

A.	ANNOUNCING YOU'RE QUITTING STILL HAS MOSTLY NEGATIVE CONNOTATIONS
B.	IF YOU'RE LIKE AN ESTIMATED 50 PERCENT OF THE U.S. POPULATION, THEN YOU PROBABLY RESOLVED TO CHANGE SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR LIFE AFTER THE CLOCK STRUCK MIDNIGHT ON JANUARY 1
C.	IT'S UNSURPRISING THAT GOALS TO START A NEW EXERCISE REGIME, OR STICK TO A HEALTHIER DIET, GO OUT THE WINDOW PRETTY FAST IN JANUARY
D.	MY FRIENDS HAD BECOME BORED OF MY CONSTANT TEARY-EYED RANTS ABOUT HOW UNMANAGEABLE THINGS WERE
E.	OUR ATTITUDE ON QUITTING HAS ALSO CHANGED WHEN IT COMES TO NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS, SEEING US REASSESS WHAT WOULD BETTER WORK AND LEAD TO MORE PROACTIVE CHANGE
F.	QUITTING DOESN'T (AND SHOULDN'T) NECESSARILY MEAN FAILURE
G.	SOME ARE FINDING THAT REDUCTION, RATHER THAN HIGH-PRESSURE TEETOTALISM, IS MOST EFFECTIVE WHEN IT COMES TO LONG-TERM CHANGE
H.	THERE'S A STARK DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RISING TO A CHALLENGE TO REAP ITS REWARDS AND STUBBORNLY INSISTING ON STICKING AT SOMETHING THAT JUST SIMPLY... ISN'T WORKING
I.	WE HAVE IT DISTILLED INTO US THAT IN ORDER TO SUCCEED, WE NEED TO WORK HARD
J.	WE'RE ALSO NO LONGER AFRAID OF LOUDLY QUITTING: 1/3 OF BRITISH WORKERS LEFT THEIR CAREERS LAST YEAR, CITING 'TOXIC MANAGEMENT'

GAP	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PHRASE	D								
	✓								

TASK 2 (8 x 1 mark = 8 marks)

You are going to read an extract from a novel. For questions 9-16, choose the answer (a, b, or c) that best matches the information you will read. Sentence 0 has been completed as an example. ONLY ONE ANSWER IS CORRECT.

MARK

THE POST-BIRTHDAY WORLD

Chapter One: Introducing the Characters

What began as coincidence had crystallized into tradition: on the sixth of July, they would have dinner with Ramsey Acton on his birthday.

Five years earlier, Irina had been collaborating with Ramsey's then-wife, Jude Hartford, on a children's book. Jude had made social overtures. Abjuring the airy we-really-must-get-together-sometime feints common to London, which can carry on indefinitely without threatening to clutter your diary with a real time and place, Jude had seemed driven to nail down a foursome so that her illustrator could meet her husband, Ramsey. Or, no—she'd said, "My husband, Ramsey Acton." The locution had stood out. Irina assumed that Jude was prideful in that wearing feminist way about the fact that she'd not taken her husband's surname.

But then, it is always difficult to impress the ignorant. When negotiating with Lawrence over the prospective dinner back in 1992, Irina didn't know enough to mention, "Believe it or not, Jude's married to *Ramsey Acton*." For once Lawrence might have bolted for his *Economist* day-planner, instead of grumbling that if she had to schmooze for professional reasons, could she at least schedule an early dinner so that he could get back in time for *NYPD Blue*. Not realizing that she had been bequeathed two magic words that would vanquish Lawrence's broad hostility to social engagements, Irina had said instead, "Jude wants me to meet her husband, Raymond or something."

Yet when the date she proposed turned out to be "Raymond or something's" birthday, Jude insisted that more would be merrier. Once returned to bachelorhood, Ramsey let slip enough details about his marriage for Irina to reconstruct: after a couple of years, they could not carry a conversation for longer than five minutes. Jude had leapt at the chance to avoid a sullen, silent dinner just the two of them.

Which Irina found baffling. Ramsey always seemed pleasant enough company, and the strange unease he always engendered in Irina herself would surely abate if you were married to the man. Maybe Jude had loved dragging Ramsey out to impress colleagues but was not sufficiently impressed on her own behalf. One-on-one he had bored her silly.

Besides, Jude's exhausting gaiety had a funny edge of hysteria about it, and simply wouldn't fly—would slide inevitably to the despair that lay beneath it—without that quorum of four. When you cocked only half an ear to her uproarious discourse, it was hard to tell if she was laughing or crying. Though she did laugh a great deal, including through most of her sentences, her voice rising in pitch as she drove herself into ever accelerating hilarity when nothing she had said was funny. It was a compulsive, deflective laughter, born of nerves more than humor, a masking device and therefore a little dishonest. Yet her impulse to put a brave, bearable face on what must have been a profound unhappiness was sympathetic. Her breathless mirth pushed Irina in the opposite direction—to speak soberly, to keep her voice deep and quiet, if only to demonstrate that it was acceptable to be serious. Thus if Irina was sometimes put off by Jude's manner, in the woman's presence she at least liked herself.

Irina hadn't been familiar with the name of Jude's husband, consciously. Nevertheless, that first birthday, when Jude had bounced into the Savoy Grill with Ramsey gliding beside her—it was already late enough in a marriage that was really just a big, well-meaning mistake that her clasp of his hand could only have been for show—Irina met the tall man's gray-blue eyes with a jolt, a tiny touching of live wires that she subsequently interpreted as visual recognition, and later—much later—as recognition of another kind.

Lawrence Trainer was not a pretentious man. He may have accepted a research fellowship at a prestigious London think tank, but he was raised in Las Vegas, and remained unapologetically American. He said "controversy," not "controuversy"; he never elided the K-sound in "schedule." So he hadn't rushed to buy a white cable sweater and joined his local cricket league. Still, his father was a golf instructor; he inherited an interest in sports.

Thus early in the couple's expatriation to London, Lawrence conceived a fascination with snooker. It was a game not only of dexterity but of intricate premeditation, requiring its past masters to think up to a dozen shots ahead, and to develop a spatial and geometric sophistication that any mathematician would esteem.

Irina hadn't discouraged Lawrence's enthusiasm for snooker tournaments on the BBC, for the game's ambiance was one of repose. The commentators spoke just above a whisper in soft, regional accents. Their vocabulary was suggestive, although not downright smutty: in *amongst the balls*, *deep screw*, *double-kiss*, *loose red*, the black was *available*. Though by custom a working-class sport, snooker was conducted in a spirit of decency and refinement more associated with aristocracy. The players wore waistcoats, and bow ties. Unlike the hooligan audiences for football, or even tennis—snooker crowds were pin-drop silent during play. Fans had sturdy bladders, for even tip-toeing to the loo invited public censure from the referee, an austere presence of few words who wore short, spotless white gloves.

Adapted from © Lionel Shriver's *The Post-Birthday World*.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>0. The birthday dinners...</p> <p>a) <i>grew out of a professional relationship.</i></p> <p>b) <i>were a recurring coincidence.</i></p> <p>c) <i>were instigated by Jude's husband.</i></p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> a </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">✓</div> |
| <p>9. When Jude mentioned her husband's full name, Irina...</p> <p>a) believed it was motivated by principles.</p> <p>b) thought it was for professional reasons.</p> <p>c) was surprisingly impressed.</p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #cccccc;"></div> |
| <p>10. Lawrence was the kind of person who...</p> <p>a) couldn't stand meeting celebrities.</p> <p>b) enjoyed socializing with colleagues.</p> <p>c) would regard his partner's work dinners as inconvenient.</p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #cccccc;"></div> |
| <p>11. The real reason for the invitation was...</p> <p>a) immediately clear to Irina.</p> <p>b) to avoid an awkward situation.</p> <p>c) to celebrate a birthday.</p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #cccccc;"></div> |
| <p>12. Irina believed Ramsey...</p> <p>a) brought out the best in Jude.</p> <p>b) got on well with Jude.</p> <p>c) would make a nice partner.</p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #cccccc;"></div> |
| <p>13. Jude's gaiety...</p> <p>a) demonstrated her happiness.</p> <p>b) made Irina feel better about herself.</p> <p>c) was because she had a sharp sense of humour.</p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #cccccc;"></div> |
| <p>14. At the first birthday dinner, Irina...</p> <p>a) realized that Jude's marriage was fine.</p> <p>b) recognized a fellow professional.</p> <p>c) saw that Jude was keeping up appearances.</p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #cccccc;"></div> |
| <p>15. Lawrence got into snooker...</p> <p>a) after many years in London.</p> <p>b) because he embraced British culture.</p> <p>c) due to parental influence.</p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #cccccc;"></div> |
| <p>16. According to the narrator, snooker...</p> <p>a) involves vulgar innuendo.</p> <p>b) is favoured by the upper classes.</p> <p>c) subverts a stereotype.</p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #cccccc;"></div> |

TASK THREE (9 x 1 mark = 9 marks)

Read the text and complete each gap with the most suitable word from the options provided. Please, write your answers in the boxes. Gap 0 is an example.

MARK

***THE ECLECTIC GRANDPA TREND ENCAPSULATES
OUR PERSONAL STYLE DILEMMA***

A new microtrend has arrived: the “eclectic grandpa”. This trend is all about colorful knitwear, tweed, loafers, patterned boxer shorts, sensible sneakers, baseball caps, and wristwatches. “Because the coastal grandma aesthetic [0] is so last year,” Pinterest wrote.

And that’s exactly the problem. Just as quickly as dressing like a Nancy Meyers character captured the zeitgeist, it became passé, styling oneself like a _____ [17] old man taking its place. It’s not novel to disapprove of the trend cycle’s rapid acceleration, but the eclectic grandpa _____ [18] seems uniquely expressive of the issue at hand: Not only is overhauling one’s wardrobe wildly expensive and unsustainable, it eschews the core value of grandpa style, putting a soulless replica in its place.

The entire point of the trend is to dress like somebody who has spent a lifetime _____ [19] a collection of clothing and accessories that speak to his own individuality. But, as with all microtrends, one is supposed to accumulate these items seemingly overnight.

The entire reason that the elderly dress this way is because they’ve purchased high-quality goods with longevity, rather than cheap _____ [20] destined to end up in a landfill after a few wears. As Amanda Mull noted in *The Atlantic*, the quality of knitwear has dropped precipitously over the years: “Knits used to be made entirely from natural fibers. Now...the overwhelming majority of yarn used in _____ [21] knitwear is blended with some type of plastic.” The changing composition of our knitwear (among other clothing), along with poor conditions for garment workers, means that not only do these synthetic-heavy sweaters feel worse, they’re engineered to have a shorter lifespan than the sweater Grandpa’s worn since the Nixon Administration.

The decline in quality points out one failure of the eclectic grandpa trend. But it’s a _____ [22] issue. We are reaching a crisis point when it comes to personal style. As we all get our style inspiration from the same few sources, there is a deficit of singularity in fashion. With social media algorithms feeding us unrelenting fashion content, we’re _____ [23] to consume, consciously or not. Even those who aren’t actively participating in microtrends are still on the receiving end of content that affects purchasing habits, Madeleine Schulz wrote in *Vogue Business*. So, even if social media users aren’t actively seeking out eclectic grandpa content, they may still be targeted with photos of celebrities and feel inspired to incorporate the look into their own closets.

Perhaps a more sincere and authentic way to engage with the eclectic grandpa trend is through our shopping habits. Rather than _____ [24] out to buy a polyamide-riddled sweater vest and a pair of cotton poplin boxers, we should emulate our _____ [25] by interrogating what we desire in the long term, and shell out for well-made garments that we actually intend to wear over the next several decades. What we can really learn from our elders isn’t how to produce a lower quality copy of their clothing, but how to cultivate personal style through well-loved pieces that will last a lifetime—hopefully, long enough to pass down to our own grandchildren one day.

Adapted from ©Vogue.com

THE ECLECTIC GRANDPA TREND ENCAPSULATES OUR PERSONAL STYLE DILEMMA

0. **A) *aesthetic*** B) *allure* C) *comeliness* D) *handcraft*
17. A) barbaric B) cheeky C) kooky D) unripe
18. A) fad B) flux C) shift D) tide
19. A) allotting B) curating C) dispatching D) rummaging
20. A) gadgets B) garments C) guises D) rags
21. A) clustered B) mass-market C) pigeonholed D) unabridged
22. A) dual B) further C) torn D) twofold
23. A) gauged B) hindered C) jinxed D) poised
24. A) branching B) digging C) rushing D) working
25. A) fellows B) foes C) forerunners D) peers

GAP	<i>0</i>	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
LETTER	<i>A</i>									
	✓									

