

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 C2

CONVOCATORIA SEPTIEMBRE 2020

CUADERNO DEL CORRECTOR



CLAVE DE RESPUESTAS

INGLÉS C2

COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS

TASK 1: MUSIC ALBUM REVIEWS

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
A	D	Н	G	F	E	В

TASK 2: NEW YORK PENCIL TOWERS

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
В	Н	Κ	A	D	С	J	I	L	۴	E
DISTRACTOR: G										

TASK 3: THE MYTH OF CLASS REDUCTIONISM

										10
В	В	В	A	A	С	С	В	D	С	В

COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ORALES TASK 1: HUMANS OF POLITICS

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
В	G	F	D	Н	A	С

TASK 2: SOCIAL SERVICES

										10
A	A	С	A	В	A	В	С	С	C	A

TASK 3: THE TINDER-BUMBLE FEUD

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Online	swiped	snap	feature	infringement	own	dementia	handing	threw	challenging	software
dating	ideas	decisions		Intringement			out	out	question	patents

MEDIACIÓN ESCRITA

RÚBRICA:

CONTEXTUALIZACIÓN: Eres el jefe de estudios de un centro de educación secundaria de la Región de Murcia. Este año hay dos profesores nuevos llegados del Reino Unido que no hablan muy bien español, y no entienden un documento que acabáis de recibir por parte de las autoridades educativas. Tus compañeros te solicitan ayuda para entenderlo:

En relación con la huelga general en el ámbito geográfico de la Comunidad Autónoma de la región de Murcia, del día 9 de marzo de 2020, y que afecta al personal docente y no docente de los centros públicos de enseñanza no universitaria, le comunico que deberá seguir las siguientes instrucciones para un correcto desarrollo del servicio durante la misma:

PRIMERA. Los servicios mínimos establecidos para la Consejería de Educación y Cultura, que está previsto que se aprueben por Decreto esta misma semana, sobre garantías de prestación de servicios mínimos en los centros docentes de enseñanza pública no universitaria dependientes de la Administración Pública de la Región de Murcia, son los que se adjuntan en el anexo

SEGUNDA. Una vez aprobados los servicios mínimos por el Consejo de Gobierno, la dirección de los centros educativos designará y notificará al personal según el siguiente procedimiento:

1. La Dirección del centro elaborará un listado alfabético (por apellidos y nombre) de todos los profesores del centro, excluyendo al personal de baja y directivos predeterminados por el Decreto. Dicha lista comenzará por la letra D, de conformidad con el sorteo realizado por la Consejería de Hacienda y Administración Pública con fecha 25 de enero de 2020. En caso de empate se situarán en primer lugar los profesores más antiguos en el centro. No obstante a lo anterior, los profesores designados para cumplir los servicios mínimos serán nombrados siguiendo el criterio establecido, pero empezando por el primero de la lista que se encuentre tras el último que fue designado para este mismo cometido en la pasada huelga llevada a cabo el pasado día 8 de marzo de 2019 en el caso de centros de educación primaria y en la huelga del pasado 29 de noviembre de 2020 en el caso de centros de educación secundaria.

2. Se recorrerá la lista hasta encontrar los primeros profesores que impartan docencia en la enseñanza de que se trate, quedando asignados para los servicios mínimos por las mismas y excluidos para las siguientes.

3. El profesorado designado como "Servicios Mínimos" sólo está obligado a desempeñar la jornada de trabajo que tenga asignada en su horario personal. Si la designación de un docente a jornada parcial no puede garantizar los servicios mínimos establecidos, la dirección del centro podrá optar por saltar el turno de designación a otro docente con jornada completa.

4. A cada trabajador seleccionado se le notificará fehacientemente su designación como personal en servicios mínimos para el día 9 de marzo.

[...]

OCTAVA. Con posterioridad, y una vez comprobada la causa de la ausencia del día 9 de marzo de 2020, las ausencias producidas por motivo de huelga no se incorporarán al parte de faltas, siendo controladas específicamente por la aplicación informática implementada a tal fin por el Servicio de Personal Docente.

EJEMPLO DE RESPUESTA:

Dear fellow teachers,

Following instructions from the education regional council, I inform you about the minimum services for the general strike on March, 9th:

- Teachers with minimum services will be shortlisted in alphabetical order, starting from letter "D" (which resulted from the draw held at the regional administration premises).
- If there is a draw, the longest serving teacher at the school will come first.
- If you did minimum services on the last strike, you are excluded from the list.
- Teachers designated for the minimum services only have to attend school at their normal working hours and will be notified in advance.

Well, I think that's all you need to know. If there is anything you don't understand you can come and see me or send me an email.

Best regards,

XXXX

132 words

CTE - TEXT 1: MUSIC ALBUM REVIEWS

Source: <u>https://www.nme.com</u> 0. Girl Band: A

Every element of 'The Talkies' sees the band **pushing themselves forwards and marking themselves out as one-of-akind**. The darkness and intensity of their health struggles and fraught life on tour opens the album, with introduction 'Prolix' a recording of vocalist Dara Kiely practicing breathing techniques into a microphone while mid-panic attack. What follows is a 45-minute exorcism.

Both lyrically and musically, 'The Talkies' sees Girl Band attempting things that most wouldn't even consider, while managing to fit together into a cohesive whole.

1. Battles: D

Complicated music and fun music don't often go in hand. While wide-eyed joy often comes out of simplicity, music that's more intricate often gets bogged down in its own weirdness, unable to provide any transcendence beyond anticipating the next time signature change that's seconds away. **Battles debunk this fabulously** within the first minute of their new album 'Juice B Crypts'.

2. Liam Gallagher: H

"Early last year, Liam Gallagher promised NME that his second solo album would be "**a bit more in-your-face**" than 'As You Were', the Platinum-shifting game-changer that reignited his career. It would be "**less apologetic**", he said, adding: "I'd love to do a proper out-and-out punk rock album – a bit Pistols, a bit Stooges." Well, 'Why Me? Why Not.' only half-delivers on that promise, though it's certainly a worthy victory lap for his lauded comeback."

"It doesn't matter if these tender songs are about his older brother: they work because they're the sound of a notorious big mouth reflecting on a life lived at full speed, as he counts his regrets but **refuses to be bowed by them**. Like the 'As You Were' standout 'For What It's Worth', they capture the contradiction at the heart of Liam Gallagher: acute emotional intelligence meets chin-out bolshiness. It's always compelling when he reveals this softer side of his psyche".

3. Tove Lo: G

Tove Lo's fourth album, follows the suit of its predecessors. It's another record rooted in the sparkling electro-pop that Lo has become renowned for; the album boast a host of intelligently written and **slickly produced songs**. The scintillating 'Really Don't Like U', a collaboration with Kylie Minogue, is a reminder that Lo is an expert at crafting **glittering tunes filled with fizzing hooks**. 'Glad He's Gone', meanwhile, where Lo comforts her pal after they've split with a fuck boy, is filled with sundrenched tropical beats and electronic falsetto vocals.

4. PTSD: F

Hailing from south London, Dirtbike LB and Young Adz, aka D-Block Europe, use their new mixtape PTSD to take us on a journey into life as they see it. It's a life filled with sex, violence and drugs, but there's emotional depth here, too. From the tape's introducing skit, we learn that many signs of PTSD includes paranoia, coping mechanisms (see those aforementioned vices) and personality changes. This whopping 28-track tape leaves none unexplored.

'PTSD' is, in many ways, a great mixtape to finish off the year, filled with catchy tunes to get deep in your feelings. But 28 tracks is a little excessive. **Even 'Playing For Keeps', which features Mercury winner Dave, gets lost in the mulch.**

5. Lil Kim: E

"<u>Lil Kim</u> hasn't always got her due. When she first broke through with her 1996 masterpiece 'Hard Core', some critics assumed that the album was ghostwritten by her mentor <u>Notorious B.I.G.</u> (she refuted the claim <u>in a recent interview</u>). For years, discussion about her music was sidelined as focus fell instead on her feuds – with <u>Nicki Minaj</u>, for instance – and stints on reality TV, such as Dancing With The Stars."

It's an injustice she addressed with typical candour and give-a-fuck spirit on 'Shut Up B**tch', an album track from 2005's accomplished 'The Naked Truth'.

6. Michael Kiwanuka: B

Looking ahead even as he evokes the work of greats as such as Bill Withers and Gil Scott-Heron, Michael Kiwanuka's bravura self-titled record sees him fiercely reclaim his identity.

<u>Michael Kiwanuka</u> asks on new track 'Living in Denial', the lyrics from his self-titled latest feeling like pages from his diary five years ago. An artist well known for his struggles with self-confidence, Kiwanuka may well have spoken those words to himself in the period between his first and second album releases, when crippling self-doubt left him ready to quit music for good.

CTE - TEXT 2: NEW YORK PENCIL TOWERS

Source: https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2019/feb/05/super-tall-super-skinny-super-expensive-the-pencil-towers-of-new-yorks-super-rich

Super-tall, super-skinny, super-expensive: the 'pencil towers' of New York's super-rich

An extreme concentration of wealth in a city where even the air is for sale has produced a new breed of needle-like tower. By Oliver Wainwright

It is rare in the history of architecture for a new type of building to emerge. The Romans' discovery of concrete (0/B) birthed the great domes and fortifications of its empire. The Victorians' development of steel led to an era of majestic bridges and vaulted train sheds. The American invention of the elevator created the first skyscrapers in Chicago. Now, we are seeing a new type of structure (1/H) that perfectly embodies the 21st-century age of technical ingenuity and extreme inequality. A heady confluence of engineering prowess, zoning loopholes and an unparalleled concentration of personal wealth have together spawned a new species of super-tall, super-skinny, super-expensive spire.

Any visitor to New York over the past few years will have witnessed this curious new breed of pencil-thin tower. Poking up above the Manhattan skyline like etiolated beanpoles, (2/K) they seem to defy the laws of both gravity and commercial sense. They stand like naked elevator shafts awaiting their floors, raw extrusions of capital piled up until it hits the clouds.

These towers are not only the product of advances in construction technology – and a global surfeit of super-rich buyers – but a zoning policy that allows a developer to acquire unused airspace nearby, add it to their own lot, (3/A) and erect a vast structure without any kind of public review process taking place. The face of New York is changing at a rate not seen for decades, and the deals that are driving it are all happening behind closed doors.

The results range from the sublime to the ridiculous, or even both at once. There is 432 Park Avenue, a surreal square tube of white concrete that appears to shoot twice as high as anything around it, its endless Cartesian grid of windows framing worlds of solid marble bathtubs and climate-controlled wine cellars within. It is the most elegant of the new towers, recalling the minimalist sculptures of Sol LeWitt, although its architect, Raphael Viñoly, says it was inspired by a trash can. (4/D) He can clearly turn garbage into gold, given the penthouse sold for \$95m (£72m).

It is the tallest residential building in the world, but it won't be for long. The sturdy trunk of Central Park Tower is rising nearby – a great glass hulk that will soon steal the crown for the most vertiginous residences on the planet. Designed by Adrian Smith and Gordon Gill, architects of Dubai's Burj Khalifa, the tower will form a dizzying stack of superlatives, with the biggest pools, highest health club and farthest-reaching views in town. You might even be able to peer into your neighbouring oligarch's flat, (5/C) given how close the next-door tower is squeezed.

Standing right across the street, 220 Central Park South aims to be the gentleman of the bunch. A neo-art deco tower clad in silvery Alabama limestone, with set-back terraces and ornamental metalwork, it is the work of Robert AM Stern, expedient purveyor of whatever style his client wants, from Spanish revival to Qing dynasty. "Architecture is a banquet," Stern tells me, "and most architects are starving to death." He says that "unlike some of its neighbours now under development", his design "will belong to the family of buildings that have framed Central Park for generations". The dapper costume has paid off: some apartments in his tower have gone for more than \$10,000 per square foot. (6/J) The penthouse was recently acquired by a hedge-fund billionaire for \$238m, making it the most expensive home ever sold in the US.

Form has always followed finance in New York, and this latest architectural byproduct of excess global wealth is no exception. Building very tall has been technically possible for some time, but it hasn't made much commercial sense: the higher you go, (7/I) the cost of building often exceeds the returns. That is, until now.

Like leggy plants given too much fertiliser, these buildings are a symptom of a city irrigated with too much money. The world's population of ultra-high-net-worth individuals, a super-elite with assets of at least \$30m, has now mushroomed beyond 250,000 people, all in need of somewhere to store their wealth. More than a third of them are based in North America, **(8/L) while those from riskier economic climes favour New York real estate as one of the safest places to park their cash.**

Since the 2008 global financial crisis, (9/F) luxury housing has become a new world currency, providing investors with both a tangible asset and a certain cachet that can't be found in stocks and hedge funds. The continued volatility of financial markets has spurred buyers to seek safe havens in super-prime real estate, from London to New York and Hong Kong, begetting stratospheric prices and minting a whole new category that defies the usual rules of the marketplace: the "trophy property". Sitting alongside rare wine, coloured diamonds and old masters, a full-floor apartment in a pencil tower with a view of Central Park makes a fine addition to the investor's trophy cabinet. Except it is not just a trinket in a safe. (10/E) It is a very large presence on the skyline for all to endure.

CTE - TEXT 3: THE MYTH OF CLASS REDUCTIONISM

The fight for racial and gender justice has always been about economic inequality, too.

By ADOLPH REED JR.

September 25, 2019 Source: https://newrepublic.com/article/154996/myth-class-reductionism

Ever since Bernie Sanders's insurgent run for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016, a specter has **(0) B - haunted** left-liberal debate: the specter of "class reductionism." Left-identitarians and centrist liberals have used this oversimplified charge not merely to dismiss Sanders but also to cast suspicion on the broad **(1) B - array** of universally redistributive policies associated with him and the left flank of the Democratic Party—such as Medicare for All, free public higher education, a living wage, and the right to collective **(2) B - bargaining**.

Politics often makes strange (3) A - bedfellows, but this is no mere marriage of convenience. Centrist Democrats and left-identitarians are bound in shared embrace of a particularist, elite-driven politics. This top-down political vision—long focused on capturing the presidency (4) A - at the expense of long-term, movement-driven, majoritarian strategies at all levels of government—threatens to preempt hopes of restoring the public-good model of governance that was at the heart of postwar prosperity and foundational to the civil rights movement.

Class reductionism is the supposed view that inequalities apparently attributable to race, gender, or other categories of group identification are either secondary in importance or **(5) C - reducible** to generic economic inequality. It thus follows, according to those who **(6) C - hurl** the charge, that specifically anti-racist, feminist, or LGBTQ concerns, for example, should be dissolved within demands for economic redistribution.

I know of no one who embraces that position. Like other broad-brush charges that self-styled liberal pragmatists (7) **B** - levy against "wish-list economics" and the assault on private health insurance, the class reductionist canard is a bid to shut down debate. Once you summon it, you may safely dismiss your opponents as wild-eyed fomenters of discord (8) **D** - without addressing the substance of their disagreements with you on policy proposals.

Although there are no doubt random, dogmatic class reductionists out there, the simple fact is that no serious tendency on the left (9) C - contends that racial or gender injustices or those affecting LGBTQ people, immigrants, or other groups as such do not exist, are inconsequential, or otherwise should be downplayed or ignored. (10) B - Nor do any reputable voices on the left seriously argue that racism, sexism, homophobia, and xenophobia are not attitudes and ideologies that persist and cause harm.

CTO – TEXT 1: HUMANS OF POLITICS

TRANSCRIPT

Speaker 0 - B

And just listening to that public debate, it struck me that people on the pro-life side are really sincere in believing that they are standing up for the most vulnerable. They're standing up for innocent unborn life, and people on the pro-choice side are utterly sincere in believing that they are standing up for the most vulnerable. They're standing up for women facing a crisis pregnancy. And on both sides you have a cohort who are so convinced of the rightness of their way of seeing it, **that it's not that hard for them to start demonizing the other side and questioning their motives**. I just wonder, what was it like being in the middle of all that.

Speaker 1 – G

You know, the vast majority of people of all political perspectives and non that I have worked with from that [inaudible] council through to the Shannon today are, are good, decent people of all political perspectives will disagree on how to run the health service, the education system, what taxation should be. But I think that's the vast majority of people that I've met in politics are motivated by making their community a better place. And I guess really important that we emphasize that that's, that's, you know, **it becomes a bit of a punch and Judy show,** uh, sometimes it can become personalized, but we do need to, I think we need to talk up the vast majority of people who are in politics in Ireland.

Speaker 2 – F

Even for the people who were in it for the wrong reasons. I don't think it's just about money. I think there are other things that people get into politics for and some of it is notoriety. Some is one thing maybe to step onto something bigger. Some of it is ego and some of it is wanting to be popular. You know, a lot of them that are in there for politics don't need, the money, actually. A lot of them are barristers. A lot of them are doctors. A lot of them are landlords. They don't actually need the money, so the reasons they get into it has to be for other things in their lives, other things that it fulfills or challenges or things that they enjoy. But when you consider that, **most of them don't want to challenge the status quo**, then that for me it's questionable. What are their motives? Why if they're in there, why do they not want to challenge the inequality, the injustice, the homelessness? They will say they want to challenge all these things, but they don't fundamentally challenge the way the system works.

Speaker 3 - D

Um, for me, I loved those five years in opposition because I was on the communications energy and much, on the Marine, I think it was, but it was basically energy policy, communications, digital policy. And I just loved it. I found I learned a lot and I was really interested in, because I was interested in issues like climate change and [inaudible] they provide solutions to solve it. And my experience in opposition, well firstly you need to do that learning cause you need to understand the brief. And secondly, if you're in a committee and you're on the record and you are the secretary general and you really know what you're talking about and you can put the question not in a shaming, the guy or girl are kind of looking to be, but just because you know, you know, kind of some of the facts and say: here are the facts; this is what we should do. And if they're not doing it, they're kind of embarrassed by that.

Speaker 4 – H

There's, there's a lot more competition visibly present in politics. And also there's a fair number of people in politics whom I think feel that being nasty and being angry is a policy and it's a mechanism. I do think that's a problem, for instance, **for women in general in politics because there's a feral bit of machismo** that though, when I joined in 1992 was very much a man's club if much, probably modeled on an English gentleman's club that you'd read about in a 19th century novel. You know, women were mentally, if not physically patted on the hat and people would tell you, Oh, you're looking gorgeous, or whatever. This was obviously long before me too. But at the same time, I must say I have always been, - and I've never hidden it- ambitious in politics

Speaker 5 - A

Okay. It is difficult. And the problem we have in our, in, in out now is that social media introduces a level of toxicity to the public debate that isn't there previously. So if someone has a really ignorant idea about you 30 40 years ago, maybe that would remain in their closed conversation or in a pub conversation, but now they broadcast to the world. So, and sometimes I think people can be strategically ignorant and rude in the effort to close down somebody else's views. And I think that's very dangerous at too as well. So, you know, I would have a taken-up skin at my attitude is, you know, do your best and forget about whatever anybody else thinks. What there's no doubt is **that that does wear and tear** Ashe at people insights and there's no doubt about that. Yeah.

Speaker 6 - C

Yeah, I can think I came from a very, I suppose normal background is I would see it and um, I don't know why I was very conscious of the opportunity of getting to go to college and third level and you know, to took one to qualify as a barrister. I definitely felt when I went to the Kings ends that maybe I wasn't the same as [inaudible] the people that were there. And so it always kind of struck me that, you know, that social mobility and having access to education was really key to allowing people to achieve their best. So I think it's remarkable to think there was a time in this country where you had to pay to go to secondary school and feel involved with the party that brought in the free second level. **Those kind of policies are quite transformative. Then that's probably what attracted me to, to where I am**.

Source: https://www.rte.ie/radio/radioplayer/html5/#/podcasts/series/30255

CTO – TEXT 2: SOCIAL SERVICES

TRANSCRIPT:

I want to tell you three stories about the power of relationships to solve the deep and complex social problems of this century.

You know, sometimes it seems like all these problems of poverty, inequality, ill health, unemployment, (0) A - violence, addiction -- they're right there in one person's life. So I want to tell you about someone like this that I know. I'm going to call her Ella. Ella lives in a British city on a run-down estate. The shops are closed, the pub's gone, (1) A - the playground's pretty desolate and never used, and inside Ella's house, the tension is palpable and the noise levels are deafening. The TV's on at full volume. One of her sons is fighting with one of her daughters. Another son, Ryan, is (2) C - keeping up this constant stream of abuse from the kitchen, and the dogs are locked behind the bedroom door and straining. Ella is stuck. She has lived with crisis for 40 years. She knows nothing else, and she knows no way out. She's had a whole series of abusive partners, and, tragically, one of her children has been taken into care by social services. The three children that still live with her suffer from a whole range of problems, and (3) A - none of them are in education. And Ella says to me that she is (4) B - repeating the cycle of her own mother's life before her.

But when I met Ella, there were 73 different services on offer for her and her family in the city where she lives, 73 different services run out of 24 departments in one city, and Ella and her partners and her children were known to most of them. **(5)** A - They think nothing of calling social services to try and mediate one of the many arguments that broke out. And the family home was visited on a regular basis by social workers, youth workers, a health officer, a housing officer, a home tutor and the local policemen. And the governments say that there are 100,000 families in Britain today like Ella's, struggling to break the cycle of economic, social and environmental deprivation. And they also say that **(6)** B - managing this problem costs a quarter of a million pounds per family per year and yet nothing changes. None of these well-meaning visitors are making a difference.

This is a chart we made in the same city with another family like Ella's. This shows 30 years of intervention in that family's life. And just as with Ella, not one of these interventions is part of an overall plan. There's no end goal in sight. (7) C - None of the interventions are dealing with the underlying issues. These are just containment measures, ways of managing a problem. One of the policemen says to me, "Look, I just deliver the message and then I leave."

So, I've spent time living with families like Ella's in different parts of the world, because I want to know: what can we learn from places where our social institutions just aren't working? I want to know what it feels like to live in Ella's family. I want to know what's going on and what we can do differently.

Well, the first thing I learned is that cost is a really slippery concept. Because when the government says that a family like Ella's costs a quarter of a million pounds a year to manage, what it really means is that this system costs a quarter of a million pounds a year. Because not one penny of this money actually touches Ella's family in a way that makes a difference. Instead, the system is just like this **(8) C - costly gyroscope that spins around the families, keeping them stuck at its heart, exactly where they are.**

And I also spent time with the frontline workers, and I learned that it is an impossible situation. So Tom, who is the social worker for Ella's 14-year-old son Ryan, (9) C - has to spend 86 percent of his time servicing the system: meetings with colleagues, filling out forms, more meetings with colleagues to discuss the forms, and maybe most shockingly, the 14 percent of the time he has to be with Ryan is spent getting data and information for the system. So he says to Ryan, "How often have you been smoking? Have you been drinking? When did you go to school?" And this kind of interaction rules out the possibility of a normal conversation. It rules out the possibility of what's needed to build a relationship between Tom and Ryan.

When we made this chart, the frontline workers, the professionals -- they stared at it absolutely amazed. It snaked around the walls of their offices. **(10) A - So many hours, so well meant, but ultimately so futile**. And there was this moment of absolute breakdown, and then of clarity: we had to work in a different way.

Source: https://www.ted.com

CTO – TEXT 3: THE TINDER-BUMBLE FEUD

TRANSCRIPT

AILSA CHANG, HOST: OK. Today on All Tech Considered - an all-out battle in the world of (0) online dating.

CHANG: If you're looking for love, you are not going to find any - at least not between the apps Bumble and Tinder. You might know how these apps work. You look at someone's photo, and you either swipe left or swipe right. Well, Bumble and Tinder are now fighting in court over whether Bumble (1) swiped ideas from Tinder. NPR's Camila Domonoske explains that this fight raises questions about how patents work in the Internet age.

CAMILA DOMONOSKE, BYLINE: Shauna O'Hara has tried a number of dating apps.

SHAUNA O'HARA: There are tons of them, and they're all equally horrible.

DOMONOSKE: Dating is hard, but using the apps is pretty easy. In both Bumble and Tinder, users see a picture of a possible date.

O'HARA: When you swipe left, it's not someone that you're interested in. And if you swipe right, then you are interested, and if they're interested as well, then you connect.

DOMONOSKE: These are (2) snap decisions.

O'HARA: Oh, no, bad shoes, wrinkled shirt - not my type. It's very rapid fire - like, swipe, swipe, swipe.

DOMONOSKE: That swipe was a key (3) feature of Tinder, which launched first. Then an early Tinder employee, who was dating her boss, one of the co-founders, broke up with him, left the company, alleged sexual harassment. She went on to found Bumble - like Tinder, except women move first. The apps are very similar - maybe too similar.

SARAH BURSTEIN: Match, the parent company of Tinder, is sueing Bumble for almost every type of IP (4) infringement you could think of.

DOMONOSKE: Sarah Burstein is a professor at the University of Oklahoma College of Law. And by IP, she means intellectual property. Tinder has patents and trademarks covering the way it works. But Bumble has countersued and called those IP claims bogus.

BURSTEIN: You don't own the concept of swiping right or swiping left. You don't own the concept of matchmaking.

DOMONOSKE: And there's a lot of money at stake. Forbes values Bumble at over a billion dollars and Tinder's worth even more. So Tinder didn't invent matchmaking or swiping, but can it (5) own the idea of swipe-based dating apps? It turns out that's a complicated question, and it raises much bigger issues. Patents are supposed to cover specific inventions. They aren't supposed to cover abstract ideas. Daniel Nazer is a staff attorney at the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

DANIEL NAZER: You don't get a patent for saying cure (6) dementia with a drug. You have to say what the drug is.

DOMONOSKE: Then along came the Internet, and people discovered they could patent some pretty abstract ideas as long as they added a computer. Like, you couldn't patent the idea of meal planning, but you could patent meal planning online. You can't patent restaurant menus, but you could patent online menus.

NAZER: The patent system had started really (7) handing out patents for solving this problem with software.

DOMONOSKE: That changed four years ago. A company called the Alice Corporation had some abstract online banking patents, and the Supreme Court (8) threw them out. The court ruled that an abstract idea plus a computer is still an abstract idea. Nazer says the Alice decision could be bad news for Tinder. If Tinder's patent is just the abstract idea of matchmaking but online, that's no longer allowed. But did I mention that it's complicated?

NAZER: What is abstract is itself a pretty abstract and (9) challenging question.

DOMONOSKE: You can patent software. Your idea just has to be an innovation. So, of course, Tinder says that swiping to match people was unique and innovative. The swipe fight is still working its way through the courts, but in the meantime, it's clear the Supreme Court's decision tightened the rules for (10) software patents, which has had a big impact - way beyond the dating industry. Nazer argues it's been a positive change promoting healthy competition, but others worry that good patents are being thrown out as well. Michael Risch is a professor at Villanova University's law school...

Source: NPR podcasts