



PRUEBA DE CERTIFICACIÓN DE COMPETENCIA LINGÜÍSTICA

CERTIFICADO DE CICLO INTERMEDIO B2

INGLÉS B2

Fecha: 13 de junio de 2015

Tiempo: 60 minutos (aprox.)

Reading Comprehension

Instructions

- DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.
- DO NOT USE PENCIL.
- Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET provided.
- When time expires, stop writing and hand in this booklet together with your answer sheet.

Information

This section consists of 3 tasks.

Please remember to transfer your answer onto the answer sheet.



READING TASK 1 (Q1-7)

- Read the following opinions people had about their flights.
- Choose the most suitable paragraph (A- I) for each of the questions (1-7). The first one (0) has been done for you as an example.
- There is one extra opinion.
- Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET provided.

AND ... HOW WAS YOUR FLIGHT?

<http://www.airlinequality.com>

- A. Flight to Lanzarote on 4th April was very good and a smooth flight. Stansted boarding was like the old days, queuing in a long line, luckily we had priority which worked well. However I still can't believe that they have no jet ways, we had to wait on Tarmac with small children whilst the snow fell, waiting for steps to the plane! On our return I have no idea what happened as we waited at gate 3 and were called forward as we had priority boarding then someone collapsed from the inbound flight and that caused delays.
- B. LHR-MAD-BOG-CLO return. First leg London to Madrid was poor, the cabin crew were rude and no food or snack given. In Madrid we had to take a bus to the terminal, we had no idea of where to go so we spent our 4 hour layover looking for our gate. Plane was delayed 2 hours. Onboard, there were no TV's, there were still ashtrays in them. Later on we were served dinner, I ordered a kosher meal and they didn't give it to me so I just had the dessert. One hour left and the snack came out, again they forgot our special meal so I was left hungry.
- C. My husband and I just flew from Los Angeles to Barbados and for the 1st time in all of our travels in the last 60 years, we needed wheelchair help. This was our first experience to have to travel with help and we were embarrassed to ask for it. We were both happy to report at how easy they made it for us, from the time of check in to our being picked up in Barbados and also the return. Everyone was so helpful that now we would have no trouble travelling again. The flight attendants on board almost reminded us of our old travelling days, smiling and helpful.
- D. Lisbon to London in club Europe. The lounge in Lisbon was pathetic with rude staff. Boarding was chaotic and had to stand in the jet bridge for 15 min. No pre-departure drinks were offered. A single drink service and a very poor meal was offered. I saw the cabin crew yapping the rest of the time. One of them seemed annoyed when I asked for a second drink. The seats are similar to economy which is outrageous. Blocking the middle seat does not give more leg room. There was no inflight entertainment. BA has the worst club class product in Europe and should be avoided. Had to take a bus in T3 in London and stand in a 45 min line immigration in spite of fast lane. Overall, a poor experience all around.
- E. Flew American Airlines from US to Paris and back, travelled by train to Rome, then flew Alitalia from Rome to Tel Aviv, then from Tel Aviv back to Paris connecting in Rome. The tickets, purchased several months ahead, were an excellent price. The ticket counter staff in both Tel Aviv and Rome, as well as the staff on the plane were friendly, helpful, and professional. We had no trouble getting desired seats. We ordered vegetarian food, which was excellent (fruit, two salads, fresh bread and butter, cheese, free wine) on both flights. The food on our Air France code share flight from Rome to Paris was excellent, as were the staff and service.
- F. March 15th and 26th, Canada - Amsterdam - Germany and return. Staff kind and attentive, many smiles and polite at all times. The food offered is below standard. I'm not picky when it comes to airline food, but even I was not able to enjoy any of it. All the food served was cold or undercooked. Other than that, very smooth flights.

- G. I flew to Faro on the 9th April from Gatwick using easyjet for the first time in a few years and found it an excellent service, the staff at the airport and on the flight were first class and the pilot was standing at the front of the aircraft once everyone had boarded. The flight was early arriving and the pilot once again stood at the front to say goodbye to passengers. Will definitely be using easyjet again.
- H. Supposed to fly Manchester / Rhodes on 6 October. At check-in at 5.45am, found out that flight was cancelled but then established that QS would pick this flight up as Strategic had gone into liquidation. Had paid in advance for meals on both outbound / inbound flights but QS advised we would have to purchase in-flight refreshments. Same for return journey on 13 October. Was apprehensive about using Strategic after reading some reviews - seems apprehension was well founded.
- I. Melbourne-Bangkok-Phuket return. Melbourne to Bangkok, the aircraft was clean and in good condition and staff were wonderful. On the return flight I could have been forgiven for thinking I had changed to a different airline. The staff had little or no interest in the passengers and seemed to ignore the requests for assistance. The food quality also dropped on the return leg. I had expected more from Thai.

		ANSWER
0	This person said that they were among the first passengers to board the plane.	A
Q1	This person said that they were right to be worried about the flight.	
Q2	This person believed that they had got value for money.	
Q3	This person said that there was no form of amusement on their flight.	
Q4	This person was especially delighted with the way they were greeted.	
Q5	This person said that they had trouble finding their way around.	
Q6	This person said that he/she was pleased with all but one aspect of his/her flight.	
Q7	This person's previous experience led him/her to believe that the flight would be better.	

READING TASK 2 (Q 8-15)

- Read this article about a writer's memories.
- Choose the correct answer (A-J) for each gap (8-15) in the text.
- There is one extra sentence that you do not need to use.
- The first one (0) has been done for you as an example.
- Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET provided.

ROY THE BARBER

www.healdsburgbarber.com

When I was a kid, going to the barbershop was a special occasion. Opening the door and walking past the red and white striped pole was like entering a secret and forbidden temple (0)**A**.....

I marvelled at the man in the white apron as he swiped his razor across the leather belt, honing the blade to deadly sharpness before shaving off the whiskers of one of the neighbourhood men in deft strokes of his wrist. His name was Roy, and all over town the name "Roy the Barber" was spoken with respect and a sense of reverence.

When Roy called you over to his chair it was like being summoned to the altar of a high priest. You carefully hoisted yourself up onto the hulking chair, (Q8) You sat upon the black leather seat and gazed out over the sea of old men, the glare from the sun shining off of their bald crowns. They would wink at you, saying something like "you better not squirm, kid, or old Roy just might cut your ear off". You knew they were only joking, or maybe just trying to scare you, but you laughed it off because you knew that it was just a test, just an initiation into this great fraternity of men.

Roy fastened the paper strip around your neck and buttoned on your cape, and on your high throne of leather and chrome you felt like you were wearing the vestments of some very powerful religion, (Q9)

The best part of the haircut was Roy's witty remarks. "You better buy yourself a stick to keep all the girls away," he would say with a wink and a nudge. He would then proceed to ask me about my wife and kids, and being a six-year-old kid myself, (Q10)

Then came the crowning moment; Roy would lather your neck with hot white shaving cream, and then with his gleaming blade of steel, (Q11) "You look like a new man," he would say with great aplomb, "your wife won't even recognize you when you get home!"

Even though Roy the Barber said the same inane witty remarks countless times over the years, (Q12) They resonated in my mind, echoing like the catchphrases of my youth. Every month like clockwork I would go to the barbershop, right up until the time I graduated from high school and moved away, leaving my small town and Roy's barbershop behind.

Like most men, these holy temples of manhood held an important place in our lives. They were a gathering place where everyone knew your name, and the haircut you received paled in significance to the experience of being around wise old men who told tales of the olden days; (Q13)

A few years ago I went back to that small town, (Q14) Perhaps I wanted to see if they had changed, or if they had perhaps stayed the same in light of the changing world around them. The red and white pole still remained, silenced under years of grime and dust. The windows of the old barbershop were all boarded up. Grabbing a passer-by by the lapel of his jacket I asked what had happened to the barbershop, what had happened to Roy the Barber? "He's been dead five or six years now," said the man.

I sat upon the cracked concrete stoop in front of the building, on the silent steps where hundreds of wizened men had once passed. (Q15) briefly mourning the demise of a great

man, a personal hero. I mourned the demise of the last great bastion of free-thinking man, the hallowed and fraternal order of the barbershop. And just like those old-timers I had revered in my wide-eyed youth, I was left to tell stories of olden days, stories of how things were never as good as they used to be.

- A. a universe where old men gathered to talk about politics and women and complain about how things were never as good as they used to be.
- B. a sentimental journey to catch a glimpse of the places of my youth.
- C. about to take part in a timeless tradition, a ritual.
- D. he would shave your neck; the Holy Communion of the barbershop ritual.
- E. I didn't like the sharp feel of the comb biting into my head.
- F. an enormous throne with enough chrome embellishments to make a '57 Cadillac green with envy.
- G. I never got tired of hearing them.
- H. I wiped from the corner of my eye a wayward tear,
- I. barbershop philosophers who always had a story to tell.
- J. I would laugh at the absurdity of his remarks.

0	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15
A								

READING TASK 3 (Q 16-22)

- Read this text about writing (in which the writer Brian Doyle talks about his job). Then answer questions (16-21) by choosing the correct answer A, B or C.
- The first one (0) has been done for you as an example.
- Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET provided.

WHY DID I BECOME A WRITER?

<https://theamericanscholar.org/how-did-you-become-a-writer/>

Is a question asked of me surprisingly often when I visit schools, which I much enjoy not only as part of my overarching, subtle, devious plan to get on the good side of the children who will soon run the world, but also for the consistent entertainment of their artlessly honest questions (the best ever: *Is that your real nose?*), and for the sometimes deeply piercing depth of our conversations; we have suddenly spoken of death and miracles and loss and love, while we were supposed to be talking about writing and literature; and I have wept in front of them, and they have wept in front of me; which seems to me a sweet gift, to be trusted that much.

But in almost every class I am asked how I became a writer, and after I make my usual joke about it being a benign neurosis, as my late friend George Higgins once told me, I usually talk about my dad. My dad was a newspaperman, and still is, at age 92, a man of great grace and patience and dignity, and he taught me immensely valuable lessons. If you wish to be a writer, *write*, he would say. There are people who talk about writing and then there are people who sit down and type. Writing is fast typing. Also you must read like you are starving for ink. Read widely. Read everything. Read the Bible once a year or so, ideally the King James, to be reminded that rhythm and cadence are your friends as a writer. Most religious writing is terrible whereas some spiritual writing is stunning. The New Testament in the King James version, for example.

Note how people get their voices and hearts and stories down on the page. Also get a job; eating is a good habit and you will never make enough of a living as a writer to support a family. Be honest with yourself about the size of your gift. Expect no money but be diligent about sending pieces out for publication. All money is gravy. A piece is not finished until it is off your desk and onto an editor's desk. Write hard and then edit yourself hard. Look carefully at your verbs to see if they can be energized.

The best writers do not write about themselves but about everyone else. The best writers are great listeners. Learn to ask a question and then shut your mouth and listen. Use silence as a journalistic tool; people are uncomfortable with it and will leap to fill the holes, often telling you more than they wanted to. Women especially will do this. (Do not misuse this great secret, son.) Everyone has sweet, sad, brave, wonderful stories; give them a chance to tell their stories. So many people do not get the chance. Listening is the greatest literary art. Your ears are your best tools. No one is dull or boring. Anyone who thinks so is an idiot.

Many fine writers do not get credit for the quality of their prose because they were famous for something else: Lincoln, for example. The best writing is witness. The lowest form of writing is mere catharsis. Persuasive writing generally isn't. The finest writers in newspapers are often sports and police reporters. When in doubt about a line or a passage, cut it. All writing can be improved by a judicious editor, except the King James Bible, and even there we could stand to lose some of the Old Book, I think. (Don't tell that to your mother.) Do not let writing be a special event; let it be a normal part of your day. It is normal. We are all storytellers and story-attentive beings. Otherwise we would never be loved or have a country or a religion. You do not need a sabbatical or a grant to write a book. Write a little bit every day. You will be surprised how deep the muck gets at the end of the year, but at that point you can cut out the dull parts, elevate your verbs, delete mere catharsis, celebrate witness, find the right title, and send it off to be published. Any questions?

0. The writer enjoys going to schools because the children...

- A: are suspicious of him.
- B: don't want to talk about his books.
- C: are fun and engaging.

Q16. According to the writer's father, good writers should...

- A: put their ideas into action.
- B: be selective in what they read.
- C: think carefully before writing.

Q17. In paragraph three, the writer advises us to...

- A: make writing your profession.
- B: know how good you really are.
- C: be strict with yourself and your colleagues.

Q18.. According to paragraph four...

- A: you can trick people into giving you information.
- B: all writers are attentive to what people say.
- C: you should only write about personal experiences.

Q19. The writer mentions Lincoln because...

- A: he experienced many historical events.
- B: he was a famous writer.
- C: his talent as a writer is undervalued.

Q20. Referring to the act of writing, the writer says that...

- A: it should be something extraordinary.
- B: even normal days have a story to tell.
- C: it should be considered a natural thing.

Q21. From the text, we understand the writer believes that...

- A: the essence of writing is communication.
- B: writers must be ambitious and self-confident.
- C: it takes a special type of person to be a writer.

0	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21
C						

