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acles
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ENGLISH C1

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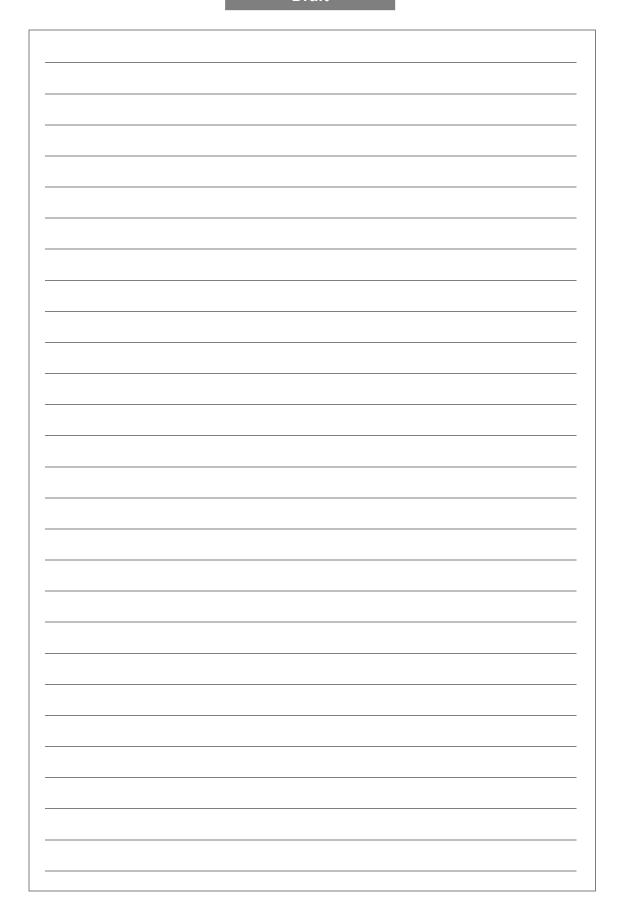## PROVES D'ACREDITACIÓ DEL CONEIXEMENT DE LLENGÜES ESTRANGERES

València,

PART 1:
READING COMPREHENSION
TIME: 70 minutes

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Instructions

- In this booklet you will find four texts, their set tasks and examples for each one. Read all of them carefully and complete the tasks as required.

- Incorrect answers are not deducted from the final mark for the assessment of this part of the exam.

- You have **70 minutes** to complete this part of the exam. All exam materials will then be collected and additional time is not permitted. Please manage your time well.

- You may use this booklet to make notes. However, it should be noted that these answers **will not be assessed under any circumstances**.

- Write your answers on **Answer Sheet 1**.

Task 1 (Write your answers on Answer Sheet 1 - Task 1)

Instructions
- Read the following short texts about technological innovations for the future carefully and answer the questions (**1-6**).
- Choose the best option from **a-c**.

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1. Use of Low-Code or No-Code AI

In 2023, Artificial Intelligence (AI) will leave behind its technical jargon to embrace easy drag-and-drop interfaces, giving rise to no-code AI. Everyone uses computers now without having to understand the background programming of operating systems. Similarly, AI operations and solutions will become more functional without coders having to write a single line of code. Its increasing acceptance among ordinary users will only allow more industries to fully make use of the power of AI-based intelligence and create smarter products. No-code AI has already crept into the market with its user-friendly interfaces in varied domains such as retail and website development.

Question 0 is an example.

0. **Artificial Intelligence in 2023 will…**
    a. **become easier to understand.** ✓
    b. start to use more specific language.
    c. enable everyone to use code.
1. **Thanks to simpler interfaces…**
    a. businesses will be able to take complete advantage of AI.
    b. more people will be employed to code AI operations.
    c. writing code will become significantly easier.
2. **No-code AI…**
    a. still needs to become easier to use.
    b. is currently being used in some areas.
    c. has not been well accepted in some markets.

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2. Marketing in the Metaverse

A 2021 Bloomberg analysis states that the metaverse market will reach an incredible $800 billion by 2024. The metaverse is a 3D virtual simulation where people can interact with one another via multiple platforms. In the reign of Internet 3.0, advertisers will realize the endless marketing possibilities of this immersive experience, making it the centre of brand awareness and engagement. Brands such as Nikeland are already tracking consumption choices and patterns in their metaverse stores with different kinds of AI and Virtual Reality- (VR-) powered experiences. Others too are seeking to expand user experience by connecting their physical stores to the metaverse via QR codes.

3. **The metaverse …**
   a. is likely to only be used by companies in the future.
   b. has yet to be used by companies at present.
   c. will allow companies to better reach potential customers.

4. **For some companies, the metaverse…**
   a. is bound to replace physical stores.
   b. allows them to combine shop formats.
   c. connects users with other similar brands.

3. Datafication

Datafication of industries is an inevitable culmination of the innovations mentioned in the tech trends 2023 list. The process refers to the act of transforming or modifying human tasks into data-driven technology. It is the first formative step toward an all-encompassing data-driven society. Workforce analytics, product behavior analytics, transportation analytics, health analytics, etc, are different branches of the same customer-centric analytical culture. The massive number of connected Internet of Things (IoT) devices means multiple data points that result in more efficient analysis of company strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities. Datafying industries are becoming a lucrative business model as its market crosses the $11 billion mark in 2022, according to Fittech.

Adapted from https://emeritus.org/blog/technology-tech-trends-2023/

5. **Datafication…**
   a. will affect many areas of our future society.
   b. comes from several different analytical starting points.
   c. has already led to a well-established transformation.

6. **Internet of Things devices…**
   a. are predicted to have little effect on some business designs.
   b. will enable us to assess business situations more effectively.
   c. have not yet been successfully introduced in the market.

Instructions
- Read the following text from which sentences have been extracted.
- Read the sentences (**A-J**). Match them with their corresponding gaps (**7-14**).
- There is **one extra sentence** you do not need to use.

It's OK for toddlers to be fussy eaters. What about when you're grown up?

Research about why toddlers are fussy eaters always makes headlines. More than a mere national obsession, the subject has become a national neurosis. Last week a study suggesting that mealtime pickiness in small children is half attributable to genes was reported as "fussy-eating toddlers", "not the fault of parents", and "fussy eating habits of children are down to genetics not bad parenting, scientists conclude".

The simple act of feeding children, it seems, is yet another aspect of having babies that has become plagued with overthinking and anxiety. (0) **All too often, it's presented as another battle for which we must arm ourselves with the latest bossy handbook.**

Is this partly a symptom of modern malaise: too much choice, too little patience and too much exposure to highly palatable junk food that makes real food taste, by comparison, like bin juice? (7) _____. Irrespective of who started it, to some extent the avalanche of solutions perpetuates the problem.

Toddlers, after all, have many good excuses for picky eating. They have more than twice as many taste buds as adults. Coupled with the shock of unexpected tastes and textures, flavour for them is turned up to 11. Poor fine motor skills and grasp of table manners don't help, either; they find it easier to paint the floor, walls and congealed crevices of high chairs with food than to transport it to their stomachs. (8) _____. Plus growth and development spurts lead to inconsistent appetites.

Adults, on the other hand, have far less justification for being finicky, other than having had longer to mess ourselves up, and to nurture phobias and psychological scars from years of being forced to finish poorly prepared root vegetables. (9) _____. Humans are omnivores, and our food likes and dislikes are learned.

Precise causes for adult food aversions are hard to fathom, because they're so personal and varied (although having vomited a food is a common trigger), and often started in the hard-to-recall mists of youth. (10) _____. Most of us actively like coffee and alcohol – tastes that are innately disgusting to uninitiated palates. The bitterness and astringency set off our potential poison alarms, but peer pressure and the perceived rewards strong-arm our usually self-protective brains. Even genetic food hatreds, like coriander (carriers of the OR6A2 gene can't stand the herb), can be overcome.

So is there any good justification, food allergies and intolerances aside, for fussy grownups to wince at what's on offer or demand special treatment on social eating occasions? (11) _____. So it's awkward, almost an affront, when perfectly good food you've prepared is viewed with disgust and pushed aside.

I say this as a card-carrying fusspot. My loathing for butter causes no end of problems, from being heavily restricted in sandwich buying, to the heart-sink moment when, as a treat, a chef plonks a giant knob of butter on top of a perfect steak. (12) _____.

I don't have the will to train myself out of these aversions. I tried this with goat's cheese once – my plan was to have a tiny amount every day – starting with just a lick. (13) _____. But after three days the project lost momentum.

Aversions become part of your personality and they are hard to let go of. Life may be too short to waste time being a fussy eater, but it's equally too short wait about by the fridge, licking disgusting food. However, I do try to avoid wearing my food aversions as an identity badge. I'm not proud of them. They just are. Maybe one day, they will go away.

Meanwhile, there will always be the supertaster defence. Supertasters have more taste receptors in their mouths, so food tastes stronger. (14) _____. In this respect, we supertasters are more physiologically like children when it comes to taste. Except we're adults, so we are not excused.

Adapted from https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/oct/17/toddlers-fussy-eaters-grown-up-food-supertaster

Sentences

Sentence A is an example.

A	All too often, it's presented as another battle for which we must arm ourselves with the latest bossy handbook	**0**
B	But by the same token, we've had many years to explore and get used to different flavours	
C	This is a proven technique (psychologists call it "mere exposure") for overcoming a food hate	
D	As is often the way with consumer culture, it all feels a little chicken-and-egg	
E	They tend to be pickier, and intolerant of bitter foods such as coffee or broccoli	
F	They can start blaming their mother, too, because taste preferences and sugar addiction can start in the womb	
G	They are, however, predominantly all in the mind, and surmountable	
H	Eating with others, the breaking of bread, the sharing of sensory pleasure, is a big part of human bonding	
I	There isn't a lot parents can do to improve their children's eating habits	
J	But mostly, I would hate to offend or disappoint anyone who has cooked for me, and will try my hardest to eat and feign enjoyment anyway	

Task 3 (Write your answers on Answer Sheet 1 - Task 3)

Instructions

No, Facebook isn't spying on you. At least not with the microphone

Last week, Facebook issued yet another denial that the company eavesdrops on its users to target them with adverts. "Just not true," said Rob Goldman, the company's head of ad product, in response to an open query from podcast Reply All.

After writing about the denial, my inbox almost immediately began filling with missives from people insisting that Facebook must be lying.

One person wrote they never drink wine, but a friend of his mentioned a wine delivery service to his wife and he saw the ad the next day. Another insisted he had proved it to his friends once before. A third said she had met many users where eavesdropping was "the only option" for explaining why they had received the adverts they had.

What is it about this conspiracy theory that makes it the most persistent in tech?

Part of the explanation is that it's really very hard for Facebook to prove that it isn't doing what it's accused of. The company's apps will generally have permission to access the camera and microphone, because people film video and take pictures using Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and/or Messenger.

While you can tell from looking at the traffic to and from your phone – or even just from your mobile data usage – that Facebook isn't uploading a livestream of everything you say and do, there are always other possibilities. Perhaps it's doing the processing on-device? Or only listening for key phrases? Or uploading everything in a burst when you get on wifi?

Facebook doesn't help itself. It has a long history of pushing the boundaries of what's acceptable in order to increase ad revenue, from profiling the "ethnic affinity" of users (totally different from racial profiling, it swears) to merging user data from WhatsApp with its main service. With that history, it's not a giant leap for many people to simply assume Facebook is lying in its denials.

But the sheer wealth of evidence many are able to summon to support the theory also demonstrates another element to its persistence: the true nature of algorithmic ad targeting is still not widely known.

The sheer volume of information the social network has about a typical user is difficult to comprehend. It logs every action of you and your friends, and a substantial proportion of browsing off-site thanks to its Facebook share button. It also has information provided by friends, such as that ex who uploaded her address book containing your phone number and your embarrassing teenage email address, allowing Facebook to work out that you know that high-school friend who you haven't seen for a few years but who still has your older contact details.

And, apologies, but you aren't that special. If you have had a conversation about a particular topic, then it's unlikely you are the only one. While your conversation may have been held in person, a lot of others will have happened on Messenger or in Instagram comments.

For a real picture of the extent of Facebook's knowledge, the best place to turn is the section where it applies its vast banks of data in service of its own aims: the "people you may know" suggestions.

That section has psychiatrists and family secrets, all using as much data as possible to find every single connection in your life and show you that they're on Facebook. People you may know is also subject to its own, lesser, conspiracy theory: many who have been connected with people they would rather remain invisible to blame location tracking, a feature the company swears it doesn't use for this purpose. Then there's the possibility that Facebook shows you people who have been searching for you.

This is creepy on a personal level. My Facebook account has zero friends, manages one page with five likes, and follows one person – Mark Zuckerberg. Despite that, the site has still managed to link me with a bunch of fellow journalists, some friends of friends, someone I went to school with and the brother of an ex. As well as someone from the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment, and a whole load of Turkish people, for some reason. It's not perfect, but it's still an alarming amount of insight to be gleaned from a site that I have been scrupulously careful to avoid telling anything of use.

And that's the core of the problem. The unsettling ability of Facebook to make accurate guesses based on what feels like barely any information doesn't match with what we think should be possible. But rather than updating our beliefs, the easier thing to do is turn to another thing that we know is possible: spying.

This will become an increasingly fraught issue as AI pervades more and more of our lives. Just think of the first time an AI security guard arrests someone for shoplifting in the changing room – leading to an accusation that the shop is spying on people getting dressed. Or Amazon sending you coupons for some shoes you broke in front of its Echo Show video screen, but based only on its expectations about how often someone like you breaks the heels on shoes like that. Will we resort to more conspiracy theories? Or will we confront the new issues head on?

Questions (0 is an example)

0. Facebook has refused to acknowledge…
✓ a) **that it secretly listens to it users.**
    b) a claim regarding its ads for the first time.
    c) that it is lying about certain advert claims.

15. The messages from people sent to the writer…
    a) provide solid proof of eavesdropping.
    b) suggest the same ads have been sent to several people.
    c) include ways ads were received that were not obviously explainable.

16. The writer claims that…
    a) access to users' microphones is customarily granted to Facebook.
    b) Facebook has some ways to disprove the conspiracy theory.
    c) the conspiracy theory is a temporary occurrence in the world of tech.

17. The history of Facebook…
    a) seems to demonstrate its borderline practices.
    b) makes it hard for people to make claims against it.
    c) provides insight into why people don't believe it is lying.

18. The example regarding the amount of information Facebook possesses…
    a) clarifies how algorithmic ad targeting is used.
    b) shows reasons why some ex-partners might want to embarrass you.
    c) explains how connections are made from previously provided details.

19. According to Facebook, the "people you may know" section…
    a) respects personal information you may upload.
    b) uses your data as part of its services to find life connections.
    c) uses location tracking to help make connections.

20. The writer's Facebook account…
    a) has made a range of real connections regardless of its lack of content.
    b) is quite disturbing because for some reason it shows no friends.
    c) has significantly more mismatches than real matches.

21. The writer implies that…
    a) such accuracies are impossible without spying.
    b) spying is the true reason for ad targeting.
    c) people's beliefs need to change.

22. To conclude, the writer insinuates that…
    a) Artificial Intelligence will prove spying has occurred.
    b) conspiracy theories are most likely to be right.
    c) this problem is going to get worse and worse.

Instructions
- Read the following science fiction book reviews carefully.
- Match each sentence (**23-30**) to one of the texts (**A-E**).
- The texts may be used more than once but there is only **one** correct answer for each sentence.

A   *Deep Wheel Orcadia* **by Harry Josephine Giles**

Winner of the 2022 Arthur C Clarke award, this is a remarkable feat of language and imagination: a verse novel written in Orcadian Scots, with a lively and inventive southern English translation running along the bottom of the pages. If that sounds forbidding or obscure, it shouldn't: Deep Wheel Orcadia is a rattling read. Two characters arrive at the titular deep-space station: Astrid, returning from Mars to her childhood home; and Darling, who is on the run. They join "the thraan mixter-maxter o fock", a "tossedawkward mix of people" who work the station, mining a strange substance called Light from a nearby gas giant. The small wheel-world is similar to Giles's native Orkney in relation to the mainland, and the book details their hard work and hard play: drink and dancing, love and belonging. There is marvellous language on every page, and if the plot is a little dull, the whole makes for an unforgettable immersion in community and estrangement.

B   *Babel* **by RF Kuang**

Kuang's bestselling alternative history is a complicated love letter to Oxford, encompassing both its beauty and its inescapable complicity with the horrors of imperialism. In the novel's version of 1828, Britain runs on magical "silver", and has used its power to conquer much of the world. Robin Swift, a Cantonese orphan brought to London by the mysterious Professor Lovell, is an enthusiastic student of languages, eager to enrol in Oxford's translation institute, the titular Babel. The novel is part fluently written narrative, part expert pastiche of academic writing (complete with footnotes) on matters linguistic and etymological. At the heart is a fascinating examination of the way translation works to bridge different languages and cultures by inevitably "traducing" them. A rich, compelling fable, with teeth.

C   *Sea of Tranquility* **by Emily St John Mandel**

The author of Station Eleven weaves a cunning time-travel narrative from four main strands. Young Edwin St Andrew is crossing the Atlantic by steamship in 1912, leaving polite society for the desolate beauty of the Canadian wilderness; in the 23rd century, Olive Llewellyn travels from her moonbase home for a book tour on Earth promoting her latest novel, about a global pandemic; in 2020 a teenage girl called Vincent goes into the Vancouver woodland with a video camera. And in another century, detective Gaspery-Jacques Roberts, hired to investigate a mystery in the North American wilderness, begins to uncover how these timelines interconnect. The novel starts slowly, but builds an inexorable, unputdownable momentum as the various elements cohere: life and counterlife, reality and illusion, love and memory. Distinctive, remarkable work from one of the genre's major voices.

D   *Beyond the Burn Line* **by Paul McAuley**

A UFO novel like no other. In McAuley's far future, lights in the sky and alien craft are being observed not by human beings, but by the uplifted forms of animal life that replaced us after our extinction. McAuley's evolved raccoons are beautifully written, their sane, balanced society a lens through which the failings of humankind are refracted. The slow-burn, immersive story so captures the reader that twists and plot reveals are kept effortlessly out of view until being revealed with maximum effect. McAuley is, for my money, the best writer of science fiction in Britain today, and here he is at the top of his game.

Goliath **by Tochi Onyebuchi**

E   A big, bold future history relating, in expertly orchestrated detail and scope, an exodus from a ruined Earth and the fate of those left behind. It's the 2050s, and the wealthy are abandoning the planet for more congenial lives in hi-tech space colonies. The poor struggle in the collapsing infrastructure as the rich buy up souvenirs of their old lives, shipping neighbourhoods offworld brick by brick. This is a structurally ambitious novel, fired up with righteous energy: Onyebuchi handles his kaleidoscopic narrative and large range of characters with assurance. Fundamentally a satire on gentrification, with space's "Final Frontier" styled as the new suburbs, *Goliath* is a giant achievement.

Adapted from https://www.theguardian.com/books/2022/dec/03/five-of-the-best-science-fiction-and-fantasy-books-of-2022

Which book…

Question 0 is an example:
0. includes a translation of an unknown language?   **A**
23. addresses the importance of connecting through language?   _____
24. mentions that the story is not highly engaging?   _____
25. confidently manages a large number of different roles?   _____
26. increases in pace as it progresses?   _____
27. includes many unexpected surprises for the reader?   _____
28. combines different styles of writing?   _____
29. brings together different places and times?   _____
30. relates imaginary future events to a specific present-day issue?   _____

C1 Reading web key

Task 1

1. a
2. b
3. c
4. b
5. a
6. b

Task 2

7. D
8. F
9. B
10. G
11. H
12. J
13. C
14. E

Task 3

15. c
16. a
17. a
18. c
19. b
20. a
21. c
22. c

Task 4

23. B
24. A
25. E
26. C
27. D
28. B
29. C
30. E