



Prueba de Evaluación de Bachillerato para el acceso a la Universidad de Extremadura Curso 2017-2018

Asignatura: Inglés

Tiempo máximo de la prueba: 1h. 30 min.

El alumno deberá escoger una de las dos opciones, A o B, y responder en inglés a todas las preguntas que se formulan en la opción elegida, sin mezclar preguntas de una y otra. En el caso de la primera pregunta (la redacción), deberá escribir tan sólo sobre uno de los dos temas propuestos.

Opción A

Video game addiction

Anyone who has experienced it knows very well: video game addiction is real. As of 2018, gaming addiction is not yet officially recognized as a diagnosable disorder by the American Medical Association. However, there is increasing evidence that people of all ages, especially teens and pre-teens, are facing very real, sometimes severe consequences associated with compulsive use of video and computer games.

In recent times, video games are becoming increasingly complex, detailed, and captivating to a growing international audience of players. With better graphics, more realistic characters, and greater strategic difficulty, it is not surprising that quite a few teens would rather play the latest video game than go out with friends, play sports, or even watch television.

Of course, not all gamers are fanatics: many teens can play video games a few hours a week, successfully balancing school activities, friends, and family duties. But for some, gaming becomes an uncontrollable obligation. Studies estimate that approximately fifteen percent of gamers exhibit signs that meet the World Health Organization's criteria for addiction. Just like in the case of adults involved in gambling and other compulsive behaviours, teens can today become so absorbed in the fantasy world of gaming that they stop paying attention to their family, friends, work, and school.

If you want to know whether you (or anyone around you) are a video addict, here are some ways to tell if you need help. If these are true about you, you are most probably an addict.

- You feel really happy when you are online or playing games, but as soon as you have to stop, you get angry or upset.

- You think about playing when you should be doing other things, like school work or having dinner with your family.

- You spend more time with your computer or console than physically hanging out with your friends.

- When your friends or parents ask what you spend all your time doing, you lie or laugh about it, but inside you know they are totally right.

(Adapted from <http://www.addictionreach.com>)

1. Write a composition on **one of the following topics** (maximum 3 points):
 - a. Do you think that you could ever become an addict to computer games? Why or why not? Give your opinion in at least 80 words.
 - b. Write a story of at least 80 words **beginning with** this sentence: "Sarah was convinced that her friend Paul was addicted to video games". Remember that **the 12 words in this sentence cannot be counted in the 80 words you must write**.
2. Answer the following two questions:
 - a. Does the writer say that all video game players are addicted? Explain your answer, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point).
 - b. According to the text, have video games changed and become better in the last few years? Explain your answer, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point).
3. Find in the text words having a similar meaning to the following words. Give **only one synonym** for each word (maximum 0.5 points per word):
 - a. *serious, critical*
 - b. *attractive, fascinating*
 - c. *sad, worried*
4. Read the following short dialogue:

Caroline: I'm so happy. My birthday is just next Saturday!
Father/mother: What would you like to get as a present this year, Caroline?
Caroline: Well, there's this new video game I really want to have. Its name is...

Now imagine that you are Caroline's father or mother. **Use just two or three sentences** to order her to stop playing video games all the time and to give her a good reason to do so (maximum 1 point).
5. Grammatical transformation.
 - a. Rewrite the following sentence in indirect style (reported speech), beginning with the words *She said* (maximum 1.5 points):

Teens can today become so absorbed by gaming that they stop paying attention to their friends.
 - b. Rewrite the following sentence in the negative-interrogative form of the Future Simple tense. **Write one sentence only** (maximum 1 point):

Gaming becomes an uncontrollable obligation.

Opción B

A hobby for everyone

Few hobbies have the flexibility of stamp collecting. It is suitable for nearly all ages. Stamps can be collected all twelve months of the year and in any part of the world. You do not need to have any special abilities or to spend enormous amounts of money. Some people begin when they are just seven years old and many collect until the day they die.

Stamp collecting has often been called "the hobby of kings and the king of hobbies" by philatelists (a synonym for "stamp collectors"). Some experts estimate that more than five million persons in the United States collect these small pieces of paper that indicate payment of postage. Stamp collectors include individuals from all walks of life. While President Franklin Roosevelt may have been the most famous collector in the United States, other well-known collectors include actor James Earl Jones, former Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova, musician Freddie Mercury and French ex-President Nicholas Sarkozy.

Experts have traditionally defined stamp collecting as the accumulation of material related to the payment of postage and the carriage of the mails. In addition to traditional postage stamps, many philatelists also collect the envelopes that carried mail. Some individuals also collect markings or labels applied to mail including postage meters. Others will even collect Christmas Seals, revenue stamps and other objects with some relation to stamps.

On the one hand, it is true that most individuals collect for relaxation and enjoyment only. It is also true, however, that many of them secretly hope to discover in their collections that rare and elusive stamp that no one else has and that will make them enormously rich. On the other hand, some collectors also consider their activity as a profitable financial investment. While the American Philatelic Society does not promote this, stamp collecting is a better investment than many other hobbies. In any case, as stamps are miniature works of art, it is nearly impossible to collect them without gaining a large amount of knowledge.

(Adapted from www.stamps.org)

1. Write a composition on **one of the following topics** (maximum 3 points):
 - a. Do you think that collecting something is an attractive hobby? Explain your answer in at least 80 words.
 - b. Write a story of at least 80 words **beginning with this sentence**: "*One day, Daniel discovered that his music collection had disappeared*". Remember that **the 10 words in this sentence cannot be counted in the 80 words you must write**.
2. Answer the following two questions:
 - a. Does the writer say that the people who collect stamps are interested exclusively in stamps? Explain your answer, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point).
 - b. According to the text, are stamps more than just a hobby for some collectors? Explain your answer, providing evidence from the text (maximum 1 point).
3. Find in the text words having a similar meaning to the following words. Give **only one synonym** for each word (maximum 0.5 points per word):
 - a. *quantities, sums*
 - b. *items, things*
 - c. *extremely, tremendously*
4. Read the following short dialogue:

Sally: Hey, look at this new Darth Vader figure I just bought from eBay.
Jason: Wow, it is really beautiful, Sally. It is so realistic! How much did you pay for it?
Sally: Well, as a matter of fact, this one was a bit expensive, to be honest. I paid 130€ for it. And last week I spent another 200€ on a life-size Chewbacca statue for my bedroom...

Now imagine that you are Jason. **Use just two or three sentences** to advise Sally not to spend so much money on her collection and to give her a good reason for it (maximum 1 point).
5. Grammatical transformation.
 - a. Rewrite the following sentence in the active voice (maximum 1 point):

Stamp collecting has often been called "the hobby of kings" by philatelists.
 - b. Rewrite the following sentence in indirect style (reported speech), beginning with the words *He said* (maximum 1.5 points):

They secretly hope to discover that rare stamp that no one else has and that will make them rich.