PRUEBA ESPECÍFICA DE ACCESO AL PRIMER CICLO DE LA LICENCIATURA EN TRADUCCIÓN E INTERPRETACIÓN
27 de junio de 2008
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PRUEBA 2: EXAMEN DE LENGUA INGLESA (LENGUA B)

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES
- El tiempo máximo para la realización de esta prueba será de 90 minutos.
- Las respuestas en blanco no contabilizan.
- Indicar las respuestas en la plantilla adjunta.
- La puntuación total es de 50 puntos. Cada pregunta tiene indicada su puntuación.

SECTION A (10 points) Read the following text carefully and answer the questions below.

Assignments in the making
An Education Guardian investigation has exposed how easy and cheap it is for UK university students to get small businesses to do their coursework. We posed as Josephine, a 23-year-old student who wanted two assignments done. One was her second-year undergraduate computer science homework. Another, for her "friend", was a second-year undergraduate history essay from a module on social and political thought.

We registered Josephine on an auction website where business people across the globe, and a growing number of students, post work they need done and then wait for bidders to offer to do it by an agreed deadline. In under an hour, we had 11 bids for our computing assignment. Within two days, we had 38 bids from India, Argentina, Ukraine, Vietnam and the US. They wanted between $10 (£5) and $40 (£20) to do the work. In three weeks, 399 bidders had viewed our task.

We made no secret of the fact that Josephine was a university student intent on cheating. Our post on the site read: "This is my java programming assignment that I need help with. I'd like the solution to be as simple to follow as possible, with explanations, as my lecturer is going to ask me questions about it." One bidder replied: "Don't worry about your lecturer, he'll never know." Another wrote: "We can discuss to get you prepared for the question your teacher is going to ask you."

It took two days for three bidders to offer to write our history assignment for between $35 and $40. In three weeks, 198 bidders had looked at our post. We chose a bidder in the US for our computing task. He was rated 8.83 - "superb" - by those who had previously used him on the site. We accepted a bidder in India for our history assignment. He was ranked 8.33 - or "very good". We gave them two weeks to do the work. We then sent the assignments to be marked by the same history and computer science lecturers who had given us the tasks. We asked for Josephine to be marked as a normal student.

The computer science coursework barely scraped a pass at 40%. Our lecturer had to go back to Josephine six times to ask where unfinished parts of the task were. She, in turn, had to go back to her American "helper" to find out. "I would have given the program code element of the coursework about 50%," says Bob Clarke, our lecturer in computer science, who works at Birmingham City University. "But with the notes and a bit of extra work included, Josephine would have barely passed with 40%.

Three-quarters of the history assignment turned out to be copied from an American history journal paper - immediate grounds for a university disciplinary action. The essay was put through plagiarism detection software Turnitin, as an estimated 90% of essays in UK universities are. About 70% of its text was identical to the journal article. Our history lecturer, who works at a northern university and does not want to be named, says: "Anything that matches 18% and under is acceptable - that's just back titles and quotations. The real horrors are 50% and over."

So, a morality tale? Not quite. Josephine might not have got away with it, but there's considerable evidence to suggest thousands of UK students have.

Relatively few academics in the UK are aware of contract cheating - the term recently coined for students outsourcing their coursework on auction sites. Under lecturers' noses, UK students in the "low thousands" are estimated to be involved in the practice - and the figures have been rising since contract cheating spread here from the US in 2003.

The leading researchers in the field, Clarke and Dr Thomas Lancaster at Birmingham City University, predict there are double the number of contract cheats in UK universities there were a year ago. Their studies have found that, on average, a contract cheat posts between four and seven assignments. To habitually cheat in this way suggests these students must be satisfied with the work they've paid for and must be getting away with it.
1. The article describes:
   a. a method which two university students used to get their assignments
   b. a method to get assignments which was researched by some journalists
   c. a method in which students who are friends help each other to do assignments

2. The assignments described were:
   a. written specially for the Guardian newspaper investigation
   b. part of the students’ real course work
   c. easily found for sale on an auction website

3. From the response to the tasks, history specialists are:
   a. more involved in writing assignments for sale than computer experts
   b. less involved in writing assignments for sale than computer experts

4. Josephine’s computer assignment was finally
   a. just acceptable
   b. a fail
   c. rejected

5. The history essay was
   a. mostly copied from another student’s work
   b. mostly copied from research which had been published
   c. mostly copied from an assignment by a teacher of history

6. Look at the phrase “the real horrors” on line 29. What “horrors” are referred to? Write the answer in the space on the answer sheet.

7. The words “superb” and “very good” (lines 14 and 16) are in inverted commas. Who said them? Write the answer in the space on your answer sheet.

8. In the text, “Josephine might not have got away with it…” (line 29) means:
   a. it is possible Josephine did not get away with it
   b. Josephine got away with it
   c. Josephine did not get away with it

9. And “get away with it” (lines 30 and 37) means:
   a. be successful in doing something which is not acceptable
   b. take something which is not acceptable away
   c. fail to do something which is not acceptable

10. According to the article, many university teachers
    a. don’t check that their students’ work is original
    b. know students buy their assignments
    c. don’t know students buy their assignments
SECTION B (10 points) Choose the option which best rephrases the sentence below.

1. Don’t blame me if the printer is broken.
   a. It’s not my fault if the printer isn’t working.
   b. It’s not my fault the worker isn’t printing.
   c. The broken printer is not my blame.

2. Although she was ill, Catherine still went to work.
   a. Despite to be ill, Catherine still went to work.
   b. In spite being ill, Catherine still went to work.
   c. In spite of her illness, Catherine went to work.

3. To get the 20% discount, you must buy all the dvd’s at the same time.
   a. You can get the 20% discount only if you buy all the dvd’s at the same time.
   b. You can get the 20% discount only when buy all the dvd’s at the same time.
   c. Only by buying all the dvd’s does you get a 20% discount.

4. He spoke so quickly that I couldn’t understand what he said.
   a. He spoke so quickly for to understand him.
   b. I couldn’t understand him because he spoke fastly.
   c. He spoke too quickly for me to understand what he said.

5. Whose ipod is this?
   a. To whom is this ipod belong to?
   b. Who does this ipod belong to?
   c. Whose ipod belongs this?

6. Richard started keeping a blog 3 years ago.
   a. Richard kept a blog for 3 years.
   b. Richard has been keeping a blog for 3 years.
   c. Richard has been keeping a blog since 3 years.

7. The children should be in bed by now.
   a. It’s time that the children were in bed.
   b. It’s too late for the children to be in bed.
   c. The children might be going to bed now.

8. I’m grateful that you looked after my cat so well.
   a. Thank you for taking care my cat so well.
   b. Thank you for looking after my cat so well.
   c. I’m grateful for your look after my cat so well.

9. It was such good weather that we went swimming.
   a. The weather was so good that we went swimming.
   b. It was good weather for swimming.
   c. It was such good weather that swimming was good.

10. Please don’t play your music so loud.
    a. I’d rather your music wasn’t as loud.
    b. I’d prefer you play your music lower.
    c. I’d rather you didn’t play your music so loud.
SECTION C (10 points) Fill the blanks with the correct form of the words in brackets.

Residents of the European Union (EU) are ______ (1 become) increasingly better at languages. Almost 50 percent of the EU population reckon they can speak at least one foreign language very well, with that figure ______ (2 rise) to nearly 80 percent for students. To celebrate its linguistic diversity and bilingual, trilingual or multilingual ______ (3 able), a special day is set aside in the EU. September 26 is the European Day of Languages. Its website cites a Slovak proverb that says: “The number of languages you speak is the number of times you are human”. This aims ______(4 encourage) all Europeans to brush up on and advance their language skills. The website ______ (5 predict) that Europe’s young generation “will fully contribute to ______ (6 enrich) Europe’s multilingual society”.

The results of the “Eurobarometer” survey put Luxembourgers at the top of the language ability list. A staggering 99 percent of the Luxembourgeois population is at least bilingual. Those with the ______ (7 poor) language skills are the Hungarians (29 percent) and British (30 percent). The survey also shows that English is the most ______ (8 wide) spoken foreign language, used by more than a third of the population. It is followed by German (12 percent), which has for the first time ______ (9 usurp) French (11 percent) for the second place. European enlargement to incorporate former communist countries ______ (10 elevate) Russian to fourth place – tied with Spanish. The EU spends $36 million a year on language programs.

SECTION D (10 points) Choose the option which best completes each sentence.

1. Don’t worry about her. She wouldn’t hurt a ____________.
   a) fly b) sheep c) mouse d) rabbit

2. He eventually sent a ____________ apology.
   a) lated b) belated c) last d) later

3. They arrived early ____________ secure the best seats.
   a) in b) so as to c) for d) as to

4. Her behaviour is devoid ____________ common sense.
   a) at b) from c) with d) of

5. I hope and ____________ he gets better soon.
   a) wish b) pray c) expect d) desire

6. The pleasure that reading brings is ____________.
   a) inmeasurable b) unmeasurable c) nonmeasurable d) immeasurable

7. Stop! Don’t ____________ nonsense.
   a) talk b) say c) utter d) speak

8. Recent employment figures show that about ten per cent of the population is ____________ work.
   a) out at b) out of c) out in d) out from

9. I ____________ remember packing the sun block.
   a) precisely b) fully c) exactly d) distinctly

10. What have you been ____________ since I last saw you?
    a) up for b) at to c) up to d) at
SECTION E (10 points) Fill each of the blanks in the passage with ONE suitable word. Write φ if no word is necessary.

Make sure your CV makes a good first impression

You know that you're a star but without a knock-out CV no-one else will believe you. Here’s how to impress and write yourself into a better job.

1. **The basics.** The description of your working life should be no more ____________ (1) two pages long. Less than two pages suggest that you don’t have enough experience. You can always increase the font size, of course!!

2. **Avoid vague statements.** Quite ____________ (2), people start with a profile -a short statement describing ____________ (3) they are- but we see a lot of generic phrases such as “I am an excellent team worker”. This is meaningless without evidence to support it.

3. **Be concise.** Employers who have to read hundreds of CVs don’t enjoy flowery prose. Use active verbs and numbered points to ensure that every sentence counts.

4. **Tell the truth.** The ____________ (4) important thing is not to lie. People augment their CV ____________ (5) adding “senior” or “expert” to make themselves a more attractive candidate, but this can be a problem if they are called to do a test.

5. **Focus on your skills.** A CV is a selling tool, selling your skills. Write a ____________ (6) of points that outline your achievements and include your experience as proof.

6. **Personalise it.** There’s nothing as bad as getting an automatically created CV from a website. What the employer is buying is you, so sell them you. It’s always nice to have personal information on the interests that make you a human being: ____________ (7) try to stand out from the crowd.

7. **Less is more.** Show you have done your homework on the job you are applying for by writing each CV that you send specially. Pick out the competencies that each job advertisement specifically mentions, then demonstrate your experience. Don’t ________ (8) out hundreds of generic CVs.

9. **Get the basics right.** It can be hard to see your ____________ (9) spelling mistakes and grammatical errors so, for God’s sake, use the spell-check.

10. **Finished?** So you’ve written the perfect CV, that’s the job half done. Now study how to write the ____________ (10) cover letter to send with it.