

COMPRESIÓ DE TEXTOS ESCRITS

Part 1. MULTIPLE CHOICE. You are going to read an article about the California condor. For questions 1-7, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

SAVING THE BIG BIRDS

At first glance, why anyone would want to save California condors is not entirely clear. Unlike the closely related Andean condors or king vultures, California condors are not much to see. Their dull black colour, featherless head and neck, and oversized feet are hardly signs of beauty or strength. Their appeal begins to become evident when they take flight. With a weight up to 28 pounds, California condors are North America's largest birds. In the Americas, only Andean condors are bigger. California condors can fly almost effortlessly for hours, often covering hundreds of miles a day – far more than other creatures of the air. Only occasionally do they need to flap their wings – to take off, change direction or find a band of warm air to carry them higher.

When it was discovered that the condor population was becoming dangerously small, scientists and zookeepers sought to increase condor numbers quickly to preserve as much of the species' genetic diversity as possible. From studying wild condors, they already knew that if a pair lost an egg, the birds would often produce another. So the first and sometimes second eggs laid by each female in captivity were removed, artificially incubated, and the chicks raised using hand-held puppets made to look like adult condors. Such techniques quickly proved effective.

Despite these successes, the effort to save California condors continues to have problems, evoke criticisms and generate controversy. Captive-born condors released to the wild have died at alarmingly high rates. Others have had to be recaptured after they acted foolishly or became ill. As a result, the scientists, zookeepers and conservationists who are concerned about condors are considering new ways to save these birds.

Some of the odd behaviour on the part of the released birds is hard to explain. At times they landed on people's houses and garages, walked across roads and airport runways, and took food offered by picnickers and fishermen. None are known to have died by doing so, though. More seriously, one condor died from drinking what was probably antifreeze. Others died in collisions with electrical wires, drowned in natural pools of water, or were killed by eagles and coyotes. Others were shot by hunters and killed or made seriously ill from poisoning. Some just disappeared. Most recently, some of the first chicks born in the wild died after their parents fed them bottle caps, glass, pieces of plastic and other man-made objects.

Mike Wallace, a wildlife specialist at the San Diego Zoo, has suggested that some of the condors' problems represent natural behaviour that helps them survive. The real key to successful condor reintroduction, he believes, lies in properly socialising young condors as members of a group that follow and learn from older birds. That, he argues, was missing from earlier condor releases to the wild. Typically, condors born in the spring were released to the wild that autumn or winter, when they were still less than a year old. Especially in the early releases, the young condors had no adults to learn from. Instead, the only other condors they saw in captivity and the wild were ones their own age. Now condor chicks at several zoos are raised in cave-like nests. The chicks can see older condors in a large space outside but cannot interact with them until they are about five months old. Then the chicks are gradually released with the adults so that they can socialise. It is hoped that this socialisation programme will help the birds adapt to the wild when they are released.

1. According to the writer, the most impressive feature of the California condor is...

- A its resemblance to the Andean condor.
- B its ability to fly.
- C its colourful plumage.
- D its large feet.

2. In the first stage of the conservation programme,

- A eggs were removed from the nests of wild condors.
- B female condors were captured and studied carefully.
- C scientists and zookeepers tried to create genetic diversity.
- D condor chicks were raised artificially.

3. What are we told about the attempts to save these birds from extinction?

- A There is disagreement about the methods employed.
- B The majority of condors released into the wild have died.
- C Attempts to breed condors in captivity have failed.
- D Condors reintroduced into the wild are unable to hunt.

4. Some of the condors released into the wild...

- A died from ingesting too much fast food.
- B displayed a tendency to like human contact.
- C kept altering their eating habits.
- D adapted surprisingly quickly to their new surroundings.

5. Some chicks born to condors released into the wild died because...

- A they were neglected by their parents.
- B they were killed by other animals.
- C they suffered from poisoning.
- D they swallowed dangerous objects.

6. According to Mike Wallace, there will be fewer problems...

- A if young condors are taught not to eat poison.
- B if the chicks are kept in cave-like nests for five months.
- C if young condors are taught appropriate behaviour by older birds.
- D if the chicks are in the company of older birds when they are born.

7. The purpose of the article appears to be...

- A to gain financial support for the California condor conservation project.
- B to evaluate the need to preserve the California condor.
- C to analyse factors surrounding the condors' failure to adapt to the wild.
- D to examine developments in the condors' behaviour.

Part 2. WORD FORMATION. For questions 1-10, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Homework

School inspectors have found that, contrary to all (0) expectations, children don't (1. LIKE) _____ homework at all. In fact, many do more than their teachers suggest, either because of (2. ANXIOUS) _____ about their marks or simply for (3. ENJOY) _____. The inspectors' findings add to the evidence of the (4. POWER) _____ beneficial effects of homework on pupils' (5. ACHIEVE) _____.

The inspectors also recommend the (6. INTRODUCE) _____ of 'homework charters'. These tell parents and children how much (7. ADD) _____ work is expected and provide (8. ENCOURAGE) _____ to schools to form links with parents who can check that tasks are (9. PROPER) _____ completed. International (10. COMPARE) _____ suggest that a typical 14-year-old does six hours homework in Britain, eight hours in Italy, and almost nine hours in Hungary, Japan and Poland.

Part 3. MULTIPLE MATCHING. Read the following text about the the world of gaming. For questions 1-9, choose paragraph A, B or C according to what fits best.

MY LIFE AS A GAMER

A. Martin Percy, Sevenoaks, England

I'm 44 and I'm a computer engineer, so perhaps it's not surprising that I'm a big gamer. I'm really into simulation games, the kinds of things that let you experience what it's like to do something like fly a plane or drive a huge truck – all from the comfort of your own home. I have my own Youtube channel and I play live to audiences of over 100,000.

I've always been interested in big machinery and the games are incredibly detailed. They feature traffic and buttons and everything, and are very realistic. The feeling of landing a passenger jet safely is incredibly exciting. I also love the social side of it. It enhances the whole experience. I read all the comments from other gamers and enjoy interacting with them.

Contrary to expectations, by the way, I don't live in my parents' basement. I am married. I have three kids and do have other hobbies as well!

B. Jessie, Taichung, Taiwan

I got my first desktop when I was at university, and to begin with I wasn't very keen on computer games. The big change came after I graduated and found that I couldn't get a job. I applied for hundreds of different positions and went for a few interviews, but without any success.

Around this time, I discovered *The Sims* and soon I was completely obsessed. I don't know if you know the game or not, but it's quite unusual as there are no fixed objectives; it's more like a virtual world where you can create characters and stories, and so on. I loved the fact it allowed me to be creative. After a while, though, I realised that while I was busy trying to fulfil these fantasy versions of my life, I'd more or less given up on my real life!

In the end, I decided to quit. It was hard to break the habit, but it's been for the best. I'm working now – for a company that sells household goods – and I've met someone too!

C Emerson, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Internet speeds and connections are still a real issue in many areas here, so most of my gaming is done on my smartphone. Obviously, this affects the kinds of games we play here. It's not common to play games online with different friends. For us, playing multiplayer just means playing side by side!

Another way in which gaming here is different is the huge number of pirate copies on the market. I'm not saying it's good, because I know that it's taking money away from the designers and programmers, but without black market copies, people here could never play most games as they're too expensive.

One other difference is that we don't get angry like Western people. I read recently about all these organised protests in the United States because one part of a game was released later than promised. It made me laugh. Don't get me wrong. I wouldn't be happy in that situation either. It's just that we have bigger things to worry about.

Which person:

1. enjoyed the fact that gaming used their imagination?
2. has a large number of fans?
3. finds it funny that consumers get so annoyed about poor service?
4. makes fun of the stereotypes of gamers?
5. found gaming was having a negative impact on their life?
6. is unable to do much online gaming?
7. works in IT?
8. mentions something illegal?
9. had to overcome an addiction?

Part 4 MULTIPLE CHOICE CLOZE. You are going to read a text about escape prevention. Choose a word (A, B, C or D) from the table below to complete the gaps. There is an example at the beginning

JOHN GLEN – THE FIRST AMERICAN TO ORBIT THE EARTH

John Glenn was one of NASA's first astronauts and the first American to (0) orbit the Earth. He belonged to the "Mercury 7", a group of astronauts that would be sent into orbit at the beginning of the Space Race.

Glenn was born in Ohio in 1921. In his early life he was a (1)___pilot in the Marine Corps during World War II and the Korean War. After the war he attended classes at the University of Maryland where he got a (2)_in chemistry.

Towards the end of the 1950s it had become (3)_____that America was in fierce (4)_____with the Soviet Union to send a man into space and bring him safely back to Earth. NASA chose 7 test pilots who would become astronauts in the Mercury program and John Glenn was one of them.

(5)_____Alan Shepard became the first American to reach space, John Glenn was the first to actually orbit the Earth. His (6)_____flight aboard "Friendship 7" lasted 5 hours, in which Glenn orbited the Earth 3 times. During the (7)_____ problems came up and Glenn had to fly the spacecraft (8)_____. It finally splashed down into the Atlantic Ocean. Glenn had become a (9)_____hero and gave America (10) _____ to beat the Soviets in space.

Because he was too old to be an astronaut for the moon landing at the end of the decade, John Glenn left NASA in 1964 and (11)_____ politics. After failing to become senator in his home state of Ohio he started a career in the business world, but still (12)_____NASA in many fields. In 1974 Glenn finally became Democratic Senator in Ohio , where he remained until 1999.

In his political career Glenn fought against the (13)___of nuclear weapons. He also tried to help the car and steel industry which were in a (14) __crisis in the 1980s. As a Democrat Glenn strongly criticized Republican president Ronald Reagan for his hardliner (15)___ towards the Soviet Union in the Cold War.

In 1998, 36 years after his historic flight, John Glenn (16)_____to space on board the space shuttle Discovery. At the age of 77 he was the oldest person to ever take part in a space mission. He carried out (17)_____that dealt with the physical problems of old age while in space.

0	A	revolve	B	orbit	C	rotate around	D	move around
1	A	fighter	B	soldier	C	prize	D	rebel
2	A	graduation	B	title	C	mark	D	degree
3	A	sharp	B	distinct	C	perfect	D	clear
4	A	match	B	race	C	struggle	D	competition
5	A	nevertheless	B	when	C	although	D	In spite of
6	A	ancient	B	substantial	C	historic	D	famous
7	A	travel	B	flight	C	voyage	D	expedition
8	A	manually	B	yourself	C	mentally	D	physically
9	A	general	B	usual	C	national	D	federal
10	A	confidence	B	class	C	coolness	D	religion
11	A	entered	B	founded	C	contested	D	arrived
12	A	directed	B	advised	C	guided	D	suggested
13	A	range	B	spread	C	division	D	extent
14	A	deep	B	mysterious	C	hidden	D	secret
15	A	feeling	B	attitude	C	outlook	D	posture
16	A	testings	B	investigations	C	trials	D	returned
17	A	investigations	B	experiments	C	testings	D	trials

Part 5. Verb forms. Complete the text by putting the verbs in brackets into the appropriate form.

Mary was telling Julie about her planned trip to a tropical island. It sounded wonderful.

"If I were you, 1) would be (be) so excited," Julie said.

"I am," replied Mary, "I'm sure I 2) _____ (have) such fun! It's a pity you 3) _____ (come)."

"I know. If I 4) _____ (know) earlier, I 5) _____ (not / spend) all my money on redecorating the kitchen. Anyway, what clothes are you planning to take with you?"

"Well, I'm hoping to buy some new ones. If you 6) _____ (finish) work early today, we 7) _____ (go) shopping in town."

"If I 8) _____ (be) you, I'd make sure I took light clothes and lots of insect repellent. What 9) _____ (you / do) when you get there?"

"Sunbathe, swim and go for long walks on the beach."

"Make sure you 10) _____ (send) me a postcard and take lots of pictures."

"Don't worry, I will."

COMPRESIÓ DE TEXTOS ORALS

Part 1. SENTENCE COMPLETION. You will hear a fragment of "Tech Today!", a programme discussing scientific issues. For questions 1-10, complete the sentences.

- Wing-suits are not very (1) _____ but the modern ones are better than ever.
- Last October was the first ever wing-suit world (2) _____ in China.
- You can buy a wing-suit for 600 to (3) _____ dollars.
- The water distiller is for places where it's hard to get clean (4) _____ water.
- To produce the water distiller properly, they still need help with (5) _____.
- The "enable talk gloves" were invented by some Ukrainian (6) _____.
- The gloves use sensors to turn sign language into (7) _____ and then into spoken (8) _____.
- James Cameron was part of a team which designed a submarine capable of descending to (9) _____ kilometres down.
- James Cameron was the first person to do a solo (10) _____ so deep under the sea.
- MIT students have invented a product that helps people get the contents out of (11) _____.
- A Dutch (12) _____ has found a way of creating clouds indoors.
- You can't make clouds for yourself at (13) _____ yet.

Part 2. SENTENCE SELECTION Listen to a podcast and decide whether the statements below are True (✓) or False (X), according to what you hear.

APPS AND GADGETS REVIEWED

Example: The podcast is about consumerism.		X
1.	The speakers choose the things to review.	
2.	The cry for help is supposed to scare off attackers in the street.	
3.	One of the speakers has had their phone robbed.	
4.	You use the universal translator to translate texts to and from a foreign language.	
5.	Not all the translations are accurate.	
6.	James and a friend tried the translator when they went on holiday.	
7.	It's very easy to fit the remote lock on a door.	
8.	You need to get an app to use the remote lock.	

Part 3 MULTIPLE CHOICE. You will hear a radio broadcast about potatoes. For questions 1-7, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

1. The International Year of the Potato is

- A. 2008.
- B. 2009.
- C. 2010.

2. How many potatoes has produced the world last year?

- A. 320 tons.
- B. 320,000 tons.
- C. 320,000,000 tons.

3. The top producer is

- A. Russia.
- B. China.
- C. India.

4. This season India produced

- A. 8 million tons.
- B. 80 million tons.
- C. 800 million tons.

5. In India potatoes are now cheaper than rice.

- A. True.
- B. False.
- C. The author doesn't say.

6. Potatoes require very much water.

- A. True.
- B. False.
- C. The author doesn't say.

7. The first potatoes appeared in Peru

- A. more than 700 years ago.
- B. more than 7,000 years ago.
- C. more than 1,000 years ago.

PRODUCCIÓ I PRODUCCIÓ DE TEXTOS ESCRITS

Write **ONLY ONE** of the following compositions.

OPTION 1

You have seen this announcement in an international magazine for schools:

We are looking for stories for our English-language magazine for teenagers. Your story must begin with this sentence:
Sally looked through the window and watched her parents putting suitcases into the car.

Write your **story** (180-200 words).

OPTION 2

You saw the following short article in the newspaper.

There are now more vegans in the world than ever before. It has become quite a fashionable thing, and food companies know it. However, defenders of omnivorism say that by only eating plant-based food, vegans miss out on many nutrients that are essential for our bodies' development and maintenance. Points used in this favour are the shape of humans' teeth, and the lack of fibre and protein that comes from not eating meat, fish or eggs.

Are Vegans Missing Out? Write a FOR AND AGAINST ESSAY on the pros and cons of the previous paragraph (180-200 words).

MEDIACIÓ LINGÜÍSTICA ESCRITA

You are a wedding planner preparing a wedding in the UK between a British friend of yours, Joe Campbell, and Rosana Gutiérrez, a Colombian woman. Joe and Rosana want both cultures to be represented at the celebration and they have sent you a blog post with information about Colombian wedding traditions. However, Joe's parents are very traditional and don't understand how integrating Colombian traditions will be possible. They have always imagined a classic British wedding for their son, starting with a choir and ending with a disco. Joe and Rosana have asked you to reassure Joe's parents that their Colombian-British wedding will work.

Read the blog post and then write a letter (110-130 words) to Joe's parents that is sensitive to their feelings, but which also reassures them that the wedding will be a success for everyone.

Tales from Colombia

The Big Day(s)

It's three months since the wedding and, as you will have noticed, I haven't been doing much to the blog! Hey, I've been busy. We had a perfect honeymoon – Vegas, LA, San Fran – then there was the move into the new apartment, and, well, just being in love! Sometimes blogging just has to wait. But now Camilo is away on business and I'm all on my own, so I thought I'd start writing again. And what better place to start than with the big day itself – or rather the big three days. The whole thing was a real mixture of British and Colombian traditions, with a few twists.

The Colombian part

The serenata: The evening before the wedding, we met some friends and family for dinner and then I went back to the hotel where we were staying. I was just getting ready for bed when I heard this band playing. I went to the window and there was my Camilo. Anyone who's heard his karaoke may be surprised, but he seemed to have the voice of an angel to me – the whole thing was so sweet! But then it was quite hot and I felt a little dizzy looking down from the balcony!

The coins and candles: As well as exchanging the wedding rings, which they do here too, we followed the Colombian tradition of las arras. These are small coins that traditionally the groom gives to the bride. This symbolises that what's his is now also hers. But I have my feminist beliefs and so I gave Camilo some coins, too. We also did the candle ceremony, where you each light a small candle and then use those to light a larger one before blowing out the small ones. It's a beautiful symbol of marriage.

The shoes: In the UK, the bride throws her bouquet to a group of single ladies to catch to see who'll get married next. In Colombia, it's the single men that the tradition applies to. They all place a shoe under the bride's dress and she picks one out. We did both. It's only fair.

The dancing: My salsa dancing is basically at a similar level to Camilo's singing, but you can't have a wedding in Colombia – or, in fact, any celebration – without dancing. We had a fantastic band, which played till 4 in the morning – with a British part in the middle.

The British part

The bridesmaid: Unlike in British weddings, there's no best man or bridesmaid in Colombian weddings. The tradition is to have an older godfather and godmother who support the happy couple in their marriage, but I had to have my best friend, Fi, as a bridesmaid, too.

The speeches: They aren't a big thing here in Colombia, but we had them. My dad gave one, translated by Fi – we studied Spanish together. And then because Camilo had no best man, and because I like to play with UK tradition too, my bridesmaid Fi gave a speech, which was hilarious.

The dancing: It's not that we never have dancing at a British wedding, it's just that there's usually a bad disco with even worse dancing – a tradition I am happily continuing! So, to make things a bit fairer for me, we had a break for a British country dance. My brother, Tom, plays fiddle in a folk band and he organised it with his mate, Hamish, who taught everyone the moves. I think the Colombians were a little confused at first, but then they realised most of the Brits were, too!! It was great fun and a great sharing experience.

PRODUCCIÓ I COPRODUCCIÓ DE TEXTOS ORALS

Preparation time: 5 minutes



Discuss the topic with your partner using the questions below.

- 1 What sort of music do you usually listen to and why?
- 2 Which musical instrument would you like to learn to play? Why?
- 3 Would you rather listen to live music or recorded music? Why?
- 4 What was the first concert you went to?
- 5 How do you listen to music?
- 6 What music would you listen to if you wanted to feel happier? Why?

ANSWER KEY

CTE

Part 1 Multiple choice

1. B
2. D
3. A
4. B
5. D
6. C
7. C

Part 2 Word formation

1. dislike
2. anxiety
3. enjoyment
4. powerful
5. achievement/s
6. introduction
7. additional
8. encouragement
9. properly
10. comparisons

Part 3 Multiple matching

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. B | 6. C |
| 2. A | 7. A |
| 3. C | 8. C |
| 4. A | 9. B |
| 5. B | |

Part 4 Multiple choice cloze

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. A | 10.A |
| 2. D | 11.A |
| 3. D | 12.B |
| 4. D | 13.B |
| 5. C | 14.A |
| 6. C | 15.B |
| 7. B | 16.D |
| 8. A | 17.B |
| 9. C | |

Part 5 Verb forms

2. will have
3. can't come
4. had known
5. wouldn't have spent
6. finish
7. can / will go
8. were
9. are you going to do
10. send

CTO

Sentence completion

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 1. new | 8. language |
| 2. championship | 9. ten |
| 3. 2,000 | 10. dive |
| 4. drinking | 11. bottles |
| 5. investment/money | 12. artist |
| 6. students | 13. home |
| 7. text | |

Sentence selection

- 1.F
- 2.T
- 3.F
- 4.T
- 5.T
- 6.F
- 7.T
- 8.T

Multiple choice

- 1A
- 2C
- 3B
- 4A
- 5B
- 6B
- 7B