



## Proves d'accés a la Universitat. Curs 2006-2007

# Llengua estrangera Anglès

### Sèrie 2 - A

Suma de notes parcials

Redacció

C. escrita

C. oral

1

1

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Total

Etiqueta de qualificació

**Redacció**

**Comprensió escrita**

**Comprensió oral**

Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal .....

Número del tribunal .....

## SWEET AS SUGAR

Up until the 16th century, honey was the most important sweetener in Europe: a situation that only changed with the advent of sugar cane as an economic heavyweight from the plantations of North America. The use of honey in cooking, however, goes back to the beginning of time, or at least to the beginning of people keeping records about what they ate.

The first traces of honey as an important food date back to 7000 BC. A Neolithic rock painting in the Araña cave at Bicorp near Valencia depicts a man collecting wild honey from a tree. The oldest written reference to honey is believed to be Egyptian, dating back to about 5.500 BC, when Lower Egypt was also known as Bee Land. However, fossils of honey bees have been discovered that date back some 150 million years. In short, few foods are older.

Bees are creatures of habit and will travel up to two miles in search of nectar, returning to the same type of plant again and again. Before re-entering their **hive** after a nectar-collecting mission they dance a little **wiggle** at the entrance, their stingers pointed in the direction of their nectar **stash**: the greater the wiggle the better the stash of nectar and the better their chances of making excellent honey.

Honey is the substance that is formed after the nectar collected by the bees from the blossoms of trees and plants is deposited into the waxy honeycomb. Evaporation of water makes it thick and viscous. And of all foods, including wine, it is perhaps the substance that best expresses where it comes from, fully reflecting the taste and smell of herbs and flowers.

Perhaps the most surprising fact of all is that without honey we'd be missing about one third of all the food we eat. Plants provide the bees with food. In return, the bees carry cross-fertilising pollen from one plant to the next. Without one there would be none of the other. Not only would we have less of the green stuff, but there would be less to feed **livestock** and, eventually, humans too. The worrying thing about this is that beekeeping is a dying tradition with fewer and fewer people entering the world of apiculture.

Lucky for us then that Spain remains an important centre of beekeeping with productions today ranging from the most primitive to the most advanced in the world. There are roughly 2.5 million hives in Spain, about 70 per cent of which are taken care of by professional apiarists (beekeepers). These produce about 300,000 metric tonnes of honey a year, much of which is exported to Germany, the UK and France. The most common type is *milflores* (a thousand flowers), a blend that tends to be sweet and mild.

A report in the September 2005 issue of *Health and Age* confirmed that including honey in your diet can increase your **intake** of antioxidants but, up until now, the real health benefits of honey have not been proved. Nevertheless, it has earned itself a reputation as a healthy sweetener despite being higher in calories than sugar.

*Costa Brava Resident* (November 2005). Adapted

**hive**: rusc, eixam / colmena, enjambre

**wiggle**: moviment bellugadís / meneo rápido

**stash**: acumulació, provisió / acumulación, provisión

**livestock**: bestiar, ramaderia / ganado, ganadería

**intake**: presa, consum / toma, consumo

## Part 1: Reading comprehension

Choose the correct answer. Only ONE answer is possible.

[0.5 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.16 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

1. Sugar cane was
  - a)** grown in Lower Egypt a long time ago.
  - b)** not known in Europe until the 16th century.
  - c)** the only sweetener in North America until the 16th century.
  - d)** planted for cooking since the beginning of time.
  
2. A rock painting shows that
  - a)** honey was collected from trees nine thousand years ago.
  - b)** there were fossils of honey bees.
  - c)** honey is supposed to be the oldest food ever.
  - d)** the oldest written records were kept in ancient Egypt.
  
3. Bees dance at the entrance of their hives to
  - a)** celebrate the success of their nectar-collecting flight.
  - b)** help make a better supply of nectar.
  - c)** encourage their friends on their nectar-collecting missions.
  - d)** brighten up the working life of other honey-making bees.
  
4. Honey and wine are substances that
  - a)** need the evaporation of thick water to offer their best flavour.
  - b)** reflect the original taste of the plants they come from.
  - c)** need the nectar collected by bees from the blossoms of trees.
  - d)** blend well with the smell of herbs.
  
5. A most surprising fact is that without honey
  - a)** there would be less green stuff to feed animals and humans.
  - b)** people would decrease their consumption of fast food by one third.
  - c)** plants would not stop providing bees with food.
  - d)** bees would carry more pollen from one plant to the next.
  
6. According to the text, the problem is that
  - a)** apiculture is dying as a tradition of feeding livestock.
  - b)** the number of people working in apiculture is decreasing.
  - c)** most professional beekeepers work in Spain.
  - d)** without apiculture there would be fewer humans in the world.
  
7. Most of the honey produced in Spain
  - a)** comes from a primitive plant named milflores.
  - b)** is exported to other countries for further manufacture.
  - c)** comes from hives looked after by professional beekeepers.
  - d)** is eaten by Spanish consumers.
  
8. It has not been confirmed that by including honey in your diet
  - a)** you will live a much healthier and longer life.
  - b)** your intake of antioxidants and calories will increase.
  - c)** your intake of sugar will be much healthier.
  - d)** your health problems will be solved.

## Part 2: Writing

Choose ONE topic. Write about number 1 or 2. Minimum length: 100 words.

[4 points]

1. Think of a profession that is dying out, for example a shepherd or a farmer. Write a dialogue with one of the last shepherds / farmers in your country. Talk about their way of life now and before.
2. You have just read a book with the title *Death of a Beekeeper* by Swedish author Lars Gustafsson. Write a letter to your best friend explaining to him/her what the book is about.

**PROVA AUDITIVA**

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## THE BEST-SELLER CONNECTION

In this radio programme you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

*simplistic*: massa senzill, innocent / excesivamente sencillo, ingenuo

*catchy*: atractiu, que enganxa / atractivo, que engancha

*reliable*: creïble, que hi pots confiar / creíble, que puedes confiar en él/ella

*maintenance work*: remodelació, manteniment / obras de renovación, mantenimiento

Ready?

Now read the following questions. Read them carefully before listening to the conversation.

PRESENTER: Good evening, dear fellow listeners and welcome again to our daily programme “The Waves of Enigma”. A programme for those who love suspense... on the waves. This evening we are privileged to have in our studio one of the most popular writers of mystery fiction and suspense books. Let us welcome Donna Black, author of the best seller “The Gioconda Connection”, the famous title which has been translated into more than twenty languages, and is soon to be turned into a Hollywood film directed by Steve Gameberg. Good evening, Donna.

DONNA BLACK: Good evening. I’m delighted to be here with you.

[Now listen to the rest of the interview.]

## QUESTIONS

Choose the most appropriate answer according to the recording. Only ONE answer is correct. Look at number 0 as an example:

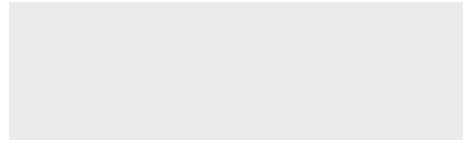
[0.25 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.08 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

0. “The Waves of Enigma” is a programme
- for people who love intrigue and suspense.
  - that focuses on Donna Black’s books.
  - about Hollywood films.
  - for lovers of waves.

- 
1. According to the interview, Donna Black should feel proud of her work because
- of the sales the book is having.
  - you can see people reading it everywhere.
  - she worked very hard in this book.
  - she had a very good time when she wrote it.

2. Usually, when Donna Black sees people on the street reading her book, she
  - signs autographs on the back cover.
  - asks them what they think of her book.
  - simply enjoys observing them unnoticed.
  - turns around and walks away.
  
3. The author includes a romantic relationship in the story because
  - she thinks that will help to create a film about the book.
  - that builds up a mysterious atmosphere.
  - she knows that some readers like to find that kind of relationship in novels.
  - she made a concession to the critics.
  
4. Which of the following adjectives is used by most critics to describe the work of Donna Black in her book?
  - Accurate.
  - Speculative.
  - Believable.
  - Over imaginative.
  
5. What university libraries did the author visit?
  - Pisa, the Sorbonne and Florence.
  - Florence, Torino and the Sorbonne in Paris.
  - Torino, Pisa and the Sorbonne.
  - Florence, Torino and Pisa.
  
6. There was a university library she couldn't visit because
  - they were doing works of maintenance.
  - it was closed for the summer.
  - the information she needed wasn't there.
  - the address was not in the internet.
  
7. The author couldn't get the information she needed from that library in the Internet because
  - the university server was down.
  - she hadn't got the password to enter the Website.
  - the information wasn't there.
  - the website contained only manuscripts.
  
8. How could the author complete the story without that information?
  - The information wasn't extremely relevant, so she continued the story without it.
  - She changed the plot of the story.
  - She wrote a different ending.
  - She mentioned the missing information as part of the enigma in the book.

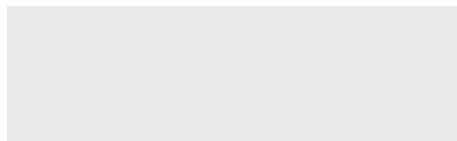
Etiqueta del corrector/a



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## THREATENED PREHISTORIC PARADISE REVEALS ITS SECRETS

It is perhaps the closest place on the planet to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *Lost World* —the mythical prehistoric paradise of the Sherlock Holmes book, published in 1912.

But the Heart of Borneo, as it has been christened by conservation agencies trying to save it from destruction, is finally beginning to **yield** its secrets. A mission by **WWF** scientists to the south-east Asian island found 52 species previously unknown to science, including three types of trees, two tree frogs and a tiny fish less than a centimetre long.

“These discoveries reaffirm Borneo’s position as one of the most important centres of biodiversity in the world,” said Stuart Chapman, the international coordinator of WWF’s Heart of Borneo programme.

“The remote and inaccessible forests in the Heart of Borneo are one of the world’s final frontiers for science and many undiscovered species are still waiting to be found there.” But he warns that species are going extinct as fast as the scientists can find them. In the second half of the 20th century, forest cover on the island —which includes parts of Indonesia, Malaysia and the sultanate of Brunei— dropped from 162 m to 98 m hectares. Since 1996, deforestation has accelerated to 2 m hectares (5 m acres) a year.

The threat comes from forest clearing for rubber, oil palm and pulp production. **Logging** roads into the forest also make it easier for illegal wildlife traders to **poach** animals.

Borneo has long fascinated biologists. Charles Darwin, on his voyage around the world on the *Beagle*, described the island as “one great wild untidy luxuriant hothouse made by nature for herself.” Alfred Russell Wallace, naturalist and co-discoverer of natural selection, spent many years there studying its plants and animals and refining his ideas. The Heart of Borneo is a forested highland region which covers 30 % of the island and is home to creatures such as the orangutan, the clouded leopard, the sun bear, the Borneo pygmy elephant and the proboscis monkey.

But a WWF expedition between July 2005 and September 2006 has added another 52 species. One, the fish *Paedocypris micromegethes*, grows to just 8.8 mm long and is the world’s second-smallest backboned animal. It lives in highly acidic peak **swamps** and is translucent. Its small size may mean that it can survive when ponds dry out.

Mr Chapman said that the discovery of three new tree species was particularly astonishing because, of all animal and plant groups, these should be the easiest to locate.

With around 15,000 plant species, Borneo is the most botanically diverse region on the planet. The UK by comparison is home to 1,623 plant species. “The rate of discovery has been about four new species a month for the last 10 years,” said Mr Chapman. “That in itself highlights that we really have something special here.” He said that Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei are about to sign a three-way agreement early next year on how to protect the region.

Last year the team reported the discovery of a mysterious cat-like creature captured on film by a camera trap at night. The animal has dark red fur and a long, bushy tail and looks like a cross between a cat and a fox. It has not been sighted or photographed since and scientists are still unsure what it is. “We have had every conceivable suggestion, but the mystery remains unsolved,” said Mr Chapman.

*The Guardian*. Adapted

**yield:** donar, produir, desvelar / dar, producir, desvelar

**WWF:** World Wildlife Federation

**logging:** explotació forestal / explotación forestal

**poach:** caçar il·legalment / cazar furtivament

**swamps:** aiguamolls / marismas

## Part 1: Reading comprehension

Choose the correct answer. Only ONE answer is possible.

[0.5 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.16 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

1. The island of Borneo
  - a)** was the setting for Arthur Conan Doyle's famous novel, Lost World.
  - b)** is a mythical prehistoric paradise.
  - c)** is the closest place to Conan Doyle's 1912 novel.
  - d)** was the setting for many Sherlock Holmes stories.
  
2. WWF scientists on a mission to Borneo
  - a)** discovered a number of animal species unknown to science.
  - b)** found another south-East Asian island.
  - c)** catalogued the 52 species recently known to science.
  - d)** found many new species still unknown to science.
  
3. Stuart Chapman has argued that
  - a)** species are disappearing as they are discovered by scientists.
  - b)** the forests in Borneo are the only ones in the world's final frontiers for science.
  - c)** many undiscovered species have become extinct due to deforestation.
  - d)** deforestation is slowing down these last years.
  
4. According to the text
  - a)** Charles Darwin elaborated his theory of evolution out of his experience in Borneo.
  - b)** Alfred Russell Wallace was the discoverer of natural selection.
  - c)** biologists have been fascinated by Borneo for a long time.
  - d)** Borneo has a forested highland region which covers most of the island.
  
5. The WWF expedition of July 2005 has
  - a)** added the Paedocypris micromegethes to its list of new species.
  - b)** discovered that the Paedocypris micromegethes is the world's smallest animal.
  - c)** argued that the Paedocypris micromegethes's small size means it cannot survive when ponds dry out.
  - d)** stated that the Paedocypris micromeghetes grows from 8.8 mm long.
  
6. Mr Chapman has stated that Borneo has around 15.000 plant species, adding that
  - a)** it is one of the least botanically diverse regions he's ever seen.
  - b)** it has a similar number of plant species to the UK.
  - c)** Malaysia and other Asian countries are going to sign an agreement of protection for the region.
  - d)** the rate of discovery of new species is almost insignificant.
  
7. Last year the team reported the discovery of a cat-like creature, which
  - a)** was captured by the scientists at night.
  - b)** has been photographed a number of times though still uncaught.
  - c)** has dark red ears and a long, bushy tail.
  - d)** appears like a cross between two animals.
  
8. On the whole, the text may be said to argue that Borneo
  - a)** is an exciting tourist resort.
  - b)** has more species of plants than any other region on the planet.
  - c)** has only been explored very recently by scientists.
  - d)** is completely deforested nowadays.

## Part 2: Writing

Choose ONE topic. Write about number 1 or 2. Minimum length: 100 words.

[4 points]

1. Write an article for your school magazine in which you have to defend the need to preserve the botanically diverse regions on earth.
2. Should places like Borneo be promoted as tourist resorts? Write the dialogue of the debate between a scientist (who argues against the idea) and a tourist operator who specialises in creating exclusive tourist paradises.

**PROVA AUDITIVA**

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## NO LONGER JUST CHILD'S PLAY

In the following conversation, you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean:

*collector*: col·leccionista / coleccionista

*fair*: fira / feria

*fake pieces*: peces falses / piezas falsas

*investment*: inversió / inversión

*model car*: cotxe de joguina / coche de juguete

*vintage*: d'època (antics) / de época (antiguos)

Ready?

Now read the following questions. Read them carefully before listening to the conversation.

TANIA PONDS: Good morning, everyone! This is Tania Ponds. Welcome again to our curiosities programme. Today we have the pleasure to introduce you to Charles Hoffman, a man who has succeeded in turning his hobby into a business. He began years ago by collecting old model trains and now he runs an Internet toyshop through which people can buy and sell old and antique toys and games. Good morning, Mr Hoffman!

C. HOFFMAN: Good morning, and thank you for inviting me on to your programme.

[Now listen to the rest of the conversation.]

## QUESTIONS

Choose the most appropriate answer according to the recording. Only ONE answer is correct. Look at number 0 as an example:

[0.25 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.08 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

0. What does C. Hoffman do for a living?

- He collects trains.
- He collects model toys.
- He has a toyshop.
- He buys and sells business.

1. In the past decade, the number of people that collect toys

- has increased.
- has decreased.
- has stayed the same.
- is unknown.

2. Only ONE statement is correct according to the text. Which one?
  - People collect toys to play with them.
  - Some people collect toys to earn money.
  - People only collect toys that they had in their childhood.
  - People collect toys they lost in their childhood.
  
3. According to the text, who collect the most toys?
  - There's no difference.
  - Children do.
  - Men do.
  - Women do.
  
4. According to Hoffman, most collectors are between 35 and 40 because at that age
  - they cannot play with toys so they collect them.
  - they have children who start playing with Scalextric or Play Mobil.
  - they have some free time and can spend money on their own hobbies.
  - people are more systematic and 80 % of the people start a collection.
  
5. Which is the most popular toy among women?
  - There's no difference to men.
  - Play Mobil.
  - Scalextric cars.
  - Dolls.
  
6. Why do some people prefer open-air markets to the Internet? Because they
  - are held in Barcelona.
  - are meeting places.
  - are much cheaper.
  - are all specialised markets.
  
7. What are the dangers of buying toys on the Internet?
  - Some toys are fake pieces or are too expensive.
  - There are silly people selling their toys.
  - Fake Scalextric cars are always expensive on the Net.
  - There is only one website you can trust: e-bay.
  
8. What is special about the shop in Terrassa Mr Hoffman talks about?
  - It sells Imperial Castles at €2.5.
  - It only sells Scalextric and Play Mobil products.
  - It sells Barbie dolls, Lego blocks, and Scalextric and Play Mobil products.
  - It is the only shop that specialises in Play Mobil products.

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