

INGLÉS

INDICACIONES

Si contesta más preguntas de las necesarias para realizar este examen, solo se corregirán las primeras, según el orden en que aparezcan resueltas en el cuadernillo de examen.

PART 1. [7 POINTS] Choose one of the two options below and follow the instructions to answer the questions.

Option 1. Written understanding

The No-Jet Set: They've Given Up Flying to Save the Planet

These days, the skies don't seem so inviting: Airfares are climbing. Passengers are fighting. Computer systems, and entire airlines, are melting down. Any of those might be reason enough for some to stay off a plane. But for a small, yet growing, number of travelers, the problem with air travel goes way further. They are giving up flying because of its impact on the climate. Dan Castrigano, a former teacher, signed a pledge not to travel by air in 2020, aligning with the climate crisis. He has not taken a flight since 2019 and now works as the chief content officer at "Subject to Climate", a non-profit that provides climate teaching resources. He travels by bicycle, electric car, and train, which is 34% more energy-efficient per passenger than flying. "I would love to visit every place on earth," he said. "But my mental health would be poor if I were to fly."

The last eight years on earth have been the hottest on record. Sea level rise is accelerating, and extreme weather events are happening more often than ever. Air travel accounts for about 4 percent of human-induced global warming, and the United Nations warns that airplane emissions are set to triple by 2050. One Boeing 747 carrying 416 passengers from Heathrow Airport in London to Edinburgh produces the same carbon dioxide as 336 cars traveling the same distance, according to BBC Science Focus, a peer-reviewed magazine, though such comparisons depend on a wide range of factors like fuel efficiency and even the time of day. That jumbo carbon footprint is leading many activists and scientists to issue rallying cries to fly less, or not at all.

There is perhaps no country on earth with more anti-flight activists than Sweden, where by 2020, 15,000 people had signed a nationwide pledge to travel without flying for at least one year. With this pledge, the nonprofit behind that movement, We Stay on the Ground, aims at reducing the environmental impact of air travel and intends to raise awareness about the climate crisis. By signing the pledge, participants commit to using alternative modes of transportation such as trains, electric cars, and bicycles, which are more energy-efficient than flying. The nonprofit hopes to reach 100,000 signatories in the next few years."

Many Americans are aware of Sweden's young climate activist Greta Thunberg, who in 2019 chose to sail across the Atlantic on an emissions-free yacht to speak to the United Nations. "A lot of people think that what you do as an individual doesn't matter much. But the thing is, what we do as individuals affects everyone around us, and changes norms," said Maja Rosén, 41, the president of We Stay on the Ground, who gave up flying in 2008. Ms. Rosén, who lives in Sweden, now travels primarily by train.

Adapted from *The New York Times*, 6 February 2023

Question 1: [2 POINTS] Indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE and write down the sentence or the part of the text that justifies your answer. No points will be given if the evidence is not correct.

- The number of travelers avoiding flying due to its impact on the environment is increasing.
- Air travel emissions are expected to decrease by 2050 according to the United Nations.
- Anti-flight activism is not prominent in Sweden, as compared to other countries.
- Maja Rosén does not travel by plane anymore.

Question 2: [2 POINTS] Choose and answer only TWO of the following questions in your own words according to the text.

- a) What does the text tell us about how Dan Castrigano travels?
- b) Who believes that flying less or not at all is important and why?
- c) What are the objectives of the nonprofit «We stay on the Ground» and how are they trying to achieve them?

Question 3: [1,5 POINTS] Find words or phrases in the text that correspond to the words given. You only need to have five correct answers to get 1.5 points.

- a) Ticket prices (paragraph 1)
- b) Commitment (paragraph 1)
- c) Diverse (paragraph 2)
- d) Giant (paragraph 2)
- e) To navigate (paragraph 4)
- f) Boat (paragraph 4)

Question 4: [1,5 POINTS] Choose the correct option –a, b, c or d– for each question and COPY both the letter and the sentence that follows onto your answer sheet.

1. Why did Dan Castrigano stop flying in 2020?
 - a) To save money.
 - b) To escape conflicts with other passengers.
 - c) To show his support for mitigating the impacts of the climate crisis.
 - d) To avoid technical issues with airline systems.
2. According to the text, what is the goal of the non-profit "Subject to Climate"?
 - a) To reduce the number of flights taken by travelers.
 - b) To provide resources to teach about climate change.
 - c) To promote travel by bicycle and electric car.
 - d) To raise awareness about the impact of air travel on mental health.
3. How does the carbon dioxide produced by a Boeing 747 compare to that produced by 336 cars traveling the same distance?
 - a) The carbon dioxide produced by a Boeing 747 is more than that produced by 336 cars traveling the same distance.
 - b) The carbon dioxide produced by a Boeing 747 is less than that produced by 336 cars traveling the same distance.
 - c) The carbon dioxide produced by a Boeing 747 is equal to that produced by 336 cars traveling the same distance.
 - d) The carbon dioxide produced by a Boeing 747 triples that produced by 336 cars traveling the same distance.

[See part 2]

PART 1. Option 2 [7 POINTS] Written understanding

The problems with TikTok's controversial 'beauty filters'

As beauty filters become more sophisticated, concerns over their potential effect on self-esteem and their power in popularizing particular beauty standards are increasing. The release of TikTok's "Bold Glamour" filter, which can turn anyone into an airbrushed top model, has prompted users to question if the technology has gone too far.

Our society fetishizes beauty, and conventionally good-looking people are seen as more intelligent or earning a higher income. Our choices in clothing, makeup, and haircuts are often influenced by current beauty standards, which are constantly changing. We all represent ourselves in a way that conforms to current beauty standards, but beauty filters take it further than cosmetics ever could. Adolescent girls who use filters are more likely to consider cosmetic surgery, and plastic surgeons have noted a rise in clients requesting surgery that makes them look more like their filters. This is particularly concerning given that these filters tend to be racially biased, based on stereotypically "white" characteristics.

Beauty filters are just another step in our cultural obsession with perfecting our appearance, and while they are making industry tricks more accessible, they are too new for us to know exactly how they affect self-perception and mental health long-term. Research indicates that they could make users feel worse about themselves, particularly adolescent girls who are vulnerable to internalizing images they see in the media. Previous versions of these filters were often a bit glitchy, so passing a hand in front of your face would interrupt the "magic". But the latest generation, such as TikTok's Bold Glamour filter, is incredibly life-like. Users can move and gesticulate on-screen without breaking the illusion.

While TikTok's "Bold Glamour" is getting most of the press, the "Teen" filter is also problematic. It can be used by adults in sexually enticing poses or clothing, leading viewers to think the person posing is a teen, highlighting and augmenting a dangerous aspect of society: the normalization of the sexualization of children.

It is important to recognize that these filters reflect and perpetuate existing biases and issues within our society, and their impact on self-perception and mental health must be further studied. As technology continues to advance, it is crucial to consider the potential consequences and ensure that it does not contribute to harmful societal norms.

Adapted from *BBC*, 1 March 2023

Question 1: [2 POINTS] Indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE and write down the sentence or the part of the text that justifies your answer. No points will be given if the evidence is not correct.

- a) The use of beauty filters has led to an increase in requests for plastic surgery.
- b) Beauty filters have been found to have a positive impact on self-esteem and mental health, according to recent studies.
- c) Although Tik Tok's 'Bold Glamour' filter might be problematic, the 'Teen filter' is getting all the attention in the media.
- d) There is still much to learn about the long-term effects of beauty filters on mental health and self-perception.

Question 2: [2 POINTS] Choose and answer only TWO of the following questions in your own words according to the text.

- a) Explain two of the ways in which beauty filters affect people and society.
- b) What is the difference between the previous and latest generations of beauty filters?
- c) Why is the “Teen” filter problematic?

Question 3: [1,5 POINTS] Find words or phrases in the text that correspond to the words given. You only need to have five correct answers to get 1.5 points.

- a) Advanced (paragraph 1)
- b) Salary (paragraph 2)
- c) Realistic (paragraph 3)
- d) To emphasize (paragraph 4)
- e) To maintain (paragraph 5)
- f) Damaging (paragraph 5)

Question 4: [1,5 POINTS] Choose the correct option –a, b, c or d– for each question and COPY both the letter and the sentence that follows onto your answer sheet.

1. How do beauty standards influence our choices in clothing, makeup and haircuts?
 - a) They have no influence on our choices.
 - b) They influence our choices to a small extent.
 - c) They often greatly influence our choices.
 - d) They have a negative impact on our choices.
2. What is the main concern regarding beauty filters?
 - a) They are too expensive.
 - b) They are too new for us to know their long-term effects.
 - c) They are not accessible enough.
 - d) They are not sophisticated enough.
3. What is concerning about the racial bias in beauty filters?
 - a) They preserve stereotypes of what are considered white features.
 - b) They only work on people with fair skin.
 - c) They can lead to a loss of privacy.
 - d) They are only available for people of certain races.

PART 2. [3 POINTS] Written production. Choose ONE of the two options below and write a short essay (120-150 words). Essays up to 200 words won't be penalized.

Option 1

“Kids should not play competitive sports”. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give reasons to justify your opinion.

Option 2

In some countries it is common to have a year off between finishing high school and going to university. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this?