

INGLÉS C1 - COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS

TASK 1 (16 items x 0.5 marks = 8 marks)

Read this article about the dark. Complete each gap (1-16) with ONE suitable word from the box included in your answer sheet. Each word can only be used ONCE. There are three extra words you will not need to use. Gap 0 is an example.

THEN WRITE YOUR ANSWERS IN YOUR ANSWER SHEET.

ANY	ELSEWHERE	LAYING	NOT	THRILL
BUT	<i>EVER</i>	LYING	OVER	WHAT
CRAVE	EXTENT	MORE	REAR	WHILE
DEGREE	INSTEAD	NONE	SELF	WISH

In Search of Darkness

By Maria Browning

February 21, 2020

I don't remember [0] EVER being afraid of the dark. If my mother were still alive, perhaps she'd remind me of times when I begged to leave the light on at bedtime or came scurrying into my parents' room, terrified of monsters in the pitch-black corners of my own.

But [1] _____ I remember is standing on the back seat of a Galaxy 500, looking out the [2] _____ window as my mother drives along unlit country roads. I stare, with a deep [3] _____ I can't name, at the black sky and the rushing road before it disappears into endless shadow.

I remember breathing in the cold of a moonless winter night as I stand, alone, on a hillside near our house. In front of me there's nothing [4] _____ a darkness so profound I can't be sure where the sky meets the earth. I become one with everything. Primal magic.

I remember [5] _____ in bed in the windowless attic of my grandmother's house, shut away from the lighted rooms below. I feel weightless and free, alone with my thoughts. The deep beauty of darkness can emerge only in solitude.

All these memories are from my rural childhood, when darkness was much more abundant, when it took [6]_____ the world each night and artificial lights were so scarce they barely registered in the black expanse. We've mostly lost the darkness now. Even deep in the country, there's scarcely a dark corner left, nominally to make us safer. Perhaps it does, to a [7]_____, though the apparent belief that security is directly proportional to lumens seems pretty dubious. We still don't seem to feel [8]_____ safer. Does all that unnatural light help us look one another in the eye more readily, trust the strangers we can see so clearly? [9]_____ that I can tell.

When I bought my house in this small town outside Nashville more than 20 years ago, there was not a streetlight visible in any direction. I used to step outside my door on summer nights just to stare at the Milky Way. I [10]_____ I had done it more. As the lights of development have crept in, the Milky Way has faded. Now I step outside and stare at the potent blue LED lights that assault the eye, even from 100 yards away. I try hard to make peace with those lights, to see them as cozy reminders of human presence, as *neighbors*. This never works. [11]_____, I find myself looking at them compulsively, helplessly. I'm not blessed with a gift for ignoring problems.

I [12]_____ the night so much, miss it *so much*. Night is when the body goes to ground and the soul comes forth. I knew that as a child, forgot for a [13]_____, and now, with age, the knowledge is coming back. I'm not alone in this, I'm sure. My mother, as she entered old age, sold her house and moved out into the woods. She had a lot of reasons for putting herself so far from the well-lit world, but the one [14]_____ of us could argue against was that she felt at peace there. 'I can be in nature,' she said. I understand now that she meant more by that than listening to birdsong. She could *be* in a way that felt impossible [15]_____. She could go to ground and let her soul come forth.

My mother died a few months ago. Since then I've spent a lot of time alone in her house in the woods. As darkness falls, I am taken back to that young [16]_____ who knew how to surrender to it, to be liberated by it. I'm learning again how to *be in nature, my true nature*.

Texto reducido / Adapted from <https://www.nytimes.com/>

TASK 2 (7 items x 1 mark = 7 marks)

Read this article describing the features of workmates who everyone likes to have around. Match each description (17-23) to one heading (A-I) from the list in your answer sheet. Each heading can only be used ONCE. There is one extra heading you will not need. Description 0 is an example.

THEN WRITE YOUR ANSWERS IN YOUR ANSWER SHEET.

Reasons People Love to Work With You

By Jeff Haden

October 07, 2014

*Some people are a pain to be around. Most are okay.
But occasionally we find someone we love to work with. Here are some reasons.*

0 - G

The higher you rise, the more likely you are to think you know everything... and the more likely you are to think you need to *tell* other people everything you think you know. Some people think a position or "status" automatically confers wisdom. [...]
People we love to work with share their thoughts in a humble and unpretentious way. They care about what *we* know. After all, they already know what *they* know.

17

You know the type. An employee, a colleague... *someone* has an idea. It's a great idea. Now it's *his* idea. Do it once and people narrow their eyes. Do it twice and that's the last time anyone ever shares any ideas with you.
The people we love to work with have a knack for doing the opposite: they make their ideas feel like *our* ideas. When that happens, we all feel like we're part of something bigger. And we're all more likely to succeed.

18

The people we *hate* to work with see themselves as the center of their own universe, at the center of every story they tell and the victim of every unfortunate event. An employee misses work because he's badly injured? 'Forget *him*. Look what a mess that makes of my staffing levels!' [...]
To those people whatever happens to someone else - regardless of how tragic - becomes trivial; what matters most is the effect that has on *them*.

19

In business and in life, achieving something awesome (or even just a tiny bit cool) takes time and effort.
The people we love to work with realize that every huge goal is accomplished one small step at a time. They spread a sense of optimism and enthusiasm along the way, something that is often in short supply.

20	Ever seen someone shred an employee for a mistake it turns out that person didn't make? I have. People we love to work with take a long time to reflect and decide when problems arise. They know their words and actions will leave a lasting impact, so they do everything possible to get it right, even when everything around them seems to be going wrong.
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21	Interrupting isn't just rude. What you're really saying is, 'I'm not listening to you so I can understand what <i>you</i> are saying; I'm only listening to find a place to jump in and say what <i>I</i> want to say.' The people we love to work with focus on what others say. They ask questions not to seem smart but to better understand. They make us feel respected.
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22	Everyone likes praise, but some people <i>need</i> praise. Some people need constant attention and to be told they are smarter and more capable than everyone else. People we love to work with find self-worth inside themselves. That allows them to spend all their energy encouraging and recognizing other people, which makes them awesome to work with... and also awesome friends.
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23	It's hard for any of us to resist learning inside scoop. Unfortunately, the people who gossip about other people are also gossiping about <i>us</i>... and suddenly the idea of gossip isn't so much fun. People we love to work with excuse themselves from gossip and walk away. Instead, if they decide to share a secret, they speak openly about their <i>own</i> thoughts and feelings. That way they're not gossiping. They're just being genuine.
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PEOPLE WE LOVE TO WORK WITH...	EXTRACT NUMBER	
A. ALWAYS SLEEP ON IT BEFORE TAKING ACTION.		
B. AREN'T EGOCENTRIC.		
C. CELEBRATE EVERY SMALL VICTORY.		
D. LISTEN FIRST AND THEN TALK.		
E. MAKE US FEEL EVEN SMARTER THAN WE ARE.		
F. NEVER ACTIVELY SEEK EXTERNAL APPROVAL.		
G. NEVER GET ON THEIR SOAPBOX.	0	✓
H. NEVER GIVE AWAY THE CREDIT.		
I. NEVER TALK BEHIND PEOPLE'S BACK.		

TASK 3 (10 items x 0.5 marks = 5 marks)

Read this gapped article about 'ugly' dogs. To fill in each gap (24-33) choose the best phrase (A-M) from the list included in your answer sheet. Each phrase can only be used ONCE. There are two extra phrases which do not fit in any gap. Gap 0 is an example.

WRITE YOUR ANSWERS IN YOUR ANSWER SHEET.

RUFF-LOOKING: WHY WE ALL NEED TO FALL IN LOVE WITH UGLY DOGS

By Kate Spicer

14 August 2019

Reading comments by the presenter of Channel 4's *Animal Rescue Live* yesterday, I felt a squirm of shame. 'In this Instagram age there is an obsession with aesthetically perfect pets,' Kate Quilton said, as she scolded owners out for leaving the ugly dogs behind in animal rescue centres [0]__G__. Eek! I remembered the way I'd scrolled through rescue site *Dogs Blog* looking for my dream lurcher. In my favour, yes, I'd nobly rescued him, but I admit my eyes barely registered the odd-looking mongrels.

'Supervet' Noel Fitzpatrick also weighed on the topic. 'We mustn't see rescue dogs as rejects. Look beyond the superficial,' he said. To an extent, I get it. It was only when I adopted Wolfy [24]_____ - mostly deep and meaningful, and to do with being the giver and recipient of unconditional love. 'There's something called Black Dog Syndrome,' he says, citing the increasing numbers of inky animals left in shelters because - and this is real - they don't photograph well for social media. 'Real dog lovers - the selfless devotees - don't care what a dog looks like. I struggle to understand why, when we all seek to be individuals, people want identical French bulldogs. [25]_____ you look like your dog, so you're not going to choose an ugly one? To me there is no such thing as an ugly dog, just ugly people'.

But in fact, statistically, cute kids and good-looking people do have certain advantages in life, [26]_____ to being promoted more easily at work. [27]_____. A 2014 study by the University of Portsmouth found that dogs which could pull sweet faces were more likely to be taken home from rescue centres. But going out with an ugly dog at your side is like hitting the red carpet with hairy armpits. It takes kindness and inner confidence to adopt a hideous hound [28]_____.

My friend Thea always insists that the most off-putting looking mongrel is often the gentlest, and cheaper to insure too, [29]_____ to suffer from strange genetic disorders than inbred pedigrees.

For a while now, I've been thinking about getting a second dog and I know it needs to be an ugly one. Would I love it? I already know the answer is yes, because I remember a time when I wondered if I could love Wolfy. When he slunk towards me in the car park of a service station off the M25, I felt a visceral revulsion [30]____. That weird beast was the colour of an old white sock, smelt of dog vomit and was hunched up like a depressed hyena. Did I have a problem falling for him? [31]_____.

After I collected Wolfy, I took him home and got in the shower with him. As he dried by the fire afterwards, he turned strawberry blonde and shaggy. Turns out that's beautiful to me. Wolfy's turned out to be the love of my life. [32]_____, what I'd initially found ugly became what I find most beautiful now. Sometimes he can look handsome, regal and aloof; at others, more like a dirty muppet. And that - at his ugliest - [33]_____.

Texto reducido / Adapted from © <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/>

OCTUBRE 2020

TASK 3 (10 items x 0.5 marks)	<u>UGLY DOGS</u>	 / 5 marks
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	GAP NUMBER	
A.- AND HAVE REHOMED 642 DOGS THUS FAR		
B.- AND I TRULY ADMIRE ANYONE WHO DOES IT		
C.- AT WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE		
D.- BECAUSE THEY ARE LESS LIKELY		
E.- DID I, HELL!		
F.- FROM BEING SEEN AS MORE INTELLIGENT		
G.- IN FAVOUR OF BUYING CUTE PEDIGREE PUPPIES	0	✓
H.- IS A GOOD INDICATOR OF AN INSECURE OWNER		
I.- IS IT BECAUSE EVERYONE SAYS THAT		
J.- IS WHEN I WANT TO HUG HIM THE MOST		
K.- ONCE WE'D BONDED		
L.- THAT I DISCOVERED SO MANY WONDERFUL THINGS ABOUT DOG OWNERSHIP		
M.- THIS PREFERENCE EXTENDS TO PETS AS WELL		