



Proves d'accés a la universitat

Llengua estrangera **Anglès**

Sèrie 1 - A

	Qualificació	Etiqueta de qualificació
Comprensió escrita		
Redacció		
Comprensió oral		

Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal

Número del tribunal

Convocatòria 2017

WHAT'S THE REAL HISTORY OF BLACK FRIDAY?

Black Friday is the day after Thanksgiving, when crowds of turkey-stuffed shoppers descend on stores all over the country to take advantage of the Christmas season's biggest **bargains**. But the real story behind Black Friday is a bit more complicated—and darker—than that.

The first recorded use of the term *Black Friday* was applied to a financial crisis, specifically, the crash of the U.S. gold market on September 24, 1869. Two speculators, Jay Gould and Jim Fisk, bought up as much as they could of the nation's gold, hoping **to drive** the price **up** and sell it for huge profits. On that Friday in September, the conspiracy was finally revealed, sending the Wall Street stock market into **bankruptcy**.

The most commonly repeated story behind the post-Thanksgiving shopping-related Black Friday tradition links it to **retailers**. As the story goes, after an entire year of operating at a loss ("in the red"), stores would earn a profit ("go into the black") on the day after Thanksgiving, because holiday shoppers spent so much money on discounted merchandise. Though it's true that retail companies used to record losses in red and profits in black when doing their **accounting**, this is an inaccurate version of Black Friday's origin.

In recent years, another myth has appeared, giving a particularly ugly **twist** to the tradition and claiming that back in the 1800s, Southern plantation owners could buy slaves at a discount on the day after Thanksgiving. Though this version of Black Friday's roots has understandably led some to call for a boycott of the retail holiday, it has no basis in fact.

The true story behind Black Friday, however, is quite different. Back in the 1950s, police in the city of Philadelphia used the term to describe the chaos on the day after Thanksgiving, when thousands of shoppers and tourists arrived in the city on the day before the big Army-Navy football game held on that Saturday every year. The Army-Navy game, one of the biggest rivalries in American sports, is usually played in Philadelphia, the first capital of the U.S. Philadelphia cops were not able to take the day off because they had to work extra-long **shifts** to deal with the big crowds and added traffic. Shoplifters would also take advantage of the confusion in stores to steal merchandise, adding to the policemen's headaches.

By 1961, the expression *Black Friday* had caught on in Philadelphia. The city's merchants tried unsuccessfully to change it into *Big Friday* in order to remove the negative connotations. The term didn't spread to the rest of the U.S. until much later. Sometime in the late 1990s, however, retailers found a way to reinvent Black Friday and turn it into something that reflected positively on them and their customers. The day after Thanksgiving became America's shopping day, marking the point when stores turned a profit. It is interesting to note, however, that stores traditionally see bigger sales on the Saturday before Christmas than on Black Friday.

The Black Friday story stuck, and soon the term's darker roots in Philadelphia were forgotten. Since then, the one-day sales bonanza has become a four-day event, and has inspired other retail holidays such as Small Business Saturday/Sunday and Cyber Monday. Stores started opening earlier and earlier on that Friday, until Walmart, the world's largest retailer, opened its stores on Thanksgiving evening in 2011. Ever since, retailers have been in a race to catch up and now, millions of Americans say they plan to shop immediately after their Thanksgiving meal. Retailers have come up with a name they hope will catch on: Grey Thursday.

Text adapted from an article by
Sarah PRUITT. *History.com* [on line] (November 24, 2015)

bargain: ganga

to drive up: incrementar

bankruptcy: bancarrota

retailer: comerciant que ven al detall / comerciante minorista

accounting: comptabilitat / contabilidad

twist: gir / giro

shift: torn / turno

Part 1: Reading comprehension

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only ONE answer is correct.

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

		Espai per al corrector/a		
		Correcta	Incorrecta	No contestada
1.	On Black Friday	☐	☐	☐
	☐ you can find the biggest discounts of the year.			
	☐ lots of shoppers buy stuffed turkey.			
	☐ retailers sell merchandise at lower prices.			
	☐ shops all over the country increase prices.			
2.	Which sentence is NOT true?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ Gould and Fisk managed to sell their gold at a high price.			
	☐ As a result of Gould and Fisk's conspiracy, Wall Street crashed in 1869.			
	☐ The term <i>Black Friday</i> was used for the first time in 1869.			
	☐ Gould and Fisk's speculative moves were discovered on a Friday.			
3.	It is said that Black Friday owes its name to retailers because	☐	☐	☐
	☐ they sold a lot and made a profit on the day after Thanksgiving.			
	☐ they had losses and profits on the same day.			
	☐ the stores that didn't offer any discounts were in the red.			
	☐ they didn't make any profits on the day after Thanksgiving.			
4.	According to the text, what's the relationship between slavery and Black Friday?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ None; the whole story is fake.			
	☐ Slaves used to be sold on Fridays.			
	☐ Slaves were cheaper after Thanksgiving.			
	☐ Extra help was needed on plantations after Thanksgiving.			
5.	Police officers in Philadelphia used the term <i>Black Friday</i> to refer to the day when	☐	☐	☐
	☐ thousands of visitors to the city caused them a lot of trouble.			
	☐ the Army-Navy football match was played.			
	☐ stores opened later than usual.			
	☐ they could enjoy a long Thanksgiving holiday.			
6.	The term <i>Black Friday</i> , with the meaning we know today, was widely used	☐	☐	☐
	☐ at the end of the 1990s.			
	☐ throughout the 1950s.			
	☐ from 2011 onwards.			
	☐ back in the 1800s.			
7.	Nowadays, Black Friday sales	☐	☐	☐
	☐ last until the Monday after Thanksgiving.			
	☐ have been replaced by Cyber Monday.			
	☐ start very early on Thanksgiving Day.			
	☐ continue until the following Thursday.			
8.	Grey Thursday refers to	☐	☐	☐
	☐ going shopping right after Thanksgiving dinner.			
	☐ the first time Walmart opened its stores on Thanksgiving Day.			
	☐ the shops that open on Thanksgiving Day.			
	☐ the day when most Americans go shopping.			

Recompte de les respostes

Nota de comprensió escrita

Correctes	Incorrectes	No contestades
☐	☐	☐

Part 2: Writing

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

[4 points]

1. You and a friend are planning to go shopping. You want to go on Black Friday and take advantage of all the bargains, but your friend thinks this day only promotes consumerism. Write the dialogue between you and your friend. Make sure you do NOT use your own name in your dialogue.
2. Buy Nothing Day was created as a reaction to the Black Friday shopping madness, and its creators want people to reflect on their consumer habits and to make them consume less and produce less waste. Do you agree with this idea? Write an opinion essay.

Grammar	
Vocabulary	
Text	
Maturity	
Total	
Nota de la redacció	

Part 3: Listening comprehension

ARE INSECTS THE FUTURE OF FOOD?

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

locust: llagosta / langosta

cricket: grill / grillo

mealworm: cuc de la farina / gusano de la harina

livestock: bestiar / ganado

gross: fastigós / asqueroso

Ready?

Now read the questions on the following page. Read them carefully before listening to the radio programme.

Presenter: Are insects the future of food? By the year 2050, the planet will be packed with 9 billion people. In low- and middle-income countries, the demand for animal products is rising sharply as economies and incomes grow; in the next few decades, we'll need to find new ways to produce enough protein for billions more mouths. I'm Jennifer Raz and today my guest is Professor Marcel Dickie, who investigates the ecology of insect-plant interactions, and researches the viability of insects as food.

[Now listen to the interview.]

QUESTIONS

Choose the best answer according to the recording. Only ONE answer is correct.

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

1.	Marcel Dickie and his wife	☐	☐	☐
	☐ usually have a rice dish with vegetables for dinner.			
	☐ eat insects for dinner because they taste like chicken.			
	☐ have insects for dinner about once a week.			
	☐ have three species of insects for dinner every week.			
2.	Which of these sentences is TRUE?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ The species of insects for sale in the Netherlands are freeze-dried.			
	☐ The species of insects for sale in the Netherlands are from farms.			
	☐ You can buy lots of species of insects in the Netherlands.			
	☐ You can buy edible insects alive in the Netherlands.			
3.	Which of these dishes does NOT appear in Marcel Dickie's cookbook?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ Pancakes with mealworms.			
	☐ A quiche with mealworms.			
	☐ Chocolate topped with locusts.			
	☐ Chicken with bugs.			
4.	According to Professor Marcel Dickie,	☐	☐	☐
	☐ eating insects might be a little unusual.			
	☐ about 30 per cent of the population eat insects on a regular basis.			
	☐ about 2 billion people want to eat insects regularly.			
	☐ about 30 per cent of the people don't know they are eating insects.			
5.	Insects are the future of food because	☐	☐	☐
	☐ only 70 % of all agricultural land is used to produce livestock.			
	☐ they need much less agricultural land than livestock.			
	☐ the land used to produce livestock will be limited to 70 %.			
	☐ they are very expensive to produce on a large scale.			
6.	Insects are a good alternative to regular meat because	☐	☐	☐
	☐ they have better quality protein.			
	☐ they are lower in calories.			
	☐ they take little time to cook.			
	☐ they can be eaten frozen.			
7.	From a biological point of view,	☐	☐	☐
	☐ locusts, crickets and shrimps are closely related.			
	☐ a locust and a cricket are the same as a shrimp with wings and legs.			
	☐ locusts and crickets are nicer than shrimps.			
	☐ when you look at a shrimp you look at an insect.			
8.	According to Marcel Dickie, if we could get over the cultural aversion in the West to eating insects,	☐	☐	☐
	☐ the world population would eat less meat.			
	☐ dinner tables would be more enjoyable.			
	☐ the world population would eat less animal proteins.			
	☐ new meats would be replaced on dinner tables.			

Recompte de les respostes

Nota de comprensió oral

Etiqueta del corrector/a

--

--	--

--	--

Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a

--



Institut
d'Estudis
Catalans

L'Institut d'Estudis Catalans ha tingut cura de la correcció lingüística i de l'edició d'aquesta prova d'accés



Proves d'accés a la universitat

Llengua estrangera **Anglès**

Sèrie 5 - A

	Qualificació	Etiqueta de qualificació
Comprensió escrita		
Redacció		
Comprensió oral		

Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal

Número del tribunal

Convocatòria 2017