



Llengua estrangera **Anglès**

Sèrie 1 - A

Qualificació		TR
Comprensió escrita		
Redacció		
Comprensió oral		
Suma de notes parcials		
Qualificació final		

Etiqueta de l'alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal

Número del tribunal

Etiqueta de qualificació

Etiqueta del corrector/a

THE EMOJI IS THE BIRTH OF A NEW TYPE OF LANGUAGE (NO JOKE)

Tyler Schnoebelen has discovered something curious about why people use the skull emoji. Schnoebelen is a linguist and the chief analyst for Idibon, a firm that interprets linguistic data. Recently he got interested in emoji. He analyzed a million social media posts containing those familiar little pictograms and found that when people talk about their phone, they're 11 times more likely to use the skull. Weird, right? But to Schnoebelen, it makes sense. Our phones, he points out, are social lifelines, and when they malfunction—a weak signal, short battery life—we're upset. "When you don't have access to your phone, or when nobody's texting you, you're socially dead," he says. So we reach for a metaphorical emoji: the skull.

Fully 92 percent of all people online use emoji now, and one-third of them do so daily. On Instagram, nearly half of the posts contain emoji, a trend that began in 2011 when Apple's iOS added an emoji keyboard. Rates increased when Android did the same two years later. Emoji are so popular they're killing off **netspeak**. The more we use emoji, the less we use LOL and OMG.

In essence, we're watching the birth of a new type of language. Emoji assist in a peculiarly modern task: conveying emotions in short, online texts. "They're trying to solve one of the big problems of writing online, which is that you have the words but you don't have the tone of voice," as Gretchen McCulloch, a linguist, says.

Purists are not so convinced. What have we become, children with **crayons**? Surely words alone can convey emotional tone. Maybe—if you're a novelist with years of experience. But most of us write speedily and conversationally on Instagram or WhatsApp. Of the 20 most frequently used emoji, nearly all are hearts, smilies, or hand gestures—the ones that express feelings. In an age of rapid chatter, emoji aid communication by adding an emotional meaning to the message.

We also use emoji to express a sort of ambient presence, when words alone aren't enough. Ryan Kelly, a computer scientist at the University of Bath, has found that texters often exchange a few emoji as nonverbal conclusion to a conversation. "You might not have anything else left to say," Kelly says, "but you want the person to know that you're thinking of them." So you send a couple of pandas. Or telescopes! Or some other symbol that seems **witty**. This is another aspect of emoji—many are open-ended. In fact, it is known that friends use that flexibility to assign their own private meanings to specific emoji. (My wife and I use the Easter Island head to connote absurdity.)

People are even developing syntax and rules of use for emoji. Schnoebelen found that when face emoji are used, they tend to occur before other objects. If you text about a late flight, you'll put an unhappy face followed by a plane, not the reverse. In linguistic terms, this is called conveying "**stance**." Just as with face-to-face talk, our expression illustrates our stance before we've spoken a word.

Social pessimists can stop worrying; no linguist thinks that this means the end of writing. Natural language is our most powerful communication tool. For most people, these ideograms represent an upgrade. Language always changes: slang is born, develops and becomes obsolete, for example. But it's exceedingly rare—maybe unprecedented—for languages with phonetic alphabets to suddenly acquire a big expansion pack of ideograms. In an age when we write more than ever, emoji are the new language of the heart.

Text adapted from an article by
Clive THOMPSON. *Wired* [online] (April 19, 2016)

netspeak: llenguatge del ciberespai / lenguaje del ciberespacio

crayon: llapis de cera / lápiz de cera

witty: enginyós / ingenioso

stance: actitud

Part 2: Writing

Choose ONE topic. Your answer should be 125-150 words in length. There is no specific penalty for exceeding 150 words in length. Extra points are not given for exceeding 150 words.
[4 points]

1. “Emoji is the new language of the heart.” Do you agree with the author’s statement? **Write an opinion essay.**
2. Although friendships can last a lifetime, it is also true that sometimes our relationship with a friend or someone in our family can take a turn for the worse. **Write a narrative essay** explaining what led to the breakup of a friendship.

Grammar	
Vocabulary	
Text	
Maturity	
Total	
Nota de la redacció	

Part 3: Listening comprehension

'MOBY-DUCK': WHEN 28,800 BATH TOYS ARE LOST AT SEA

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

to end up: resultar

deck: cubierta / cubierta

to stack: apilar

to maneuver: maniobrar, operar

Ready?

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

Presenter: This is *Fresh Air*, our weekly program devoted to the environment. What happens when 28,000 rubber ducks and other bath toys are accidentally dumped into the ocean? Where do the ocean currents take them, and what environmental impact do the ducks and other ocean junk have on the seas? That's what our guest, the journalist Donovan Hahn, investigated in his book *Moby-Duck: The True Story of 28,800 Bath Toys Lost at Sea and the Beachcombers, Oceanographers, Environmentalists, and Fools, Including the Author, Who Went in Search of Them*.

[Now listen to the interview.]

QUESTIONS

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

[3 points: 0.375 points for each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.125 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

1.	Where were the lost toy ducks first found?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ Alaska.			
	☐ Canada.			
	☐ China.			
	☐ Oregon.			
2.	How long did it take the first rubber ducks to surface on a beach after their container was lost at sea?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ Only three months.			
	☐ About a year and a half.			
	☐ Four years.			
	☐ Almost six years.			
3.	How many containers with rubber ducks and other toys were lost at sea?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ 12.			
	☐ 407.			
	☐ Hundreds and hundreds.			
	☐ Over 28,000.			
4.	Which of the following best describes the cargo ships discussed in the conversation?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ They regularly go through the Panama Canal.			
	☐ They mainly navigate between North America and South America.			
	☐ They carry hundreds of containers above and below deck.			
	☐ They almost always drop some containers in the sea.			
5.	Which of the following statements is TRUE?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ Large ships are better able to navigate in storms than smaller ships.			
	☐ The ship lost the toys in the Graveyard of the Pacific.			
	☐ The weather in the North Pacific is so good that few wrecks occur.			
	☐ Sailing ships in the 19 th century did not cross the Pacific.			
6.	What do we know for certain about the accident that resulted in the loss of rubber ducks at sea?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ It occurred at night.			
	☐ It occurred during the day.			
	☐ It occurred because of an error by the ship's captain.			
	☐ It occurred when there were high waves.			
7.	We can deduce from the conversation that the toys were originally	☐	☐	☐
	☐ packed in plastic bags.			
	☐ packed in cardboard boxes.			
	☐ not individually packed.			
	☐ made out of cardboard.			
8.	Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an important source of plastics in the oceans?	☐	☐	☐
	☐ Waste from coastal cities.			
	☐ Fishing fleets.			
	☐ Garbage dumps.			
	☐ Cruise ships.			

Recompte de les respostes

Nota de comprensió oral

Etiqueta 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



Llengua estrangera **Anglès**

Sèrie 4 - A

Qualificació		TR
Comprensió escrita		
Redacció		
Comprensió oral		
Suma de notes parcials		
Qualificació final		

Etiqueta de l'alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal

Número del tribunal

Etiqueta de qualificació

Etiqueta del corrector/a