

COORDINACIÓN DE INGLÉS

EXAMEN GLOBAL DE NIVEL B2

NAME: _____ MAJOR: _____ DATE: _____

PROFESSOR: _____ GROUP: _____

Section A. READING (45 MIN)

SCORE: _____ / 52 pts

PART 1. For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example: 0. A devised B invented C thought D constructed

Imaginary friends in early childhood.

Many children have an imaginary friends - that is a friend they have (0) D. It was once thought that only children who had difficulty in (1) _____ relationships with others had imaginary friends. In fact, having an imaginary friend is probably a common (2) _____ of a normal childhood as many children with lots of real friends also have an imaginary friend. The imaginary friend may help some children (3) _____ with emotional difficulties, but for many, having an imaginary friend is just fun.

Most children, it appears, realise that their imaginary friend is not real. If people (4) _____ asking about an imaginary friend, children often say, 'You know, my friend isn't real - I (5) _____ him up.'

There is no firm evidence to say that having an imaginary friend (6) _____ us anything about what a child will be like in the future. One (7) _____ os research, though, has (8) _____ that adults who once had imaginary friends may be more creative than those who did not.

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | A forming | B creating | C gaining | D producing |
| 2 | A state | B aspect | C situation | D point |
| 3 | A handle | B accept | C support | D cope |
| 4 | A keep | B persist | C maintain | D stay |
| 5 | A got | B put | C made | D set |
| 6 | A reveals | B informs | C tells | D advises |
| 7 | A item | B section | C unit | D piece |
| 8 | A suggested | B displayed | C presented | D notified |

PART 2. For questions 9-16, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only ONE word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example: 0 BEEN

Collecting stamps

Ever since postage stamps were first issued, people have (0) BEEN collecting them. At (9) _____ this was regarded as just a hobby for children. Many people, though, continue collecting stamps throughout the whole of _____ lives. Although stamp collecting is no (11) _____ as widespread as it once was, it remains (12) _____ of the most popular hobbies.

The collections people make vary. Some want to obtain every stamp ever issued by a particular country. Others, though, are more interested in the picture on stamps and collect as (13) _____ stamps as possible. Which have, for example, a picture of a bird or maybe an aeroplane.

It is (14) _____ doubt very satisfying for a collector to feel such a collection is complete. However, in many cases this never happens (15) _____ new stamps are being issued (16) _____ the time. This may be frustrating but this means that people can carry on collecting for as long as their interest lasts.

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PART 3. For questions 17-24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Before 1869 the journey from the east coast to the west coast of the United States took between four and six months, travelling through difficult and (0) **DANGEROUS** country by wagon. With the west coast becoming increasingly wealthy, it was obvious that a better route was needed, in the 1850s (17) _____ began about building a transcontinental railway line linking the west with the east.

DISCUSS

Although there was much (18) _____ about the best route, eventually it was decided to build a line. It ran 3,069 kilometres in (19) _____ from Sacramento in the west to a point where it would join (20) _____ lines giving access to the east coast.

AGREEMENT

LONG
EXIST

Once the line became operational in 1869, the journey could be completed in less than a week. In (21) _____ with the six hours that a (22) _____ from New York to San Francisco takes nowadays, this may not seem particularly (23) _____, but building the transcontinental railway was a great technological (24) _____ which helped to bring

COMPARE
FLY
IMPRESS
ACHIEVE

PART 4. For questions 25-29, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

0 A very friendly taxi driver drove us into town.

DRIVEN

We WERE DRIVEN INTO TOWN BY a very friendly taxi driver.

25. The only vegetable that Helen dislikes is cabbage. **VEGETABLES**

Helen _____ from cabbages.

26. When Alex has finished his essay, a friend is going to check the spelling for him. **CHECKED**

When Alex has finished his essay, he is going to _____ a friend.

27. Mr Bateman was wrong to say that John had lost my keys. **SHOULD**

Mr Bateman _____ that John had lost my keys.

28. It's possible that George didn't get my text message. **MAY**

George _____ my text message.

29. Richard invited Julie to the party because he didn't want to risk offending her. **MIGHT**

Richard felt Julie _____ he didn't ask her to the party.

30. My geography homework is to think of at least three ways to collect water in the desert. **COME**

My geography homework is _____ at least three ways to collect water in the desert.

PART 5. You are going to read an article about doing a degree course from home. For questions 31-36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Distance learning

Distance learning can give students the chance to work and learn at the same time.

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Nineteen-year-old Jamie Henderson hasn't had what you'd call a typical student experience. Despite wanting to read for a degree in Law, Jamie decided against the usual university route and instead opted to study from home. 'With course fees now so high in this country, I was really put off by all the debt I would have when I came out of university,' he says. Having made this decision, Jamie was able to look into alternatives – which in the end turned out to be a degree validated by a university through a distance learning provider. 'It was a massive weight off my mind and it was a perfect option for me,' Jamie says. 'It has allowed me to stay near my friends and my family and still work part-time.'

Jamie has been able to take on two part-time jobs – alongside his studies – but has also been free to undertake work experience for a law firm, which has led to a full-time job offer before he has even completed his course. Jonathan Smith, who is studying for a BA in Business, chose to study via a distance learning course when already in full-time employment. 'I'd studied History, Politics and Economics at school but going to university wasn't even a consideration for me,' he explains. 'My friends were at home, I didn't want to be burdened with debt and I wanted to get straight into a career.'

Jonathan completed a Business and Administration Apprenticeship with the local council. While working as a medical administrator, he studied for a diploma and after 12 months had valuable workplace experience. 'I'd done so well at work that they kept me on. But after six months getting settled into my new role, I was financially stable and ready to progress my career with a degree. I didn't want to give up what I'd achieved to go to university, so distance learning was an appealing choice.' Obviously, one of the downsides to a distance learning course is that students miss out on the experience of attending university, which means missing out on traditional lectures.

'Reading feedback and instructions from a screen isn't quite the same as talking to someone face-to-face,' Jamie says. 'It's also a lot of work to do on your own. I don't have a close circle of friends going through the same thing, so I can't really ask my peers for help and advice. However, I've found the online (line 20) student forums helpful and the firm I've been working for have offered advice and guidance when I've needed it.' 'I haven't met as many new people as I would have, had I moved away,' says Jamie. 'But I have met new people through work instead. It's just a different type of experience, which is just as rewarding and ultimately, in my opinion, makes me more employable.'

For anyone considering a distance learning course, there are several other factors to be considered; perhaps most importantly, motivation. 'Distance learning isn't an easy option,' says Dr Philip Hallam, Chief Executive Officer of a distance and online learning provider. 'It's going to be a substantial commitment, not only financially but also on your time. We need to make sure that people have really thought it through and understand why they want a degree. You will need to dig deep occasionally.' Jonathan Smith is confident in the choices he's made regarding education, but believes more could be done to make young people aware of the choices they have.

'When I left school with good qualifications, I was shocked at how little advice was available on options other than university. Everyone is different and education should reflect that. I'm glad I took the route I did and I think it is important that more people have the opportunity to study in a way that suits them.'

31 Why did Jamie decide to do his degree from home? that

- A** His friends were also studying by distance learning.
- B** He had already been offered a full-time job.

32 Jonathan's reason for studying from home was

- A** he wanted to remain in his job.
- B** the job he was doing was badly paid.

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- C He wanted to avoid owing a lot of money. C his preferred subject wasn't available at university.
D He was unable to obtain a place at university. D it was too late for him to apply to university.

33 In line 20, what does 'my peers' mean?

- A the university staff
B students who have already graduated
C the management of the firm
D students of the same age

34 Jamie says that studying from home has enabled him to

- A work with people who were also studying at the same time.
B improve his chances of finding work in the future.
C get to know more people than he would have done at university.
D concentrate on studying rather than spend time socializing.

35 Dr Hallam recommends distance learning for students who

- A dislike having to work very hard.
B have little time available for study.
C cannot afford to go to university.
D know exactly what it involves.

36 In the last paragraph, Jonathan says that young people should

- A be advised not to go to university.
B be made more aware of the choices they have.
C apply for work with employers like his.
D ensure they get high grades at school.

PART 6. You are going to read an article about an unusual school in Germany, where the pupils have a great deal of freedom. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A-G the one which fits each gap (37-42). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

- A Schwarz is convinced that it can.
B But Schwarz never saw this as a problem.
C These include critical thinking and the ability to socialise.
D Simple: the children make the rules, choose their classes and where to work.
E They basically run the school too, through their weekly discussion meetings.
F So this got Schwarz thinking: why not open one himself?
G The pupils study rare crafts like soap-making, and Mr Schwarz has even taught classes in cheese-tasting.

Open-air teaching In Germany

A bold experiment in education that aims to help young students become independent thinkers

In 2013, Wolfgang Schwarz became Assistant Headteacher at a Hamburg school. It was a conventional school: teachers taught lessons that pupils had to attend, and set compulsory homework for pupils. The school taught all the usual subjects from English to maths. The Senior Management team told the teachers what to do, and the teachers told the pupils what to do.

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Shortly after this, Schwarz read an article about open-air schools, whose aim is to encourage children to be more independent and develop important life skills in a natural setting. (37)..... This is in contrast to more traditional schools like where Schwarz was working, where (according to critics) the focus is too much on the teaching and learning of factual information, and where children aren't given enough opportunity to learn how to think for themselves. They maintain the physical limitations of the classroom stop students learning naturally. Learning outside, in a forest or on a beach encourages students to think more about the world around them.

However, there were only a small number of outdoor schools across Germany. (38)..... In 2014, that is exactly what he did, and the Hamburg Outdoor School was born. With four teachers and 42 children aged between 4 and 18, Schwarz's school had a small building set in large grounds near a beach and private forest. Now they use the areas outside the school more than the old classrooms. Most lessons take place outside. What actually makes it an 'outdoor' school? How does it work in practice? (39)..... There are no tests and no homework you have to do, although some parents have, additionally, set their children academic tasks to complete away from school.

The curriculum is certainly not conventional. (40)..... Last year, the students sampled more than 80 different subjects, learning some maths, history and physics in the process. And some of the teaching is done by the students themselves, such as a course on geology, taught by 13-year-old Dieter Altmann, which has become one of the most popular at the school. Other subjects range from juggling to fishing techniques.

However, student independence isn't just limited as to how the children actually do their learning. (41)..... At these sessions, anything can be discussed, ranging from discipline issues to deciding who should be allowed to start at the school. Everyone, from the youngest child to the school Headteacher, has an equal vote in all this. All decisions are made democratically, so the teachers can be outvoted by the children theoretically; this is something which does happen from time to time. The key question is this: does a school with optional lessons and student-led courses on juggling really provide students with the best start in life? (42)..... Accepting that students in normal schools may become better at certain skills, he maintains that children can learn facts much better in a natural environment through experimentation and observation. 'If you learn out of the classroom in the natural world, it makes learning more meaningful and memorable'.

PART 6. You are going to read an article in which four people are talking about giving up successful careers to do something very different. For questions 43-52, choose from the people (A-D). The people may be chosen more than once.

Which person

- 43. Is not always confident that they have done the right thing? _____
- 44. Is pleased to have proved doubters wrong? _____
- 45. Says they found success more easily in their first career than in their second? _____
- 46. Regrets not having changed careers sooner? _____
- 47. Refers to a time when they needed to gain confidence? _____
- 48. Mentions a sense of amazement when looking back at the past? _____
- 49. Admits that they changed career too suddenly? _____
- 50. Describes an urge to return to a childhood interest? _____
- 51. Says that skills developed in their first career proved useful? _____
- 52. Mentions feeling envious at one point? _____

I gave up my career for something very different

A Mike Donne

I started doing magic tricks for family and friends when I was about seven, and by sixteen I was performing at big public events. I was also good academically, and studied law at university. Ten years after my degree, I was a busy lawyer with no time for magic, although I missed it. Then, out of the blue, a couple of old friends asked if I'd let them use some of my old material in a touring magic show they were setting up. I agreed but it bothered me that they were doing something I'd always loved, while I was in a job I had very little passion for. So, I joined them. I was very rusty initially, and I had to practise for several months before I felt able to perform in public, but I'm now one of the main acts. Funnily enough, it's been far tougher to make it as a magician than as a lawyer, but I've realised that this is what makes me feel alive.

B Kristina Mayer

I used to work for a bank and made enough from that to be in a position to buy my own apartment when I was 22. After a few years, however, dissatisfaction set in. I was just sitting at a computer, manipulating figures, and I longed to get out into the fresh air and move around. Then, one weekend, some friends talked me into going surfing with them. Surprisingly, it appealed to me so much that I ended up spending my days surfing and doing restaurant work in the evenings. I'm now taking part in competitions and I promote surf gear as a professional surfer. At times I can hardly afford to pay the rent, and I sometimes wonder whether leaving the bank was such a good idea, but then I remember I'm doing my favourite thing in the world.

C Carl Johnson

Five years ago I was an accountant, well-paid but feeling unfulfilled in my life. Then, my cousin asked if I'd help out at his burger restaurant one weekend when he was short of staff. I'd always liked burgers ever since I was small, but I was surprised at how much I enjoyed making them. Two weeks later I quit my job, hired a van and some equipment, and started selling burgers at street markets. It would've been better to have taken more time doing some proper background research, but what I knew about accounting came in handy, and my enthusiasm made up for my inexperience. I've now acquired a second van and taken on a couple of assistants, so the business is growing. It's incredible to think how much my life has changed.

D Agnes Porter

I was a very creative child, but I was taught that success lay in other directions. So I worked hard and ended up as human resources manager of an international company. It was well-paid but I dreamed of starting my own business. So during one holiday last year, I decided to experiment and made cakes for a couple of wedding receptions. They turned out to be very popular and, within a month, I'd resigned from my job and was making cakes full-time. Pushing myself hard to do well is in my nature, so I still work a lot, but I feel more in control of things now. People used to say that having my own business was an unrealistic dream, so demonstrating I could achieve it has been very satisfying. It's just a pity I didn't do it several years ago.