

CARPETA DE RECUPERACIÓN 2025**Competencia “Lee”**

NAME: _____

Units 1-2 Reading**Task 1**

Read the article. Choose from the sentences (A-H) the one which fits each gap. There are three extra sentence which you do not need to use.

- A The sound of these whales has therefore become less common.
- B Surprisingly, perhaps, for the largest animal on the planet, they eat tiny creatures called krill.
- C However, people never wanted to hurt the whales.
- D However, it can be heard by other blue whales thousands of kilometres away.
- E Other species can grow much more quickly.
- F The blue whale is a good example as, at one point, there were only a few hundred left.
- G Before this hunting started, it is thought that there were over 200,000 whales worldwide.
- H Because of this, whales live close together in small family groups.

Saving blue whales: a success story

Stories about the environment are rarely good news these days: climate change, species in danger, and so on. Occasionally, however, there is a real success story to celebrate.

1 _____ These days, however, their numbers have thankfully risen to several thousand.

Scientists believe that the blue whale is the largest animal ever to have lived on Earth. It grows to a length of thirty metres and can weigh up to two hundred tonnes. 2 _____ Whales need to consume a lot of them, as they typically eat around 36,000 kilos of food each day!

During the 19th and 20th centuries, blue whales were killed for their meat and oil. 3 _____ At its maximum, 30,000 blue whales per year were being caught. A ban on whaling was finally introduced in the 1960s.

Since then, the number of blue whales has slowly increased. Scientists think their population in some areas is growing by as much as ten percent per year. 4 _____ However, blue whales only have a baby once every three years.

Though we can't hear them on land, of course, blue whales are one of the loudest animals on the planet. Their unusual method of communication sounds a little like low, deep singing to us.

5 _____

So although there's a long way to go until the blue whale's song is heard in as much of our oceans as it once was, there are highly positive signs that this species is heading in the right direction.

Task 2

Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 6 At one point, there were less than a thousand blue whales left on Earth.
- 7 Some blue whales are over 30 metres long.
- 8 People used to catch blue whales for food.
- 9 People walking near the sea can sometimes hear blue whales singing.
- 10 Blue whale numbers today are similar to before people started hunting them.

Reading

Task 1

Read the article and choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

In the first paragraph, what is true about English?

- A It's not an international language.
- B It's the only international language.
- C Business people use it.
- D It is easy to learn.

Why is Esperanto becoming more popular?

- A It doesn't have a large vocabulary.
- B It's has always been an easy language to learn.
- C It's not taught in schools.
- D People can learn online.

Where are Esperanto speakers from?

- A two or three countries
- B one country
- C all the countries of the world
- D most countries

How did Katarina feel about speaking Esperanto when she was young?

- A fine
- B strange
- C confused
- D bored

How many languages does Katarina speak?

- A two
- B three
- C four
- D five

Why does Katarina think Esperanto will grow?

- A Because of communication on the internet.
- B Because people travel more nowadays.
- C Because more writing is in Esperanto.
- D Because it is very popular now.

Task 2

Read the article again and answer the questions in your own words.

15 How many people know some Esperanto?

16 How did Esperanto help Katarina?

Esperanto - an unusual language

When you think of an international language you might think of English. Schools teach English all over the world and it is often the language of international business. But there is another international language - Esperanto! Esperanto is not a language from any country, it is an invented international language.

A man called LL Zamenhof wanted to design a language that didn't belong to one country, and in 1887, he designed Esperanto. Over 1 million people can speak Esperanto and over 2 million can understand some Esperanto words. The popularity of Esperanto is also growing. This is most likely because it is easier to learn than it was in the past. Now, you can find courses online, but in the past there weren't many books on Esperanto, and it was not taught in many schools.

The interesting thing about Esperanto speakers is that they are not from just one place. There are speakers in nearly every country, with speakers in over 120 countries. The highest numbers of speakers are in China, Europe and the United States.

There are also some people who have Esperanto as their first language. This may seem unusual, but it can happen when children are raised in families with parents from different countries. This is because the parents want all the family to have a shared language. This is what happened to 16-year-old Katarina.

'From when I was born to when I was four years old, I only spoke Esperanto at home. My father is from Croatia and my mother is from India. They decided that we should all learn Esperanto and speak it at home. Many kids find languages boring, but I thought it was fun, especially because nobody else could understand us, and they were confused! When I was older, they also started teaching me some English, and I can speak a little bit of my parents' first languages too. I think learning Esperanto made it easier to learn other languages.'

Katerina also says, 'When I'm older, I want to be a journalist, and travel to different countries, but I want to write my articles in English and Esperanto. I think it will be more and more popular in future. Now there are many people from different countries who communicate online. Why not in Esperanto?'