

**INGELESA****MAILA PROBA****TARTEKO MAILA 2 (B1.2)****INGLES****PRUEBA DE NIVEL****NIVEL INTERMEDIO 2 (B1.2)**

This test measures the student's written comprehension and consists of four tasks.

Tasks	Marks	Estimated time	Level
1. Dying for Money	7	15 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you get less than 16 marks take the previous test: Nivel Intermedio 1 / Tarteko Maila 1 (or B1.1) If you get 16-24 marks you can enrol for Nivel Intermedio 2 / Tarteko Maila 2 (B1.2) If you get 25-31 marks, you can proceed to take the next test: Nivel Avanzado / Maila Aurreratua (B2).
2. Were toads...	10	15 minutes	
3. Little Garden	7	15 minutes	
4. A Bug's Life	7	25 minutes	
	Total marks: 31	Total time: 1 hour, 10 min.	

Follow the instructions for each of the tasks and write your answers on the spaces provided below them.

You will find the correct answers on the last page.



For questions 1-7, read through the following text and then choose from the list A-J the best phrase given below it to fill each of the spaces. Write one letter (A-J) in each space provided. Some of the suggested answers do not fit at all. The exercise begins with an example.

DYING FOR MONEY

Bertie Golightly is an unusual name, (0) ..A.. . Whereas most women in their early forties would be reasonably contented with a secure nine-to-five job, (1), Bertie prefers to earn her living in a more stimulating way: she spends her working day crashing cars, falling downstairs and pretending to drown in the River Thames.

Now aged 41, this remarkable English lady has been one of the world's leading stuntwomen for the past fifteen years. The work is extremely dangerous (2) One of her most frightening adventures happened recently when filming a British television series. Bertie played a girl in a mink coat who had got her ring stuck in a car door handle: for this scene she was dragged around a multi-storey car park at 60 miles an hour. Although Bertie's feet were protected by steel industrial boots, the toe-caps wore right through (3) Fortunately he stopped, but as Bertie said, "another few seconds and I'd have been in real trouble."

What makes someone like Bertie Golightly lead such a hazardous existence? It certainly isn't money, (4) Bertie herself isn't sure why she chose this career. All she remembers is that she was working as a chemical researcher (5) for a film. She enjoyed the work so much that she decided to look for more: "it was such tremendous fun, I just had to carry on."

Bertie doesn't really know what fear is. Stuntwork is very much a man's world (6) Bertie maintains that "stuntmen are allowed to specialize; stuntwomen have to accept any assignment thrown at them." This tough lady accepts, however, that one day she will have to give up this extraordinary profession. In preparation for the future she has already set up a high class fashion dress agency in Bradford-upon-Avon. But Bertie Golightly finds choosy clients (7) : in her own words, "really, it's easier to hang under helicopters than run a shop."

A. but then Bertie Golightly is an unusual lady (EXAMPLE)

- B. harder to cope with than most dangerous stuntwork
- C. so she was told to take judo lessons
- D. as the pay for this type of work isn't much above the average salary
- E. and there is no such thing as life insurance
- F. if a woman wants to succeed
- G. and the driver was unable to hear her screams
- H. when she was talent-spotted to do a wild side-saddle ride
- I. or else with running a home and family
- J. and thus female performers are obliged to show even greater courage

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A							



For questions 8-17, read the following passage and decide which of the three options A, B, or C best fits each gap. The first one has been done for you as an example.

WERE TOADS ON THE ROAD SENSING A QUAKE?

Now this is (0) In early May a massive toad migration perplexed people in a village near Mianzhu, Sichuan province. Hundreds of thousands of the amphibians were milling around near a pharmaceutical factory, many getting crushed (8) passing cars on the road, according to the West China Urban Daily on May 10.

The paper (9) that some residents were wondering if the weird animal behaviour could portend an impending disaster. Others interviewed on local TV thought the toad congregation was a lucky sign (10) "They appeared in 2008, the year China hosts the Olympics. Maybe even animals are coming out to welcome the Olympics!" speculated one, who said he (11) such an assembly of toads before.

Experts of the local Forestry Bureau (12) to check it out. The scientists found a large number of the amphibians hopping around in a drainage ditch behind the factory, where the water was (13) elsewhere. Bureau head Shu Shi was quoted as saying the fact that it was the final phase of the toad-breeding season, plus two days of nonstop rain and the warmer temperature of the ditchwater, had created perfect conditions (14) the creatures to hatch and then hop *en masse* to higher ground: "This is a normal phenomenon, it has (15) to do with a natural calamity."

The official reassured residents that toads were not a bad sign, but (16) were good for the farming population because they kill mosquitoes and protect crops. "This is a good thing. It shows the environment in Mianzhu is (17) better and better", a spokesperson said.

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 0 | A funny | B bizarre | C ordinary |
| 8 | A with | B through | C by |
| 9 | A reported | B advised | C suggested |
| 10 | A although | B despite | C instead |
| 11 | A 'd never seen | B 'll never see | C was never seeing |
| 12 | A sent | B were sent | C will send |
| 13 | A warmer than | B as warm | C the warmest |
| 14 | A by | B for | C of |
| 15 | A all | B everything | C nothing |
| 16 | A as well | B in fact | C even |
| 17 | A getting | B improving | C turning |

0	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
B										



For questions 18-24 read the following passage and complete each gap with one suitable word from the list provided. Each of these words can be used only once. There are some words you will not need.

LITTLE GARDEN

Whether you think that garden gnomes are fun and playful (0), or that they are ugly and take away from the beauty of any garden, most people seem to view them with affection and amusement. Many English gardeners happily display their collection of garden gnomes as part of a water display or as a centrepiece to a (18) flowerbed.

Ardent enthusiasts travel many miles to add a sought-after gnome to their collection. Such collectors search out gnomes with fishing rods, gnomes (19) wheelbarrows, gnomes dancing, or even gnomes simply sitting on a mushroom and serenely watching the world go by. However, the majority of professional gardeners see garden gnomes as a blight on good gardening, an unwelcome sign of the sort of kitsch taste that many of us secretly love!

Whatever your personal view, most people generally assume that garden gnomes are not especially (20) or dangerous. So it comes as a(n) (21) to many to discover that a group of garden gnomes is responsible for the injury – and even death – of many experienced and intrepid explorers and adventurers.

(22), a group of garden gnomes lies hidden at the bottom of a deep lake called Wastwater, in the Lake District in the north of west England. A young diver first placed a garden gnome at the bottom of the lake as a joke to amuse other divers experienced enough to swim in the treacherous waters of the lake. The idea spread.

(23), the presence of these otherwise charming gnomes is having tragic fatal consequences for many visitors to the lake. As the fame of Watswater garden gnomes grows, a(n) (24) number of divers come to the lake to add their own gnome to the garden, or simply to see this weird, very English kind of folly for themselves. Sadly, the lake's cold, dark waters are proving to be treacherous and fatal for all too many of the increasingly inexperienced divers swimming in the depths.

AMAZINGLY	CHARMING	EXCEEDING	HARMFUL
INCREASING	ORNAMENTS (0)	PUSHING	SHOCK
TRAUMA	UNFORESEEN	UNFORTUNATELY	

0	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
ornaments							



Read the following text and for questions 25-31 choose the correct option a), b) or c). The first one (0) is the example.

A BUG'S LIFE

As a general rule insects get a very bad press. For a start, insects are not considered to be cuddly or cute. Most people have an instinctive hatred of creepy crawlies and shudder at the mere sight of them. Of course, insects have not really helped themselves to improve their rather unpleasant image. Over the centuries, insects have been responsible for spreading terrible diseases such as malaria, sleeping sickness and plague. Insects such as locusts have also consumed crops before they are harvested causing famine and starvation. However, despite such damning evidence, perhaps it is now time to redress the balance and consider life without insects. The startling truth is that without insects humankind would simply not survive.

Insects are the primary food source for the majority of reptiles, amphibians and birds. Deprived of their food source, such animals would quickly die out. Without insects, flowering plants would not be pollinated and would fail to reproduce. In addition, insects are nature's foremost recyclers. Without insects to recycle the nutrients in dead animals and plants, the earth would swiftly cease to contain essential nutrients - with devastating results. Eventually, if there were no insects, only wind pollinated plants would survive and the land would be inhabited by only a sparse and meagre animal life. Insects are, in effect, our environmental saviours.

Insects are also astonishingly diverse. Indeed, insects and arthropods, being animals with external skeletons, are more diverse than any other class of plant or animal on the planet. Insects were in existence at the very dawn of life on Earth, first appearing over 400 million years ago. Today, scientists have recorded over 900,000 species of insects, more than all other known plants and animals. However, scientists reckon that there are 3 or even 6 million insects still unnamed. As the renowned naturalist, Sir David Attenborough, comments, "We go on making films about lions and wildebeest when there are thousands of unbelievably dramatic stories, totally unknown and untouched, just out there".

One of the biggest groups of insects is the beetle. There are approximately 330,000 named species of beetle in the world. And although scientists do not know why there should be so many types of beetle, it is thought that the process of co-evolution may be the root cause for the profusion of these tiny creatures. Co-evolution occurs when the evolution of one animal spurs on and forces the development of another species. For example, as plants evolved ways of preventing beetles from eating them, the beetles diversified to ensure that they could continue feeding on the plants. Co-evolution creates a self-perpetuating cycle of diversification that is highly unlikely to come to an end any time soon.

There are a number of explanations for the amazing success of insects. They are particularly mobile creatures. The typical insect structure, comprising a head, thorax and abdomen with six legs and a set of wings, is particularly mobile and robust. Insects are



also capable of changing form, or metamorphosing, and consequently are able to exploit separate forms of food and habitat whether on land or in the water.

0. According to the text, most people

- a) do not mind insects.
- b) have a fondness for insects.
- c) **instinctively hate insects. (EXAMPLE)**

25. Throughout history insects have

- a) helped cure serious illnesses.
- b) prevented people from having enough to eat.
- c) stopped the crops from ruining.

26. Without insects

- a) other animals would become extinct.
- b) pollination would not take place.
- c) only rare animals would be nutritious.

27. Which of the following statements about insects is false?

- a) Most of them are unclassified.
- b) They have no skeleton.
- c) They have existed longer than any other species.

28. Beetles

- a) are unlikely to develop.
- b) have evolved together with plants.
- c) are less abundant than they used to be.

29. According to the article, insects

- a) can survive on water only.
- b) easily adapt to new environments.
- c) have difficulty moving.

30. What is the meaning of the word "startling" as used in paragraph 1?

- a) Expected.
- b) Simple.
- c) Surprising.

31. What is the meaning of the word "swiftly" as used in paragraph 2?

- a) Rapidly.
- b) Gradually.
- c) Easily.

0	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
c							

**CORRECT ANSWERS:****Dying for money (7 marks)**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I	E	G	D	H	J	B

Were toads on the road sensing a quake? (10 marks)

8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
C	A	C	A	B	A	B	C	B	A

Little garden (7 marks)

18	19	20	21	22	23	24
charming	pushing	harmful	shock	amazingly	Unfortunately	increasing

A Bug's life (7 marks)

25	26	27	28	29	30	31
b	a	b	b	b	c	a