

Part 1: Listening comprehension

AMERICA'S BEST KNOWN ARCHITECT

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

windbag: persona que pontifica

grace: honrar / honrar

flock: congregar

Ready?

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

[Now listen to the interview.]



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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.]

Espai per al corrector/a			
	Correcta	Incorrecta	No contestada
1. Why is Frank Lloyd Wright a famous American? <input type="checkbox"/> His poetry won international prizes. <input type="checkbox"/> His social activism earned him the Nobel Peace Prize. <input type="checkbox"/> His designs for buildings are admired by architects everywhere. <input type="checkbox"/> He advocated the elimination of banks and the banking system.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Frank Lloyd Wright wanted people to look to architects and to consult them more because <input type="checkbox"/> he knew he could build cheaper houses. <input type="checkbox"/> he wanted to change the type of buildings we live in. <input type="checkbox"/> he wanted to make money from consulting. <input type="checkbox"/> he wanted to become the most famous architect in the world.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. What did Frank Lloyd Wright want to reform in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> The educational system. <input type="checkbox"/> The type of farms and agriculture. <input type="checkbox"/> The general way of life. <input type="checkbox"/> The role of government.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Frank Lloyd Wright liked buildings that <input type="checkbox"/> were built in modules so that families could move their own home to another state. <input type="checkbox"/> were tall, like those in the New York City skyline. <input type="checkbox"/> had lots of windows and which could be seen from a distance. <input type="checkbox"/> fit into the natural area where they were built.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Why did Frank Lloyd Wright not like New York City? <input type="checkbox"/> He thought the city was over-populated. <input type="checkbox"/> He thought the type of buildings there represented a money-oriented view of society. <input type="checkbox"/> He thought there was not enough space for his buildings nor for people. <input type="checkbox"/> He thought New Yorkers didn't like him.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Why is Fallingwater so famous? <input type="checkbox"/> Because it is made entirely from local wood. <input type="checkbox"/> Because it was the first house Wright designed. <input type="checkbox"/> Because it is the largest single family home in Pennsylvania. <input type="checkbox"/> Because a stream runs inside the building.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. The text says that in certain circumstances we can "experience a feeling of awe." Which of the following expressions is a synonym for <i>awe</i> in the text? <input type="checkbox"/> admiration. <input type="checkbox"/> deception. <input type="checkbox"/> envy. <input type="checkbox"/> fear.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. According to Mr. Wolf, Frank Lloyd Wright <input type="checkbox"/> is an over-rated architect. <input type="checkbox"/> deserves his fame. <input type="checkbox"/> was a pretty boring person. <input type="checkbox"/> spent too much time criticising others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Correctes Incorrectes No contestades

Recompte de les respostes

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Nota de comprensió oral

.3.

Part 2: Reading comprehension

ASSATEAGUE'S WILD HORSES

Assateague Island is a 60 km long barrier island located on the East Coast of the United States, facing the Atlantic Ocean. The northern two-thirds of the island is in Maryland while the southern third is in Virginia. The Maryland section contains the majority of Assateague Island National Seashore; the Virginia section contains Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. The island contains numerous marshes, bays and pristine beaches, and is a habitat for migratory birds and a wildlife sanctuary.

Assateague, however, is best known for its **herds** of wild horses. The “wild” horses on Assateague are actually feral animals, meaning that they are descendants of domestic animals that have reverted to a wild state. Horses tough enough to survive the scorching heat, abundant mosquitoes, stormy weather and poor quality food found on this remote, windswept barrier island, which have formed a unique wild horse society.

Local folklore describes the Assateague horses as survivors of a shipwreck off the Virginia coast. While this dramatic tale of struggle and survival is popular, there are no records yet that confirm it. The most plausible explanation is that they are the descendants of horses that were brought to barrier islands like Assateague in the late 17th century by mainland owners to avoid fencing laws and taxation of livestock.

The horses are split into two main herds, one on the Virginia side and one on the Maryland side of Assateague. They are separated by a fence at the Virginia/Maryland State line. These herds have divided themselves into bands of two to twelve animals and each band occupies a home range. The National Park Service manages the Maryland herd. The Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company owns and manages the Virginia herd, which is allowed to graze on Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge through a special use permit issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The permit restricts the size of the herd to approximately 150 adult animals in order to protect the other natural resources of the wildlife refuge. It is the Virginia herd which is often referred to as the “Chincoteague” ponies.

Many visitors first learn about the Assateague horses from Marguerite Henry's famous book *Misty of Chincoteague*. The story takes place during a traditional Chincoteague festival called “Pony Penning.” On the last Wednesday of July, the Virginia herd of horses is rounded up and made to swim from Assateague Island to nearby Chincoteague Island. On the following day most of the young **foals** are auctioned off. Proceeds from the sale benefit the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Department.

Assateague's horses are beautiful, tough, and wild. They have learned to survive in a harsh environment. Feeding and/or petting them is detrimental to both visitors and horses. Horses can get sick from human food. Those that learn to come up to the road to beg for food are often hit and killed by cars. Visitors are kicked, bitten and knocked down every year as a direct result of getting too close to the wild horses. Treating wild horses like tame animals takes away the wildness that makes them special. The park rangers warn visitors that they must protect their family by respecting the horses: people must give the horses the space they need to be wild.

There are few places in the United States where you can view wild horses. Due to their complex social structure the Assateague horses display a wide range of unique behaviors. Visitors can take advantage of the opportunity to view these horses in a natural habitat. With careful management, the wild horses will continue to thrive on Assateague Island and provide enjoyment to thousands of nature enthusiasts, photographers, and people who just love horses!

Text adapted from an article on *NPS.gov* and *Wikipedia*

herd: ramat / manada

foal: cavall de menys d'un any / caballo de menos de un año

Part 3: 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. Many towns in Catalonia celebrate local festivals. Write an **article** for a travel magazine in which you explain and describe a local festival or celebration that you know well.
2. A national park is a large area of land which is protected by the government because of its natural beauty, plants, or animals, and which the public can usually visit with some restrictions. Have you ever visited a national park? What did you do there? Did you see any wild animals or protected flora? Write a **narrative text** in which you explain your experience there.
3. Governments often create national parks to protect wildlife and encourage conservation. Do you think governments are doing enough to protect animals in their natural habitat? Do you think governments have to take more forceful action to protect animals? Write an **opinion essay**.



Guía completa en selectividad.academy/guia-selectividad

Todo sobre la selectividad

Grammar	
Vocabulary	
Text	
Maturity	
Total	
Nota de la redacción	

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Etiqueta de l'alumne/a

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Part 1: Listening comprehension

THE SURPRISING HISTORY OF HANDWASHING

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

go delirious: entrar en un estat de deliri / entrar en un estado de delirio

ward: sala d'hospital / sala de hospital

midwife: llevadora / comadrona

puzzling: misteriós / misterioso

aisle: passadís / pasillo

Ready?

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

[Now listen to the interview.]



Cada examen practicado te acerca a tu objetivo

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Part 2: Reading comprehension

GINKGO TREES NEARLY WENT EXTINCT. HERE'S HOW WE SAVED THESE 'LIVING FOSSILS'

On the streets of Manhattan and Washington, D.C., in neighborhoods in Seoul and parks in Paris, ginkgo trees are gradually losing their bright yellow leaves in reaction to the first frigid winter air. Such leaf drop, gradual at first, and then suddenly, carpets streets with golden, **fan-shaped** leaves every year. But around the world, scientists are documenting evidence of the event happening later and later, a possible indication of climate change.

“People would ask us, ‘When should I come out to see peak ginkgo color?’ and we would say the 21st of October,” says David Carr, the director of the University of Virginia’s Blandy Experimental Farm, which is home to The Ginkgo Grove, an arboretum with over 300 ginkgo trees.

Carr, who’s been at The Ginkgo Grove since 1997, says the trend toward warmer falls and later-in-the-season leaf color is a noticeable one. “Nowadays it seems to be closer to the end of October or the first week of November.” But this is not the first time the ancient species has confronted major climate changes. And the story of ginkgos is not the familiar one of human carelessness with nature.

Thanks to fossils found in North Dakota, scientists know the species *Ginkgo biloba* has existed in its current form for 60 million years; it has genetically similar **ancestors** dating back 170 million years to the Jurassic Period. In its nearly 200-million-year timeline, “they gradually were reduced. They almost went extinct. Then they have this renewal that comes from the association with humans,” says Peter Crane, author of the book *Ginkgo* and one of the world’s foremost Ginkgo experts.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature, an organization that tracks the survival of Earth’s species, classifies the tree as endangered in the wild. Only a few rare populations are thought to potentially exist in China. When you walk on those bright golden fans **scattered** on some rain-darkened sidewalk this fall, you’re having a close encounter with a rare thing—a species that humans rescued from natural **oblivion** and spread around the world. It’s “such a great evolutionary story,” Crane says, “and also a great cultural story.”

On Earth today there are five different types of plants that produce **seeds**: flowering plants, the most abundant; conifers, plants with cones; gnetales, a diverse group of about 70 species including desert **shrubs**, tropical trees, and vines; cycads, another ancient group of palm-like trees—and the lonely ginkgo. In the plant kingdom’s *Ginkgoaceae* family, there is just one living species, *Ginkgo biloba*.

Scientists think the world once contained many different species of ginkgo too. Fossilized plants found in a coal mine in central China that date back 170 million years show ginkgo-like trees with only slight variations in the shape of their leaves and number of seeds. The species was thought to be extinct in the wild until the early 20th century, when a supposedly undomesticated population was found in western China. A paper published in 2004 disagreed, suggesting instead that those trees had been cultivated by ancient Buddhist monks—but suggesting that other ginkgo **havens** might be found in the southwest of the country. Then in 2012, a new paper cited evidence that a wild population did indeed exist in southwestern China’s Dalou Mountains. Those wild populations are a potential treasure of diversity for **crossbreeding** as scientists seek to improve the genetic composition of the domesticated species.

Crane is not worried about the future of the ginkgo, though. The popularity of the species will help it survive. “Though its status in the wild may be precarious and difficult to access, it is a plant that is unlikely to ever go extinct,” Crane says.

Text adapted from an article by Sarah GIBBENS.

The National Geographic [online] (November 30, 2020)

fan-shaped: en forma de ventall / en forma de abanico

ancestors: avantpassats / antepasados

scattered: escampats / esparcidos

oblivion: oblit / olvido

seeds: llavors / semillas

shrubs: arbustos

havens: refugis / refugios

crossbreeding: encreuament genètic / cruce genètic

QUESTIONS

Choose the best answer according to the text. 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.]

		Espai per al corrector/a		
		Correcta	Incorrecta	No contestada
1.	According to scientists, <input type="checkbox"/> ginkgo trees losing their leaves later is possibly causing climate change. <input type="checkbox"/> ginkgo trees no longer lose their leaves in the winter due to climate change. <input type="checkbox"/> ginkgo trees losing their leaves later in the year is possibly due to climate change. <input type="checkbox"/> ginkgo trees have gone from losing their leaves gradually to suddenly as a consequence of climate change.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Which one of the sentences is FALSE? <input type="checkbox"/> Ginkgos almost went extinct because of human carelessness with nature. <input type="checkbox"/> Ginkgos have confronted major climatic changes before. <input type="checkbox"/> Ginkgos have existed as a species for millions of years. <input type="checkbox"/> Ginkgos have overcome extinction thanks to association with humans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	According to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, <input type="checkbox"/> ginkgos are found in vast numbers in the wild. <input type="checkbox"/> practically no ginkgos exist in the wild. <input type="checkbox"/> ginkgos no longer grow in the wild. <input type="checkbox"/> ginkgos are a species that can only be found in the wild.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	Which one of the sentences is TRUE? <input type="checkbox"/> Ginkgos are flowering plants. <input type="checkbox"/> Ginkgos are palm-like trees. <input type="checkbox"/> Ginkgos have several different species. <input type="checkbox"/> Ginkgos produce seeds.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Fossilized plants confirm that <input type="checkbox"/> ginkgos have actually changed very little through time. <input type="checkbox"/> currently extinct species of ginkgos did not produce seeds. <input type="checkbox"/> millions of years ago ginkgos had the exact same number of seeds and shape of leaves as today. <input type="checkbox"/> different species of ginkgos were once common on all continents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	The undomesticated population of ginkgos found in western China <input type="checkbox"/> showed that this species of trees only grows in the wild. <input type="checkbox"/> was later destroyed by a forest fire. <input type="checkbox"/> went extinct in the early 20 th century. <input type="checkbox"/> might have been cultivated by monks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Today domesticated ginkgo trees <input type="checkbox"/> are common around the world. <input type="checkbox"/> are only found in western China. <input type="checkbox"/> belong to one of five related species. <input type="checkbox"/> lose their leaves in mid-summer.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	Crane is not worried about the future of the ginkgo because <input type="checkbox"/> it is difficult to find in the wild. <input type="checkbox"/> it is a symbol of prosperity in China. <input type="checkbox"/> it is a popular species of tree. <input type="checkbox"/> its status in the wild is uncertain.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Correctes Incorrectes No contestades

Recompte de les respostes

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Nota de comprensió escrita

.5.

Part 3: 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. Many traditions from the United States, such as Halloween or the character of Santa Claus, have been exported to other cultures. Write a **for-and-against essay** discussing to what extent this enriches or has a negative effect on one's own traditions.
2. Football has become a phenomenon that involves a lot of people and money. Today only important teams that have a lot of money to hire the best players in the world have a chance to win major tournaments and trophies. Do you think that football has become something other than a sport and has lost its original spirit? Write an **opinion essay**.
3. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on cultural events. Write a **narrative essay** explaining your experience at the last concert, music festival or theatrical performance that you attended.

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Grammar	
Vocabulary	
Text	
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Etiqueta de l'alumne/a

[Redacted area]



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