

Este examen consta de dos modelos: A y B.
Cada modelo consta de cinco apartados: 1, 2, 3, 4 y 5.
Debe ofrecer UNA respuesta a cada uno de los apartados (1 responder, para cada uno de ellos, del modelo A o B.
Encabece la respuesta a cada uno de los apartados indicando el modelo que responde (ejemplo: **Modelo A**, apartado 1, modelo B; apartado 2, modelo A, etc.).

Opción A

THE POWER OF INTROVERTS

Do you enjoy having time to yourself? Do you go to the cinema? Then Susan Cain's book "Quiet: The Power of Introverts" is for you. Introverts prefer quiet, minimally stimulating environments. While extroverts need higher levels of stimulation to feel their best. Unfortunately for many introverts, we live in a nation (USA) that values its extroverts – the outgoing, the love of crowds – but not the quiet types. As a result, many introverts feel there's something missing when they're not, you lose a part of yourself along the way. You especially lose a sense of humor when you're constantly going to parties and such when they'd rather be home reading, studying, inventing, meditating, designing, thinking, cooking, or any number of other quiet and worthwhile activities.

The fact that introverts are underrated in the US is a problem for introverts, though, it hurts the country as a whole. Here's just one example: Most schools and workplaces now organize workers and students into groups believing that creativity and productivity come from group thinking. This is nonsense. When you're working in a group, it's hard to know what you truly think. We're such social animals that we instinctively mimic others' opinions, often without realizing it. Organizational psychologist Adrian Furnham puts it precisely: "If you have talented people, they should be encouraged to work alone, their creativity will be damaged if you make them work in groups". The most creative people in history have usually worked in solitude. From Darwin to Einstein to Picasso, our greatest thinkers are introverts. It is introverts who change the world. This is probably the reason why introverts are comfortable spending time alone, and solitude is a crucial ingredient in their lives.

Here's what Susan Cain says about her own introversion: "I believe that introversion is my greatest strength. I have such a strong inner life and I'm never bored and only occasionally lonely. No matter what chaos is happening around me, I know I can always turn inward. In our culture, snails are not considered valuable animals – we are constantly exhorted to 'come out of their shells' – but there's nothing wrong with being a snail. Introversion is a strength, not a weakness".

1. Answer these questions about the text. Use your own words wherever possible (2 points, 1 each).
 - a. In the USA extroversion is preferred over introversion. What are the consequences of this for introverts?
 - b. How does Susan Cain see her own introversion?

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2. Read the following statements, decide whether they are true or false and justify your answer by quoting evidence from the text (1 point, 0,50 each).

- a. Group work is still rare in schools and workplaces.
- b. Working on one's own triggers creativity.

3. Find in the text the word or group of words which match these definitions (1 point, 0, 20 each).

- a. Large groups of people who are together in one place (paragraph 1).
- b. Useful and enjoyable (paragraph 1).
- c. Something that someone has said or written and that you consider silly or not true (paragraph 2).
- d. Directly, saying exactly what you think without caring about people's feelings (paragraph 2).
- e. Towards the inside of something (paragraph 3).

4. Complete the text using the correct words from the box below. There are 2 words that you won't need (2 points, 0, 25 each).

Yes. I am an introvert. People sometimes (a) _____ surprised when I say this, because I'm a pretty (b) _____ person. This is one of the (c) _____ misconceptions about introversion. We are not anti-social; we're *differently* social. I can't live without my family and close friends, but I (d) _____ need solitude. I feel (e) _____ lucky that my work (f) _____ writer affords me hours a day alone with my laptop! I have a lot of other introvert characteristics, such (g) _____ thinking before I speak, disliking conflict, and concentrating easily. According to the latest research, one third to one half of us are introverts – that's one (h) _____ of every two or three people you know.

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5. Write a composition of around 150-200 words on ONE of the following topics (4 points)

- a. You are tired of going to parties and making superficial friendships. You want to start a group of people to do quiet activities and really get to know each other. Write a blog entry to explain what you would like to do and why. Also, encourage people to join you.
- b. Discuss the following quote attributed to Albert Einstein: "The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge, but imagination".

WHY DO PEOPLE BUY DESIGNER BRANDS?

My name is Naomi. Let me tell you what I think about why people buy expensive designer brands like *Nike*, *Adidas*, *Michael Kors*, *Rayban*. I was sitting in class last week when a woman sat down in front of me. She was wearing a Michael Kors bag. I looked at it and started to wonder: how much did she pay for that black over the shoulder bag, nothing you couldn't get at a much cheaper prize, except for the fancy logo with the brand name (*Michael Kors*) on it, of course. Why did she spend £500 on a handbag? Is it better quality? Will it last longer? As I know, people don't wear branded clothes, they wear brands. It's not just a top, it's an "*Adidas*", those aren't sunglasses, they're "*Raybans*". People don't buy branded clothes to wear them, but to be seen wearing them. If branded clothes don't have logos on them, would people still buy them? Do you like that *Nike* top? Yes, I like it. It's made by *Nike* but didn't have the logo? Would it still be worth it? I see it was *Nike*? Hmm I don't know.

I don't own any "designer" brands, I never have. All the brands I own are affordable. My logic has always been the following: why should I buy 1 top for £50 if I can buy 5 for the same price? In other words, I'd rather have a cheap purse with more money in it, than a designer purse that's nearly empty. However, my no-logo behaviour sometimes comes at a price. Schoolkids often laugh at me and my clothes. Well, if I can buy the same clothes they have but for £60 cheaper, surely I should be laughing at them! This peer pressure never, however, drives some people to buy designer brands purely to fit in, regardless of whether or not they usually like the goods. Honestly, there are some hideous items out there that wouldn't be considered a designer brand.

If something is a certain style or design that one brand specializes in, then fair enough – I can see why people might want to buy it. But I don't really get the concept of paying extortionate amounts of money to buy an item just because of its logo. Shouldn't the brand companies be paying you? We're wearing clothes with obvious branding. I get it from the companies' kind of makes you a walking billboard advertising for them. I mean why pay models to promote your products when you can get consumers to do it for free?

1. Answer these questions about the text. Use your own words wherever possible (2 points, 1 each).

- According to Naomi, why do people buy expensive designer brands like *Nike*, *Adidas*, *Michael Kors*, *Rayban*, etc?
- What's Naomi's logic when buying items? What price do people pay for it?

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1. Answer these questions about the text. Use your own words wherever possible (2 points, 1 each).

- According to Naomi, why do people buy expensive designer brands like *Nike*, *Adidas*, *Michael Kors*, *Rayban*, etc?
- What's Naomi's logic when buying items? What price do people pay for it?

2. Read the following statements, decide whether they are true or false and justify your answer by quoting evidence from the text (1 point, 0,50 each).

- Naomy noticed that the Michael Kors bag was really worth its price.
- Naomy cannot find a single reason to justify why people buy designer brands.

3. Find in the text the word or group of words which match these definitions (1 point, 0, 20 each).

- Ask yourself, think about something because you want to know more about it (paragraph 1).
- Entirely in one colour and without decoration or extra things added (paragraph 1).
- Expensive and fashionable (paragraph 1).
- Expression you use when you want to say that a statement, decision, or action seems reasonable to a certain extent (paragraph 3).
- A large advertisement (paragraph 3).

4. Complete the text using the correct words from the box below. There are 2 words that you won't need (2 points, 0, 25 each).

When a leading shoe brand releases a new pair of goodies and a high street shop releases a similar "copycat" version, why do people feel (a) _____ to be seen in these "fakes"? If you're buying something (b) _____ the design and appearance, then what difference (c) _____ a logo on the side make? I doubt the lack of logo somehow makes it (d) _____ hideous. I do not buy designer brands. But that's me, and that's my preference. I have always been a cheap and cheerful kind of person. I guess this is why I don't understand people who choose (e) _____. I'm sure I'd think differently if I (f) _____ thinking that brands actually mattered, but I (g) _____ so I (h) _____. And I'm perfectly happy this way, buying and wearing "cheap" things – I don't want to be "branded", I am not a cow.

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5. Write a composition of around 150-200 words on ONE of the following topics (4 points)

- What do you think about wearing expensive designer brands (for example *Nike*, *Adidas*, etc.)?
- Some of your friends have been laughing at a new student who wears very different clothes. Write a mail to them and tell them what you think about their behaviour.



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