Proves d’accés a la Universitat. Curs 2007-2008

Llengua estrangera
Anglès
Sèrie 4 - A

Suma de notes parcials

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Etiqueta identificadora de l’alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal ...................................................................................................................................

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IS TEXT MESSAGING MAKING OUR KIDS ILLITERATE?

Kids take to new technology like flies to honey. Among many older folks, it’s conventional wisdom that if you’ve been confused by your computer, DVD or any high tech gadget, the quickest and cheapest way to solve the problem is to ask a fourteen year old to fix it. Lots of kids today grow up with a keyboard in one hand and a joystick in the other.

There are plenty of benefits to introducing kids to tech devices early: playing video games helps to develop hand-eye coordination. They learn multi-tasking skills from juggling several computer programs at once. Surfing the Web can expose them to a vast amount of knowledge that wasn’t available to those of us who grew up without the availability of commercial Internet services, even in some of our best libraries. And kids can have a rich social life and meet a much more diverse group of people to which they might never be exposed in their own hometowns. They can also stay in touch with family members and friends, both local and those who live at a distance, much more easily.

Unfortunately, there are potential harmful effects, in addition to the positive ones. Many parents worry that violent video games may desensitize children to violent behavior in real life, and that the Web will lead them to pornography or hate groups. The people your kids meet online can be good influences – or they could be paedophiles posing as other children to attract unsuspecting youngsters into their traps.

Some experts fear that even in innocuous communications with people they know, kids may be exposing themselves to hidden ill effects. For example, one type of communication that’s very popular with teenagers is real-time chat. This includes Web-based chat, use of IRC (Internet Relay Chat) programs, IM (Instant Messaging) services such as those offered by MSN and Yahoo, as well as SMS messaging via cell phones.

In order to type their messages more quickly, kids often use a type of phonetic shorthand instead of grammatically correct, properly spelled sentences. For example: “R U going 2?” is much faster and easier to type than “Are you going, too?” This becomes an especially attractive option when using a small keyboard like those on cell phones.

But is this making kids illiterate? Educators, parents and others are divided on that question. Some argue that language is always evolving, and newer and more efficient spellings are a good thing. After all, a glance at a page of Old English will show you that we don’t use the same spellings now that our ancestors used. Other, more pessimistic people say IM isn’t so much making kids illiterate as reflecting the growing illiteracy of younger generations.

Some researchers have concluded that teenagers are able to slip easily between abbreviations and conventional spelling, but some teachers say they are seeing the messaging lexicon show up in kids’ school work. Does Shakespeare lose something in translation to “2 b R not 2 b”?

From Internet. Adapted

**gadget**: dispositiu, maquinera / aparato, artilugio  
**juggling**: fer jocs de mans, provar / hacer malabarismos, probar  
**desensitize**: insensibilitzar / insensibilizar  
**cell phone**: telèfon mòbil / teléfono móvil  
**shorthand**: escriptura abreujada / escritura abreviada  
**slip**: passar (sense pensar) / pasar (sin pensar)
Part 1: Reading comprehension

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only ONE answer is possible.
[0.5 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.16 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

1. Many older people believe that…
   □ a teenager can solve most problems with computers or high tech devices.
   □ lots of kids grow up today with a joystick in their minds.
   □ high tech trouble is quicker and cheaper to fix today.
   □ kids should be introduced to tech devices at an earlier age.

2. “Folks” in line 1 means…
   □ 'educators.'
   □ 'specialists.'
   □ 'philosophers.'
   □ 'people.'

3. One of the good things about high tech is that kids can…
   □ meet all the people living in their hometowns.
   □ coordinate their hands and eyes into one single skill.
   □ buy a lot of information from the best libraries.
   □ have a richer social life.

4. According to the author, one of the ill effects of videogames is that kids…
   □ can attract other youngsters into their web traps.
   □ may behave violently in real life.
   □ do their homework through Internet only.
   □ can’t meet real-time chatters on line.

5. “R U going 2?” is an example of…
   □ phonetic shorthand.
   □ a properly spelled sentence.
   □ IRC mobile phone.
   □ Old English.

6. Some pessimistic people complain that…
   □ parents and educators should not be divided on this issue.
   □ language is always changing.
   □ Old English ancestors did fewer spelling errors than we do now.
   □ Instant Messaging shows that young generations are more and more uneducated.

7. According to the text, researchers and teachers…
   □ agree that teenagers can tell conventional from messaging spelling.
   □ think Shakespeare does not lose his literary power in messaging translation.
   □ support the use of abbreviations and conventional spelling.
   □ disagree about the influence of text messaging in school work.

8. The author of this article is…
   □ a young man crazy about high tech gadgets.
   □ an adult who reflects on the use of new technology among kids.
   □ a young father who is worried about the harmful effects of text messaging.
   □ an educator who wants to reflect the growing illiteracy at British schools.
Part 2: Writing

Choose ONE topic. Write about number 1 or 2. Minimum length: 100 words.
[4 points]

1. Two teachers are discussing the rights and wrongs of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as a school subject. Write down their conversation.

2. French writer Antoine de Saint-Exupéry said that “the best things people have made [the airplane, the telephone...] are all things that bring people together.” Discuss this statement and say what are to your mind, the best things people have made. Would you say that Internet makes our social life richer or poorer?
PROVA AUDITIVA
A BETTER WORLD

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

issue: temática, afer / temática, asunto
coal: carbó / carbón
slide show: projecció de diapositives / proyección de diapositivas
moviemaker: cineasta
regardless: sense tenir en compte / sin tener en cuenta
waste: deixalles, residus / basura, residuos

Ready?
Now read the questions on the next page. Read them carefully before listening to the interview.

Good evening everyone! I’m Gill Simmons. Tonight we have the pleasure to introduce you to a very special guest in our environmental program “The Green World”. Mr. Al Gore, former vice president of the USA who was awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for his commitment and his struggle against climate change. Mr. Al Gore started his campaign to fight the effects of global warming. At its centre is his new film, “An Inconvenient Truth,” which stars Al Gore himself and was greeted with surprisingly positive press.

Since he lost the 2000’ elections, Al Gore has been travelling the globe with a computer presentation on global warming. It was at one of those presentations that Gore was convinced to star in a documentary based on his climate slide show. Producer David Guggenstei directed it, and the movie was ready in little over a year. Al Gore is here to speak with us about the problems of the world environment.

[Now listen to the rest of the interview.]
QUESTIONS

Choose the best answer according to the recording. Only ONE answer is correct.
[0.25 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.08 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

1. What causes the change in the concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere?
   - The lack of use of coal and oil. [ ]
   - The excessive use of coal and oil. [ ]
   - The radical measurement of the atmosphere. [ ]
   - The excessive use of this CO₂. [ ]

2. Who told Gore about the possibility of making a film about global warming?
   - His wife. [ ]
   - Some people at his first slide show presentation. [ ]
   - Some people from the entertainment industry. [ ]
   - Some scientists. [ ]

3. Who controlled the creative process of the film?
   - The director, David Guggenestien, and his script-writer. [ ]
   - The director, David Guggenestien, who often consulted Gore. [ ]
   - Gore himself, because he thought it was more effective. [ ]
   - The director, together with a group of scientists. [ ]

4. Gore thinks that in the future nuclear power…
   - won’t be much more important than it is now. [ ]
   - will be the best source of energy. [ ]
   - will play a larger role than it does now. [ ]
   - will be important for the transportation sector. [ ]

5. According to the interview, the use of ethanol is positive because it is…
   - cheaper than nuclear power. [ ]
   - easy to transport. [ ]
   - made mainly from waste. [ ]
   - made of consumed petroleum. [ ]

6. Gore thinks President Bush and his government don’t want to act on the problem because they…
   - have personal interests in the production of ethanol. [ ]
   - finance organizations who want to stop using petroleum. [ ]
   - only accept the truth given by their own experts. [ ]
   - are quite receptive to the production of oil and coal. [ ]

7. Who is adopting the Kyoto protocol in the USA?
   - Only the government. [ ]
   - Some cities. [ ]
   - Some organizations. [ ]
   - Only big cities. [ ]

8. What kind of campaign is Gore leading? A campaign…
   - for the next presidential elections. [ ]
   - for the use of nuclear power. [ ]
   - to become a candidate for a global organization. [ ]
   - to change people’s point of view about global warming. [ ]

Recompte de les respostes
Correctes Incorrectes No contestades
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Correcta Incorrecta No contestada
Recompte de les respostes
Correctes Incorrectes No contestades
 boilers boilers
Nota de comprensió oral

A emplenar pel corrector/a
Correcta Incorrecta No contestada