

	<p style="text-align: center;">Evaluación de Bachillerato para el Acceso a la Universidad de Castilla y León</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">INGLÉS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EXAMEN Nº páginas: 4</p>
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NOTE: Choose option A or B, and answer the questions from 1 to 4. For question 5, you can choose to write the composition that you like best, from either option A or option B.

OPTION A

THE UNBREAKABLE BOND BETWEEN HUMANS AND DOGS

Why is he here? Why is my dog lying at my feet in the shape of a croissant as I write this? How has his fish breath become a topic of humour when friends call round for dinner? Why do I spend more than £1,000 each year to pay for his insurance? And why do I love him so much?

5 Ludo is not a special dog. He's just another labrador retriever, one of approximately 500,000 in the UK (he'd be one in a million in the United States, the most popular breed in both countries). Ludo has a lot in common with all these dogs. He loves to play ball; obviously he's an expert retriever. He could eat all the food in the universe and leave nothing for the other dogs. He is prone to hip dysplasia. He looks particularly attractive on a plush bed in a centrally heated house very far from the Newfoundland home of his ancestors.

10 But, of course, Ludo is a unique animal to me, and the rest of his human family. He is now an elderly gentleman aged 12 and a half, and we would do almost anything to ensure his continued happiness. We schedule our days around his needs – his mealtimes, his walks, the delivery of his life-saving medication (he has epilepsy). We spend a bizarrely large amount of our disposable income on him, and he never sends a card of thanks. When he's not with us for a few days (when our children take him
15 for a weekend), then the house feels extraordinarily empty. I feel so fortunate to know him. Goodness knows how we'll cope when he dies.

20 This strongest of bonds has manifested itself over the centuries, and transformed so many millions of lives, human and canine. If it is at least partially true, as Nietzsche claims, that "The world exists through the understanding of dogs," then perhaps it is also partially true that a study of dogs may provide a valuable insight into ourselves. (Fragment adapted from *The Guardian*.)

1) BRIEFLY ANSWER ONLY 4 OUT OF THE FOLLOWING 6 QUESTIONS WITH ONLY THE DATA REQUIRED (NOT A WHOLE SENTENCE) (2 POINTS; 0.5 POINTS EACH).

1. How much money does the author of the text spend on his dog's insurance each year?
2. What is the most popular dog breed in the UK and United States?
3. What type of disease is Ludo predisposed to?
4. In the phrase *and we would do almost anything to ensure his continued happiness* (lines 11-12), the word 'we' refers to ...
5. Why is Ludo taking medication?
6. Does the author feel fortunate to know Ludo?

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2) ARE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? INDICATE THE LINES THAT SUPPORT YOUR ANSWER (1 POINT).

1. Ludo is a golden retriever, the most popular breed in the US.
2. Ludo has hip dysplasia.

3) CHOOSE a OR b, ONLY ONE CHOICE IS CORRECT ACCORDING TO THE TEXT (1 POINT).

- a) Ludo has nothing in common with labrador retrievers.
- b) The author and his family spend a large amount of money on Ludo.

4) VOCABULARY (2 POINTS).d

4.1 Choose one of the options below and find one word in the text for its definition (0.6 POINTS):

- a) The people from whom you are descended.
- b) Money received, especially on a regular basis, for work or through investments.

4.2 Find a synonym in the text for one of the two words below (0.6 POINTS):

- a) cosmos
- b) cheerfulness

4.3 For one of the following words from the text, give a synonym that fits the meaning of the text (0.8 POINTS):

- a) dinner (line 2)
- b) attractive (line 8)

5) WRITE ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TOPIC USING BETWEEN 120-150 WORDS (4 POINTS).

Is it good for kids to have a pet? Why? Why not?

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OPTION B

VANISHING ACT

A large number of pupils have gone missing during the epidemic. How worrying is this? Analyses are limited, but a deep dive into preliminary data from Massachusetts' public schools by Thomas Dee of Stanford University and Mark Murphy of the University of Hawaii shows that most traditional public districts in the state had enrolment declines this year in comparison with last year.

5 Massachusetts experienced a 4% statewide loss in this academic year compared with the year before. Not all districts lost pupils, however; vocational and virtual districts saw increases.

Some of the decline is no cause for concern. A portion of Massachusetts public-school pupils are probably attending classes out of state, while others are leaving for private schools or homeschooling. Other pupils are simply missing school, however. Mr Dee and Mr Murphy found that enrolment

10 decreases were associated with smaller, whiter and poorer school districts, mostly in rural areas.

That echoes a concern heard beyond Massachusetts. David Monaco, head of Parish Episcopal School, a private school in Dallas, saw some pupils leave for more personalised small-group or individual schooling, though his overall enrolment remains steady. By contrast, Michael Hinojosa, the superintendent of Dallas Independent School District, where 85% of all pupils are classified as low-

15 income, explained that while some of his pupils could be sitting at home playing video games, others are taking care of younger siblings while their parents work.

Pupils missing school are not just a worry for their families. Since America's schools are funded on a per-person basis, the decline in enrolments also creates financial problems. And all schools risk losing funding next year if enrolment continues to fall.

20 Getting missing pupils back to school takes an extraordinary effort. Sara Bonser, superintendent of the Plano Independent School District north of Dallas, lost 6.5% of her pupils (3,883) at the beginning of the year. To find these children, her staff called thousands of families and conducted 115 home visits to get 1,279 pupils back on the books. Existing district funds were reallocated so no additional money was needed for the programme. (Fragment adapted from *The Economist*.)

1) BRIEFLY ANSWER ONLY 4 OUT OF THE FOLLOWING 6 QUESTIONS WITH ONLY THE DATA REQUIRED (NOT A WHOLE SENTENCE) (2 POINTS; 0.5 POINTS EACH).

1. How much has enrolment fallen in Massachusetts this year in comparison with last year?
2. Which districts have seen an increase?
3. According to Mr Dee and Mr Murphy's findings, which kind of school districts are enrolment decreases associated with?
4. Some of the students in Dallas Independent School District are at home playing video games. What about the others?
5. What does the decline in enrolments imply?
6. What did Sara Bonser's staff do to find missing pupils?

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2) ARE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? INDICATE THE LINES THAT SUPPORT YOUR ANSWER (1 POINT).

1. In Dallas Independent School District, around 85% of all pupils are upper-middle class.
2. Although enrolment continues to fall, all schools will receive the same funding next year.

3) CHOOSE a OR b, ONLY ONE CHOICE IS CORRECT ACCORDING TO THE TEXT (1 POINT).

- a) Preliminary data from Massachusetts' public schools show that most traditional public districts in the state had a substantial increase of pupils this year.
- b) Sara Bonser and her staff have made an extraordinary effort to get pupils back on the books.

4) VOCABULARY (2 POINTS).

4.1 Choose one of the options below and find one word in the text for its definition (0.6 POINTS):

- a) The fact or process of losing something.
- b) Stable in position or equilibrium.

4.2 Find a synonym in the text for one of the two words below (0.6 POINTS):

- a) principal
- b) global

4.3 For one of the following words from the text, give a synonym that fits the meaning of the text (0.8 POINTS):

- a) concern (line 7)
- b) siblings (line 16)

5) WRITE ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TOPIC USING BETWEEN 120-150 WORDS (4 POINTS).

Do you think students benefit from bilingual education? Justify your answer.