

This exam comprises **four questions**: 1 and 2 contain two subsections which you must answer in full; 3 contains only one section which you must answer; in 4, answer **only one** of the two subsections.

Read the following text:

Teenagers will soon face new restrictions on beauty filters on TikTok amid growing concerns about self-esteem and anxiety. In the coming weeks, under-18s will be blocked from using filters that artificially enlarge eyes, plump lips, or alter skin tone in ways beyond traditional makeup. However, playful filters like bunny ears or dog noses will remain accessible. The changes aim to reduce the pressure on teens to achieve "perfect" appearances, which many believe contributes to poor mental health, especially among girls.

The success of these measures depends on users registering their correct age, which is not always the case. To address this, TikTok will tighten its age verification processes and launch machine learning tools by the end of the year to detect users under 13. These efforts could lead to thousands of British children being removed from the platform. Those mistakenly flagged as underage will have the chance to appeal. TikTok's lead on child safety stated that while these measures may inconvenience some users, the platform's "safety-first approach" takes priority.

These moves align with the UK's upcoming Online Safety Act, which mandates stricter social media regulations to protect children online. Ofcom, the UK's communications regulator reported that TikTok removed about 1% of a total UK user base for being underage between June 2022 and March 2023. Ofcom has also highlighted that the platform's age verification methods require improvement. By next summer, social media companies will be legally required to implement "highly effective" age checks for users under 13.

Other platforms are also making changes. Instagram, among others, has recently launched "teen accounts" that give parents greater control over their children's activities, including the ability to block app usage at night. Critics argue that while these measures are welcome, they are largely driven by the need to follow regulations rather than a proactive commitment to child safety. Andy Burrows, CEO of the Molly Rose Foundation, called for TikTok to be transparent about its age-assurance methods. The NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) described TikTok's new safeguards as a positive step but "just the tip of the iceberg", urging social media platforms to develop more effective solutions for verifying user ages and protecting children online.

QUESTION 1. ANSWER THE TWO SUBSECTIONS (2.5 points).

1.1. After reading the text, indicate whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or the information is Not Given (NG). In true and false cases only, copy the part of the text which justifies your answer (1.5 points).

1. Users under 18 will no longer be able to access filters that enhance their appearance for fun, such as animal-themed effects.
2. TikTok will rely exclusively on self-reported birthdates for age verification.
3. Some teens have described how after using filters they weren't happy with their real face.
4. The changes TikTok is implementing align with old Facebook's regulations designed to enhance online safety for children.
5. TikTok verified all its users, and very few were removed for being underage.
6. The NSPCC sees TikTok's new child safety measures as a thorough solution to the issue of underage users.

1.2. Find a synonym (S) or and antonym (A) in the text for each of the following words (1 point).

1. naturally (A) 2. tackle (S) 3. deterioration (A) 4. dedication (S) 5. troubles (A)

QUESTION 2. ANSWER THE TWO SUBSECTIONS (2.5 points).

2.1. Write a NEW sentence that has the same meaning as the given one. Use the word or expression in brackets (1.5 points).

1. "This is Rommo. I've just bought Rommo's house." (*whose*)
2. "Don't take this umbrella; it's not yours", the teacher said to Alba. (*not*)
3. Many people believe that they have the ability to become world tennis champions. (*capable*)
4. Everybody knew the thief had been living in that village for years. (*was*)
5. Whichever film you want to see will be good for us. (*mind*)
6. They should have told him the truth a long time ago. (*he*)

2.2. Answer the following questions about pronunciation (1 point).

1. In which one of the following words is the underlined letter pronounced as the "a" in "car"? past, bathe, lack, mare, balance.
2. In which **two** words do we pronounce the letter "t"? fasten, monster, hustle, listen, castle, faster.
3. In which word does the stress fall on the first syllable? connect, provoke, perish, control, devote.
4. In which of the following words is(are) the underlined letter(s) pronounced /s/? houses, cycle, reveals, ocean, diminish.

QUESTION 3. IN THIS TEXT, FILL EACH ONE OF THE GAPS WITH A WORD/S TAKEN FROM THE BOX BELOW. BEAR IN MIND THAT THERE ARE FIVE EXTRA WORDS YOU MUST LEAVE OUT. EACH WORD MAY BE USED ONLY ONCE (2 points).

Oil on beaches, vehicle exhaust fumes, litter and many other waste 1. _____ are called pollutants, because they 2. _____ our environment. Pollutants can affect our health and harm animals and plants. 3. _____ waste from factories and power stations is 4. _____ of the main ways in which we pollute our 5. _____. These waste substances are the 6. _____ results of modern 7. _____. Pollution itself is not new—a hundred 8. _____ ago factories 9. _____ great clouds of 10. _____ smoke and, 11. _____, pollution has now 12. _____ to the land, air and water of every corner on 13. _____. Our scientists have much to learn about pollution, but we know more about 14. _____ to control it. The use of solar energy, 15. _____ of coal and gas, will help in fuels. We can also achieve some reduction 16. _____ pollution by recycling waste and 17. _____ biodegradable materials which eventually break down in the soil and disappear. The use of cars which run 18. _____ electricity instead of petrol is also a 19. _____ feature in the fight against pollution. It is up to everyone to be as 20. _____ as they can with the Earth's limited resources.

surroundings	years	talking about	life	using
poisonous	one	in	how	emotional
by	unwanted	unfortunately	income	spread
releasing	instead	products	on	garbage
sent off	key	economical	pollute	Earth

QUESTION 4. ANSWER ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SUBSECTIONS (3 points).

4.1. Imagine that you are trying to promote volunteering amongst your peers. Write an article for the school magazine about this topic: *Advantages of volunteering: How it can help both the individual and the community* (140 words).

4.2. Write an entry in a blog about teenage life stating the following: *Friendship is the most important relationship.* Argue why and try and convince your readers that your statement is true (140 words).

PAU 2027

CONVOCATORIA ORDINARIA

CRITERIOS DE AVALIACIÓN

INGLÉS
(Cód. 11)

1ª PREGUNTA (2,5 puntos)

1.1 After reading the text, indicate whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or the information is Not Given (NG). In True and False cases only, copy the part of the text which justifies your answer. (1.5 points; 0.25 each)

Consta de seis apartados. O alumnado terá que decidir se a información exposta en cada apartado é verdadeira, falsa ou non se proporciona no texto e, no caso de que sexa verdadeira ou falsa, indicar a parte concreta do texto que xustifica a súa resposta. Se non se indica “true” (T), “false” (F), ou “not given” (NG), a puntuación será de 0 —téñase en conta que alumnado debe responder en inglés utilizando “true”, “false” ou “not given” (neste último caso tamén se acepta “doesn’t say”, (DS) e non os seus equivalentes en castelán ou galego. Se non se xustifica a resposta nos casos en que a información sexa verdadeira ou falsa, a puntuación será de 0; nos casos en que se proporcione unha xustificación coa resposta “Not Given”, a nota será de 0.

1.2 Find a synonym (S) or an antonym (A) in the text for each of the following words. (1 point; 0.20 each)

Consta de cinco palabras. Trátase de que o alumnado busque unha palabra ou grupo de palabras no texto que se correspondan, no seu significado e nese contexto, a cada unha das palabras propostas.

2ª PREGUNTA (2,5 puntos)

2.1 Write a NEW sentence that has the same meaning as the given one. Use the word or expression in brackets. (1.5 points; 0.25 each)

Consta de seis apartados. Trátase de facer transformacións gramaticais utilizando as palabras entre parénteses e conservando o mesmo significado da oración orixinal —non vale engadir a palabra dada á oración orixinal sen facer ningunha outra transformación, como tampouco vale que a transformación estea ben efectuada gramaticalmente pero o significado se altere. As frases non teñen que estar sacadas do texto inicial. Con esta pregunta preténdese medir a competencia lingüística (gramatical) do alumnado ligada ás distintas funcións comunicativas (como formular hipóteses, dar explicacións, argumentar, suxerir, etc.). Se hai algún erro non estrutural/sintáctico na oración (por exemplo, de ortografía), descontarase 0,1.

2.2 Answer the following questions about pronunciation. (1 point; 0.20 each word)

Consta dun total de cinco elementos avaliáveis (0,2 cada un deles). Búscase que o alumnado sexa capaz de identificar como se pronuncia unha ou varias palabras ou unha parte concreta da/s mesma/s. As palabras utilizadas na pregunta non teñen que estar sacadas do texto inicial.

3ª PREGUNTA (2 puntos)

3. In this text, fill each one of the gaps with ...

(2 points; 0.10 each)

A pregunta presenta un texto con vinte ocos que o alumnado terá que completar segundo atentamente as instrucións do enunciado xa que esta pregunta pode presentarse en tres modalidades distintas tal e como se detalla de seguido:

- **Word bank cloze:** encher cada oco usando a palabra ou palabras (de entre as que se lles facilitan na caixa que figura debaixo do exercicio) que máis acaídas resulten no contexto en que aparecen. Só haberá unha opción válida como resposta para cada oco. O banco poderá conter vinte ou máis palabras, das cales algunhas actuarán como distractores e non se utilizarán.

Exemplo de enunciado: **3. In this text, fill each one of the gaps with ... a word taken from the box below. Bear in mind that there are five extra words which you must leave out. Each word may be used only once. (2 points; 0.10 each)**

- **Multiple choice cloze:** encher os ocos usando unha das alternativas proporcionadas para cada un deles. Só haberá unha opción válida.

Exemplo de enunciado: **3. In this text, fill each gap with the correct alternative. (2 points; 0.10 each)**

- **Word formation cloze:** encher cada oco coa forma correcta da palabra proporcionada.

Exemplo de enunciado: **3. In this text, fill each gap with the correct form of the word given. (2 points; 0.10 each)**

Avaliarase a capacidade do alumnado para usar a lingua con precisión (nos ámbitos léxico, ortográfico, gramatical e semántico) nunha situación concreta.

4ª PREGUNTA (3 puntos)

4. Answer ONE of the following subsections. (3 points)

O alumnado só terá que contestar unha das dúas opcións presentadas aténdose á extensión requirida de **140 palabras** (permitirase unha variación dun 15% por exceso ou por defecto con respecto ao número de palabras establecido). Valoraranse os seguintes parámetros:

- Contido e extensión: O alumnado aborda adecuadamente o tema proposto. O obxectivo e a extensión da tarefa son os requiridos. Non se repiten ideas. Demóstrase madurez e autonomía comunicativas. **(0,75 puntos)**
- Riqueza e control do vocabulario. Preséntase un uso flexible e correcto dun léxico rico e variado axeitado para o tema proposto segundo o nivel requirido. **(0,75 puntos)**
- Corrección gramatical, ortografía e puntuación: O alumnado ten un repertorio básico de elementos lingüísticos e de estratexias que lle permiten abordar o tema con comodidade. Non comete erros gramaticais básicos, como, por exemplo, omitir o suxeito diante dun verbo, omitir a -s da 3ª persoa do singular do presente habitual (*she readS*), utilizar adxectivos en plural, usar incorrectamente os adxectivos posesivos e demostrativos, non dominar os tempos verbais, etc. Hai poucos erros ortográficos e empréganse correctamente os signos de puntuación. **(0,75 puntos)**
- Cohesión e coherencia: O alumnado utiliza adecuadamente os conectores e demais medios de cohesión. Ademais, é capaz de organizar as súas ideas para redactar un texto coherente e ben estruturado. **(0,75 puntos)**

Se o contido da composición non se adecúa ao tema requirido a puntuación da pregunta será de cero puntos.