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COGNOMS	

PROVA DE CERTIFICACIÓ DE COMPETÈNCIA LINGÜÍSTICA

CERTIFICAT DE NIVELL B2

ANGLÈS B2

Temps: 70 minuts

Reading Comprehension

Instructions

- DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.
- Write your name and surname in CAPITAL LETTERS within the space provided.
- Do NOT use pencil.
- Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet.
- Answers written elsewhere will not be considered.
- When time expires, stop writing and hand in this booklet.

Information

This section consists of 3 tasks.

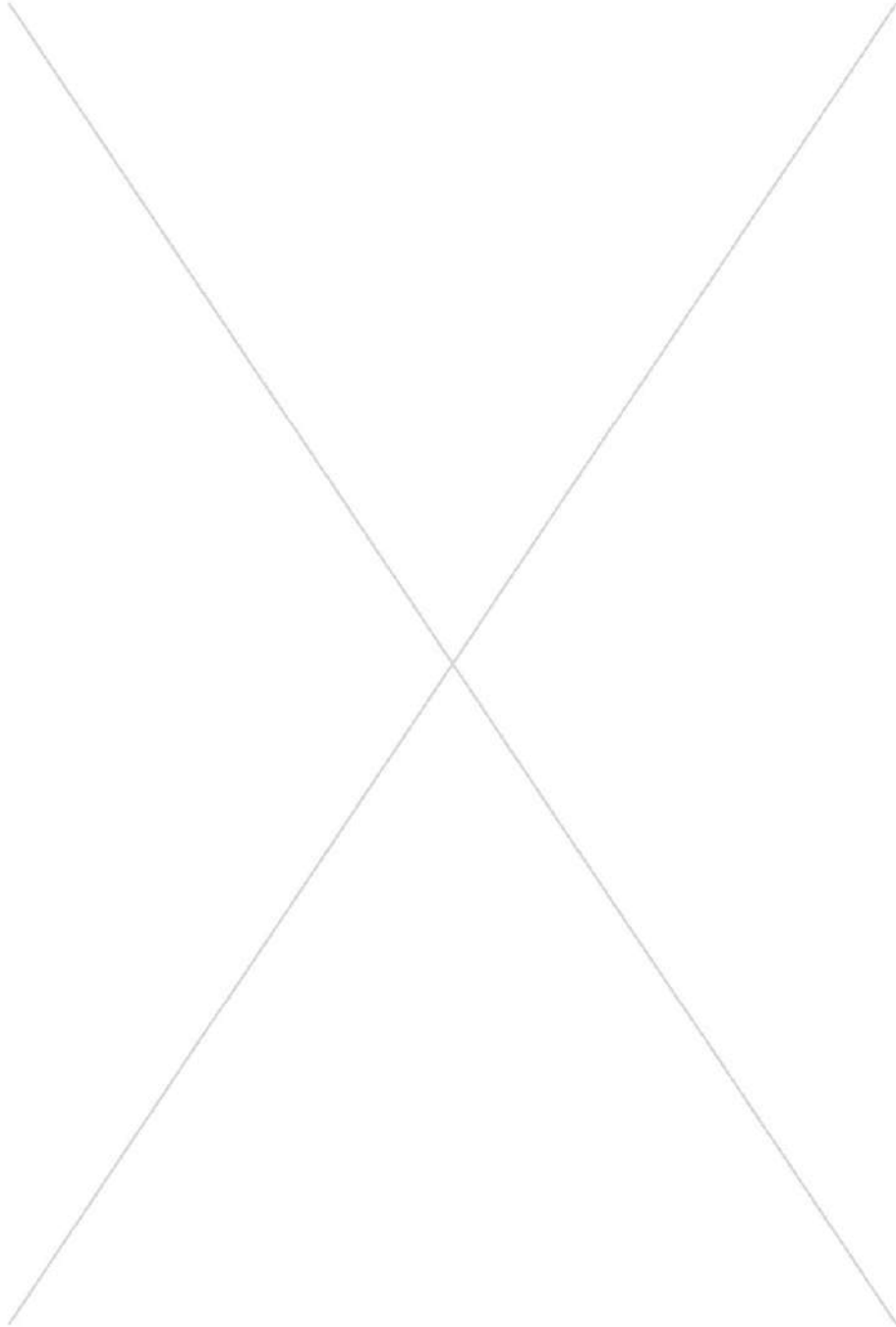
There are 22 items.

Each item scores 1 point.

I have read and understood the instructions above

Signature:

Absent



READING TASK 1 (Q1-Q7)

- Read this text about Passwords.
- Choose the correct answer (A-J) for each gap (Q1-Q7) in the text. The first one (Q0) has been done for you as an example.
- There are two extra sentences (A-J) that you do not need to use.
- Write your answers in the space provided.

I was having a great morning until I sat down in front of my office computer. (Q0) **“Your password has expired,”** a server message flashed on my screen, with instructions for changing it. (Q1), unless you work at my company, where we have to change it monthly, using at least one uppercase character, one lowercase character, one symbol, and one numeral. Oh, and the whole darn thing can’t be fewer than eight characters. And I can’t use any of the same passwords I’ve used in the past three months.

Suddenly I was furious. What didn’t make it any better was that I was deeply depressed after my recent divorce. (Q2) Every day. That didn’t mean anything to the empty input field with a pulsating cursor, waiting for me to type a password that I’d have to reenter—many times—for the next 30 days. I remembered a tip I’d heard from my former boss. He’d said, “I’m going to use a password to change my life.”

I couldn’t focus on getting things done in my current mood. There were clear indicators of what I needed to do to regain control of my life, but I couldn’t heed them.

My password became the indicator. My password reminded me that I shouldn’t let myself be a victim of my recent breakup and that I was strong enough to do something about it.

I made my password *Forgive@h3r*.

I had to type this statement several times a day. Each time my computer would lock. Each time my screen saver with her photo would appear. Each time I would come back from eating lunch alone. In my mind, I wrote *Forgive her* every day.

The simple action changed the way I looked at my ex-wife. That constant reminder of reconciliation led me to accept the way things had happened at the end of my marriage and embrace a new way of dealing with my depression. As the month wore on, (Q3) By the time my server prompted me to reset my password the following month, (Q4) One month later, my dear Exchange server asked me yet again to reset my password. I thought about the next thing that I had to get done.

My password became *Quit@smoking4ever*.

I quit smoking overnight.

This password was a painful one to type during that month, but (Q5) It motivated me to follow my monthly goal.

One month later, my password became *Save4trip@thailand*.

Guess where I went three months later: Thailand.

Seeing how these reminders helped to materialize my goals kept me motivated and excited. While it's sometimes difficult to (Q6), keeping at it brings great results.

Here is a simplified extract of what some of my passwords have been in the past two years, so (Q7), thanks to this method:

- **Forgive@h3r** To my ex-wife, who left me.
- **Quit@smoking4ever** It worked.
- **Save4trip@thailand** It worked.
- **Eat2times@day** It never worked, still fat.
- **Ask@her4date** It worked. I fell in love again.
- **MovE@togeth3r** It worked.
- **Facetime2mom@sunday** It worked. I talk with Mom every week.

And the one for last month:

- **Save4@ring** Yep. Life is gonna change again soon.

A. “Your password has expired,”

B. I felt a slow healing begin to take place.

C. I felt free

D. you get an idea of how my life has changed

E. doing it helped me to yell at myself in my mind as I typed that statement

F. go over it in your mind

G. Coming up with a new code doesn’t seem like a big deal,

H. Disbelief over what she had done to me was all I thought about.

I. easy to remember

J. come up with your next goal

WRITE YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Q0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7
A							

Source: <http://www.rd.com/true-stories/inspiring/password-changed-my-life/#ixzz3OKf49ShG>

READING TASK 2 (Q8-Q14)

- Read this text about Sums.
- Say whether the statements (Q8-Q14) are true or false. **Justify all your answers in your own words.**
- The first one (Q0) has been done for you as an example.
- Write your answers in the space provided.

“Who, what, why: Why does the sum 7×8 catch people out?”

A group of children asked UK Chancellor George Osborne a "times table" question. He refused to answer. Why, asks Justin Parkinson.

It's one of those questions politicians dread. Along with knowing the price of a pint of milk or a loaf of bread, they hate being asked how to spell a word or to complete a basic sum, for fear of making an embarrassing mistake.

So Chancellor George Osborne had an instant response when a seven-year-old boy, one of a panel of youngsters interviewing him on Sky News, inquired: "What's seven times eight?" "I've made it a rule in life not to answer," the man in charge of the UK economy replied.

Osborne, who did A-level maths, was probably aware of the ridicule faced by Labour schools minister Stephen Byers in 1998 when he incorrectly worked out that the same sum - 7×8 - came to 54. The correct answer is 56. At the time, Downing Street called the minister's ordeal "one of those character-forming events".

But Mike Ellicock, chief executive of the charity National Numeracy, is not happy. "This sort of thing wouldn't happen in other countries," he says. "It shows something about our attitude to maths. If you asked the same thing in France, it would be the equivalent to asking if a minister could read."

Children have learned their "times table" - going from "one times one is one" all the way up to " $12 \times 12 = 144$ " - for generations, but certain spot questions cause more problems than others.

Research by the educational technology firm Flurriish suggests the one pupils find most difficult is "six times eight" (answer: 48). Some 62.5% of the children questioned at Caddington Village School in Bedfordshire got it wrong. The sum demanded of Osborne and Byers was deemed the seventh toughest, flummoxing 47%.

"It's those numbers near the middle that kids find the hardest - the sixes, sevens, eights and nines," says Flurriish's director Mike Smith. "It gets even more difficult

when they try to multiply them by each other. Dealing in small numbers, as well as fives, tens and elevens, is far easier."

Education Secretary Michael Gove wants all pupils in England to know all their times tables by the age of nine.

Ellicock agrees that this is important, but as part of a wider effort to teach the techniques and understanding of this and other aspects of maths.

"When you put people on the spot and ask quick questions, it creates a physiological response," he says. "Pupils dilate and the heart rate rises, as people are waiting for you to get it wrong. We need a different approach. I think George Osborne was probably right not to answer."

Q0. UK Chancellor George Osborne got a "times table" question wrong.

FALSE - He didn't answer the question.

Q8. Politicians don't like answering certain questions as they worry they will make a fool of themselves.

Q9. George Osborne learned from a previous politician's error.

Q10. Mike Ellicock thinks the UK is behind other countries in its approach to numeracy.

Q11. Less than half of the students who were asked the sum "six times eight" couldn't answer.

Q12. A sum such as 7×7 would be difficult for a child.

Q13. Ellicock and Gove share exactly the same opinion about times tables.

Q14. Asking spontaneous questions causes changes in the body.

Source: <http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-magazine-monitor-28143553>

READING TASK 3 (Q15-Q22)

- Read this post from tennis player Andy Murray's blog.
- Choose the most suitable option (A, B, C or D) for each question (Q15-Q22).
- The first one (Q0) has been done for you as an example.
- Write your answers in the space provided.

Finals

Roger was really exceptional on Thursday night, it was the best he's ever played against me, but I was disappointed with my performance. There's no denying how much it hurts.

At 6-0 and a break down, I wasn't worrying about losing the match 6-0 6-0 so much as trying to string a couple of points together and maybe start thinking about winning a game.

It was the first time I'd been in that position in my whole career and I hope it never happens again.

This year has been testing and I've learned a lot along the way, it's just a shame to finish it with another very harsh lesson. I'm sure it will be a tough one to look back in the future.

Maybe I can use it as motivation, although that's never really been an issue for me. I just have to remember that this time last year I was at home doing my rehab after back surgery and watching bits and pieces of the matches on TV. It wasn't easy.

Sometimes I'd gone into the Paris Masters at the end of the year feeling quite tired, whereas last year I was watching it thinking: 'I'd love to be there.' When you see guys competing, you realise how much you miss that.

Over the last few months I'd really started to enjoy my tennis again after struggling earlier in the year. My back had still been giving me some trouble when I thought that doing the rehab meant it would be fine.

That wasn't the case, and I was completely wrong to expect it to be like that.

Then the split happened with my coach, Ivan Lendl, and that was tough too. I brought Amelie Mauresmo into the team over the summer and for the last two or three months you would say it has gone well.

A match like Thursday night's is extremely disappointing for me though. I need to make sure when I'm going into those big matches that I have everything covered and I'm totally clear about what I want to do. That's something I need to look at.

So what have I learned this year? Well, firstly that going through surgery is not something I want to repeat, so I'll try and take better care of my body in future. I also learned that when you do spend three or four months away from the court, the other guys get better.

People often like to compare generations and ask whether Roger would have beaten someone like Rod Laver. The surgery made me realise that while you're away the game moves on even in the space of a few months.

The other guys continue to make slight improvements, your level drops and they just get a bit further away from you. To catch up with them takes time and, in my case, this year I ran out of time.

I clearly wasn't at the top level by the end of the year and I'm going to need to put in a lot of work to get back there, which might mean changing my plans for the off-season.

I've got my friend Ross Hutchins's wedding next week and I'm the best man – I can't say my confidence levels are sky high right now but I'm sure the speech will go OK. I had then planned to head to Miami in the first week of December, but if I want to make changes to my game it will take a lot longer than 10 days of practice. There won't be drastic alterations to my game but Thursday night was not good enough, and even against the best players I should be giving myself opportunities to win games, sets and matches.

The good thing is I now have time to think about a few things and then go and work on them. A week is a long time in tennis, things can change quickly, and I know I can do what is necessary to sustain a higher level consistently. My goals remain as high as ever and the next target is already clear – to try and win the Australian Open.

Thanks for your support during the year and in London over the last week, I'm just sorry I couldn't have done better, but I'll work as hard as possible to come back stronger in 2015.

Q0. How does he feel about his performance?

- A. embarrassed
- B. regretful**
- C. ashamed
- D. deceived

Q15. Near the end of the match, he...

- A. was worrying about losing
- B. had got some points
- C. was concerned about winning a game
- D. was ready to give up

Q16. He thinks that in the future he will...

- A. Remember the year fondly
- B. Put it behind him
- C. Remember it as difficult
- D. Probably have a similar experience

Q17. He thought that the rehabilitation on his back would...

- A. Cure his problem
- B. Not work
- C. Be very painful
- D. Take a long time

Q18. Which person in his life has he separated from?

- A. His girlfriend
- B. His best friend
- C. His coach
- D. His teammate

Q19. His experience of surgery has made him realise...

- A. He ought to play less in the future
- B. His injury was his own fault
- C. It takes a short time to recover with the right attitude
- D. He has to look after himself more from now on

Q20. How does he justify the fact he didn't have the same level as other tennis players after his surgery?

- A. He was in pain when he was playing
- B. He didn't have enough time to prepare
- C. They are much better than him
- D. He had to go to a wedding

Q21. His next goal is to...

- A. Win another competition
- B. Train harder
- C. Play better in general
- D. Improve his health

Q22. In the final sentence, he makes a/an....

- A. Offer
- B. Deal
- C. Compromise
- D. Promise

Q0	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22
B								

Source: <http://www.andymurray.com/feature/world-tour-finals-column/- World Tour>