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Universidad de Alcalá

PRUEBAS DE APTITUD PARA EL ACCESO A ESTUDIOS UNIVERSITARIOS
(Mayores de 25 años)

Curso **2013-2014**

MATERIA: INGLÉS

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

TIEMPO: Una hora. Se recomienda dedicar cuarenta minutos para responder a las preguntas 1, 2, 3 y 4, y veinte minutos para la número 5.

Puntuación máxima: 10 puntos.

INSTRUCCIONES:

1. Haga una primera lectura cuidadosa del texto y de las preguntas.
2. Lea una segunda vez y conteste a las preguntas.
3. Conteste en LENGUA INGLESA.
4. Escriba sus respuestas en el cuadernillo de examen respetando el orden de las preguntas.

The Great Storm

On 16th October 1987, southern Britain was hit by hurricane force winds, the worst storm to occur in Britain since 1703. Although many years have passed, the country still remembers the devastation caused by what came to be known as "The Great Storm". 15 million trees were uprooted due to the wind, as well as to the fact that a wet autumn in general had made the ground very muddy. The falling trees caused destruction to buildings and vehicles, and blocked roads and railway lines, causing everyone from commuters to school-children to stay at home. There were also black-outs across the area, as power lines were damaged by falling trees and flying debris. People resorted to candles and torches for light, and gas stoves and open fires to cook food.

The storm raged for 4 hours before dawn and 18 people died. The effects of the bad weather were heightened by the fact that most people were unprepared. Weather reports had failed to indicate a storm of such severity. Earlier that week, weather forecasts had predicted severe weather, but forecasters thought it would miss Britain and only affect the English Channel. The freak storm caused damage of more than one billion pounds and hundreds of people were injured.

But could the same thing happen today in Britain? Well, as a result of climate change many people think that sudden and severe weather changes are more likely. However, meteorological technology has improved and now uses satellites to get a much more accurate picture of future weather. So if another Great Storm comes along, the British public should be better warned and prepared!

QUESTIONS

1. Look at the following statements. Write T for true, F for false, and DK (don't know) if you cannot tell from the text. If it is true or false, copy the evidence from the text.
a. Many people had no electricity because of the destruction caused by the storm.
b. Because of the storm, rivers overflew their banks and flat lands were covered with water.
c. Although there were injuries, nobody was killed in the storm.
(Calificación máxima: 3 puntos; no se obtendrán puntos por responder tan sólo T o F; se descontará medio punto por cada respuesta incorrecta)

2. Based on the ideas from the text, fill in the table below.

What was wrong about the weather reports? Name two mistakes.
a.
b.

(Calificación máxima: 1 punto)

3. Find the words or phrases in the text that mean:
a. because of (paragraph 1)
b. not ready (paragraph 2)
c. become better (paragraph 3)
d. arrives (paragraph 3)
(Calificación máxima: 1 punto)

4. Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.
a) The storm was the _____ important story in the news that year. Newspapers kept _____ (blame) the weather forecasters for several weeks.
b) In south-east England, _____the greatest damage occurred, winds of 130 km or more _____ (record) for three or four consecutive hours.
c) If the forecast _____ (be) more precise, the storm would have caused _____ damage.
d) "_____ could global warming be prevented?" –a journalist asked during yesterday's press conference. However, the world leaders _____ (not provide) any clear measure in such respect.
(Calificación máxima: 2 puntos)

5. Write about 60 to 100 words on ONE of the following topics. Do not copy from the text.
a. Describe any natural disaster you have seen, read or been told about.
b. Are you afraid of storms? Explain why.
(Calificación máxima: 3 puntos)