



CLE CIA INGLÉS – Ejemplos de ítems y tareas

Listening Comprehension

Listen to these two short conversations of people in different kinds of trouble. You will listen to the texts twice.

TASK: Read the sentences below and choose the best option. Write a (✓) next to it.

Conversation 1

1) Dave is ...

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

- A. leaving a message for Greg.
- B. speaking to Greg from behind a door.
- C. talking to Dave, who is next to him.

2) Dave is ...

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

- A. worried about Greg.
- B. furious with Greg.
- C. afraid of Greg.

3) The dog ...

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

- A. almost killed him.
- B. pulled on his arm.
- C. broke his arm.

4) Dave regrets ...

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

- A. having his telephone.
 - B. doing the laundry.
 - C. following his friend's idea.
-



Conversation 2

5) Where is Henry's wife?

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. At home waiting for Henry to celebrate their anniversary. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Enjoying the last day of a holiday. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. Working on a paper that has taken her a long time. |

6) Henry said that if he had tried repairing the vase with superglue, his wife ...

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. would surely have noticed. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. might have noticed. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. would have told everybody. |

7) Which of the following is correct?

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. If the vase hadn't broken, Henry and his friends wouldn't have ruined the manuscript. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. If they hadn't burnt the manuscript, the vase wouldn't have been broken. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. If they hadn't spilled the water, the vase wouldn't have been broken. |

8) Sam thinks that Henry ...

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. was not in such serious trouble after all. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. will need a very clever explanation if he wants to get out of this. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. will never be able to solve these problems with his wife. |
-



Reading Comprehension

Read this text and do the exercises below.

“To be Old or Not to be Old – that is the question”

Following a radio programme on the issue of cures for ageing, the host of the programme posted the synopsis on the radio site inviting comments from the audience.

SYNOPSIS – Message 1

1/12/2010

It's reported this week that scientists in America have, for the first time, managed to reverse the effects of ageing in animals. The experiment was carried out on mice at Harvard. Before the treatment, their skin and other organs were equivalent to those of an 80 year old human. After the injection of a drug that switches on a key enzyme, the mice grew so many new cells that they'd almost completely rejuvenated. The results raise some difficult questions.

No one would argue that we should work on drugs that alleviate the problems of old age, but should we actively try to extend life itself? In the UK by 2031, more than a fifth of the population will be over 65 and the fastest growing population will be those aged 85 and over. It's not just a question of the cost, but how we value the old in society. Or are the old themselves partly to blame, desperately clinging on to their youth with pills, potions and plastic surgery? Is the search for eternal youth a sign of excessive arrogance or a natural part of the human condition? If we assist in extending life, will that inevitably mean assistance ending? When it comes to age, when is enough enough?

Message 2

in reply to [message 1](#).

Posted by [josy \(U14065324\)](#) on Wednesday, 1st December 2010

Enough is enough when you cannot clean your own backside! That for me would decide whether my quality of life was worth living. I do not want to live beyond the time when I lose my independence; when the day comes and I will have to make arrangements to go on that mysterious journey we all have to take, whether by choice or not. In the 21st century, there are still people who have not fulfilled their dreams, ambitions or even guaranteed themselves one meal a day, clean drinking water or a roof over their heads. Only in the post-industrialised countries can this debate have any meaning - most people in the developing countries, in spite of huge amounts of foreign aid, have a life expectancy of not more than 50, if that at all!



My problem is not with those who want to be treated radically, over 80 or not, but the myth sold to us by the professionals, whether it is the drug companies promoting eternal life, or whether it is the health profession, who however admirable, must make a living out of it.

Politicians and health professionals inform us that it is our right to have these expensive forms of treatment to keep us alive for a few more weeks, days or hours, but I believe that even though we can afford it, it is immoral-- how can this be a justifiable use of taxpayers' money?

By all means, I am all for keeping fit and healthy by choosing to eat healthily, or exercising to keep the weight off, etc, but when we are told that we can reverse the ageing process, my question would be: at what cost to me, to the earth, to the people in the developing world, and to the taxpayer?

Last but not least, when we are informed that we are going to be facing increasing austerity, why are we being fooled into thinking there is a cure for the ageing process but not told the actual cost to the planet? Some people are insisting that we cut down the size of families, and yet on the other hand, we are being told we can increase the number of years we live on this planet, using resources which rightfully belong to future generations too!

Message 3

in reply to [message 1](#).

Posted by [Rosebud \(U8715362\)](#) on Wednesday, 1st December 2010

I'm not sure because on the one hand it may help people lead better lives and being young you would hopefully get rid of all those aching joints in your body. It would make people more independent and hopefully have a better quality of life.

On the other, it will probably only be available to the super rich and will add to people's feelings of inadequacy. Ageism is bad enough as it is. We are all, in my opinion, pressured into trying to stay young looking and **this** will make it worse.

Also we have large numbers of people on this planet as it is, without extending life and, until we start building space stations and expanding, **it** could be seen as selfish. One good thing might be treatment for some rare genetic disorders (i.e. Progeria) where people (even children) age prematurely. I would like to see those people get treatment for free and be cured.

Message 4

in reply to [message 1](#).

Posted by [Astro \(U5209345\)](#) on Wednesday, 1st December 2010



It depends on whether the process would be used via public funding for vanity or to hold back age-related diseases. **The latter** is completely acceptable. The old have paid into the system too so why shouldn't they benefit from it? We have benefitted from their contributions enormously. I work voluntarily with the elderly and, by and large, they are a great bunch. Even with all their aches and pains, they still know how to be friendly and have a good laugh with you. If it's for vanity, and they're paying for it themselves, who cares?

The one thing that worries me is if the government fund it (i.e. us) and then, as usual, sells it off to the private sector to market it.

TASK: Choose the correct option. Write a (✓) next to it.

1) What did the experiment at Harvard consist in?

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. Changing some enzymes in mice. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Injecting rejuvenating cells in mice. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. Making an enzyme in mice start working. |

2) "*Clinging on to their youth*" (line 14) means:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. Trying to stay young. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Despising their youth. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. Being indifferent to being young. |

3) *Josy is mainly concerned that...*

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. anti-age treatments might put up the cost of her taxes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. taxes might be used for superficial purposes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. most people in developed countries may not have access to anti-age treatments. |

4) "*...why are we being fooled into thinking there is a cure for the ageing process...*" (line 42) means...

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. you are a fool if you want to stay young. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. somebody is trying to persuade you of something foolish. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. somebody is a fool if they try to find a cure like this. |

5) Astro is for anti age treatments as long as ...

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A. they are for vanity. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B. the elderly know how to be friendly to you. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C. the beneficiaries of the treatment face the cost. |
-



TASK: Answer the following.

6) “*The results raise some difficult questions.*” (line 9-10) Which results are being referred to?

7) According to Rosebud, who should benefit from this treatment?

8) “*...and will add to people's feelings of inadequacy.*” (lines 55-56) Explain **who** will feel inadequate.

9) “*...and **this** will make it worse.*” (line 57). What does **this** refer to in this sentence?

10) Rosebud and Josy share at least one argument. Which is it?

11) “***The latter** is completely acceptable.*” (line 69) What does “**the latter**” refer to?

12) Josy uses the following metaphor: “*I do not want to live beyond the time when I lose my independence - when the day comes and I will have to make arrangements to go on that mysterious journey we all have to take, whether by choice or not.*” Explain it in your own words.



RSL

This article appeared in the New Scientist magazine. It deals with dreams and smells. Choose the best option to complete the text. Write the corresponding letter (A, B or C) in the Your Answer column.

Smells Can Influence Dreams, Scientists Say

Scientists discovered that specific aromas can "sweeten" your dreams. Boris Stuck of University Hospital Mannheim, Germany, tried to discover whether smells can influence what a person dreams about (1) _____ they are asleep.



This scientist analyzed the effect of aromas (2) _____ 15 sleeping volunteers who (3) _____ exposed to chemicals that mimicked the smell of (4) _____ rotten eggs or roses. Mr. Stuck said that the majority of everyday smells feature two components: the real smell and an element that can irritate the nose.

"By exposing the patients to chemicals chosen to only incorporate the smelly component, we (5) _____ to stimulate them with really high doses of the smell without (6) _____ waking up," he said.

Together with his colleagues, Mr. Stuck waited (7) _____ the participants entered the REM phase of sleep, which represents a stage at which most dreams occur. Then the team exposed the subjects to a high dose of malodorous air for ten seconds and one minute later they woke the volunteers up. (8) _____ participants had been exposed only for a short time, it had been enough to make a lasting effect. After the experiment, the subjects were asked how their dream (9) _____ them feel.

Those who were exposed to the rose smell said they had had a very positive dream experience. (10) _____, many of them wished they (11) _____ allowed to sleep longer. A negative effect was reported from people who were (12) _____ to rotten eggs. According to scientists, smells are able to influence the emotional coloration of the dream.

Now scientists look forward to (13) _____ the effect of smells on people suffering from nightmares.



Irshaad Ebrahim of The London Sleep Centre said: *"The relationship between external stimuli and dreaming is something we are all at some level aware (14) _____. This initial research is a step in the direction towards clarifying these questions and may well lead to therapeutic benefits."*

The scientific work of Mr. Stuck (15) _____ presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Otolaryngology in Chicago.

Your answer	1)			
	2)	A. once	B. since	C. even
	3)	A. in	B. of	C. on
	4)	A. were	B. had been	C. would be
	5)	A. both	B. neither	C. either
	6)	A. succeeded in	B. were able	C. were capable
	7)	A. they	B. their	C. these
	8)	A. for	B. until	C. since
	9)	A. Although	B. However	C. But
	10)	A. had it made	B. had made	C. it had made
	11)	A. In fact	B. On the contrary	C. Despite
	12)	A. would be	B. had been	C. were
	13)	A. exposed	B. expose	C. exposing
	14)	A. observing	B. having observed	C. observe
	15)	A. about	B. of	C. on
	16)	A. might have been	B. had been	C. was



Writing

TASK 1

Your English friend Samantha writes a Travel Column in her school magazine. She has asked you to read her column dedicated to the city of Buenos Aires and make comments on it.

Read Samantha's column, Samantha's letter to you and your notes. Then write a letter to her using your notes. Write about 100 words.

Thanks for agreeing to read and check my column on Buenos Aires. Could you please let me know what you liked about it? Also, if there is any information that is incorrect, please give the correct information!
Is there anything else I should include?
Once again, thanks a million for doing this for me
A bear hug,
Samantha

What to do when you are in Buenos Aires, the City of Lights!

Buenos Aires offers something for everyone...

For shopaholics, Florida St. displays an amazing selection of elegant leather bags and shoes, silver and crystal. Recoleta's the place for clothing by local designers...at great prices compared to London or New York. If you collect antiques, San Telmo is a must-go. Browse the weekend market for chandeliers, 1930s furniture, paintings, or ceramics.

Sports fans can choose between football, polo, boxing, tennis, rugby, and *pato* (a cross between polo and basketball...on horseback!). Great fun guaranteed!

Foodies can sample Italian food...French pastries...and of course, *parrilla* (barbecued meat). The most delicious meat you have ever tried!

For culture buffs, the city is filled with art galleries, museums, historic churches, cathedrals and elegant period buildings. Buenos Aires preserves the homes of noted writers, composers, and artists. And you can see tango live on the streets, in San Telmo and La Boca. Teatro Colon, considered one of the world's finest theatres, hosts performances of ballet, opera, classical music and plays.



Notes for Sam:

- **Congratulate Sam on her section** *What to do when you are in Buenos Aires*
- **Suggest Sam include a section on Public Transport.**
- **Point out the advantages and disadvantages of the different means of transport in BA**
- **Suggest Sam include a special section on nightlife. Describe to her Bs As nightlife.**

Write your letter.

TASK 2

Choose *one* of the following options and write about 150-180 words. Please indicate your choice clearly.

- 1) Your teacher has asked you to write a story for your English school Magazine. The story must begin with the following option:
-Nigel closed the door behind him and knew at that very moment he had made a mistake he would deeply regret. Write your story.
- 2) You have seen a column in a magazine called “How to do well at exams” It is intended to give advice to teenagers who are starting secondary school and want to succeed in passing their exams. Write an article on your experience of taking exams so that it is useful for inexperienced secondary school students.
- 3) There is a TV programme that you love but very few people know about. You think it deserves to have a bigger audience. Write a letter to your school newspaper describing the programme so as to encourage people to watch it.
- 4) You have had a class discussion about how to take action against big economic groups who are trying to use natural resources in your area apparently for their own economic benefit. Your teacher wants to hold a debate in class. As preparation for it, she has asked you to write your opinion about the subject and suggest ways in which further damage to nature (glaciers, water reservoirs and woods for example) can be prevented.



Textos Comprensión Oral

Monologue: male voice, furious with Greg.

Dave: Greg, Greg. This is Dave. Where in the world are you? Hey, man. I'm in trouble, and it's all your fault! I shouldn't have invited your sister out, not to mention using your car AND your cellphone. I thought you said Cindy was single and available!! Man, you were wrong!! You should have told me that your sister had just broken up with a seven-foot-tall gorilla named Joe. I mean the guy is huge, and he hasn't forgotten about her at all. You see, he caught me dropping her at her place, and he nearly strangled me before I could back get into my car. And that man's dog ... Did you know about his vicious beast? What is it? A Rottweiler? And very well trained to obey its master! The thing nearly ripped off my arm!

Well, once I got out of the drive way, Joe started chasing me in his monster truck and nearly ran me off the road. And man, you could have told me that your car didn't have much petrol 'cause it ran out in the middle of this dark parking lot, and I'm now hiding in the men's room of the gas station. Now, pick up the phone ... pick it up, ... Oh, no I can hear the guy outside and ... hey, and your phone is going dead ... Ah, man ... you might have told me that this thing was low on minutes ... Ah man ... I should have stayed home and done the laundry instead of listening to your crazy idea of going out tonight ... Greg, Greg? Where are you? It's me, Dave! Pick up!

Conversation: two male voices

Sam: Hey, Henry, how's everything going, and what's with the flowers?

Henry: They're for my wife.

Sam: Oh, a wedding anniversary or something?

Henry: To tell you the truth, it couldn't be worse.

Sam: Oh?

Henry: You see, I have to pick my wife up from the airport this evening, but while she was gone, there were a few minor accidents at home.

Sam: Oh really? What happened?

Henry: Well, I had some of my friends over Friday night to watch a football game on TV, but one of them got all excited, and started fooling around, waving his arms, and he accidentally knocked over my wife's 250-year old Chinese porcelain vase given to her [Oh no!], given to her by her grandmother, and broke it beyond repair.

Sam: Man, have you tried ...?

Henry: ... super glue? Yeap, it didn't look good. Plus, I would need a very convincing story about why it broke. But she would notice in a second I was trying to hide something from her



Sam: Oh, wow. You're in trouble now.

Henry: If it had only been that.

Sam: Oh, there's more?

Henry: Yeah, you see, the water from the vase spilled all over the manuscript of a book my wife has been writing for the past two years. It blurred the ink over many of the pages. [Oh no.] And so one of my friends had the bright idea of drying the pages by the fire while we watched, uh, the rest of the game, but a spark from the fire must have jumped out and burned the manuscript to ashes.

Sam: But what about an electronic copy? She had one, didn't she?

Henry: Well, actually, her computer had crashed the day before while I was playing computer games, and I haven't been able to get it to work since.

Sam: Man, are you in trouble now!

Henry: I know.

Sam: You're going to have a hard time explaining yourself.

Henry: Yeah.

Sam: Ah, so I get it now. You're buying the flowers for her as a part of some kind of peace offering, right?

Henry: No, not at all. They're for my funeral.

Sam: [laughter]



Clave de Corrección

Listening Comprehension

1)	A
2)	B
3)	B
4)	C
5)	B
6)	A
7)	A
8)	B

Reading Comprehension

11)	C
12)	A
13)	B
14)	B
15)	C
16)	The results of the experiment (on mice) (carried out at Harvard)
17)	1- People who can't afford anti age treatments / poor people. 2- People with rare genetic disorders
18)	The fact that anti age treatments would only be available to the super rich.
19)	People feeling inadequate / poor people not being able to afford anti age treatments
20)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of people already populating Earth.• It is immoral as long as there are poor people with more basic needs.
21)	"to hold back age-related ailments."
22)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcription: "...when the day comes and I will have to make arrangements to go on that mysterious journey we all have to take, whether by choice or not."• Explanation: when we die (whether involuntarily or commit suicide)

RSL

1) once	9) had it made
2) on	10) in fact
3) were	11) had been
4) either	12) exposed
5) were able	13) observing
6) their	14) of
7) until	15) was
8) although	