



INGLÉS II

Se deberá escoger la Opción A completa o la Opción B completa. TODAS las preguntas deberán responderse en el pliego de respuestas, NO en esta hoja.

OPCIÓN A

Sport and competition

Sport probably plays a more important part in people's lives in Britain than it does in most other countries. For a very large number, especially men, it is their main form of entertainment. Millions take part in some kind of sport at least once a week. Many millions more are habitual spectators and followers of one or more sports. Every newspaper devotes several pages entirely to sport.

Some sports played in Britain may not be seen as a sport at all by most people. Games such as indoor bowling or darts are just enjoyable social pastimes. But to a few, they are very serious competitions. Even board games –the kind you buy in a toy shop– have their national champions. Think of any pastime which involves some element of competition and, somewhere in Britain, there is probably a 'national association' for it which organizes contests.

In the 1990s British educational experts decided that activities which set children 'against' each other and involved winning and losing were psychologically and socially harmful. Competitive activities in schools were either avoided or their competitive elements were weakened. But in Britain, you can't make the thirst for competition disappear. The British people are so fond of competition that they introduce it into their other enthusiasms. Gardening is one example; many people compete with their neighbours as to who can grow the best flowers or vegetables. The same occurs with people's animals: there are hundreds of dog shows throughout the country, at which owners hope that their pet will win a prize.

In many cases, the sporting event becomes attractive not for the particular sport, but for the event itself. For example, events like the Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race or the Cup Final are watched on TV by millions of people who have no great interest in rowing or football. Sometimes, the traditions which accompany an event are as important as the actual sporting contest. Wimbledon, for example, is not just a tennis tournament; it means summer fashions and garden parties. At Royal Ascot, a horse racing meeting held every summer, most of the media attention is focused on the hats worn by women!

• **QUESTIONS. Do not copy literally from the text. (1 punto por respuesta = 4 puntos)**

1. In comparison to what happens in other countries, why does sport play such a relevant role in Britain?
(Modelo de respuesta, o formulación similar equivalente) **Sport is the main form of entertainment for many British males. Many Britishers get involved in some kind of sport once a week, and many more of them watch and follow at least one sport. Besides, all newspapers include sport news.**
2. Are sports and games the same thing? Explain.
(Modelo de respuesta, o formulación similar equivalente) **In Britain, activities or pastimes that are called games in other places (e.g. indoor bowling, darts or board games) may be considered sports because they include the 'competition' factor, the key element.**
3. What is particularly special about gardening or pets in Britain?
(Modelo de respuesta, o formulación similar equivalente) **As examples of how competitive Britishers may be, in Britain you can find gardening or pets' contests: people compete as to who has grown the best flowers or vegetables, or whose dog is the best.**
4. Give examples that show that a sportive event is much more than simply sport.
(Modelo de respuesta, o formulación similar equivalente) **Even if they are not particularly interested in rowing or football, millions of people watch on TV the Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race or the Cup Final. Wimbledon or Royal Ascot are much more than tennis or horse racing, with a special emphasis on the (social) events associated to them.**



• EXERCISES

5. Fill in the gaps with the correct, most appropriate word in each case. **(0,25 por acierto = 1 punto)**

Sports are used to keep (A) _____ touch with friends that live (B) _____ away. Maybe it's an old college roommate that lives across the country, or a family member that (C) _____ moved away from home. A simple text message or a call to discuss your team's latest transaction is a good way to (D) _____ with someone you don't see that often.

A) *in* B) *far* C) *has* D) *communicate*

6. Rephrase the following sentences so that their meaning is as similar to the original as possible. **(0,25 por acierto = 1 punto)**

- A) I was ill, but I went swimming anyway.
In spite...
- B) 'I'm sorry I was a little distracted at the meeting yesterday,' Jane said to me.
Jane apologized...
- C) I think you were wrong to reveal the secret!
You shouldn't...
- D) By this time tomorrow we will have signed the agreement.
By this time tomorrow the agreement...

- A) *In spite of my illness, I went swimming.*
- B) *Jane apologized for being a little distracted at the meeting the day before/the previous day.*
- C) *You shouldn't have revealed the secret!*
- D) *By this time tomorrow the agreement will have been signed.*

7. Write a composition about the following topic (100-120 words). **(4 puntos)**

How important is sport in your personal life and in your circle of friends? Discuss.



OPCIÓN B

Whose round is it?

Most Brits come round to the smell of tea or coffee in the morning, a caffeine help that continues to provide support to millions throughout the day, although many office workers will reach as readily for the water bottle as for the mug these days. A glass of wine isn't unusual as an accompaniment to food in the evening but most Brits still save their alcohol consumption for dedicated drinking 'sessions' in the pub or, less often, at home. Friday and Saturday nights are still the main candidates for a pub visit.

When Brits socialise, they often do so with an alcoholic drink in hand –chatting over an evening coffee is rarely the British way. Such habits gave birth to the public house, integral to popular British culture for centuries. The nation's 60,000 pubs provide a place to meet after work, to catch up with friends or to enjoy a meal with the family. They still account for two-thirds of all beer consumed in the UK. Reputations are built on the quality of food served, and the addition of beer gardens and live music; most pubs still open at 11am and close not long after 11pm.

Beer is the queen of alcoholic drinks in Britain. Wine, however, is a different story. Despite enjoying a glass or two, the British still have some problems with wine. Wine snobbery, or the idea that wine knowledge is indicative of social status or intellect, is still noticed. A recent survey revealed that over three-quarters of diners feel uncomfortable when asked to taste the wine in a restaurant. A similar number are dissuaded from ordering a wine they can't pronounce, and nearly half admitted that the price of a bottle was the main factor in choosing wine.

Many have started to worry about the 'new' British disease: the excesses of consuming alcohol, generally known as the 'boozy culture'. More and more adults nowadays drink in order to get drunk and especially young adult males are genuinely fond of episodic heavy drinking. Ongoing Government initiatives to reduce alcohol consumption seem quite unsuccessful.

• **QUESTIONS. Do not copy literally from the text. (1 punto por respuesta = 4 puntos)**

1. Do British people usually drink coffee?

(Modelo de respuesta, o formulación similar equivalente) **Together with tea, coffee is one option that British people have for drinking in the morning or throughout the day. However, coffee is rarely the option chosen when they meet someone for socialising purposes.**

2. What is the role of pubs in British culture?

(Modelo de respuesta, o formulación similar equivalente) **Public houses, or pubs, are the meeting point for British people mainly for socialising. There they meet after work, they get together with friends or go for a meal with the family. Beer is what British people mostly drink in pubs, although pubs have gradually built a reputation for good quality food, too.**

3. What does the text say about wine drinking?

(Modelo de respuesta, o formulación similar equivalente) **British people frequently have their evening meal with a glass of wine at home, but drinking wine outside the home is still considered an act of snobbery, seen as a sign of social or intellectual distinction. Most Brits don't feel particularly comfortable about drinking wine in restaurants, not just because they may not know how to pronounce the names, but because they choose the wine depending on its price.**

4. What is 'boozy culture'?

(Modelo de respuesta, o formulación similar equivalente) **Boozy culture, the 'new' British disease, involves drinking alcohol excessively just for the sake of getting drunk. This has become popular among adults and, specially, among young male adults.**



• EXERCISES

5. Fill in the gaps with the correct, most appropriate word in each case. **(0,25 por acierto = 1 punto)**

Beer is (A) _____ of the oldest and (B) _____ popular alcoholic beverages in the world. More and more medical research (C) _____ that moderate drinkers live longer and better. Beer is perfect for moderate drinking because (D) _____ its lower alcohol content compared with wine or spirits.

A) *one* B) *most* C) *indicates / shows* D) *of*

6. Rephrase the following sentences so that their meaning is as similar to the original as possible. **(0,25 por acierto = 1 punto)**

- A) I had cleaned all the windows before the storm.
All the windows...
- B) 'Donald, are you British or American?' Jane inquired.
Jane asked...
- C) The train left at 6 o'clock and we arrived just after that.
When we...
- D) The cat hasn't come home, which is strange.
It...

- A) *All the windows had been cleaned before the storm.*
- B) *Jane asked Donald whether he was British or American.*
- C) *When we arrived (at 6 o'clock), the train had already/just left.*
- D) *It is strange that the cat hasn't come home.*

7. Write a composition about the following topic (100-120 words). **(4 puntos)**

Describe young people's drinking habits