

Examen Inglés Evau Convocatoria Extraordinaria 2020

TEXTO A

University Education

It used to be that a university degree was a fast track to a good career. But today, thousands of British students are instead having to struggle to find work to match their qualifications. The Office for National Statistics reported this year that almost one in every three graduates is overqualified for their job. Some students have taken their universities to court for failing to provide value for money and received thousands of pounds in settlements.

So which degrees should British students avoid if they want to become high earners? As regards men, a creative arts degree leads to the lowest average graduate salary. Men studying English or philosophy may also earn less than the average man who left school at the age of 16. As for women, in almost all cases doing any degree means a woman will earn at least slightly more than if she had not attended university. This is so because the earnings of women without university qualifications are much lower than those of men. Even those females studying social care, the degree with the lowest average earnings, enjoy a slightly higher salary post-graduation than women without a degree.

So, is doing a degree still really worth it? Yes, research does conclude that completing a degree is still worthwhile. "If a higher salary is the key reason for going to university, students need to choose their subjects carefully," said an investment expert. "For women, studying medicine or economics increases their earning potential by more than 60% and for men over 20%."

However, a high salary post-graduation is not the only motivating factor for young people choosing to continue their studies. "There are plenty of artists and philosophers who were enormously enriched by their university experiences – just not financially," Ms Coles added.

Adapted from: "The 'Mickey Mouse' degrees that could reduce your earning potential," The Telegraph, 4 November 2019.
<<http://bit.do/fquYf>>

QUESTIONS

A.1 (2 puntos) Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

a) In the past studying at university opened the door to suitable job opportunities.

TRUE: "It used to be that a university degree was a fast track to a good career."

b) There exists a possibility for male university graduates to earn a lower salary than men who never studied at university.

TRUE: "Men studying English or philosophy may also earn less than the average man who left school at the age of 16."

A.2 (2 puntos) In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

a) Why do women find it economically more convenient to go to university than men – even when women choose a lower-paying career? **The salary of women without university studies is much lower than men with equal qualifications. Therefore, studying a degree -even one that will receive the lowest wages-, will always be more convenient than not studying any.**

b) Is it still useful to study at university according to the text? Why/Why not? **Yes, in terms of future income, certain degrees will lead to higher salaries, and there are other studies which will provide experience and fulfilment, while they may not be so financially rewarding.**

A.3 (1 punto) Find the words in the text that mean:

- a) try hard (paragraph 1) struggle
- b) a little (paragraph 2) slightly
- c) determine (paragraph 3) conclude
- d) inspirational (paragraph 4) motivating

A.4 (2 puntos) Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- a) If I had known (know) this university degree was going to be so difficult, I would not have chosen (not/choose) it. But it's too late to make any changes now that I'm in 2nd year.
- b) The London School of Economics, which usually scores highly in university rankings, was reported (report) last year as the one with the highest employment rate in the UK.
- c) She hasn't succeeded in getting (get) the results she wanted. Therefore, she intends to sit (sit) the exam next year again.
- d) I'm so tired of school life: I've been looking forward to starting university since I was in 3rd year of secondary education.

A.5 (3 puntos) Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic. "Passion vs. Money". Which reasons will determine your university degree choice?

Choosing a career path is not an easy task and not everyone is ready to make that decision at such an early point in our lives. However, there are certain aspects which we may start to take into account.

The financial aspect of our choice may have an essential impact on our future prosperity. There are certain degrees that are bound to low salaries and high unemployment rate, while others may lead us to a more secure economy. Needless to say, making such an important decision based only on the economic factor is too risky.

Motivation should be at the core of our considerations. After graduating, we will hopefully find a job related to our studies. If we are to work for many years in a certain field, we need to at least like it. Otherwise, it will be extremely difficult to find motivation and challenge yourself daily.

In a nutshell, given the uncertain economic context in which we live in, it looks advisable to consider our possible future wage. However, I will never choose a degree that I do not like just because I could receive a better salary in the future because that choice will surely lead me to unhappiness.

TEXTO B

The Ladies Bridge

Waterloo Bridge in London is nicknamed ‘The Ladies Bridge’ for the women who built it. As World War II overtook Europe and men went off to battle, the women of England entered the wartime workforce. “Before long,” says the BBC, “women made up one third of the total workforce in the metal and chemical industries, as well as in ship-building and vehicle manufacture.” They also worked on English infrastructure.

But while Rosie the Riveter, the star of a campaign aimed at recruiting female workers for defence industries during World War II, became perhaps the most iconic image of American working women, those who built this bridge were largely forgotten. “Today the riverboat pilots on the Thames tell the story of Waterloo Bridge being built by women in World War II,” says the summary of The Ladies Bridge, a documentary by filmmaker Karen Livesey. Though a crew of largely women workers built the current Waterloo Bridge in the early 1940s, at the official opening of the bridge in 1945, Herbert Morrison, an English politician, thanked all the men who worked on the project: “The men who built Waterloo Bridge are fortunate men. They know that, although their names may be forgotten, their work will be a pride and use to London for many generations to come.”

The displacement of women’s role in the history of the Waterloo Bridge, says a 2006 article, wasn’t out of malice, or discrimination. Peter Mandell, the head of Peter Lind and Company, the contractor that oversaw the building of the bridge in 1940s, said “there’s no hidden agenda behind their unacknowledged achievements – the archive was simply lost when Lind temporarily suspended trading in the 1970s.” “We’re very proud of our female workforce,” he says. “We’re rebuilding this archive and want to honor them with a plaque on the bridge.”

Adapted from “This Bridge is Nicknamed the ‘Ladies Bridge’ because it was Built Largely by Women,” Smithsonian Magazine, July 15, 2013. <<https://bit.ly/2JL7dS6>>

QUESTIONS

B.1 (2 puntos) Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- During World War II English women had to substitute male workers.
TRUE: “As World War II overtook Europe and men went off to battle, the women of England entered the wartime workforce.”
- An article said that the contribution of women in the construction of the bridge was not mentioned on purpose.
FALSE: “The displacement of women’s role in the history of the Waterloo Bridge, says a 2006 article, wasn’t out of malice, or discrimination.”

B.2 (2 puntos) In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

- Why did Rosie the Riveter become a symbol in the USA? **Rosie the Riveter starred a campaign to recruit women for the defence industry, and represented the importance of women workforce during World War II in America.**
- What happened at the official opening of the bridge? **At the official opening of the bridge an English politician thanked all the men who would always be remembered for their invaluable work building the bridge, displacing all the women who actually took part on the project.**

B.3 (1 punto) Find the words in the text that mean:

- called (paragraph 1) **nicknamed**

- b) possibly (paragraph 2) perhaps
- c) lucky (paragraph 2) fortunate
- d) supervised (paragraph 3) oversaw

B.4 (2 puntos) Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- a) Waterloo Bridge is known as the Ladies Bridge because of/owing to/due to/thanks to the key role women played (play) in its construction.
- b) More women were employed in industrial sectors during the early forties as the segregation between men and women had diminished/diminished/was diminishing/had been diminishing (diminish).
- c) The government has decided to go on/ahead/along with the plans for building a new airport 50 kilometres away from the city.
- d) They had worked hard all morning, so at/by midday they stopped to have (have) a coffee and a sandwich.

B.5 (3 puntos) Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic. Do you think the roles of men and women in society have changed over the last fifty years? Justify your answer.

Historically, society has been marked by a vast majority of important male figures. That does not mean that there were not many remarkable women, but that their inferior position due to inequality did not let them stand out in many occasions.

Nowadays most people understand that male privilege is a feature of the social system we live in, which is called patriarchy. This system consists in men holding primary power and predominating in roles of political leadership, moral authority, and social privilege.

However, the profound and widespread understanding of living in a system of inequality is something relatively new. A few decades ago in an industrialised country like Spain, women were not allowed to vote or to have and run property. Nevertheless, there is a current movement where women are increasingly raising their voices to denounce oppression and violence, and to reclaim a more equal position in society.

In short, the roles of men and women have actually changed over the last fifty years because there has been a change of perspective regarding the position that men and women should have in society as it can be seen by the renewed feminist movement that has happened in the last decade.