

Examen Inglés Evau Julio 2018

OPCIÓN A

Saving the British Pub

In 1946 George Orwell described his favourite pub, "The Moon under Water", where there were "mirrors behind the bar" and a "ceiling stained dark yellow by tobacco smoke". It was the perfect pub, but it didn't exist since the ideal boozier lived only in Orwell's imagination. If we carry on the way we are, by 2046 many of the real pubs will exist only in our imaginations, too.

Today about 17,000 pubs are expected to be affected by a dramatic raise in business rates, with closures feared in the next five years. Yes, the death of the great British pub has long been predicted, with some losses since the 1900s. However, in the past decade numbers have dropped like a stone. What is strangling "The King's Head"? The smoking ban, wage stagnation, alcohol duty, supermarket pricing and the more nebulous "cultural change". In the forties Orwell wrote that the trend was "away from creative communal amusements and towards solitary mechanical ones" - and this was half a century before the Internet and Netflix came to seduce us.

There are many good economic arguments for wanting to see pubs thrive. In fact, a recent report showed that the industry supports 900,000 jobs. But this is not why the thought of decline hurts. It hurts because for many British people pubs are, in a strange way, an extension of what home is. Our national identity is glued by the places we share, the common denominators of the British experience - and there is perhaps no greater one of these than the pub.

More should be done especially to help rural pubs provide different services and stay alive. One organization helps landlords set up post offices, shops and libraries. We should take more pride in our pubs and support them.

QUESTIONS

1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- a) George Orwell used to visit his favourite pub every day. **False.** The evidence is on the first paragraph: "It was the perfect pub, but it didn't exist since the ideal boozier lived only in Orwell's imagination".
- b) Pub closures have been most significant since the beginning of the 21st century. **True.** The evidence is on the second paragraph: "Yes, the death of the great British pub has long been predicted, with some losses since the 1900s".

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

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

a) There are several reasons for pub closures. Mention four. **The closure of British pubs has been affected by the smoking prohibition, the deterioration of salaries, taxes on alcoholic drinks and the change of trend on how people spend their leisure time-now they prefer a more solitary way.**

b) Why is the decline of pubs affecting British people's feelings? **Because the British pub is an essential element of their national identity since it belongs to the experience that many British people share.**

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

a) spectacular (paragraph 2) **dramatic**

b) succeed (paragraph 3) **thrive**

c) actually (paragraph 3) **in fact**

d) establish (paragraph 4) **set up**

(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

a) People should **be encouraged** (encourage) to visit pubs by the government so as **to** close the gap between the price of supermarket and pub booze.

b) **Even though** smoking is no longer permitted, some people still **enjoy** (enjoy) socialising in pubs.

c) You always come **across** friendly people in local pubs. That's **why** we should try to frequent them.

d) I remember **going** (go) to the pub with my father when I was a child. However, now you are not allowed **until** you are over 18.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic.

Is it important to save traditions? Give your opinion.

(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

One of the most popular traditions in my country is having twelve grapes on New Year's Eve. Spanish people tend to do it even when they spend that night abroad. Why is it so important to keep such customs alive?

A tradition is something that we do together and that defines and differentiate us from the rest. A simple action repeated by many people over time can bring us together and make us feel happy and reassured because we feel that by sharing that experience we belong to a group.

However, we must be very careful and adapt our traditions to the times we are living in. There are certain traditions that defy the way we see the world now. For example, bullfighting or any other celebration that involves hurting an animal doesn't fit with the more considerate view that society has towards animals these days.

In conclusion, we should try to save our traditions since they are shared experiences that bring us joy and a sense of unity. But we should adjust them to keep up the rhythm of mentality changes, otherwise we could stagnate our own moral evolution.

OPCIÓN B

Fancy a Lab Grown Burger?

Tissue engineering, which helps to improve damaged cells or whole organs, has proved to be extremely useful for medical applications that extend our lives. However, we might question ourselves what's the point of living with artificial organs for a much longer period and without disease if our planet is going to be barren and without food. The answer might be cultured meat, that is to say, meat produced in a laboratory, in a cell culture, rather than from an animal, but identical to the burgers you can find at any supermarket. This new type of meat has the potential to address huge global problems such as world hunger and global warming in the coming years. After all, if you look at the potential benefits of tissue engineering, food production for 9 billion people is going to be a much more relevant matter than merely prolonging their lives.

After producing the first cow-less burger, which cost a massive €250,000 to grow, a researcher at the University of Maastricht has become the public face of cultured meat. That first burger, which was financed by a co-founder of Google, was tasted live in London back in 2013. The price has since dropped to around €10 per burger, and several new companies in the US and in Israel are currently working on their own cultured meat products. In 3-4 years' time these companies might have launched some expensive burgers in small scale production. However, large-scale production with a price equal to regular meat will take much longer.

Lab grown meat is not only beneficial for humans. Animal welfare is an added benefit; however, if one had to prioritize, no doubt the environmental impact of protein production alternatives for beef and pork is even more important. More cultured meat means less pollution through fossil fuel usage, animal methane, effluent waste, and water and land consumption.

QUESTIONS

1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

a) The University of Maastricht invested a total of a quarter of a million euros from its own budget in the first synthetic burger. **False. The evidence is on the second paragraph: "That first burger, which was financed by a co-founder of Google, (...)"**.

b) It will take some time before the cultured burgers cost as much as regular ones. **True. The evidence is on the third paragraph: "However, large-scale production with a price equal to regular meat will take much longer"**.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

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

- a) Explain how tissue engineering may help biomedical research. **Tissue engineering has been applied to repair damaged cells and even entire organs, so it has allowed humans to live longer.**
- b) What may be the effects of large-scale cultured meat production on global warming? **Pollution related to farming, such as that derived from fossil fuel and methane emissions, will be reduced. Besides, less water and land will be used.**

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

- a) entire (paragraph 1) **whole**
- b) subsidised (paragraph 2) **financed**
- c) fallen (paragraph 2) **dropped**
- d) nowadays (paragraph 2) **currently**

(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- a) I wish scientists **had discovered** (discover) meat culture decades ago! It **could/would** have spared the planet much irreversible degradation.
- b) The first cultured meatball **was made** (make) in 2016 by an unknown company **whose** manager is a young bio-engineer in her twenties.
- c) Some believe that cultured meat is one of **the most important** (important) discoveries in recent times for **defeating** (defeat) some world problems.
- d) Nowadays, **being** (be) a vegetarian is becoming a far more popular option **than** it used to be a few decades ago.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic.

Would you like to live in a world with only artificial food? Justify your answer.

(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

Many important technological and medical advancements are changing our society on many aspects. One of them is the way we feed ourselves. In this regard, artificial food is a possibility in a near future given the decrease of natural resources.

Currently there is a growing tendency to avoid the consumption of animal derived products that has led to the creation of artificial meat in laboratories. Having taken that step it is not unthinkable that we could develop artificial fruits and vegetables as well. If we ended up using up the natural resources of this planet, this advancement would increase our chances of survival.

On the other hand, human beings are omnivorous animals. That means that our diet is defined precisely by variety, so it would be extremely difficult to adapt ourselves to an artificial diet which presumably would be much more limited than the wide range of options we have in nature.

In short, I-as a human being- wouldn't like to eat only artificial food, especially having tasted the natural one. However, I would do my best to adapt to that situation if it were the only solution to preserve human existence.