



Comprensión Lectora

Información para candidatos

Destreza: Comprensión Lectora

Duración: 60 minutos

Número de textos: 3 o 4

- Tipos de texto: artículos de revistas y periódicos, extractos de novelas y libros de texto, extractos y artículos de páginas web, correspondencia, panfletos, y otros documentos.
- Cada texto tendrá un máximo de 650 palabras y un máximo de 2100 en la prueba en total.

Tareas: Cada texto tendrá una tarea de un tipo único con un máximo de 10 preguntas.

Puntuación: Un punto por cada respuesta correcta. No se penalizan las respuestas incorrectas.

Tipos de tareas:

- tipo test (multiple choice)
- emparejamiento (multiple matching- gap fill or match question to text)
- respuestas cortas (short answers)

NB Las tareas que aparecen en este documento incluyen menos preguntas a modo de ejemplo, y extractos de los textos completos. También en el examen serán textos distintos. Las respuestas a las tareas modelo se encuentran al final de este documento.

1. Ejemplo de Comprensión lectora con preguntas de tipo test (multiple choice)

The man who lived to tell tales

Read about a man's life and answer the questions below.

Brian James is a man who has reinvented himself, one might say. Twenty years ago he was an IT executive earning a huge salary. Now he is a house-husband, staying at home to look after his baby son while his wife, Betty, goes out to work. Between nappy changes and feeds, James has produced the novel he always knew he had in him.

What brought about such a transformation? One winter morning in the mid 1990's, Brian James was aboard the 6.50 a.m. train from Bournemouth to London when it crashed into another train at Waterloo Junction. Thirty-two passengers lost their lives. James survived, only sustaining minor injuries, but the emotional aftermath made his life a nightmare. It is only now that he has come through it. At the age of 42, he has become the author Shane Conlon: his first novel, *Raven*, came out last month.

Born and brought up in Glasgow, Conlon says he 'had the classic deprived childhood. My mother, father, two sisters and myself lived in one room.' When his parents split up he spent a year in a children's home, and was then sent to foster parents. Dropping out of school at fifteen, he later joined the Air Force. This was followed by a short-lived marriage and various dead-end jobs. Conlon then went to university to take a degree in psychology. By the mid-nineties he had set himself up in Bournemouth as a computer consultant, training staff for companies with his then partner, Clarissa.

While commuting back and forth to London, he came to know a few of the regulars on the 6.50 train. On the day of the accident he was late and could not get his usual seat in the buffet car, so he sat in a carriage further towards the rear of the train. He was dozing as the train approached London. 'There was an almighty bang. At first I thought I'd been in a fight. The guy opposite had just been thrown against me.' He escaped with cuts and bruises, but the emotional trauma ran deeper. He had been in the third carriage from the end: he discovered that some of the commuters he usually sat with did not survive.

'People told me I was very lucky, but I just felt I was in the wrong place. One minute you think you're the centre of the universe, then something like that brings it home to you that you're not. Afterwards, I was a mess. Back at work, I couldn't concentrate. I'd start a sentence and forget what I was talking about. My partner was watching the business falling apart and I just didn't care. My inner motivation, my drive, had gone.

His girlfriend left and James hit rock bottom. 'I was on my own. I hadn't paid the mortgage for

a year and I had no way of ever getting back.' Gradually he pulled himself out of it. He met his current wife and when she became pregnant, they agreed that he would stay at home and be house-husband when the baby arrived. 'I was really frightened of trying to do another big-earning job,' he explains. 'I didn't believe I would be able to hold down a job again. It would have to be something else, but I had no idea what.' He turned his hand to writing, and with the birth of his son, he set about completing his first novel. 'Kevin would wake up, I'd feed him. He'd be quite happy playing on the floor while I sat and typed a page or two. Sometimes I'd work with him sitting on my lap.'

After the publication of his first novel James signed a three-book deal and soon afterwards his agent sold the television rights to *Raven*. While admitting that things are still difficult financially, he has no regrets. 'What happened on that train changed my life. If I was still going up and down to London, I might be on £100,000 a year, but I'd hardly see my son. Now I can take a two-minute break and have a cuddle. Who could ask for more?'

The Man who lived to tell Tales

For each question, underline the most appropriate option a, b, c or d.
An example (0) has been done for you

0. *After the accident, James*
- a) *couldn't remember what had happened.*
 - b) *thought his partner was making bad decisions.*
 - c) *lost interest in his work.*
 - d) *stopped talking to his partner.*
1. As a result of the accident
- a) James suffered emotionally and financially.
 - b) his girlfriend started another business.
 - c) James ended the relationship he was in.
 - d) James was forced to leave his home.
2. Brian James became a writer
- a) even though he knew nothing about writing.
 - b) because he had a lot of free time at home.
 - c) because he did not want to make a lot of money.
 - d) when he took on the role of house-husband.
3. What is James' attitude to his life now?
- a) He would like to be earning more money.
 - b) He hopes to work in television in the future.
 - c) He thinks he made the right decisions.
 - d) He feels just as busy as he used to be.

2.Ejemplo de Comprensión lectora con preguntas emparejamiento (multiple matching gap fill)

You are going to read an article about a bestselling author. Some sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A-F** the one which fits each gap **1-3**. There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use.

The man who lived to tell tales.

An example (0) has been done for you.

Brian James is a man who has reinvented himself, one might say. Twenty years ago he was an IT executive earning a huge salary. **0. D** _____ Between nappy changes and feeds, James has produced the novel he always knew he had in him.

What brought about such a transformation? One winter morning in the mid 1990's, Brian James was aboard the 6.50 a.m. train from Bournemouth to London when it crashed into another train at Waterloo Junction. Thirty-two passengers lost their lives. **1.** _____ It is only now that he has come through it. At the age of 42, he has become the author Shane Conlon, the pseudonym he uses as a writer. His first novel, *Raven*, came out last month.

Born and brought up in Glasgow, James says he 'had the classic deprived childhood. My mother, father, two sisters and myself lived in one room.' When his parents split up he spent a year in a children's home, and was then sent to foster parents. Dropping out of school at fifteen, he later joined the Air Force. **2.** _____ James then went to university to take a degree in psychology. By the mid-nineties he had set himself up in Bournemouth as a computer consultant, training staff for companies with his then partner, Clarissa.

While commuting back and forth to London, he came to know a few of the regulars on the 6.50 train. **3.** _____ He was dozing as the train approached London. 'There was an almighty bang. At first I thought I'd been in a fight. The guy opposite had just been thrown against me.' He escaped with cuts and bruises, but the emotional trauma ran deeper. He had been in the third carriage from the end: he discovered that some of the commuters he usually sat with did not survive.

- A. This was followed by a short-lived marriage and various dead-end jobs.
- B. He'd be quite happy playing on the floor while I sat and typed a page or two.
- C. His former partner has no idea that Brian James and Shane Conlon are one and the same person.

- D. *Now he is a house-husband, staying at home to look after his baby son while his wife, Betty, goes out to work.*
- E. James survived, only sustaining minor injuries, but the emotional aftermath made his life a nightmare.
- F. On the day of the accident he was late and could not get his usual seat in the buffet car, so he sat in a carriage further towards the rear of the train.

3.Ejemplo de Comprensión lectora con preguntas emparejamiento (multiple matching- match question to text)

Read the three texts below and answer the questions below.

Book reviews

Text A - Those Who Leave and Those Who Stay

After book three it would be difficult not to look forward to book four. Elena bathes in the success of her published novel, but struggles to write more after the birth of her two daughters, and with her husband's dependence on her central domestic role. Elena loves Pietro, but the differences between them become increasingly apparent. In the meanwhile, she comes to Lila's aid at the request of old neighbourhood friends Enzo and Pasquale. Lila collapses with exhaustion after her struggles with harrasment and unremitting hard work at the sausage factory. Elena looks after Lila's son Gennaro for a while, and she also intervenes on her behalf by using her new contacts within her husband's more socially influential family. Political struggle between Fascist and Communist elements becomes increasingly prominent in this story, as does the role of women during these changing times of the late 60's and 70's. When Elena revisits the old neighbourhood, there are some changes and new riches, but the stifling influence continues to feel like an entrapment. Lila's fortunes change, and Elena becomes increasingly consumed by passion, both have a sense of risk and danger about them. The tension between hostility and tenderness between the friends is quite unique to this series of novels.

Text B - Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine

I must admit, I was sceptical going into this novel because of all the hype it has been receiving and because most hyped-up books I read seem to leave me disappointed or unsatisfied. However, this book was an exception. EOICF makes for such a unique and wonderful reading experience. It isn't exactly the kind of book I typically reach for but I am so glad I decided to give this one a go. It explores so many important issues such as loneliness, grief and kindness. I found it deeply thought-provoking and I loved the experience of wanting to cry one second and then suddenly wanting to laugh by the next sentence. It is truly a work of genius that deserves all the hype it receives and I hope as many people read it as physically possible.

The best part of this book was certainly the use of character and narrative voice. Eleanor is such a fascinating and eccentric character; everything about her is so unique and unusual. The majority of the book is basically told through Eleanor's internal monologue which consists of her thoughts, feeling and opinions based on the observations she makes. In many ways, it resembled a kind of sociological experiment or a scientific study of chimps. I loved being inside Eleanor's head, it was like seeing the world in a completely different way. The way she analyses the absurdity of contemporary human etiquette frequently made me grin like an idiot. In many ways, it also reminded me of reading from the mind of a child where everything is all so new and peculiar. Her voice was so refreshingly different from any other first-person-narrative I've ever read.

Text C – The Girl I Used to Know

This is the first book I've read by Faith Hogan and I was delighted to find my first impressions, made entirely because of the beautiful cover didn't disappoint. I was sucked into the lives of Richard and Amanda and their unwelcome basement tenant Tess.

I was sucked right into the heart of this story, living their lives alongside them because of the depth of characters Faith Hogan had created, I felt their pain and sadness, smiled as they laughed. Felt the cold, damp, grey days and the sunshine warming my bones. This something that takes great skill, I cared what happened and was internally cheering them on to find a different paths to walk.

Faith has created characters that will pull at your heart strings and take you on a journey of discovery not just within the book but within yourself. This is a thought provoking, uplifting story that will question your life choices, would I make the same ones again, do things differently?

If you're looking for a story about real people, with real problems and situations, that demonstrate the power of resilience, humour, family and friendship then this is a book for you - perfect for a lazy Sunday, snuggled in your pj's in the conservatory.

Questions:

An example (0) has been done for you

Which text...

	A	B	C
0) has an optimistic tone?			X
1) mentions an unpleasant atmosphere?			
2) mentions up and downs in life?			

3) is surprising in several ways?			
4) makes the reader very involved with the characters?			
5) mentions the success of the book?			

4. Ejemplo de Comprensión lectora con preguntas de respuestas cortas (short answers)

Read about a man's life and answer the questions below.

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be house-husband when the baby arrived. 'I was really frightened of trying to do another big-earning job,' he explains. 'I didn't believe I would be able to hold down a job again. It would have to be something else, but I had no idea what.' He turned his hand to writing, and with the birth of his son, he set about completing his first novel. 'Kevin would wake up, I'd feed him. He'd be quite happy playing on the floor while I sat and typed a page or two. Sometimes I'd work with him sitting on my lap.'

Complete the following sentences using a word or short phrase.

An example (0) has been done for you:

0. Conlon might have dropped out of school because he wasn't motivated.

1. Conlon and Clarissa

2. Because Conlon was late

3. The effects of the train accident

COMPRESIÓN LECTORA

RESPUESTAS:

Ejercicio 1. Multiple choice 1a) 2d) 3c)

Ejercicio 2. Multiple matching 1.E, 2.A, 3.F

Ejercicio 3. Multiple Matching:

Which text...

	A	B	C
0) has an optimistic tone?			X
1) mentions an unpleasant atmosphere?	X		
2) mentions up and downs in life?	X		
3) is surprising in several ways?		X	
4) makes the reader very involved with the characters?			X
5) mentions the success of the book?		X	

Ejercicio 4. Short answers

1. Conlon and Clarissa were partners/worked together/ worked together as computer consultants.

2. Because Conlon was late he sat at the back.

3. The effects of the train accident were physical and emotional /lasted a long time.