

MODELO DE TAREAS DEL EXAMEN DE ACREDITACIÓN LINGÜÍSTICA  
SERVICIO CENTRAL DE IDIOMAS. NIVEL B2 (MODELO CERTACLES)

Ejemplo de tarea de comprensión lectora (READING)

**READING TASK 1 (Questions: 1-6)**

- Read this article on student visas.
- Answer the questions (1-6) by choosing the correct answer A, B or C.
- The first one (0) has been done for you as an example.

**Tighter rules for student visas could cost UK £2.4bn in a decade – study.** The Guardian. 5 June 2013.

The government's hardening of international student visa rules could cause long-term damage to Britain's universities and cost £2.4bn over the next decade, a study claims.

Research by Universities UK, which lobbies on behalf of British higher education, warns that the visa restrictions may mean many more overseas students choose to study in the US and Canada rather than the UK, taking £350m a year in lost revenue with them.

"Such a change would not be easily reversed and, as seen in other higher education systems, the effects can endure across several academic years," the group says in its annual report, published on Wednesday.

The research cites the recent experience of Australia tightening its student visa rules, with the value of Australia's higher education earnings falling 5% between 2010 and 2011.

"This could put the UK's strong position within the global education market at risk and lead to a reduction in exports to the value of £2.4bn across the entire [UK] education sector between 2012-13 and 2024-25," the report concludes.

The government introduced a series of curbs\* on student visa applications, which started from 2011 and were aimed at making visas harder to obtain for foreign students on multiyear courses.

The additional checks brought in included harder English language requirements and the imposition of "credibility check" interviews from 2013. About 100,000 interviews are expected to be carried out this year.

Last year, the Home Office reported that student applications for visas to study at institutions outside of higher education – such as further education colleges – had fallen considerably. That suggests the total loss to the UK economy in foregone\* fees and lost spending could be even worse than predicted.

Immigration minister Mark Harper disputed the report's conclusions, pointing out that the latest figures show the number of international students applying for visas to attend UK universities has increased.

"Last week's UCAS\* statistics show applications from international students are up 5.5% compared to this time last year, and latest figures from the Higher Education Statistics Agency show the total number of non-EU students at our universities continues to rise," Harper said.

"However, Universities UK continue to criticise the government policies it initially supported. The UK remains open for business to the brightest and best international students: there is no limit on the number of international students who can come here and graduates can stay and work in the UK if they get a graduate level job."

The Universities UK report, The Funding Environment for Universities, surveyed individual universities and found that, while the total number of overseas students from outside the EU enrolled rose by 1.5% in 2013, first-year numbers had fallen.

The biggest falls in overseas recruitment involved students from India, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. Saudi student enrolment numbers fell by 31% in 2011-12. Yet at the same time Saudi enrolment at US universities grew by 50% annually.

The report also surveyed universities to gauge\* the impact of higher fees for UK students.

It found that the number of young applicants to full-time undergraduate courses fell by 5.7%, with mature applicants experiencing a larger fall of 9%.

"This is bad news for fair access – you're more likely to be studying part-time or be a mature student of over 21 if you're from a disadvantaged background," said Les Ebdon, the director of Fair Access to Higher Education. (554 words)

\***Glossary:** **curbs:** limits; **foregone:** past, last; **UCAS:** Universities and Colleges Admissions Service; **gauge:** measure.

**0. Tighter rules for student visas could cost UK A in a decade**

- a) 2.4 billion      b) 2.4 million      c) 2.4 pounds

**1. The modification in the visa rules \_\_\_\_\_.**

- a) could have long-lasting effects if it could be easily reversed
- b) would not be easy to change and may have long-lasting effects
- c) would not be easy to return to and may have long-lasting effects

**2. The curbs on student visa applications \_\_\_\_\_ .**

- a) affect all foreign students travelling to the UK
- b) affect year-long exchange students and permanent students
- c) do not affect year-long exchange students or summer students

**3. Visas are more difficult to obtain because \_\_\_\_\_ .**

- a) students have to go through interviews in English
- b) students need to prove a higher level of English
- c) not enough people speak English

**4. Which is false?**

- a) The Immigration Minister focuses on foreign students at universities.
- b) The Home Office says that applications to study in UK universities are falling.
- c) Statistics show that the number of non-European university students is rising.

**5. After finishing their studies in the UK, foreigners can stay \_\_\_\_\_ .**

- a) if they get a job in their field of study
- b) as long as they get a job right after graduation
- c) depending on the kind of job they get

**6. The higher cost of tuition for UK students \_\_\_\_\_.**

- a) has had the most effect on working older students.
- b) has affected the numbers of all student groups equally
- c) has especially affected working students and older students

## READING TASK 2 (Questions: 7-13)

- You are going to read a short explanation on how colleges work.
- Match the name of the member of staff (7-13) with its job description (A-G).
- An example (0) has been provided.

### The Colleges of Cambridge

Each of the thirty-one Colleges is an autonomous corporation and their internal procedures vary. Like the University, each College is governed by its own statutes and regulations. The elected or appointed Head of a College may be termed Master, President, Principal, Mistress, Provost, or Warden. The Governing Body is made up of the Head and some or all of the Fellows - the elected senior members of the College whose primary duty is teaching, administration or research.

Colleges are free to select their own students, subject to some minimum educational requirements imposed by the University. Three admit only women; most admit both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The pivots of the College system are the Tutors, the College officers responsible for the pastoral care of students; the Directors of Studies, who have specific responsibilities in relation to the courses of study and academic progress of their students; and the Supervisors, who carry out individual and small-group teaching which complements the lectures and practical classes organised by the University. Other College officers include Bursars, who are responsible for finance and buildings and Chaplains, whose concern is spiritual welfare.

Links with the government of the University are ensured through membership of the Council and the Finance Committee which both include places reserved for College representatives. The working of the dual system is further facilitated by the fact that many teaching Fellows of Colleges also hold University teaching appointments, and many University teachers are also Fellows of Colleges.

(248 words)

(Source: <http://www.cam.ac.uk/univ/works/colleges.html>)

<b>0. H</b>	<b>Student</b>	
7.	Provost	A. A teacher responsible for the emotional health of assigned students.
8.	Fellow	B. A higher-ranking member of a college.
9.	Tutor	C. An educator who supplements other forms of teaching.
10.	Director of Studies	D. An officer in charge of the educational development of students.
11.	Supervisor	E. The head or senior administrative officer in a college.
12.	Bursar	F. A member of the clergy attached to a private institution.
13.	Chaplain	G. An officer in charge of monetary resources and the premises.
		<b>H. A person studying at a university or other place of higher education.</b>

## **LISTENING TASK 1 (Questions: 1-6)**

- Listen to an interview with singer Shakira. (3min 17sec)
- Choose the answer A, B or C, which fits the questions (1-6).
- The first one (0) has been done for you as an example.

(PICAR AQUÍ)

0. **Shakira's latest album**\_\_\_\_\_.

- a) has recently won a Grammy
- b) will be available in stores soon
- c) is a favourite with Time readers

1. **With her new album, Shakira wants to**\_\_.

- a) exploit the possibilities of electronic music
- b) make traditional music styles popular again
- c) bring electronic music to worldwide audiences

2. **Nowadays, when she writes her songs, she**\_\_\_\_\_.

- a) needs to use many resources to help her
- b) can do it naturally in Spanish and English
- c) uses different methods for each language

3. **When she was eight years old, her view of the world changed because her father**\_\_\_\_\_.

- a) changed his business and they had to work with very poor orphans
- b) lost his money and she saw the terrible conditions in which children lived
- c) lost his business and she was so angry she ran away to live like an orphan

4. **When she was eighteen,**\_\_.

- a) she recorded her first album and gave all the money to a children's foundation
- b) she became very successful and having children became something essential for her
- c) her first success allowed her to help children eat better and have a better education

5. **She dances so vigorously that she often**\_\_.

- a) has neck pain afterwards
- b) complains of back pain
- c) harms her whole body

6. **When it comes to composing music, Shakira believes**\_\_.

- a) you should share all your physical experiences with other musicians
- b) you should create music that can be danced with your hips
- c) your physical reaction is important to know the quality of the song

## LISTENING TASK 2 (Questions: 7-13)

- Listen to a radio program about a prize given to the biologist George Schaller. (3min 00 sec)
- Complete the sentences (7-13) with a MAXIMUM of 5 words.
- The first one (0) has been done for you as an example.

(PICAR AQUÍ)

0. What was George Schaller being honored for? \_.

| \_\_\_(his)\_\_\_ | \_\_\_(achievements)\_\_\_ | \_\_\_(in)\_\_\_ | \_\_\_animal\_\_\_ | \_\_\_conservation\_\_\_ |

7. Michael Crowther called George Schaller 'the George Washington' of what?

| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ |

8. Where did Schaller move in 1959?

| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ |

9. Why is it important for the gorillas to get used to you?

| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ |

10. What were he and his wife Kay permitted to do in China?

| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ |

11. What did he discover in Laos with Alan Rabinowitz?

| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ |

12. What did he praise Rwanda and Congo for doing?

| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ |

13. What did he call the oil companies' efforts to get into an Alaskan wildlife refuge?

| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ |

Ejemplo de tarea de expresión escrita (WRITING)

## **WRITING TASK 1**

**You have finished your degree and decided to work abroad. You have seen this advertisement and want to apply for the job.**

- **Write a letter of application.**
- **Explain relevant information on your background.**
- **Argue why you would be a good candidate.**
- **Use your own words as much as possible.**

Employer: KINGSTON UNIVERSITY

Posted: 19 October 2012

Location: Kingston upon Thames, Greater London Contract:  
Permanent

Hours: Full Time

Salary: £35,065 - £38,102

### **Student Life Advisor**

Student Services seek highly motivated professionals committed to the success of Kingston applicants, students and graduates to shape and transform services and activities for students.

Providing advice and information to students is central to this role. You will also develop and provide training to university colleagues on procedures concerning the organization of special activities for students. The ability to interpret rules and regulations, so as to explain them to students, is also essential. Organised and IT-literate, you'll be calm, articulate and professional.

For more information and to apply, visit [www.kingston.ac.uk/jobs](http://www.kingston.ac.uk/jobs)

Closing date: 25 October 2012

(Adapted. Source: The Guardian Jobs)

**Write your letter in 180-200 words with appropriate style and content.**

Ejemplo de tarea de expresión oral (SPEAKING)

**PART TWO: MONOLOGUE**

Compare these two pictures.



Answer the following questions.

Do you think women are more concerned about their appearance than men?

Do you think there is pressure to have a certain appearance? If so, who/what is responsible for that?

## ANSWERS

### READING

#### TASK 1:

0	A
1	B
2	C
3	B
4	B
5	C
6	C

#### TASK 2:

0	Z
7	E
8	B
9	A
10	D
11	C
12	G
13	F

### LISTENING

#### TASK 1:

0	B
1	A
2	B
3	B
4	C
5	A
6	C

#### TASK 2:

Possible answers:

7. (of) conservation biology
8. (to) central Africa
9. so they don't (or won't) run away / so they forget you're there/ so they live normally
10. to study giant pandas
11. a new species of goat
12. (they're) preserving their forests/ preserving their gorillas/(for) preserving.../ they've preserved...
13. (an act of) ecological vandalism