The British Council recently conducted a 31-nation survey (including Spain) of attitudes towards Britain and the British, as part of the British Government’s efforts to improve the UK’s image overseas. In general the attitudes of people in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia were quite positive, but those in Western Europe and East Asia gave more critical responses. However, all areas agreed on Britain’s most famous representatives: David Beckham, Hugh Grant and Mr Bean.

In Spain people were more critical than in other countries when asked about Britain. As far as British people are concerned, Spanish attitudes were positive in some aspects and negative in others. On one hand they seemed to think that the British are honest, fair, hardworking and loyal, but, on the other hand they regarded them as being rather conservative, a little bit dull, and not terribly friendly, particularly to people from other countries and cultures. The country’s main strengths were felt to be the English language, the nation’s stable economy and its legal, government and education systems. The country’s higher education system, its universities and colleges, were well thought of and most Spanish people believe that if they go to the UK, they will get a good academic experience in the universities and colleges there. Britain’s art world was widely praised, especially because of its tremendous capacity for innovation.

Contrary to people from other countries, the Spanish are more or less aware of the differences between the four countries that make up the United Kingdom. Scotland (whose key images were mountains, kilts and whisky) was the most recognised, ahead of England (best known for London, the Royal Family and the Tower of London), Wales (the Prince of Wales, castles and rugby) and Northern Ireland (violence and the IRA).

Questions
1. Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points, using your own words whenever possible (approximately 50 words, 1 point).

2. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the following (1 point: 0.25 each)
   a) make better       b) boring       c) great, enormous       d) skirts worn by men

3. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one (2 points: 0.5 points each)
   a) The British Council recently conducted a survey of attitudes towards Britain and the British. 
      A survey of attitudes……..
   b) The attitudes of people in Africa, were positive, but those in Europe were more critical. 
      Whereas …
   c) All areas agreed on Britain’s most famous representatives: David Beckham, and Mr Bean .
      All areas agreed that ....
   d) Spanish people believe that if they go to the UK, they will get a good academic experience.
      The text said that …..

4. Answer the following questions in your own words, as far as possible. Your answer must be based on the information given in the text. (2 points: 1 point each).
   a) In what ways are the Spanish critical of the British?
   b) What do the Spanish think about education in Britain?

5. What do YOU think about Britain and the British? (Approximately 120 words; 3 points).
Read the text and the instructions to the questions very carefully. Answer all the questions in English.

When was the last time you stopped to have a friendly chat with your neighbour, or paused to open the door for someone, or gave up your seat on the bus to an elderly person? If you have to stop to think, then it was too long ago.

Ian Gregory, the founder of the Polite Society, is the sort of person who does it every day and thinks that the world would be a better place if we all did the same. What we need, he says, is a touch more courtesy. Our society is full of rude, inconsiderate and selfish people who wouldn’t give you the time of day even if your life depended on it. He’s absolutely right, of course, but isn’t that “a sign of the times”?

Well, he thinks there is something that is going wrong with the way we live our lives and interact with one another, especially on the roads, where an estimated 47 per cent of accidents can be traced back to some act of discourtesy.

There is nothing that legislation can do about this; there’s nothing that money can do about it either. You can’t impose a personality on a nation and say: “Well, let’s all be nicer to one another”. But the only way you are going to get anything effective done about it is if you persuade enough people that they can be happier, more successful individuals if they are more considerate to one another in their business, in their love lives, in their family lives, in everything.

You see, we are brilliant at discovering things, learning how to use computers, etc., but in terms of behaviour towards one another we are no better than cavemen.

Questions
1. Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points, using your own words whenever possible. (approximately 50 words, 1 point)

2. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the following (1 point; 0.25 each)
   a) class/ type
   b) politeness
   c) more pleasant
   d) excellent

3. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one. (2 points; 0.5 each)
   a) “Let’s all be nicer to one another,” he said.
      He suggested …
   b) There is nothing that money can do about it.
      Money can’t …
   c) You can’t impose a personality on a nation.
      A personality…
   d) We are brilliant at discovering things, but in terms of behaviour we are no better than cavemen.
      Although …..

4. Answer the following questions in your own words, as far as possible. Your answer must be based on the information given in the text. (2 points: 1 point each).
   a) Why does the writer think that people today are no better than cavemen?
   b) What specific example of the consequences of inconsiderate behaviour does the writer mention?

5. How do you think we as individuals should change our everyday behaviour in order to make a better world? (Approximately 120 words; 3 points)
6. LISTENING TEST (1 point)

This is the recording of a conversation between two women, Jackie and Sue. In it you are going to hear some words that you may not know. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

Achieve targets = lograr metas
Fostering = acogida

**Here is the beginning of the conversation.**
Jackie: For this week’s podcast in English.com I’m catching up with my sister-in-law, Sue. Hi Sue!
Sue: Hi Jackie!
Jackie: Haven’t seen you now for ….. is it two years?
Sue: Yep, it will be, two years, yes.
Jackie: Gosh, time flies. So, you’ve got two children …

**Here is an example of a question:**
0. When did Jackie and Sue last meet?
   - Three years ago
   - Two years ago
   - Two months ago

**The correct answer is:**
   - Two years ago

**Ready? Now read the rest of the questions and alternative answers before listening to the conversation.**

(2-minute pause)

Now listen to the rest of the recording. You will hear it three times. Write the correct answers in your exam notebook (cuadernillo). WRITE THE COMPLETE ANSWER, NOT JUST A LETTER. You must not write more than one answer for each question.

(Recording)

Now you will hear the text again.

(Recording)

Now you will hear the text for the last time.

(Recording)

That is the end of the Listening test. Write your answers in your examination notebook (cuadernillo) if you have not already done so. Then you can go on with the rest of the examination.
1. Who does Jack work for?
   - A building company
   - A media company
   - A company on Tower Bridge

2. Which sport magazine does Jack NOT work for?
   - Sporting Magazine
   - Golf Monthly
   - Rugby World

3. How much older is Jack than Jo?
   - Five years
   - Twenty-three
   - Two years

4. Which of the following is true?
   - The children she helps are in the Education Department
   - They are between eleven and sixteen years old
   - The children achieve targets at school

5. What kind of children does Jo help?
   - Children living at home with their parents
   - Children who are living at children's homes or in the fostering system
   - Children who are performing very well at school

6. These children perform
   - better than other children
   - worse than other children
   - as well as other children

7. What did Kevin do at the Olympics?
   - He helped in the sports events
   - He helped the Olympics all on his own
   - He helped to build the structures

8. What is he doing at the Olympic Legacy?
   - He is helping with the things that have been left after the Olympic Games
   - He is putting up new houses in Greenwich
   - He left the Olympics when it finished

9. What is Sue's job?
   - She helps a doctors' team
   - She coordinates people who want to adopt, and children themselves
   - She helps two adopted groups at Norwich County Council.

10. Which of these is true about Jackie?
    - She has brought her children
    - She is Sue's sister-in-law
    - She is married to Kevin.
Once upon a time, fashion was only for the rich. Paris was the centre of the fashion world, and everyone else tried to copy the top French designers. But now, fashion is a much more international matter. London, like other big European cities, has a large number of its own talented and hard-working designers.

Anyway, many people, especially the young, take no notice of the clothes the designers produce. They wear things which express their ideas and feelings about life. They use fashion like a kind of uniform. Take hairstyles, for example. If a boy has very short, almost shaven hair, people expect him to have right-wing politics whereas they expect boys with very long hair to have left-wing politics. A boy who wears a leather jacket covered in bits of metal will probably ride a motorbike, and a girl who wears Laura Ashley dresses will probably have middle-class ideas.

Some young people, of course, have fun with all the latest “street styles”. They cut their hair into strange shapes, wear lots of cheap jewellery, cut holes in their trousers to make them look old, or paint their lips blue. These “street styles” come and go, and are not the creation of the big fashion designers, who, in fact, often use ideas from street fashions when they make their own designs. Many young people simply try to look as clean and tidy as possible, particularly when looking for a job, in order to produce a good impression on possible employers. Clothes with a sporty look are popular, as they make people look healthy and energetic.

Most British people are possibly not very fashion-conscious. Even the richest and most important people frequently wear old and untidy clothes, and, of course, only a very few can afford designer clothes.

Questions

1. Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points, using your own words whenever possible (approximately 50 words, 1 point).

2. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the following (1 point: 0.25 each)
   a) Brilliant or with great ability, in the arts, for example.
   b) To pay no attention to.
   c) Ornaments worn by people, usually made of (precious) stones or metal.
   d) People who give you a job.

3. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one (2 points: 0.5 points each)
   a) Paris was the centre of the fashion world.
      Paris used ...
   b) These “street styles” come and go, and are not the creation of the big fashion designers
      These “street styles”, which …
   c) People expect boys with very long hair to have left-wing politics
      Boys ...
   d) A girl who wears Laura Ashley dresses will probably have middle-class ideas.
      The ideas of ...

4. Answer the following questions in your own words, as far as possible. Your answer must be based on the information given in the text. (2 points: 1 point each).
   a) According to the text, what connection exists between “street styles” and fashion designers?
   b) Where does the writer say is the centre of fashion today?

5. What sort of clothes do you like wearing? Do you always wear the same type of clothes?
   (Approximately 120 words; 3 points).
Kirkland, in Western Seattle, has been voted the most desirable place to live in the United States. Seattle’s eastside suburbs are a pleasant mass of good schools, great jobs and family-friendly neighborhoods. Kirkland has all that, while also offering a unique, lively downtown on the shores of Lake Washington.

From Kirkland’s beaches on the lake you can see the Seattle skyline, but there’s no need to go to the big city to have fun. Even on a weeknight, the downtown restaurants and sidewalks are full. “Kirkland is definitely a hotspot right now,” says Kristi Caggiano, 42, who moved to town 14 years ago. She lives near downtown with her husband, daughter and 10-year-old son, and says the family can walk to the market, local shops, pool and library. “The school system is fantastic,” Kristi says, “and we are going to send our daughter to a high school which is going to open right next to our house.” This is just one of several schools that will open in the near future. Her son’s elementary school has a well-attended choir program, and every child has a chance to take swimming lessons. Also, 25% of Kirkland’s total area is made up of parks. Some of these have sandy beaches and attractions for kids. “There’s always something to do,” says Caggiano.

Residents report that Kirkland’s proximity to Google and Microsoft offices is attracting a lot more young people and families. Google now employs about 800 people, and has announced plans to double the size of its Kirkland offices by 2016. The town is seeing many other new business start-ups. The good job market means reasonably-priced housing is in short supply. “It’s a problem we are hoping to solve soon, but we’re not there yet,” says real estate agent Brenda Nunes. A three-bedroom home averages $440,000.

Questions
1. Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points, using your own words whenever possible (approximately 50 words, 1 point).

2. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the following (1 point: 0.25 each)
   a) animated   b) centre of activity   c) nearness   d) economical

3. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one (2 points: 0.5 points each)
   a) From Kirkland’s beaches on the lake you can see the Seattle skyline.
      The Seattle ....
   b) There’s no need to go to the big city to have fun.
      You ....
   c) “We’re going to send our daughter to a high school which is going to open right next to our house,” said Kristi.
      Kristi said that ....
   d) Google employs about 800 people, and has announced plans to double the size of its offices by 2016.
      Google, which .......

4. Answer the following questions in your own words, as far as possible. Your answer must be based on the information given in the text. (2 points: 1 point each).
   a) What are the things that people like about Kirkland?
   b) In what ways are things going to get better in Kirkland in the future?

5. Imagine you had to design an ideal city. What things/facilities would you put in it? (Approximately 120 words; 3 points).

6. LISTENING TEST (1 point)
In this interview with Jo-Lynne Hyman, an American housewife, who has started her own Internet “blog”, you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

Survive: sobrevivir
Recipe: receta de cociña / cocina
Shrimps: gambas

Here is the beginning of the interview.

Interviewer: Hi Jo-Lynne. Can you start by introducing yourself?

Jo-Lynne: I’d like to say that I’m a wife to a handsome computer salesman and a mum to three adorable children. We live in the suburbs of Philadelphia.

Here is an example of a question:
What does Jo-Lynne do?
She’s a wife and mother.
She lives in the centre of Philadelphia.
She’s a computer salesman.

The correct answer is: “She’s a wife and mother”.

Ready? Now read the rest of the questions and alternative answers before listening to the interview.

(2-minute pause)

Now listen to the rest of the interview. You will hear it three times. Write the correct answer in your exam notebook (cuadernillo). Write the complete answer, not just a letter. You must not write more than one answer for each question.

(Recording)
Now you will hear the text again.

(Recording)
Now you will hear the text for the last time.

(Recording)
That is the end of the Listening test. Write your answers in your examination notebook (cuadernillo) if you have not already done so. Then you can go on with the rest of the examination.
QUESTIONS
1. Apart from blogging, what is Jo-Lynne’s favourite activity?
   Being a housewife
   Being with her family
   Being a teacher

2. Which is her favourite post, of the ones on her blog?
   “Big Blue Chair”
   “Parenthood”
   “Elmo Has Left the Building”

3. Which of these reality shows would she like to appear on?
   Survivor
   American Idol
   Amazing Race

4. Why does she read the blogs “Big Mama” and “Bye Bye Pie” very often?
   They are written by her best friends.
   They make her laugh.
   They have very talented writers.

5. When will she stop blogging?
   When she cannot pay the cleaning lady any more.
   When she doesn’t feel creative and sociable any more.
   She wants to continue for as long as possible.

6. Can she make a balance between family life and blogging?
   Yes, because her family is very understanding.
   Yes, because the children don’t understand what blogging is.
   Yes, but it is difficult to keep the balance between the two.

7. Does her husband influence what she posts on blogs?
   No, and he would not want to read anything that she writes on the blogs.
   Yes, and when he suggests something, she does what he wants.
   Yes, but he only rarely has time to read the blogs

8. Which of the following is TRUE?
   Her children love all of the recipes she mentions.
   Two of the recipes she mentions are salads.
   “Grandma’s chicken” is their favourite recipe.

9. Which of the following is TRUE?
   The shrimp recipe is the neighbour’s idea
   It’s her idea to cook the neighbour’s shrimps.
   The children would love to eat the shrimps.

10. From the full interview, what do you think is true about Jo-Lynne?
    She is happy with her life, because blogging has given her a new interest.
    She cannot stop blogging because her family love her blogs.
    Her family often feels uncomfortable about her blogs.
**CONVOCATORIAS DE XUÑO E SETEMBRO**

**Question 1.** (1 punto)
Esta pregunta será puntuada segundo os seguintes criterios:
1. O alumno identificou as ideas principais do texto e resumiunas sen incluír información secundaria ou anecdótica (de 0 a 0.75 puntos).
2. O alumno expresou estas ideas en aproximadamente 50 palabras, sen copiar literalmente do texto, con coherencia, claridade, cohesión, razonable corrección gramatical e léxico axeitado ao tema (de 0 a 0.25 puntos).

**Question 2.** (1 punto; 0.25 por cada palabra/ expresión correcta)

**Question 3.** (4 x 0.5 = 2 puntos).
Transformación dunha parte ou o total dunha frase tirada do texto noutras palabras para que signifique o mesmo. Constará de catro partes, cunha puntuación de 0,5 punto para cada parte

**Question 4.** (2 x 1= 2 puntos)
Esta pregunta evalúa a comprensión de detalle do texto e a capacidade do alumnado para expresar as ideas aí contidas nas suas propias palabras. Aínda que na contestación non será necesario que se repita o enunciado da pregunta, en ningún caso se poderá contestar con respostas curtas de tipo “Yes, he does” ou “No, they haven’t”. Esta pregunta formularase con dous apartados. Cada un deles valerá 1 punto e evaluarase segundo os seguintes criterios:
1. O alumnado comprendeu a pregunta que se lle formulou e a súacontestación é axeitada e relevante (de 0 a 0.75 puntos).
2. O alumnado expresou as súas ideas sen copiar literalmente do texto, con coherencia, claridade, cohesión, razonable corrección gramatical e léxico axeitado ao tema (de 0 a 0.25 puntos).

**Question 5.** (3 puntos)
Esta pregunta pretende evaluar a capacidade comunicativa do alumnado no ámbito da produción escrita. A nota final (máximo 3 puntos) outorgarase segundo a medida na que o alumnado cumpra os seguintes parámetros; cada un deles puntuarase de 0 a 0.5 puntos :

a) **Alcance**: o alumnado aborda adecuadamente o tema proposto. Sabe comunicar as ideas que quere transmitir utilizando unha considerable variedade de recursos. Sabe utilizar o rexistro lingüístico adecuado á situación.

b) **Riqueza e control do vocabulario.**

c) **Corrección gramatical**: O alumnado ten un repertorio básico de elementos lingüísticos e de estratéxias que lle permiten abordar o tema con comodidade. Non comete erros gramaticais básicos, como, por exemplo, omitir ou suxeito diante dun verbo, omitir a -s dá 3ª persoa do singular do Presente Habitual (he writeS), utilizar adxetivos en plural, usar incorrectamente os adxetivos posesivos e demostrativos, non dominar os tempos verbais e outros.

d) **Fluidez**: O alumnado posúe un dominio dá lingua inglesa adecuado e suficiente para evitar cortes na comunicación ou malentendidos.

e) **Cohesión**: O alumnado utiliza adecuadamente os conectores e demais medios de cohesión.

f) **Coherencia**: O alumnado é capaz de organizar as súas ideas para redactar un texto coherente e ben estruturado

**TOTAL = 9 puntos.**

**Segunda parte: LISTENING TEST (1 punto)**
CONVOCATORIA DE XUÑO

Opción A

1. In a British Council survey of attitudes towards Britain and the British, Spanish people were more critical than those from the other 30 countries consulted. They saw good and bad aspects in British people, but admired certain British institutions and Britain’s contributions to the arts, and were aware of the countries that constitute the UK.

2. a) make better = improve b) boring = dull c) great, enormous = tremendous d) skirts worn by Scottish men = kilts

3. a) A survey of attitudes towards Britain and the British was recently conducted by the British Council. b) Whereas the attitudes of people in Africa were positive, those in Europe were more critical. c) All areas agreed that David Beckham and Mr Bean were Britain’s most famous representatives. d) The text said that Spanish people believed that if they went to the UK, they would get a good academic experience.

4. a) As people, they think that the British are conservative, a bit dull, and rather unfriendly. b) They admire the British educational system, especially the universities and colleges, which they think are very good.

Opción B

1. The text talks about Ian Gregory, from the Polite Society, who thinks that nowadays people are generally rude and selfish. This is a problem that can’t be solved by laws or money. The only solution is to convince people that they can be happier and more successful if they are kinder to others.

2. a) class/type = sort b) politeness = courtesy c) more pleasant = nicer/more considerate d) excellent = brilliant

3. a) He suggested that we /they should all be nicer to each other. He suggested everyone being nicer to each other. He suggested being nicer to each other. That everyone be nicer to each other.

b) Money can’t do anything about it.
d) A personality can’t be imposed on a nation.
c) Although we are brilliant at discovering things, in terms of behaviour we are no better than cavemen.

4. a) Because, since we are rude and selfish and since we only think of ourselves and have no sense of politeness to others, we behave like primitive men/people. b) As an example, the writer mentions the fact that a lot road accidents are caused by rude, inconsiderate attitudes/ actions.

Listening:
1. b; 2. a; 3. c; 4. b; 5. b; 6. b; 7. c; 8. a; 9. b; 10. b
CONVOCATORIA DE SETEMBRO

Opción A

1. The text talks about fashion, which today is not based on any specific centre of creation, but international. Young people take little notice of fashion design, mostly creating their own styles, and dressing in ways that reflect their attitudes and feelings. Often their “street styles” inspire fashion design.

2. a) talented  b) take no notice of  c) jewellery  d) employers

3. a) Paris used to be the centre of the fashion world.
   b) These “street styles”, which come and go, are not the creation of the big fashion designers.
   c) Boys with very long hair are expected to have left-wing politics.
   d) The ideas of a girl who wears Laura Ashley dresses will probably be middle-class (ones).

4. a) Fashion designers frequently get ideas from “street styles” for their creations.
   b) The writer says that there isn’t really any centre of fashion nowadays. It used to be Paris, but now fashion design is international.

Opción B

1. The text talks about a place called Kirkland, in Western Seattle, which has been voted the best place to live in the USA. It describes all the good features of the place and explains why people like to live there.

2. a) lively  b) hotspot  c) proximity  d) reasonably-priced

3. a) The Seattle skyline can be seen from Kirkland’s beaches.
   b) You don’t need to go to the big city to have fun/ You needn’t go to the big city to have fun.
   c) Kristi said that they were going to send their daughter to a high school which was going to open right next to their house.
   d) Google, which now employs about 800 people, has announced plans to double the size of its Kirkland offices by 2016/ Google, which has announced plans to double the size of its Kirkland offices by 2016, now employs about 800 people.

4. a) That it has a lively downtown with restaurants, a market, shops, a swimming pool and a library. It also has good schools, parks, some of them with beaches on Lake Washington, and attractions for children, and all of this within walking distance. Another good feature is that there is plenty of work available.
   b) Google is going to increase the size of its offices, offering more jobs, and new, cheaper housing is going to be built.

Listening:
1) b;  2) c;  3) b;  4) b;  5) c;  6) c;  7) b;  8) a;  9)a;  10) a