Govern d'Andorra

PROVA OFICIAL DE BATXILLERAT PROFESSIONAL

Prova escrita de llengua anglesa

X-SML_ANGe_21
-Convocatòria 2023-

Marqui amb una creu la branca d'especialitat de què s'examina

	E5: Secretariat multilingüe
	E6: Sistemes i xarxes informàtics

Codi d'identificació

NOTA ——
10

Durada de la prova: 2 hores

Llengua de la prova: llengua anglesa

Read the following text:

Remote working - a dream job?

Remote working is becoming more popular than ever. A Swiss study found that 70% of professionals work remotely at least one day a week, while 53% work remotely for at least half of the week. New technology makes all this possible and, although there are certainly benefits, there are also drawbacks*. As remote working becomes the new normal, it's important that companies adapt and ensure their employees feel part of the team and don't **burn out**.

Nearly 70% of millennials prefer to choose remote work. The benefits are important. Employees value flexibility, particularly if they have children. People also appreciate escaping long **commutes** and avoiding office distractions.

However, there are also disadvantages because people can have mental health and well-being problems when working remotely. In the UK, businesses lose £100m every year due to workplace stress. Research shows that working remotely and being always accessible, make people work long hours. A 2017 United Nations report found that 41% of remote workers had high stress levels, compared to just 25% of office workers.

One of the reasons for this stress could be the "out of sight, out of mind" mentality which leads to a **lack** of trust, feelings of being an outsider and a tendency for people to think their colleagues are talking negatively about them behind their back. One study of 1,100 workers found that the 52% who worked from home were more likely to feel left out and maltreated, as well as unable to deal with conflict between themselves and colleagues.

In a virtual environment, managers focus too much on completing tasks and too little on relationships. With more emphasis on deadlines and routine work, virtual workers can feel they are not treated as an essential

part of the team. This can increase the sense of isolation that comes with working remotely and can contribute to virtual workplace stress.

When it comes to work, there are two kinds of stress – the good kind and the bad kind. Some psychologists consider that stress can be productive up to a point and then it **leads** to reduced productivity. While working from home, it is difficult to express that you feel stressed and this feeling can increase and cause serious problems. In contrast, one recent study found that colleagues who spend just 15 minutes socialising and sharing their feelings of stress increased their productivity by 20%. The right kind of communication is key to overcoming the difficulties of virtual working.

Bosses need to create a culture where the people working out of the office feel valued. Equally, virtual workers need to think about what makes them productive, happy and successful in everyday life, and try to replicate this in a remote place – for example, taking a walk at lunch time, going to the gym, ringing a friend or reading a book.

If the future of work is becoming more and more virtual, then it is not something we can avoid. Instead, we should implement ways of managing the stress associated with it, while enjoying the benefits.

Source: *Text adapted from www.theconversation.com, October 11th 2019, written by Stephanie Russell.*

 Vocabulary*:

Drawback: disadvantage or negative part of a situation

A. **Reading comprehension activities** (4 points)

Read the following questions and mark your answers according to the information provided in the text. (2 points, 0,5 point per answer) Only one option is correct. Incorrect answers do not penalize.

1. A Swiss study shows that…

a. most of the employees work from home.

b. more than 60% of employees work from home once a week.

c. 53% of workers work from home twice a week.

d. 70% of employees work from home all the week.

2. One of the problems of working from home is that…

a. it causes stress due to the bad Internet connection.

b. it makes employees work at night.

c. it makes workers feel unattended and isolated and therefore they feel anxious.

d. employees never meet the deadlines.

3. According to the text…

a. feeling stressed is always bad for workers.

b. feeling certain anxiety can be good.

c. there is just one kind of anxiety, the bad one.

d. stress makes workers feel happy.

4. A study shows that sharing stress problems with colleagues…

a. makes employees work less.

b. makes workers waste their time.

c. is a good way to know about other colleagues' experiences.

d. makes employees work better.

4

5. Complete the table with suitable synonyms for the words listed below (appearing in **bold letters** in the text). (1 point: 0,25 points per synonym)

Synonyms: *- travel, - absence, - exhaust, - guide*

1. Lead	
2. Burn out	
3. Commute	
4. Lack	

6. Find in the text the words that are under these definitions.

(1 point: 0,25 points per definition)

a. People who were born in the 1980s-2000s *(2nd paragraph)*: _____

b. A person who is left out or cut off from social interaction *(4th paragraph)*: _____

c. A typical attitude, or way of thinking *(4th paragraph)*: _____

d. To become bigger or higher *(6th paragraph)*: _____

B. English in use (1 point)

Read the following text and circle the correct option (A, B, C or D) for each blank. There is only one correct option and wrong answers do not penalize. (1 point: 0,10 per question)

There are _____ (1) different kinds of computer games. *Casual* games are quick and easy to play. People can pick up and play the game _____ (2) they have a spare minute or two. You can find _____ (3) on your mobile phone or your computer and even on your television. They include popular games _____ (4) Solitaire and Tetris. _____ (5) type of games is *serious* games. These games are designed _____ (6) players something useful. One of the _____ (7) running serious games is the Microsoft Flight Simulator. It was made in 1982, and since then, many pilots_____ (8) it to learn to fly planes. Other games teach Police and fire fighters what to do in an emergency.

Language learning software does not typically fall into this group, however. These are educational games. In recent years, an_____ (9) number of games have been created to improve the player's skills and knowledge. They help younger kids learn to count and spell, and teach older kids _____ (10) mathematics and technology.

Source: Text retrieved and adapted from: *https://www.linguahouse.com*

1	A.	lots	B.	many	C.	much	D.	most
2	A.	whenever	B.	while	C.	during	D.	since
3	A.	their	B.	its	C.	it	D.	them
4	A.	example	B.	like	C.	how	D.	such
5	A.	Another	B.	Other	C.	Different	D.	An

6   A.   to teach   B.   for teach   C.   to teaching   D.   for teaches

7   A.   older   B.   popular   C.   greater   D.   longest

8   A.   used   B.   have used   C.   has used   D.   were using

9   A.   increased   B.   increasingly   C.   increasing   D.   increases

10 A.   to   B.   with   C.   about   D.   for

C. Writing (5 points)

Write an opinion essay.

Your essay should follow the structure:

- Introduction
- Two body paragraphs with two or more main points, well developed with supporting details and examples
- Conclusion

Your essay should be about 180-200 words long.

It is acceptable to write a text with **20% deviation** in relation to the number of words required. If the text does not have the required extension (20% below or above the limit), you will be **penalized -0.5 points**.

Marqui amb una creu la branca d'especialitat de què s'examina i elabori el text d'opinió amb la temàtica corresponent.

	E6: Secretariat multilingüe
	E5: Sistemes i xarxes informàtics

➢ **BP en Secretariat multilingüe**

Write an opinion essay on the following topic:

Do you think that it is more important to enjoy your job than to earn a lot of money?

Guiding questions (to be used as a reference, not to be answered directly):

What is your primary motivation to choose your future professional career (vocational guidance, training opportunities, personal interests, expected income, etc.)?

Do you agree that money should not be a goal because it will not make you happy?

Do you think that good workers' career choice is based on whether the job is interesting and motivating for them or not?

➢ **BP en Sistemes i xarxes informàtics**

Write an opinion essay on the following topic:

Do you think we should stop using social networks, as they are controlling most of our lives?

Guiding questions (to be used as a reference, not to be answered directly):

Do you think that social networks use their dominance to exploit customers?

Do you think that social networks can manipulate the market? Do social networks contribute to create positive or negative reputation of companies?

How can we be sure that behind each social network there is not a monopoly trying to control our lives?