SELECTIVIDAD JUNIO 2016 INGLÉS

OPCIÓN A

No Fear, No Surprise, No Hesitation

Where does this saying come from? It’s from a seventeenth-century samurai warrior. This was his key to successful living.

No fear. There should be nothing in this life that you are afraid of. If there is, you might need to overcome that fear. Here I have to confess to a certain fear of heights. Recently, owing to leaky rain gutters, I had to crawl out on our roof. I gritted my teeth and kept repeating, “No fear, no fear”, until the job was done. Oh yes, and of course I didn’t look down. Whatever your fear, face it head on and defeat it.

No surprise. Life seems to be full of them. You’re going along swimmingly and suddenly something huge rears up ahead of you. But if you look carefully, there were clues all along the way that it was going to happen. So why does life seem to surprise us then? Because we are asleep half the time. Wake up and nothing can sneak up on you.

No hesitation. Weigh up the odds and then just get on with it. If you spend too long thinking, the opportunity will have passed. Once we have looked at the options, we make a choice; then, go for it. No hesitation means not waiting around for other people to help out or make up our minds for us. No hesitation means if there is a certain inevitability about a situation then just throw yourself in, head first, and enjoy the ride. If there is nothing to be done then waiting doesn’t help.

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 title’s recommendation is an old oriental proverb. FALSE “Where does this saying come from? It’s from a seventeenth-century samurai warrior”
   b) Life usually gives you indications about what might arise. TRUE “But if you look carefully, there were clues all along the way that it was going to happen”

(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) What does the text recommend people to do in order to get rid of fear? THEY RECOMMEND PEOPLE TO FORGET ABOUT FEAR, FACE IT AND TRY TO ELIMINATE IT FROM YOUR LIFE.
   b) Why is it not a good idea to spend too much time wondering what to choose in life? SOMETIMES LIFE OFFERS YOU CHANCES OR OPPORTUNITIES THAT YOU HAVE TO TAKE, AND IF YOU SPEND A LOT OF TIME THINKING ABOUT IT, YOU WILL loose your chance, SOMETIMES IT’S NOW OR NEVER. SECONDLY IF YOU DECIDE STRAIGHTAWAY YOU WILL AVOID BEING INFLUENCED BY OTHER PEOPLE SO YOU WILL DO WHAT YOU wanted.

Give at least two reasons.
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
3.- Find the words in the text that mean:
a) enormous (paragraph 3) HUGE
b) take place (paragraph 3) HAPPEN
c) vanished (paragraph 4) PASSED
d) considered (paragraph 4) LOOKED
(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)
4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.
a) Thirty years ago, scientists ___BEGAN____ (begin) to study the link ___BETWEEN____ fear of heights and other phobias.
b) “How ___OFTEN____ do you go up and clean your roof?” “I usually do it once ___A____ month.
c) If you ___HAD____ (have) a vertigo attack in a hot air balloon, ___WHAT____ would you do?
d) This is the first self-help book I know that ___FOCUSES____ (focus) on personal psychology. All aspects of human behaviour ___ARE EXPLAINED____ (explain) with clarity and precision.
(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.
What are you most afraid of? Explain why.
I AM REALLY AFRAID OF FEAR ITSELF. I KNOW IT CAN SOUND WEIRD BUT THIS IS WHAT I FEEL. FIRST OF ALL, FEAR IS TERRIBLE, IT MAKES YOU FEEL BAD, NOT ONLY IN YOUR MIND BUT ALSO PHYSICALLY, YOUR STOMACH ACHES, YOUR HEART BEATS EXTREMELY FAST, EVEN YOU CAN FAINT. SECONDLY, WHEN YOU LOSE YOUR CONFIDENCE, FEAR IS A CONSTANT IN YOUR LIFE, YOU ARE AFRAID OF EVERYTHING, AND YOU THINK THAT EVERY SITUATION IS A RISKY ONE. ON THE OTHER HAND I TRY TO AVOID FEELING THAT WAY AND I ALSO TRY TO RELAX WHEN I AM STRESSED OR I FEEL ANXIOUS. WHEN YOU ARE AFRAID OF FEAR YOU FEEL IT A LOT OF TIME AND ALSO YOU SUFFER FROM APPREHENSION, AND IT IS LIKE A BALL WHICH IS BIGGER AND BIGGER ALL THE TIME. PEOPLE SAY THAT FEAR IS AN IRRATIONAL FEELING, BUT IT IS ALSO PART OF HUMAN NATURE. (Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

OPCIÓN B

Working Hours
It has long been a cliché that Spain is a great place to live but a terrible country to work, and over the last five years many of those lucky enough to have a job are finding themselves working harder, often for fewer wages and with fewer resources. Spaniards sleep fewer hours and work longer days than their European neighbours, but are less productive.
One of the most popular advertisements on the social networks this year shows children being called on to write a letter to their parents asking for something. Surprisingly, they don’t ask for toys or sweets. Instead, they ask to spend more
time with their parents: time to play, to read stories ... in short, time for loving. Surveys show the important role that our working timetables have on inequality and the quality of life in our country. Spanish working women are the most stressed out in Europe. They sleep less and have to juggle family and professional commitments, given that they are still overwhelmingly responsible for housework. Figures also show that, as a result of our timetable, not only children’s performance at school suffers, but their overall development is damaged by lack of sleep as well. We don’t want to be a country built on prejudice and irrationality. We must have the courage to take steps to introduce a more balanced and sustainable approach to working similar to that of other European countries. Future generations will appreciate this and children will hopefully no longer have to write asking their parents to spend more time with 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) It hasn’t been proved that Spaniards’ working schedule affects their standard of living. **FALSE** “Surveys show the important role that our working timetables have on inequality and the quality of life in our country.”
   b) In the text there is no suggestion that it is necessary to improve working conditions in Spain. **FALSE** “We must have the courage to take steps to introduce a more balanced and sustainable approach to working similar to that of other European countries.”
   (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) What do children demand from their parents? **THEY WANT TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH THEM AND CHILDREN WANT THEIR PARENTS TO READ THEM BOOKS, TO PLAY WITH THEM...**
   b) How are working hours affecting women’s way of life? **SPANISH WOMEN LIVE UNDER PREASSURE, THEY HAVE TO WORK LONG HOURS IN THEIR JOBS AND AFTER THAT THEY HAVE TO WORK AT HOME AND BALANCE FAMILY AND PROFFESIONAL LIFE, SO THEY ARE REALLY TIRED AND STRESSED.**
   (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
3. Find the words in the text that mean:
   a) requested (paragraph 2) **CALLED ON**
   b) balance (paragraph 3) **JUGGLE**
   c) complete (paragraph 3) **OVERALL**
   d) do something (paragraph 4) **TAKE STEPS**
   (Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)
4. Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.
   a) Instead of **TRYING** (try) to do our best at work, ours is a culture of being seen on the job rather **THAN** being effective.
b) **DESPITE OF** the crisis, this is still a great place to live **BECAUSE OF/DUE TO** the climate, the food and the way people interact with each other.

c) Productivity would increase if office hours **WERE** (be) more rational. Bringing the prime time **ON** TV to 9 p.m. would help.

d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said. “Why have you applied for a new job if your salary seems to be reasonable?” he asked me.  

**He wanted to know WHY I HAD APPLIED FOR A NEW JOB IF MY SALARY SEEMED TO REASONABLE** __________________________________________.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5. Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic. Working in Spain or abroad. What would you prefer and why?

(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

Nowadays lots of Young people decide to go abroad to try to find a job. But earning a living while you’re living abroad is not easy.

First of all I think that unemployment in Spain is a serious problem of this society, people is really concerned and worried about this situation and governments or politicians don’t do enough to solve it. It is a huge problem specially for people who suffer this situation. Measures must be taken to fix this terrible issue. Secondly, I believe that, in Spain, a lot of rights have been lost; in many companies, owners and bosses offer jobs with terrible conditions because all of them are capitalising on the situation. In spite of the fact that earning a living in Spain is difficult, it is true that trying to live abroad is not easy either, the jobs they offer are not good jobs or the best conditions, so, sometimes, when people go abroad, they find themselves stuck in routines that are not what they expected. Long hours, bad salaries are two of the most common problems of Spanish workers who are living abroad. However, they have a job. A job is more than a lot for a lot of people living in Spain and trying to find an opportunity.

To sum up, if I were you I would think twice before going to live to other country, but if you don’t find a job, you should give it a try.