Vampire Child

Archaeologists have discovered the body of a 10-year-old child at an ancient Roman site which provides evidence of ancient “vampire burials”. A rock was inserted into the mouth of the child as part of a funeral ritual to prevent the deceased child from rising from the grave and spreading malaria, researchers believe. The unusual so-called “vampire burial” was described as “extremely mysterious” by the American archeologists who have been excavating the site in Teverina since 1987.

The find was unearthed at La Necropoli dei Bambini, an Italian cemetery that dates back to a malaria outbreak in 400 AD which killed many vulnerable babies and small children in the area. Previous excavations at this site have revealed the bones of infants and toddlers. There were also objects associated with witchcraft and magic, including raven talons, toad bones, bronze cauldrons filled with ash and the remains of puppies that appear to have been sacrificed.

Researchers had previously believed that the cemetery was designated exclusively for babies, toddlers and unborn fetuses, since the eldest body found had been a three-year-old girl. However, the discovery of the 10-year-old, whose age could be measured from dental development but whose sex is unknown, suggests that it may have been a burial location for older children as well.

Excavation director said: “Given the age of this child and its unique deposition, with the rock placed within his or her mouth, it represents an anomaly within an already abnormal cemetery.” “There are still sections of the cemetery that we haven’t excavated yet, so we don’t know if we’ll find other older kids,” said Mr Wilson, a doctoral student in anthropology at the University of Arizona.


OPCIÓN A 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) Researchers have been able to determine the gender and the age of the child whose body was discovered in Italy. FALSE “However, the discovery of the 10-year-old, whose age could be measured from dental development but whose sex is unknown, suggests that it may have been a burial location for older children as well”
   b) Given that every inch of the cemetery has been examined, it’s unlikely that more bodies might be discovered. FALSE “There are still sections of the cemetery that we haven’t excavated yet, so we don’t know if we’ll find other older kids,”
   (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) Why are these burials called “vampire burials”? BECAUSE THEY FOUND STONES IN THE CHILDREN’S MOUTH BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED IT COULD GET OUT FROM THE TOMB
   b) Why did so many babies and young children die in 400AD? THERE WAS A MALARIA EPIDEMIC.
   (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:
   a) stone (paragraph 1) ROCK
   b) enigmatic (paragraph 1) MYSTERIOUS
   c) excavated (paragraph 2) UNEARTHED
   d) place (paragraph 3) LOCATION
   (Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.
   a) I don’t know ____WHY/IF____ vampires are faster ____THAN____ human beings.
   b) Although people believe these scary stories are true, there is ____NO____ evidence that vampires really ____EXIST____ (exist).
   c) There ____IS____ a lot of people around today ____WHO____ claim they are true vampires.
   d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said.
      “Stop telling me scary stories or I’ll have to sleep with the lights on,” my mother told me.
      My mother told me ____TO STOP TELLING HER SCARY STORIES OR SHE WOULD HAVE TO SLEEP WITH THE LIGHTS ON.
   (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
5.- Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic. You and your friends decide to spend a night in the forest. Write a horror story. (Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

Last month my Friends and I decided to spend our summer holidays in the forest, we were very happy, and we thought it would be a great time and we would enjoy nature and freedom. We went to the Irati forest, in Navarra and we put our tent there, it was almost midnight and we were preparing our dinner around a fire. Suddenly we heard a noise, it was a scream, a terrible scream.

At first we didn´t know what to do or where to go, was it a girl? Was it in danger? Fortunately we decided to go and look around, we heard noises again and we found a girl, she has been attacked by something, but she was shocked and she couldn´t tell us what had happened.

Two of us took the girl to the hospital and the rest of the group went back to our camp, they listened noises, like whispers, and they felt that something was watching them, so they decided to come with us to the hospital. We spent the night there, waiting for news, the doctor told us that he couldn´t explain how the girl could have those injures and very early in the morning we went to the forest, picked all our things and we went back home.
Quiz for divorce in China

In some parts of China, married couples trying to split up have been asked to take a quiz distributed by the local authorities. The more they knew about each other, including a spouse’s birthday or favorite food, the less likely they were to have their divorce immediately approved.

The quizzes, issued in at least two provinces since last year, follow the format of a typical three-part school exam. First, there are some fill-in-the-blank questions. Then, short answer questions and, finally, an essay. The topics of the questions are really varied from the mundane “when is your anniversary?” to the philosophical “have you satisfied your responsibility to your family?” The quizzes contain 15 questions, scored on a scale of 100 points. Liu Chunling, an official in Lianyungang told the Yangtse Late News that they were developed as a way to prevent “impulse divorces”. Local news agencies reported that the authorities considered a score of 60 points or higher to mean “room for recovery”, and those couples were encouraged to work on their marriages.

The divorce rate in China is rapidly rising, pushed mainly by working women who feel newly empowered to get one. But the government is trying to slow the trend, which it sees as a cause of social instability. The state’s focus on preventing divorce, experts said, stems from a Confucian belief that a stable society is made up of complete families. “Only through thousands of harmonious family units can an entire society achieve harmony,” said Mr. Liu, the Lianyungang official.

The Chinese government had previously regulated other many aspects of private family life, including religion and pregnancy. In this case, the authorities claim, the main objective is only to let the couple consider this rationally and to try it seriously.


OPCIÓN B

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 is easier to get a divorce in China if you do not know a lot about your couple. FALSE
   “The more they knew about each other, including a spouse’s birthday or favorite food, the less likely they were to have their divorce immediately approved”
   b) More women are making the decision of getting a divorce now than in the past. TRUE
   “The divorce rate in China is rapidly rising, pushed mainly by working women who feel newly empowered to get one”
   (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) Why does the government want to prevent divorce? BECAUSE THEY THINK THAN SOLID MARRIAGES CONTRIBUTE TO HAVE A SOLID CITIZENSHIP
   b) What does the idea of “room for recovery” refer to in the text? THAT THEY ARE NOT SURE ABOUT THE DIVORCE BUT THEY FEEL A LITTLE FEW UP OF THE SITUATION SO THEY NEED TIME TO BE ALONE AND THINK ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES
   (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3. Find the words in the text that mean:
   a) accepted (paragraph 1) APPROVED
   b) include (paragraph 2) CONTAIN
   c) goal (paragraph 4) OBJETIVE
   d) deal with (paragraph 4) CONSIDER
   (Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4. Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.
   a) Fill-in-the gap questions are those WHICH can BE ANSWERED (answer) quickly with only a few words.
   b) Chinese authorities HAVE REGULATED (regulate) aspects of family life FOR many years.
   c) DESPITE what her father thought, she considered that getting a divorce was the BEST (good) option for her.
   d) If she HAD MET (meet) him before, she WOULD HAVE MARRIED (marry) him.
   (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
5.- Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic.
Divorce rates in Spain have increased in the last few years. Why do you think this is so? Justify your answer.
(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

The reasons why the divorce rate has increased in Spain may vary depending on who you ask about this issue, but from my personal opinión the reasons are three.

First of all, I have to admit that the statement is true, years before the concept of family was different and adults used to teach children that when we grew old, we had to create our own family. Nowadays this has changed a lot, women are empowered to study and encouraged to be whatever they want, not only mothers or wives so we found ourselves being happy out of a traditional family so a lot of us decide not to get married.

Secondly, and according to experts, marriage is complicated, sharing your time and your space with someone is hard and a lot of people get tired of this situation, thanks to the economical independency of each member of the couple they can get divorced. In the past there were a lot of problems, women weren’t free or independent as a result they couldn’t live by themselves, fortunately it has changed, so you will be married only if you are happy and you are in love with your couple, it is not an obligation anymore.

Last but not least, there are some historical reasons, in the past, getting divorced was something that people used to criticise, it was even illegal, currently we have the chance of doing what we want without being judged.

To sum up, I think that people is free to decide if they get divorced and it has changed the way people judge others when they get divorced.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FORMA</th>
<th>--- / 0,5</th>
<th>--- / 0,5</th>
<th>--- / 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No hay errores importantes de gramática.</td>
<td>--- / 0,5</td>
<td>Hay errores graves de gramática.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No muestra limitaciones en el uso del vocabulario que utiliza.</td>
<td>--- / 0,5</td>
<td>Hay errores graves de léxico.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No hay errores importantes de ortografía y/o puntuación.</td>
<td>--- / 0,5</td>
<td>Hay múltiples equivocaciones en el uso de la ortografía y/o la puntuación.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>--- / 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>