SELECTIVIDAD INGLÉS SEPTIEMBRE 2016

OPCIÓN A

Homes of the Future

Experts believe that homes will soon become intelligent enough to distinguish between family members and guests. They will adapt to individual needs based on a person’s physical, chemical or behavioural attributes. There are, however, barriers that prevent the smart home industry from taking off. Among them, the fact that the average consumer hasn’t yet adopted this “connected lifestyle” mostly because its value is not yet clear to them or have had some bad incidents. Who hasn’t experienced sitting in the darkness waving to activate the sensor when motion powered lights in a bathroom suddenly turn off before we are finished in there?

The rise of the intelligent home depends on integrating different smart “wearables” (like watches and glasses) plus the ability to respond to multiple verbal or touch-based commands. A recently developed bracelet can identify individuals by measuring several physical features such as cardiac rhythm. This device can also execute actions for the user, by connecting itself with other technologies. Another recent development can verify an individual’s identity with a quick glance at the system from a distance. Former systems that perform accurate iris recognition required people to position their faces close to a camera.

In a near future, as you walk through your home, these gadgets will verify your identity by checking your specific vital signs. Once identified, your home will automatically adjust the lighting and room temperature to your tastes or play personalized music or videos according to the preferences recorded in your profile.

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) Experts consider that there are no obstacles for the development of intelligent homes. **FALSE** “There are, however, barriers that prevent the smart home industry from taking off”
   b) Distant identification of people has existed for a few decades now. **FALSE** “Another recent development can verify an individual’s identity with a quick glance at the system from a distance”

   (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) Describe two functions the new wristband mentioned in the text may carry out.
      It can create a link between the bracelet and other digital objects and also it gives information about the owner’s health.
   b) Describe two ways in which future homes can serve you.
you will be able to create a good environment at home by choosing the light, temperature and this kind of things, apart from being safe.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

a) visitors (paragraph 1) - GUESTS

b) instructions (paragraph 2) - COMMANDS

c) attributes (paragraph 2) - FEATURES

d) near (paragraph 2) - CLOSE

(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

a) Over the last ten years or so, face recognition ___ HAS BECOME ____ (become) a popular area of research. No doubt, this will be one of the ____ MOST ____ popular technologies of the future.

b) If scientists ___ HAD WORKED ____ (work) harder, smart authentication devices ____ WOULD HAVE BEEN USED ____ (use) in the last Olympic Games.

c) The next Biometrics Conference, ____ WHICH ____ will be held in Tampa, aims at ____ PROMOTING ____ (promote) information exchanges between the government and outside entities.

d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said. “Your voice recognition system is not working at the moment”, said Peter.

Peter warned Sarah ___ THAT HER VOICE RECOGNITION SYSTEM WASN´T WORKING AT THAT MOMENT ________________________________________________________________________.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic. What do you think the advantages and disadvantages of automatically controlled homes can be? Discuss. (Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

Nowadays more and more things are automatically controlled and we can see all the advantages but it also has some disadvantages.

On the one hand, all new technolgy looks great, it makes our lives easier and also it has developed things that we couldn´t expect. So, in many ways they are useful and practical. You are at home and the house knows what you want, music or cancel, temperature so you don´t need to move to switch anything.
On the other hand, if the light goes off you will have a serious problem, in many ways, your devices wouldn’t work and maybe you couldn’t use them in a normal way or it can just break, stop working, and at that moment, you’re lost.

To sum up, I think it is useful but maybe if we abuse of this technologies, we will be useless.

OPCIÓN B

Has Creativity Disappeared in Schools? Is it a coincidence that most children love writing stories and enjoy getting messy, painting, making music, inventing characters or acting out plays? At the beginning of the 20th century, Picasso said that all children are born artists and the problem is to remain an artist as we grow up.

Eight years ago Ken Robinson, an expert on creativity and education, made a speech that revolutionized this topic. He firmly believes that the two concepts don’t seem to co-exist. In this speech, he argues eloquently and passionately that education is destroying our children’s capacity to think outside the box. Robinson claims that society also has a very limited definition of intelligence. This definition looks to numeracy and literacy only, and stigmatizes as “not very bright” those children who cannot read and write fluently but may excel at other subjects. But is that fair or true? His opinions are not an attack on teachers or schools, but refer instead to the whole system of education, which he says to be too linear. According to Robinson, our education system places so much emphasis on the academic subjects that any natural gift for art, music or acting is often brushed aside as we get older.

He considers that creativity is as important in education as literacy; that is why he suggests we should treat it with the same status. He claims that the existing hierarchy of subjects should be eliminated. The arts, sciences, humanities, languages, physical education and maths all have equal and central contributions to a student’s education.

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) Robinson was the first person to claim that artistic capacities are often lost when we become adults. FALSE “At the beginning of the 20th century, Picasso said that all children are born artists and the problem is to remain an artist as we grow up”
   b) Robinson’s ideas were introduced at the end of the 20th century. FALSE “Eight years ago Ken Robinson, an expert on creativity and education, made a speech that revolutionized this topic”

   (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 kind of children does society marginalize and why? **THOSE WHO ARE CONSIDERED LESS INTELLIGENT BECAUSE THEY DON’T KNOW HOW TO READ OR HOW TO WRITE IN A PROPER WAY.**

b) According to Robinson, what can be done at school to improve our children’s capacities?

**HE THINKS THAT IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO DEVELOP ART SKILLS AND CRAFTS, APART FROM LEARNING HOW TO WRITE OR OTHER NORMAL SUBJECTS AS LITERATURE.**

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

a) performing (paragraph 1) –**ACTING OUT**

b) puts (paragraph 2) –**PLACES**

c) talent (paragraph 2) –**GIFT**

d) wiped out (paragraph 3) –**ELIMINATED**

(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

a) The lack of interest **_SHOWN_** (show) by scholars is sometimes the result of the boredom that our educational system often **_PRODUCES_** (produce).

b) If pupils’ artistic skills **_WERE ENCOURAGED_** (encourage) when they were at school, they **_WOULDN’T BE_** (not be) so frustrated in their adult lives.

c) The **_MORE_** you study, the better marks you will get **_AT_** school.

d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said. The teacher said to me: “Don’t worry now. You’ll understand it tomorrow.” The teacher told me **_NOT TO WORRY THEN/AT THAT MOMENT. I WOULD UNDERSTAND IT THE FOLLOWING DAY_**.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic. How would you promote creativity in schools? (Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

In my opinion, there are lots of possibilities of being more creative at school.

First of all, with subjects related to art or crafts we will be able to develop creativity and skills that may be useful for our future, and it may have a positive influence in children, because, that way, they can be more creative and also handy. Secondly, other subjects, as music, allow children to be open minded, to enjoy relaxed things and also to learn how to write a partiture, this activity is great in many ways, and it makes children more intelligent. In addition to this dancing and performing or acting will help them to be more sociable or even more talkative, and they will be skilled adults in the art of conversation.
However, it is true that traditional subjects as Reading, writing, History provide good memory and culture, they are part of our heritage and they shouldn’t be taken apart.

In conclusion, many things can be done in order to help our children to become better adults.