



- Instrucciones:
- Duración: Una hora y treinta minutos.
 - No se puede usar diccionario.
 - La puntuación de cada pregunta está indicada en las mismas..

“MAXIMISING” CHILDREN

Are you enrolling your small children in a violin course? Do you somehow add ballet, drama, and judo to football and English lessons? The great news is that this will all make your children do better in school! Well, it might or it might not. It may turn them into exhausted, disciplined automatons or it may block their imaginations, and leave them no time to themselves.

5 If only middle-class parents would stop trying to maximise their children! Children don't have to be accomplished violinists or athletics champions or black-belt karate kids. Why can't they just have fun?

Certain enjoyable activities are very difficult to pick up as an adult, and these are worth learning when young. Playing an instrument is one; skiing (if you can afford it) is another. But it is pointless to push children where they don't want to go. And you wonder: do all these children really want to be stars, or is it their parents' ambition for them?

10 A child's chances of success in life are determined mainly by its innate ability. There is not much you can do about that. Mozarts are born, not made. A certain amount of application helps, particularly in secondary school. Beyond that, a happy, loving and accepting family providing emotional stability is about all children really need.

(A) COMPREHENSION (4 points)

- a) ANSWER QUESTIONS 1-2 ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE TEXT. **USE YOUR OWN WORDS.** (1 point per answer)
- Why are many children so busy?
 - Do these courses provide everything children need to succeed? Why?
- b) ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT. (0.5 points per answer)
- Enrolling in different types of courses only has negative consequences for children.
 - Children learn more easily than adults.
 - It is useful to consider children's opinion rather than compelling them to register for extra activities.
 - Innate abilities are necessary to become masters in most fields.

(B) USE OF ENGLISH (3 points)

- Find in the text one **synonym** for ROBOT (noun) (0.25 points)
- Find in the text **the word** which has the following definition:
“highly trained or skilled” (adjective) (0.25 points)
- Give one **opposite** for ENJOYABLE (adjective) (line 7) (0.25 points)
- Give a noun with the same **root** as ACCEPT (verb) (line 12) (0.25 points)
- Fill in the gap with a correct **form** of the **verb** in brackets.
Those trees (grow) _____ so high that they block the view. (0.5 points)
- Join the following sentences using an appropriate linker (do **not** use **AND** or **BUT**). Make changes if necessary.
I was determined to develop my natural talent for music. I started to take lessons at an academy.
- Complete** the following conditional sentence.
If Mary had shown real passion for ballet, ... (0.5 points)
- Give a question for the **underlined** word:
It took Mozart only eighteen days to compose his last opera. (0.5 points)

(C) PRODUCTION (3 points)

- 15) WRITE A **COMPOSITION** (80-100 WORDS). CHOOSE **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS. **SPECIFY YOUR OPTION.**
- What's your parents' attitude regarding extracurricular activities?
 - What famous people do you consider geniuses? Why?