**Llengua estrangera: anglès**

**Sèrie 1**

<table>
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<th>Dades de la persona aspirant</th>
<th>Qualificació</th>
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A. Read the text below and choose the correct answer. Draw a circle around the letter corresponding to the right answer.  
[1.25 marks: 0.25 for each correct answer]  

Why you should stop living to work

Step back for a moment. Do you ever wonder if you work so much that you’ve barely got time to live? In today’s fast-paced, high-demand world, it can be difficult to find time to pursue the things you love in your ever-vanishing free time.

5 What happens when you’re the head of a successful company and need more time away from your desk? And are there ways we can learn to work to live, rather than live to work? Here’s what two LinkedIn Influencers had to say about these topics.

Mohamed El-Erian, former chief executive officer at PIMCO

When you’re the chief executive of one of the biggest investment firms in the world, work can be all-consuming. Mohamed’s daughter had presented him with “a list that she had compiled of her important events and activities that I had missed due to work commitments”, he wrote. “Talk about a wake-up call. The list contained 22 items, from her first day at school and first soccer match of the season to a parent-teacher meeting and a Halloween parade.”

It’s a problem that many working parents experience, and work-life balance was something PIMCO had been devoting more time to, he wrote. But that wasn’t enough for El-Erian’s personal situation. “I decided to make a major professional change,” he wrote.

“I left… PIMCO and instead opted for a portfolio of part-time jobs that requires a lot less travel and offers a ton more flexibility—enough, I hope, to allow me to experience with my daughter more of those big and little moments that make up each day,” he wrote. “I am incredibly fortunate to be able to structure my life in this way.”

James Caan, chief executive officer at Hamilton Bradshaw Group

The discussion around balancing work and life has been more prominent in recent years, wrote Caan in his post Working to live or living to work? “The fact that we have just been through the longest and deepest recession in living memory has also meant that the workplace is now more competitive than it has ever been,” he wrote. “Everyone is having to go the extra mile to prove their commitment and justify their role.”

But if you’re living to work, what happens? Is it only your life that suffers, or also your work? “No one can survive for long if they are completely obsessed by work; that route will only lead to increased stress levels and can ultimately be counter-productive,” Caan wrote. It’s also healthy to take time to contemplate, he wrote. “Taking a step back to reflect on your achievements and note where you can improve is a critical part of any good career plan.”

As a boss Caan expects his employees to bring maximum productivity to their work. But at the same time, “it’s good to have something else to focus on rather than just the office,” he wrote. Perhaps the most important aspect of a smart work and life balance, wrote Caan, “is how you actually view your job. Is it something you enjoy or do you see it as a burden?”


1. Mohamed’s daughter wrote a list of the important events  
   a) she had missed.  
   b) Mohamed, her father, had missed.  
   c) they had both missed.
2. To solve the problem, Mohamed decided to
   a) send his daughter to Europe.
   b) get a full-time job in a different company.
   c) work on part-time jobs.

3. The balance between work and life
   a) has always been discussed.
   b) has received more attention during the last years.
   c) has hardly ever been discussed.

4. Because of such a deep recession,
   a) people try to improve their time management.
   b) people attend to university lectures far more often.
   c) people try to show their commitment with the company.

5. Caan expects his employees
   a) to be very productive.
   b) to come to work on time.
   c) to learn from their mistakes.

B. Choose the word or definition (a, b, c, or d) that best explains the meaning of the words below as they are used in the text. The words appear in bold in the text.
[1.25 marks: 0.25 for each correct answer]

1. fast-paced (line 3)
   a) slow-moving  b) useful  c) back and forth  d) moving rapidly

2. commitments (line 11)
   a) abilities  b) miracles  c) responsibilities  d) preferences

3. prominent (line 22)
   a) outstanding  b) depressing  c) creative  d) irrelevant

4. ultimately (line 29)
   a) finally  b) always  c) originally  d) surely

5. burden (line 35)
   a) therapy  b) hardship  c) motto  d) appearance
C. Read the text below and choose the correct answer. Draw a circle around the letter corresponding to the right answer.
[2.50 marks: 0.25 for each correct answer]

Pau Gasol: early life and career

Born on July 6, 1980 in the Sant Boi de Llobregat area of Barcelona, Spain, Pau Gasol Sáez (later known ___(1)____ Pau Gasol) grew ___(2)____ in a sports-oriented family. He has two younger brothers, Adrià and Marc. Marc played center with Gasol’s former team, FC Barcelona, in Spain. ___(3)____ Gasol’s mother Marisa, a medical doctor, and father Agustí, a hospital administrator, played second-division basketball in Spain.

___(4)____ age 12, watching the original Dream Team on television win the Olympic Gold Medal during the 1992 Barcelona Games ___(5)____ Gasol’s first exposure to American NBA players. Gasol had ___(6)____ planned to become a doctor, and attended medical school at the University of Barcelona ___(7)____ one year, but an opportunity to play professional basketball changed his life.

Gasol is often compared ___(8)____ European NBA players Toni Kukoc (Croatia) and Dirk Nowitzki (Germany) for his scoring and rebounding prowess, as well as his quick adjustment to the ___(9)____ aggressive American style of play. In 2006, in a career first, Gasol ___(10)____ to play in the NBA All-Star Game as a reserve center for the Western Conference. He was the first Spanish player and first Grizzly to make an appearance in the All-Star Game.

Text adapted from Bio [on-line]
<http://www.biography.com/people/pau-gasol-20929951#early-life>

D. Write 80-100 words about ONE of the following topics:
[5 marks]

1. Write an opinion essay on the topic “No one can survive for long if they are completely obsessed by work.” Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Write a narrative essay on your favourite sport: your team, the best players... If you play it, when, where, why and with whom you play it.