



**PROVA D'ACCÉS A LA UNIVERSITAT PER A MAJORS DE 25 ANYS**  
**PRUEBA DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD PARA MAYORES DE 25 AÑOS**

Assignatura/Asignatura: **ANGLÈS/INGLÉS**

Convocatòria/Convocatoria: **2011-12**

**60 minuts/60 minutos**

**Indicacions:**

Llegiu el text següent amb atenció, almenys dues vegades, i responeu després, en anglès i en els fulls d'examen a banda, a les cinc preguntes formulades. Disposeu d'una hora per a fer-ho. En les preguntes (1) i (5) heu d'evitar la reproducció literal de l'original.

**Instrucciones:**

Lea con detenimiento, al menos dos veces, el siguiente texto y responda a continuación, en inglés y en las hojas de respuestas, a las cinco preguntas formuladas. Para ello dispone de una hora. En las preguntas (1) y (5) deberá evitar la reproducción literal del original.

**HOME ALONE**

*Tony Evans, 50, head of Portsmouth Grammar School, talks about the problem of \*neglected children in middle-class families.*

We tend to think of neglected children as being exclusively born from poor families. There have always been "problem families", and there always will be. But today, ignored, unhappy children are now as common among affluent, intelligent and educated families as among families with poorer backgrounds.

Part of this neglect is caused by pressures of work. Parents of the professional classes work far longer hours than they used to. Today, both partners in a marriage want careers. *But more than that, parents are becoming more selfish*, believing that other people can take care of their children's upbringing.

Thirty years ago, it was almost unheard of for a child to be alone at home. Every pupil, rich or poor, would return at the end of the day to their family, where a meal would be waiting to be eaten round the family table. The family would probably discuss things at that table. And that's where a child learns most – about how to live in a family and society.

But we know that today the majority will not return to a sit-down meal round a table with all the family. "Grazing", the food grabbed at random from the fridge, eaten on knees in front of the TV, has replaced the structured, sit-down meal.

We can't even be sure that a child goes home to anyone at all. A surprising number of pupils have to cope by themselves. Parents go away on holiday, skiing, or to the sun and enjoy themselves. They leave the children at home alone to look after themselves.

[\* **neglected children**: children who do not receive sufficient care and attention.]

## QUESTIONS

1. State in your own words what the author means when he says: 'But more than that, parents are becoming more selfish[.]' **(2 marks)**

2. Say in each case whether the statement is true or false according to the text. Write T or F. If the answer is not mentioned in the text, mark it as false (F). **(2 marks)**

(a) Neglected children are almost always from poor families. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Children can learn most about living in society from the television. \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Most families no longer eat together at a table and discuss things. \_\_\_\_\_

(d) In the early eighties, it was very unusual for a child to be alone at home. \_\_\_\_\_

3. These words and expressions are all found in the text: *backgrounds, thirty years ago, random, selfish, grazing, educated, affluent, professional classes, almost, problem families, upbringing, today*. Choose the ones that mean the same as the following: **(2 marks)**

(a) wealthy \_\_\_\_\_

(b) social origins \_\_\_\_\_

(c) nowadays \_\_\_\_\_

(d) the training and education of a child \_\_\_\_\_

4. Choose, *a, b* or *c* after each statement below. Only one answer is correct. **(2 marks)**

1. Child neglect...

(a) is less common now than it used to be.

(b) has several causes.

(c) is more common in large families.

2. Tony Evans is...

(a) a middle-aged head of a school for children with special needs.

(b) a middle-aged headmaster.

(c) a middle-aged family man.

3. A surprising number of parents...

(a) go on holiday without their kids.

(b) go on holiday with their kids.

(c) arrange for a babysitter so that they can go out on dates together.

4. Many kids ...

(a) never have dinner in the living room.

(b) eat junk food in front of the TV.

(c) never have their meals at the table with the rest of the family.

5. Answer the following question: **(2 marks)**

Do you agree with the author that children today don't get enough attention and care from their parents? Give reasons to back up your answer.