

UNIVERSIDAD DE LA REPÚBLICA – CARRERA DE TRADUCTORADO
PRUEBA DE ADMISIÓN 2016 LENGUA INGLESA

Instructions to candidates

You will be allowed FIVE minutes to read through the following instructions.

The examination is divided into 3 sections: Section 1 Translation into English; Section 2 Translation into Spanish; Section 3 English Language.

No dictionaries or electronic devices of any kind may be used.

GENERAL

1. The examination is **THREE** hours in length. When asked to stop writing you must do so. Candidates will be reported to the examining board if they exceed the time limit and liable to penalties.

2. No borrowing is allowed.

3. Anyone attempting to communicate with a fellow examinee may have his/her examination annulled.

4. You may not ask interpretative questions. If you need to communicate with the invigilator raise your hand. Do not call out.

5. Sections may be answered in any order. Each section should be on a separate sheet of paper. When handing in your test to the invigilators, **SEPARATE THE SECTIONS.**

6. Do not begin writing until the invigilator says you may.

7. At the top of each sheet of paper you use, write: **CANDIDATE NUMBER** (your own personal number); **ROOM NUMBER; DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE.**

8. Write legibly using a dark pencil or ink. If your writing is illegible, your answers will not be considered.

9. Leave a margin on the left hand side of your sheet of paper. Leave spaces between the lines.

10. THIS INSTRUCTIONS SHEET AND THE PRINTED EXAMINATION PAPERS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE INVIGILATOR BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE ROOM.

Section 1 - TRANSLATE INTO ENGLISH

Jorge Abbondanza
Periodista y crítico de arte

Un país despoblado

País pequeño y poco habitado, el Uruguay tiene en ese sentido privilegios y desventajas. Por disponer de poco más de tres millones de habitantes, puede argumentarse que le haría falta más fuerza de trabajo para permitir un mayor desarrollo de la economía. Por el contrario, también puede razonarse que la población escasa es un lujo en un planeta donde conviven siete mil millones de seres humanos y donde las sociedades suelen estar cada día más apiñadas, con países como la India, con algo más de mil millones. En ese mundo de masas hay ciudades que ya cuentan con más de 30 millones de habitantes, como México o Tokio, de manera que el despoblado Uruguay es una suerte de paraíso donde todavía se puede respirar holgadamente. Hace poco tiempo el embajador de Suiza comentaba sorprendido que podía circularse por carreteras uruguayas durante media hora sin ver a un ser vivo en medio del campo. Habría que discutir si ese vacío es algo bueno o malo.

El problema pendiente en la sociedad uruguaya no es precisamente el número sino en todo caso la composición de esa comunidad. Porque lo que se reproduce a mayor velocidad es la clase pobre, mientras las franjas medias y altas mantienen una tendencia a tener pocos hijos. Mientras tanto, los uruguayos mantienen su escala frente a un planeta superpoblado donde la Unión Europea ya roza los 500 millones. En medio de esa coalición de países con larga historia y formidable tradición cultural viven millones de inmigrantes que han huido de sus naciones de origen por miseria o temor. La convivencia con los europeos no es simple, porque surgen fricciones por motivos religiosos, económicos, raciales o culturales, de manera que los disturbios se suman a otros problemas, como los índices de desocupación. Entonces el escaso número de uruguayos aparece como una interesante ventaja frente al hormiguero humano de otros países. En definitiva lo que importa no es el número de personas sino su calidad, su nivel de preparación, su capacidad de convivencia, su defensa de ciertos principios y valores. Parece mejor ser pocos y buenos que muchos y malos.

El País, 22 de enero de 2014

Section 2 - TRANSLATE INTO SPANISH

AFTER WATER

The sun was going down in East Porterville, California, diffusing gold through a thick and creamy fog, as Donna Johnson pulled into the parking lot in front of the Family Dollar. Since the valley started running dry, this has become Johnson's favorite store. The responsibilities were getting overwhelming for the 70-year-old: doctors visits and scans for a shoulder she injured while lifting too-heavy cases of water; a stop at the bank to deposit another generous check that's still not enough to cover the costs of everything she gives away; a million other small tasks and expenses. But at the Family Dollar she was singularly focused, in her element.

California has always been plagued. The floods and fires presented as disasters are in truth a natural lifecycle for a ecosystem that was in no way formed with human life in mind. Centuries of settlers have attempted to tame this extreme landscape with increasingly ambitious feats of engineering: draining lakes until they were craters, moving rivers of water until all the fish died, drilling out the aquifers until the land sank.

This has in some ways made us very rich. California's economy is the largest of all the U.S. states. When the plains turned to dust nearly 100 years ago, thousands migrated here, including my family, and helped to establish the Central Valley as the nation's preeminent agricultural center. Today the region produces a full third of the produce we eat.

But now the land is complaining. A spectacular drought has drawn the entire Southwest dry. Where water has long been something inexplicably taken for granted, more than 90 percent of California is in a severe drought, with the situation in Porterville and much of the surrounding valley deemed exceptional. The state's natural dryness has been exacerbated by a creeping global climate change and a cascade of questionable human decisions, and it has escalated with shocking speed.

Last September, Governor Jerry Brown declared the drought not just an emergency, but a disaster, releasing millions in funding for immediate aid but none for the long-term infrastructure necessary to maintain an extremely thirsty modern society.

The crisis is constant. California has always been plagued.

From Longreads - <http://blog.longreads.com/2015/06/02/after-water/>

Section 3 – English Language

Read the following passage and then answer the questions below using your own words.

Wiltshire, September 1535

His children are falling from the sky. He watches from horseback, acres of England stretching behind him; they drop, giltwinged, each with a blood-filled gaze. Grace Cromwell hovers in thin air. She is silent when she takes her prey, silent as she glides to his fist. But the sounds she makes then, the rustle of feathers and the creak, the sigh and ruffle of pinion, the small cluck-cluck from her throat, these are sounds of recognition, intimate, daughterly, almost disapproving. Her breast is gore-streaked and flesh clings to her claws.

Later, Henry will say, 'Your girls flew well today.' The hawk Anne Cromwell bounces on the glove of Rafe Sadler, who rides by the king in easy conversation. They are tired; the sun is declining, and they ride back to Wolf Hall with the reins slack on the neck of their mounts. Tomorrow his wife and two sisters will go out. These dead women, their bones long sunk in London clay, are now transmigrated. Weightless, they glide on the upper currents of the air. They pity no one. They answer to no one. Their lives are simple. When they look down they see nothing but their prey, and the borrowed plumes of the hunters: they see a flittering, flinching universe, a universe filled with their dinner.

All summer has been like this, a riot of dismemberment, fur and feather flying; the beating off and the whipping in of hounds, the coddling of tired horses, the nursing, by the gentlemen, of contusions, sprains and blisters. And for a few days at least, the sun has shone on Henry. Sometime before noon, clouds scudded in from the west and rain fell in big scented drops; but the sun re-emerged with a scorching heat, and now the sky is so clear you can see into Heaven and spy on what the saints are doing.

As they dismount, handing their horses to the grooms and waiting on the king, his mind is already moving to paperwork: to dispatches from Whitehall, galloped down by the post routes that are laid wherever the court shifts. At supper with the Seymours, he will defer to any stories his hosts wish to tell: to anything the king may venture, tousled and happy and amiable as he seems tonight. When the king has gone to bed, his working night will begin.

Though the day is over, Henry seems disinclined to go indoors. He stands looking about him, inhaling horse sweat, a broad, brick-red streak of sunburn across his forehead. Early in the day he lost his hat, so by custom all the hunting party were obliged to take off theirs. The king refused all offers of substitutes. As dusk steals over the woods and fields, servants will be out looking for the stir of the black plume against darkening grass, or the glint of his hunter's badge, a gold St Hubert with sapphire eyes.

Already you can feel the autumn. You know there will not be many more days like these; so let us stand, the king's hand on his shoulder, Henry's face earnest as he talks his way back through the landscape of the day, the green copses and rushing streams, the alders by the water's edge, the early haze that lifted by nine; the brief shower, the small wind that died and settled; the stillness, the afternoon heat.

'Sir, how are you not burned?' Rafe Sadler demands. A redhead like the king, he has turned a mottled, freckled pink, and even his eyes look sore. He, Thomas Cromwell, shrugs; he hangs an arm around Rafe's shoulders as they drift indoors. He went through the whole of Italy – the battlefield as well as the shaded arena of the counting house – without losing his London pallor. His ruffian childhood, the days on the river, the days in the fields: they left him as white as God made him. 'Cromwell has the skin of a lily,' the king pronounces. 'The only particular in which he resembles that or any other blossom.' Teasing him, they amble towards supper.

From *Bring Up The Bodies* by Hilary Mantel, 2012.

- 1) Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as they are used in the text:
a) giltwinged b) gore-streaked c) moving to paperwork d) pallor e) the only particular (5 marks: 1 mark for each)
- 2) Comment on the importance of hierarchy in this passage. (5 marks)
- 3) What are the main activities being described in this passage? (5 marks)
- 4) Comment on and explain the similarities and differences between the activities described in the previous question. (10 marks)
- 5) Write a summary of the passage in no more than fifteen words. (10 marks)
- 6) Write a short paragraph describing what you consider happened at supper. (10 marks)