

PROVES D'ACCÉS A LA UNIVERSITAT

PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD

CONVOCATÒRIA: 2010

CONVOCATORIA: 2010

ANGLÉS

INGLÉS

BAREM DE L'EXAMEN:

BAREMO DEL EXAMEN:

Please answer on a separate sheet of paper.

Part A. Reading Comprehension.

Read the following text:

HOW FIVE YEARS OF YOUTUBE TURNS A NOBODY INTO A STAR

Five years after Karim and two fellow PayPal employees founded their video-sharing website YouTube, it hosts more than 120 million videos. The site is a phenomenon that's generated a whole culture of YouTube celebrities. Never before had anyone with a video camera been able to reach a potential audience of millions and for many they did so by accident. But when the site started including advertisements related to the user's search, some people were able to make money out of their hobbies.

The science behind what makes a video a hit remains vague. It's easier to bathe cats than to predict whether the public will like or dislike something. It's an illuminating choice of elements: cats are, of course, a pretty good bet. Also babies, though it's still surprising that a merely moderately amusing family moment is the most watched YouTube video of all time: "Charlie bit my finger", a clip in which Charlie, aged one, bites the finger of his big brother Harry.

With its ability to grant an audience of millions to any clip the site has extraordinary democratic potential. Last year, a clip of Neda Agha-Soltan being shot in the chest in Iran was put on YouTube instantly and became a powerful tool in the protest movement against the Iranian government.

The site's democratic character had already taken on new, practical uses with the so-called "YouTube election" of 2008, when what many had dismissed as simply a site for teenagers became a battleground for one of the most interesting presidential fights in history.

S. Hoby and T. Lamont (*The Guardian*, 11-4-2010)

I. Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text (2 points: 1 point each)

- a) Why can YouTube users get money from video sharing?
- b) How can YouTube be used for democratic purposes?

II. Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage on the answer sheet (1.5 point: 0.5 each)

- a) YouTube videos reach an audience of one hundred and twenty million users.
- b) Videos featuring cats are likely to draw the users' attention.
- c) YouTube only interests teenagers.

III. Find a synonym for each of the four words below from these six options: (1 point: 0.25 each)

generated *accident* *hit* *choice* *amusing* *dismissed*

- a) ignored
- b) selection
- c) produced
- d) chance

IV. Choose a, b, or c, in each question below. Only one choice is correct (1.5 points: 0.5 each)

1. We can...
 - a) predict whether a video on YouTube will be a hit or not.
 - b) never be sure whether a video on YouTube will be a hit or not.
 - c) predict that a video featuring cats with babies will be a hit.

2. Videos on YouTube can...
 - a) defeat a government.
 - b) turn a country into a democracy.
 - c) be used as a mass form of political protest.

3. YouTube...
 - a) has proved to be useful beyond teenage use.
 - b) has proved to be useful only for teenagers.
 - c) has proved to be useful for electing presidents.

Part B. Write a 130 to 150-word composition. (4 points)

Do you think that YouTube is a powerful tool in today's society? Give reasons.