

**EXAMEN DE OPOSICIÓN DE INGLÉS DE SECUNDARIA 2015  
LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

Time allowed: 45 minutes including both auditions

(from 9:30 to 10:15)

Total: 2.5 marks

**1. Fill in the blanks (0.1 each gap)**

1.1. This would be good for the Cuban people and more likely to lead to a \_\_\_\_\_ up of the restrictions or oppression that exists there.

1.2. We have dealt with international \_\_\_\_\_ that we haven't seen in a lot of years.

1.3. These were all big structural \_\_\_\_\_ that we had to do.

1.4. Think about how much energy was required for us to \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves out of the economic circumstances we were in when I came into office.

1.5. It's understandable the \_\_\_\_\_ might say, you know, that race relations have gotten worse

**2. Questions (0.25 each)**

2.1. Why is the health care policy considered a success?

2.2. Why did the government reform education?

2.3. Is the "Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant" mentioned? And Afghanistan? Why? Why not?

2.4. What is the relationship between the police and the communities of colour?

2.5. Why does the interviewer think Ferguson case is a special case?

**3. Provide a brief outline of the listening. (0,75 marks)**

Source: Npr interview with President Obama. December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

[http://www.cede.es/ex2015ingles/20141231\\_news\\_newobama\\_Opos%202015.mp3](http://www.cede.es/ex2015ingles/20141231_news_newobama_Opos%202015.mp3)

### 1. FILL IN THE BLANKS (0.1 each gap)

1.1. This would be good for the Cuban people and more likely to lead to a **loosening** up of the restrictions or oppression that exists there.

1.2. We have dealt with international **turmoil** that we haven't seen in a lot of years.

1.3. These were all big structural **shifts** that we had to do.

1.4. Think about how much energy was required for us to **yank** ourselves out of the economic circumstances we were in when I came into office.

1.5. It's understandable the **polls** might say, you know, that race relations have gotten worse

### 2. QUESTIONS (0.25 each)

#### 2.1. Why is the health care policy considered a success?

It is considered a success for different reasons; because a lot of millions of people have benefited from Medicaid and healthcare coverage, the growing of expenses has been reduced to 50% and consequently, the deficit has come down.

#### 2.2. Why did the government reform education?

To make it competitive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

#### 2.3. Is the "Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant" mentioned? And Afghanistan? Why? Why not?

Both the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and Afghanistan are mentioned. Mr Obama says that they have tried to reduce the effect of ISIL at the same time that they were reducing USA influence in Afghanistan.

**2.4. Define the relationship between the police and the communities of colour.**

According to the president, the relations between the police and the communities of colour and Latinos have not become worst, they have simply gained prominence due to the use of new technologies. However, they keep being mistrustful of each other.

**2.5. Why does the interviewer think Ferguson case is a special case?**

It is a special case as the Grand Jury's indictment of the officer was interpreted differently by white Americans and African-Americans. This case shows a big divide between both social groups.

**3. PROVIDE A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE LISTENING (0.75 marks)**

This is a formal interview to the president of the United States about his achievements in his 6 years in office. It covers issues such as Cuba, the financial crisis, health care, education, the Middle East and race relations in the U.S.

He is happy to have provided a loosening of the restrictions imposed on Cuba because that will benefit people living there. He congratulates himself on having overcome the biggest economic crisis since the big depression. Thanks to that, he has been able to focus on other issues such as health care or education. Medicaid has expanded and a lot of millions of people have benefitted from Health care coverage, they have stopped the growing health care costs as well as the deficit to two thirds. Education has been reformed to adapt to the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

On the international front, the USA have tried to roll ISIL back at the same time they reduced their influence on Afghanistan.

As for race relations, Mr Obama believes that the relationship between black and Latino communities and the police is much better nowadays than 20 years ago. It is the possibility of easy recording of events that has brought to light racial issues. The interviewer, nonetheless, shows how the decision of the Grand Jury not to indict the officer in Ferguson case was interpreted as something right by most white Americans and as something wrong by African-Americans. This proves how racially divided American society keeps being.

## EXAMEN DE OPOSICIÓN DE INGLÉS DE SECUNDARIA 2015 ANÁLISIS DE TEXTO

Time allowed: 1h15' (from 10:15 to 11:30)

Total: 4.5 marks

### WORLD GONE WATER

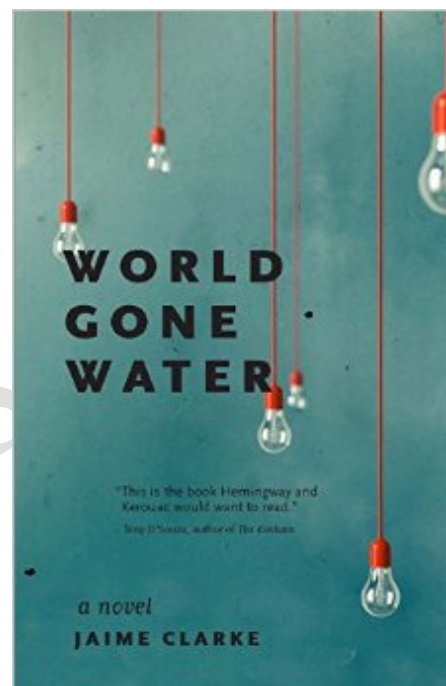
The last ice cube free-falls into the watery ice bucket. The ice machine rumbles angrily and then sighs, sputtering the last of anything it has, a spray of water coating the miniature glacier at the bottom of the bucket.

Our limo driver, Happy something or other, rushes me when I push open the door. "Too stiff," he says, digging his tree-trunk fingers into the ice bucket, fishing for a chunk of ice. Behind Happy I see my new Jenny, her prom dress shucked in the corner in favor of her brother's army fatigue T-shirt and boxers, expertly holding a lit cigarette and a bottle of Budweiser in the same hand, waving from the balcony at someone as he passes underneath. The room's population seems to have doubled since my trip to the ice machine, other prom couples having found their way to the suite I rented for me and Jenny.

Happy finds a piece of ice that will fit into his glass of vodka and tells me he'll be out in the car. He asks if I still need him, essentially asking if it would be better just to send the limo away, to stop the hemorrhage of cash, and I punch him in the face, my knuckles glancing off his flat nose, skimming his left cheek and ear. Happy drops the glass of vodka and, too stunned to say anything, runs out of the room holding his face.

Jenny pretends not to have seen, not wanting to acknowledge what I'm pretending to be capable of. She locks herself in the bathroom with Zach and the laughing continues, drowned out by the arrival of more prom couples, ones I don't recognize, who ask loudly where Jenny is. Someone turns on the television, which is sitting on the floor, as the credenza has been moved out onto the balcony for use as a makeshift bench from which to gawk at the other prom couples streaming into the hotel.

*I'm just a kid.* The echo in my ear since dinner, Jenny's justification for breaking up after prom, dulling the shine on the evening I'd spent weeks laying out. All gone with those four words. Where normally those words would've seemed a skip in a record to me, the turntable having been bumped many times before—sometimes my fault, sometimes not—I recognized right there under the white canopy of Octavio's that with the end of the evening, it would be over between us. My ego had conspired with Jenny to set me up for just such a fall: Jenny calling me



her old man, whispering her thankfulness at being with someone who was “experienced,” praising the maturity of our relationship, expressing her gratefulness at not having to stand around a keg in the desert, groped by novice hands, romanced by the indolent.

It was my idea, the whole thing, it always is, but I always fail to see—or rather, hope against hope that the entire house isn’t built upon sand that can slip away with something like “I’m just a kid.” My last Jenny had it sneak up on her, waking up one morning with the feeling that she was ready for what’s next, not really knowing what next was. The Jenny before that accused me of keeping her eighteen, an accusation easily defended against by the lack of supporting evidence, of the nonexistence of her case, but even after the verdict was rendered in my favor, she left.

Someone in a tuxedo sticks his head in the door and yells that Vic is going to jump off the hotel roof, and while it seems impossible that everyone knows Vic, or cares about his welfare, the room empties, Jenny and Zach bursting out of the bathroom, the smell of marijuana trailing them out the door and down the hall. The TV blares in the sudden silence, a commercial for a compilation of hit music suitable for parties. Couples dance across the nineteen-inch screen, grooving to songs from my past, reminding me of all my Jennies. One song in particular feels overly familiar, and I mumble the lyrics along with the television, marveling that I know the words to a song I haven’t heard in maybe fifteen years or more. The words come down from my brain as if I wrote the song, and I continue singing it even after the commercial has ended, am still singing it when a scream pulls me out the sliding glass door just in time to see Vic catch himself atop the building across the courtyard, windmilling to keep his balance. I spot Jenny and Zach, arm in arm, moving through the crowd below like celebrities at a charity event. The door swings open and Happy starts screaming in my direction. The officer puts my hands on the credenza and reads me my rights. The manager starts bitching at me about the state of the hotel room. Happy tries to get at me with a left hook, but the officer pushes him back. Vic teeters again on the hotel roof, the crowd below shouting up at him, Jenny shouting too, her pleas meant for Vic reaching my ears instead. I watch Vic trying to keep his balance. The officer wheels me around, and even though I couldn’t pick Vic out of a lineup, I can feel him falling.

1. Comment on the content of the text. (0.5)
2. Why are Hemingway and Kerouac mentioned on the cover? (0.5)
3. Why does the text use the present tense to characterize the main events? How is this rhetoric device called? What is its communicative function? (0.5)
4. Identity and define the tropes or figures of speech in: (0.25 each)
  - 4.1. "The ice machine rumbles angrily and then sighs" (Paragraph 1)
  - 4.2. "digging his tree-trunk fingers into the ice bucket" (Paragraph 2)
  - 4.3. "to stop the haemorrhage of cash" (paragraph 3)
  - 4.4. "The officer wheels me around." (paragraph 7)
5. Explain the locutionary, illocutionary, perlocutionary acts in "He asks if I still need him, essentially asking if it would be better just to send the limo away, to stop the haemorrhage of cash, and I punch him in the face." (0.5)
6. Comment the processes of meronymy and holonymy using the examples in the following quotation. (0.5)

"Marveling that I know the words to a song I haven't heard in maybe fifteen years or more."
7. Provide a syntactic analysis of "Someone turns on the television, which is sitting on the floor, as the credenza has been moved out onto the balcony for use as a makeshift bench from which to gawk at the other prom couples streaming into the hotel." (0.5)
8. Explain the meaning of the following words in the text (0.5):
  - shunck (paragraph 2)
  - stunned (paragraph 3)
  - gawk (paragraph 4)
  - blare (paragraph 7)

### 1. COMMENT ON THE CONTENT OF THE TEXT (0.5)

This is a **fictional narrative text** where the first person narrator tells what is going on at the prom party he has organized for his about to be ex-girlfriend, Jenny. Readers are introduced to the party by the account of an angry and disappointed narrator who might well identify himself with the ice machine producing its last ice cube. His eyes are on Jenny, the clothes she is wearing, the beer she is drinking and the pot she is smoking with her friend Zach. He then cannot avoid a flashback to moments previous to the party, when Jenny broke with him saying the words that still resound in the narrator's mind "I'm just a kid". He even goes further back in time, when other young girlfriends had broken with him too. A young man at the party called Vic calls everybody's attention as he tries to jump into the void. At that precise moment the police comes after him for hitting Happy, the limo chauffeur. The hotel manager complains about the party in the room and he believes that Jenny's words for Vic not to jump, are addressed to him as the beginning of his downfall.

**Description**, which is put at the service of narration, is also used to recreate the atmosphere of the prom and to describe characters. Therefore we can tell that the **main functions** in the text are **referential** as he tries to recreate a fictional world in the readers' mind, and **poetic** as he achieves that by means of poetic language and different figures of speech such as similes, metaphors, personification, etc. explained in question 4.

### 2. WHY ARE HEMINGWAY AND KEROUAC MENTIONED ON THE COVER? (0.5)

They are mentioned to liken Mr Clarke's narrative to Hemingway's and Kerouac's. Their prose was apparently simple, unadorned and narrated spontaneous events that happened to them in a confessional way on the first person singular. It serves the purpose of a catch phrase appealing to potential readers.

### 3. WHY DOES THE TEXT USE THE PRESENT TENSE TO CHARACTERIZE THE MAIN EVENTS? HOW IS THIS RHETORIC DEVICE CALLED? WHAT IS ITS COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION? (0.5)

The use of the present tense to refer to the past is called "**historic present**". The present brings immediacy, making the experiences narrated more vivid and closer to the reader.

However, the narrator used the past tense in paragraphs 5 and 6 to refer to the past before the current events at the prom.

#### 4. IDENTIFY AND DEFINE THE TROPES OR FIGURES OF SPEECH IN THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES FROM THE TEXT (0.25 each)

4.1. "The ice machine rumbles angrily and then sighs" (Paragraph 1)

We find **personification** which consists of attributing human characteristics to things or animals. The ice machine produces a deep, heavy, somewhat muffled sound to vent its anger and then sighs from weariness to produce the last ice cube. This is somehow symbolic of the narrator's personal circumstances.

4.2. "digging his tree-trunk fingers into the ice bucket" (Paragraph 2)

This is a **metaphor** as Happy's enormous fingers are identified with tree trunks.

4.3. "to stop the haemorrhage of cash" (paragraph 3)

We find **metaphor** as there is an identification on big money spending with profuse bleeding.

4.4. "The officer wheels me around." (paragraph 7)

**Conversion** of noun to verb meaning "to cause to turn quickly".

#### 5. EXPLAIN THE LOCUTIONARY, ILLOCUTIONARY, PERLOCUTIONARY ACTS IN "HE ASKS IF I STILL NEED HIM, ESSENTIALLY ASKING IF IT WOULD BE BETTER JUST TO SEND THE LIMO AWAY, TO STOP THE HAEMORRHAGE OF CASH, AND I PUNCH HIM IN THE FACE" (0.5)

The British philosopher, Austin, defined *speech acts* as the complex group of things we typically perform when speaking. He defines *locutionary force* as saying something meaningful. Happy asks the narrator "Do you still need me?" but what he really meant, *its illocutionary force* is not a question, but a warning to his interlocutor, *you'd better save money by sending the limousine away*. Finally, *the perlocutionary force* has to do with the effect on those who hear a meaningful utterance, i.e. the interlocutor's reaction. The narrator punches Happy on the face as he cannot grasp the love and affection he feels for Jenny, the fact that he has not arranged this party for pecuniary reasons.



**6. COMMENT THE PROCESSES OF MERONYMY AND HOLONYMY USING THE EXAMPLES IN THE FOLLOWING QUOTATION (0.5)**

“Marveling that I know the words to a song I haven’t heard in maybe fifteen years or more.”

**Meronymy** is the relationship of being a constituent part or member of something, then “words” refer to lyrics, as lyrics are made of words.

**Holonymy** refers to a semantic relation that exists between a term denoting a whole (the holonym) and a term denoting a part that pertains to the whole (the meronym). Then “years” is the long time since he met his first high school sweetheart.

**7. PROVIDE THE SYNTACTIC ANALYSIS OF “SOMEONE TURNS ON THE TELEVISION, WHICH IS SITTING ON THE FLOOR, AS THE CREDENZA HAS BEEN MOVED OUT ONTO THE BALCONY FOR USE AS A MAKESHIFT BENCH FROM WHICH TO GAWK AT THE OTHER PROM COUPLES STREAMING INTO THE HOTEL” (0.5)**

1. **Main clause:** *Someone turns on the television*
- 1.1. **Subordinate non-defining relative clause:** *which is sitting on the floor*
- 1.2. **Subordinate finite reason clause:** *as the credenza has been moved out onto the balcony for use as a makeshift bench*
  - 1.2.1. **Subordinate non-finite relative clause:** *from which to gawk at the other prom couples*
    - 1.2.1.1. **Subordinate reduced relative clause:** *streaming into the hotel*

This is a **complex sentence** made of a **main clause** and **two subordinate or dependent clauses**. The main clause, “Someone turns on the television”, is made of a subject realised by an indefinite pronoun and the predicator. The predicator consists of a transitive phrasal verb in the third person singular in agreement with the subject “turns on”, and a direct object fulfilled by a noun group where “the” is the determiner and “television”, the head.

The main clause contains **two subordinate clauses**. The first one is a **non-defining relative clause**, “which is sitting on the floor”. The relative pronoun “which” refers back to “the television” and is the subject of the clause. The predicator is formed by the intransitive verbal group “is sitting” in the present continuous form. “is” is the operator and “sitting”, the lexical verb accompanied by a place adjunct fulfilled by a prepositional group composed of the preposition head “on” and a noun group as the completive “the floor.”

The second subordinate clause is a **finite reason clause**: “as the credenza has been moved out onto the balcony for use as a makeshift bench from which to gawk at the other prom couples streaming into the hotel”. This consists of a conjunct realized by a subordinating conjunction “as”, a noun group as the passive subject “the credenza” and the predicator. The predicator is formed by a verbal group made of an intransitive verb in the passive present perfect tense “has been moved”, and 3 different adjuncts. The first adjunct is a place adverbial realized by a preposition “out”. The second is a direction adjunct realized by a prepositional group “onto the balcony”, and a purpose adjunct fulfilled by a prepositional group “for use as a makeshift bench from which to gawk at the other prom couples streaming into the hotel”.

Let us analyse the latter prepositional group. The prepositional group is made of a head preposition “for” and a noun group as the completive. The noun group is composed of a noun head “use” and a qualifier made of a prepositional group. This prepositional group is made of a head preposition “as” and a noun group as the completive where “makeshift” is the adjectival modifier and “bench” the head. The qualifier of “bench” is another **subordinate non-finite relative clause** governed by the preposition “for”. Its completive is a relative pronoun referring back to “bench”, “which”, a non-finite verbal group made by the infinitive “to gawk” whose implied subject is the same as the passive one of the second subordinate clause “the credenza has been moved out”. The infinitive “to gawk” has a direct object “at other prom couples” made of a prepositional group governed by “at” and the completive fulfilled by a noun group whose head is “couples” and its modifiers are the determiner “other” and an adjectival “prom”. This noun group is the understood subject of the last **subordinate reduced relative clause** “streaming into the hotel” meaning “which were streaming into the hotel”. The predicator is made of a present participle verbal group “streaming” and a direction adjunct “into the hotel” realized by a prepositional group whose head is the preposition “into” and its completive, the noun group “the hotel”, with the determiner “the” and the head noun, “hotel”.

#### 8. EXPLAIN THE MEANING OF THE FOLLOWING WORDS IN THE TEXT (0.5)

- **shuck** (paragraph 2) means to *shell, to husk*. In the text it refers to the idea that Jenny had stripped herself of the elegant prom dress to wear masculine clothes. That is symbolic of “my new Jenny”, of how the narrator’s girlfriend has changed.
- **stunned** (paragraph 3) Happy was *shocked, surprised* after having been smacked by the narrator.
- **gawk** (paragraph 4) to look at something or someone in a stupid way, stare
- **blare** (paragraph 7) the TV *blasts, makes a loud sound*

## EXAMEN DE OPOSICIÓN DE INGLÉS DE SECUNDARIA 2015 TRADUCCIONES

Time allowed 1h (from 11:30 to 12:30)

**TRANSLATE THE FOLLOWING TEXTS STARTING TO ANSWER IN THIS PAGE  
(1.5 marks each translation)**

We avoided Tourist Homes, old-fashioned, genteel and showerless, with elaborate dressing tables in depressingly white-and-pink little bedrooms, and photographs of the landlady's children in all their instars. But I did surrender, now and then, to Lo's predilection for "real" hotels. She would pick out in the book, while I petted her in the parked car in the silence of a dusk-mellowed, mysterious side-road, some highly recommended lake lodge which offered all sorts of things magnified by the flashlight she moved over them, such as congenial company, between-meals snacks, outdoor barbecues but which in my mind conjured up odious visions of stinking high school boys in sweatshirts and an ember-red cheek pressing against hers, while poor Dr. Humbert, embracing nothing but two masculine knees, would cold-humor his piles on the damp turf.

*Lolita, Navokov*

Tenía una perrilla perdiguera –la Chispa–, medio ruin, medio bravía, pero que se entendía muy bien conmigo; con ella me iba muchas mañanas hasta la charca, a legua y media del pueblo hacia la raya de Portugal, y nunca nos volvíamos de vacío para casa. Al volver, la perra se me adelantaba y me esperaba siempre junto al cruce; había allí una piedra redonda y achatada con una silla baja, de la que guardo tan grato recuerdo como de cualquier persona; mejor, seguramente, que el que guardo de muchas de ellas...

Era ancha y algo hundida, y cuando me sentaba se me escurría un poco el trasero (con perdón) y quedaba tan acomodado que sentía tener que dejarla; me pasaba largos ratos sentado sobre la piedra del cruce, silbando, con la escopeta entre las piernas, mirando lo que había de verse, fumando pitillos. La perrilla se sentaba enfrente de mí, sobre sus dos patas de atrás, y me miraba, con la cabeza ladeada, con sus dos ojillos castaños muy despiertos.

*La familia de Pascual Duarte, Camilo José Cela*

**Lolita**

Evitábamos las casas que alquilaban habitaciones a turistas. Eran anticuadas, cursis y no tenían ducha, con elaborados tocadores en deprimentes pequeños dormitorios pintados de

color blanco y rosa y con fotografías de los hijos de la dueña en diferentes etapas de su vida. Pero de vez en cuando yo sí sucumbía a la predilección de Lo por los hoteles “de verdad”. Ella elegía en la guía, mientras yo le magreaba en el coche aparcado en el silencio de una misteriosa carretera secundaria bajo la tenue luz del atardecer, algún alojamiento junto a un lago altamente recomendado que ofrecía toda clase de cosas magnificadas por la luz de la linterna que movía sobre ellos, tales como agradable compañía, aperitivos entre comidas, barbacoas al aire libre pero que en mi mente fabulaban odiosas visiones de apuestos estudiantes de secundaria en sudaderas y mejillas de color rojo encendido presionando contra las de ella, mientras el pobre Dr Humbert, abrazando únicamente sus dos masculinas rodillas, enfriaba sus almorranas en el húmedo césped.

### ***The Family of Pascual Duarte***

I had a female gundog called Spark, half deceptive, half untamed, but who got on very well with me. A lot of mornings I would go with her to the pool located at a league and a half from the little village towards the border line from Portugal, and we never came back empty-handed. When coming back, the dog would run ahead and would always wait for me next to the crossroads. There was a round flattened stone there with a low seat, of which I keep such a good memory as of any other person, even better memory than the one I keep of a lot of them...

It was wide and somehow sunken and when I sat down, my buttocks (excuse my French) would slip down and I was left so comfortable that I regretted having to leave it behind. I would spend a long time sitting on the crossroads stone whistling, with the shotgun between my legs staring at whatever there was to stare, smoking fags. The little female dog would sit opposite me on her hind legs and would look at me with her tilted head and her two bright little brown eyes.