

**PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD
 EXAMEN DE INGLÉS
 CURSO 2007/2008**

INSTRUCCIONES:

Responda en inglés a las cuestiones planteadas sobre el texto. Lea atentamente el enunciado de cada una de las preguntas.

En cada cuestión se señala la puntuación máxima correspondiente a la misma.

YOUNGSTERS STAY IN THE FAMILY NEST

Young people in the Valencian Community don't leave home until their early thirties, in most cases because they simply cannot afford to. According to a recent survey, only 41.8% of young people under 34 in the Community have flown the nest and most of these are over 30, writes Samantha Kett.

- 5 Reasons cited by these young people are varied - they include laziness, inability to live without mum's Sunday lunches, and an extremely good relationship with their parents that they are unwilling to exchange for living alone. However, the main problem is money, or rather lack of it. One 24-year-old girl interviewed during the survey claimed that she would like to leave home within a couple of years but on her salary of 560 euros a month, thinks this unlikely within the
- 10 next decade. Some despairing youngsters find that banks 'rip them off' when they apply for mortgages, whereas others still living at home feared the bills that come with owning or renting a house more than the cost of renting or *mortgage** payment itself.

This said, the importance of the family in Spain, particularly in rural areas, is certainly a contributing factor. It is not uncommon to find entire clans of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and

15 nephews all living on the same street, and regularly gathering together for Sunday dinner, so it is perhaps not surprising that there are still plenty of people in their twenties and thirties who, even if they could afford to, would not leave home because they are perfectly contented where they are. Rosa*, 29, from Oliva says: "Why would I want to leave home? I hate cooking, so I'll never be able to get married, I hate ironing and I get on really well with my mum."

- 20 Some of those over twenty who have already left home share this view that failure to do so is largely due to a reluctance to give up the many comforts they have become accustomed to - and company, too. Exchanging a full household with central heating and good food for isolation in a damp bedsit and living on microwaved tortillas has limited appeal for both. "They do have money, but they're comfortable at home and don't want to live on their own. Single people,
- 25 anyway," considers Encarni*, 29. "If I was single I would live with my parents, because I don't like being alone. But things are changing," she confirms.

(Adapted from *The CB*)

* The names may have been changed.

Voc.: *mortgage*: hipoteca

QUESTIONS

- 1. What role does money play in many youngsters' decision not to leave home? Use your own words as far as possible. (2 marks)**

2. Which of the following statements are TRUE? Justify your answer by quoting the relevant evidence from the text. (2 marks)

1. According to the survey very few young people under 30 have left home.
2. One of the reasons why young people don't want to leave home is that they like helping out at home.
3. Relatives in rural areas hardly ever get together for celebrations.
4. It comes as a surprise to hear that many young people in their twenties or thirties don't want to leave home.
5. Rosa's strong dislike for cooking will probably prevent her from finding a husband.
6. Rosa's relationship with her mother is excellent.
7. Those who have already left home believe everyone their age should do the same.
8. Encarni is a married woman.

3. Find in the text the word or group of words which match these definitions: (1 mark)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| a) Have enough money to buy something | (lines 1-10) |
| b) Not probable | (lines 1-10) |
| c) Possessing | (lines 11-20) |
| d) Mainly, chiefly | (lines 21-26) |
| e) Attraction | (lines 21-26) |

4. Complete the text using the correct words from the box below. There two words too many. (2 marks)

British youngsters are ___1___ beginning to imitate their Spanish counterparts. Heavy debts after graduating, ___2___ house prices and rental costs are forcing the British to remain in the nest ___3___ longer. The following statistics are a surprising picture of ___4___ different the youth of today is from previous generations: The average age of a first-time buyer is 33. In the 1970s, ___5___ were in their late teens or ___6___ twenties. The average first-time father is aged 31, four years ___7___ than in 1999. If trends continue this way, the average man will put off ___8___ children until age 50 in 2030.

how	having	slowly	most	any	for	older	rising	early	much
-----	--------	--------	------	-----	-----	-------	--------	-------	------

5. Write a composition of about 150 words on ONE of the following topics: (3 marks)

- A) Advantages and disadvantages of living independently.
- B) Your sister was living happily at home, but finally decided she had to live her own life. Write about her decision to do so –how she felt about it, problems she had to face, etc.- and how she is getting on in life now.