

	<p align="center"><b>Pruebas de acceso a enseñanzas universitarias oficiales de grado Castilla y León</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>LENGUA EXTRANJERA. INGLÉS</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>EJERCICIO Nº páginas: 2</b></p>
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**OPTION B**

**SPEAKING MORE THAN ONE LANGUAGE COULD SHARPEN YOUR BRAIN**

1 A recent study found that bilingual speakers may actually process information more efficiently than single-language speakers. Researchers used brain imaging to look at bilingual people's comprehension abilities and they found that they are comparatively better at filtering out unnecessary words than monolinguals, who had to work harder to  
5 complete the same mental tasks.

The researchers studied 17 Spanish-English bilinguals and 18 monolinguals, and had them undergo tests that assessed their brains' ability to eliminate irrelevant words. In one task the participants heard the word *cloud* and were then immediately shown four pictures. One of the photos was of a cloud, and another was a similar-sounding word like  
10 *clown*. The goal was to watch how quickly the brain could make connections to the correct word. Bilinguals were consistently better at the task.

The results create a bit of a chicken-or-the-egg scenario. Is a bilingual person better at such tasks because of their expertise in both languages, or are people with greater comprehension capacity better equipped to master multiple languages? It could be a  
15 mixture of the two. The researchers of this study believe that being bilingual is a constant brain exercise. So instead of tackling a puzzle, why not give a new language a try?

**QUESTIONS**

**[1] FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS, ANSWER QUESTIONS A, B, C  
(3 POINTS AS A WHOLE).**

**A. Answer the following question using your own words (10 to 20 words) (1 point).**  
What was the main result of the study mentioned in the text?

**B. Are the following statements *true* or *false*? Indicate the line(s) in the text supporting your choice (1.5 points as a whole: 0.5 points each).**  
B1. The participants of the research were single-language speakers.  
B2. Bilinguals' results were not consistently better at the task.  
B3. The results show a clear cause-effect relationship.

**C. Choose *a, b* or *c* in the question below. Only one choice is correct  
(0.5 points as a whole).**

The materials used in one of the tasks included...

- a) videos and words.
- b) words and pictures.
- c) videos and pictures.

**[2] COMPLETE TASKS a, b, c, d ACCORDING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN  
(2 POINTS AS A WHOLE: 0.5 EACH).**

- a) **Write a question for which the underlined words are the answer:**  
Researchers used brain imaging to look at bilingual people's comprehension abilities.
- b) **Transform into reported speech:** Bilingualism has already been shown to result in functional changes to the human brain. **Begin with:** *They argued...*
- c) **Transform into the passive:** Researchers believe that bilinguals are better at most tasks.
- d) **Complete:** If I were a bilingual speaker ...

**[3] VOCABULARY (1 POINT AS A WHOLE: 0.2 EACH).**

- **Find one word in the text for each of the following meanings:**
  - a) involving comparison
  - b) a mass of water or ice particles visible in the sky
- **Find synonyms in the text for each of the words below:**
  - c) undertake
  - d) evaluated
  - e) blend

**[4] WRITE ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TOPIC USING BETWEEN 100-120 WORDS  
(4 POINTS).**

Write about the usefulness of speaking more than one language.