

Después de leer atentamente los textos y las cuestiones siguientes, el alumno deberá escoger una de las dos opciones propuestas y responder en INGLÉS a las cuestiones de la opción elegida.

CALIFICACIÓN: Las cuestiones 1ª, 2ª y 4ª se valorarán sobre 2 puntos cada una, la pregunta 3ª sobre 1 punto y la pregunta 5ª sobre 3 puntos. **TIEMPO:** 90 minutos.

OPCIÓN A

Romanian's Medieval Marital Prison

Biertan is a Transylvanian village that feels frozen in time. Horse-drawn carts are still a part of daily life, and local residents gather to trade their wares in a cobbled village square. At the heart of the village, next to a 15th-century fortified church that stands on a hill, there is a small building with a very small room. For 300 years, couples whose marriages were on the rocks would find themselves here, locked away for up to six weeks by the local bishop in hope that they would iron out their problems and avert a divorce.

It may sound like a nightmare, but records show that this form of marriage counselling in Transylvania was rather effective. "Thanks to this blessed building, in the 300 years that Biertan had the bishop's seat, we only had one divorce," said Biertan's current priest. Today, the small, dark prison is a museum. The room has low ceilings and thick walls, and is equipped with a table and chair, a storage chest and a bed that looks small enough to belong to a child. As couples attempted to repair their marriages inside this tiny space, everything had to be shared, from a single pillow and blanket to the lone table setting.

Lutheranism was the religion that governed most aspects of Biertan's life. Although divorce was allowed under certain circumstances, such as adultery, it was preferred that couples attempt to save their union. So, a couple seeking divorce would voluntarily visit the bishop, who would send them to the marital prison to see if their differences could be reconciled before they parted ways. The prison was then an instrument to keep society in the old Christian order. It also protected women and children, who were dependent on the family unit to survive.

QUESTIONS

1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- a) Biertan's marital prison was situated far away from Biertan.
- b) Despite the Bishop's policy, several couples in Biertan couldn't save their marriage. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

- a) What was this marital prison like?
- b) Why did the Bishop, with his marital prison, try to avoid divorces? (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

- a) meet (paragraph 1)
- b) in trouble (paragraph 1)
- c) fix (paragraph 2)
- d) try (paragraph 3) (Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- a) Last year, the number of divorces was much _____ (high) than ever before, as _____ (show) by the latest figures from the Office for National Statistics.
- b) I'd prefer to spend six weeks in prison instead of _____ (get) a divorce, which _____ (mean) I'd have to leave home and children.
- c) I don't remember the name of that Biertan bishop _____ story is written on that church wall in order _____ justify his actions.
- d) **Complete the following sentence to report what was said.**
"What shall I do next?"

He asked _____ .

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

5.- Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic.

Single life vs. married life. What would be best for you? Explain your choice.

(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)