



**Proves d'accés a cicles formatius de grau superior de formació professional inicial,
d'ensenyaments d'arts plàstiques i disseny, i d'ensenyaments esportius 2011**

Segona llengua estrangera. Anglès Sèrie 1

Dades de la persona aspirant

Cognoms i nom

DNI

Qualificació



A. Read the text below and choose the correct answer.

[3 marks: 0.5 for each correct answer]

A HELPING PAW

1 When we think about dogs and disabled people, the first thing that usually comes to mind is guide dogs for the blind. However, dogs can be of great use to people of a variety of other disabilities or medical conditions in their day-to-day activities. These are called assistance or support dogs.

5 In February 2010, a new law gave these officially recognised dogs free access to a host of areas that were previously out-of-bounds to animals, such as hotels and other tourist accommodation, public transport, beaches, rivers, lakes and other places with access to water. The only condition is that the dogs and their owners stay within the local bylaws covering domestic animals and the environment.

10 Up to now this freedom had only applied to guide dogs for the blind, which make up the majority of the current 200 assistance dogs in Catalonia, according to statistics from the social services department of the Generalitat. However, this change in legislation also envisages creating a longer list of assistance dogs for various disabilities, although there are some people who have disabilities that assistance dogs cannot help them overcome.

15 Not all dogs are suitable to act as assistance dogs. According to professionals, these dogs have to be completely non-aggressive with people and with other dogs and animals as well as showing a willingness to be trained. That means always ready to obey and do what they have been asked well. It is also worth pointing out that the majority of dogs trained by the different organisations come from rescue centres.

20 Before the dogs are trained for specific purposes, it is now obligatory that they receive general house-training and get used to living in a family home. A period of socialisation in a family setting is essential to having an adult dog with an even temper. After this period, the dogs undergo basic training, which comprises such things as learning to sit, wait quietly, go to their basket, come when called, walk by their owner's side without pulling
25 on the lead, and so on. It's also vital that the dogs learn how to behave in public places.

As far as breeds are concerned, whether they are pedigrees or not is also important. Only those dogs that belong to potentially aggressive breeds are excluded from selection, since every type of assistance dog needs different characteristics, which means that certain breeds are more suitable than others. Nevertheless, individual character is far
30 more important than the breed of dog.

As far as the paperwork is concerned, for those keen on an assistance dog, the basic process is the same. In general an application has to be made and then several interviews are carried out over the phone and in person. A dog suited for the applicant is then found, according to the person's personality, needs, lifestyle, and so on. It is in fact the association
35 that formally adopts the animal and trains it to suit the owner's needs, although the owner will have use of the dog for its lifetime.

It is also important that the people who are allocated assistance dogs fit the necessary profile. Apart from having a disability, potential owners also have to be keen on dogs and they should always bear in mind their responsibility. Society has to evolve and drop its
40 image of dogs as dirty flea ridden animals. In Europe they travel first class on trains and stay in luxury hotels. Unfortunately, the image of dogs as dirty creatures is not a thing of the past in Spain yet, but it is something we will all have to overcome. As the old expression says “dogs are man’s best friend”, in the case of assistance dogs, it could not be more true.

Adapted from
Maria PASCUAL. “A helping paw”.
Catalonia Today, no. 328

1. Before February 2010
 - a) no dogs were allowed to stay in public transports.
 - b) only assistance dogs for the blind were allowed to stay in public transports.
 - c) there was not a law about assistance dogs in public transports.
 - d) dogs were considered domestic animals by law.

2. Thanks to the new law
 - a) all disabled people will have an assistance dog.
 - b) dogs will be able to help every disabled person.
 - c) the list of assistance dogs will increase.
 - d) there will be 200 assistance dogs in Catalonia.

3. According to professionals, it is essential that assistance dogs
 - a) undergo specific training before a socialisation period.
 - b) come from rescue centres.
 - c) behave badly in public places.
 - d) are non-aggressive not only with people but also with other animals.

4. According to the text, breed
 - a) doesn’t matter.
 - b) is not as important as the individual character of the dog.
 - c) has consequences on the training period.
 - d) is associated to the owner.

5. A suitable owner of an assistance dog
- a)* is everyone who has a disability.
 - b)* has to adopt an assistance dog.
 - c)* is not responsible for the dog.
 - d)* is someone who has a disability and likes dogs.
6. In Spain
- a)* people still consider dogs as dirty animals.
 - b)* assistance dogs travel first class.
 - c)* people have changed their opinion of assistance dogs.
 - d)* assistance dogs are believed to be man's best friend.

B. Choose the correct words or definitions (*a, b, c, or d*) for the words below as they are used in the text.

[2 marks: 0.5 for each correct answer]

1. overcome (line 14)

- a)* get the better of *b)* cure *c)* abandon *d)* believe in

2. suitable (line 15)

- a)* later *b)* adequate *c)* bad *d)* old-fashioned

3. even temper (line 22)

- a)* intelligent *b)* nervous *c)* aggressive *d)* calm

4. profile (line 38)

- a)* attitude *b)* disability *c)* characteristics *d)* abilities

C. Choose ONE of the following topics.

[5 marks]

1. Write, in 80-100 words, an essay discussing the pros and cons of using assistance dogs to help disabled people in their daily lives.
2. Write, in 80-100 words, an interview to a disabled person who has an assistance dog. Ask him/her about his/her feelings, what his/her daily life is like, how the dog can help him/her, etc.



L'Institut d'Estudis Catalans ha tingut cura de la correcció lingüística i de l'edició d'aquesta prova d'accés