



UNIVERSITAT D'ANDORRA

Prova d'accés a la Universitat d'Andorra per a més grans de 25 anys

Prova	Assignatura	Data	Hora inici	Hora fi
Llengua estrangera	Anglès	20/06/2016	12:30h	13:30h

Etiqueta identificació de l'estudiant

Qualificació

Score

1 punt per cada pregunta.

Es descompta 0,1 punts per falta d'ortografia, de lèxic, de morfologia o de sintaxi.

Read the following text and answer the questions below

The Rewards of Learning

Experts in the field of education like to tell the story of an old man who was bothered by the noise of boys playing in the neighbourhood. He offered to pay each boy a dollar to shout louder. The boys were delighted. But on the second day the man said his limited resources meant he could pay the boys only 80 cents. And on each successive day, he paid them less, until he finally didn't pay them anything. The boys got angry and stopped playing near the house. "We're not going to make noise for nothing!" they said.

This story demonstrates an important point. When we reward children for doing something they enjoy, like playing a game, we destroy their natural desire to do that thing. This is particularly clear in the field of education. If we want our children to learn, we kill their natural curiosity and desire to learn when we offer them a reward.

Yet both parents and teachers often "bribe"¹ children to learn by offering rewards. A mother may offer her ten-year-old daughter sweets if she finishes

¹ ***bribe** offer something in order to persuade someone to do something



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reading a library book or a film for doing all her homework. In high school, the reward is the mark. In such a system, according to psychologists, the mark becomes the goal, not the learning. The greater the emphasis on marks – by the teachers, the schools and the universities – the harder the student will work to get the “right answer”. But a lot of strategies for getting the right answer aren't good strategies for learning – like copying your neighbour's exam paper, or studying only the material you need for tests.

Educational experts have recommended changing the system of rewards, so that every student can excel – but only if he really learns.

1. What is the point of the story about the man and the noisy boys?
2. Give examples from the text of rewards that are given and what the rewards are for.
3. “In high school, the reward is the mark.” How does a mark affect the way a pupil studies?
4. According to the text, what are the disadvantages of an educational system based on exams? Explain in your own words.
5. Find the word in the text that is used to mean:
 - a. disturbed; upset
 - b. prize or bonus for good behaviour
 - c. results of a test
 - d. aim, objective
6. Rewrite the following sentences in indirect speech.
 - a. “Roy is doing his homework now”
 - b. “Will you win the academic prize at the end of the year?”
 - c. “Susan, what did you give your son after his exam?”



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7. Write questions about the words **in bold**:
 - a. The boys got angry and **stopped playing near the house**.
 - b. Pupils cheat **because of the tension and the pressure at school**.

8. "Exams are quick, fair and objective." Do you agree or disagree?

9. People cheat because of the tension and pressure at school. What is your opinion?

10. Suggest alternative ways of assessing a student's ability.



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