

## Premis Extraordinaris de Batxillerat. Convocatòria 2023-2024

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La prova s'estructura en:

- Primer exercici (1 hora i 30 minuts): comentari crític.
- **Segon exercici (1 hora i 15 minuts): redacció en llengua estrangera.**
- Tercer exercici (1 hora i 30 minuts): matèria obligatòria de modalitat.

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**Llengua Estrangera**

**Anglès**

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**Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a**

**Qualificació:**

### Instruccions

La prova consisteix a escriure un text d'opinió de 300 a 350 paraules. Per comptar els mots de l'escrit, cal tenir en compte tots els articles, preposicions, pronoms i verbs apostrofsats. Les xifres no compten com a paraules.

S'ha de respondre en aquest quadernet. Si necessiteu fulls per fer esborranys, el tribunal us en proporcionarà, i caldrà lliurar-los juntament amb el quadernet.

### Criteris generals d'avaluació

- Redactar amb correcció i adequació sintàctica, lèxica, ortogràfica i discursiva, i amb riquesa expressiva.
- Seleccionar i analitzar les idees principals, la informació detallada i les implicacions de les diferents fonts per plantejar possibles respostes al problema descrit.
- Interpretar i valorar de manera crítica el contingut, la intenció, els trets discursius i certs matisos, com ara la ironia o l'ús estètic de la llengua, per fer plantejaments originals i creatius.
- Utilitzar i citar les fonts per expressar l'opinió.
- Identificar els arguments i contraarguments en les diferents fonts per comparar-los i formar-se opinió.
- Justificar el propi posicionament a partir de les idees proporcionades en les diferents fonts.
- Estructurar el text de manera ordenada tot mostrant coherència i raonament crític en els arguments.
- Relacionar el tema proposat amb elements de la pròpia realitat o experiència personal.
- Integrar en la justificació els sabers i estratègies adquirits durant l'aprenentatge de la llengua al llarg dels anys, i reflectir-los en la redacció del text.
- Reflectir els coneixements adquirits al batxillerat i els sabers que dona la pròpia cultura i experiència.

## Essay

One of the most common struggles when learning a language is pronunciation: *Am I using the 'correct' accent? Do I pronounce the language words and sentences properly? Will native speakers understand me?*

Related to it, English writer David Crystal states that *'It's not what you say, it's the way that you say it'*. However, it is also believed that pronunciation is as important as grammar, lexicology and vocabulary when studying a language.

First, listen to the two videos below:

[UCF Reports - Jehan Sadat, Former First Lady of Egypt](#)

[Javier Bardem | TIME Magazine Interviews | TIME](#)

Then, read the three written texts related to the importance of pronunciation in the learning of English and write an essay answering the following question: *How important is pronunciation in language learning?*

Don't forget to justify your ideas and to refer to the documents provided without copying literally.

Your text should contain between 300 and 350 words. To write it, consider these questions:

- Which are the main reasons for and against the importance of pronunciation when learning and/or speaking a language?
- Which version better argues evidence-based reasons?
- Which option best suits you when learning English as a foreign language, according to your experience?

## Document 1

### Global English

The term 'global English' emphasizes English's widespread use worldwide, extending beyond native English-speaking countries like the UK, North America, Australia, and New Zealand. It encompasses communication among both native and non-native speakers within countries like India, the Philippines, and Singapore, as well as internationally, totaling around 1.5 billion speakers. This last use of English is often referred to as 'English as an International Language' or EIL, and it is this kind of English which we will focus on here as it is the largest group of English speakers, numbering around 1.5 billion.

The emergence of so many different kinds (or 'varieties') of international English has caused a number of linguists to advocate for adapting pronunciation teaching to suit non-native speaker interactions, suggesting that native speaker accents may not always be the most intelligible or appropriate.

In her research, Jenkins analysed interactions between non-native speakers of English. The aim was to find out which features of British/American English pronunciation are essential for intelligible pronunciation, and which are not. The findings have been formed into a pronunciation core for teaching which is known as the Lingua Franca Core. This is to indicate that it is intended as a guide for lingua franca interactions, not interactions between a native and non-native speaker of English.

On the other hand, many other items which are regularly taught on English pronunciation courses appear not to be essential for intelligibility in EIL interactions. For example, word stress and stress timing.

Adapted from Jennifer Jenkins, lecturer in Sociolinguistics and Phonology at King's College, London. *Global English and the teaching of pronunciation*. First published in 2002. British Council

## Document 2

### Dialects

The study of dialects offers a fascinating approach to learning about language. Ideally, by learning about how language varies geographically and socially, students will come to understand at least two basic facts about language: 1) that language changes over time, and 2) that language use is linked to social identity.

Language variation, or dialect diversity, occurs due to linguistic changes over time and shared language norms within specific geographic or social groups, known as dialects. No dialect is inherently superior structurally. Standard language forms vary between dialects, leading to misunderstandings. For example, the normal Southern pronunciation of the word 'pin' does not differ from the pronunciation of the word 'pen'. But because other dialects make a distinction between the vowels *i* and *e* preceding the nasal sound /*n*/, speakers of those dialects may assess the Southern pronunciation as incorrect instead of simply different. Judging someone's pronunciation (or grammar or word choice) as wrong may lead to unwarranted judgments about their intelligence or ability.

Such dialect discrimination is widely tolerated in the United States. If people had a better understanding of how language works, they would probably be less inclined to make negative judgments about speakers of different dialects. Knowledge about how language works is fundamental to understanding human communication in the same way that a knowledge of biology leads to a better understanding of how the human body works.

Adapted from Hazen, Kirk. (2001). *Teaching about Dialects*. ERIC Digest.

### Document 3

#### **How important is good English pronunciation?**

A common mistake made by many international students studying English as a second language is not paying adequate attention to English pronunciation. This underestimation of the importance of pronunciation is mainly because students tend to think mistakenly that pronunciation is less important compared to other aspects of the English language such as grammar, lexicology and vocabulary.

Pronunciation is vital to proper communication because the incorrect use of pronunciation inevitably leads to the message being misunderstood by the recipient. Pronunciation of the letter sounds in words as well as syllable emphasis on parts of words will more often than not change the words meaning and context drastically thereby irreversibly altering the meaning of the sentence being communicated.

Another important aspect is, the proper use of English pronunciation inclines to highlight and add value to an individual speaking English. Consider the following: in a situation where a student's grammar and vocabulary is exceptionally good, he or she may be able to write good English. But, if that same student lacks a fundamental knowledge of pronunciation despite having an excellent knowledge of grammar, etc. his or her communication in English will be severely impeded. He or she will be able to write in English, but will not be able to construct a meaningful sentence when speaking and thus fails at communicating a message.

At the very least, students studying English as a second language, should give all the aspects of English an equal importance. At best, however, those who wish to excel at the English language will always have to give the knowledge of pronunciation a higher priority. They should also endeavour to learn this aspect of the English language more thoroughly if they wish to be recognised as effective communicators. Students who prefer self-learning should visit sites such as [tv-english.club](http://tv-english.club), which offers a myriad of programs to help students learn proper pronunciation. Programs such as "Art of Conversation" and "Speak Up" are excellent resources for those looking to improve their English pronunciation.

*Adapted from How Important is Good English Pronunciation? English Club TV Ltd, January 23, 2022*







