

EvAU Practice Examination (Comunidad de Madrid)

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

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: 60 minutos

A Different Guided Tour

Guided tours are not a new phenomenon. In every major tourist city, you can spot groups of sightseers following a guide, who carries a colourful umbrella or wears an easily visible hat to ensure that no one becomes lost. They see the highlights of the city, all happily taking the same photos and eating at the same restaurants. The only other customers are, like themselves, visitors from overseas, as locals know they can eat better food much more cheaply elsewhere.

Of course, such tours are popular because most people want to see the same iconic sights and take photographs of themselves there. However, a new type of tour company is springing up, since some people want to discover hidden secrets rather than famous landmarks. These new tours are often run by locals who talk about why they consider the city to be their home.

Here are two examples of the kinds of tours on offer. Most people who visit Iceland want to see the geysers, black sand beaches and waterfalls. As an alternative, one company is offering tours of the capital Reykjavik which focus on the economic crash in 2008 that led to all three of the country's main banks going bankrupt. It is a fascinating tour, not only for those with an interest in finance, but for anyone who wants to find out about the country and its people. The tour is free for children, but probably not very interesting for them.

In Prague, where the main square and Charles Bridge can become almost impassable in the summer owing to the large numbers of visitors, you can book a tour of some of the city's less visited spots, all of which are led by people who have, at one time or another, been homeless. As they guide their small groups around the city, they tell their own stories as well as point out interesting places unknown to most visitors.

While such tours are popular, they do not attract sufficient numbers of tourists to transform the areas they visit into overcrowded tourist sights. Instead, the visitors blend into the neighbourhoods they visit and perhaps receive a better and more realistic understanding of the city they are visiting.

QUESTIONS

1. Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text.

No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- For the majority of tourists, a traditional guided tour goes to the places they want to see.
 - The “crash tour” won't be of interest to people uninterested in finance.
- (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.

- What has caused new tour companies to spring up?
- What does the writer say about the effects of the new tours on the areas that are visited?

(Puntuación máxima: **2 puntos**)

3. Find the words in the text that mean:

- to notice something or someone (paragraph 1)
- major points of interest (paragraph 1)
- available to buy or use (paragraph 3)
- direct someone's attention to something (paragraph 4)

(Puntuación máxima: **1 punto**)

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

- (work) as a tour guide, no two days are the same for me. I get (meet) new people and share new experiences every day.
- I've always been interested becoming a guide I moved to this city 20 years ago.
- (long) I work as a guide, (fascinate) I find my city to be.

d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said.

“How long have you been working as a guide in this city?”

Kerry asked me

(Puntuación máxima: **2 puntos**)

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

Have you ever gone on a city tour? Describe your experience.

(Puntuación máxima: **3 puntos**)