



Universidad de Buenos Aires  
Facultad de Derecho

	Exercise N°	Professor's Name	Mark
Part I	1. Reading Comp.	.....	.../20
	2. Paraphrasing	.....	.../30
	<b>Total Part I (Min. 26)...</b>		<b>.../50</b>
Part II	3. Essay	.....	.../50
	3. Recorrección	.....	.../50
	3. Essay Nota Final (do NOT fill in)	.....	.../50
<b>Total, Part II (Min.26) ...</b>		<b>.../50</b>	

**CARRERA DE TRADUCTOR PÚBLICO**

**ENTRANCE EXAMINATION - MAY 2016**

<p><b>APELLIDO y NOMBRE:</b> .....</p> <p><b>Nº de ORDEN:</b>..... <b>PAPER 1</b></p>
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**Reading comprehension:** All the correct answers in A and D are awarded 3 points. Correct answers B, C, E, F, G, H and I are awarded 2 points each.

**Working-Class Heroes**

The 2016 election shows that, when talking about class, Americans and their candidates are both out of practice.

BY JELAN! COBB

During the 2008 Vice-Presidential debate between Joe Biden and Sarah Palin, in St. Louis, Biden offered a memorable brief on behalf of struggling communities like the one in Pennsylvania where he spent his childhood. Biden, whose common-man bona fides were seen as an antidote to Barack Obama's Ivy League credentials and relative aloofness, spoke evocatively of the pain felt by a portion of America that is more usually described in the gauzy, romantic tones of American greatness. "Look, the people in my neighborhood, they get it," Biden said. "They know they've been getting the short end of the stick. So walk with me in my neighborhood, go back to my old neighborhood, in Claymont, an old steel town, or go up to Scranton with me. These people know the middle class has gotten the short end. Corporate America has been rewarded. It's time we change it."

For decades, both American culture and American politics have elided the differences between salaried workers and those who are paid hourly, between college-educated professionals and those whose purchasing power is connected to membership in a labor union. Some ninety per cent of Americans, including most millionaires, routinely identify as middle class. For many years, this glossing over of the distinctions between the classes served a broad set of interests, particularly during the Cold War, when any reference to class carried a whiff of socialist sympathies. Americans considered themselves part of a

larger whole, and social animosities were mostly siphoned off in the direction of racial resentment. But, this year, Americans are once again debating class.

We are clearly out of practice. The current language of "income inequality" is a low-carb version of the Old Left's "class exploitation." The new phrase lacks rhetorical zing; it's hard to envision workers on a picket line singing rousing anthems about "income inequality." The term lacks a verb, too, so it's possible to think of the condition under discussion as a random social outcome, rather than as the product of deliberate actions taken by specific people. Bernie Sanders has tended to frame his position as a defense of an imperilled middle class, but he has also called out the "greedy billionaires" and "Wall Street"—a synecdoche for exploitation in general.

Donald Trump's populist appeals are all the more remarkable given that the modern Republican Party has been the largest beneficiary of this collapsing of class interests. Ever since Ronald Reagan's Presidency, progressives have pondered why working-class and poor whites vote Republican, against their own interests. The fact that the charge is being led on the right by a billionaire real-estate developer, however, suggests that the new recognition of class is not without its contradictions. It's also worth noting that Romney, the man leading the attempt to quell this populist uprising, on behalf of the Party's alarmed establishment, is a multimillionaire who lost the previous election, in part, because he dismissed forty-seven per cent of Americans as "freeloaders."

Strikingly, the emerging dialogue on class is informed by the ways in which we have typically talked about race. In 1976, the majority of welfare recipients in the United States were not black. But when, during the Presidential campaign that year, Reagan made his famous comments about the "welfare queen," they were widely taken to mean that the problem wasn't poor people in general but, rather, certain blacks in inner cities, who were purportedly cheating the system (and whose votes the Republican Party had already jettisoned). Today, in the battle over, say, public-sector unions, it's hard not to hear an echo of those complaints about social parasitism, though when Governor Scott Walker, of Wisconsin, campaigned to strip most public-sector unions of their collective-bargaining rights he did so in the language of Madison progressivism: "We can no longer live in a society where the public employees are the haves and taxpayers who foot the bills are the have-nots."

Yet, according to Williamson, the apt metaphor isn't getting the short end of the stick but dropping the ball. In 2010, Charles Murray published "Coming Apart," a lamentation on the decline among poor whites of religiosity, of the work ethic, and of family values. It received just a fraction of the attention paid to his 1994 book, "The Bell Curve," which argued that a supposed intellectual inferiority factored into the plight of poor blacks. But in 2016 there is a new market for the ideas in "Coming Apart." The fact that we are examining class may be novel, but it is almost certain that what we'll hear said about poverty won't be. ♦788w

A-The phrase "common-man bona fides" should be understood as: .../3

- 1-The sweet things that common people are entitled to enjoy.
- 2-Biden's lack of sincerity regarding his upbringing.
- 3- Biden's sincere support for the middle class.
- 4- Biden's lack of involvement as regards common people.

B-When Biden refers to people getting "the short end of the stick", he refers to:

.../2

- 1-Lower taxes.
- 2-The bad effect of a situation.
- 3-Special rewards.
- 4-Baseball bats.

C-For decades Americans. .../2

- 1-Talked freely about class differences.
- 2-Showed their socialist sympathies, especially during the cold war.
- 3-Avoided the thorny issue of class membership.
- 4-Had a larger middle class.

D- The third paragraph can be best summarized as: .../3

- 1-Workers are more likely to become picketers.
- 2-Social inequalities are the result of random measures.
- 3-People who run the economy took certain measures to favour certain economic groups.
- 4-People are used to discussing income inequality.

E- Progressives believe that working class people show a genuine concern for their wellbeing when deciding their vote. .../2

- 1-True.
- 2-False.
- 3-This is not mentioned in the text.

F-Romney is said to have lost the election because, among other things, he used disapproving language when referring to a large part of the electorate. .../2

- 1-True.
- 2-False.
- 3-This is not mentioned in the text.

G- "Welfare queen" refers to: .../2

- 1-A black woman who cannot get a job.
- 2-A person who can get a job but decides to live off the state.
- 3-Any woman, regardless of race, who cannot get a job.
- 4-A person who votes for the Republican Party.

H- The words used by Governor Scott Walker show his staunch support for the rights of the public-sector unions. .../2

- 1-True.

- 2-False.
- 3-This is not mentioned in the text.

- 1-The writer is optimistic as regards the economic future of the lower classes. .../2
- 1-True.
  - 2-False.
  - 3-This is not mentioned in the text.

**2. USE OF ENGLISH: PARAPHRASING (30 points)**

Use the words in brackets somewhere in the sentence and/or use the given beginnings.

**DO NOT** change the meaning.

1-Although Some ninety per cent of Americans, including most millionaires, routinely identify as middle class, Americans considered themselves part of a larger whole. (.../3)  
 In spite of.....

2-If I were the president, I would not talk about the differences between salaried workers and those who are paid hourly. (.../3)  
 I'd rather the president.....

3-If the public-sector unions hadn't fought for their collective-bargaining rights, their situation would not have improved. (.../3)  
 But for.....

4-Governor Scott Walker is sorry to live in a society where the public employees are the haves and taxpayers who foot the bills are the have-nots. (.../3)  
 Governor Scott Walker regrets.....

5-There's no precedent in other countries that social animosities should be mostly siphoned off in the direction of racial resentment. (.../3)  
 Such social.....

6-Americans didn't realize they are clearly out of practice as regards political discussions. (.../3)  
 Little.....

7-Workers, naturally, find it hard to accept that sometimes they cannot make ends meet. (.../3)  
**terms**  
 Workers, naturally, find.....

8-The minister's resignation from the government was caused by the discovery of his role in the financial scandal. (.../3)  
**led**  
 The discovery of the minister's role in the financial scandal .....  
 the government.

9-They could only afford to pay the loan, due to the present economic situation. (.../3)  
 Had.....





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H-The writer is optimistic as regards the economic future of the lower classes.

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But for.....

2-Governor Scott Walker is sorry to live in a society where the public employees are the haves and taxpayers who foot the bills are the have-nots. (have)

Governor Scott Walker regrets.....

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In spite of.....

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I'd rather the president.....

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Workers, naturally, find.....

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The discovery of the minister's role in the financial scandal ..... the government.

7-There's no precedent in other countries that social animosities should be mostly siphoned off in the direction of racial resentment. (Such)

Such social.....

8-They didn't realize they are clearly out of practice as regards political discussions. [ -/3 ]  
Little.....

9-Observers believe the president has been forced to resign because of the economic crisis. [ -/3 ]  
The president is.....

10-They could only afford to pay the loan, due to the present economic situation. [ -/3 ]  
Had.....

PART II (Minimum Passing Mark 26)

**3. ESSAY WRITING: OPINION ESSAY (320-350 words)**

Write an **opinion essay** on one of the following rubrics:

A. Does politics have a saying concerning the issues of: Homelessness, Illegal immigrants, nuclear energy now and in the future, science and ethics?  
(You are free to expand choosing one or all the aforementioned topics)

B. In what way /ways do you think that politics can have a direct influence on the lives of people?

Please be sure to include:

- Advanced structures (inversion, conditionals, passive voice, etc.)
- A wide range of relevant vocabulary
- Linking devices
- Well-ordered and meaningful ideas

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