| | Exercise Nº | | Professor´s Name | Mark |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Part I** | 1. | Reading Comp. | ………………… | …./20 |
| | 2. | Paraphrasing | ………………… | …./30 |
| | | | **Total Part I** (Min. 26) | …./**50** |
| **Part II** | 3. | Essay | ………………… | …./50 |
| | | Recorrection | …………………… | …./50 |
| | | Essay Final Mark | …………………… | …./50 |
| | | (do NOT fill in) | **Total Part II** (Min.26) | …../**50** |

**CARRERA DE TRADUCTOR PÚBLICO - ENTRANCE EXAMINATION - MAYO 2017**

NOMBRE y APELLIDO: ……………………………………………………………………………………………

Nº de ORDEN: (NO es el DNI)…………………………………………………………….. **PAPER 1**

## Harnessing the Politics of Disruption

LONDON – The United Kingdom's vote to exit the European Union and Donald Trump's election as US president exposed a deep generational divide. Cosmopolitan millennials and nationalist pensioners – what Thomas Friedman calls "Web People" and "Wall People" – seem to have nothing in common. But both point to the same crisis of political representation.

In the UK, for every "Leave" voter under the age of 24, there were three over the age of 65. In the US, Trump won 53% of the over-65 vote, but was supported by only 37% of 18-29-year-olds.

In both cases, the elderly were attracted by pessimistic rhetoric assailing the damage to their communities brought about by free trade, free movement, free love, and human-free technology disrupting their jobs and economic security. Young people were far more optimistic about the future, their personal prospects, and technology's potential – and far more empathetic toward marginalized groups.

The pessimists won, and now they're feeling pretty hopeful. The former optimists now fear the worst.

But, despite their fundamentally different attitudes toward technology and globalization, the Web People and the Wall People have one thing in common: both are deeply skeptical of existing institutions. They think that representative democracy has broken down, and they see the creative potential of disruption.

The Wall People want to smash the existing system, in the hope that something better emerges – something that looks a bit more like the familiar world of times past (or at least of their fancy). The Web People, for their part, believe that technology must transform politics and institutions, just as it has transformed newspapers, taxi services, and hotels.

The web mentality is exemplified by Vyacheslav Polonski, a 27-year-old network scientist of Ukrainian origin, who has spent time at Harvard and is currently completing a PhD in social media at Oxford University. "We are dealing with a twenty-first-century world," he tells me, "but our political system has not evolved since the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries."

Polonski points out that our government institutions were established not just before Facebook and Instagram, but even before television and radio. Whereas our economy is now characterized by choice, customization, and participation, our politics remains stifled by bureaucracy, special interests, and entrenched-yet-declining political parties. "As our government becomes more agile," he says, "people can vote for specific ideas and agendas, rather than a political party." As a result, "politics will become more like Uber: more decentralized, more open, more immediate."

The old and young alike hope to recapture the opportunities enjoyed by the post-1945 Baby Boom generation. But those opportunities were enabled by a commitment to collective action, broad support for redistribution, and strong economic growth – none of which can be counted on today. On the contrary, the backlash against globalization and immigration will likely damage global growth, while the need to build *ad hoc* coalitions of the willing undermines progress in building new institutions. For many nowadays, redistribution has become a dirty word.

So the politics supported by the Wall People isn't the answer. But nor is the politics of the Web People. While disruptive, Internet-enabled politics can upend the *status quo* – the Arab Spring revolutions taught us that – it has not proved particularly effective at creating sustainable alternatives.

The grievances of the old and the young are very real. The economic gains of the last few decades have not been shared widely enough. Political parties are more beholden to themselves than they are to the communities they serve. There is socialism for the rich, and capitalism for the poor. The war on terror is creating more terrorists. And trade and migration systems are losing support.

Rather than defend the status quo from the counter-revolution, the political class should work to create a new system – one that responds to the needs of the people. Both the young and the old have made their demands known. It is time to respond.

PART I (Minimum Passing Mark: 26 points)                                                      PAPER 1

## 1.  READING COMPREHENSION

### A) Decide whether the statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)

| 1. |  | In the UK referendum, one out of three voters under the age of 24 voted in favor of Brexit. |
|----|----|----|
| 2. |  | Trump has received broad support from cosmopolitan milleannials. |
| 3. |  | Both the young and the elderly blame the political and economic crisis on the proliferation of liberal values such as free markets and free love. |
| 4. |  | The Wall People find hope in Trump's presidency as their communities will cease to be endangered by liberal policies. |
| 5. |  | Despite their different views, both the Wall and the Web People trust existing political |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | institutions. |
| 6. | | According to Vyacheslav Polonski, our twenty-first century world would be better had the political system developed faster than social media. |
| 7. | | Political parties have been losing terrain to more concrete and ever-changing agendas. |

**B) For each question below circle one or more right answers**

8.   The Arab Spring revolutions are an example of:

   a) the potential of the Internet for political disruption
   b) the inability of the Internet to contribute to overthrowing a government
   c) the ability of the Internet to foster sustained change
   d) the inability of the Internet to foster sustained change
   e) all of the above
   f) none of the above

9.   To say that political parties are beholden to themselves means that they:

   a) are concerned about people's needs
   b) are indifferent to people's needs
   c) are unable to serve their communities
   d) only care about their own interests
   e) all of the above
   f) none of the above

10.  An "entrenched" political party is one that:

   a) is flexible towards change
   b) cheats and defrauds
   c) challenges old values
   d) none of the above

## 2. USE OF ENGLISH: PARAPHRASING
**Use the words in brackets somewhere in the sentence or the given beginnings.
DO NOT change the meaning.**

a.   Nationalists believe that any true nation must have clearly delineated and protected
     borders.
     What …………………………………………………………………………………...
     …………………………………………………………………………………………...

b.   Today republicans wish to focus on American citizens. Globalization has eroded their
     lives in many instances. (**whose**)

Today republicans wish ……………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………...

c. Possibly, globalists were too focused on global trade and commerce, thus overlooking the horrendous plight of America's old industry. (**account**)

The horrendous plight of America's old industry may ………………………………….

……………………………………………………………………………………

d. The most optimistic voters believe that politicians have now adopted more powerful discourses. (**to**)

More powerful discourses …………………………………………………………

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e. Some will say that Trump won the electoral vote thanks to his victory in Texas. (**for**)

Had …………………………………………………………………………………...

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f. Little to no attention is given to policy questions concerning the Internet, but the role of digital and social media in election campaigns is often discussed. (**discussion**)

Whilst policy questions …………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………..

g. Given the instability in the country, the elections have been postponed several times until the recent elections in 2016.

…………………………………………….. **resulted** ………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………..

h. "The wall will have to be built within the next two years so new migration laws can be passed". (**unless**)

The President claimed …………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………..

i. Although politicians have lost what little credibility they enjoyed, people still find they are able to fulfill their promises.

In spite …………………………………………………………………., people still find

……………………………………………………………………………………

j. The moment Trump took power, he started making unhappy statements involving Mexican migrants. (**sooner**)

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PART II (Minimum Passing Mark 26)

## 4. ESSAY WRITING (320-350 words)

Write an **opinion** essay on <u>ONE</u> of the topics below:

(a) The rapid advance of technology may eventually disrupt the jobs and economic stability of some workers.
(b) The effects of globalization can adversely impact on a country's culture and customs.

Make sure you include:
- Advanced structures (inversion, conditionals, passive voice, linkers, complex clauses, etc.)
- Relevant vocabulary
- Meaningful and rich ideas
- Well-ordered and cohesive paragraphs

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TOTAL …/50

Students write **<u>HERE</u>** TOTAL WORD COUNT: ……………..

| Poor/Inaccurate use of structures requested | | Spelling mistakes | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Poor use of language/grammar | | Punctuation mistakes | |
| Lack of Cohesion / Coherence | | Poor contents/ poor ideas | |

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Rather than defend the status quo from the counter-revolution, the political class should work to create a new system – one that responds to the needs of the people. Both the young and the old have made their demands known. It is time to respond.

PART I (Minimum Passing Mark: 26 points)                                                        PAPER 2

## 1.  READING COMPREHENSION

**A) Decide whether the statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)**

| 1. | | The Wall People can be said to be the deterrents of globalization and immigration alike. |
|---|---|---|
| 2. | | Even though the young tend to be more optimistic, they still lack interest in politics and social matters. |
| 3. | | Despite their opposing worldviews, both the Wall and the Web People believe that technology will enhance politics and institutions. |
| 4. | | Bureaucratic political systems prevent the economy from developing at a faster pace. |

| 5. | | Polonski envisions a decline of political parties. |
| 6. | | Unlike the Baby Boom generation, today people are not willing to engage in collective action. |
| 7. | | The creation of *ad hoc* coalitions is key to establishing modern institutions. |

**B) For each question below circle one or more right answers:**

8.  In general, if politics "remains stifled by bureaucracy", it means that:

    a) politics is hindered by bureaucracy
    b) bureaucracy stops politics from evolving
    c) neither of the above

9.  An "entrenched" political party will be one that:

    a) is flexible towards change
    b) cheats and defrauds
    c) challenges old values
    d) none of the above

10. Regarding the Arab Spring revolutions, the Internet has proved that:

    a) It cannot alter the current state of things.
    b) It can be used as a weapon to overthrow governments.
    c) It can bring about change but not sustainable models.
    d) While influential, it won't have an impact on governments.
    e) all of the above
    f) none of the above

## 2. USE OF ENGLISH: PARAPHRASING
### Use the words in brackets somewhere in the sentence or the given beginnings.
### DO NOT change the meaning

a.  The moment Trump took power, he started making unhappy statements involving

    Mexican migrants. (**sooner**)

    ……………………………………………………………………………………...

    …………………………………………………………………………………………

b.  Although politicians have lost what little credibility they enjoyed, people still find they

    are able to fulfill their promises.

    Despite ………………………………………………………………., people still find

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c.  "The wall will have to be built within the next two years so new migration laws can be passed". (**unless**)

The President claimed …………………………………………………………………………

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It is …………………………………………………………………………………………....

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### 3.  ESSAY WRITING (320-350 words)

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TOTAL …/50

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