	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
	Re correction	……………………	…/50
	Essay Final Mark	……………………	…/50
	(do NOT fill in)	**Total Part II** (Min.26) …/**50**	

Universidad de Buenos Aires
Facultad de Derecho

CARRERA DE TRADUCTOR PÚBLICO - ENTRANCE EXAMINATION – FEBRERO 2021

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

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

Please read the text carefully and then choose the best answer. Remember the questions do not follow the order of the reading passage (Paragraphs are numbered for the sake of correction)

Does 'deplatforming' work to curb hate speech and calls for violence? 3 experts in online communications weigh in

1- In the wake of the assault on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, Twitter permanently suspended Donald Trump's personal account, and Google, Apple, and Amazon shunned Parler, which at least temporarily shut down the social media platform favored by the far right.

2- Dubbed "deplatforming," these actions restrict the ability of individuals and communities to communicate with each other and the public. Deplatforming raises ethical and legal questions, but foremost is the question of whether it is an effective strategy to reduce hate speech and calls for violence on social media.

3- The Conversation U.S. asked three experts in online communications whether deplatforming works and what happens when technology companies attempt it.

Jeremy Blackburn, assistant professor of computer science, Binghamton University

4-Does deplatforming work from a technical perspective?

Gab was the first "major" platform subject to deplatforming efforts, first with removal from app stores and, after the Tree of Life shooting, the withdrawal of cloud infrastructure providers, domain name providers and other Web-related services. Before the shooting, my colleagues and I showed in a study that Gab was an alt-right echo chamber with worrisome trends of hateful content. Although Gab was deplatformed, it managed to survive by shifting to decentralized technologies and has shown a degree of innovation – for example, developing the moderation-circumventing Dissenter browser.

5- From a technical perspective, deplatforming just makes things a bit harder. Amazon's cloud services make it easy to manage computing infrastructure but are ultimately built on open-source technologies available to anyone. A deplatformed company or people sympathetic to it could build their own hosting infrastructure. The research community has also built censorship-resistant tools that, if all else fails, harmful online communities can use to persist.

6- Another consequence of deplatforming can be users in the migrated community showing signs of becoming more radicalized over time. While Reddit or Twitter might improve with the loss of problematic users, deplatforming can have unintended consequences that can accelerate the problematic behavior that led to deplatforming in the first place.

7- Ultimately, it is unlikely that deplatforming, while certainly easy to implement and effective to some extent, will be a long-term solution in and of itself. Moving forward, effective approaches will need to take into account the complicated technological and social consequences of addressing the root problem of extremist and violent Web communities.

8- Driving people into the shadows can be risky

Ugochukwu Etudo, assistant professor of operations and information management, University of Connecticut

Does the deplatforming of prominent figures and movement leaders who command large followings online work? That depends on the criteria for the success of the policy intervention. If it means punishing the target of the deplatforming so they pay some price, then without a doubt it works. For example, right-wing provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos was banned from Twitter in 2016 and Facebook in 2019, and subsequently complained about financial hardship.

9- If it means dampening the odds of undesirable social outcomes and unrest, then in the short term. But it is not at all certain in the long term. In the short term, deplatforming serves as a shock or disorienting perturbation to a network of people who are being influenced by the target of the deplatforming. This disorientation can weaken the movement, at least initially.

10- However, there is a risk that deplatforming can delegitimize authoritative sources of information in the eyes of a movement's followers, and remaining adherents can become even more ardent. Movement leaders can reframe deplatforming as censorship and further proof of a mainstream bias.

11- There is reason to be concerned about the possibility that driving people who engage in harmful online behavior into the shadows further entrenches them in online environments that affirm their biases. Far-right groups and personalities have established a considerable presence on privacy-focused online platforms, including the messaging platform Telegram. This migration is concerning because researchers have known for some time that complete online anonymity is associated with increased harmful behavior online.

12- In deplatforming policymaking, among other considerations, there should be an emphasis on justice, harm reduction and rehabilitation. Policy objectives should be defined transparently and with reasonable expectations in order to avoid some of these negative unintended consequences.

13- The process needs to be transparent and democratic

Robert Gehl, associate professor of communication and media studies, Louisiana Tech University

Deplatforming not only works, I believe it needs to be built into the system. Social media should have mechanisms by which racist, fascist, misogynist or transphobic speakers are removed, where misinformation is removed, and where there is no way to pay to have your messages amplified. And the decision to deplatform someone should be decided as close to democratically as is possible, rather than in some closed boardroom or opaque content moderation committee like Facebook's "Supreme Court."

14- In other words, the answer is alternative social media like Mastodon. As a federated system, Mastodon is specifically designed to give users and administrators the ability to mute, block or even remove not just misbehaving users but entire parts of the network.

15- For example, despite fears that the alt-right network Gab would somehow take over the Mastodon federation, Mastodon administrators quickly marginalized Gab. The same thing is happening as I write with new racist and misogynistic networks forming to fill the potential void left by Parler. And Mastodon nodes have also prevented spam and advertising from spreading across the network.

16- Moreover, the decision to block parts of the network are not made in secret. They are done by local administrators, who announce their decisions publicly and are answerable to the members of their node in the network. I am on scholar.social, an academic-oriented Mastodon node, and if I do not like a decision the local administrator makes, I can contact the administrator directly and discuss it. There are other distributed social media system, as well, including Diaspora and Twister.

17- The danger of mainstream, corporate social media is that it was built to do exactly the opposite of what alternatives like Mastodon do: grow at all costs, including the cost of harming democratic deliberation. It is not just cute cats that draw attention but conspiracy theories, misinformation, and the stoking of bigotry. Corporate social media tolerates these things as long as they are profitable – and, it turns out, that tolerance has lasted far too long.

PART I (Minimum Passing Mark: 26 points)   PAPER1

1. READING COMPREHENSION
All the correct answers are awarded 2 points each.

Choose the best answer

1- What is the main point at stake in this article?

a- The ethical questions deplatforming poses?
b- The legal questions deplatforming poses?
c- How useful this strategy is in the light of the violence the media might express?
d- None of the aforementioned options.

2- Jeremy Blackburn was able to foresee the potential threat posed by Gab.

a- True
b- False
c- Not stated

3- Deplatforming, from the technical standpoint:

a- Deters users.
b- Entangles users.
c- Shuns users.
d- Bans users.

e- None of the aforementioned options.

4- Once a company is deplatformed, it is not able to keep going.

a- True
b- False
c- Not stated

5- Deplatforming proved to have a strong effect for good.

a- True
b- False
c- Not stated

6- Deplatforming can eventually backfire because:

a- It creates financial hardship.
b- It dampens the possibility of social upheaval.
c- It disorients political movements.
d- It can intensify the support of followers of the banned movement.
e- None of the aforementioned options.

7- The article suggests that people who engage in pernicious activities tend to choose platforms in which you can go incognito.

a- True
b- False
c- Not stated

8- Among other reasons the article suggests that the scheme of deplatforming should also consider the remediation of wrongdoings on the part of the offender.

a- True
b- False
c- Not stated

9- The article suggests that the supreme court will deal with fascist behaviour.

a- True
b- False
c- Not stated

10- The article concludes that the encouragement of dogmatic, intolerable behaviour seems to permeate social media even when it does not prove to be financially successful.

a- True
b- False
c- Not stated

2. USE OF ENGLISH: PARAPHRASING (30 points)

All the correct answers are awarded 3 points each.

Use the given beginnings.
DO NOT change the meaning.

1- Although Gab was deplatformed, it managed to survive by shifting to decentralized technologies and has shown a degree of innovation

1- Despite_____

_____

(You cannot use "The fact")

2- If the methodology fails, supporters can still make do with a different programme.

2- Should_____

_____

3- Companies were unaware of the fact that deplatforming raises ethical and legal questions, that is the reason why they acted in a rush.

3- Had companies_____

_____

4- Everyone reckons that Mastodon nodes have also prevented spam and advertising from spreading across the network. (Passive)

4- Mastodons nodes _____

_____

5- Some media users did not take it kindly that although Gab was deplatformed, it managed to survive by shifting to decentralized technologies.

5- Some media users wish that in spite of_____

_____

(You cannot use "the fact")

6- Twitter permanently suspended a president`s personal account, this has never happened before.

6- It is the first_____

_____

7- The moment the president uploaded an anti-democratic message, his account was revoked.

7- No sooner _____

_____

8- Companies have not worried much about what media users upload.

8- Little_____

_____

9- Some companies are not powerful enough to remove racist, fascist, misogynist, or transphobic comments, that is a pity.

9- I´d rather companies_____

_____

10- "It is an outrage that the decision to block parts of the network are made in secret" Robert pointed out.
10- Robert suggested _____

PART II (Minimum Passing Mark 26)
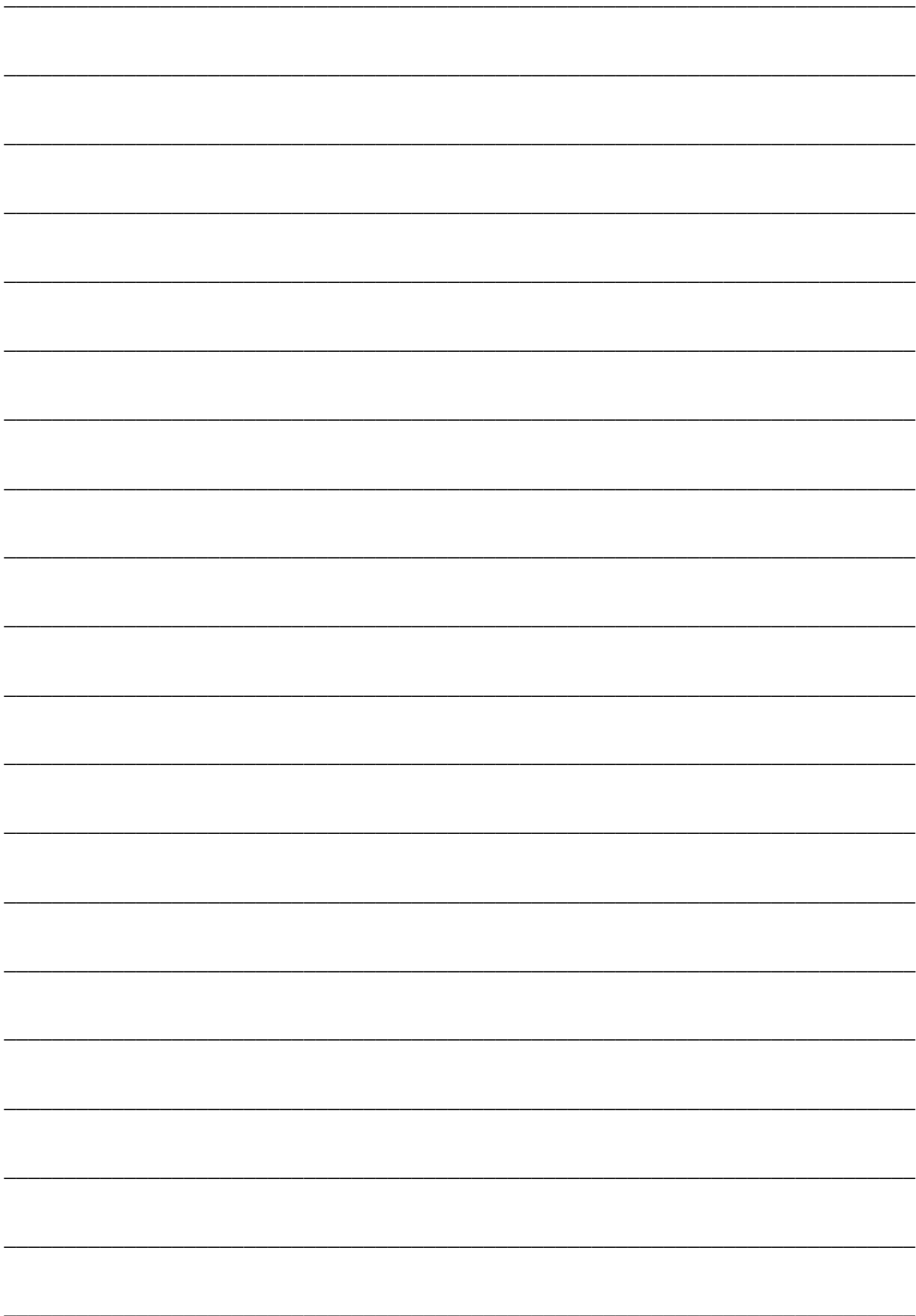**3. ESSAY WRITING (350 words)**
Write an opinion essay on ONE of the topics below:

(a) The Right to Freedom of Speech and expression is an inalienable right of every citizen. Although this right is subject to certain limitations and it is not absolute, some people do not seem to abide by those restrictions. Write an essay on the role of freedom of speech and censorship.

(b) The media can have a profound effect upon politicians and their policies. Think about the role of the media and their influence on both voters and politicians and write an essay on this topic.

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 **HERE** 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	

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION FEBRUARY 2021
PART I (Ex 1 + 2) - MINIMUM passing Mark: 26 POINTS

1. Reading comprehension (total 20 points: 2 points each)

1. C
2. A
3. B
4. B
5. B
6. D
7. A
8. A
9. C
10. B

2. Paraphrasing (<u>10 x 3 points each = 30 points</u>) (Suggested answers)

1- Despite being/having been deplatformed, Gab managed to survive by shifting to decentralized technologies and has shown a degree of innovation.

2- Should the methodology fail; supporters can still make do with a different programme.

3- Had companies known that deplatforming raises ethical and legal questions, they would not have acted in a rush.

4- Mastodon nodes are reckoned to have prevented spam and advertising from spreading across the network.

5- Some media users wish that in spite of being/having been deplatformed, Gab had not managed to survive by shifting to decentralized technologies.

6- it is the first time (that) twitter has suspended a president's personal account.
It is the first time a president's personal account has been suspended (by twitter.)

7- No sooner had the president uploaded an anti-democratic message than (NOT "THAT") his account was revoked. NOTE: a comma (,) instead of THAN is also acceptable

8- Little have companies worried about what media users upload.

9- I´d rather companies were powerful enough to remove racist, fascist, misogynist or transphobic comments.

10- Robert suggested that the decision to block parts of the network (should) not be made in secret.

PART II (EXERCISE 3)

3. Essay Writing (50 points, Minimum passing mark 26 points)

TIPS FOR EXAM CORRECTION

- Write your name and the mark in the box provided on the top right corner, 1st page
- Also, write the mark AT THE END OF EACH EXERCISE.
- Use red, green or any colour pens to correct. DO NOT use black or blue; students do.
- Dictionaries are NOT allowed during the exam.
- In the paraphrasing exercise, students may but **need not** change content words.
- DO NOT cross out anything written by students unless you have checked the mistake against a reliable dictionary.
- DO NOT simply underline or circle words. Use the left and right margins to write your comments/corrections. Use the Correction Code signs below to identify the type of mistake.
- Complete the grid at the end of the Essay. Put as many X as necessary in the appropriate square(s). The completed grid should help you make a decision about the mark
- **MINIMUM passing Mark for Part I: 26**
- **MINIMUM passing Mark for Part II: 26**

GUIDELINES

The following are signs of a poor command of the language:
o People IS; news ARE
o Subject missing in any sentence. (I won´t go because *is cold outside*)
o Mistakes in the use of <u>anticipatory it (for ex. *it´s nice the day*)</u>
o Spelling mistakes of ordinary words
o Pluralisation of adjectives
o Wrong use of a pattern *(He suggested to go; I wish he comes)*
o Wrong use of <u>other/another/the other</u>
o THIS/THAT instead of THESE/THOSE
o Wrong use of connectors or linkers, or the article
o Wrong use of referential/cohesive devices
o Wrong use of conditional sentences
o Wrong use of tenses or modal auxiliaries
o Wrong use of the passive voice (for ex, …<u>will be hold)</u>
o Wrong or no paragraph division
o Spanish transfers

CORRECTION CODE

Str or Struc.	Structure	I'm looking forward to ~~go~~ on holiday. *(...going...)*
VT	Verb Tense	He just ~~graduated~~ when he got his first job. *(...had just graduated...)*
Conc. or Agmt.	Concord or Agreement	~~this~~ books *(these)*
W.O.	Word Order	It's an ~~orange exquisite~~ blossom. *(exquisite orange)*
M	Meaning	He's so ~~big-headed~~ that he'll do whatever he wants in spite of your warning. *(...pig-headed...)*
M?	What do you mean?	What made me fall in love with him was the fact that he was so ~~smart~~? *(intelligent or elegant?)*
Ch	Choice	I just can't stand the ~~continuous~~ ringing of the phone! *(...continual...)*
P, or PUNC.	Punctuation	Having finished his lecture he left the room. *(...his lecture, he...)*
sp	Spelling	It's ~~writen~~ in French. *(...written...)*
Sp	"Spanglish"	Spanish transfers
Coll.	Collocation	~~glowing~~ diamonds *(sparkling...)*
L or Lang.	Language	~~God raises them and they get together.~~ *(Birds of a feather flock together.)*
R	Register	Upon inappropriately displaying his anger, he raised to his feet and ~~got the hell out of there.~~ *(...left the room at a brisk pace)*
Ref.	Reference	Both Tom and John decided to accept the invitation, but ~~he~~ soon regretted it. *(the former or the latter?)*
Cap.	Capital Letters	One of the things I do to improve my ~~english~~ is... *(...English...)*
lwc.	Lower case	He is but an ordinary ~~Clerk~~. *(...clerk)*
P→M	Punctuation Leading to Meaning Mistake	His mother ~~who sent him to the best schools~~ had to turn to food stamps. *(His mother, who sent him to the best schools, had...)*
¶ or //	New Paragraph	
~	The two paragraphs should become one	
⊗	Mistake	
⊗ ⊗	Serious Mistake	
⊗ ⊗ ⊗	Very Serious Mistake!!!	
☉	WELL DONE!!!	