

 <p>POLITÉCNICA</p>	<p><b>UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID</b> PRUEBAS DE ACCESO PARA MAYORES DE 25 AÑOS</p> <p><b>INGLÉS</b></p>	<p><b>2014</b></p>
--	--	--------------------

## INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

**Puntuación: 10 puntos**

**Tiempo: 60 minutos**

### CITY LIFE

The protagonist of our theory moves to the big city, looking for a better life. It's a classic — and increasingly common — story. More than half the world's population now lives in a metropolis, and by 2050 that figure will very likely jump to two thirds. China's megacities in particular are increasing the development, with more than 10 million new residents every year.

Historically, urbanisation has led to remarkable changes — the Renaissance, the Industrial Revolution, globalisation, etc. Yet this urban migration represents one of the most dramatic environmental changes human beings have ever undertaken. So one might be tempted to ask “How will our protagonist adapt to his new environment?”

At first glance, changing green fields for grey surroundings would seem to be an improvement. City people have, on average, more money, better food and greater access to health care than country folk. On the other hand, though, recent studies indicate that memory and attention can suffer in urban environments, and psychologists have long known that urban living raises the risk of emotional disorders.

Metropolitan populations are more likely to suffer from anxiety and depression than rural ones, and the risk of mental illnesses increases dramatically among people raised in a city. Among urban dwellers, the social stress of city life might lead to hyperactivity in those brain regions that play an important role in equilibrating our emotions. In fact, some researchers have calculated that children born in cities face twice, if not three times, the risk of developing a serious emotional disorder as compared with their rural and suburban peers.

-----  
258 palabras

**Adaptado**

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=urban-living-raises-risk-of-emotional-disorders>

## QUESTIONS

**1** Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Write down the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE. (2 PUNTOS)

- a) Leaving the country in order to live in the city is a modern phenomenon.
- b) Chinese citizens have recently stopped moving to the very big cities.

**2** In your own words and based on the ideas from the text, explain the following sentences (Maximum 15 words each). (2 PUNTOS)

- a) What are the advantages of living in a city? Name two
- b) How could the pressures of urban living produce an emotional imbalance? Give some examples.

**3** Find a synonym for the following words, according to their meaning, in the text:

(1 PUNTO)

- a) inhabitants (paragraph 1)
- b) significant (paragraph 2)
- c) increases (paragraph 3)
- d) associated (paragraph 4)

**4** Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given. (2 PUNTOS)

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ long have people been living in cities? \_\_\_\_\_ thousands of years.
- b) The \_\_\_\_\_ (early) civilizations in history were established in Mesopotamia, where archaeologists have discovered remains \_\_\_\_\_ date back to 10,000 BC.
- c) If the Industrial Revolution of the late nineteenth century \_\_\_\_\_ (not occur), new manufacturing processes \_\_\_\_\_ (not replace) hand production methods.
- d) Rewrite the following sentence in the passive.  
*Urbanisation has brought about remarkable changes.*

**5** Write about 50 words on one of the following topics. (Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos).

- Describe your ideal place to live.

- The similarities and differences between Spanish cities today and 50 years ago.