

**Parte B. Prueba B.2. (COM) Time allowed: 80 minutes. 4 points**

*Read the text and answer the questions that follow.*

*There are two parts: the first part, which consists of **reading comprehension questions** and the second part, which are questions about **text type, functions and language use**. You have **80 minutes** to complete this part.*

**I let a spotted lanternfly survive. Then 50 tried to kill me**

(1) Kill it! Squash it, smash it ... just get rid of it” is in the second paragraph of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture’s spotted lanternfly alert. This order is directed to anyone who lives in the quarantine zone with the “bad bugs” that will “take over your county” if you don’t “smash them in the temple with a sledgehammer.”

(2) That last quote might be fake, but it’s not that distinct from the news stories I’ve been inundated with this summer, including one from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette simply titled “What you can do to stop spotted lanternflies,” with the grave intonation of describing a deathmatch against the space bugs from “A Quiet Place.” An invasive species native to Asia, the spotted lanternfly was first found in Pennsylvania in 2014. It apparently reproduces like Nick Cannon and could cause hundreds of millions of dollars in damage to plants and crops.

(3) Before we continue, I should probably share that I am generally not a fan of killing insects. Not because of any bug rights activism or empathy, but because my feelings about them exist somewhere between annoyance (ants, spiders, bees) and terror (anything fast, crawly and gross). I don’t know if it qualifies as a phobia, but I would rather fight five Mike Tysons than kill a roach. (We had a mild infestation for a couple of years when I was a kid, and I’d quote Winnie the Pooh to myself when I had to extinguish one: “You are braver than you believe, smarter than you seem, and stronger than you think!”)

(4) Anyway, about three weeks ago, while I was sitting on my stoop, a butterfly-like creature rolled next to my shoe. Butterflies don’t scurry much, so my immediate thought was that it was a colorful scrap of paper, or a peacock feather. But then I inspected it. Even used my phone to zoom in on it. And there, **in all of its infamy**, was a spotted lanternfly. If you’ve never seen one, they’re somehow both very distinct and very mundane. A tangle of colors and also a pageant of plainness. They look like stink bugs, but if stink bugs listened to Beyoncé.

(5) After a quick Google to verify — and also to confirm I was supposed to kill it and report the sighting — I found a brick and was poised to crush it. Stepping on it might have been more practical, but I was wearing nice sneakers, and the thought of dragging spotted lanternfly carcass on them felt vulgar. But then, mid-smash, something clicked. The spotted lanternfly wasn’t bothering me, and it was outside — exactly where I ask bugs to be. It was just existing, minding its business. Who am I to interfere with that? Then I was struck by the audacity of the

United States of America to ask me, a Black American, to assassinate a living thing, and then snitch on the deceased. **The gall of this country, fam.** A spotted lanternfly never redlined me.

(6) “Be free, comrade,” I said as I dropped the brick in a bed of mulch. Oblivious to how close it’d come to oblivion, the spotted lanternfly didn’t respond and continued caressing the concrete. **(These are strange bugs.)**

(7) I hoped my magnanimity would lead to positive karma. We already know that animals have intricate methods of communicating with each other. Maybe my pardon would compel it to tell the rest of the bugs that I’m good people, and to stay clear of the places I inhabit.

(8) I felt so pleased with myself that instead of staying home to finish some work, I took my laptop to a restaurant with outdoor seating and convenient shade and had a drink. Moments after I got settled at my table and ordered a Godfather, I saw another spotted lanternfly on the seat next to me. “How cute,” I thought, as its wings fluttered like cartoon eyelashes. **“Maybe it wants a drink too.”** I took my eyes off it and continued writing. Ten seconds later, I felt the slightest of smacks against my left cheek. And then the culprit, the same spotted lanternfly from the chair, fell onto my laptop and just stayed there. There was no urgency, no fear, no survival instinct. No, it was taunting me.

**(9) Death by a thousand spotted lanternfly cuts.**

(10) I smacked it off my laptop, and it quivered away, but the message was obvious. The spotted lanternfly I’d pardoned earlier clearly told the rest of his fam that I was weak. And so for the next half-hour, they attacked me, smacking my cheeks, tickling my neck and dive bombing into my beard. Making it more disconcerting was that they did it one by one, like it was coordinated. These bugs had a plan. One would buzz my ear, and the moment it flew away another would flicker my nose. Death by a thousand spotted lanternfly cuts.

(11) But I fought them off until I was surrounded by their vanquished bodies. Satisfied with myself and my new status as Murder Bug Jason Bourne, I reached for my glass to finish my drink. And there, doing backstrokes in my scotch, were two more.

(12) “I am braver than I believe, smarter than I seem, and stronger than I think!” I said to myself as I packed up, walked home and picked up another brick.

Source: [Damon Young: I let a spotted lanternfly survive. Then 50 tried to kill me. - The Washington Post](#)

*Reading comprehension questions (2 points)*

1. In the text, spotted lanternflies are urged to be killed by the authorities because ...
  - a) ... they are instrumental in the spread of serious diseases.
  - b) ... they will potentially damage natural life.
  - c) ... they might be responsible for very serious harm to the community.
  - d) ... they could bring in other Asian species with them.
2. How does the author initially react upon seeing the spotted lanternfly?
  - a) The author watches the bug intently.
  - b) The author admires its colorful appearance.
  - c) The author ignores it and carries on with what he was doing.
  - d) The author takes some time in order to decide what to do next
3. What made the author change his mind about killing the spotted lanternfly?
  - a) The author realized there was nothing wrong with its behavior.
  - b) The author thought killing it might have negative consequences.
  - c) The author felt guilty about killing bugs and wanted to show mercy.
  - d) The author didn't want to spoil his shoes.
4. When the author is sitting at a restaurant, how does he feel about seeing a spotted lanternfly on the chair next to his?
  - a) Amused.
  - b) Concerned.
  - c) Amazed.
  - d) Bothered.
5. What is the author's response to finding two more spotted lanternflies in his scotch?
  - a) He takes a sip and ignore the insects.
  - b) He intends to kill them with a brick.
  - c) He quotes a sentence he remembers from his childhood.
  - d) He feels proud of his ability to overcome his fear of bugs.

*Text type, functions and language use (2 points)*

6. Identify the text type / subtype(s) and briefly justify your answer (between 50 and 70 words)

7. Among the verbs of movement in the text, mention and analyse at least three. Explain what their contribution to the text is.

8. The author refers to lanternflies as:

“A tangle of colors and also a pageant of plainness”

Explain the figure of speech used here and why the author chooses to use this language.

9. Comment on the humoristic tone of the following phrases in the text:

“... in all of its infamy ...” (para 4)

The gall of this country, fam (para 5)

These are strange bugs (para 6)

Maybe it wants a drink too (para 8)

Death by a thousand spotted lanternfly cuts (para 9)

10. How would you exploit this text in class? State the students' level of English, the type of course (blended / on-site), the tasks you may consider appropriate, further resources you would use.

**Parte B. Prueba B.2. (Aud)**

**Listening comprehension. 3 points**

This test has **one** recording and two tasks. One task consists of **writing** a summary of what you hear and the second task consists of answering **questions** about what you heard. You will **listen to the recording twice**. Take notes to write a *summary* and *answer the questions*. Both the summary and the answers to the questions have to be written in the stamped paper provided. You will also be given some scrap paper for your notes.

Read the questions, please.

**SUMMARY. 1 point**

Write a summary of about 200 words about the main piece of news with your notes.

**QUESTIONS. 2 points**

Answer the following questions about the recording. Use no more than 20 words for each answer. (Write your answers on your answer sheet after the question number)

1. How do the speakers express the idea that the US government is going to start controlling crypto currencies?
2. What do they mean when they say *In Taylor we trust*?
3. Why do they mention *some condo in the Bahamas*?
4. How much money was lost to text scam in 2021 in the USA?
5. Can you identify a synonym of *dishonest* or *illegal* used by the speakers?
6. What do they mean when they say *game over*?
7. What does it mean when they say *leave people on read*?

Adapted from (<https://www.npr.org/2023/06/09/1181426885/text-scams-crypto-crackdown-and-an-economist-to-remember>)

**Parte B. Prueba B.2. (TRA) Time allowed: 50 minutes. 3 points**

This exercise has two parts: a translation of a text in English into Spanish and a translation of a text in Spanish into English.

**TEXT 1. 1.5 points**

*Garden of Earthly Delights for digital age*

Adam is a busy robot poring over the codes of creation. The climate disaster has imprisoned the devil in a block of ice. And a social media sinner is lashed to a hashtag for all eternity while a Terminator stalks through a charnel house hell.

The Garden of Earthly Delights is once again in full, admonitory bloom. Hieronymus Bosch's masterpiece is being reimagined and reinterpreted by 15 international artists using every possible form of art.

There's the idea of Bosch's garden as a mirror for the present that warns about the dangers of yielding to our base desires; taking this idea that the original could be seen as a guide to good demeanor for a noble class. But if we hold up a mirror to the 21st century, what is there? What's around us? Sheer consumerism, the solipsism of social media, the commodification of sex, a doomed planet on the verge of extinction?

But what, one wonders, would Bosch himself have made of all this lurid, hi-tech re-landscaping of his garden? I'm pretty sure he would feel excited about it. I hope so, because he was a trailblazing artist. Or he might be aghast. He might think we're all going to hell.

Adapted from [Madrid exhibition reimagines Bosch's Garden of Earthly Delights for digital age | Exhibitions | The Guardian](#)

**TEXT 2. 1.5 points**

*La ciudad perdida*

Me da algo de vergüenza reconocer que una mirada en exceso literaria o estética sobre las ciudades no me ha dejado ver muchas veces la realidad cruda de lo que estaba sucediendo en ellas, los mecanismos poderosos que las iban volviendo más hostiles para la mayor parte de las personas que las habitaban.

Muchos años después de marcharme de algunas de ellas las he seguido visitando en sueños en los que casi siempre es de noche y en los que ando perdido. Vivías en una con el desasosiego de irte cuanto antes a vivir en otra, en una huida instintiva y sin pausa de tu provincia originaria, en una búsqueda de lo que siempre estaba más allá, en esos lugares lejanos y de nombres tentadores en los que parece que de verdad están sucediendo las cosas.

Era una felicidad bien barata, y en muchos casos gratuita. Que apenas quede rastro de la ciudad del pasado es menos triste que la destrucción de la que habría sido una ciudad posible del porvenir, más habitable, más abierta, tan hospitalaria para el residente como para el viajero o el turista respetuoso, interesado de verdad en ella, no en ese simulacro mercenario que la hace exactamente igual a cualquier otra.

*Adapted from "La ciudad privatizada" by Antonio Muñoz Molina in El País*