

PROVES D'ACCÉS A LA UNIVERSITAT

PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD

CONVOCATÒRIA: JULIOL 2019	CONVOCATORIA: JULIO 2019
Assignatura: ANGLÉS	Asignatura: INGLÉS

Please answer on a separate sheet of paper

OPCIÓ B/OPCIÓN B

Part A. Reading Comprehension
Read the following text:

FACEBOOK THREATENS THE ECONOMY, HEALTH AND DEMOCRACY

Facebook recently reminded me that I've been on the social network for 15 years. I normally pay little attention to those anniversary notices, but this time I paused to think about how much had changed since Facebook was founded. Excitement about its promise, gratitude for the ease of staying in touch with old friends, frustration at its approach to privacy, apprehension over its addictiveness.

Around the same time as I got that notification, I was reading Roger McNamee's well-written new book, *Zucked: Waking up to the Facebook Catastrophe*. His central argument is that Facebook is a threat to the economy, public health, and democracy. The economic critique rests on the problems of monopoly capitalism, for example Facebook's ability to buy up rivals like Instagram and WhatsApp. The public health critique focuses on tactics to get people to use Facebook more, even to the point of addiction. The democracy critique is that democracy cannot survive without debate on shared truths. But we increasingly are denied access to different opinions.

Today, even tech companies have acknowledged that their industry requires regulation. The question for them is what those regulations should look like. Transparency and other changes will not be a sufficient response to the scope of the challenge. The question is whether reformers, regulators, and citizens will have the courage to fight for broader, deeper changes. Because at the end of the day, what's at stake is far more important than a few Likes. It is the future of our economy, our society, and our democracy.

Adapted from an article by Ganesh Sitaraman, *The Guardian*, 24-02-2019

I. Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text. (2 points: 1 point each)

- a. Why is Facebook a threat?
- b. Why will transparency and other changes not be enough?

II. Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage on the answer sheet. (1.5 points: 0.5 each)

- a. Getting people to use Facebook more is only a problem if users get addicted.
- b. Users engage in fewer political debates if they use Facebook consistently.
- c. Facebook does not need important and substantial changes.

III. Find a synonym for each of the four words below from these six options. (1 point: 0.25 each)

founded gratitude apprehension central acknowledged courage

- a. admitted
- b. created
- c. determination
- d. main

IV. Choose a, b, or c, in each question below. Only one choice is correct. (1.5 points: 0.5 each)

- 1. Facebook wants users...
 - a) to get addicted to Facebook.
 - b) to use Facebook more and more.
 - c) to use Facebook until you have health problems.

- 2. Deeper changes should come from...
 - a) Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp.
 - b) reformers, regulators and citizens.
 - c) tech companies.

- 3. According to the author, tech companies...
 - a) need to undertake a lot of important regulations in their products.
 - b) need to be asked about which regulations they want for their products.
 - c) need to be banned until they regulate their products.

Part B. Composition (130 to 150 words approximately) (4 points)

Do you think that people your age are addicted to social networking sites such as Facebook and Instagram? Give reasons.