

# **CUADERNO Nº 1. LEER.**

**ENSEÑANZAS DE IDIOMAS.  
NIVEL INTERMEDIO: INGLÉS.  
JUNIO 2008.**

Apellidos y nombre.	
Centro.	Fecha.
Leer. Puntuación final	

Instrucciones:

In this test you will find reading activities designed to check your skills in reading English at an Intermediate level.

You must answer several questions about a written text. To do it right, first read the text carefully and then answer the questions.

In some of the questions circle the correct answer. There is only one possible answer. For example:

1. This text is in \_\_\_\_\_

- a. German.
- b. English
- c. French
- d. Italian

If you make a mistake or think you that you have been wrong, cross out the wrong option  and circle the correct one. For example:

1. This text is in \_\_\_\_\_

- a. German
- b. English
- c. French
- d. Italian

In other questions, you must write the full answer in English.

Write all your answers in blue or black ink and do not write anything in the small boxes below.

You have a maximum of 30 minutes to answer the test.

Read the text.



## 6 UGLY TRUTHS BEHIND COSMETICS SAFETY

### 1. TOXIC CHEMICALS ARE IN OUR BEAUTY PRODUCTS – AND IN OUR BODIES

Every day we use multiple personal care products—from shampoo to deodorant, lotion to make-up—that contain not only safe chemical ingredients but also toxic ones that are absorbed through the skin, inhaled or ingested. So it's not surprising that potentially harmful chemicals have got into our bodies, our breast milk and our children. Some of them are linked to cancer, birth defects and other health problems that are epidemic in our society.

### 2. SMALL EXPOSURES CAN ADD UP TO HARM

The cosmetics industry says it's safe to put toxic chemicals into personal care products because the amount in each product is too small to matter. But none of us uses just one product. Think of how many products you use in a single day –from toothpaste to soap, shampoo, hair conditioner, deodorant, body lotion, shaving products and makeup- and how many products you use in a year, and over a lifetime. Small amounts of toxic chemicals add up and can accumulate in our bodies. Chemicals linked to cancer, infertility and birth defects should not be used in cosmetics.

### 3. THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE PROTECTING US, BUT IT'S NOT

Several ambiguities in the law prevent the U.S. government from inspecting the safety of cosmetics or banning the use of certain components in body care products before they can be sold. There are more than 10,500 possible components in personal care products. The European Union now bans more than 1,100. In contrast, just 10 ingredients are banned from cosmetics in the United States.

### 4. YOU CAN'T BELIEVE INDUSTRY SAFETY CLAIMS

Manufacturers say their products are safe. But what do those claims really mean? It may mean the company has tested the ingredients, but only to ensure they don't cause minor problems such as allergies, rashes, swelling or other reactions. Companies are not required to test their products for long-term, negative health effects, such as cancer or the inability to have a healthy child. Since there is no government standard for safety, companies can say whatever they want about the safety of their products.

### 5. THE \$50-BILLION U.S. COSMETICS INDUSTRY ROUTINELY OPPOSES LAWS THAT WOULD PROTECT CONSUMERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Cosmetics, Toiletry and Fragrance Association (CTFA) has campaigned against laws that would control pollution at cosmetics manufacturing plants, require recycled content in packaging or add more consumer safety information on labels. The industry says it doesn't need laws because it can voluntarily regulate itself.

### 6. MEN ARE NOT IMMUNE TO THESE PROBLEMS

Two products marketed to men to color gray hair contain lead, which can harm fertility and impact the development of a child before birth. Some after-shave lotions, suntan products and colognes are also in the highest-concern category.

### THE TRUTH CAN ALSO BE BEAUTIFUL

Many companies are already making safer products, and are trying to make even safer products in the future. More than 600 companies have signed the Compact for Safe Cosmetics, a compromise to remove dangerous chemicals and replace them with safer alternatives. Many well-known companies in the natural products industry have signed. However, none of the cosmetic industry giants, whose products are found in most shops—such as Revlon, L'Oreal, Estee Lauder or Proctor & Gamble—have signed the compromise...yet.

*Help us give the cosmetics industry a makeover*

## Answer the questions:

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1. "All the biggest companies are now manufacturing safer products." Is this true or false according to the text? Explain your answer.

2 1 0 N

2. Which of these could be used instead of "marketed", in line 36, without changing the meaning of the sentence?

- A. Suitable
- B. Sold
- C. Labelled
- D. Produced

1 0 N

3. The main intention of the text is to ...

- A. make you feel frightened when using beauty products.
- B. alert you to the dangers of chemicals in beauty products.
- C. inform you of the possible components of beauty products.
- D. advise you not to buy beauty products from unknown companies.

1 0 N

4. The industry says that because the amount of toxic chemicals in a single beauty product is very small, it can't harm you. Does the writer agree? Explain your answer.

2 1 0 N

5. What two measures should the U.S. government apply in order to protect the consumers? What stops them from applying those measures?

2	1	0	N
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6. In line 6, what does "them" refer to?

- A. Safe chemical ingredients.
- B. Toxic chemicals.
- C. Personal care products.
- D. Our bodies.

1	0	N
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7. The cosmetics industry says their products are safe. The writer says you can't believe them because ...

- A. many ingredients are banned by the US government.
- B. the government does not regulate on safety.
- C. the industry does not test any products at all.
- D. products are not tested for short-term negative health effects.

1	0	N
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8. According to the text, are men free of the dangers of chemicals in beauty products? Why?

2	1	0	N
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9. Write in a few lines your personal opinion about the content of this text.



3	2	1	0	N
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10. The text is:

- A. The annual report of the *Cosmetics, Toiletry and Fragrance Association*.
- B. An internal dossier of a cosmetics manufacturer.
- C. A leaflet printed by a consumer-rights group.
- D. A chapter of a book about the cosmetics industry.

1	0	N
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