

PAU MAJORS DE 25 ANYS - ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXAM

Llegiu el text següent amb atenció, almenys dues vegades, i responeu després, en llengua anglesa i en un full d'examen a banda, les cinc preguntes formulades. Hi disposeu d'una hora. En les preguntes 1 i 5 tracteu d'evitar la reproducció literal de l'original.

Floppy disks

The Sony 3.5 inch floppy disk was the first one to appear in quantity and was largely an extension and improvement of the existing 5.25 inch standard. Storage capacities of up to 400K byte per side were possible using double density recording.

The 3.5 inch disk system was based upon a disk (having less than half the surface area of its 5.25 inch counterpart) housed in a rigid plastic cassette. The disk is provided with an automatic shutter which protects the magnetic surface from accidental contact. Write protection is provided by means of a sliding write-protect tab.

Nevertheless, 3.5 inch floppy disks are rather obsolete. Other formats have become fairly popular among computer owners, forcing many important computer-related companies to stop producing 3.5 inch floppy disk.

Questions

1. State in your own words what the author means when he says: "*Nevertheless, 3.5 inch floppy disks are rather obsolete.*" **(2 marks)**

2. Say in each case whether the statement is true or false according to the text. Write T or F. If the answer is not mentioned in the text, mark it as false. **(2 marks)**
 - a) Sony was the company introducing the 3.5 inch floppy disk. _____
 - b) The 5.25 inch disk is more popular than the 3.5 inch one. _____
 - c) The disk is inside a plastic cassette. _____
 - d) The 3.5 inch disk is bigger than the 5.25 inch one. _____

3. These words are found in the text: *disk, improvement, storage, double, shutter, surface, obsolete, popular, computer, owner, company, floppy*. Choose the ones that mean the same as the following: **(2 marks)**

- a) firm, corporation _____
- b) progress, upgrading _____
- c) fashionable, well-liked _____
- d) outdated, old-fashioned _____

4. Choose *a, b* or *c* after each statement below. Only one answer is correct. **(2 marks)**

- 1. Write protection is obtained by means of a ...
 - a) surface.
 - b) different disk.
 - c) tab.
- 2. 3.5 inch floppy disks are ...
 - a) still the most popular ones.
 - b) extremely expensive.
 - c) no longer so popular.
- 3. Many companies....
 - a) have just begun producing 3.5 inch disks.
 - b) have decided to stop producing 3.5 inch disks.
 - c) are thinking of reaching an agreement with Sony.
- 4. The automatic shutter ...
 - a) is often broken.
 - b) protects the disk from accidental contact.
 - c) is rather obsolete.

5. Answer the following questions: **(2 marks)**

- a. What is your personal opinion about the importance of computers?

- b. Should children learn to use computers? Why? Why not?