

PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD PARA MAYORES DE 25 AÑOS – MAYO 2010
PROVES D'ACCÉS A LA UNIVERSITAT PER A MAJORS DE 25 ANYS – MAIG 2010

EJERCICIO/EXERCICI DE: INGLÉS / ANGLÉS

OBSERVACIONES/OBSERVACIONS:

Lea con detenimiento, al menos dos veces, el siguiente texto y responda a continuación, en inglés y en la hoja de respuestas, a las cinco preguntas formuladas. Para ello dispone de una hora. En las preguntas (1) y (5) deberá evitar la reproducción literal del original.

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

BP's Deepwater Horizon oil spill likely to cost more than Exxon Valdez

Britain's biggest oil company was tonight facing an environmental disaster expected to cost more than the Exxon Valdez tanker spill as thousands of tonnes of floating oil began to reach the US Gulf coast.

As several coastal states declared a state of emergency and dispatched clean-up crews, BP was desperately trying to stop the flow of crude from its damaged offshore platform and to extinguish a growing political storm that has taken billions of pounds away from the price of its shares.

President Barack Obama tonight sent officials from the US department of justice to monitor the company's handling of the crisis, while lawyers acting for victims of two earlier BP disasters in the US called for criminal charges and a prohibition on its activities there.

Fadel Gheit, a New York oil analyst, said the ultimate costs of dealing with the floating oil could rival that of the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska, which led to \$3.5 billion in clean-up costs and \$5 billion in legal and financial settlements.

Eleven offshore workers are missing, presumed dead, after the initial explosion of the Deepwater Horizon rig last week, and BP was also severely reprimanded by safety authorities for a pipeline leak in Alaska and fatal refinery explosion.

The scale of the legal repercussion facing BP was outlined by Brent Coon & Associates, an American law firm that played an important role in bringing cases against BP for the Texas City refinery fire in 2005. Today it filed a lawsuit on behalf of a rig¹ worker injured in last week's blast, and argued that criminal charges should be brought against the company for its repeated failure to act after a series of industrial accidents in the US.

The chief executive of BP, Tony Hayward, said the firm would do all it could to clean up and pay compensation. "We are taking full responsibility for the spill and we will clean it up and where people can present legitimate claims for damages we will honour them. We are going to be very, very aggressive on all of that," he said.

A BP spokesman said it was too early to say what had gone wrong or if anyone was responsible until investigations had been completed.

Adapted from Terry Macalister's article published in guardian.co.uk, on Friday 30 April 2010.

¹ Plataforma petrolífera.

Questions:

1. State in your own words what the text means by: (paragraph 4) "Fadel Gheit, a New York oil analyst, said the ultimate costs of dealing with the floating oil could rival that of the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska, which led to \$3.5 billion in clean-up costs and \$5 billion in legal and financial settlements." **(2 marks)**

2. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) according to the text. If the answer is not mentioned in the text, mark it as false. **(2 marks)**

- a) The oil spill has caused several coastal states to be declared a state of emergency.
- b) This oil spill disaster will cost BP billions of pounds.
- c) It is the first time that BP has been involved in a disaster in the USA.
- d) BP knows exactly what caused the oil spill.

3. These words are all found in the text: **extinguish, crude, missing, clean, company, refinery, monitor**. Choose the ones that mean the same as the following words: **(2 marks)**

- a) firm
- b) oil
- c) stop
- d) supervise

4. Choose *a*, *b* or *c* to complete the sentence correctly according to the information in the text. Only one answer is correct. **(2 marks)**

- 4.1. The clean-up crews are trying to...
 - a) find the cause of the disaster.
 - b) stop the flow of oil.
 - c) remove the oil from the coast.
- 4.2. Officials from the US department of justice...
 - a) have filed criminal charges against BP.
 - b) are supervising how BP handles the disaster.
 - c) are acting for the victims of this crisis.
- 4.3. BP has been involved in...
 - a) several disasters in the USA.
 - b) many fatal refinery explosions.
 - c) no environmental disasters in the USA.
- 4.4. The British oil company...
 - a) is taking full responsibility for the spill.
 - b) is claiming for damages.
 - c) is going to be compensated.

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

- a) What do you think are the consequences of a disaster like BP's Deepwater Horizon oil spill? Give reasons.
- b) How do you think these disasters can be prevented? Give reasons.