

INSTRUCCIONES GENERALES Y VALORACIÓN

INSTRUCCIONES: Lea el texto cuidadosamente, así como las preguntas. Conteste a las preguntas en lengua inglesa.

DURACIÓN: 60 minutos

CALIFICACIÓN: La valoración máxima de cada pregunta se indica en cada parte del ejercicio.

As a Spanish City Lights Up for Christmas, So Does a Debate

Vigo, a well-known Galician industrial hub and Spain's largest fishing port, switched on its Christmas lights on Nov. 23, ahead of the long holiday weekend to celebrate Spain's Constitution. At a news conference before the holiday season, Vigo's mayor, Abel Caballero, said that the lights of Vigo were the best on the planet and that they would outshine New York, which lies across the Atlantic on the same latitude.

The Council of Vigo spent one million euros decorating the city with ten million Christmas lights. In a coastal city used to powerful Atlantic storms but not snow, a dozen snow-making machines were deployed to spray flakes for two minutes every hour. Attracted by the show, thousands of visitors went to visit Vigo's lights display. The city hotels reported full occupancy during the Spain's Constitution long holiday weekend. Two decades ago, on the same Constitution holiday, hotels had an occupancy rate of 20 percent.

But not everybody is happy with this investment in Christmas lights and snow-making machines. Environmentalists, for example, want mayors like Mr. Caballero to reduce light pollution in the cities. "It seems an absurd contradiction that Spain held a climate change summit just as Vigo competed with other Spanish cities for who could switch on the most Christmas lights," said Serafín González Prieto, the president of the Galician Society of Natural History, a regional nongovernmental organization.

Adapted from *the New York Times* (December 24th 2019).

MATERIA: INGLÉS

1. Are the following sentences TRUE or FALSE according to the text? Justify your answer copying the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
 - a. Vigo City Council switched on ten million lights in Christmas time.
 - b. It is frequent to see snow in Vigo during the winter season.
 - c. Vigo's hotels successfully increased their occupancy rates during the Spain's Constitution long holiday weekend.
 - d. The president of the Galician Society of Natural History claims that Mr. Caballero is an environmentalist.

2. Find a synonym in the text for each one of the following terms. (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
 - eclipse = _____
 - city manager = _____
 - meeting = _____
 - ecologists = _____

3. Write the verb in brackets in the correct form for each gap: (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

In recent years the problem of light pollution caused by Christmas lights (a. become) _____ increasingly evident. A NASA report (b. show) _____ that the luminosity of certain urban areas in the United States (c. increase) _____ by between 30 and 50% in the weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year. Light pollution drastically (d. reduce) _____ the visibility of the night sky, affects the ecosystems of nocturnal wild animals and is a huge waste of energy. Considering, then, the impact on the environment and the economic waste involved, one cannot help wondering if the time (e. not come) _____ to begin celebrating this period in a greener and less sparkling way.

4. In your opinion, how bad are Christmas lights for the environment? Please give an answer to this question in a maximum of 100 words. Justify your answers and be careful with the grammar. (Puntuación máxima: 4 puntos)