

**Instrucciones:** a) Duración: 1 h.30m. b) No se permite el uso de diccionario. c) La puntuación de las preguntas está indicada en las mismas. d) Los alumnos deberán realizar completa una de las dos opciones A o B, sin poder mezclar las respuestas.

**OPTION A: "Education Mamas"**

- 1 The first day at primary school is an important event in every child's life. It can cause the new learner excitement, or  
2 it can cause fear. But in education-obsessed Japan, mothers of new pupils also suffer from first-day-nerve. Before the  
3 opening of the school year, many read books and magazines to find what to wear to the school's opening ceremony and  
4 what to put into their children's school bags.  
5 On the first day of school, they accompany their six-year-olds to the opening ceremony in the school hall. Speeches  
6 by the headmaster focus on the new pupils' bright futures. They stress the need to start on the right foot by studying hard  
7 and being good citizens. From the beginning until they enter university 12 years later, students will go through a series of  
8 examinations.  
9 These exams are almost as much of a trauma for the mothers as they are for the students. The Education Mama is a  
10 well-established stereotype in Japan. It applies to those women who push their children to get better and better academic  
11 results. Seventy-two per cent of Japanese mothers do not work outside their homes so that they can look after their children.  
12 Their husbands are usually absent during the long work day and the disappearance of extended family units has eliminated  
13 the grandmother figure from the home. As a result, many mothers feel isolated and unsure where to turn for advice in raising  
14 their children and making them excellent students.  
15 The pressure on the Education Mamas doesn't stop at educational achievements. Even lunch boxes may become a  
16 problem. A poorly presented packed lunch can be enough to provoke bullying by classmates and ridicule by other mothers.

**I \* COMPREHENSION** (4 points: questions 1-3, 1 point each; 4-5, 0.5 points each)

ANSWER QUESTIONS 1-3 ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE TEXT. USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

1. **What advice is given to children the first day at school?**
  2. **Why do many Japanese mothers feel alone in their children's education?**
  3. **Why can the content of lunch boxes be so important?**
- ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS.
4. **Japanese students have to pass twelve exams before entering university.**
  5. **Most Japanese mothers devote their full time to taking care of their children.**

**II \* USE OF ENGLISH** (3 points: questions 6-9, 0.25 points each; 10-13, 0.5 points each)

6. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE WORD WHICH HAS THE FOLLOWING DEFINITION: **"A very difficult or unpleasant experience that causes someone to have mental or emotional problems usually for a long time."**
7. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE OPPOSITE FOR **"leave"** (verb).
8. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE SYNONYM FOR **"not present"** (adjective).
9. GIVE AN ADJECTIVE WITH THE SAME ROOT AS **"advise"** (verb).
10. JOIN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING A RELATIVE. MAKE CHANGES IF NECESSARY: **Please take me to the shopping centre. Your mother works there.**
11. GIVE A QUESTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORDS: **She left because she had an appointment.**
12. FILL IN THE GAP WITH THE CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB IN BRACKETS. **"I am used to .....(go) to school alone."**
13. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING (CONDITIONAL) SENTENCE: **If I hadn't helped her, .....**

**III \* PRODUCTION** (3 points)

14. WRITE A COMPOSITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 WORDS ABOUT THE PROPOSED TOPIC AND FOCUS STRICTLY ON IT: **Describe your experience at high school.**