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 : “The Connected Classroom”

Imagine a classroom where everyone uses a smartphone, laptop, tablet, or other device to search the Web, complete assignments, and help each other solve problems. Students use their devices to record presentations and post the video to a blog. When the students go home, they take their devices with them so they can continue working on projects and contact each other or their teacher. The traditional model of education – one teacher instructing students for a set period of time using a narrow set of resources – is no longer how the real world works. But it is the model that persists today in schools, and it is critical that we transform the current state of education.

Unfortunately, mobile devices are perceived as a distraction, and kids are asked to turn them off. But they can dramatically improve student success by providing access to learning resources. In North Carolina, Project K-Nect began as a pilot programme to discover if smartphones could help students who scored poorly in maths. They learned algebra through their smartphones, which were loaded with educational software and had constant Internet activity. Teachers spent less time on direct instruction, and instead encouraged students to talk and learn from each other. Student results exceeded all expectations, and their grades in maths increased 30%. Students in the programme obtained much better results than their classmates who learned algebra via traditional instruction from the same teacher. Student achievement increased in other subjects as well.

With over 6.3 billion connections globally, wireless technology is now the dominant way people access the Internet. So it isn’t difficult to imagine a day when mobile technologies have a presence in every classroom.

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. According to the writer, why should the current education model change?
2. What was the initial idea of Project K-Nect?
3. How did teachers in Project K-Nect change the way they taught?

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

4. In North Carolina all high school students are using smartphones to learn maths.
5. Project K-Nect’s students’ results improved not only in maths.

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 SYNONYM FOR “teaching” (verb)
7. GIVE A NOUN WITH THE SAME ROOT AS “perform” (verb).
9. FIND IN THE TEXT THE WORD WHICH HAS THE FOLLOWING DEFINITION: “to stimulate the development of something”.
10. GIVE A QUESTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORDS: “The traditional model of education persists today in most schools.”

11. TURN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE INTO THE ACTIVE VOICE: “The kids had been asked to turn off their mobile phones by the teacher.”
12. FILL IN THE GAP WITH A CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB IN BRACKETS. “We regret ……….. (tell) you that you will have to work tonight.”
13. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING (CONDITIONAL) SENTENCE: If I’d had my smartphone with me,……..

III *PRODUCTION (3 points)

14. WRITE A COMPOSITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 WORDS ABOUT THE TOPIC PROPOSED AND FOCUS STRICTLY ON IT: Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using mobile devices at school.