



# Proves d'accés a la universitat

Convocatòria 2015

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## Llengua estrangera **Anglès**

Sèrie 5 - A

	Qualificació	Etiqueta de qualificació
Comprensió escrita	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Redacció	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Comprensió oral	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a

Ubicació del tribunal .....

Número del tribunal .....

## THE LAST OF THE NOBLEST GENERATION

Harry Patch, the last survivor of the First World War, and the man who reminded the modern world of its obscene massacre, died at the age of 111. His life ended on a fine summer morning in his native Somerset, many miles from the Belgian land of Ypres where so many of his comrades fell, and where he so nearly joined them. For decades he kept the sights and sounds of that terrible experience to himself. But then, at the age of 100, he began to talk...

Born in the village of Coombe Down, Harry left school at 14 for an apprenticeship with a plumber, and would, no doubt, have lived a life of peaceful anonymity if the war hadn't been declared. Being too young at first, at the age of 17 Harry was **conscripted**. "I didn't want to go and fight anyone, but it was a case of having to," he said. He was in charge of a machine gun, and, by his 19th birthday, was in a **trench** in the middle of one of the most famous and bloodiest battles of the First World War: the Battle of Ypres. "Anyone who tells you he wasn't **scared** is a damned liar," Harry would later say. "We lived by the hour... You saw the sun rise; hopefully, you'd see it set. If you saw it set, you hoped you'd see it rise."

Many didn't. One of them was a young soldier whom Patch and his comrades found in the battlefield, badly wounded by **shrapnel**. "Shoot me," he said, and then, before Harry could react, he died with the words "Mother!" on his lips. It was but one of the phantoms from the trenches that Harry carried with him until his death. Later on, in September 1917, came the German projectile which would hit Harry. It burst among his **mates** with such force that three of them were never found again. Harry, some metres away, was seriously wounded, his stomach pierced by shrapnel. He was taken to a **CCS (casualty clearing station)**, where he lay, untreated in maddening pain, for one day and a half. Finally, a doctor came, and, with no anaesthetic, took out the metal while four men held him down. Although he would not be **demobbed** for another year, that was the end of Harry's war. He returned home, to plumbing, marriage, two sons, and an old age that saw him survive both sons and his wife.

All this time, he had kept those memories of war to himself, telling no one. But then, as he passed his 100th birthday, a journalist called Richard Emden asked Harry if he would talk of war. He agreed and he wrote, with Richard's help, his life story, and became a witness for those comrades who had been killed so many years before. When Richard Emden went to see him, Harry sat at a table in the morning room of his house. The conversation went mainly one-way. Harry's mind was sharp, and his sight good, but his voice was soft and delicate, and he was practically speechless. The journalist ended the interview before he had intended, afraid to be more of an inconvenience than he had already been.

His voice and body may have died, but his words on war should live on, resonating strongly. Harry Patch had words for all his experiences. They were spoken with an anger that lasted all his adult life. "War," he said, "is organised murder, and nothing else."

Text adapted from *The Independent* (July 26, 2009)

**conscripted:** cridat a files, reclutat / llamado a filas, reclutado

**trench:** trinxera / trinchera

**scared (to be scared):** tenir por / tener miedo

**shrapnel:** metralla

**mate:** company / compañero

**CCS (casualty clearing station):** hospital de companya / hospital de campaña

**demobbed:** desmobilitzat, que ha deixat de servir a l'exèrcit / desmovilizado, que ha dejado de servir en el ejército

## Part 1: Reading comprehension

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only ONE answer is correct.

[4 points: 0.5 points for each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.16 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

Espai per al corrector/a			
	Correcta	Incorrecta	No contestada
1. Which of the following sentences about Harry Patch is FALSE? <input type="checkbox"/> He was the only survivor of the First World War. <input type="checkbox"/> He only explained his experiences when he was 100. <input type="checkbox"/> He nearly died during the Battle of Ypres. <input type="checkbox"/> He died at the age of 111 in his home country.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. When the First World War began, Harry Patch <input type="checkbox"/> was too young to be called into the army. <input type="checkbox"/> was looking forward to joining the army. <input type="checkbox"/> had already been enrolled in the army. <input type="checkbox"/> was ready to be enrolled but he was at school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Harry explains that during the Battle of Ypres, the soldiers were <input type="checkbox"/> only focused on winning the battle. <input type="checkbox"/> constantly worried about their survival. <input type="checkbox"/> not quite aware their lives were in danger. <input type="checkbox"/> not really worried about being killed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. When Harry and his comrades found an injured soldier in the battle field <input type="checkbox"/> they took him to the trenches for shelter. <input type="checkbox"/> they took him still alive to a casualty clearing station. <input type="checkbox"/> they decided to shoot him because he asked them to. <input type="checkbox"/> they couldn't do anything to save his life.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. After being seriously wounded, Harry was taken to a CCS where <input type="checkbox"/> he was operated on, after being in pain for more than one day. <input type="checkbox"/> he was left alone in terrible pain for less than one day. <input type="checkbox"/> he was immediately treated by a doctor. <input type="checkbox"/> four men took out the metal without anesthetics.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The war finished for Harry Patch <input type="checkbox"/> the year after he was demobbed. <input type="checkbox"/> several months after his recovery. <input type="checkbox"/> immediately after being wounded. <input type="checkbox"/> when he was sent back home.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Shortly before Harry died, Richard Emden interviewed him and <input type="checkbox"/> Harry did most of the talking. <input type="checkbox"/> Harry spoke in a surprisingly clear voice. <input type="checkbox"/> Richard did most of the talking. <input type="checkbox"/> Richard was not able to talk too much.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. After all his experiences in the First World War <input type="checkbox"/> Harry thought that no war could ever be justified. <input type="checkbox"/> Harry's views on war became ambiguous. <input type="checkbox"/> Harry chose never again to talk about war. <input type="checkbox"/> Harry never again expressed his opinions about war.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Correctes Incorrectes No contestades

Recompte de les respostes

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Nota de comprensió escrita

## Part 2: Writing

Choose ONE topic. Write about number 1 or 2. Minimum length: 100 words.

[4 points]

1. Imagine that you are a soldier in the First World War. Write a letter to your parents about your experiences in the war.
2. Harry Patch did not explain his experiences about the war until he was very elderly. Why do you think he waited for so many years? Write an opinion essay about it for your local paper.

Grammar	
Vocabulary	
Text	
Maturity	
Total	
Nota de la redacció	



## Part 3: Listening comprehension

### HEARING DOGS

In the following conversation you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

*charity*: organització benèfica / organización benéfica

*deafness*: sordesa / sordera

*alleviate (to alleviate)*: alleugerir / aliviar

*puppies*: cadells / cachorros

*allocated*: assignat / asignado

*hearing aid*: audiòfon / audífono

*struggle (to struggle)*: lluitar / luchar

Ready?

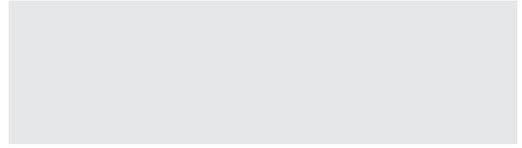
Now read the questions on the following page. Read them carefully before listening to the conversation.

**Interviewer:** Nearly 10 million people in the UK experience some degree of hearing loss. That's one person in every six. Over half a million are severely or profoundly deaf. Can dogs help them? In today's interview Julie Bradford, a dog trainer working for a charity, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, will tell us how.

[Now listen to the interview.]



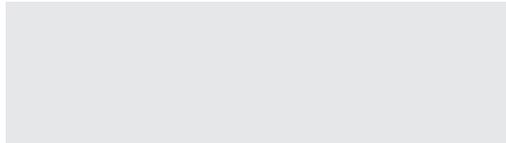
Etiqueta del corrector/a



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Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a



Institut  
d'Estudis  
Catalans