

EXAME NACIONAL DO ENSINO SECUNDÁRIO

12.º Ano de Escolaridade — Via de Ensino
(2.º, 3.º e 4.º cursos)

Duração da prova: 120 minutos
2002

1.ª FASE
2.ª CHAMADA

PROVA ESCRITA DE INGLÊS (NÍVEL INFERIOR)

Material admitido: dicionários unilingues e/ou bilingues.

I

1. After reading through the passage below, decide whether the title is appropriate and justify your opinion. **Write no more than 35 words.**

Blood, Sweat, Toil and Tears

There has been a steady drumbeat of bad news on the job front in Europe. Just last month, the Swiss engineering firm ABB announced 12,000 layoffs. Infineon, Europe's second-largest chipmaker, said it is downsizing 5,000 workers because of a slowdown in the electronic sector. Ericsson, Sweden's big telecom equipment provider, said it would stop making mobile phones
5 – a decision that will put 2,600 out of work in southern Sweden. In fact, in just a single week in late July, European companies announced a total of 30,000 layoffs. Stock markets across the Continent may cheer the restructuring measures because companies need to slim down for leaner times. But what happens to the workers after they have been cut adrift from their jobs? How generous are their redundancy packages, how do they go about finding new jobs
10 – and what if they can't? And how do countries, and companies, find the right balance between being compassionate to their workers and competitive in the global economy?

Take Abdul Aziz Masifi, who emigrated from Iraqi Kurdistan to Sweden eight years ago. Masifi, 33, had been working as a machine operator at Ericsson's mobile systems unit in the Stockholm suburb of Kista for the past three years. Last month Masifi, who earned \$1,700 a
15 month with overtime, was called into his supervisor's office and told that he was among 225 employees in his department being laid off.

In Sweden, employees who lose their jobs are cocooned from many of the harsh realities of unemployment, at least initially. Jobless workers get 300 days of benefits, or about
20 14 months of five-day weeks, which can be extended to 600 days if some activity like vocational retraining is involved. Maximum unemployment pay has just been increased from \$1,189 to nearly \$1,400 a month.

But benefits don't stop there for Masifi and his former colleagues. Ericsson designed a special severance formula that pays this group of dismissed workers up to a year's salary regardless of how long they had been employed. For Masifi, that works out to four months'
25 severance pay for every year in the job. In addition, these employees can be transferred to an outplacement firm called Proffice that provides each worker with an analysis of his skills and helps organize retraining if necessary.

30 In Germany unemployment workers receive 60% of their salary in benefits – if they have
no children – and 67% if they have offspring, for a year. After that there are usually other safety
nets available. Under the rules of the welfare system, the unemployed must go on job
interviews, but they are not obliged to take a position if the salary is below their expectations.

A debate is raging about what the government owes to jobless citizens. Chancellor
Gerhard Schröder recently became embroiled in the controversy when he warned that
German society would no longer tolerate healthy people who don't work.

35 In Italy the jobless level reached 9.6% in April, down from 10.7% in the same period last
year. At the same time, the government offers the unemployed an array of benefits that critics
have long argued would discourage anyone from looking for a new job. The government and
industry have a special unemployment fund called Cassa Integrazione that pays workers who
have lost their jobs through restructuring.

40 When Cassa Integrazione runs out, some Italians are eligible for what is called the mobility
list, which can pay between \$600 and \$700 a month for up to 48 months, depending on one's
age.

There lies the big dilemma facing Europe's governments: at what level do unemployment
benefits cease to be a social safety net and become an incentive for not working?

Time, August 13, 2001

2.

2.1. In paragraph 1 find words/expressions meaning the same as:

- 2.1.1. regular sound
- 2.1.2. reduction
- 2.1.3. supplier
- 2.1.4. make redundant
- 2.1.5. welcome
- 2.1.6. reduce in size

2.2. Complete these sentences according to the information in paragraphs 2 to 4.

- 2.2.1. Both Masifi and...
- 2.2.2. Unemployment is no longer only a problem for manual workers as...
- 2.2.3. It takes time before the unemployed become aware...
- 2.2.4. Efforts have been made to soften the blow, namely by...
- 2.2.5. However long workers have been employed by Ericsson, they...
- 2.2.6. On the other hand, the company's long-term policies include enabling...

3. In 25-40 words each, answer these questions on the text. Use your own words as much as possible.

- 3.1. What do you think of the 'safety nets' provided by the various Welfare Systems?
Justify your opinion.
- 3.2. How do you explain Schröder's warning?
- 3.3. Express your opinion on the issue presented in the last paragraph of the text.

V.S.F.F.

826/3

4. Rewrite the sentences below, without changing their meaning and beginning them as indicated.

4.1. Abdul Aziz Masifi emigrated from Iraqi Kurdistan eight years ago.

It's...

4.2. Chancellor Schröder warned that German society would no longer tolerate healthy people who don't work.

Chancellor Schröder said: 'German society...

II

Write 120-150 words on ONE of the following topics, either 1. or 2. or 3.

1. Speculate on the future of work, bearing in mind that manufacturing jobs are disappearing in the developed world.

2. Explain the importance of economic inequalities in the novel you have studied:

F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*

or

B. MacLaverty's *Cal*

3. Consider this statement:

'It's easy to dismiss those who throw petrol bombs, but when millions of young people feel that the opportunities and costs of globalization are not being fairly distributed, companies that appear sympathetic may gain a competitive edge.'

Time, August 13, 2001

Comment on the above quotation making reference to the social responsibility, particularly in the field of international human rights, of companies competing globally.

FIM

COTAÇÕES

I

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | 15 pontos |
| 2. | |
| 2.1. (6 × 5) | 30 pontos |
| 2.2. (6 × 5) | 30 pontos |
| 3. (3 × 15) | 45 pontos |
| 4. (2 × 10) | 20 pontos |

II

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 1. ou 2. ou 3. | 60 pontos |
|---------------------|-----------|

TOTAL	200 pontos
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