

PRUEBA: CELEBRITY NEWS

CELEBRITY NEWS

In her quest to meet the rich and famous, Emma has bribed guards, donned disguises, and even climbed through windows! But she does not think of herself as a criminal. 'I'm just doing my job. I only get paid for scandalous stories, so I have to take extreme measures if I want to earn a decent income!'

Emma Worth writes for a famous gossip* magazine. She is one of a growing number of journalists who are using their professional skills to hunt and capture the so-called 'glitterati' unawares, each hoping to score an exclusive, and preferably lucrative, scoop.

Celebrity news is a huge market. Last year, *Heat* and *Closer*, the two best-selling UK gossip magazines, sold over a million copies every week. Even the traditionally more 'serious' press are turning to celebrities to boost sales. For example, the broadsheet newspaper *The Telegraph* now has a regular gossip column called 'The Spy'.

But celebrity gossip hunters have been criticized. Some famous people complain that they have been denied a basic right to privacy, and a few feel that their lives have been ruined. And, according to at least one highly-regarded reporter, 'More important issues, such as politics and the environment, are being neglected. We need to stop taking this trivia so seriously!'

* *gossip*: conversation or writing about other people, especially their personal news.

PREGUNTAS (NO RESPONDAN EN ESTA HOJA)

1. Read the text and decide whether statements 1.1 to 1.4 are true or false. Then, find the text fragment which confirms your answer in either case. Write "TRUE" or "FALSE" plus the fragment (one or two lines maximum) on your answer sheet. [Score: 4 items x 5 marks = 20 marks]

E.g. Emma wants to write shocking stories about celebrities. **TRUE**. Evidence: ...'I'm just doing my job. I only get paid for scandalous stories, ...

- 1.1 Most journalists work together with famous people to get their stories.
- 1.2 Magazine readers are extremely interested in the lives of the rich and famous.
- 1.3 *The Telegraph* is a famous gossip magazine.
- 1.4 Gossip reporters can have a negative effect on some celebrities.

2. Complete each sentence with information from the text but using your own words (about 10-15 words of your own per sentence). DO NOT COPY LITERALLY from the text nor from statements 1.1 to 1.4. Write the two sentences on your answer sheet. [Score: 2 items x 5 marks = 10 marks]

2.1 If Emma writes a shocking story about a celebrity, ...

2.2 More than 1,000,000 ...

3. Complete the text choosing the best option (A, B, or C) for each gap (1-15). On your answer sheet, draw a table like the one below and, for each gap (1-15), copy the letter that corresponds to your answer (A, B, or C). Use CAPITAL LETTERS. [Score: 15 items x 1 marks = 15 marks]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

Why are we so (1) ____ by celebrity scandal? It seems that we (2) ____ stop reading gossip! So what is it that makes people keep (3) ____ buying gossip magazines? It appears that we can't get (4) ____ of photos of celebrities looking less sparkly than usual. Perhaps seeing them in casual clothes and without make-up and reading about their real-life problems makes us feel better about the fact that we're not rich or famous ourselves.

Every day we see adverts and television programmes featuring people (5) ____ are richer and more successful than we are. Maybe we need to read about celebrity problems (6) ____ reassure ourselves that nobody's perfect. Maybe we just want (7) ____ that they're not superhuman, but that they're simply ordinary people like us. It's almost as if the gossip columns (8) ____ us look into their lives as real people. We see them as they are and not as the characters they usually play in their professional lives, (9) ____ they are actors, pop stars or just famous for being famous. It's almost as if we find the people (10) ____ the characters more interesting. They're less polished, more down-to-earth and even have (11) ____ weaknesses!

But what (12) ____ makes us follow them in real life is that it makes us feel closer to them. It's like we truly know them (13) ____ people. We buy into the (14) ____ that they're part of our crowd of people and that we know intimate (15) ____ of their lives. They're just one of the gang!

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|-----|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | A) addicted | B) obsessed | C) fascinated |
| 2. | A) can't | B) shouldn't | C) might not |
| 3. | A) for | B) on | C) with |
| 4. | A) enough | B) more | C) too much |
| 5. | A) which | B) whose | C) who |
| 6. | A) so that | B) for | C) in order to |
| 7. | A) to see | B) see | C) seeing |
| 8. | A) allow | B) permit | C) let |
| 9. | A) whether | B) if | C) as if |
| 10. | A) opposite | B) behind | C) before |
| 11. | A) a few | B) few | C) a little |
| 12. | A) absolutely | B) utterly | C) really |
| 13. | A) like | B) as | C) such as |
| 14. | A) fantasy | B) imagination | C) concept |
| 15. | A) points | B) details | C) parts |

4. Finish each sentence so that it keeps the meaning of the sentence printed before it and includes a clear change of linguistic structure. COPY THE COMPLETE SENTENCES (including the beginnings already given to you) onto your answer sheet. [Score: 3 items x 5 marks = 15 marks]

- 4.1 I don't really like science fiction films.
I'm not ...
- 4.2 'Don't take my photo again!'
He ordered me ...
- 4.3 They haven't gone to Barbados since 2012.
They stopped ...

5. Why are some people against gossip hunting? WRITE AN OPINION TEXT of about 120 words. Make sure you provide the necessary arguments to convince the reader of your opinion. Write your text on your answer sheet. [Score: 40 marks x 1 item = 40 marks]