

El alumno deberá responder a todas las preguntas que se formulan, excepto en el caso de la primera pregunta (la redacción), donde debe elegir entre la opción a y la opción b. El alumno deberá hacer todos los ejercicios en inglés. (Puntuación máxima del ejercicio: 10 puntos. Puntuación máxima de cada pregunta: 1ª pregunta = 3 puntos; 2ª = 2 puntos; 3ª = 1,5 puntos; 4ª = 1,5 punto; 5ª = 2 puntos).

Workaholism

W.E. Oates claims to have invented the term workaholism in his 1971 book, *Confessions of a Workaholic*, when he defined it as an 'addiction to work, the compulsion or the uncontrollable need to work incessantly'. But though it seems a recent phenomenon, brought about by the relentless pace of modern civilisation, in reality workaholics have always existed. Go back to Roman times and Pliny the Elder, the famous writer and statesman, was starting his working day at midnight and having books read to him at mealtimes so that he didn't have to stop working.

Undeniably, it has become a serious cause for concern in the 21st century, and British workers are generally thought to be the longest-working employees. The macho culture of the City has had a vast effect on the hours people work, as has globalisation. The freedom the internet provides ironically binds people more closely to their work, as they can access it at home after hours. 10 percent of Britons could now be deemed workaholics purely by dint of the hours they work. How do you know if you're one of them?

There are certain common symptoms that denote the workaholic. Those who have let work take over to an unhealthy extent often find it difficult to hold a conversation about anything else, and this can put strain on their personal relationships; friends and spouses are often the first to notice, but the sufferers themselves are blinded to the problem. Workaholics rationalise by taking on more and more tasks. They also tend to find it difficult to relax, skimp on leisure time and see themselves trapped in the role of provider.

1. Write a composition on **one** of the following topics:

a) Do you think it's a problem for children if both their parents have a full-time job? Give your opinion in no less than 80 words.

b) Write a story of at least 80 words ending with the words: "*This is why John's parents decided to remove the PC from his bedroom*"

2.a. Does the writer think that workaholism is a modern phenomenon? Why/why not?

2.b According to the text, where do you find most workaholics nowadays?

4.a. Rewrite the following sentence in indirect style (reported speech), beginning: They asked:

How do you know you're one of them?

4.b. Rewrite the following sentence in negative-interrogative:

Workaholics rationalise by taking on more and more tasks.

5. Find **two** words in the text containing vowels or groups of vowels that are pronounced in the same way as o in work, a in pace, and a in anything. Underline the part of the word that contains the sound.