Oposiciones docentes 2025/ 2025 irakasle oposizioak			
Cuerpo o puesto/ Kidegoa edo lanpostua:	Especialidad/Espezialitatea:	Idioma/ Hizkuntza:	
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PRUEBA PRÁCTICA-PROBA PRAKTIKOA			

With Love, Meghan and the unstoppable rise of the 'domestic goddess'

Meghan's new Netflix series in which she offers cooking and home tips arrives next week. The Duchess of Sussex's lifestyle show is finally arriving on Netflix on Tuesday, after being pushed back because of the Los Angeles fires. *With Love, Meghan* sees her picking flowers, cooking with friends, and looking radiant in a huge, glossy Californian home.

The move into such well-worn domestic-goddess territory saw Meghan instantly dubbed "the millennial Martha Stewart of Montecito" in The New York Times. But of course, backlash flared the minute the trailer was released. She's flaunting her wealth, said her critics: tone-deaf. She's becoming a trad wife: bad feminist. She's fake, she just wants to sell products, she's unbearably earnest...

And yet, Meghan has her fans as much as her detractors, she's no amateur in sparking controversy. It's then likely that With Love, Meghan will be a ratings hit for the streamer, bringing people together: not always in the way the show intends perhaps, but by persuading both those who buy into the pretty-princess fantasy – and those who may "hate-watch" it – to tune in, agog.

The public's feelings towards domestic goddesses have always been complex, but they may have never been more conflicted than in 2025. These days, Hill tells the BBC, "there is no one "ideal' image of a woman online, as each community and sub-community has their own version of the perfect creator." This means that the most famous end up both loved *and* loathed: figures like Meghan, Gwyneth Paltrow and Nara Smith walk the line between having devoted fanbases, and being scorned, castigated and even blamed for a wealth of societal ills.

The recent obsession with trad wives may reflect a broader disenchantment with modern lifestyles: the anxiety that what equality of the sexes actually brought us is merely drudgery for all. When two parents have to work constantly in order to have enough money to live, and women *also* end updoing a "second shift" of housework and childcare, the old model of dividing the labour might look more appealing.

Arguably, we could more accurately place the source of the problem with capitalism, rather than feminism "gone too far". And it is unfortunately inevitable that full-time tradwiffery requires a partner who earns *a lot* of money, inevitably also bringing that traditional dynamic into play: domestic bliss predicated on man-as-breadwinner, woman-as-helpmeet.

A domestic goddess became a standard to live up to, and yet another reason for women to feel inadequate. And this is the contradiction at the heart of DGs, whether they're incredibly earnest (Meghan; Gwyneth) or winkingly ironic (Lawson): while many give off an air of effortlessness and espouse mantras of ease for most women most of the time, such domestic bliss is actually not easy. Or, indeed, affordable. "We're not in the pursuit of perfection, we're in the pursuit of joy," declares Meghan in the trailer for her show. But it's hard not to feel like it would be a lot easier to pursue joy if you lived in a Californian mansion with help. To state the obvious, an enviable, idealised lifestyle is more readily available when you don't have to stress about the bills, and instead have the free time to, say, learn to fold a napkin like an Easter bunny.

"The domesticity is presented to us as peaceful while also fulfilling," says Hill, on the appeal of this sort of content, which it is so easy to be cynical about. "Many people can relate to wanting to nourish and nurture their families, but what this looks like in reality for everyone else is at complete odds to the image we're presented through these curated narratives."

Perhaps this is the key: we mustn't mistake today's goddesses with mere mortals – consider them floating fictional constructs, higher(-earning) beings. And absolutely not a yardstick against which to measure ideal femininity. "I think we can be inspired by these women and the lives they are presenting," says Hill, "while also recognising it is wholly impossible to attain."

(From www.bbc.com)

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE (5 marks)

- I) Theoretical justification or rationale for the approach (2.5 marks)
 - 1) a) Identify the main idea(s) from the text and justify it/them using your own words in the space provided. (0.75)
 - **b)** Define the intention of the writer and provide examples which justify your answer. (0.5)
 - 2) Identify the type/s of text and support your ideas by providing examples for each one taken from the text. (0.75)
 - **3)** Which language functions are present in the text? Give evidence from the text, in each case, to justify your answer. (0.5)
- II) Technical, accurate and correct language (2.5 marks)
 - **4) a)** What figure of speech does this phrase show?: **"She's flaunting her wealth, said her critics: tone-deaf. She's becoming a trad wife: bad feminist."** <u>Briefly justify your answer.</u> (0.5)
 - **b)** Find an example of litotes in the text. Quote the evidence and <u>briefly</u> explain the intended effect. (0.75)
 - 5) Find an example of blending in the text and briefly explain the process. (0,5)
 - 6) Provide a definition or a synonym to these words taken from the text: (0.75)
 - a) Flared
 - b) Scorned
 - c) Winkingly
 - d) Bliss
 - e) Readily

SPECIALITY-BOUND SKILLS (5 marks)

I) Correct, orderly and efficient completion of practical exercises on the functional and practical use of the language. (3.5 marks)

1)	Provide a homoph	none to the	following work	ds taken from	the text: (0.5)
	a) earnest	b) air	c) key	d) time	e) source

 2) a) Provide the phonetic transcription of the following words. Use RP (Received Pronunciation) or GA (General American) consistently: (0.3) a) series b) amateur c) loathed
b) <u>Underline</u> the transcription mistakes on the following chunk: (0.2)
/ 'aːgjuəbli, wi kuːd mɔːr ˈækjwərətli pleɪs ðə sɔːs əv ðə ˈprɒbləm wɪð ˈkæpɪtəlɪzəm, ˈraːðəðən ˈfɛmɪnɪzəm "gɒn tuː fɑː". ənd ɪt s ʌnˈfɔːtʃənətli ɪnɛ'vɪtəbəl ðət fʊl-taɪm træd ˈwaɪfər rɪˈkwaɪəs ə ˈpɑːtnə /
3) Complete each sentence using the word in bold, which must not be changed. Use between 3 and 8 words. (0.5)
a) Meghan's show has already caused debate before it aired.
Megan's show has already even before it aired. RISE
b) You can't achieve this lifestyle unless you have a lot of money.→ Unless you have a lot of money, this lifestyle is REACH
c) Some people are heavily criticising Meghan for its frivolous behaviour. COMING
→ Meghan's frivolous behaviour
d) The only person who can make the other side agree with Meghan is the press.
→No-onewith Megan. TERMS
e) Many people are often cynical about this kind of content. → This kind of content cynicism. MET
4) Complete the gaps in the set of sentences with a word which fits both sentences. (0.75)
 1A. The criticism she received didn't seem to her confidence and all. 1B. The paparazzi chasing Meghan couldn't the police. The word that fits all gaps is

2A. Her persona is so carefully constructed that it bordersperformance.
2B. Many people agree the fact Meghan has sometimes been unfairly
treated.
The word that fits all gaps is
3A. The show appeals to a desire for simplicity that lies just the
chaos of modern life.
3B. She's got a warm heart a gruff manner.
The word that fits all gaps is
4A. Feminism in this context is often wrongly treated as the of social discontent.
4B. I've always been the in this family. They always put the
blame on me.
The word that fits all gaps is
5A. Typical tradwives master all kinds of household affairs. They usuallythem.
5B. The tradwife influencer had her traditional recipes and homemaking
tips on the, perfectly embodying the domestic ideal she
promoted.
The word that fits all gaps is

5) Choose the correct word (A, B, C, or D) for each gap. (0.5)

The 2023 "Barbie" movie, directed by Greta Gerwig, quickly became a cultural phenomenon. Far from a simple doll adaptation, the film [1] a trenchant, humorous critique of gender roles and patriarchy. Its pastel aesthetic veiled a narrative prompting profound existential questions about female identity. The movie's immense success proved a film on a seemingly superficial toy could embody a potent [2] for social commentary.

However, its pointed feminist themes and satirical masculinity drew scrutiny. Though lauded for wit, some found its messaging didactic or divisive. The ensuing discourse debated [3] its accessibility might vitiate its capacity for genuine reflection or merely reinforce divides. [4] polarized reception in some quarters, "Barbie" [5] sparked widespread conversation, showing cinema's power to challenge norms and the cultural zeitgeist. Its legacy is assured as a blockbuster and pivotal pop culture moment.

	А	В	С	D
1	espoused	circumvented	obfuscated	presupposed
2	tenet	appeasement	constraint	vehicle

3	that	lest	whether	should
4	furthermore	notwithstanding	conversely	moreover
5	undeniably	arguably	adamantly	barely

6) <u>Underline</u> and correct the grammar or vocabulary mistakes present in the paragraph below. (0.75)

Many viewers tune in despite of their dislike for Meghan, a phenomenon known as "hate-watching." This kind of content, however, isn't harmful; it often makes unrealistic expectations about lifestyle. Some argue that this is not feminism went too far, but a symptom of systemic inequality. Domesticity, once thought of as regressive, is now being rebranded as a aspirational ideal.

II) Application of technical and/or methodological strategies appropriate to the proposed text. (1.5 marks)

1. According to the current legislation, how would you work on the specific competences using the proposed text? (200 words approx., Both exceeding or not reaching this requirement will be penalised)