

**POSSIBLE COMPOSITIONS FOR THE WRITING**

- 1) Brittany's life (birthdate, birth place, job ...)
- 2) Brittany's interests/family (brother/father/mother/ grandparents/dog)
- 3) Differences between Nebraska and Spain
 - school (uniform, the way to address their teachers, grading system, graduation ceremonies ...)
 - age at which you can drive
 - Weather / Landscape (Paisaje)
 - age at which they get married
- 4) Christmas traditions: crackers/ food (differences between Spain and US/UK)/ places where they celebrate it, plants and decorations ...
- 5) Anecdote (one of your own or one Brittany told you: fireflies/baby sheep in the basement/ Tornado when they were camping → tent and a camper)
- 6) Carnival (US → Mardi Gras)

EXERCISES FOR THE GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY TEST

- 1) Translation of Idiomatic expressions
- 2) Definitions
- 3) Prepositions
- 4) Tenses (past and present)
- 5) Easily confused words
- 6) Culture and traditions

DEFINITIONS

- ❖ **Camper** → a vehicle where you can sleep when you go camping
- ❖ **Blanket** → bed linen that you use when you are cold in bed to get warm.
- ❖ **Basement** → a place in the house that is below the first floor and where you store tools (herramientas) or food.
- ❖ **Muzzle** → an object that you put on a dog's face and the dog cannot bite people when you walk him / her
- ❖ **Lamb** → the baby of a sheep
- ❖ **Elevator (US) / lift (UK)** → it's a machine that takes you up or down in a building and you don't have to walk up or down the stairs
- ❖ **Field** → it's a green area where people grow grain (corn, wheat, rye ...)
- ❖ **Liar** → person who doesn't tell the truth.
- ❖ **Barn** → a large farm building, used to store hay, grain, etc, but also to keep cattle (cows, horses...)
- ❖ **Holly** → it's a green plant with red berries and spiky leaves used as Christmas decorations.
- ❖ **Mistletoe** → it's a green plant with white berries used as Christmas decorations.
- ❖ **Skyscraper** → a very tall building with many floors.
- ❖ A **snow day** → in the United States and Canada is a day on which school classes are cancelled or delayed (retrasadas) by snow, heavy ice, or extremely low temperatures.
- ❖ **Owl** → a night bird which has huge eyes, soft feathers, and a short neck

CHRISTMAS

Bills (US) vs. notes (UK) → billetes

Bloated → hinchado, inflado

Brand → marca

Candy cane → bastón de caramelo

cardboard → cartón

Carols → villancicos

Cheat (to) → mentir, copiar en un examen, engañar a alguien

chewing gum → goma de mascar

to chew → mascar

chimney → chimenea

Circus → plaza de forma circular

Square → plaza (de forma cuadrada)

clever /smart / intelligent → inteligente

mad cow disease → enfermedad de las vacas locas

Cranberry → arándanos

CRIMBO → la manera coloquial de referirse a la Navidad pero sin sentido religioso

crown → corona

dewdrop – gota de rocío

dwarf (plural: dwarves) elfos

enrol in the Army – alistarse en el ejército

extended family – not your parents but your uncles and aunts and cousin

First course → primer plato

Second course → Segundo plato

Dessert → postre

Main course → plato principal

Plums → ciruelas
Raisin → uva pasa
get drunk → emborracharse
hailstone → granizo
hand -made → hecho a mano
icicles → carámbanos
injured → lesionado
jelly → gelatina
Jewish → judío
ladder-- escalera
Laptop → ordenador portátil
Left-overs → sobras
Long-sighted → hipermétrope
lullabies → canciones de cuna /nanas
manage (to) – administrar
mash – puré de patata
Muslim → musulmán (all religions are written with capital letter)
Noisy→ Ruidoso
Norway → Noruega
Norwegian→ noruego
Nothing (nada) vs. none (ninguno)
ox (plural: oxen) → buey/es
Peppermint bark (USA) → corteza de chocolate y trocitos de bastón de caramelo de menta
piggy bank → hucha
plumber → fontanero
pocket money → paga (UK) vs. allowance (USA)
ribbon → lazo
Rich (food)→ saciante, que llena
rope → cuerda
Salty→ salado
Sauce → salsa
Secret Santa – amigo invisible
Secret santa → amigo invisible put up: poner el árbol
Shellfish → marisco
Shortbread → galletas de mantequilla
Short-sighted → miope
slippers → zapatillas de casa
snap → tirita de pólvora
spend → gastar
Start from scratch → comenzar de cero, desde el principio
Stuffing → relleno
suitcase → maleta
Take down the Christmas tree → desmontar el árbol Opposite→ put up the Christmas tree
Tartan → tela escocesa
The three Wise Men → los 3 Reyes Magos
tie → corbata
bow tie → pajarita
trinket → baratija
wagon → carro
win vs. Lose (ganar/ perder)
wire → cable

wreath → corona de flores
Rehearsal → ensayo
Grown-ups → adultos
Language assistant → auxiliar de conversación
Sign (to) → firmar
Signature (firma) vs. Subject (asignatura)
Snail mail → correo ordinario

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR XMAS HOLIDAYS

Did you go out on New Year's Eve? → ¿Saliste en Fin de Año?
Did you wear an evening dress? → ¿Llevabas un vestido de noche?
What time did you go to bed? → ¿A qué hora te fuiste a cama/a dormir?
Could you eat the twelve grapes? → ¿Fuiste capaz de comer las doce uvas?
Did you go to the cinema? → ¿Fuiste al cine?
Did you get any presents? → ¿Recibiste algún regalo?

NELSON MANDELA

Assassinate (to) → asesinar
Car pool → Vehículo común de compañeros de trabajo.
Concerned → preocupada
Convinced → convencido
Degree → grado (temperatura) / (University studies) grado universitario
Deliver a speech → dar un discurso
Fight (against) → luchar contra
Forced → obligado, forzado
Impressed → impresionado
It's enough → es suficiente
Passenger → pasajero
Right (s) → derecho (s)
teachings → enseñanzas
Unemployment → desempleo
Worldwide → all over the world (por todo el mundo)

Cockatoo → cacatúa
Joke around (to) → estar siempre de broma
Oversleep (to) →
Piggy bank → hucha
Save (to) → ahorrar
Fathers → padres (los dos hombres)
Parents → padres (madre y padre)
Manage (to) → administrar
United Kingdom is formed by England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands.
Liar → a person who doesn't tell the truth
Chemist → farmacéutico
Lawyer → abogado
A law firm → un bufete de abogados

Quite → bastante
Basque Country → País Vasco
Dubbed (films) → dobladas
On the Eastern edge → en el extremo oriental
Tease (to) → meterse con
Weird → raro, extraño
Traffic jam → atasco
Get stuck → quedarse atrapado; quedarse atascado ; quedarse parado

BRITTANY'S ANECDOTES

Owl → búho
Howl → aullar (godo r a wolf)
Feed (to) → alimentar
Lamb → cordero
Basement → sótano
Smelly → malolientes
Raise (to) → criar
Twister → tornado
Warning → aviso
Weather forecast → previsión del tiempo
Camper → caravana
Naughty → traviesa
Lift → ascensor
Lift (to) up → alzar, levantar
Terrified → aterrorizado
Firefly → luciérnaga
Jar → botella
Lid → tapa

EASILY CONFUSED WORDS

- *Fabric* (the material you use to make clothes) vs. *Factory* (any place where objects are manufactured)
 - *Holy* (saint or sacred) vs. *Holly* (a shrub or bush which has bright red berries and prickly leaves)
 - *Mistletoe* (a shrub or bush which has small berries and prickly leaves) vs. *Holy*
 - *Meal* (las distintas comidas que se hacen al día) vs. *food* (comida, sin estar cocinada)
 - *Crop* vs. *harvest*
 - *public school* – you pay huge amounts of money for the tuition fees like Eton, Harrow or Winchester (colegio privado)
State-run school – the education is paid by the government (colegio público)
boarding schools – internados
 - *Embarrassed* (avergonzado) vs. *Pregnant* (embarazada)
 - *suit* (a combination of trousers and jacket) *suite* (an expensive room in a hotel)
 - *Degree* (grado de temperatura o de estudios universitarios) vs. *Career* (profesional)
i.e. *I have a degree in Law* (tengo un grado en Derecho).
- Degree → University studies or the measure of temperature
Career → your professional life

- *Journey vs. trip*
Journey → trayecto
Trip → viaje
Travel → viajar (the verb)
- *Work vs. Job*
Work → a verb or the amount of things you have to do
Job → your profession
- *True and truth*
True → the opposite of “false”
Truth → the opposite of LIE
- *Fabric vs. factory*
Fabric → tela
Factory → fábrica
- *Gravy vs. Sauce*
Gravy → meat juice
Sauce → any liquid or semiliquid preparation eaten with food
- *Fireplace vs. Chimney*
Fireplace → an open space in a wall of a room, at the base of a chimney, etc, for a fire.
Chimney → a vertical structure of brick (ladrillo) or steel (acero) that carries smoke from a fire.
- *Have a cold vs. Be cold*
Have a cold → to be sick (estar enfermo)
To be cold → tener frío *Stocking vs. Sock*
- *Stocking* → Christmas decoration that you hang on the fireplace and where Santa leaves the presents.
Sock → a cloth covering the foot.

PREPOSITIONS

- To give **up** (the meaning depends on the context)
 - A seat: ceder un asiento
 - Smoking:dejar de fumar
 - I give up! →me rindo
- give back → devolver
- Get **on** / get **off** (public transport) → subirse ,bajarse
- Tell (sb) **off** → echar la bronca, regañar
- take care **of** → look **after** (cuidar)
- get on / along well with → llevarse bien con
- **on** the phone / TV / the Internet → al teléfono / en la TV /en internet.
- Put the tree **up** → poner el árbol
- Take the Christmas tree **down** → guardarlo, retirar el árbol de Navidad
- Go **on** → continue (continuar)
- **on** foot → a pie
- Fight **against** → luchar contra
- impressed **by** → impresionado/a por/con
- hand **out** → repartir

IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS

- *It's my turn*
(Me toca, es mi turno)
- *What a disappointment!*
¡Qué decepción!
- *It gets on my nerves*
(Me pone de los nervios)
- *It takes me /him/her/them/us 5 minutes / three hours to have a shower / to get to school*
(Me/le/les/nos lleva cinco minutos/tres horas ducharme / llegar al colegio)
- *No pain, no gain* → sin sufrimiento no hay ganancias/beneficios
- *How long does it take you to drive all the way to Colorado?*
(¿Cuánto tiempo te lleva conducir todo el trayecto a Colorado?)
- *I can't stand onions/ snakes.*
(No soporto las cebollas/serpientes)
- *Shall I open the door? / Shall I google it? / Shall I write it on the board?*
(¿Abro la puerta?) / (¿Lo busco en el google?) / ¿Lo escribo en el encerado?)
- *It depends on the mood .*
(Depende del humor/estado de ánimo)
- *I have a great sense of humour.*
(Tengo un gran sentido del humor).
- *I am in a good mood / I am in a bad mood .*
(Estar de buen / mal humor).
- *I had to go for a check-up to Ourense.*
(Tuve que ir a una revisión a Ourense)
- *She's a weirdo.*
(Es un poco rarita)
- *I overslept*
(Me quedé dormido).
- *I don't like getting stuck in a lift.*
(No me gusta quedarme atascado/encerrado en el ascensor)

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN AMERICAN AND BRITISH ENGLISH

US	UK	MEANING
Bills	Note	billete
Pants	Trousers	pantalones
Underwear	Pants	Ropa interior
Elevator	lift	Ascensor
Vacation	Holiday	vacaciones
College	University	Universidad

PLURALS

leaf → leaves

ranch → ranches

mouse → mice