

## PLACEMENT TEST AVANZADO

### EXAMPLE WRITING TASK

There are plans to open a zoo in your area. Write a letter to an English-speaking newspaper to express your opinion about zoos.

#### MODEL ANSWER

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Dear Sir/ Madam

Having heard about plans to open a new local zoo, I am writing to express my doubts about whether or not this is a good idea.

First of all, a zoo can protect animals which are in danger of extinction. If animals of this species are born, there will be more of them. In the future, these animals can be reintroduced to their wild natural habitat. However, if these animals are only for people to look at, I think the zoo is a bad idea. Animals have rights as well as humans.

I also think it is cruel to teach animals to act in front of an audience. Although some people say that animals are happy, I ask you to bear in mind the dolphin that committed suicide by banging its head against the swimming pool wall, and the orang-utan that is on Prozac to fight off its depression.

On the other hand, there are zoos which imitate the natural habitat of the animals. Take, for instance, the penguin iceberg and the gorilla compound in 'Loro Parque'. However, in the Canary Islands it is difficult to provide a safari-type park because there is not much space. As a result, I worry about animals in cages and spaces too small for them to be happy.

I hope the future zoo takes these issues into consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Mr John Smith

232 words