

SELECCIÓN ÚNICA

Read the text below.

COSTA RICA HOSTED THE 2016 ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES

The 2016 World Surfing Games took place in Costa Rica at Jacó beach, bringing the competition back to the country for the first time since the successful 2009 edition in Playa Hermosa.



Team Costa Rica, (champion of the 2015 edition, held in Nicaragua) attempted to win consecutive titles for the first time since Team Australia did it in 2008.

Started in 1964, the International Surfing Association (ISA) World Surfing Games is an Olympic-style team competition that features national surfing teams. At the 2015 event, 132 surfers represented 27 countries. The 2016 competition was even larger as more athletes competed in the Costa Rican powerful waves for individual medals and the World Team Champion Trophy.

According to the Costa Rican Tourism Board, in 2013 over 200 000 tourists came for surfing, leading to an economic impact of over \$300 million. ISA President and Argentinian Fernando Aguerre said, "Surfing is an integral and vibrant part of Costa Rican culture." The Costa Rican Minister of Sports, Carolina Mauri, said, "This event is an opportunity to open the doors of our country to the rest of the world and unite nations through surfing and culture."

Adapted from <https://www.isasurf.org/defending-world-champion-costa-rica-to-host-2016-isa-world-surfing-games/>

Based on the previous text, choose the appropriate option to complete the following sentences.
(Items from 1 to 5)

Read the text below.

COSTA RICA: PERFORMING ARTS



Live theatrical performances such as music, theater, concerts, dance, opera, choreographies and other cultural art forms are popular throughout Costa Rica. The performing arts are encouraged by government initiatives which keep the arts alive. This includes keeping the arts as a part of school curricula.

Theater is one of the most popular cultural activities in Costa Rica, and San José is the epicenter of a prospering acting community. Most of the time, plays are performed in Spanish; however, a small percentage of productions are staged in English and they include works from the complete dramatic spectrum.

The most famous theater in the country is the National Theater. The story of its construction says that Adelina Patti, a famous European opera singer, was on tour in Latin America and declined to perform in Costa Rica because there was not an appropriate place. Immediately, the coffee elite put a special tax on coffee exports for the construction of a world-class theater. At the National Theater, there are free noon hour concerts by the National Symphonic Orchestra.

Adapted from: <http://www.blueriverresort.com/en-us/blog/music-theatre-dance-in-costa-rica.htm>

Based on the previous text, choose the appropriate option to complete the following sentences.
(Items from 6 to 10)

Read the conversation below.

Situation: Brenda and Tom are talking about food from Costa Rica and England.



Tom: Brenda, what kind of food do you like?

Brenda: I love English food.

Tom: Really?

Brenda: I lived in England for about a year. That's why I like different traditional dishes from that country.

Tom: What's your favorite one?

Brenda: It's called Lancashire Hotpot. It's a lamb and onion stew topped with sliced potatoes. Everything is baked at a low temperature.

Tom: That sounds good. What else do you like?

Brenda: I like the English breakfast. It has bacon, eggs, fried or grilled tomatoes, fried mushrooms, sausages and toast. It's the best breakfast in the world.

Tom: I disagree with you. There isn't anything better than eating the typical Costa Rican breakfast; *gallo pinto* with fried or scrambled eggs, sausages, fried plantains, *tortillas*, sour cream, and cheese.

Brenda: The problem is that I don't like beans.

Tom: That's too bad. Anyway, what about the desserts in England? What's your favorite one?

Brenda: I love the Trifle. It's made with layers of sponge cake, jelly, cream, jam, and custard. It can be topped with whipped cream and toasted almonds.

Tom: That sounds delicious. I would like to try it. My favorite Costa Rican dessert is *arroz con leche*.

Brenda: Well, I have an idea. Why don't you come over on Saturday night? I can make Lancashire Hotpot and Trifle for you.

Tom: That's wonderful. Thank you so much. I'll bring the drinks.

Brenda: Perfect. See you at 7 o'clock.

Adapted from: <http://www.englishforever.org/english-cuisine.php>

Based on the previous conversation, choose the appropriate option to complete each sentence below. (Items from 11 to 15)

Read the recipe below.

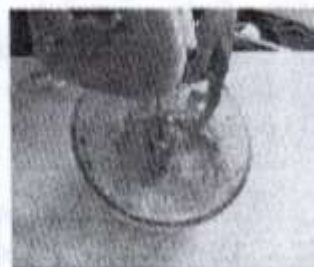
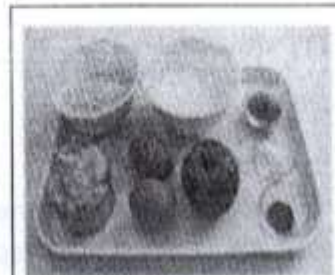
DUTCH APPLE CAKE

Ingredients

- 100 g. sugar
- 100 g. soft margarine
- 2 eggs
- 100 g. self-rising flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 apple
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. Demerara sugar

Procedures

1. Preheat the oven to 180° C or gas mark 4.
2. Grease and line the cake tin.
3. Use an electric hand mixer to cream the sugar and margarine together until light and fluffy.
4. In a small bowl, beat the eggs with a fork.
5. Add the beaten eggs to the sugar and margarine mixture.
6. Pass flour, baking powder, and cinnamon through a colander and add to the mixture.
7. Continue beating for 5 minutes until well blended.
8. Pour the batter into the greased cake tin, and put sliced apples decoratively on top.
9. Bake for 45 minutes.
10. Cool on a cooling rack for 20 minutes or until cool to the touch.
11. Place on a serving plate and sprinkle with Demerara sugar.



Adapted from License to Cook – Dutch Apple Cake, <http://www.knowsleyparkcfl.knowsley.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/healthy-recipes.pdf>

Based on the previous recipe, choose the appropriate option to answer each question below.
(Items from 16 to 20)

Read the letter below.

Dear Anna,

When I visited Costa Rica, I learned about a different culture. My first lesson was a formal family meal.

When we sat down, but before anyone began to eat, the host said a prayer. We do that at my home in the U.S. for really special occasions. And then the host, who was right next to me, said "Provecho" so loud it made me jump.

Everyone had three forks and three spoons, and I wasn't sure which to use. At home, we always "start from the outside and work in." I saw that Costa Ricans do the same.

One difference was that everyone held a knife in the right hand and a fork in the left. I'm right-handed, so I always move my fork to my left hand when I use a knife. And in my culture, we only hold a knife when we are cutting something.

Another surprise was the salad. It was mostly lettuce, like home, but topped with mayonnaise. Even stranger, it was served with the main course, instead of before it. Maybe the strangest thing was that I could rest my arms on the table here. That has never allowed at home. That's one way in which Costa Ricans are more relaxed.

Yours truly,

Jessica

Adapted from http://www.etiquettescholar.com/dining_etiquette/tableetiquette/na_table_manners/n.html

Based on the previous letter, choose the appropriate option to answer each of the following questions. (Items from 21 to 25)

Read the text below.

HANUKKAH: CELEBRATING A MIRACLE



Jewish people in Costa Rica and around the world observe Hanukkah, sometimes referred to as the Jewish Festival of Lights. Hanukkah lasts for eight days, beginning at sunset on the 25th day of the month of Kislev in the lunar Jewish calendar. That usually translates into a solidly December holiday in the secular calendar, although occasionally, during some years, it may occur in November or January.

The holiday commemorates events that grew out of the Jewish Maccabean army's victory over Greek occupiers in 165 B.C., and the subsequent rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem. Jewish people consider it a miracle, that during the sacred event, just an insignificant amount of clean oil was found to light the *menorah* (the temple candelabrum), but the lights remained lit for eight days.

Adapted from *The Tico Times*

Based on the previous text, choose the appropriate option to complete each sentence.
(Items from 26 to 30)

Read the text below.

COOPEDOTA EXPORTS THE FIRST CERTIFIED CARBON-NEUTRAL COFFEE



The 800 Coopedota members are the first to export their coffee beans with a carbon-neutral international certification. This cooperative is located in a southern region of Costa Rica known as Los Santos. This area is renowned for cultivating award-winning coffee thanks to its mineral-rich fertile soil and ideal climate.

Recently, the cooperative has earned the PAS2060 standard carbon neutrality certification by the British Standards Institution. The cooperative actions that led to this recognition began in 1998, when they reduced by 40% the standard energy consumption at the coffee processing plant (*beneficio*) and eliminated the discharge of waste water in the community's rivers.

In 2009, the association set the goal of achieving zero net emissions of greenhouse gases. For 18 months, they worked with well-known consultants from EARTH and Yale University as well as the Peace Corps to measure the carbon footprint and establish a management strategy.

By applying this strategy, the cooperative was able to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases associated with the life cycle of coffee (production, process, transportation, and sale) until they reached zero net emissions. Besides becoming an additional market for importers who promote environmental protection, Coopedota will be a model for the whole coffee production sector.

Adapted from *La Nación*, March 14, 2011

Based on the previous text, choose the appropriate option to complete each sentence.
(Items from 31 to 35)

Read the conversation below.

Situation: Karla and Bryan are talking about places to visit in Cartagena.

Karla: So, what do you want to do tomorrow?

Bryan: Well, let's look at the Cartagena tourist guide. Uh, here's something interesting. Why don't we first visit La Popa Hill?

There's a convent called "Nuestra Señora de la Candelaria." The guide says that one can see the entire city from there. That must be amazing.

Karla: Yeah. That sounds great. And what should we do after that?

Bryan: How about going to the San Felipe de Barajas Castle and the Old Shoes Monument?



Karla: Good idea. They are very famous tourist attractions here. After that, we can go to the historic old town. The guide says there are good restaurants there. We can try local food and then take pictures of the buildings and sculptures.

Bryan: Sure. The guide also says there are nice stores to buy souvenirs and emeralds. We can buy some presents for our family and friends.

Karla: That's a wonderful plan.

Bryan: Ok. I think we need to exchange some dollars for Colombian pesos.

Karla: You're right. We have to go now. Remember that we have to pay for the tour to the Rosario Islands. I can't wait until Saturday to visit the aquarium. I want to take pictures of the dolphins and sharks.

Bryan: Me too.

Created by Barrantes, D. (2016)

Based on the previous conversation, choose the appropriate option to complete each sentence below. (Items from 36 to 40)

Read the text below.

SOME BENEFITS OF FOLIC ACID



Whether a woman is considering pregnancy or not, the time to think about adequate intake of folic acid for both men and women is now. Deficiency of folic acid can precipitate excess blood levels of the amino acid homocysteine, which is a known risk factor for heart diseases, strokes and some forms of cancer.

According to Dr. Godfrey Oakley, who directs the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the U.S. Center for Disease Control, "Research findings at the center indicate that adequate folate intake could prevent approximately 50 000 deaths from heart attack each year in the United States." Folic acid deficiency increases the risk of colon and cervical cancer, and reduces the body's supply of a special protein which is a potent ingredient of our own built-in anticancer defense system. Folic acid is nontoxic, and the recommended daily intake is 400 micrograms.

Adapted from the Internet.

Based on the previous text, choose the appropriate option to answer each of the following questions. (Items from 41 to 45)

Read the text below.

SUFFRAGE

Suffrage is the civil right to vote, or the exercise of that right, in order to give political responsibilities to one representative over others.

Voting on issues by referendum may also be available. Referendums are legal mechanisms for voters to repeal or accept a law passed by the state legislature. Referendums are a major component of direct democracy, a system in which laws are directly made by the people. Another major aspect of a direct democracy is an initiative. Referendums differ from initiatives in that they repeal already passed laws, whereas initiatives propose new laws for consideration.



Referendums are not allowed at the national level in some countries. They are only allowed at state and local levels, because the public's participation in the decision-making process is distrusted.

Citizens become eligible to vote after reaching the age of legal adulthood. For example, in Costa Rica it is eighteen years old. Wherever universal suffrage exists, the right to vote is not restricted by race, gender, belief, sexual orientation, wealth, or social status.

Adapted from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suffrage>

Based on the previous text, choose the appropriate option to complete each sentence.
(Items from 46 to 50)

Read the text below.

CALL CENTERS EXPAND SERVICES

When call centers were first established in Costa Rica in 1995, they provided technical support to solve customer problems in the USA. Even though this service is still offered, call centers are now providing more higher-value services such as outsourcing financial and technical support, billing, human resources, and telemarketing among other services.



The former Director of CINDE (National Agency for Attracting Foreign Investment) said that new jobs were available because of good "timing" within the service sectors in Costa Rica. It is definitely good news for the country. In times of crisis, there are growth opportunities for these companies which are getting new accounts on demand. She also added that the credibility of the country and the recognition these companies have as a highly productive and skilled workforce are factors that contribute to the expansion of services. According to data provided by CINDE, there are over 20 call centers operating in Costa Rica. All of these companies are seeking staff who have a high level of English and immediate availability.

Competitive salaries, professional growth opportunities and stability are offered. Transportation and food subsidies, annual bonuses according to performance, and medical insurance are some of the benefits included. Call centers generate over 12 000 jobs in Costa Rica. Most employees are young.

Adapted from [http:// www.nacion.com/ln-ee/2009/junio15/economia_1994543.html](http://www.nacion.com/ln-ee/2009/junio15/economia_1994543.html)

Based on the previous text, choose the appropriate option to complete each sentence.
(Items from 51 to 55)

Read the text below.

COSTA RICA AND STELLAR MAPS FROM SPACE



Starting this week, the website of the University of Costa Rica's (UCR) Planetarium will offer children and adults the opportunity to become "real astronauts" and watch Costa Rica's clouds, mountains and rivers from space. At www.planetario.ucr.ac.cr, they will be able to observe free satellite images of Costa Rica, which will be updated every 30 minutes. Images will be sent through "GOES Satellites" from NASA.

"These satellites are located in the tropics, near the equator, which allow them to capture and show extraordinary images of Costa Rica," said an employee at the Planetarium. These images are also useful for the National Meteorological Institute in order to forecast the weather.

The Planetarium offers 12 stellar maps, one for each month of the year. The maps allow the curious to find heavenly bodies and watch them more easily. These maps are offered online at two different times, 7 p.m. and 4 a.m., because these are the Costa Ricans' average observation times. There are two versions of each of these maps: one has a black background for online observations, and the other is a printable version with a white background for easy access on field trips. The Planetarium also offers a downloadable list of astronomical events such as lunar and solar eclipses.

Adapted from "Observe a Costa Rica desde el espacio cada 30 minutos" Aldea Global. [La Nación](#)

Based on the previous text, choose the appropriate option to complete each of the following sentences. (Items from 56 to 60)