

EVAU

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TEXTO A

A New BBC Period Drama

The BBC is to make its first prime-time period drama that will have Asian actors in all the leading roles. Filming is due to start this summer on an adaptation of Vikram Seth's *A Suitable Boy*, which at 1,349 pages is one of the longest novels in the English language.

It will be directed by Mira Nair, the Indian-American film-maker behind *Monsoon Wedding*. Andrew Davies, best known for adapting *Pride and Prejudice* for the BBC, has been drafted in for the screenplay.

To be broadcast next year, the series is expected to have more than 100 characters. All the main roles will be played by Asians – many from India – while the handful of white characters in Seth's book will appear only as bit parts. It contrasts with ITV's current Sunday night offering, *Beecham House*, which stars Tom Bateman playing a former member of the East India Company in the leading role. Previous hit dramas set in Asia, such as *The Far Pavillions* and *The Jewel in the Crown*, have also focused on white characters.

Davies acknowledged it was a big departure for the BBC, but believes viewers will still tune in. "It is exciting," he said. "Not many of the leading players will be known to a British audience. But it is also like a Jane Austen novel in that it's got a lovely, easy-to-relate-to central plot."

A Suitable Boy revolves around the desire of a middle-class Indian mother, Rupa Mehra, to marry off her youngest daughter, Lata. The Indian actress Tabu, who starred as the mother in Ang Lee's *Life of Pi*, is expected to play Mehra, while a Bollywood star has been cast as Lata.

Adapted from "All-Asian cast is most suitable for BBC's Vikram Seth drama," *The Times*, 30 June 2019. <<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/all-asian-cast-is-most-suitable-for-bbc-s-vikram-seth-drama-t6qwvj57f>>

QUESTIONS

A.1 (2 puntos) Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- This will be the first production by Mira Nair.
- There will be no white characters in the new BBC series.

A.2 (2 puntos) In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

- How does Andrew Davies think the audience will react to this new series and why?
- What is the plot of the new BBC series?

A.3 (1 punto) Find the words in the text that mean:

- screened (paragraph 3)
- present (paragraph 3)
- change (paragraph 4)
- wish (paragraph 5)

A.4 (2 puntos) Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- Vikram Seth _____ (born) in India, but _____ (spend) most of his life in the UK.
- I'd _____ watch a period drama than _____ (read) a book.
- If I had _____ opportunity to travel to India, I _____ (visit) Vikram Seth's relatives.
- After _____ (watch) the last thriller on Netflix, I couldn't sleep _____ a couple of nights.

A.5 (3 puntos) Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic.
What do you prefer, films or TV series? Justify your answer.

TEXTO B

The Carbon Footprint of your Inbox

Your annual work email could be adding the same amount of warming carbon dioxide to the atmosphere as a flight between London and Bruges. Email has a carbon footprint because of the power demands to create and run the computers, servers and routers that transmit each message.

The average email reportedly adds an extra 4 grams of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere – but this can increase 12 fold in email chains or with big attachments. Office workers on average process over 34,000 emails each year and can spend around 13 hours a week working on their inboxes. “This amount of carbon dioxide is equivalent to a customer having used 16,800 plastic bags in a single year,” a spokesperson for CWJobs said.

Not every email is equal, however, as adding a single 1MB attachment is predicted to raise its carbon output up to 19 grams. Larger attachments use up more energy in turn. “A particularly long email chain produces more than just hot air – it can generate as much as 50 grams in CO2 emissions,” CWJobs said. With global email traffic predicted to rise by 18 per cent in 2023, it would result in an extra 620 million tonnes of carbon dioxide each year.

A series of recommendations for how people can cut down on their communicative carbon footprints have also been published. These include only adding necessary people in email chains, replacing attachments with links to material online, and talking to people in person. In addition, due to the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation, the total number of unwanted emails have been reduced by 1.2 billion messages a day, which is the equivalent of 360 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions cut every singleday.

QUESTIONS

B.1 (2 puntos) Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- The carbon footprint of emails is not related only to the electricity consumed by computers.
- The number of spam emails has been reduced thanks to the introduction of specific policies.

B.2 (2 puntos) In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

- What is the relationship between the size of an attachment and its carbon emission?
- What can we do to reduce the carbon footprint of emails? Mention two ideas.

B.3 (1 punto) Find the words in the text that mean:

- yearly (paragraph 1)
- additional (paragraph 2)
- quantity (paragraph 2)
- consume (paragraph 3)

B.4 (2 puntos) Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

- Researchers said domestic travel was a bigger cause of CO2 emissions _____ international travel. In fact, air travel was one of _____(important) causes.
- _____ (avoid) natural disasters or extreme temperatures, _____ can damage the environment, we must keep the level of greenhouse gases at their natural levels.
- Some people think that the greenhouse effect _____(not/become) such a big problem if we _____(not/cut) so many trees in the past.
- Rewrite the following sentence so that it means the same:** We are consuming natural resources so fast that the Earth does not have time to renew them.
Natural resources_____.

B.5 (3 puntos) Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic.

Would you agree to have limited Internet access to help reduce carbon emissions? Justify your answer.

A.1.

a) False. "It will be directed by Mira Nair, the Indian-American film-maker behind *Monsoon Wedding*".

b) False. "All the main roles will be played by Asians – many from India – while the handful of white characters in Seth's book will appear only as bit parts."// "(...)while the handful of white characters in Seth's book will appear only as bit parts."

A.2.

a) He thinks the audience will still watch the show, even if they don't recognise the main actors/actresses because, as in Jane Austen books, the plot is easy to follow.

b) The plot tells about an Indian mother, Rupa Mehra, who wants her youngest daughter, Lata, to get married.

A.3.

broadcast.

current.

departure.

desire.

A.4.

a) was born/has spent

b) rather/read

c) the/would visit

d) watching/for

A.5.

Nowadays, we have the chance to watch any movie or series due to the wide range of platforms we have at hand via the Internet. There, we can choose between a documentary or a reality show, among others, but still, it is often a tedious work to select what to see.

To begin with, series do have more complicated plots as they use more characters to develop the story. However, this usually gives the series a richer variety of leading roles, which generates the necessary thrilling climax that is often needed to catch the viewer's attention.

On the other hand, films are easier to follow because they have closed plots, that is to say, they have an introduction, body and ending structure. In just two hours, we can travel around the world; jump from the highest skyscraper or anything one can imagine and, eventually, it all ends. Personally, I find films more attractive due to this reason.

All in all, I would rather choose films than series. Since I was really young my parents brought me up watching hundreds of films and creating my personal cultural background, which I am still building.

B.1.

a) True. "The average email reportedly adds an extra 4 grams of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

b) True. "Due to the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation, the total number of unwanted emails has been reduced by 1.2 billion messages a day."

B.2.

a) The relationship between the size of an email attachment and its carbon emission is that the bigger the attachment is the more power is needed to develop and operate computers. As a result, carbon emissions increase.

b) To prevent massive emission of carbon due to the email sending, we can just be careful on how many people we attach to an email or use links to send information instead of creating a new document and uploading it to the email.

B.3.

a) annual

b) extra

c) amount

d) use up

B.4.

a) than/the most important

b) to avoid/what

c) wouldn't have become/hadn't cut

d) Natural resources are being consumed so fast that the Earth does not have time to renew them.

B.5.

Nowadays, Internet has become the most used tool all around the world. One cannot imagine what the real impact to world this tool has. Yet, the general situation of the Earth would be improved if governments limited Internet access?

First, one doesn't have to be very smart to know that our world is, slowly, running out of resources. Furthermore, yearly, there are more living people rising the population of the world. Seeing the impact that Internet can produce I would rather limit my access to Internet, than living surrounded by pollution.

Although we cannot measure the impact of pollution in our bodies, we should start being conscious about the environment and limiting the use of Internet by ourselves. As this is really difficult to carry out, governments should also legislate to limit the access to the population. To sum up, people living in the Earth are slowly consuming its resources and making it die. If limiting the Internet access can prevent the world not to be killed, then I totally agree with this step.

Nowadays Internet use has been so extensive that it has proved to be directly involved in the pollution of the environment. Therefore, we should wonder: are we willing to reduce our Internet access to solve it?

First, it is widely known that humans have a leading role in the warming of the atmosphere due to Carbon emissions. Furthermore, yearly there are more and more people raising the population of the world. As a result, the future of our planet is a widespread concern.

Even though the survival of our planet and our leading role in it is a much-discussed topic, the way most inhabitants of the Earth depend on the Internet for the vast majority of their daily tasks is astonishing. Thus, making people rethink their Internet usage looks an unattainable task. However, seeing the impact that the Internet can produce on our planet's future, cutting down on it looks a necessary response.

To sum up, we should start being conscious about the environment and limiting the use of the Internet by ourselves. However, given that people aren't equally concerned about the environment, governments should also legislate to limit the access to the population. Personally, being the health of our planet at stake, I totally agree with this step.