



**Pruebas de Acceso a las  
Universidades  
de Castilla y León**

**INGLÉS**

**Texto para  
los Alumnos  
  
1 página**

**TEXT**

**THE ELDERLY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

While the condition of slave children is taking much attention by Human Rights Organizations, that of the elderly being mistreated is still not well studied. Abuse of old people is gradually being recognized as a serious social problem. Spouses, children and other relatives abuse older men and women. Surveys suggest that 4-6% experience some form of abuse in the home, but mistreatment in institutions may be more widespread than generally believed.

In Spain we find out, now and then, that senior citizens who live at welfare institutions follow miserable conditions, even suffer hunger or do not receive the medication prescribed to them. In cultures where women have inferior social status, older women are at risk of being abandoned when they are widowed and having their property seized. In other cases, a woman may be used like a slave.

Mara, a woman from India, answered to an interviewer that she was now happy and enjoyed spending her days alone. She missed nobody after years of being abused by her husband and her elder son, who had recently abandoned her. She had been diagnosed a terminal disease and they did not want to spend money or time on her medical treatment.

**QUESTIONS**

**1. Read the text and, according to it, answer the questions. Use your own words. Answers will be assessed from 0 to 1 each (3 as a whole).**

- a) Where are the elderly mistreated?
- b) What specific abuses affect women?
- c) Why has Mara been abused?

**2. Transform or complete the following sentences according to the instructions. Answers will be assessed from 0 to 0.5 each (2 as a whole).**

- a) Complete: *Mistreatment of the elderly seems to have been less...*
- b) Put into the passive: *We think that around five percent of older men and women experience some form of abuse in the home.* Begin: *Around five percent of older men and women .....*
- c) Make these sentences into one: *I never saw Mara again. I guessed she was hidden in the house and probably very sick. I called the doctor and explained the situation.*
- d) Write a question for which the underlined words are the answer: *She was abused by her husband and son.*

**3. Find a synonym in the text for each of the words below. 0 to 0.25 each (1 as a whole).**

- a) increasingly      b) acknowledged      c) lower      d) peril

**4. Write about one of the following topics, between 80-120 words (0-4 marks).**

- a) The elderly and their living conditions in Spain.
- b) Mistreatment in family relationships as a social problem in Spain.