

## Ejercicios resueltos &gt; Write in your own words

## Smart shoes - In your own words

A clever invention by a British student may be the answer to parents' concerns about their increasingly obese children. The invention is a shoe, nicknamed "Square-Eyes", that contains a tiny computer chip to record how many steps the wearer has taken in a day. A wireless transmitter passes the information to a receiver connected to the television, and this decides how much viewing time the wearer deserves. The recommended average of 12,000 steps a day equates to a maximum of two hours of viewing time. Once the allocated time in front of the box has expired, the TV automatically switches off and the child must go out to play if he wants to earn more time.

The expression "square-eyes" has long been a term associated with sedentary children who are exposed to too much television. This new device reverses this association by promoting active lifestyles for kids. The designer of the device, Gillian Swan, hopes her invention will mean healthier children who include exercise in their daily routines from an early age. She said: "Today's children are exposed to a huge offer of television programmes and children's channels. Ten years ago, children were entertained by playing games with their friends, but now they're in their bedrooms watching hours of television programmes."

According to Swan, "While children may find that two hours of TV is not especially generous, it will hopefully raise awareness among family members of their sedentary lifestyle and bring about a change in behaviour." Some researchers believe the invention is at the vanguard of computer-integrated clothing which will allow clothes to monitor our health.

**In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. (?)**

**a) How does this new invention control children's television viewing time**

The new invention controls children's viewing time by recording the number of steps that a child has taken in a day. This information is passed to a receiver connected to the television which calculates the number of minutes that a child can watch television according to the exercise done. When the time set has expired, the TV automatically switches off.

**Ayuda:** la respuesta la encontramos en el primer párrafo, que explica detalladamente el modo de funcionamiento de el nuevo aparato: un chip en los zapatos del niño registra el número de pasos que realiza y esa información se traslada a un receptor colocado en la televisión que calcula el tiempo de ver la televisión que el niño merece. Cuando se acaba el tiempo, la televisión se apaga automáticamente.

**Vocabulario:** *record*: registrar; *according to*: de acuerdo con; *set*: establecido; *switches off*: apagarse.

**b) How may "square-eyes" benefit both children and their families, in Swans' opinion?**

Swan believes that the new device will make families aware of their sedentary lifestyle and will hopefully put an end to it, therefore becoming more active.

**Ayuda:** la respuesta la encontramos en el último párrafo que cita la opinión de la diseñadora del aparato, Gillian Swan, sobre los beneficios de su invento. Según ella, el aparato hará que las familias sean conscientes del estilo sedentario de vida que están llevando y ayudará a combatir esta conducta.

**Vocabulario:** *aware*: conscientes; *lifestyle*: estilo de vida; *hopefully*: con un poco de suerte; *become*: convertirse en.