



The *botellón*, Spanish for “big bottle”, is a social phenomenon occurring in many Spanish cities amongst young people between the ages of 13 and 25. These are young people who want to get together with their friends at night. However, most of the *botellón* participants do not have enough money to socialise in bars, as the cost of drinks exceeds their financial possibilities or limits the quantity of drinks they can consume. In order to bypass this obstacle, young people buy litres of beer, spirits and soft drinks at local shops throughout the night. They then take their purchases and gather in squares and open-air spaces around the city. This solution enables them to buy drinks in a bigger quantity for less money, and enjoy a night out with their friends.

In recent years, this phenomenon has become more frequent, especially on weekends and bank holidays. Town councils are getting very worried about the high frequency of incidents. The fact that youngsters increase their alcohol consumption, provokes health concerns for the population. The gathering of many young people combined with the effect of excess alcohol produces many environmental problems such as noise, rubbish, and bad smells. Dealing with these street means spending public money on police surveillance and cleaning. The nuisance produced creates friction between youngsters and people living near the picked *botellón* area. Noise pollution and rubbish (empty bottles and cans) seem to be the factors that affect both the council and neighbours of the area.

QUESTIONS

- Based on the ideas of the text, answer the following questions using your own words as far as possible.
 - What are the main reasons for the *botellón*?
 - What are some of the problems this phenomenon creates?
- Say whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE, according to the text. Copy the evidence from the text.
 - When the writer says young people he means teenagers.
 - Young people drinking in the streets at night is expensive for town councils.
- Choose only three of the following words and write a synonym, an opposite, a definition or a sentence (only one of these four) to show that you understand their meaning in the text.

Use your own words.

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| a) spirit | b) throughout |
| c) gather | d) especially |
| e) rubbish | f) picked |

- Write down three grammatically correct and meaningful sentences by matching both columns. Only three of them are correct.

Old people are not used

to having so much noise around.

They have anything to do except

making noise outside your house at night.

It's not very pleasant to have young people

perhaps the “big bottle”

If there were other places to meet to stop young people from to do what they want

- Write a composition of about 100 words on one of the following topics.
 - Write a letter to a friend saying why you are in favour of or against the social phenomenon of the *botellón*.



CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS MIRASIERRA

www.selectividad.net/cem

C/ Moralarzal 15-A
28034 Madrid
cem@selectividad.net

91 740 56 55
91 738 06 55

b) The problem of pollution in big cities.

