


COLLEGE F. X. VOGT		SCHOOL 2023/2024	YEAR
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	PROBATOIRE BLANC	
CLASS 1 <sup>ere</sup> A	Duration : 2hrs	APRIL 2024	

**A- EVALUATION OF RESOURCES**  
**SECTION A: GRAMMAR (10 marks)**

**Task 1:** Below is a conversation between a travel agent and two tourists. Complete the sentences by choosing the best option from the brackets. (2, 5 mrks)

**Travel agent:** Good morning. May I help you?

**Tourist (woman):** Yes, please. My friend and I \_\_\_\_\_ (would like/ will like/ like) to visit a few places in West Africa.

**Travel agent:** There is a lot to see. What are you interested in?

**Tourist (man):** We would like to see some historical places and some wildlife. We would also like to learn about different cultures and taste different foods.

**Travel agent:** How much time \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_? (did, have/do, have/ have, had)

**Tourist (man):** We have two weeks.

**Travel agent:** I suggest you \_\_\_\_\_ (began/begun/begin) in Senegal. While you are in Dakar, you can visit Gorée Island. It's only three kilometres by ferry boat from Dakar. It is very interesting.

**Tourist (woman):** That sounds great! And then after Senegal?

**Travel agent:** I suggest that you go to Benin. Fly to Cotonou. From there you can take a taxi or a bus or a car and go to Porto-Novo. There \_\_\_\_\_ (is, has been, are) good restaurants there, so you can taste the good food.

**Tourist (man):** And what about the royal palaces?

**Travel agent:** I recommend that you travel up to Abomey. The town is a World Heritage Site. The palaces \_\_\_\_\_ (built/ had built/were built) from early in the 1600s.

**Tourist (both):** Wow! Thank you.

**Travel agent:** It's a pleasure. See you soon.

**Tourist (man):** Thank you for your help. Goodbye.

**Task 2:** Rewrite the sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. (2,5 mrks)

1-After the lesson \_\_\_\_\_ (end) I walked to the market to get some lunch.

2- My father \_\_\_\_\_ (smoke) for more than 20 years already. I wish he would stop!

3- This time next week we \_\_\_\_\_ (have fun) at the youth camp.

4-We thought that in May last year, we \_\_\_\_\_ (celebrate) my brothers 18th birthday before the holidays.

5- \_\_\_\_\_ (elect) captain of the football team was a great honour for Samuel Eto'o.

**Task 3: Rewrite the following sentences using the prompts so as to keep the same meaning with the first one (5 mkr)**

1-They finally broke up. They were married for more than twenty years.

After \_\_\_\_\_

2-They waited in a queue for two hours. They were allowed into the concert hall.

Before \_\_\_\_\_

3- The dictator had ruled the country for twenty-five years before he was forced to step down.

The country \_\_\_\_\_

4- The whole family lived in poverty. The father won the jackpot on the national lottery.

If \_\_\_\_\_

5- Children usually behave poorly. Parents keep on loving and encouraging them.

In spite of \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION B- VOCABULARY

**Task 1- Read the short passage on advertisement and complete the gaps with the correct form of the words in brackets. (5 mrks)**

Advertising has played a significant role in consumerism as people are easily persuaded to buy more than what they need. A \_\_\_\_\_ (**policy**) who wants to be elected will place \_\_\_\_\_ (**advert**) in the media. A government that wants people to be reminded about certain issues may place an advertisement on television, as well, being \_\_\_\_\_ (**remind**) that water should not be wasted may help to save water. The media are also \_\_\_\_\_ (**wide**) used to advertise job vacancies.

**Task 2: Use the words of your own to complete the passage on Selfies. (5 mrks)**

It has become very fashionable for people to take photographs of themselves. For some people it has become an (1) \_\_\_\_\_. Selfies allow us to show pictures that make us feel good about ourselves. They invite people to look at you and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ you! We take these types of photographs on the spur of the (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Many famous people (4) \_\_\_\_\_ themselves by posting selfies on the Internet. But many people

are also (5) \_\_\_\_\_ selfies because they believe people who post picture daily are desperate.

## **B- EVALUATION OF COMPETENCES**

### **SECTION C: COMPREHENSION: (10 MARKS)**

**Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that are based on it. Use correct English sentences, and as far as possible, your own words.**

#### **THE DECREASE IN NEWSPAPER READERSHIP**

In Cameroon, as well as many African countries, the decrease in newspaper readership has become a serious problem and newspapers managers find it more difficult to maintain what used to be the primary source of information.

Newspaper readership has been declining over many years due to several reasons. The most prominent reason behind this is lack of breaking news. The newspaper readers get updated about any news the next day only, while online readers can grab it at the moment. Hence, long established newspapers simply do not have the efficiency to match with speed of internet technology. Not only online news is rapid in its process but moreover, it is easily accessible and earth friendly.

People do not get enough time to read newspaper in the morning as they have to rush to their working place. That is why online news is becoming very much popular these days. The online news takeover is becoming evident among young people. It has also been surveyed that mass of people are either gathering news from media conversations or from various social media sites. These social media sites are regularly updated with latest news from various social media

sites are regularly updated with latest news from all around the globe. Getting such information at one junction has made it much easier for people to grasp the breaking news at the time it occurs.

This progressive abandon of newspapers has devastating consequences on the economy of nations as well as in people's social life. Indeed, many are those newspaper publishes that were forced to close because they were not able to manage the large quantity of employers with regard to the limited resources the newspaper brings in. many newspaper editors and designers are forced to work with many months of unpaid salary; a situation which seriously impacts on the quality of their output.

The fact that many people rely on social media to get updated about the latest has become a serious problem as the phenomenon of fake news is spreading like wild fire. Newspapers are more quality centric and thus are more reliable over providing current news. The information found in newspapers; unlike that found on social media, is verified before it is published and the source is always mentioned/ information got from social media is not always verified and lack reliable sources.

**Curled from the internet**

#### **Questions:**

- 1- Provide two reasons why people prefer to get news from social media than from newspapers**

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2- In terms of quality what between newspapers and social media is the most reliable source of information?

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3- Name two written newspapers and two social media in your country.

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4- In the passage look for the words that are similar in meaning to the following;

a- Fake news: \_\_\_\_\_ b- designers: \_\_\_\_\_  
c- breaking news: \_\_\_\_\_ d- updated: \_\_\_\_\_

5- Why is it difficult for the newspaper business to prosper in Africa?

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**SECTION D: ESSAY (10 marks)**

Write an essay of between 250 and 300 words on anyone of the following topics:

**Topic 1:** Many famous influencers are followed on the internet by youth. Many of these young people want to abandon school because they do not see the importance of formal education in their future life. You have been called as an elite of your community (Ndop village) to sensitize youth on the role of formal education. In your speech, insist on:

- The importance of formal education for personal development,
- The opportunities that formal education offer,
- The handicaps that somebody who did not go through formal education can face,
- Your name is Ngoun Sylver, elite in Ndop village.

**Topic 2:** One of the most destructive consumption habits is alcoholism. In Cameroon, people of all ages enjoy drinking, and do so in excess. Write a composition in which you talk about the dangers of alcohol consumption. In your work, insist on the reasons people drink alcohol, the consequences on their health and social life, the measures that could be taken to eradicate this phenomenon.

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