


COLLEGE F. X. VOGT		SCHOOL 2023/2024	YEAR
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	PROBATOIRE BLANC	
CLASS 1 ^{re} 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**

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

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

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?

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.

Correction of Examination Paper

SECTION A: GRAMMAR (10 marks)

Task 1: Complete the sentences by choosing the best option from the brackets. (2.5 marks)

1. Tourist (woman): Yes, please. My friend and I **would like** to visit a few places in West Africa.
2. Travel agent: How much time **do** you **have**?
3. Travel agent: I suggest you **begin** in Senegal.
4. Travel agent: There **are** good restaurants there, so you can taste the good food.
5. Travel agent: The palaces **were built** from early in the 1600s.

Task 2: Rewrite the sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. (2.5 marks)

1. After the lesson **ended**, I walked to the market to get some lunch.
2. My father **has been smoking** for more than 20 years already. I wish he would stop!
3. This time next week we **will be having fun** at the youth camp.
4. We thought that in May last year, we **would celebrate** my brother's 18th birthday before the holidays.
5. **Being elected** 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 marks)

1. **After** they had been married for more than twenty years, they finally broke up.

2. **Before** they were allowed into the concert hall, they waited in a queue for two hours.
3. The country **had been ruled by the dictator for twenty-five years before he was forced to step down.**
4. **If** the father had not won the jackpot on the national lottery, the whole family would have lived in poverty.
5. **In spite of** children behaving poorly, parents keep on loving and encouraging them.

SECTION B: VOCABULARY (10 marks)

Task 1: Complete the gaps with the correct form of the words in brackets. (5 marks)

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

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

It has become very fashionable for people to take photographs of themselves. For some people it has become an **(1) obsession**. Selfies allow us to show pictures that make us feel good about ourselves. They invite people to look at you and **(2) admire** you! We take these types of photographs on the spur of the **(3) moment**. Many famous people **(4) promote** themselves by posting selfies on the Internet. But many people are also **(5) criticizing** selfies because they believe people who post pictures daily are desperate.

SECTION C: COMPREHENSION (10 marks)

Questions:

1. **Provide two reasons why people prefer to get news from social media than from newspapers:**
 - Online news is rapid and provides breaking news instantly.
 - Social media is easily accessible and updated regularly.
2. **In terms of quality, what between newspapers and social media is the most reliable source of information?**

- Newspapers are more reliable because the information is verified before publication, and sources are mentioned.
3. **Name two written newspapers and two social media in your country.**
- Newspapers: *Cameroon Tribune*, *The Post Newspaper*.
 - Social media: Facebook, Twitter.
4. **In the passage, look for the words that are similar in meaning to the following:**
- (a) Fake news: misinformation
 - (b) Designers: editors
 - (c) Breaking news: latest news
 - (d) Updated: refreshed
5. **Why is it difficult for the newspaper business to prosper in Africa?**
- The decline in readership due to the rise of online news and social media has led to financial difficulties. Many newspapers cannot manage the large number of employees with limited resources, leading to unpaid salaries and reduced quality of output.

SECTION D: ESSAY (10 marks)

Topic 1: The Role of Formal Education

Speech by Ngoun Sylver, Elite in Ndop Village

Good morning, my dear brothers and sisters of Ndop village. Today, I stand before you to talk about the importance of formal education in our lives. Many of our youth are influenced by famous internet personalities who seem to succeed without formal education. However, I urge you not to be misled by these illusions.

First, formal education is crucial for personal development. It equips us with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the complexities of the modern world. Education shapes our thinking, broadens our horizons, and helps us make informed decisions.

Second, formal education opens doors to numerous opportunities. It provides access to better jobs, higher incomes, and a chance to contribute meaningfully to society. Without education, many doors remain closed, and opportunities are limited.

Third, those who do not go through formal education face significant handicaps. They often struggle to find stable employment, earn a decent living, and compete in a globalized world. Education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty and achieving success.

In conclusion, I urge you all to value formal education. It is the foundation of a brighter future for you and our community. Let us not be swayed by the allure of quick fame on the internet. Education is the true path to lasting success.

Thank you.

Topic 2: The Dangers of Alcohol Consumption

Alcoholism is one of the most destructive habits in Cameroon. People of all ages consume alcohol excessively, leading to severe consequences for their health and social lives.

First, people drink alcohol for various reasons, including social pressure, stress relief, and cultural practices. However, excessive drinking leads to addiction, which is difficult to overcome.

Second, the health consequences of alcoholism are devastating. It causes liver damage, heart disease, and mental health issues such as depression and anxiety. Alcohol also impairs judgment, leading to accidents and risky behaviors.

Third, alcoholism has severe social consequences. It strains relationships, leads to family breakdowns, and contributes to poverty. Many alcoholics lose their jobs and become dependent on others for survival.

To eradicate this phenomenon, we must take collective action. **First**, the government should enforce stricter laws on alcohol sales and consumption. **Second**, communities should educate people about the dangers of alcoholism and provide support for those struggling with addiction. **Third**, individuals must take responsibility for their actions and seek help if needed.

In conclusion, alcoholism is a serious issue that requires immediate attention. By working together, we can create a healthier and more prosperous society.

Total Marks: 30