


<p>INSTITUT PREPARATOIRE AUX ETUDES D'INGENIEUR DE SFAX</p>		<p>A.U. : 2017/2018 Niveau : 2ème année Epreuve : Anglais Durée : 2 heures Date : 13/12/2017</p>
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DEVOIR DE FIN DE SEMESTRE N°1

- 1- A quick quiz. No Googling, no conferring, but off the top of your head: what is currently the world's worst humanitarian disaster? If you nominated storm Harvey and the flooding of Houston, Texas, then don't be too hard on yourself. Media coverage of that disaster has been intense, and the pictures dramatic. You'd be forgiven for thinking that this supposedly once-in-a-thousand-years calamity – now happening with alarming frequency, thanks to climate change – was the most devastating event on the planet.

- 2- As it happens, Harvey has killed an estimated 44 Texans and forced some **32,000** into shelters since it struck, a week ago. That is a catastrophe for every one of those individuals, of course. Still, those figures look small alongside the havoc wreaked by flooding across southern Asia during the very same period. In the past few days, more than 1,200 people have been killed, and the lives of some 40 million others turned upside down, by torrential rain in northern India, southern Nepal, northern Bangladesh and southern Pakistan.

- 3- That there is a disparity in the global attention paid to **these two natural disasters** is hardly a novelty. It's as old as the news itself, expressed in one, perhaps apocryphal Fleet Street maxim like a law of physics: "One dead in Putney equals 10 dead in Paris equals 100 dead in Turkey equals 1,000 dead in India equals 10,000 dead in China."

- 4- Most of this amounts to a pretty basic form of racism to which, lord knows, the media are far from immune. Perhaps Eurocentrism would be more accurate. But whatever term you favour, it surely represents the most fundamental form of discrimination one can imagine: deeming the lives of one group of people to be worth less than **those** of another – worth less coverage, less attention, less sympathy, less sorrow.

- 5- But I've not yet given an answer to my quiz question. Full marks if you put your hand up to say ... Yemen. In July the UN determined that it was "the world's largest humanitarian crisis". If you think it's hard to get westerners interested in flood victims in Nepal, just try talking about Yemen.

- 6- The scale of the suffering in the Arab world's poorest country is clear. Since it became the site of a proxy war in March 2015, 10,000 people have been killed, with 7 million made homeless. The UN is especially anxious about cholera, which has already killed 2,000 people and infected more than 540,000. It threatens to become an epidemic. That's no surprise, given that sewage plants have been among the infrastructure bombed from the sky. The Saudi-led coalition has kept Sana'a airport closed, which means food and medicines cannot get in and the sick cannot get out for treatment. Pictures of gaunt children, listless babies and starving mothers recall the worst of Africa's famines – but this disaster is entirely human-made.

7- Nor is this a remote story utterly unconnected to us. On the contrary, the Saudi government is armed to the hilt with weapons supplied by the UK and the US: £3.3bn worth of British firepower in the first year of this vicious war alone. And yet Yemen has barely registered in the western consciousness, let alone stirred the western conscience.

8- If there has been little western public appetite for action to shield Syria's people, there's less to protect the people of Yemen. There's not much interest even in pressuring London and Washington to stop arming the Saudi regime that is responsible for the country's torment, despite the warnings that Yemen risks becoming the next Syria: its soil soaked in blood, rendered fertile for the next generation of violent jihadists.

9- The result is that the children of Yemen are dying cruel deaths, while the rest of the world ignores **them**. They are not drowning in Texas or Mumbai. They are dying under a hot desert sun, killed by our allies – and by our inattention.

The Guardian, September 1st, 2017

PART ONE: READING COMPREHENSION (30pts)

I/ Which two ideas are NOT dealt with in the text?

- 1) There is a disaster much worse than Texas; but no one talks about it.
- 2) Politicians in Yemen are indifferent to what is happening to people there.
- 3) The misery caused by natural disasters is deepened by meaningless wars.
- 4) Both the US and Britain are helping to cause the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

II/ Complete the table on the answer sheets about the catastrophes mentioned in the text.

III/ How has the closure of Sana's airport affected the Yemeni people?

IV/ Indicate whether the following statements are True or False. Justify with details from the text.

- 1) Climate change has increased the frequency of natural disasters.
- 2) The media are potentially responsible for fostering the biased attitude towards victims.
- 3) The war in Yemen has captured the attention of people in the West.

V/ Complete the sentences on the answer sheets with information from the text.

VI/ List down depressing images in Yemen which bring back to mind starvation in Africa.

VII/ Explain in your own words:

“ its soil soaked in blood, rendered fertile for the next generation of violent jihadists.” (§8)

VIII/ Find in the text words which correspond to the following definitions:

- 1) widespread devastation (§2)
- 2) the state of being unequal (§3)
- 3) considering or supposing (§4)
- 4) violent, destructive and cruel (§7)

IX/ What do the underlined items in the text refer to?

- 1) 32,000 (§2)
- 2) these two natural disasters (§3)
- 3) those (§4)
- 4) them (§9)

PART TWO: LANGUAGE (30pts)

Task one: Put the bracketed words in the correct tense or form :(10pts)

A Japanese company tasked with cleaning up Fukushima, the site of the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl, (1) **(lately / admit)** that its attempts to probe the site are failing repeatedly due to (2) **(incredible)** high levels of radiation. The nuclear meltdown at Fukushima in 2011 (3) **(trigger)** by an earthquake and tsunami which left around 18,000 people (4) **(die)** and more than a million buildings destroyed. At least 100,000 people living near the plant (5) **(force)** to leave their homes. High rates of mental health problems and post-traumatic stress disorder have been observed within the (6) **(displace)** population. It is estimated that around 600 tons of toxic fuel may (7) **(leak)** out of the reactor during the incident. The Tokyo Electric Power Company (Tepco), which oversees the (8) **(manage)** of the site, needs to ascertain the location and size of the leakages before the clean-up can begin in earnest. The radiation levels on the site are far (9) **(high)** than any human could possibly survive, so engineers (10) **(currently / use)** purpose-built "scorpion" robots with cameras attached to survey the scale of the damage.

Task Two: Complete with the appropriate word. (The first two letters the word begins with and a synonym of the word are provided to help you): (10pts)

The earthquake on the Iran-Iraq (1) **fr...** (=border) was far from the world's strongest, with a magnitude of 7.3. (2) **Ho...** (=Nevertheless), it was the deadliest (3) **sh...** (=quake) so far in 2017, killing about 400 people and (4) **in...** (=wounding) 7,000. A further 70,000 are reported to be homeless. The epicentre lay 30km south of Halabja in Iraq, but almost all of the casualties (5) **oc...** (=happened) in Iran's Kurdish heartland, in the country's marginalised north-west. Footage from Sarpol-e Zahab, an Iranian town of 35,000 (6) **ne...** (=close to) the Iraqi border, shows (7) **wh...** (=entire) neighbourhoods reduced to rubble. Cars lie buried under concrete. Angry (8) **re...** (=dwellers) have been heard blaming poor construction quality and government corruption for the heavy death toll. Many of the victims lived in the social housing complexes that Mahmoud Ahmadinejad had built when he was president (9) **ha...** (=barely) a decade ago. As older buildings remained standing, many of the newer blocks (10) **co...** (=fell down) like concertinas.

Task Three: Express differently starting as given on the answer sheets :(10pts)

- 1- This is the first time I've been to a discotheque.
- 2- Would you like to come to the concert with me?
- 3- Stephan would rather windsurf than sail.
- 4- Mary will only come to the party if Peter is invited.
- 5- It's a pity I don't have a new dress to wear to the wedding ceremony.
- 6- "Which path did the bandits take?" asked the sheriff.
- 7- Despite his lack of experience, I think he is the best for the job.
- 8- People say that he is an excellent saxophone player.
- 9- I am sure it was Tom who cleaned everything up.
- 10- The train was delayed because of the snow, so Thomas was late for the meeting.

PART THREE: WRITING TASKS (20pts)

Task One: Correct the mistakes. There is one mistake in each sentence: (2.5pts)

- 1) Rioting broke up in the middle of the night.
- 2) The seaside resort was distracted by an unprecedented typhoon.
- 3) New technologies have enabled the US become the world's top oil and gas producer.
- 4) They were skiing in the Alps when the avalanche has started.
- 5) The biggest onshore wind farm in England will be a boost for the economy as well as the environment.

Task Two: Reorder the following parts to get a meaningful sentence: (2.5pts)

- a) the growing use of energy and
- b) in the atmosphere during the 20th century
- c) The build-up of greenhouse gases
- d) expansion of the global economy.
- e) has resulted from

Task Three: Essay (15pts)

Tunisia ranks high in the number of road accidents and casualties. What are the causes of such a disaster and what are the appropriate solutions to tackle this national tragedy?

Develop your opinion in a 15-line essay.

GOOD LUCK!

DEVOIR DE FIN DE SEMESTRE N°1
(ANSWER SHEETS)

PART ONE: COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (30pts)

I/ Ideas Not Dealt With: (2pts)

- a)
-
- b)
-

II / Table Completion: (5pts)

Catastrophes	Hit Areas	Death Toll
Storm Harvey
Flooding across southern Asia	a) northern India b)..... c)..... d).....
Proxy war
Cholera

III/ Effects: (3pts)

- 1).....
- 2).....

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IV/ True or False Statements: (6pts)

- 1) (.....).....
.....
- 2) (.....).....
.....
- 3) (.....).....
.....

V/ Sentence Completion: (3pts)

- 1) It's likely that more and more people in Yemen will catch cholera since.....
.....
- 2) With the world turning a blind eye to the war in Yemen, children there
.....

VI/ Depressing Images: (1.5pt)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

VII/ Sentence Explanation: (1.5pt)

.....
.....

VIII/ Vocabulary Items: (4pts)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

IX/ References: (4pts)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

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PART TWO: LANGUAGE (30pts)

TASK ONE: (10pts)

1)	6)
2)	7)
3)	8)
4)	9)
5)	10)

TASK TWO: (10pts)

1)	6)
2)	7)
3)	8)
4)	9)
5)	10)

TASK THREE: (10pts)

- 1- Never before.....
- 2- Are you interested
- 3- Stephan prefers.....
- 4- Unless Peter.....
- 5- I wish.....
- 6- The sheriff wanted to know.....
- 7- Although.....
- 8- He is said
- 9- Tom must.....
- 10- Hadn't the train.....

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PART THREE: WRITING TASKS (20pts)

Task One: Mistake Correction: (2.5pts)

Mistake	Correction	Mistake	Correction
1)	1)	4)	4)
2)	2)	5)	5)
3)	3)		

Task Two: Reordering: (2.5pts)

1) 2)..... 3) 4) 5).....

Task Three: Essay: (15pts)

[illegible]