

BEPC
SESSION 2018
ZONE : II

Coefficient : 1
Durée : 2 h

LANGUE VIVANTE 1 : ANGLAIS

*Cette épreuve comporte deux (02) pages numérotées 1/2 et 2/2.
 Le candidat est libre de commencer par la composante de son choix.
 Cependant, il devra numéroter ses réponses conformément à la numérotation du sujet.*

PART ONE

READING-COMPREHENSION (8 points)

Read the text below and do all the activities that follow it.

A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE ?

People have dreamed of a universal language since the 17th century. Many artificial languages like Esperanto have been invented. But they haven't had much success, mainly because they are not based on any common culture or experience.

- 5 Some people have suggested that English should be the Universal Language. It is spoken regularly by several hundred million people in the whole world, and it is the official language of many countries. It is taught in most European and Asian schools. Its grammar is quite simple and its vocabulary cosmopolitan. If English is chosen as the Universal Language, what kind of English will be spoken? American English or British English? American English has become very different from British English, not just in
- 10 the way words are pronounced and printed, but in the grammar and vocabulary that are used too.

Around the world, English speakers are creating their own kinds of English. For example, an Anglo-Indian phrase is "as honest as an elephant", and an Anglo-African expression is "to eat each other's ears," meaning "to listen carefully."

- 15 One thing is certain to most people today: learning English is a "must".

Adapted from Channel 3, P 21.

COMPREHENSION CHECK

A Vocabulary check

Find in the text the words or expressions whose synonyms or meanings are listed below.

Write your answers like in the example.

Example: 1. = dreamed

- 1- thought (L.1)
- 2- proposed (L.4)
- 3- entire (L.5)
- 4- reasonably (L.7)
- 5- from many parts of the world (L.7)
- 6- variety (L.8)
- 7- written (L.10)
- 8- personal (L.12)
- 9- obligation (L.15)

B Comprehension questions

Give short answers to the questions on the text. (two lines maximum)

1. Why haven't artificial languages been successful?
2. Give two reasons why people think English should be the Universal Language.
3. What problem will people have if English becomes the Universal Language?
4. According to the text, what are English speakers doing today around the world?

PART TWO

LANGUAGE IN USE (6 points)

Task 1

The paragraph below is about a common language for humanity. Fill in each blank with a word from the box to make it meaningful. One word in the box is not concerned. Write your answers like in the example.

Example: 1. = ago

since – for – ago – while - during

Language is very important for human beings. Some centuries 1. (...), people thought about having one common language that every human could understand. and speak This has been their dream 2. (...) the 17th century. Language specialists have been thinking of that universal language 3. (...) years but so far, no decision has been made. The problem will still be discussed 4. (...) international meetings for the decades to come.

Task 2

The sentences below are about English as a universal language. Rewrite each of them starting with the underlined phrases. Write your answers like in the example.

Example: 1. = *Nowadays, millions of people speak English in the world.*

1. Nowadays, English is spoken by millions of people in the world.
2. Artificial languages were invented by some language specialists.
3. In most countries, English is taught by non-native speakers.
4. Today, English is needed by anybody who likes to travel.

PART THREE

WRITING (6 points)

TOPIC

Write an article about the importance of English in the world today.

In your article,

- name some countries where English is spoken;
- give the reasons why English is important for French-speaking Africa;
- encourage your friends to join your school English club.

Write your article in 10 to 12 lines maximum.