



LANGUE VIVANTE I

Epreuve du 2^{ème} groupe

ANGLAIS

Whatever happened to Patience?

Impatience has been around for a long time. There is nothing new about people losing their patience while stuck in traffic or waiting in line. But some experts believe that people are less patient today than in the past – and for reasons that might surprise **you**.

5 Some analysts infer that in recent years many people have become less patient because of technology. According to the Gazette of Montreal, Canada, some researchers suggest that “digital technology, from cellphones to cameras to email to iPods, is changing our lives... The instant results we get from this technology have in turn increased our appetite for instant gratification in other aspects of our lives”.

10 Family psychologist Dr. Jennifer Hartstein makes some sobering observations. She explains that “we have become an immediate gratification culture, and we expect things to move quickly, efficiently and in the way we want. When **that** doesn’t happen, we tend to become increasingly frustrated and irritable, a sign of impatience”. She adds, “We’ve lost the art of just slowing down and enjoying the moment”.

15 Some believe that email is losing popularity and could soon become obsolete. Why? Because many people who send messages do not have the patience to wait hours, or even minutes, for a response. Also, with emails, as with letter writing, introductory and concluding greetings are often expected. But many people consider **such formalities** to be boring and time-consuming. They prefer instant messaging, which does not require the protocols of email. It seems that people just do not have the patience to type polite greetings!

Many people do not take the time to proofread what they put in writing. As a result, letters and emails go out to the wrong recipients or contain numerous grammatical and typographical errors.

20 The thirst for immediate results is not limited to the realm of digital communication. People seem to be losing their ability to wait in other areas of life. For instance, do you ever find yourself talking too fast, eating too fast, driving too fast, or spending money too fast? The few moments it takes to wait for an elevator to come, for a traffic light to change, or for a computer to boot up may seem like an eternity.

25 Experts have observed that many people do not have the patience to read through lengthy text in print. Why? Because they are accustomed to navigating speedily through web pages, jumping from blurb to blurb and from bullet to bullet, hoping to land on the main point as quickly as possible.

30 Whatever happened to patience? Experts do not have all the answers when it comes to the causes of impatience. Yet, there seems to be compelling evidence that impatience can be harmful. For one thing, impatience is linked to frustration, irritation, and even anger. Such emotions can raise our stress level, which in turn can harm our health. A recent study published by the American Medical Association specifically pointed to impatience as a risk factor for hypertension, even among young adults. Another recent study revealed that impatience is linked to obesity : impatient individuals are more likely to be obese than people who are good at waiting. In some areas, inexpensive fast food is easily available at all times of the day, and many impatient people cannot resist the temptation.

Adapted from Awake ! December 2012. Vol. 93, N° 12 Monthly

I. READING COMPREHENSION (08 marks)

A. Complete the following table about impatience according to the text (0,5x6 = 3 marks)

Causes	Consequences
1.	Psychological: 3..... 4.....
2	Physiological: 5..... 6.....

B. Are the following statements true or false ? Justify with a specific passage from the text. (1 x 2 = 2 marks)

7. Most specialists think that web messages will grow in number

Justification.....

8. No clear connection has been established between impatience and health problems.....

Justification.....

C. Are the following statements facts or opinions? (Tick out (V) the right column) (0.5 x 3 = 1.5 marks)

Statements	Facts	Opinions
9. Impatience has been around for a long time. (par. 1)		
10. We expect things to move quickly, efficiently and in the way we want. (par.3)		
11. Experts do not have all the answers when it comes to the causes of impatience. (par.8)		

D. What do the underlined words in the text refer to ? (0.5 x 3 = 1.5 marks)

12. You (par. 1).....

13. That (par. 3)

14. Such formalities (par. 4).....

II. COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (6 marks)

E. Elimane’s SMS has gone to a wrong receiver. A while later somebody calls him. Complete their conversation putting the verbs in brackets into the right tense and form and filling the gaps with these words.

Apologize – excuse – mistake (0.5 x 5 = 2.5 marks)

B: Good morning. I am Baba. Who am I talking to, please?

- E: Hello! I am Elimane. Is that Baba Seydi?

- B: No, Baba Jallow! You (15)..... (just/send) me a message.

E: Oh, I’m terribly sorry! It was a(16).....

- B: Ok, I see. But(17)..... (check/you) the phone number before sending the message?

E: Yes, I did. But I was in such a hurry that I didn’t do it properly. I sincerely(18).....! Sorry for (19) you!

F. Use the right forms of the words in brackets (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

Impatience can damage our(20)..... (able) to communicate. When a person doesn’t have the patience to engage in(21)..... (mean) conversation, they have the (22)..... (tend) to speak without thinking. Such impatience can result in(23) (understand) and damage social relationship.

G. Reported speech (1.5 marks)

Dr Hartstein makes these observations :

“Who wants to be with somebody looking at the watch all the time? Impatience is not a very attractive quality. It will drive your friends away.”

Two days later, an Awake Magazine reporter wrote her observations in his own words. Complete the report. (Use **to wonder** – **to think**)

24. Dr Hartstein.....

.....
.....

III. WRITING (6 marks)

Choose one topic and write about 150-200 words

Topic 1 : Senegalese people are often criticized for their lack of patience. Comment on this statement giving relevant illustrations.

Topic 2 : A lot of people are queuing to pay their electricity bills. One latecomer goes past the long line to the cashier. Saadibou intervenes. Write their dispute.

Saadibou : Hey you, who do you think you are ? Why won’t you queue up like everybody?

Latecomer :