

BAC BLANC REGIONAL

Coefficient : 2

SESSION AVRIL 2017

Durée : 3 H

LANGUE VIVANTE 1: ANGLAIS*Cette épreuve comporte 4 pages numérotées 1, 2, 3 et 4.***PART ONE: READING****(40%)**

- 1 At the dawn of a new millennium, the African continent that some say witnessed the birth
2 of the first human civilizations may be dying. As widespread drought, starvation and the
3 unchecked spread of deadly diseases continue, the number of people dying on a daily basis
4 throughout Africa is staggering.
- 5 5 In many parts of Africa, the production of food depends upon the intense manual labor of
6 every family. When large areas of Africa are dislocated by war, or adults die from the scourge
7 of AIDS, fields cannot be worked, and food cannot be produced. Many, especially women
8 and children are forced to depend upon handouts of food. Unpredictable weather can also
9 aggravate the situation.
- 10 10 Starvation is claiming lives. One international relief agency recently discovered a village
11 in a remote region of West Africa where more than 18,000 people were on the verge of
12 starvation. "Malnutrition is so great in this area," a relief worker explained, "that most of the
13 children under five years old had starved to death before we arrived. An entire hillside was
14 covered with fresh graves of the children who had recently died."
- 15 15 Children are the most at risk: "The children are our biggest priority," explains Fr. Richard
16 Roy. "We are trying to focus on providing our people with the medical care, nutrition,
17 education and the shelter they need to survive this crisis. If we can do this, then Africa will
18 have a future. So many people here in the United States haven't been able to grasp the
19 magnitude of the crisis facing African men, women and children."
- 20 20 Fr. Richard Roy director of the Missionaries of Africa's Washington, D.C. office said. "An
21 entire continent of people is in dire need of food, clean water and affordable medicine. That's
22 why we are making more emergency appeals for relief because this truly is a situation like the
23 world has never seen before!"
- 24 "It will only be too late for the children when we give up on them," Fr. Roy continued. "As
25 25 soon as we do that, then they have little hope for survival. You see, many of the children have
26 nowhere else to turn for help. They have so little food, clothing, medicine, etc. They need us
27 for everything. That's why I am desperately praying that the people here in the United States
28 will understand how important they are to the survival of Africa. Without our help, there will
29 be no Africa. Its life, its beauty, its children will eventually die. In so many ways, the future
30 30 of Africa is in our hands!"

Adapted from www.missionariesofafrica.org

COMPREHENSION CHECK

A-VOCABULARY

Match the words or phrases in COLUMN A with their synonyms or definitions in COLUMN B according to the text. There are more options in COLUMN B than in COLUMN A. Write your answers like in the example. **Example:** 1-drought = c. period of time when there is little or no rain

COLUMN A

- 1- drought (line 2)
- 2- staggering (line 4)
- 3- dislocated (line 6)
- 4- scourge (line 6)
- 5- claiming (line 10)
- 6- remote (line 11)
- 7- focus on (line 16)
- 8- shelter (line 17)
- 9- to grasp (line 18) *e*
- 10- dire (line 21)
- 11- relief (line 22)

COLUMN B

- a- causing death
- b- very serious
- x* c- period of time when there is little or no rain
- d- help, aid
- e- give attention to one particular situation
- f- shocking or surprising
- g- isolated
- h- disturbed
- i- something that causes trouble or suffering
- j- to understand something completely
- k- protection from danger
- l- to fight

B-COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Decide which of the statements are true or false according to the text. Write (T) for True and (F) for False. Then, give the lines of the text to justify your answers. **Example:** 1- T (lines 1, 2).

- 1-Africa is said to be the continent where the first human civilization began.
- 2-Drought and starvation are the only factors responsible for the difficult situation in Africa.
- 3-In many parts of Africa, people practise modern agriculture.
- 4-Armed conflicts and AIDS have no impact on food production.
- 5-Climate is another obstacle to food production.
- 6-The international relief agency rescued the 18,000 people who were about to starve.
- 7-Most of the children who had starved were buried 5 years before the relief workers arrived.

8-For relief workers, children should be dealt with first.

9-Fr. Richard Roy thinks that the future of Africa is linked to the actions they are undertaking.

10-According to Fr. Richard Roy, the situation of Africa is unique.

11-The narrator is pleading with people in the United States for relief.

PART TWO: LANGUAGE IN USE

(20%)

Choose the word or phrase that best completes each of the sentences below. Write your answers like in the example. Example: I-C

- 1- Peter enjoyed ----- very much in New York.
a) him b) his c) himself d) oneself
- 2- My aunt goes shopping twice ----- week.
a) the b) a c) an d) at
- 3- "----- of the two paintings do you prefer?" "The Picasso".
a) who b) which c) how d) what
- 4- I'll see them again when I ----- back to London.
a) will go b) shall go c) go d) went
- 5- I want ----- harder
a) you work b) you to work c) that you work d) that you must work
- 6- He loves ----- his wife nor his children
a) or b) nor c) either d) neither
- 7- Sopy's English is ----- than Aya's
a) best b) so good c) better d) as good
- 8- You like coffee, -----?
a) don't you b) have you c) are you d) aren't you
- 9- Christopher ----- since 7 o'clock.
a) is working b) works c) was working d) has been working
- 10- He said he ----- the night before.
a) will phone b) had phoned c) has phoned d) phones.
- 11- Poor John, he hasn't ----- friends.
a) any b) no c) little d) some

PART THREE: WRITING**40%**

Do **only one** of the two tasks below. (20 to 25 lines).

TASK A:

At a meeting of your school English Club, one of the members argued that if the international community stopped providing assistance to Africa, armed conflicts would stop. You don't agree with him. You think that it is the duty of the international community to assist countries in case of emergency.

Write out your dialogue.

TASK B:

The images of Africa presented by the international media are often related to famine, malnutrition, wars, AIDS, drought, etc. You are optimistic about the future of your continent and you think that Africa should not be viewed only as a continent of calamities.

Write a letter to the Editor of *The Guardian*, an English newspaper to present the riches and positive aspects of Africa.

The following ideas may help you:

- mines and minerals
- valuable culture
- customs and traditions
- etc.....