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Coefficient : 4
Coefficient : 2
Durée : 03 heures

LANGUE VIVANTE 1-ANGLAIS

SERIES : A1 – A2

Cette épreuve comporte quatre (04) pages numérotées 1/4, 2/4, 3/4 et 4/4

PART ONE: READING — 40%

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

Transborder Terrorism in West Africa

Transborder terrorism in West Africa has catalyzed profound social and economic regressions across the region. The collapse of international counterterrorism support, especially after Western military withdrawals, created a crucial lack of security. Migration flows from conflict zones are increasing, driven by displacement and insecurity. Humanitarian crises are deepening as essential services collapse under terrorist violence. Youth unemployment and socio-political disaffection provide fertile ground for recruitment.

Socially, it erodes public trust in state institutions, fuels intercommunal tensions, and drives recruitment by extremist groups through social alienation and insecurity. Populations in vulnerable communities, increasingly align with armed groups due to state neglect or corruption.

Economically, terrorism disrupts trade, agriculture, and investment. The informal economy — which constitutes 60–70% of the regional Gross Domestic Product (GDP) — is particularly vulnerable to terrorist financing, illicit activities such as gold mining and drug trafficking. Many Countries in west Africa suffer direct economic losses. The region collectively spends approximately $84 billion annually on securitization, diverting funds from development.

Terrorism also reverses hard-won development gains, as noted by the UN Deputy SecretaryGeneral in 2024, and undermines regional cooperation, especially as Sahelian states increasingly disengage from ECOWAS security mechanisms. Without coordinated governance, economic resilience, and cross-border intelligence sharing, the threat will continue to expand.

Terrorist groups exploit ethnic tensions and state fragility to gain local support or compliance. Attacks in urban centers like Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) signal expanding reach beyond rural bastion. Militarization alone has proved insufficient without resolving governance and development gaps. Intelligence sharing and de-radicalization programs are now prioritized to deal with root causes. However, regional cooperation with prioritizing collective security over sovereignty remains the main solution.

Adapted from UN News (2024): https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/06/1150816 UNDP (2023)

COMPREHENSION CHECK

A. Vocabulary 10%

The words in column A are from the text. Find them and match them with their synonyms or meanings in column B. One option in column B is not concerned. Write your answers like in the example.

Example: 1 - k

Column A	Column B
1. collapse (L.2) 2. withdrawals (L.3) 3. erodes (L.7) 4. alienation (L.8) 5. disrupts (L.10) 6. reverses (L.15) 7. undermines (L.16) 8. threat (L.18) 9. compliance (L.19) 10. root (L.22) 11. sovereignty (L.23)	a. autonomy b. reduces c. fundamental d. erupts e. submission f. menace g. detachment h. interrupts i. disengagements j. compromises k. break-down l. overturns

B. Comprehension 30%

Read the text again and say if the following statements are true (T) or false (F). Justify your answers by indicating the lines. Write your answers like in the example.

Example: 1. F (L. 1)

1. Transborder terrorism has improved social and economic conditions in West Africa.
2. Western military withdrawals contributed to security gaps in the region
3. Migration flows are decreasing due to improved security conditions.
4. Youth unemployment contributes to extremist recruitment.
5. Terrorism strengthens public trust in state institutions.
6. Rural communities sometimes support armed groups because of perceived state neglect.
7. The informal economy represents only a small percentage of the region's GDP.
8. Many west African countries have suffered significantly higher economic costs from terrorism.
9. The region spends most of its resources on development rather than security.
10. Terrorist attacks are limited to rural areas.
11. Regional cooperation that prioritizes collective security is presented as a long-term solution.

PART TWO: LANGUAGE IN USE 30%

A. The text below is about transborder terrorism. To make it meaningful, complete each gap with the appropriate words from the box. One word is not concerned. Write your answers like in the example. *Example: 1 - deaths*

forces	**struggles**	**threat**	**Secretary**	**region**	**new**
deaths	**security**	**democratic**	**ethnic**	**weaponry**	**agreed**

west Africa has emerged as a global epicenter of terrorism, with over half of global terrorism-related **(1)** ……... now occurring in the region. The Sahel **(2)** ……, particularly Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, serves as the primary incubator for transnational terrorist groups. ECOWAS **(3)** …… to maintain unified strategy amid shifting alliances. Terrorist groups now use drones and advanced **(4)** ……., escalating lethality and operational reach. Regional leaders have **(5)** …….. to harmonize legal frameworks for cross-border prosecution of terrorism offenses.

Joint military **(6)** ……., such as the 5,000-strong Sahelian alliance, aim to coordinate transnational operations. However, The UN Security Council describes the **(7)** …… as alarming. The Deputy **(8)** ……. General underscored the need to use "all existing tools", while also designing **(9)** …… solutions collectively to meet the expectations of the people.

Peace and **(10)** …… must underpin the 'Vision for Africa' in the African Union's Agenda 2063 socio-economic development framework, with a strong emphasis on strong **(11)** ……..… institutions. The African Union and regional bodies face challenges in enforcing mandates without political will.

Adapted (from UN News (2024): https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/06/1150816 UNDP (2023):

B. The sentences below are about transborder terrorism. Read them carefully and choose the best option between brackets to make them meaningful. Write your answers like in the example

Example: 1- have expanded

1) Groups like JNIM and ISGS (have expanded / are expended / has expended) operations across borders.
2) Populations (were put / are put / are putting) in question our models of democracy and the need to be made fit.
3) Root causes of conflicts in the region (has to be / have to be / has been) addressed.
4) Efforts must be (step / stepping / stepped) up to achieve the development targets by the 2030.
5) The Secretary General (emphasized / emphasizing / emphasize) the need for investments in energy, food systems and education.
6) with women playing a central role, Africa (will been / will be / will being) a vital player in finding ways to end conflicts around the World.
7) If regional collaboration improved, terrorist networks (become / became / would become) weaker.
8) Before international support arrived, some border areas (are / were / have been) poorly protected.
9) By next year, regional organizations (will have developed / would develop / will developed) new strategies against transborder terrorism.

10) While local populations (are living / were living / was living) in fear, authorities prepared emergency responses.
11) Had international partners provided assistance, the situation (would slowly improved / would had slowly improved / would have been slowly improved).

PART THREE: WRITING 30%

Do <u>only one</u> of the two tasks. (*Not more than 25 lines*.)

<u>TASK</u> A

The Ambassy of the USA organised a debate about Transborder terrorism in West Africa in which you were invited. At your school English club, you decide to inform the members about what you learnt there. In your speech pronounced in English,
- say what Transborder terrorism is,
- tell how it operates across borders in West Africa,
- explain the consequences of these terrorist attacks on the populations.

<u>TASK</u> B

During the last international forum about terrorism in Durban (South Africa), the Deputy General Secretary of the United Nations declared: "transborder terrorism has become a major threat to peace, security, and development in West Africa." In a competition organised by the American cultural centre, you are asked to write an essay to clarify this declaration.
In your writing,
- give the causes of transborder terrorism in West Africa,
- explain its consequences on the region, - suggest possible solutions to combat it.