

Cette épreuve comporte trois (03) pages numérotées 1/3, 2/3 et 3/3.

Do all the activities of this test paper on your answer sheets.

PART ONE: READING
40%

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow

Debate on Gun Control Is Revived, Amid a Trend Toward Fewer Restrictions

The day before a gunman massacred 20 schoolchildren in their classrooms in Connecticut on Friday, lawmakers in Michigan passed a bill — over the objections of the state's school boards — that would allow people to carry concealed weapons in schools. That same day, Ohio lawmakers passed a bill that would allow guns in cars at the Statehouse garage. Earlier in the week, a federal appeals court struck down a ban on carrying concealed weapons in Illinois. And Florida officials announced that they would soon issue their millionth concealed weapon and firearm license — or, as a state news release put it, the program would be “One Million Strong.”

The legal and political debate over the nation's gun laws was following a familiar trajectory: toward fewer restrictions. Now, as the country absorbs news of yet another mass shooting, this one claiming the lives of young children, both supporters and opponents of stricter gun laws are asking whether the carnage might change that pattern at the state or national levels.

As President Obama used his weekly Saturday address to repeat his impassioned but vague call to take “meaningful action to prevent more tragedies like this,” some gun control advocates said they hoped the shooting would be a catalyst for change.

One exception was in Colorado, which had started a debate on gun laws earlier in the week. Gov. John W. Hickenlooper, a Democrat, had said on Wednesday that he believed “the time is right” for state lawmakers to consider new gun restrictions. Mr. Hickenlooper said he had received heated responses from supporters and opponents of gun control, including from some Democrats who oppose restrictions. But as news of the Connecticut shooting spread, he said, the volume of e-mail and phone calls he received doubled, with many people thanking him for raising the issue. He noted that many of the nation's worst mass shootings had occurred in recent years. “That can't fail to get people's attention,” he said.

Otherwise, much of the initial reaction to Friday's shooting hewed more closely to the contours established by previous mass shootings. Mayors who have long pushed for more restrictive gun laws reiterated their call. Some Democratic governors, but not many, echoed them. And opponents of gun restrictions condemned the shooting and offered condolences.

The National Rifle Association, one of the most powerful interest groups in Washington and in statehouses across the nation, said it would not comment on the shooting “until the facts are thoroughly known.” But the group had been gearing up to oppose any efforts to tighten the nation's gun laws. After Mr. Obama's re-election, the association's president, David A. Keene, wrote, “We have to be prepared to fight him on each front; rally friendly elected officials, persuade those in the middle and let all of them know that gun owners will not stand idly by as our constitutional rights are stripped from us.”

By MICHAEL COOPER, THE NEW YORK TIMES online, published: December 15, 2012

Match the words from the text in box A with their synonyms or meanings in box B like this:

7- thoroughly = g. completely

A B

1. concealed (line 3)
2. struck down (line 5)
3. impassioned (line 12)
4. advocates (line 13)
5. hewed (line 23)
6. rifle (line 27)
7. thoroughly (line 29)
8. gearing up (line 29)
9. tighten (line 29)
10. idly (line 32)
11. stripped from (line 33)

- a. getting ready for something
- b. shoulder firearm with a long barrel
- c. launching an appeal
- d. declared null and void
- e. restrict, limit
- f. in a passive way
- g. completely
- h. hidden
- i. taken off, removed
- j. supporters
- k. characterised by intense emotion
- l. shaped

B. Read the text and give short answers to these questions

1. How do you view Michigan's bill regarding the massacre of the twenty schoolchildren? Justify your view by quoting from the text.
2. What general attitude is presently noticed in many states as far as arms are concerned?
3. How does the massacre affect the familiar trajectory of the debate over gun control?
4. How does Michael Cooper view President Obama's leadership in period of crisis?
5. Where is hope for more restrictions on guns coming from?
6. Find out two elements in the text that can justify why Governor Hickenlooper says that 'the time is right'.
7. Why can we talk about a significant act of solidarity regarding reactions to Friday's shooting.
8. According to you, why is there any interest in expecting a comment by the National Rifle Association on the shooting?
9. How can you account for such hostility toward President Obama by the National Rifle Association?
10. Do you agree with the National Rifle Association's view on guns? Justify your answer.

PART TWO: WRITING

40 %

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

- A. There's no denying that gun violence in West Africa has much to do with the proliferation of small arms. In an article to be published in your school English Club's Magazine, talk about the following:
 - ✦ causes of the proliferation of small arms in West Africa
 - ✦ consequences
 - ✦ what can be done to stop the proliferation of small arms in West Africa.
- B. The news of the Connecticut massacre came to you as a big shock. As members of the Parliament of African Children, write a letter to Mr David A. Keen, president of the National Rifle Association. Try and convince him that he should support more restrictions on weapons by showing how vulnerable children are and that gun violence is an obstacle to their development. (Mr David's address: Po box 202, Washington, DC)

A. Select the most suitable word from the box to fill in the numbered gaps. Write down your answer like this: 1 – for

Majority – by – for – consensus – rounds – mention – block – violence – lobbyists – executive – would

President Barack Obama took his push (1) tighter gun controls on the road with a Monday visit to the midwest in which he appealed directly to gun owners to back "commonsense" measures. As part of efforts to address America's "epidemic" of gun (2), Obama reiterated in Minneapolis his demand for a ban on assault weapons and on ammunition clips of more than 10 (3).

He also sought to sideline the National Rifle Association (NRA) (4) saying that lobbyists in Washington did not speak for the majority of gun owners in their attempts to (5) universal background checks.

"The overwhelming (6) of gun owners think it is a good idea. So if we've got (7) in Washington claiming to speak for gun owners saying something different, we need to go to the source and reach out to people directly," Obama said.

Speaking on Sunday, the NRA's (8) vice-president Wayne LaPierre said the concept of universal background checks was "a fraud" that (9) quickly turn into a "universal registry on law-abiding people".

Obama did not (10) the NRA by name during Monday's speech, instead directing his comments directly to gun owners. "The good news is that we are starting to see a (11) emerge about the action Congress needs to take," he said.

guardian.co.uk, Tuesday 5 February 2013 14.31 GMT

B. Each of the sentences below contains an error. Find it out and rewrite the sentences with the correction. N*11 is done for you as an example. 11=To whom does this belong?

1. Is he the tallest of the two?
2. The books what we read were interesting.
3. I cannot run no farther.
4. Hurrah! Shouted the man.
5. He returned as quick as he could.
6. The parcel was returned back to the sender.
7. She got a bad accident.
8. Neither of them are tall.
9. That answer is different with mine.
10. The two brothers divided the apple among them.
11. To who does this belong?