

DRENA ABIDJAN 4  
TEST LOURD N°2

Durée : 3h  
Coefficient : 03  
CE : ANGLAIS

## ENGLISH

LEVEL : Tle A

*This subject has three (3) pages numbered 1/3, 2/3 and 3/3.***PART ONE: READING COMPREHENSION (40%)**

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

**Marriage In The Maasai Community**

Marriage in the Maasai community is conducted after initiation of the boy and girl and it is arranged by elders without informing the bride and her mother. When a boy admires a girl, his parents go to the girl's family to ask for her hand in marriage. If the family agrees, the boy's parents would return on the next visit with a dowry of animals like cattle, goats, sheep, bed sheets and blankets. In this case, girls do not have choices but to accept because it is their parents' wish for them. This is sometimes sad because some girls are so young and are forced to marry older men who do not really care for them. If a girl tries to decline a marriage offer, she will be beaten until she accepts.

During the marriage ceremony, a big sheep or a bull is brought from the groom's home and slaughtered but the bride does not eat the meat. Another goat from her home is slaughtered for her. The men stand at the gate and lift their sticks up, intersecting each other to create a gate. The best man goes through the gate first followed by the groom and his parents. The bride's present is milk and fat in a gourd. After the girl has passed the gate, the men bless her and release her to go with her husband. After a few distance toward the groom's home, the bride sits down and takes three sips of the milk. When they reach the bride's home, a big ceremony is conducted by the elders to welcome the couple to their home. On the same day, a room is prepared for the couple to spend the night. Both the groom and the bride are called for a talk on how to manage their family. They are advised on how to live a happy life together.

On the next day, everyone in the groom's family gives them a cow, sheep and goats. Other people from the neighboring homes also take gifts to them. It is always very hard for them to divorce until very serious cases arise. And if that happens, all the dowry that was paid could be taken back. It is not advisable for a wife to marry again but if she feels like she wants to marry, she can just do it. Most women become widows because they are married by older men. After the husband dies, the oldest son takes charge of the family. He is the one who takes care of his siblings and his mother. Even after the son has married, he still has to take care of his mother's family. The widows are regarded as the head of the community and can take part in any ceremony taking place in the community.

*Adapted from Daraja Education Fund on <https://daraja.org>*

## COMPREHENSION CHECK

**A- VOCABULARY:** Read the text again and find the words or expressions that correspond to the definitions and synonyms in the chart below. Write your answers like in the example. **Example: 4 – to decline**

1- the woman who is getting marry (L. 2)	6- a man who is getting marry (L. 11)
2- a property or money paid at the time of marriage (L. 4)	7- to organize (L. 20)
3- willing, hope (L. 6)	8- recommended (L. 25)
4- to refuse (L. 8)	9- women whom spouses have died (L. 27)
5- proposal (L. 8)	10- relatives, persons who share parents (L. 28)
	11- the chief (L.30)

## B- COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS:

Read the text one more time and tell whether the following statements are **True** or **False**. No abbreviations, write **True** for (**true**) and **False** for (**false**). Then, give the line(s) of the text to justify your answers. Write your answers like in the example.

**Example: 4 – false (L. 4-5)**

1. In the Maasai community, a bride is not informed before her marriage is conducted.
2. When a boy admires a girl, her parents go to his family to ask for his hand in marriage.
3. A dowry is paid whether the girl's parents agree or not.
4. The dowry is made of animals only.
5. When the parents agree, girls are forced to accept the marriage.
6. The bride does not eat the meat slaughtered from the groom's home.
7. The bride does not receive any gift from the groom during the marriage ceremony until it ends.
8. The marriage ceremony is conducted by the elders at the bride's home only.
9. In the Maasai community, it is easy and even recommended to women to divorce from a marriage.
10. When a divorce happens, all the dowry that was paid could be taken back.
11. After the husband dies, the oldest son can marry his widows and take care of the family.

## PART TWO: Language in Use (30%)

**TASK A:** The text below is about a marriage in Latuka tribe in South Sudan. Read it carefully and choose the suitable words to make it meaningful. Write your answers like in the example.

**Example: 4 – father**

The people of Latuka in South Sudan are farmers. The two (**1-major/tribes**) exciting things about the (**2-marriage/divorce**) style of the Latuka people of are that: the bride-to-be must be (**3-killed/kidnapped**) by her suitor, and the (**4-son/father**) of the bride-to-be must show acceptance a (**5-suitor/girl**) by beating him. It is not sure of how intense the (**6-killing/beatings**) take, but when a woman has been seen by a man and is kidnapped, it takes away her choice to choose which (**7-wife/man**) she

spends the rest of her life with. In other parts of the world, there is usually a gentle **(8-discrimination/ceremony)** of handing over a woman to a man, mostly by the father of the bride-to-be, after the man and woman had come in **(9-fight/agreement)** to live together. Nevertheless, when a man from this Latuka tribe wants to marry a girl, he will have to **(10-accept/kidnap)** her from her family home, then return to the woman's family to officially **(11-decline/ask)** for her hand in marriage.

**TASK B:** Complete the text with the correct tense of the verbs in brackets. Write your answers like in the example.

*Example: 4 – haven't met*

I **(1-live)** ..... in London for 8 months now. I **(2-study)** ..... medicine here. I **(3- not see)** ..... my parents and I **(4- not meet)** ..... a relative for 6 months. But I **(5- not feel)** ..... sad because I **(6-speak)** ..... to them on WhatsApp every week. In my view, modern technology **(7-change)** ..... people's lives for the better. I **(8- not understand)** ..... people who criticize it. Ok, some kids **(9- use)** ..... computers a lot and youth **(10- buy)** ..... highly cost smartphones. My sister **(11- chat)** ..... on Facebook every day. That's no big deal!

### **PART THREE: WRITING (30%)**

**CHOOSE ONLY ONE TASK. TELL YOUR CHOICE BEFORE YOU WRITE**

#### **TASK A:**

Your Ghanaian pen friend who is a blogger is publishing an article about African traditional marriages. He then writes you a letter in which he wants you to tell him about the traditional marriage in your community.

In your reply, consider the following points:

- Tell him which community's marriage you are writing about,
- Tell how the traditional marriage is organized,
- Tell whether there are innovations in the traditional marriage's organization

and procedures with the times.

*No more than 25 lines.*

#### **TASK B:**

Your senior sister has failed to her baccalaureate exam last year. Then when she went on holidays to the village, your father decided that she got married with a rich farmer of the village. She then sent you an emergency message asking you to write a letter to the **Office of Human Rights Watch** of the district to denounce the fact. In your letter, consider the following points:

- State the reason you are writing,
- Describe the situation your sister is living in now and tell what could happen to her if nothing is done for her,
- Tell what you expect from the Office of Human Rights Watch.

*No more than 25 lines.*