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COLLEGE PASCAL KOUMASSI **Academic year 2020 – 2021**

Class:T^{le} A

Timing: 3 hours

ENGLISH TEST

Read the text below and do the activities that follow it.

PART ONE: READING

There is no question that American consumers are troubled by the ever growing dangers in the world as it threatens the very foundation of the American way of life. They are also made anxious by the political hubbub, fake news posturing and other distractions that are taking their leaders away from their much more important task of governing and ruling this great nation and setting it on the right course to grow the economy and help American citizens prosper.

In the face of these struggles, Americans are finding solace at the bar, which not only helps them escape from their worries temporarily but also provides much-needed connection with others as they share drinks at the pub.

On the road again

Encouraged by cheaper gas, Americans are getting into their cars and traveling more, going to new places, seeing new sights and just enjoying the road travel experience. This may also be a reflection of the problems confronted in the air travel, which has gotten plenty of press lately.

As for me, when I need to travel places I can reach by car in less than a day, I will always opt for a road trip, rather than undergoing the trials and tribulations of flying. I suspect there are many others that share this view.

More online shopping

Internet shopping is replacing the hassles of in-store shopping, no question of that. It is not only that online gives access to more products, often at a cheaper price, but online saves huge amounts of time when people need a specific item.

Going to the store or the mall, therefore, becomes a discretionary diversion undertaken primarily when people want a *shopping experience*, as opposed to a *buying experience*, in which online often proves to be the best option. **Amazon's record-breaking Prime Day** on July 12, which saw sales rise 60% over last year's, demonstrates just how much shoppers value the comfort and ease of shopping electronically without ever having to cross the threshold of a retail store.

More experiences, fewer things

The fact that sales in used merchandise stores are growing so rapidly is not necessarily a reflection of cash-strapped customers looking for bargains, though surely that plays a role. But I believe it is far more a reflection of consumers turning away from the pursuit of a materialistic culture where one is defined by the things one has. Rather they are chasing more meaningful lifestyle experiences.

In buying previously-owned things, people acknowledge that repurposing, reusing, and seeking out used items is a lifestyle that they embrace. The "Tiny House" movement with its rallying cry "Tiny House-Big Living", is more than just a cable television show. It is a lifestyle that more Americans are pursuing, if not by actually living tiny, but thinking that way. And they start by ridding themselves of all the extraneous junk they collected. When they actually need something, they increasingly are looking to gently-used goods as a better solution, both for their pocketbook and the planet.

Men are getting fashionable

Men are spending more on clothes. This is an interesting trend, especially now that **Walmart** has acquired men's clothing retailer **Bonobos**. Men are paying serious attention to their presentation, both at work to advance their careers and also in their personal lives when casual attire is called for. This woman, for one, applauds men thinking more about how they look and the message it sends to those they meet.

Adapted from https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbes-finds/2018/06/23

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VOCABULARY CHECK

A- The words below have their synonyms in the tex. Read it and find them.

Example 1= threatens

1. Menaces (line2)
2. Confusion, noisy situation (line3)
3. Battles (line 6)
4. Comfort (line 6)
5. Anxiety (line 7)
6. Indispensable (line 7)
7. Scenes, places, landscapes (line 11)
8. Choose (line 13)
9. Difficulties, altercations (line 17)
10. Articles, products (line 19)
11. Paying out (line 27)

B- Read the text again and give short answers to theses questions.

1. What phenomenon is threatening America today ?
2. What should be the main tasks of American leaders ?
3. Why do they find solace in the bar ?
4. Why are Americans travelling more these days ?
5. Why do Americans travel more and more by road ?
6. What type of trip does the author prefer ?
7. What difference is there between the former way of doing shopping and the present one ?

   Give the positive and negative aspects of each
8. What has changed in men's attitude toward fashion ?

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PART TWO: LANGUAGE IN USE (30points)

Select the best options in the alternatives. Do like in the example.

Example : 11- which

1. This is the boy…….had an accident.
   That **who** **which** **whose**
2. Yesterday I saw a car ……was really old.
   That **which** **when** **who**
3. Mandy is the girl …… I met on Friday.
   That **who** **which** **whose**
4. I haven't seen Franck, …….brother is five, for a long time now.
   That **who** **which** **whose**
5. The robber stole the car…….the lady parked in front of the supermarket.
   That **who** **which** **whose**
6. This is the man ……house is on fire.
   That **who** **which** **whose**
7. Can I talk to the girl ……is sitting on the bench?
   That **who** **which** **whose**
8. The book ……..you gave me is great.
   That **who** **which** **whose**
9. She likes hamburgers ……are hot.
   That **who** **which** **whose**
10. Bill Clinton, ……..was the president of the USA, has only one daughter.
    That **who** **which** **whose**
11. Medor is the dog ……. I saw last time.
    That **who** **which** **whose**

PART THREE: WRITING(30points)

Write a formal letter to the school headmaster, to complain about the lack of benches in your school. (20 lines maximum)