

**LANGUE VIVANTE 2 : ANGLAIS**

**Série A2**

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

*Le candidat test libre de commencer par la composition de son choix.*

*Pendant, il devra numéroter ses réponses conformément à la numérotation du sujet.*

**PART ONE: READING (40%)**

*Read the text below and do all the activities that follow.*

**How technology is changing humanity**

In the last few decades, technology has progressed at a staggering rate. Smartphones, the internet, cloud computing, and hundreds of other inventions are changing every facet of our lives. Communication, business, government, travel, fundraising, and even agriculture have been affected. But how about our brains? Is all this new technology changing us on the inside? Many think so, including psychology  
5 professionals.

Evidence suggests that reliance on the internet and mobile technology is shortening our concentration. One recent study found that our average attention span has decreased by 4 seconds, down from 12 to 8, which is shorter than that of a goldfish. One possible reason for this decrease is the significant increase in options for distraction.

10 When we all have computers in our pockets that allow us to play games, listen to music, and connect with friends whenever we want, why should we tolerate boredom? Of course, this shortened attention span likely comes with consequences. How many times do we miss important conversations or moments happening around us because we're fascinated by our electronic devices?

15 By 2020, 2.9 billion people are expected to be on social media. Couple that with person-to-person messages sent with both traditional SMS texting and messaging apps, and we're radically changing the way we can build and maintain relationships. But is this a good or bad thing? Nearly 70% of Americans think the internet is good for our relationships, but it remains to be seen if children who are growing up with smartphones develop the kinds of interpersonal and relationship-building skills they need to form deep and meaningful relationships or if our species will become isolated from—and  
20 uncomfortable with—close, personal contact.

The internet gives us access to a huge amount of information; plus, our personal computers can store every shopping list and stray thought we have, letting us access the information when we need it later. A new study finds that this "pervasive access to information has not only changed what we remember; it has changed how we remember." Our reliance on the internet has decreased our ability to easily  
25 retain facts.

<https://www.adaptiveoffice.ca/blog/how-technology-is-changing-humanity/>

**A. VOCABULARY (20 pts)**

The words in column A are from the text. Match them with their definitions or synonyms in column B. Number 1 is an example:

Example 1- b. extremely surprising

Column A	Column B
1. staggering (L 1)	a. intelligence
2. facet (L 2)	b. extremely surprising
3. brains (L 4)	c. aspect
4. reliance (L 6)	d. dependence
5. decreased (L 7)	e. reduced
6. significant (L 8)	f. important
7. tolerate (L 11)	g. accept
8. likely (L 12)	h. probably
9. maintain (L 16)	i. abilities
10. skills (L 18)	j. keep
11. retain (L 25)	k. remember

**B. COMPREHENSION (20 pts)**

Read the text again and decide whether these statements are true (T) or false (F). Justify your answers by indicating the line(s) of the text. Do it like in the example.

**Example: 1. T (L 1)**

- Technology has developed very quickly over the last few decades.
- Only communication and business have been affected by new technologies.
- Some psychology professionals believe technology is changing the human brain.
- Studies show that people's attention span is becoming longer because of technology.
- The average human attention span has dropped from 12 seconds to 8 seconds.
- The increase in distractions is one reason for the decrease in attention span.
- Smartphones allow people to avoid boredom by playing games and listening to music.
- Shorter attention spans have no negative effects on daily life.
- A large number of people are expected to use social media by 2020.
- Most Americans believe the internet is harmful to relationships.
- Dependence on the internet has reduced people's ability to remember facts easily.

**PART TWO: LANGUAGE IN USE 30%**

**TASK A:**

The passage below is about the impact of technology on human development. Read it and fill in the gaps with the words in the box to make this paragraph meaningful. Number 1 is an example.

Example: 1= technology

technology – digital – navigate – potential – development – internet - generation – societal – advancements – challenges - tools
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The rapid advancement of ...**(1)**... in recent decades has undeniably left a profound impact on human development, both on an individual and ...**(2)**... level. As we navigate the digital age, it becomes increasingly clear that the ...**(3)**... and digital technology are molding the way we think, interact with

the world, and raise the next ...(4)... Technology's impact on human ...(5)... is also a complex and evolving issue. It brings both advantages and ...(6)..., and its full effects are still being studied. As we continue to embrace technological ...(7)..., it is crucial to strike a balance between harnessing the benefits of digital ...(8)... and mitigating their ...(9)... drawbacks. Human adaptation to this ...(10)... era will require careful consideration of how we ...(11)... the changing landscape of technology, ensuring that it enhances our lives while preserving essential aspects of our humanity.

### TASK B:

All the sentences below are related to technology and its effects on human beings. Read each sentence carefully and choose the correct option in brackets to complete it meaningfully. Number 1 has been done as an example.

Example: 1= has progressed

1. Technology (**has progressed / progressed / had progressed**) ..... very fast over the last few decades.
2. Modern inventions (**have change / are changing / changes**) ..... the way people live and communicate.
3. Many areas of human life (**affected / have been affected / affecting**) ..... by digital technology.
4. Today, people's attention span is (**shorter / shortest / short**) ..... than it was in the past.
5. The average attention span has dropped (**from / at / on**) ..... 12 seconds to 8 seconds.
6. The rise in digital distractions (**are / is / have been**) ..... one reason for shorter attention spans.
7. Smartphones allow users (**tolerate / to tolerate / been tolerated**) ..... boredom easily.
8. Short attention spans often come (**with / by / of**) ..... negative consequences.
9. By 2020, billions of people (**will be / are expected to be / was**) ..... on social media platforms.
10. Mobile devices (**that / where / there**) ..... we carry everywhere influence our relationships.
11. Dependence on the internet has reduced people's ability (**to remember / remember / remembered**) ..... information.

### PART THREE: WRITING 30%

Do only one of the two tasks below (not more than 25lines)

#### TASK A:

The Ministry of Digital Economy in Côte d'Ivoire invites English clubs to take part in a writing activity on the topic: "**Modern technology affects human life in both positive and negative ways.**" As the chairperson of your school English club, you are asked to write a paragraph. In your writing:

- cite three examples of modern technology;
- list two advantages and two disadvantages of modern technology;
- explain how modern technology affects people's life today.

**TASK B:**

You have read and discussed in class a text about the use of smartphones and its effects on human attention, memory, and relationships. You are worried about the way smartphones are changing people's behaviour. You decide to write a letter to your Liberian friend who spends most of his/her time using his / her smartphone. In your letter:

- cite two negative effects of the excessive use of smartphones,
- explain how the excessive use of the smartphone affects people's life,
- suggest two pieces of advice on how to use smartphones wisely.