

EXAMEN DE FIN D'ÉTUDES SECONDAIRES – Sessions 2024**QUESTIONNAIRE**

<i>Date :</i>	17.09.24	<i>Horaire :</i>	14:15 - 16:45	<i>Durée :</i>	150 minutes
<i>Discipline :</i>	ANGLA	<i>Type :</i>	écrit	<i>Section(s) :</i>	CB / CB-4LANG / CC / CC-4LANG / CD / CD-4LANG / CE / CE-4LANG / CE-MATF / CF / CG / CG-4LANG / CG-COMED / CG-SPO / CG-URBS / CI
				<i>Numéro du candidat :</i>	

Task 1 – Reading comprehension (10 marks)**Loneliness poses profound public health threat, surgeon general* says¹**

Loneliness presents a profound public health threat akin to smoking and obesity, U.S. Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy warned in an advisory issued Tuesday that aims to rally Americans to spend more time with each other in an increasingly divided and digital society. Murthy said half of U.S. adults experience loneliness, which has consequences for mental and physical health, including a greater risk of depression, anxiety — and, perhaps more surprisingly, heart disease, stroke and dementia.

His advisory calls for a collective effort to “mend the social fabric of our nation,” including teaching children how to build healthy relationships; talking more to relatives, friends and co-workers; and spending less time online and on social media if it comes at the expense of in-person interactions.

Time spent with friends declined 20 hours a month between 2003 and 2020, according to research cited in the advisory, while time spent alone increased by 24 hours a month in that period. These trends probably intensified during the coronavirus pandemic as Americans were **sequestered** at home, experts say. “What covid did is really pour fuel on a fire that was already burning,” Murthy said in an interview. “I want the entire country to understand how profound a public health threat loneliness and isolation pose.” That threat can prove deadly. The risk of premature death posed by social disconnection is similar to smoking up to 15 cigarettes a day and even greater than obesity and physical inactivity, according to a review of research on social connection. [A]

Loneliness can lead to chronic stress, which in turn causes inflammation that damages tissues and blood vessels and is associated with chronic conditions, experts say. Isolation and **frayed** social connections could make it harder to maintain or develop healthy habits such as exercise and good nutrition. “This isn’t just people feeling good or bad about their social life,” said Julianne Holt-

¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2023/05/02/loneliness-health-crisis-surgeon-general/>, by Fenit Nirappil, 2nd May 2023 *The Washington Post* (978 words); shortened and adapted

**surgeon general: the person who is in charge of the US Public Health Service*

Lunstad, professor of psychology and neuroscience at Brigham Young University and lead science editor of the advisory. “It truly has an impact on our physical health.”

25 The surgeon general serves as a chief advocate for public health, using the office as a bully pulpit to sound alarms about issues threatening American lives. Cigarette packaging bears surgeon general warnings, and C. Everett Koop, who became surgeon general during the administration of President Ronald Reagan, advocated for the use of condoms to prevent the spread of HIV, defying conservatives who insisted on promoting abstinence. Murthy said the federal government could fund research on loneliness to better understand the problem and identify the best interventions. 30 He also urged different levels of government to prioritize social connection in policymaking, such as designing walkable communities that encourage residents to interact. Health-care providers could screen patients for signs of loneliness, Murthy said, while insurers could pay for programs that help people **cultivate** healthy relationships as a form of preventive care.

35 Recommendations from the loneliness advisory extend far beyond the confines of the doctor’s office and public health department, with technology companies, schools and workplaces urged to unite behind goals of increasing social engagement and reducing isolation. Murthy has advocated for treating loneliness as a public health issue for years and wrote a book about the issue published early in the pandemic. **_[B]_** Murthy largely neglected friendships when he served as surgeon general under President Barack Obama. He said he felt ashamed to reach out to old friends and 40 suffered a loss of self-esteem and a sense of identity.

In his second **stint** as surgeon general, Murthy said he spends time with his children without any devices in reach, visits his parents and sisters as often as he can and answers the phone when friends call, even just to ask if he can call them back. “There are days I slip and sometimes a week will go by and I realize I’m feeling more disconnected from family and friends because I didn’t invest in small 45 moments,” Murthy said, adding his situation has improved. **_[C]_**

Research shows loneliness and isolation are most **prevalent** in people who are in poor health, struggling financially or living alone. Strikingly, older adults have the highest rates of social isolation, but young adults are almost twice as likely to report feeling lonely as senior citizens do. The surgeon general’s advisory casts the digital revolution as a double-edged sword for social engagement. It has 50 made it easier for people who feel like outcasts in their communities to find others like themselves around the world. **_[D]_** “In many ways, technology is a really great thing. It connects you to long-lost friends, and you can see faces on your computer screen,” said Kerstin Gerst Emerson, a clinical associate professor at the University of Georgia who studies loneliness. “But it can have a negative side. **_[E]_** You can be in a room with family and friends, but you are not getting the social 55 connections you want.”

One 2017 study cited in the advisory showed that people who used social media more than two hours a day were twice as likely to experience increased feelings of social isolation compared with those who spent less than 30 minutes a day on social media. The report calls on technology

60 companies to avoid algorithms that promote division and polarization, while developing features that encourage healthy dialogue.

65 Regardless of how institutions respond, experts say individuals can help reshape society in a more collegial and connected direction. “Probably our most effective way to reduce loneliness is if we take more care of the people in our lives,” said Richard Weissbourd, a psychologist and senior lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education who has studied loneliness. “We have to have parents and schools and communities that put caring for people front and center again, and if they do that, we are going to have a society where people are less lonely but also people are more moral, more justice-minded and healthier.”

I. Insert sentences into the text. (-1 per wrong or missing answer)

Choose which sentences (1-7) best fit into the gaps (A-E) in the text. Write the correct numbers into the box below. There are two sentences which you do not need to use.

1. Detailed analysis revealed a negative association between perceived loneliness and increased social forms of video gaming.
2. It can disconnect you while you are with others, you are not present, you are on your phone.
3. But social media and the internet can also replace or degrade in-person socializing.
4. I feel much more connected to them, and I feel like I’m a better surgeon general as a result.
5. Now he’s sharing his own experiences with loneliness as he calls for a national movement to address it.
6. It can contribute to addiction, cyberbullying, misinformation, privacy breaches, mental health issues, and societal polarization.
7. And socially connected people live longer.

Write your answers here:

GAP IN TEXT	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
SENTENCE					

II. Vocabulary (-1 per wrong or missing answer)

Circle the best option – a, b, c or d. There is only ONE correct answer per example.

1) In line 12, "sequestered" is closest in meaning to:

- a) hidden
- b) isolated
- c) cut off

2) In line 19, "frayed" is closest in meaning to:

- a) close
- b) strong
- c) damaged

3) In line 33, "to cultivate" is closest in meaning to:

- a) to improve by labour
- b) to make friends with
- c) to foster the growth of

4) In line 41, "stint" is closest in meaning to:

- a) project
- b) pastime
- c) job

5) In line 46, "prevalent" is closest in meaning to:

- a) common
- b) infrequent
- c) often

III. True / False / Not Stated (-1 per wrong or missing answer)

**Decide if the statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Stated (NS) in the text.
For each statement, circle T, F or NS.**

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|----|
| 1. A national warning urges people to foster relationships and connections in order to make us all parts of the common thread of society as a whole. | T | F | NS |
| 2. Some people prefer to live in a bubble of only their perception. | T | F | NS |
| 3. Lack of social stability influences our well-being. | T | F | NS |
| 4. Fighting loneliness should not be made a priority on the federal government's program. | T | F | NS |
| 5. A study recommended that people should spend more time on social media to combat loneliness. | T | F | NS |
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Task 2 – Reading into writing (20 marks)

*You are going to read two texts in which the authors tackle **the issue of Chat GPT.***

Text 1: Don't Ban ChatGPT in Schools. Teach With It¹

ChatGPT is new — it was released in late November — but it has already sent many educators into a panic.

[After] talking with dozens of educators over the past few weeks, I've come around to the view that banning ChatGPT from the classroom is the wrong move. Instead, I believe schools should thoughtfully embrace ChatGPT as a teaching aid — one that could unlock student creativity, offer personalized tutoring, and better prepare students to work alongside A.I. systems as adults. Here's why.

The first reason not to ban ChatGPT in schools is that, to be blunt, it's not going to work. Sure, a school can block the ChatGPT website on school networks and school-owned devices. But students have phones, laptops and any number of other ways of accessing it outside of class.

A.I. chatbots could be programmed to watermark their outputs in some way, so teachers would have an easier time spotting A.I.-generated text. But this, too, is a flimsy defense. Right now, ChatGPT is the only free, easy-to-use chatbot of its caliber. But there will be others, and students will soon be able to take their pick, probably including apps with no A.I. fingerprints.

Instead of starting an endless game of whack-a-mole against an ever-expanding army of A.I. chatbots, here's a suggestion: For the rest of the academic year, schools should treat ChatGPT the way they treat calculators — allowing it for some assignments, but not others, and assuming that unless students are being supervised in person with their devices stashed away, they're probably using one.

The second reason not to ban ChatGPT from the classroom is that, with the right approach, it can be an effective teaching tool. Creating outlines is just one of the many ways that ChatGPT could be used in class. It could write personalized lesson plans for each student and generate ideas for classroom activities. It could serve as an after-hours tutor or a debate sparring partner. It could be used as a starting point for in-class exercises, or a tool for English language learners to improve their basic writing skills.

ChatGPT can also help teachers save time preparing for class. Jon Gold said that he had experimented with using ChatGPT to generate quizzes. Ultimately, Mr. Gold said, ChatGPT wasn't a threat to student learning as long as teachers paired it with substantive, in-class discussions.

Tools like ChatGPT aren't going anywhere; they're only going to improve, and barring some major regulatory intervention, this particular form of machine intelligence is now a fixture of our society.

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/12/technology/chatgpt-schools-teachers.html>, by Kevin Roose, 12th January 2023, *The New York Times* (498 words); shortened and adapted

That's the biggest reason not to ban it from the classroom, in fact — because today's students will graduate into a world full of generative A.I. programs. They'll need to know their way around these tools — their strengths and weaknesses, their hallmarks and blind spots — in order to work alongside them. To be good citizens, they'll need hands-on experience to understand how this type of A.I. works, what types of bias it contains, and how it can be misused and weaponized.

Text 2: How ChatGPT and similar AI will disrupt education¹

At many schools and universities, educators are struggling with how to handle ChatGPT and other AI tools.

In early January, New York City public schools banned ChatGPT on their devices and networks. Educators were worried that students who turned to it wouldn't learn critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. They also were concerned that the tool's answers might not be accurate or safe. Many other school systems in the United States and around the world have imposed similar bans.

Most worrying, ChatGPT and other similar tools can often get things very wrong. They don't pull facts from databases. Rather, they are trained to generate new text that sounds natural. They remix language without understanding it, which can lead to glaring mistakes. The news website CNET came under fire earlier this year for using AI to churn out dozens of articles, many of them packed with errors.

There's no doubt we will soon have to adjust to a world in which computers can write for us. But educators have made these sorts of adjustments before. As high school student Avani Rao, a sophomore in high school in California, points out, Google was once seen as a threat to education because it made it possible to look up facts instantly. Teachers adapted by coming up with teaching and testing materials that don't depend as heavily on memorization. Now that AI can generate essays and stories, teachers may once again have to rethink how they teach and test. Rao says: "We might have to shift our point of view about what's cheating and what isn't."

Some teachers will prevent students from using AI by limiting access to technology. Right now, Brett Vogelsinger, a ninth-grade English teacher in Doylestown, says, teachers regularly ask students to write out answers or essays at home. "I think those assignments will have to change," he says. But he hopes that doesn't mean kids do less writing.

Teaching students to write without AI's help will remain essential, agrees Xiaoming Zhai, an expert in science education at the University of Georgia in Athens. That's because "we really care about a

¹ <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/chatgpt-ai-artificial-intelligence-education-cheating-accuracy>, by Kathryn Hulick, 12th April 2023, *Science News* (528 words); shortened and adapted

student's thinking," he stresses. And writing is a great way to demonstrate thinking. Though ChatGPT can help a student organize their thoughts, it can't think for them, he says.

Kids still learn to do basic math even though they have calculators, Zhai acknowledges. Once students have learned basic math, they can lean on a calculator for help with more complex problems.

In the same way, once students have learned to compose their thoughts, they could turn to a tool like ChatGPT for assistance with crafting an essay or story. Vogelsinger doesn't expect writing classes to become editing classes, where students brush up AI content. He instead imagines students doing prewriting or brainstorming, then using AI to generate parts of a draft, and working back and forth to revise and refine from there.

Rao doesn't see AI ever replacing stories and other texts generated by humans. Why? "The reason those things exist is not only because we want to read it but because we want to write it," she says. People will always want to make their voices heard.

Writing task

Write a structured **analysis** of **200-250 words** in which you do the following:

- Compare and contrast the overall points of view expressed in the two texts (referring to 2-3 main arguments put forward in each text).
Your analysis must represent $\pm 2/3$ of your answer, i.e. $\pm 140-170$ words.
- Explain which point of view you agree with more, and why. If you agree with both or neither, explain why.
Your personal opinion must represent $\pm 1/3$ of your answer, i.e. 60-80 words.

Use your **own words** as far as possible. Do not copy from the texts, except for short quotes (with quotation marks) to support your statements. Include the **word count**.

Task 3 – Essay writing (30 marks)

Write a well-structured essay of between 300 and 400 words on ONE of the topics below. Indicate your choice of topic clearly and include the word count.

1. “Human identity is no longer defined by what one does, but by what one owns.” (Naomi Klein, author) Discuss.
2. Freedom of speech should have limitations to prevent hate speech and discrimination. Discuss.
3. Vulnerable communities are the ones that suffer most from the effects of climate change. Discuss.