

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

Date :	16.09.24	Horaire :	13:30 - 16:30	Durée :	180 minutes	
Discipline :	ANGLA	Type :	écrit	Section(s) :	GED / GSH / GSI	
					Numéro du candidat :	

PART I: READING (20 marks)

Copy only the numbers / letters / words asked for onto your answer sheets. Do not copy questions!

Text 1: World 'not prepared' for climate disasters after warmest ever January

From deadly floods in California to devastating fires in Chile, scientists say the world is not prepared for the climate disasters that are hitting with increasing frequency as human-driven global heating continues to break records.

The hottest year in history has been followed by the warmest ever January. Many regions in the northern hemisphere are sweltering in heatwaves that would be more normal in June. Marine scientists are shocked by the prolonged and intense heat at the surface of the oceans.

Scientists argue that this extreme heat is mostly the result of human activity, such as the burning of oil, gas and coal and the cutting down of forests. This has been amplified by natural factors, particularly the El Niño – a phenomenon associated with Pacific Ocean warming – that started last year and is expected to continue until spring at the earliest.

This year has a one in three chance of being even hotter than last year's record, according to the US's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The higher the global temperature, the greater the risk of fires and storms. This month alone has seen two grim records of such climate-related disasters.

The Chilean president, Gabriel Boric, has declared two days of national mourning after the country's deadliest ever forest fires claimed more than 120 lives in the Valparaíso region. This follows a decade-long drought in the area and a shift from diverse natural forests, which are more resilient to fire, to monoculture plantations, which are more vulnerable.

In the US, the governor of California, Gavin Newsom, announced a state of emergency as an "atmospheric river" – which was supercharged by the unusually warm Pacific Ocean – dumped unprecedented amounts of rain on San Diego and neighbouring districts, killing at least three people.

Studies will be needed to figure out the precise extent to which these particular calamities were driven by human-driven climate disruption, but they are in line with a broader trend towards increasingly severe impacts.

“Fuelled by extreme weather and climate extremes, the frequency of climate-related disasters has dramatically risen recently,” said Raul Cordero, a climate professor at the University of Groningen and the University of Santiago. “In some regions of the world, we are facing climate-fuelled disasters for which we are not prepared, and it is unlikely that we will be able to fully adapt to them.”

Of prime concern is also what is happening to the oceans, which cover 71% of the planet and absorb most of the excess heat from global warming. In a letter published in the journal *Advances in Atmospheric Science* last month, a group of scientists warned that sea surface temperatures last year were 'off the charts', with notably strong implications for atmospheric regulation and storm intensity.

(452 words; adapted from [theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com); Jonathan Watts; 6th February 2024)

Read the text and identify the expressions that match the following definitions. Give one word only unless indicated otherwise. (8 marks, -1.5)

1. (noun) a large amount of water covering an area that is usually dry
2. (adjective) continuing for an extended time
3. (verb) to make something larger, greater, stronger or to increase its effect
4. (adjective) extremely bad, worrying, or without hope
5. (noun) long period when there is little or no rain
6. (phrasal verb) to find something out, solve a problem or discover the answer to a question
7. (adverb) in a very sudden or noticeable way
8. (expression) outside of the normal range of measurement; beyond expectations

Text 2: Almost half of British teens feel addicted to social media, study says

Almost half of British teenagers say they feel addicted to social media, according to findings that come amid mounting pressure for big tech companies to be held accountable for the impact of their platforms on users.

The finding, from the Millennium Cohort study, adds to evidence that many people feel they have lost control over their use of digital interactive media. It comes as dozens of US states are suing Instagram and its parent company, Meta, accusing them of contributing to a youth mental health crisis and as the EU has ushered in major reforms designed to give consumers more control over smartphone apps.

The latest research, by Dr Amy Orben's team at the University of Cambridge, used data from the Millennium Cohort study which is tracking the lives of about 19,000 people born in 2000-2002 across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. When the cohort were aged 16-18 they were asked, for the first time, about social media use. Of the 7,000 people who responded, 48% said they agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "I think I am addicted to social media". A higher proportion of girls agreed compared to boys, according to the data shared with the Guardian.

Scientists said this did not mean that these people are actually suffering from a clinical addiction, but that expressing a perceived lack of control suggests a problematic relationship. "We're not saying the people who say they feel addicted are addicted," said Georgia Turner, a graduate student leading the analysis. "Self-perceived social media addiction is not [necessarily] the same as drug addiction. But it's not a nice feeling to feel you don't have agency over your own behaviour. It's quite striking that so many people feel like that and it can't be that good."

There has been growing concern about the potential for digital technologies to drive compulsive behaviours, with the World Health Organization establishing "gaming disorder" as a diagnosis in the International Classification of Diseases. Earlier this year, the US surgeon general issued a rare public health advisory on the risks that social media may pose to young people's mental health and wellbeing.

However, the evidence underpinning these public health concerns is mixed. One recent study on Facebook use challenged claims that social media is psychologically harmful. The clinical classification of behaviours linked to digital technology remains contentious among experts.

"Social media research has largely assumed that [so-called] social media addiction is going to display many similarities to an addiction to drugs," said Turner. Orben and others argue that this is likely to be an oversimplistic falsehood and they are investigating whether the teenagers cluster into groups whose behaviour can be predicted by other personality traits.

It could be that, for some teenagers, their relationship to social media is akin to a behavioural addiction, but for others their use could be driven by compulsive checking, others may be relying on social media to cope with adverse life situations, and others may simply be responding to negative social perceptions about “wasting time” on social media.

(505 words; adapted from the guardian.com; Erum Salam; 28th April 2023)

Decide whether the following statements are true or false (T/F) according to the text. If the information is not given in the article, consider the statement as false. (7 marks, -1.5)

1. Social media addiction is a problem among the majority of British teenagers.
2. Some official bodies have accused Meta and Instagram of having contributed to the creation of a youth mental health emergency.
3. More female participants agreed with the statement that they are addicted to social media compared to their male counterparts.
4. The scientists medically diagnosed the participants with addiction.
5. All the studies agree that social media negatively affects your mental health.
6. Orben believes that social media addiction is identical to drug addiction.
7. Some teenagers use social media to deal with negative incidents in their lives.

Text 3: Should I worry about my BMI?

If I were writing about 200 years ago, the title of this column would be “Should I worry about my Quetelet Index?”. That’s what BMI, the body mass index, was known as when the statistician and sociologist Adolphe Quetelet devised it in the 1830s. But Quetelet never intended the measure as a means of medical assessment. **(-1-)** So is it time to throw it out altogether, or can it still tell us something useful about our health?

To get the basics out of the way, your BMI is simply your mass (in kilos) divided by the square of your height (in metres), expressed in the units kg/m². According to the NHS, a calculation in the healthy weight range is between 18.5 and 24.9 – though this can differ slightly among ethnic groups. **(-2-)** It’s even worse among groups with higher muscle mass and bone density, who can often be classed as “obese” or “overweight”, even when they are sporting a well-defined six pack.

So BMI’s pointless as a measure if you go to the gym a lot? Not so fast. “A lot of people who lift weights tend to use ‘muscle’ as an excuse for having a higher BMI even if they also have excess body fat – which is the actual risk factor,” says Hodzovic. **(-3-)** This means that if your BMI goes over (or under) the NHS-approved “healthy” range, it’s probably worth investigating further.

Use your BMI as an easy reference point – but if you’re telling yourself that you’re OK despite being over the acceptable range, perhaps check your waist circumference with a tape measure (the British Heart Foundation has a handy guide) or do a body fat test using smart scales or hydrostatic weighing. **(-4-)** If you are over the recommended BMI upper limit, it won’t hurt to take stock of what you are eating in a typical day.

“Eat less processed food, drink less alcohol, focus on getting protein and vegetables at every meal, build a movement habit and get enough sleep,” says Hodzovic. “The key is consistency over intensity, so focus on building long-term habits rather than trying to turn your life upside down overnight.” **(-5-)**

(514 words; adapted from the guardian.com; Joel Snape; 13th August 2023)

Read the article carefully, then complete the text with the missing sentences. There is one sentence more than you need. (5 marks, -1.5)

A.

One US study based on more than 13,000 people suggests that if you are obese according to BMI, you are most likely obese according to body fat percentage as well.

B.

Do all this, and you won't need to worry too much about which measures of health are right or wrong – you'll be doing the best you can for your body either way.

C.

Many experts have agreed on one thing: BMI is an accurate way to measure whether one is overweight or not.

D.

If you are concerned, your doctor should be able to check other markers of health, including blood pressure and blood work, to give you a more complete picture about what might be going on.

E.

Obviously, this doesn't work as well as a measure for children, old people or pregnant women.

F.

Two centuries later, plenty of experts will tell you that it doesn't exactly work as advertised either.

PART II: SHORT STORIES (20 marks)

Answer the **TWO** questions on the short stories with close reference to the texts studied in class.

1. The Doll's House - Katherine Mansfield (10 marks)

How does the community perceive and treat the Kelveys? Explain the underlying reasons for this treatment.

AND

2. The First Seven Years - Bernard Malamud (10 marks)

Why does Feld prefer Max over Sobel?

PART III: ESSAY (20 marks)

Write a well-structured essay of 250-300 words on one of the following topics. Clearly indicate which topic you have chosen. Please indicate the number of words used.

A. Sedentary lifestyles have become a major issue in the 21st century. Discuss.

OR

B. Social media platforms promote ignorance. Discuss.