

EXAMEN DE FIN D'ÉTUDES SECONDAIRES – Sessions 2024

QUESTIONNAIRE

Date :	23/05/2024		Horaire :	08 :15-11 :15		Durée :	180 minutes
Discipline :	Anglais	Type :	Ecrit	Section(s) :	GGH		
						Numéro du candidat :	

PART A: Known Texts (no dictionary allowed)

/36

Short stories and texts

- 1) *US Elections (Reader U.S. Department of State – Bureau of International Information Programs)*
How to become President of the USA – Explain all stages in detail. /3
- 2) *US Elections (Reader U.S. Department of State – Bureau of International Information Programs)*
How come Donald Trump won the 2016 US elections, even though Hillary Clinton had more votes? Explain in detail. /3
- 3) *Short story: "A Sound of Thunder" by Ray Bradbury*
What is the butterfly effect? Explain its role in the short story. /3
- 4) *Short story: "The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe*
Analyse the reliability of the narrator. /3

Novel

- 5) *Novel: "Fight Club" by Chuck Palahniuk*
"I know this because Tyler knows this." - Who is Tyler Durden? How come he and Marla are never in the same room as the narrator? Include Palahniuk's choice of narrative perspective in your answer. What commentary does the novel offer on the intersection of mental health and societal expectations? /6

Marking	
Overall Written Production	/5
Task Achievement	/10
Structure	/5
Grammatical Accuracy	/5
Vocabulary and Spelling	/5
	/30 → /6

- 6) Novel: *"Fight Club"* by Chuck Palahniuk

"Then you're trapped in your lovely nest, and the things you used to own, now they own you." - Analyze the role of consumerism in "Fight Club" and how it serves as a critique of contemporary society. How does the novel explore the consequences of a materialistic and consumer-driven culture?

/6

Marking	
Overall Written Production	/5
Task Achievement	/10
Structure	/5
Grammatical Accuracy	/5
Vocabulary and Spelling	/5
	/30 → /6

Business English

- 7) Text: *"What is the two-state solution for Israelis and Palestinians?"* (World and Press 12/2023)

What is the two-state solution for Israelis and Palestinians? What are the major obstacles to this solution?

/3

- 8) Text: *"Environmental impact of online shopping"* (British Council, Learn English, 2020)

What is green-washing? Provide two examples.

/3

- 9) Text: *"Environmental impact of online shopping"* (British Council, Learn English, 2020)

What is minimalism and decluttering? What's the aim of these concepts?

/3

- 10) Text: *"Europe has entered a new age of anxiety – and it's dragging Britain along too"* (World and Press 01/2024)

What is one of the major threats to Europe's democratic stability today? Provide an example and explain.

/3

AI voice clones mimic politicians and celebrities, reshaping reality

(World and Press 01/2024)

TECHNOLOGY Artificial intelligence voice cloning software has rapidly increased in quality. It's allowing anyone to copy somebody's voice.

By Pranshu Verma and Will Oremus



Barack Obama, whose voice has been cloned by AI, speaks at a campaign rally in 2022. | PHOTO: Lokman Vural Elibol/Andalou Agency/Getty Images



Michal Šimečka, the leader of Slovakia's Progressive party and the victim of an AI-generated voice fake in 2023. | PHOTO: Vladimír Šimicek/AFP/Getty Images

1 DAYS BEFORE a pivotal national election in Slovakia last month, a seemingly damning audio clip began circulating widely on social media. A voice that sounded like the country's Progressive party leader, Michal Šimečka, described a scheme to rig the vote, in part by bribing members of the country's marginalized Roma population. Two weeks later, another apparent political scandal emerged: The leader of the United Kingdom's Labour Party was seemingly caught on tape berating a staffer in a profanity-laden tirade that was posted on X, formerly Twitter.

2 Both clips were soon de-bunked by fact-checkers as likely fakes, with the voices bearing telltale signs that they were generated or manipulated by artificial intelligence software. But the posts remain on platforms such as Facebook and X, generating outraged comments from users who assume they are genuine.

0– 1 **to mimic** nachahmen — **to reshape** umgestalten — **pivotal** wichtig — **damning** vernichtend — **to rig the vote** die Wahlergebnisse manipulieren — **to bribe** bestechen — **marginalized** an den Rand der Gesellschaft gedrängt — **apparent** scheinbar — **to emerge** ans Licht kommen; s. abzeichnen — **to berate** schelten, ausschimpfen — **staffer** Mitarbeiter(in) — **profanity-laden** gespickt mit Obszönitäten 2 **to debunk** entlarven — **telltale sign** Anzeichen — **outraged** entrüstet — **genuine** echt

3 Rapid advances in artificial intelligence have made it easy to generate believable audio, allowing anyone from foreign actors to music fans to copy somebody's voice – leading to a flood of faked content on the web, sowing dis-cord, confusion, and anger. Over the summer, TikTok accounts used AI narrators to display fake news reports that erroneously linked former president Barack Obama to the death of his per-sonal chef. [...]

4 While experts have long predicted generative artificial intelligence would lead to a tsunami of faked photos and video – creating a disinformation landscape where nobody could trust any-thing they see – what's emerging is an audio crisis. "This is not hypothetical," said Hany Farid, a professor of digital forensics at the University of California at Berkeley. "You're talking about violence; you're talking about stealing of elections; you're talking about fraud – [this has] real-world consequences for individuals, for societies, and for democracies."

5 Voice cloning technology has rapidly advanced in the past year, and the proliferation of cheap, easily accessible tools online make it so that almost anyone can launch a sophisticated audio campaign from their bedroom. It's difficult for the average per-son to spot faked audio campaigns, while images and videos still have notable oddities – such as deformed hands and skewed words. "Obama still looks a little plasticky when bad actors use his face," said Jack Brewster, a researcher at News Guard, which tracks online misinformation. "But the audio of his voice is pretty good – and I think that's the big difference here."

6 Social media companies also find it difficult to moderate AI-generated audio because hu-man fact-checkers often have trouble spotting fakes. Mean-while, few software companies have guardrails to prevent illicit use. Previously, voice cloning software churned out robotic, unrealistic voices. But computing power has grown stronger and the software more refined. The result is technology that can analyze millions of voices, spot patterns in elemental units of speech – called phonemes – and replicate it within seconds.

7 Online tools, such as [those] from voice cloning software company Eleven Labs, allow almost anyone to upload a few seconds of a person's voice, type in what they want it to say, and quickly create a deepfake voice – all for a monthly subscription of \$5.

3-4 **to sow discord** Zwietracht säen — **erroneously** fälschlicherweise — **chef** Koch/Köchin — **forensics** Forensik — **fraud** Betrug 5– 7 **proliferation** Verbreitung — **sophisticated** ausgefeilt — **notable** sichtbar — **oddity** Seltsamkeit — **skewed** verzerrt — **bad actor** h.: Person mit kriminellen Absichten — **to moderate** moderieren — **guardrails** Leitlinien — **illicit** gesetzeswidrig — **to churnout (coll)** hervorbringen — **refined** verfeinert — **phoneme** Phonem

8 For years, experts have warned that AI-powered “deep-fake” videos could be used to make political figures appear to have said or done damaging things. And the flurry of misinformation in Slovakia offered a preview of how that is starting to play out – with AI-generated audio, rather than video or images, playing a starring role.

9 On Facebook, the audio clip of what sounded like Šimecka and the journalist played over a still image of their respective faces. Both denounced the audio as a fake, and a fact-check by the news agency *Agence France-Presse* determined it was likely generated wholly or in part by AI tools.

10 Facebook placed a warning label over the video ahead of the Sept. 30 election, noting that it had been debunked. “When content is fact-checked, we label and down-rank it in feed,” Meta spokesman Ryan Daniels said. But the company did not remove the video, and Daniels said it was deemed not to have violated Facebook’s policies on manipulated media. Facebook’s policy specifically targets manipulated video, but in this case it wasn’t the video that had been altered, just the audio.

11 Research by Reset, a Lon-don-based nonprofit that studies social media’s effect on democracy, turned up several other examples of faked audio in the days leading to the election on Face-book, Instagram, Telegram, and TikTok. Those included an ad for the country’s far-right Republika party in which a voice that sounds like Šimecka’s says he “used to believe in 70 genders and pregnant men” but now supports Republika. A disclaimer at the end says, “voices in this video are fictional.”

12 That video appears on Facebook without a fact-check and was promoted on the platform as an ad by a Republika party leader. It racked up between 50,000 and 60,000 views in the three days before the election, according to Facebook’s ad library. About three million people voted in the parliamentary election, with the country’s pro-Russian populist party beating out Šimecka’s Progressive party for the most seats. Slovakia has halted military aid to Ukraine in the election’s wake.

13 What effect, if any, the AI-generated voice fakes had on the outcome is unclear, said Rolf Fredheim, a data scientist and expert on Russian disinformation who worked with Reset on its research. But the fact that they “spread like wildfire” in Slovakia means the technique is likely to be tried more in future elections across Europe and elsewhere.

14 Meanwhile, the allegedly faked audio clip of U.K. Labour leader Keir Starmer, who has a chance to become the next prime minister, remains on X, without any fact-check or warning label. [...]

8– 10 **flurry (fig)** Welle — **starring role** Hauptrolle — **to denounce** anprangern — **spokesman** Sprecher — **to deem** erachten als — **to violate s.th.** gegen etw. verstoßen — **to target s.th.** auf etw. abzielen 11– 14 **nonprofit** gemeinnützige Organisation — **disclaimer** Hinweis; Haftungsausschluss — **to rack up** erzielen — **to halt** stoppen — **in the wake of s.th.** nach etw. — **allegedly** angeblich

- 1) How did the audio clips featuring political leaders in Slovakia and the UK, supposedly engaged in scandalous activities, impact social media platforms just days before pivotal events, and what challenges did this pose? (100 words)

Vocabulary	Grammar	Content	TOTAL
/1,5	/1,5	/3	/6

- 2) In what ways do social media companies struggle to moderate AI-generated audio, and what factors contribute to the difficulty faced by human fact-checkers in identifying fake content? (100 words)

Vocabulary	Grammar	Content	TOTAL
/1,5	/1,5	/3	/6

- 3) Essay Question:

Deepfakes: Your comment on AI-generated content

Should deepfakes and AI-generated content in general be prohibited? What advantages would such a prohibition offer in terms of protecting individuals from potential harm? What challenges would such a prohibition pose in terms of innovation?

(250 words, +- 10%)

Marking	
Overall Written Production	/5
Task Achievement	/10
Structure	/5
Grammatical Accuracy	/5
Vocabulary and Spelling	/5
	/30 → /12